

Terms of Reference

Mapping of key care economy policies

1. **Manager:** Matti Kohonen
2. **Dates of the project:** December 2023 – January 2024
3. **Background:**

COVID-19 pandemic widened inequalities. In 2021, FTC found out that the vast majority of Recovery Funds mainly went to the large private sector firms in 9 countries in the global South, while a small proportion of the early recovery funds went to social protection – further widening inequalities. A follow-up report with a wider selection of countries in 2022 concluded that a total of 38% of COVID-19 recovery funds went to large enterprises, while an equivalent amount went to social protection to help the most impacted people. Inequalities widened during COVID-19 in large part due to the unequal and inadequate government and intergovernmental responses to the economic and social impacts of the pandemic.

This great divide is based on a flawed economic system that values the wealth of the privileged few, mostly men, more than the billions of hours of the most essential work – the unpaid and underpaid care work done primarily by women and girls around the world. Tending to others, cooking, cleaning and fetching water and firewood are essential daily tasks for the wellbeing of societies, communities and the functioning of the economy. The heavy and unequal responsibility of care work perpetuates gender and economic inequalities.

This has to change. Governments around the world must act now to build a Rights-Based Economy (RBE) that is feminist and values what truly matters to society, rather than fueling an endless pursuit of profit and wealth. Investing in national care systems to address the disproportionate responsibility for care work done by women and girls and introducing progressive taxation, including taxing wealth and legislating in favour of carers, are possible and crucial first steps.

4. Rationale and purpose

After the publication of the policy brief on the COVID-19 Recovery Funds under our People's Fiscal Monitor (PFM) project, the FTC is keen to co-create a **Care Economy Map** informed by international norms, policies and practices that define the care economy. The resource will summarize and explain what the findings of the next phase of the PFM report mean for women's economic rights and access to livelihoods.

5. Objectives of the task

The main objective of this resource is to strengthen the knowledge of the Care Economy and how it links with progressive fiscal policies, and partners in the countries featured in the report in their work to challenge and influence key government and policymakers at the national and international level within the context of the rapid digitalization of the economies.

6. Methodology

This is likely to include:

- Desk based research

7. Outputs

A 20-30 page fully referenced written summary resource (excluding references and annexes). The structure and content of the report need to be informed by the needs of **Care Economy Mapping**. This may contain but is not limited to:

- Acknowledgements
- Table of content
- Acronyms
- Introduction
- Care Economy: why the urgent need for this agenda from fiscal policy and right based economy lens
 - definitions of care economies (different definitions might exist)
 - Key international norms
 - How international norms are implemented in country contexts.
- Policy pathways for change:
 - Examples of legislative, policy, institutional developments and impacts on labor rights in the care economy.
 - How domestic work (fetching water, collecting firewood) is part of the care economy.
 - What would be decent work opportunities in the care economy?
 - Main global, regional and national legislative frameworks
 - Examples of transformative social movements and activism
 - Advocacy strategies
 - Recommendations

Reference from our previous work suggests that including illustrations and visuals have often proved to be useful for collective work. Therefore, this may be an element of working with artwork and graphics

8. What is the audience for the product(s)?

The product should be disseminated through, though not limited to, the People's Fiscal Monitor in 20 countries in the global South.

Timeline and days

The consultancy is expected to be completed in approximately 15 days.

Final dates are flexible and will be negotiated with the consultant, but potential timeline as follows:

Activity	Date
Initial discussion and content sharing	1 st December
First draft of explainer is produced	08 th December 2023
FTC and members provide 1 st round of feedback	13 th December 2023
2 nd draft shared	20 th December 2023
FTC and members provide 2 nd round of Feedback	10 th January 2024
Final draft of report	15 th January 2024

9. Rate and payment schedule

Daily rate to be agreed with the consultant. Once agreed a consultant agreement will be issued.

10. Resources to be provided to the consultant:

- Published report
- Other explainer developed under the People's Fiscal Monitor

11. How apply:

Please send your CV and an expression of interest (EoI) to info@financialtransparency.org. Include your proposed daily rate in the email.

We are particularly keen to hear from and encourage applications from feminist researchers from the regions to be covered (namely Africa, South Asia and Latin America).

Deadline for applications: 30 November 2023

The Financial Transparency Coalition is fiscally sponsored by Third Sector New England, Inc. (TSNE).