

Key Terms

[SHIFT funding and support programs](#)



SHIFT's funding and support programs are designed to support socially transformative projects at various stages of development. In order to better explain what we're looking for, we've compiled a list of our key terms along with how we define them at SHIFT:

- **Social transformation** is an intentional process of systemic change to address not only the symptoms but the root causes of inequity, injustice and unsustainability. A project that has a transformative social impact is one that brings about change at the level of a whole system - impacting social norms and beliefs, resource consumption patterns, rules and practices, technologies and infrastructures, and/or the distribution of power.
 - **Equity:** ensuring fair and just access to opportunities, networks, spaces, resources, etc.
 - **Justice:** countering discrimination and other harmful treatments of specific communities
 - **Sustainability:** prioritizing the flourishing of people and planet
- A **project** is a specific undertaking that has a beginning, a middle and an end. It has a defined scope and a clear goal. Projects may be repeated, but they are different from the routine day-to-day operations of an organization.
- A **team member** is a person who is actively involved in the design and/or execution of a project. They have a defined role and are committed to helping to realize the project's deliverables.
 - **Core team members:** take full responsibility for the successful execution of the project as a whole
 - **Supporting team members:** take full responsibility for a specific portion of the project
 - **Advisors:** provide advice and expertise and can be called on to support the execution of the project when needed
- A **stakeholder** is an individual, group, community or organization that is impacted by the delivery and/or the outcome of a project. In other words, they have a "stake" in how the project unfolds and an interest in the project's success.
 - A **multi-stakeholder team** is made up of individuals representing multiple groups, communities or organizations, who each bring a different point-of-view and expertise to their role in realizing the project's deliverables and outcomes.
- A current active member of the **Concordia community** is someone who falls into one or more of the following groups:
 - **Students:** includes those who are pursuing full-time, part-time, undergraduate, graduate, and non-degree studies

- **Faculty:** includes those who are full-time, part-time, tenured, non-tenured and limited term appointments
- **Staff:** includes those who are full-time, part-time, working in all departments, faculties, units and student-funded groups

** For the purposes of SHIFT funding programs, Concordia alumni do not count as “current active members” of the Concordia community.*