

# Giving for Change

**Annual Report 2022** 



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## The Giving for Change Alliance

The Giving for Change Alliance includes the consortium members (the Africa Philanthropy Network, Global Fund for Community Foundations, Kenya Community Development Foundation and Wilde Ganzen Foundation) and the following National Anchor Institutions (NAIs):

Brazil : Rede Comuá, CESE

**Burkina Faso** : Association Burkinabè de Fundraising (ABF) **Ethiopia** : Development Expertise Center (DEC)

Ghana : STAR Ghana Foundation, West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI)

Kenya : Kenya Community Development Foundation (KCDF, also consortium member)

**Mozambique** : Fundação Micaia **Palestine** : Dalia Association

Uganda : Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF)

## Introduction

This document contains the 2022 annual report for the Giving for Change Alliance. The alliance is spearheaded by an international consortium consisting of the Global Fund for Community Foundations (GFCF), Africa Philanthropy Network (APN), Kenya Community Development Foundation (KCDF) and Wilde Ganzen Foundation (WG) and includes partners from eight countries.

These organizations are brought together by their shared vision on community-led development through community and domestic philanthropy. A partnership has been established with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (hereinafter also referred to as 'the Ministry') under the Strengthening Civil Society policy framework for the 2021-2025 period.

The Giving for Change programme sets out a bold vision for transforming how "development is done" by focusing specifically on the recognition and importance of domestic resources in increasing local ownership, unlocking agency and strengthening communities' ability to claim entitlements from different actors, especially government. Underlying all of this is the larger issue of power: while there is an explicit focus on strengthening rights and claiming capacities of communities in relation to public government structures, another dimension of the programme relates specifically to overcoming power dynamics and establishing more equitable practices within the international development system itself.

2022 was the programme's second implementation year. After a start-up year in 2021, the programme was

able to build on the foundation laid. Much effort has been put in deepening and accelerating the work at the community level. In a reflection session on the 2022 results, alliance members indicated they are proud of the change in mindset they see amongst actors involved, their courage to address community priorities and represent marginalized groups. The approach of establishing Communities of Practice has even been called "revolutionary" because of its potential to transform the work of community organizations. In some countries, this has laid the foundation for influencing strategies at the national level in the remaining years of the programme, working from the ground up. In other countries, efforts to influence national laws, regulations or policies have already started. Furthermore, during 2022 we continued our efforts to influence the sector of international cooperation at the international level. This document captures progress made, as well as insights that have emerged.

## Context

The operating environment for civil society in many parts of the world – including Giving for Change countries - continues to be challenging, whether in the form of direct attacks on the NGO sector or on certain groups and populations by the government, humanitarian crises, social divides or ongoing or renewed conflict.

## Security situation, political context and civic space

The security situation in Burkina Faso continued to intensify. The crisis has resulted in the displacement of at least 1.8 million people to more secure areas within the country and this number is growing by the day. Moreover, the security crisis created political instability. Burkina Faso recorded two coups d'état in 2022. Respect for human rights and freedom of expression declined sharply in 2022 and the social fabric has deteriorated due to the stigmatization of certain population groups in the geographic areas where terrorist attacks are taking place. In response to the situation, anchor organization ABF took measures to enhance the safety of all actors involved in the programme. For example, by splitting two Communities of Practice travel requirements were significantly reduced as members are now able to meet closer to home.

In **Ethiopia**, civic space regressed during 2022 as well. Numerous politicians and journalists were arrested by the government forces and forces aligned with the government. In some instances, the government blackmailed human rights CSOs as pro-rebel and political opposition. This prevented those CSOs from pursuing the human rights agenda. Raising issues around human rights was even more difficult in parts of the country where the government had lost its monopoly as a result of the active presence of rebel movements. UNICEF's humanitarian situation report revealed that the conflict and drought in Ethiopia left 29.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in 2022.

In **Mozambique**, the violent insurgency in the far north of the country, originating in Cabo Delgado Province, continues with occasional spikes in the number and seriousness of attacks, both within Cabo Delgado and neighboring Nampula provinces. The rumbling security threats come at a time of great political tension in the run-up to the 2024 elections. Meanwhile, the government's proposed legislation relating to freedom of as-

sociation continues to face widespread opposition from across civil society. New regulations require NGOs to submit financial returns, and across the country, local government officials press NGOs to report on plans and budgets. In themselves, such measures are not necessarily wrong, but there is a sense in which the state is trying to gain more control and more influence over all resources.

A similar development was observed in Kenya, where a law was passed by Parliament that requires all community groups to register themselves with a new Director for Social Development at county level. On the one hand the law contains positive elements, such as the obligation of this Director to strengthen capacities of community groups, stimulate their formation and involve them in planning processes for social development policies. On the other hand, the law gives the Director the mandate to refuse registration of such groups if their activities are considered unlawful or immoral or to provide additional operating requirements. This law was passed in Parliament right before the elections took place; therefore most civil society organizations missed this as their attention was diverted towards the elections. The elections were largely peaceful, ushering in a new national government and 47 county governments (41 new governors and 6 re-elected governors). At the county level, the organizations forming Communities of Practice faced challenges in accessing leaders and duty bearers in the second half of the year as a result of election period disruptions. This slowed down community engagements with governments on crucial governance and community development processes. However, this also allowed the communities to vet and re-evaluate their leaders before casting votes in favor or against the leaders and the peaceful transitions at the county and national levels are continued opportunities for civil society actors to engage in policy advocacy and development planning.

2022 was a turning point for **Brazilian** democracy. The country held what some news outlets defined as the

"most tense national elections since the redemocratization", with two opposing candidates disputing the country's presidency - on one side, president Bolsonaro aiming for a second term and mobilizing the support of conservative and extreme right wing groups, while, on the other side, there was former president Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, leading a broad front of democratic parties to oppose Bolsonaro's autocratic agenda. Polarization, rising cases of political violence and recurrent attacks against democratic institutions and civil society were constant during the past four years in Brazil, but intensified in 2022. With Lula's election win, the federal government relationship with civil society signals to change. The economic situation is still worrying, with high levels of food insecurity and unemployment, but Lula was able to accommodate various political forces in the composition of his government and is succeeding in resuming public policies for the poorest that had been interrupted. In view of this situation, Giving for Change partners were heavily committed to resistance efforts. by providing both financial and non-financial support to civil society organizations, leaders, activities and human right defenders. Therefore, time has become an even more valuable asset. Comuá Network and CESE focused on better planning and balancing the amount of activities offered, in order to ensure the engagement of their teams. In addition to that, meetings to debate the political context were facilitated, so member organizations and the Network could better align strategies and prepare against potential attacks by digital militias and far right groups.

Whilst **Ghana** remains relatively peaceful and stable, the spread of violent extremism in its neighboring countries means that security awareness and prevention must not be dealt with as standalone interventions, but also mainstreamed into existing interventions. For the northern Communities of Practice, we discuss and explore ways in which members of the CoPs could influence their communities with information on security, for example, tagging onto the government's campaign on 'see something, say something' and reinforcing community dialogues as mechanisms for building social cohesion.

The UN called 2022 the deadliest year for **Palestinians** in the Israeli-occupied West Bank in 16 years. Attacks by Israeli settlers against Palestinians in the West Bank increased and became more brazen and coordinated¹. On May 11, Israeli forces shot dead veteran Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh while she was covering a military raid on the Jenin refugee camp. Her killing led to

an international outcry and sent shockwaves throughout the world. In November, Israeli parliamentary elections resulted in the creation of the most far-right government in the country's 74-year history, which is expected to affect the situation of Palestinians. Furthermore, the Palestinian Authority issued a new value-added tax law in 2022 that imposes taxes on some CSO activities and increases restrictions on the work of CSOs.

In **Uganda**, the NGO Policy 2010 is being reviewed; this may have further restrictive implications on the operations of the sector.

## **Economy and climate**

Citizens were also faced with challenges caused by the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's war on Ukraine. This resulted in high inflation rates and hence increased cost of living and economic insecurity. Furthermore, climate events which destroy crops and disrupt food transport are disproportionately common in the programme countries.

In Ethiopia and Kenya, a prolonged drought is driving internal displacement, loss of livestock, food and water insecurity and even malnutrition. The indigenous philanthropic practice of the Ethiopian people was being unearthed when communities mobilized resources from the country across geographic, ethnic, and religious backgrounds towards affected areas. On top of this, people are requested to contribute financially for the war in the northern part of Ethiopia.

**Ghana's** economy suffered many shocks, from rising inflation, depreciation of the cedi to high debt ratio. These necessitated Ghana's return to the International Monetary Fund, for the 17th time since independence for a bailout. At the later part of 2022, and with the IMF's programme, the government embarked on debt restructuring, which has seen different forms of citizens uprising, including street protests and heated media debates. In moments of austerity, and with the historical performance of IMF's programmes, the tendency to reduce social spending is high, and this impacts the poor most heavily.

On the one hand, a harsh economy will negatively impact people's abilities to give, of their time and funds, as they may become more preoccupied with making ends meet, and may not also have disposable income to give to social and community development interventions. On the other hand, our messaging is that community

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Six major developments that shaped 2022 for Palestinians | Israel-Palestine conflict News | Al. Jazeera

philanthropy can and does take place irrespective of wealth. It is often when times are hardest that people dig deepest, when they reach out to neighbours as never before.

#### Health

In most programme countries, restrictions related to COVID-19 were lifted in the course of 2022. This opened the door to organize more in-person events, including a partner meeting in Ghana mid-year and the APN Assembly in **Uganda**. Unfortunately, Uganda recorded over 20 deaths in what was possibly its 6th Ebola outbreak. This had heavy implications for activity implementation and travel and if the numbers were to increase, a lockdown would have been announced. Luckily, the disease was contained.

## International cooperation

There is some cause for optimism that the international donor community is finally starting to see through its

commitments to localize aid. With USAID now committed to directing 25% of its aid budget to local actors over the next four years, a joint statement announced in December 2022 saw 15 bilateral donors commit to "shifting and sharing power," channeling funding as directly as possible and publicly advocating for locally-led development. Furthermore, through the Pledge for Change, 13 INGOs committed themselves to change their current workings. The Pledge, an initiative led by leaders and activists from the global South, reflects an acknowledgement of the unequal power dynamics in the development and aid sectors and the need to ensure a fairer future. Although there is still a long way to go, this signals a new stage of the localization process and one which coincides with both the policy ambitions of the Giving for Change programme and the broader goals of the #ShiftThePower agenda.

## **Central Domain**

In domain 1, also referred to as the central domain, Giving for Change aims to unlock the collective power of local communities, represented by Civil Society Actors (CSAs), to express their opinion through community philanthropy. Under this domain, the programme sought to form and strengthen local communities of practice (CoPs).

The Communities of Practice are mostly physical or virtual spaces to bring together a diverse range of Civil Society Actors (CSAs) formed around a given geographical area or a specific issue or identity. The CoPs are places/platforms for mutual learning and sharing, testing new approaches and ways of working. This learning and sharing is centered around domestic resource mobilization, building local constituencies for social change, strengthening community voices, and challenging unfavorable power dynamics in international development. Through community mobilization, the GfC programme has incubated a process in which community actors bloom, influencing policy and governance processes while investing in community philanthropy.

#### **Activities in 2022**

In 2022, the programme built further on the work of CoPs established in the previous year, promoting increased amplification of community voices in influencing governance processes and promoting community philanthropy in solving social problems. 53 Communities of Practice were formed or maintained (38 were started in 2021, 15 new ones were launched in 2022), which con-

sisted of 685 CSAs in total. As much focus was put in this domain of work over the first two years, we are close to the five-year target and it is expected that the number of new CoPs and new CSAs involved will be limited in the upcoming years.

## Capacity strengthening on Mobilizing Support and Local Fundraising

The Giving for Change programme continued to build the capacity of grassroots CSAs on mobilizing support (lobbying and advocacy) and raising domestic resources. In all countries, the Change the Game Academy methodology was used or integrated with other training content, along with peer learning and coaching. The organizations' capacity to identify development policy gaps and package advocacy messages to influence long-term policy interventions towards community governance processes has been enhanced. They are now more able to promote the effective participation of people directly affected by the problem in lobby activities and have incorporated lobby and advocacy skills in their organizational work.

	Target 2022	Actual 2022	Target 2021- 2025	Actual 2021- 2022
# of CSAs involved in communities of practice	406	299	700	685
of which women led	75	96		168
of which youth-led	87	56		146
of which led by people living with disability	26	21		47
of which LGBTQI- led	5	3		7
other	213	123		317

In addition, organizations were trained on raising domestic resources. The training is aimed at strengthening their capacity to identify, mobilize and utilize local resources for their community development needs. In Palestine, the community philanthropy camp reinforced the values and vision of the Dalia Association in promoting the values of indigenous community philanthropy (known as al Aouneh) in a participatory community learning space. As a result of capacity enhancement initiatives in the first year, organizations have incorporated local fundraising strategies in individual organizational strategies while some CoPs have undertaken various local fundraising initiatives to improve the quality or access to various community priority needs.



## Increased amplification of community voices in influencing governance processes through CoPs

The Giving for Change programme has contributed to the impetus for communities and CSAs to dig deeper, widen their scope, and create better networking opportunities from the national level to the communities at the grassroots. The participation of different organizations with varied strengths and expertise in this programme continues to open opportunities to strengthen their work. The CoPs are unique in the sense that they provide a space at the local level where organizations working in different thematic sectors can discuss lobbying and advocacy issues across silos. This has provided platforms for the amplification of community voices to influence governance policies or governance actions. In most countries, we have seen more engagement from the government. In Kenya, the County government of Kisumu invited representation of the Kisumu County CoP members into the 2023-2027 County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) Technical Working Group (TWG). The TWG is developing the County Integrated Development Plan, which guides development over five years. This is a result of the continuous budget advocacy capacity strengthening for CoPs by KCDF through the Giving for Change programme. The inclusion of CoP representatives will ensure community voices are included in the county planning processes. In Brazil, CoP members supported by CESE actively participated and submitted a memo during the "Conferência Popular pelo Direito à Cidade" (Popular Conference on the Right to the City), which produced a set of proposals that were discussed with election candidates in the whole country, including measures to include gender and racial issues in urban and housing policies. In Ethiopia, the 7 CoPs, established in the first year, organized community meetings to prioritize their lobby and advocacy issues. For instance, in Batu, the CoP raised and submitted complaints on environmental pollution and community health issues as a result of the use of harmful chemicals by private sector flower farm investments. While the government agencies are silent due to the employment opportunities for the locals, the CoP members continue to call for action, advocating the use of less harmful chemicals. Other advocacy issues raised and submitted to government agencies in Ethiopia include the lack of roads in areas like Gachi Daimo Kebele, and limited access to farm inputs, especially improved seed, fertilizers, and agrochemicals among other issues. The CoPs have incorporated the media in their effort to advocate for the identified issue.

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## **Enhanced Community Philanthropy**

The Giving for Change programme continues to support communities through the CoPs to unlock their potential to identify and mobilize resources towards community development and solving communities' social problems. Through the CoPs, a mindset shift -one from dependency to agency- was ignited. As a result, various CoP members have been able to mobilize community resources toward varied development initiatives. In **Uganda**, through the Communities of Practice, the

community members have been able to locally raise resources towards the development of their communities such as construction of a health facility, pit latrines, classroom blocks, water sources among others. This has made them believe that collective giving is possible and leads to development. In **Ethiopia**, the members of the 7 CoPs mobilized resources towards renovating destitute persons' houses, planting trees in community spaces and schools, town cleaning, garbage collection, carrying out blood donation drives and donating food and non-food items that were distributed to needy community members.

In Ghana, community commitments have led to the construction of a community clinic in Kusali. Mariama Alhassan a 32-year-old pregnant women was among the first to access antenatal health care at the clinic. She said: "Before our collective efforts in constructing this clinic, I would have travelled to Gwollu (25 kilometers) to access antenatal care. Because of the distance and cost of travel, many women who required antennal care were constrained and rarely got the care they needed, resulting in complications of pregnancy and stillbirths. Now I can walk from my home and in the next 3 minutes, I am in the clinic to access my antenatal care. I am so happy we did it. It is our clinic. We all contributed to constructing it. I participated in fetching water and also contributing money to support its construction. I am happy to be part of this project. I feel proud and empowered"



## Support to local organizations through small grants

To support local organizations to promote community philanthropy and to undertake lobby and advocacy initiatives that amplify community voices, competitive small grants were awarded to various organizations. In Brazil, Kenya and Mozambique, small grants supported lobby and advocacy initiatives across a spectrum of policy issues. In **Kenya**, 13 grants were made to support influencing initiatives on social accountability, pub-

lic participation, access to information, water and sanitation, sexual and gender-based violence and country government budget allocation processes. In Mozambique, 28 initiatives were supported: some dealing with health issues or sexual abuse, others highlighting issues faced by specific communities; people living with disability, albinos, and LGBTQI+ people. It is an important reflection and result that the very small amount of money available – just €100 per group in Mozambique – led to such a diversity of local campaigning and such significant reach.

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In addition, in Brazil, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique and Palestine matching grants were offered to stimulate local fundraising and philanthropy. As a result, local fundraising efforts were piloted. In Ghana, the programme supported a CoP to launch the 'Be future ready' campaign: an educational initiative undertaken in partnership with LeadAfrique, to raise local resources for the development of courses and materials to improve literacy in public schools within selected districts. This initiative is supported by individuals and businesses with an interest in reducing inequalities in education. Through the campaign, about 121,969 cedis (over 9,000 EUR) have been raised to support quality education delivery. In addition, consortium member Global Fund for Community Foundations made 9 grants in 6 Giving for Change countries (Brazil, Kenya, Palestine, Burkina Faso, Uganda, Mozambique). Given that there are national anchor partners in each country, the GFCF's role in the alliance is to complement other efforts and to identify gaps that may be harder for anchor partners to fill, as well as opportunities to connect local level activities into broader global initiatives and conversations. Because the GFCF uses grantmaking to build relationships with its partners, grants also help contribute to their feeling of being part of something bigger through connections and relationships with peers in other parts of the world, participation in webinars and other kinds of engagement. Grants made focused in three areas:

## 1. Piloting and experimentation of new models:

Community philanthropy as a development practice and theory is still a new concept in a number of Giving for Change countries, and the use of different strategies and practices will necessarily be shaped by context. These grants enabled partners to bring a perspective of piloting and experimentation to their work, all in the context of learning. For example, a grant was made to the Kilimani Project Foundation (KPF) in Kenya, which was established in 2012 and since then has built up a membership of 600 Kilimani businesses and residents. The organization combines elements of a community foundation and a residents' association, and uses local giving and community organizing as core strategies in its work. The grant supported KPF's efforts to engage in rights claiming through advocacy in regard to the planned development and protection of green spaces in accordance with public regulations. With this grant, one of the successes recorded included hosting the first ever Kilimani Prop-tech Hackathon. The hackathon's aim was to find smart solutions to enhance public participation in the development process, a process that is currently being guided by outdated city plans. Three projects from the hackathon were selected and within the next year, implementation of these projects will include community residents' input and recommendations with city planners.

## 2. Community philanthropy for human rights and social justice:

In recent years, it has become increasingly hard or dangerous for human rights organizations to access international funding; where international grant funding can still flow into countries, it can sometimes have the unintended effect of undermining the legitimacy of civil society actors and/or feeding into narratives about them as "foreign agents." Building resources and, beyond that, local constituencies for human rights issues, has become more important than ever. For example, a grant was made to the Twerwaneho Listeners Club in Uganda. TLC is a human rights organization working at the intersection of environmental and land rights, human rights, peacebuilding, and good governance and has offered support to over 4.5 million people within communities affected by harmful investments. This two-year grant is used to socialize the idea of community philanthropy within the communities it serves through radio programmes and campaigns and explore longer-term organizational models and infrastructures for community philanthropy.

## 3. Strengthening the evidence base through research and knowledge building:

Grants in this category are part of a larger action research initiative that the GFCF is leading around the notion of a "Good Society". This relates to the first point on the #ShiftThePower Manifesto for Change: 'Embrace a vision of a "good society" built around core values of equality, democracy and sustainability and a set of organizing principles based on global solidarity and distributed leadership.' A grant to CivSource (Uganda) sought to stimulate an important and overdue conversation among philanthropy and civil society actors in East Africa around issues of how race, power, and privilege show up in the social sector, and what can be done to re-humanize and decolonize the status quo. As a result of the grant, a report, "Who Pays the Piper - A Synthesis of Decolonizing Aid Conversations", was produced. Consensus from participants involved in the dialogues showed that the current aid system is an impediment to realizing significant social change in communities. From these conversations, CivSource Africa aims to create tools to help the social justice field to re-humanize and decolonize the sector and its work.

#### Reflection

In this domain of work, we see the affirmation of the relevance of the creation of spaces and platforms for prioritization of community needs, and working with communities as partners. We are creating ownership, building on indigenous knowledge and recognizing community assets. The role of facilitators working with communities has been critical to harness their interests and capacities to address pertinent challenges, as the basis and perhaps, as a lever for making demands of their local government officials, and in brokering external partnerships. In the absence of facilitators, communities' capacities to organize and mobilize are not nurtured and capitalized. Giving for Change has provided the critical facilitation required to make communities work for their own good and has helped address the fundamental questions about whether every challenge of communities must take local authorities to solve, or whether some initiatives of communities can actually catalyse response from local authorities and government agencies. From the insights, we know that communities can take their own initiatives, and use their solutions to attract attention from local authorities and other actors. We see a shift in mindsets (from dependency to agency) and a growing interest of communities to give, even though they may not have enough themselves. This affirms the expression that 'no one is too poor to give' and we have seen different forms of giving. In contexts where poverty is endemic or where communities have been hit by disasters such as droughts, people prefer to give in kind, including food items, which may be produced from their farms, and giving of their time, through their attendance in meetings and service as community educators or change champions. Providing seed funding and match funding has been successful in bridging the gap between learning around local philanthropy within the Communities of Practice and testing the skills by doing local philanthropy, using small scale projects. In some countries, there has been a slow uptake of matching grants, which can be attributed to the harsh economic times communities face and to the fact that this is a new concept for many.

Local philanthropy thrives on tangible outputs, and those are largely situated within communities. Many examples of results revolve around giving for things that can be seen and touched. We aim to learn more from experiences with social justice philanthropy, which has been highlighted as an area for knowledge development within the alliance.

At the same time, there is the reality that the level of social needs to be met would take more than resources than can be generated from local philanthropy. And indeed, when compared with the quantum of resources that can be raised from external sources, the contributions from local philanthropy could be minimal. But local philanthropy in itself is an expression of agency, and that is unquantifiable. For instance, Mariama in Kusali, Ghana felt proud that she has contributed to the construction of a clinic. Despite this, we must not promote one approach as the only solution to development challenges. In the CoPs, we have discussed the importance of whilst promoting local philanthropy, paying attention to not substituting local philanthropy for the state's responsibilities and obligations towards citizens, but working to hold duty bearers accountable and promoting community influence on governance processes.

We confirmed our impression that the varied profile of organizations that compose the CoPs favoured enriching exchange among them and contributed to social cohesion. However, managing non-financial partnerships, as with the CoPs, can at times be difficult. In some cases, only part of the members of the CoPs remain committed. Perhaps we should move away from measuring CoPs by the numbers and focus more on the contribution of the CoPs to the organization's capacities in knowledge and skills in local philanthropy and amplifying community voices in influencing community development.

## **Domain Two**

The second domain aims to influence states and other actors to support the development of community philanthropy as part of the national development strategy, whether by creating favorable conditions for giving, or through the creation and strengthening of multi-stakeholder networks and alliances.

## APN and national anchor organizations worked towards achieving two specific objectives:

- a. to increase the awareness of eight governments on the importance of facilitating donations to CSAs as well as adopting laws and regulations that enable domestic philanthropic giving, and
- b. to increase awareness of donors (both institutional and individuals) on the potential of giving as a driver for social and systemic change, and increase donations to CSAs that drive communi-

ty-led development and promote respect for human rights.

Greater progress in influencing the government authorities and policy actors to recognize community philanthropy and domestic resource mobilization as a form of and driver for social and systems change was achieved. On the other hand, the public was made more aware of the important role played by the CSAs.

#### **Activities in 2022**

## Policy advocacy and influencing regarding laws and regulations that affect CSOs and philanthropy

In the Giving for Change programme countries, there are a few progressive laws and regulations providing an enabling environment for the formation of associations, development of philanthropic giving, and resources mobilization. Nonetheless, these legal instruments are not without a need for amendments to become even more responsive and supportive of the context and need for CSAs. On the other hand, most laws are not known, or misinterpreted by CSOs and power holders, and remain largely un-implemented, resulting in a restricted civic space.

The conducted initiatives focused on key policy areas identified and prioritized by the legal assessment baselines in specific countries, namely: registration, taxation, resource mobilization/fundraising, policy engagement, and government oversight. In **Kenya**, KCDF and its partners continued their efforts to lobby for the review and amendment of the Trustees (Perpetual Succession) Act, No. 2, 1980 (Cap 164) and the Trustee Act (Cap 167). Both laws regulate the registration and operation of Trusts and Foundations in Kenya. At the same time, while there has been no progress in the implementation of the PBO Act 2013, KCDF is working closely with Civic Freedom Forum members (an umbrella body for Civil

Society organizations working around protection of civic space in Kenya), holding dialogue meetings with various organs including the Director of State Department of social protection, and scheduling meetings with the Interior Ministry where the PBO act is domiciled towards the PBO's operationalization. Giving for Change partners in Ghana focused on ensuring that CSOs are accorded enough space in the policy making processes. During the year, there has been consistent efforts for engagement on the Non-Profit Law (NPO) Bill making and Social Enterprise Policy drafting processes. Engagements with the Non-Profit Organizations secretariat on the new NPO Bill has led to the integration of two inputs generated from the CoPs, one of which concerned the appointment of the Steering committee to ensure the committee is devoid of political influence - so that CSOs participation and voice is not compromised. In Brazil, the MROSC platform ("Platform for a New Regulatory Framework for Civil Society Organizations"), of which Giving for Change Alliance member CESE is an active member, drafted and published an open letter with recommendations for the new government on more favourable laws and regulations for civil society organizations. Over 100 candidates in the 2022 elections received this letter and 82 of them signed it, of which 31 were elected. This opens perspectives to set an agenda in the parliament. All these efforts will hopefully lead to the creation of a national council on the relationship among government and civil society, establishing a permanent channel for monitoring public policies impacting CSOs. CESE has been appointed to be part of this council.

Through researches conducted over the past two years and activities done in this domain of work, we have deepened our understanding of the challenges within the regulatory framework. These include:

#### **Registration of CSOs**

- The right to associate, assemble and organize are guaranteed by the Constitution in all program countries. CSOs have the right to take part in policy and advocacy activities. The regulatory regime however vests different government agencies or offices with power to regulate the affairs of CSOs. In recent years, we have witnessed amendments of the NGO Acts which have restricted the freedom of CSOs to operate.
- NGOs face intrusive and micro management oversight from the Registrar of NGOs. The requirement that NGOs must submit their grant agreements to the Registrar of NGOs for approval is an unnecessary requirement that undermines and deters NGOs from carrying out advocacy and influencing campaigns that are unfavorable for the government.

#### **Taxation and Tax Incentives**

- CSOs are subjected to taxation for income received as grants and donations unless they have a charitable status certificate from the Revenue Authority. The experience has shown that the applications for Charitable Status certificates are rarely attended to and granted. Charitable Status would contribute to increased domestic giving for social and systems change.
- Very few countries have a progressive tax legislation. Moreover, much of the domestic philanthropic
  giving is done by those who are not part of the tax system. There is not enough (scientific) knowledge to understand what an enabling environment means in such a context and how best to respond to that beyond tax frameworks.

#### **Government Restrictions and Oversight**

- Some governments prohibit funding from specified foreign sources, stipulate the permissible activities that foreign funded CSAs may undertake, and insist on prior approval before funding from foreign sources can be received. These restrictions are likely to impact the development of community philanthropy.
- Requirement of government authorisation before philanthropy can be provided to certain CSAs restricts or slows down assistance (materials/assets/funds), and is most likely to impact philanthropy and domestic resource mobilization

## Compliance and legitimacy

In response to government's crackdown on civil society over the past two years, UNNGOF (Uganda) embarked on compliance clinics under the #BeLegit Campaign. The 'door-to-door' compliance clinics were done in the form of site visit, right at the organization offices to facilitate a face-to-face interaction between the visiting team (a lawyer and an UNNGOF staff) and the host organization staff (Head of the Organization, Finance Team or Compliance officer). Candid conversations were held to facilitate a deeper health check on their status as far as complying to government regulations and administrative procedures is concerned. The campaign awakened organizations to appreciate the key compliance obligations at hand and acted as an eye opener for them to urgently embrace compliance if their organizations are to be stable and remain relevant. In Burkina Faso, a network of actors has been established to lobby for the introduction of a self-monitoring mechanism for CSO accreditation. Such a mechanism would not only enhance the credibility of CSOs; complying with the relevant regulatory frameworks also ensures CSOs are eligible to receive financial assistance from the government.

## Alliance building and strengthened voice

We realized a need for creating and strengthening networks and coalitions towards a more holistic approach and deeper collaboration among stakeholders. Anchor organizations invited different stakeholder groups in meetings at the national level and some have established networks for the collective philanthropy voice. Organized meetings invited various local and central

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government officials, members of the parliament and CSAs including networks and movements of CSOs, Human Right Defenders, Women's Rights Organization, religious organizations, the media, and academia and research institutions. Increasingly, government officials are reported to support the Giving for Change work. For example, in Ethiopia, DEC is working in partnership with the Registrar of NGOs to create CSOs awareness of the new CSO Proclamation and also to ensure smooth implementation of the registration by decentralizing the process. All NAIs organized national-level multi-stakeholder meetings with philanthropic actors, bringing diverse voices and building the #ShiftThePower movement. The Comuá Network (Brazil) restructured its new Advocacy program to streamline strategies and proposed actions, giving organic cohesion and greater voice to achieve systemic change with its partners. The Network has been experimenting with different strategies to approach more traditional private social investment actors, especially on their engagement and commitment. A turning point in the Network's advocacy and lobbying strategy was the joint project with GIFE (an association of Brazilian social investors) in 2022, which created spaces to influence the philanthropic ecosystem.

The APN collaborated with the East Africa Philanthropy Network (EAPN), Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF) and CivSource Africa to organize the APN Assembly under the theme: "African Philanthropy: Driving Change" in Entebbe, Uganda. The overall discussions at the Assembly focused on three sub-themes: building resources to address complexity, strengthening African philanthropic practice, and youth philanthropy. The Assembly was attended by about 294 individuals from CSOs, government and private sector within the continent, and globally. The official welcome was graced by the Mayor of Entebbe City, Mr Fabrice Rulinda, and the official opening by the State Minister for Youth in Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Hon Nyirabashitsi Sarah Mateke.

## Knowledge production, media and narratives

An increased number and types of philanthropy advocacy and influencing messages, such as research reports, fact papers, booklets, blogs/stories, newsletters and other media products were produced and widely disseminated. The Country Assessment Reports on the legal environment for philanthropy to thrive (conducted in 2021) were finalized, uploaded on partner websites and disseminated through social media. APN engaged partners in studying the nature and trends of women's contribution into the philanthropy field in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Mozambigue. In Uganda, UNNGOF partnered with the Centre for Basic Research to launch five sense-making papers on philanthropy in Uganda. The aim of the papers was to understand and appreciate the different facets of philanthropy and whether or not there is a need for regulation. A second objective of the papers was to lay the foundation for policy engagements and reflection with stakeholders at the national and international level to build understanding, dialogue, and to shift power in relation to community philanthropy. The Comuá Network (Brazil) published the report "Mapping Highlights of the Independent Grantmaking Organizations for Social Justice and Community Development in Brazil". A first of its kind, this mapping exercise paved the way for more research on community philanthropy and social justice in Brazil to be done. In Kenya, a report on Local Resource Mobilization in East Africa showed a shift and move within communities towards mapping their own internal and locally available resources. An important outcome from the report highlights the low levels of local fundraising initiatives that have benefited from tax exemptions, underscoring the need to invest more in advocating for favorable regulatory regimes as a basis for promoting local giving.

All NAIs are implementing advocacy campaigns of some sort and use a variety of formats to disseminate knowledge, including media campaigns. In Burkina Faso, a group of 10 journalists has been trained to disseminate messages related to the Giving for Change programme to stakeholders and the broader public. At the international level, some stories of success regarding community philanthropy models were commissioned and uploaded on the APN Website through the 'Simulizi' Blog. The '2021 State of philanthropy Booklet' has been finalized and shared; the 2022 report is currently being produced.

Furthermore, through catalytic grants and an essay competition, APN supported the creation of new narratives that recognize and promote the value of African philanthropy. 39 Catalytic grants were made, ranging from small grants (500-2500 EUR) for individual storytelling to larger grants (2.500-5.000 EUR) for showcasing the culture of domestic philanthropic giving as a driver for social and systems change. For example, in Tanzania, Mwanamke na Uongozi used the catalytic grant to inspire the society, particularly middle-class working women, to give financially and in-kind to vulnerable groups, specifically young single mothers aged 18 and above. What is remarkable about this is the impact of social media on philanthropy. The organization leveraged the power of social media to highlight the narrative behind women in philanthropy while working with local influencers in Tanzania. The documented celebrities' stories of giving helped to raise visibility of various acts of philanthropy that exist in Tanzania. Beyond this, a female network that promotes giving was established and will continue to support and showcase the impact of giving. The essay competition provided space for youth aged 18 – 35 years to contribute towards a generation of new narratives in philanthropy. The overall winner's essay illustrated the nature of philanthropy and the challenges that are still dominant in the field; the second winner focused on how Africa should collectively transcend and activate the phenomena of philanthropic giving to drive its transformational agendas. The booklet with 20 winning essays, can be accessed here.

#### Reflection

We are dealing with systemic challenges that require long-term efforts, collective power and a well-coordinated approach. We need to make deliberate efforts towards enhancing national level policy advocacy and influencing approach that is inclusive of other CSOs and human rights groups. Modeled on the way development cooperation is done, many CSAs still work in silos, and fund project-based initiatives. Leveraging collaboration as a strategy to achieve greater impact is key. The Giving for Change program partners are increasingly working in collaboration with other existing CSAs in-country and internationally.

## Domain Three -International Level Work

The overall objective in domain 3 is to influence and partner with international development actors to appreciate, support, and promote the development of community philanthropy as a central pillar of broader efforts to shift power and resources closer to the ground, and to strengthen local ownership of development processes amplifying the ability of citizens and communities to be heard and to claim rights and entitlements.

Our work under domain three centers on three main strategies: 1) build on, engage and collaborate with other sector initiatives, 2) grow the visibility, voice and influencing power of southern CSAs and leaders in the #ShiftThePower movement so that they can participate more fully and have a greater voice in conversations and processes aimed at reforming aid, and 3) promote and foster new ways of working that leverage actors and assets on both emergent (community philanthropy, #ShiftThePower) and mainstream (funders and INGOs) sides of the system.

#### **Activities in 2022**

- Build on, engage and collaborate with other sector-based initiatives regarding the dilemma many funders face regarding shifting the power in funding.
  - A number of Giving for Change alliance members (WACSI, UNNGOF, KCDF, GFCF and Wilde Ganzen) actively participated in the RINGO (Re-imagining INGOs) project: a systems change initiative that seeks to transform global civil society to respond to today's challenges. RINGO convened a 'Social Lab' which launched 8 prototypes that can transform INGO institutions and the systems in which they function. In addition to participation in the working groups, we supported the prototype aimed at kickstarting a Decolonizing Advisory Community with seed funding.

- In **Brazil**, further collaboration with INGOs (Bread for the World, Misereor, Fundação Heinrich Boll e Heks-Eper, Amnesty International and German network Kobra) and civil society actors resulted in the report "Dialogues on Cooperation and Philanthropy for the Defense of Rights and Development" which showed that the emergence of new actors in public funding and the multiplication of community funds have pointed to a new configuration in organizational processes and in disputes over power and space within organized civil society.
- In the Netherlands, Wilde Ganzen participated in the Shift the Power steering committee, initiated by Partos, as well as in a number of working groups under the Shift the Power Lab 2.0. The working groups focus on developing policy recommendations for donors, developing tools to facilitate organizational change, promoting inclusive narratives and communication and a research initiative to learn about intended and unintended effects of efforts to shift power. For the latter, the research group is investigating case studies in Ghana seeking to explore the Giving for Change experience, its partnerships and learning opportunities. Wilde Ganzen, Partos and Vice Versa jointly organized a webinar in which Partos' dream paper on Shifting Power in international cooperation was presented and discussed.

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- 2. Grow the visibility, voice, and influencing power of southern civil society actors and leaders in the #ShiftThePower movement so that they can participate more fully and have greater voice in conversations and processes aimed at reforming aid.
  - In partnership with Root Change, the launch of the inaugural #ShiftThePower fellowship, emerged as a result of a re-think of efforts around global network development and strengthening. The original plan was to use the social network tool, Pando, both globally and at the national level to be able to track the development of – and grow - "relational" power among different civil society actors around the world (and at country level) within the #ShiftThePower movement. However. the technical limitations of the online tool made the exercise with partners feel extractive and cold. The fellowship opportunity seemed a more tangible and immediate way of testing ways to strengthen "relational power" and support leadership of individual practitioners and advocates within the #ShiftThePower movement. Over 140 applications were received during the open call and 12 fellows were selected; eight from Sub-Saharan Africa, two from East Asia Pacific. one from Latin America and one from Europe. Each fellow brought with them their own understanding and biases around power dynamics, traditional aid, and shifting power to Global South actors and organizations. The fellowship ran from June 2022 - March 2023. The idea with the fellowship was to help strengthen the collective "weave" between change-makers around the world and, by doing so, deepen and expand the #ShiftThePower movement in terms of social and relational capital. Fellows had the opportunity to extend their networks, identify new allies and to explore potential areas of research, learning and collaboration.
  - The GFCF continued its work with its partners to inform and influence change amongst a broad audience of philanthropy and development actors. A two-day partners' meeting was held in Entebbe, Uganda which included a mix of four Giving for Change partners and 27 other partners from their global network ahead of the African Philanthropy Network Assembly. The two days centered around one framing question: "How can community philanthropy and local asset mobilization help drive larger efforts to put communities at the heart of their own development processes, advance equity and justice and shift

- power?" A pre-meeting survey confirmed that this group of partners placed high importance on their roles building assets, capacities and trust at the local level. However, for the first time, other roles were noted as being of top priority: "raising the profile of community philanthropy", and "advocacy and participation of local people in institutions." This indicates a maturation of the field, which is no longer considering itself solely in terms of its local ecosystem, but as part of a wider system that can and should be influenced to better understand and appreciate community philanthropy.
- Several blogposts and articles were published to share key learnings from the #ShiftThePower movement and contribute to the growing knowledge base of the potential for community philanthropy. The #ShiftThePower Treehouse space continues to expand its profile as a platform that provides the space for a range of new and established voices to be heard. It has emerged as a platform to support the thought-leadership of Global South leaders on doing development differently. In total, 40 pieces were posted on the Treehouse over 2022, which aimed to highlight emergent practice and make the case for people-led development. In addition, articles were published by alliance members in media outlets such as Alliance magazine (Comuá Network and the GFCF) and LeMonde Diplomatique (Comuá Network and CESE) and platforms such as BOND. Wilde Ganzen partnered with Vice Versa magazine for the publication of 25 articles both online and offline.
- Promote and foster new ways of working that leverage actors and assets on both the emergent and mainstream sides of the system.

In all programme countries, we are building a movement of community-led development in which community philanthropy helps power local actions and enables peoples' voices to be heard. In addition to the activities done in this regard highlighted in other sections of the report, we would like to mention the following here:

 Wilde Ganzen organized a learning trajectory for 7 Dutch Private Development Initiatives on equal partnerships and participatory approaches, consisting of physical meetings, online meetings and one on one coaching. Participants indicated that the course has increased their awareness on the need to take a different role to ensure ownership is with their partners and the community and that the course has contributed to more reflection on their own attitude and practice in appreciative coaching. Wilde Ganzen also collaborated with Radboud University on research into perceptions that influence North-South partnerships. A few other alliance members provided input for the research. The results will be disseminated in 2023.

• We organized and contributed to webinars and workshops. For example, Wilde Ganzen organized an inspiration webinar on domestic resource mobilization for INGOs and donors, sessions on shifting power for Dutch and Belgian Private Development Initiatives and European networks of PDIs/voluntary organizations, a session on local giving in Kenya in partnership with KCDF and Vice Versa global and two sessions at the International Fundraising Congress for senior management and fundraising staff of IN-GOs in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs, KCDF and UNNGOF. During the APN Assembly, several alliance members hosted and participated in sessions to highlight examples of community philanthropy and share experiences with Communities of Practice under Giving for Change. The GFCF hosted a session on "Where's the (local) money for human rights?", which unpacked what the practice of social justice work and community philanthropy looks like for human rights organizations. Furthermore, the GFCF held a series of activities in 2022 aimed at examining resourcing in the new system based on and drawing from a series of conversations initiated in Zambia and then brought to a larger, global online discussion of #ShiftThePower allies. Framing these conversations was the underlying ethos of "...we want a future that is negotiated, participatory, and widely owned, and which is developed through values and processes based on movement generosity rather than the success or failure of one organisation over others" from the #ShiftThePower Manifesto of Change.

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## Cross cutting issues



## Gender, youth and inclusion

Gender, race and class are placed at the heart of our analysis and we recognize that disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, youth and women are always gendered, racialized and classed. The extent and manner in which Giving for Change partners are addressing gender and inclusion issues in their advocacy and influencing work varies.

At the community level, we have made deliberate efforts to mobilize women, people with disability, and youth to engage in the Communities of Practice initiatives actively. To a large extent, the marginalized groups have been included in capacity strengthening initiatives, while deliberate effort is made to ensure inclusivity. For instance, in Brazil, the participation of an organization of blind and low vision women in online and face-to-face activities, has promoted significant learnings for both CESE's team and CoP members. Educational and communication materials were made accessible for them and six

members of CESE's team did a short training on audio description. In Burkina Faso, the programme supports an annual night of inclusion, organized in the 6 regions and this year the inclusion of displaced people were especially targeted. In Mozambique, local partner organizations include those fighting for gender equality, youth groups, and others representing marginalized groups such as LGBTQI, sex workers, albinos, and people living with disabilities. The project created spaces that broke conventional silos and created a wider understanding of the issues and different strategies used by the different groups. However, the experience has shown that it may be harder for anchor organizations in some Giving for Change programme countries to know how best to engage with and address the specific needs of minority or excluded groups, particularly on the specific issues of resource mobilization for and among these communities. In some countries, groups like the LGBTQI community still shy away from taking part in the programme activities due to stigmatization. The programme is keen on utilizing referrals to ensure that these groups are included. We have learned that domestic resource mobilization can serve as a durable strategy for strengthening the connections within and solidarity among marginalized or socially excluded groups.

At the international level, APN developed a Social Justice Philanthropy Charter to facilitate the incorporation of a 'gender and inclusion lens' into mainstream operational and grantmaking approaches, in addition to the Gender and Inclusion Policy and the Gender Assessment Checklist that were developed in 2021. As mentioned in chapter 4, APN also engaged Giving for Change partners in studying the nature and trends of women's contribution into the philanthropy field in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Mozambique.

As part of the APN Assembly in Entebbe, Uganda, APN organized the 2022 Youth Summit under the theme: African Philanthropy: Driving Change. About one hundred ninety-four (194) people attended the Summit from the global south and global north and 21 young speakers were engaged. Furthermore, 4 webinars were organized to discuss the role of African philanthropy in youth development and meaningful engagement in promoting social justice philanthropy and social impact investments.

Within the alliance, a Gender Assessment survey was conducted to inform the institutional capacity enhancement in ensuring greater focus on gender in advocacy and influencing work. In 2023, each anchor organization will be supported in developing an action plan to ensure that context-specific gender and inclusion strategies are defined, integrated and monitored through the advocacy and influencing goals in the program.

#### Climate

In programme countries, citizens are increasingly more aware of climate change and its effects on daily life, with droughts, unseasonable rains, floods, and high temperatures being the most common manifestations. This impacts food security and general wellbeing. It is therefore not surprising that in a number of countries, issues around climate change and environmental protection have been identified as priority issues by Communities of Practice. For instance, in Mozambique one of the initiatives under the matching grants is related to replanting trees along a portion of a riverbank that cuts through Matola, and members of 2 neighbouring communities are discussing ways to join efforts and keep a boundary river clean and protected. In Burkina Faso, 5 CoP members have drafted plans related to environmental protection and 10 are initiating activities related to agriculture and livestock. In Palestine, the importance of adopting agroecology in agricultural initiatives was

included in a learning session as part of the community philanthropy camp.

Several alliance members joined a global movement, #PhilanthropyForClimate, which aims to support and encourage foundations to take urgent action on climate change. Under this initiative, a roundtable was organized in Brazil, in partnership with GIFE (a network of social investors: institutes, foundations and enterprises) in order to increase the engagement of Brazilian philanthropy in the climate agenda. Several members of Comuá participated in this roundtable. The Network sees it as an opportunity to engage both the national and international ecosystems to discuss the climate change agenda through a human rights and social justice lens, linking it to the impact of climate change on the lives of minority groups, and to avoid greenwashing initiatives by philanthropic and corporate actors. In Kenya, Giving for Change partner East Africa Philanthropy Network (EAPN) is involved in similar initiatives under this movement.

The GFCF initiated a research that was conducted by three consultants (in South Africa, Ghana and the United States) aimed at strengthening the connections between community philanthropy and climate financing. The three research consultants on this initiative worked to develop a landscape analysis and framework for action aimed at bridging the gap between innovative (particularly climate) finance and local institutions in the Global South.

Internally, we continued to minimize our carbon footprint by supporting in-country partners and CoP to run activities on their own as much as possible without anchor organizations having to travel. Furthermore, we have offset carbon emissions caused by international travel by investing in certified reforestation and agroforestry projects.

## Sustainability

As noted in 2021, sustainability within the Giving for Change program is defined more broadly, i.e. as steady and diverse flows of funding to civil society organizations to enable them to operate long-term. Although the focus on individual organizations is an important dimension of sustainability, the larger vision of Giving for Change is to embed long-term, systems-wide shifts in behaviors and mindsets around resources and power.

## Sustainability for the programme shows up in a number of ways:

· Strengthening local organizations through ca-

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pacity building on lobby and advocacy, local fundraising using the Change the Game Academy model, building collaborations with CSAs across sectors, government agencies, and private sector actors while securing legitimacy from the communities they serve.

- Small grants have the potential to catalyze local action, but they also serve as indication of trust and belief in grassroots groups' confidence and ability to solve their own problems (a key dimension of sustainability). In some instances, matching funding is being used to encourage community groups to bring their own resources to the table. In others, participatory approaches are being used which see community members involved in decisions making. Both strategies both contribute to an increased sense of community ownership.
- Contributing to communities and individual collective resources for development. Communi-

- ties are now empowered to be co-investors with a stake in their development and become more invested in acting in ways that advance and protect their collective interests and rights.
- Local philanthropy. The opportunity to practice local philanthropy has had various benefits, including enabling members of the CoPs to broker new forms of partnerships for addressing community needs. In Ghana, CILTAD (local partner to STAR-Ghana and WACSI), through the matching fund, has been approached by the Mastercard Foundation, which is supporting to expand the scope of the initial project. The alumni philanthropic project is mobilizing resources from old students unions to re-equip the defunct computer laboratory of the Cape Coast school for the Deaf and Blind. The positive response has attracted the Mastercard Foundation's attention to partner with CILTAD on extending the initiative to other disability-focused schools.

## Partnership and learning

As we demonstrate and advocate for new ways of "doing development" we want to model true partnership ourselves and build this work from the bottom up. We are an alliance composed of actors that have different positions in the system, aiming to build relationships that are based on trust, complementarity and subsidiarity (decisions are taken as close to where they are affecting people as possible) and go beyond delivering a programme.



The members of the CoPs remain the critical partners for the programme and we continued to support the CoPs to navigate their learning curve. The role national anchor organizations have played has been largely that of a facilitator, helping create the spaces for conversations, providing reminders and sharing knowledge materials. Where needed, they have also challenged the CoPs to utilize the learning spaces and hold themselves to account for what they have planned to do. The CoP members determine their activities and engagements themselves, allowing them to exercise power and push

for their own agendas. At the local level, CoP members have built or strengthened relationships with (new) authorities, traditional leaders as well as with local media. Generally speaking, the partnership with government actors is appreciable and hope-giving.

At the national level, the programme is driven by the national anchor institutions and their key partners. They have established partnerships with strategic partners and allies, including other CSOs, networks, youth platforms, knowledge institutions and media. Where rele-

vant, anchor organizations are supported by the international consortium members.

The international consortium facilitates exchange and learning within the alliance. This is done through the online family meetings that were organized around some core challenges of implementation of the programme. The online family meetings allowed for more bonding between partners to take place, opening the space for knowledge exchange. In 2023, a rotational facilitation of the online family meetings is proposed, including expanding the programme's communication strategy to be more intentional in showcasing successes and lessons learned.

The Partner Learning and Reflection Workshop that took place in Ghana was an opportunity to bond with each other, as this was the first time many of the partners met in person. Partners shared their own experiences with building community philanthropy in their local contexts and noted that part of the "shift" needed going forward is in the "shift" in appreciation of knowledge and understanding of how CoPs are working in-country and how communities, once centered, can play a critical role in systemic change. Interestingly, NAIs and alliance partners did not relegate themselves to only thinking in specific "domain" activities, but instead could see the weave and connections between local, national, and international. In addition, the timeline exercise of the global #ShiftThePower movement story done on Day 3 of the workshop allowed partners to visualize their organization's own story along the timeline, along with notable other global activities that helped to create an expanding story of the "us" in the movement.

In March 2022, the GFCF partnered with United Edge to offer a bespoke transformative safeguarding course in three stages from May - September 2022 to Giving for Change and other GFCF partners. The focus of the course was to explore the intersections and disconnects between conversations around power on the one hand. and compliance on the other, and how this is central to the Giving for Change programme. A more holistic and strategic approach was used for this course - combining the "hook" of compliance in a way that frames the discussion more broadly, while also incorporating a justice-based lens approach. An outcome for the Alliance was that beyond developing fundamentals of safeguarding, partners would move more towards incorporating agency, justice, protection, prevention, and compassion. Partners from six Giving for Change countries (Burkina Faso, Brazil, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Uganda, and Palestine, which included NAIs, Star-Ghana, WAC-SI, and consortium members KCDF, Wilde Ganzen, the GFCF, and APN) participated in the first and second stages of the course, as well as ten other organizations

from the broader GFCF network.

Main insights and learnings that emerged within the programme in 2022 have been highlighted in the various chapters. They center around:

- The affirmation of communities' potential to solve pertinent challenges and their willingness to contribute their resources. The role of facilitators to challenge their mindsets, harness their ideas and capacities and ignite a change process is critical.
- Providing seed funding and match funding can help bridging the gap between learning around local philanthropy and testing the skills by doing local philanthropy, using small scale projects.
- Local philanthropy often times thrives on tangible outputs; we would like to learn more from experiences with social justice philanthropy.
- Changing power dynamics will take a concerted effort from all actors in the system and push from the marginalized groups. We aim to build a movement of community-led development in which community philanthropy helps power local actions and enables peoples' voices to be heard. This needs a set of processes driven from the base, not delivered top-down. To be able to effect change at the national and international levels, we need to partner with other actors.

The challenge – and the opportunity – for Giving for Change will be the ability to work on parallel tracks, meeting people where they are, while also continuing to push around larger question of equity and justice and with a general intention for these two tracks to begin, at various points, to converge.

## Partnership with the MFA

Under this partnership, we seek to collaborate with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs on advancing the localization and #ShiftThePower agenda among Dutch and international INGOs and donors. This Strategic Partnership provides an opportunity to tactically make use of each other's experience and convening power. We collaborated on several occasions this year. The MFA and Wilde Ganzen, together with Vice Versa, jointly organized a "World Café" webinar, in which the consultation process for the new policy note was kicked off. It was one of the first opportunities for the sector to hear from new minister Liesje Schreinemacher and share input. We invited Lysa John, secretary general of CIVICUS to speak on the importance of a resilient civil society in the context of shrinking civic space during this session. Furthermore, Wilde Ganzen invited the MFA to partici24 \_\_\_\_\_ Giving for Change

pate, along with KCDF, in a panel discussion on shifting power at the International Fundraising Congress which took place in the Netherlands. Lastly, a Wilde Ganzen representative was invited to participate as table host during a dinner convening about localization for Embassies' heads of development cooperation.

In most programme countries, notably in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda, there are regular engagements with the Embassy. Giving for Change partners participated in several exchange meetings organized by embassies, as well as in the baseline studies in Uganda, Burkina Faso and Palestine and learning and measurement events in Mozambique and Uganda.



# Theory of Change and measurement

The theory of change rests on the assumption of change being driven from the bottom up and the top down, in ways that converge and intersect with each other and weave new practices, frameworks and, ultimately, a new development paradigm. It depends on interventions at local, national and global levels which collectively add up to a larger overall shift away from a reliance on external actors and funding towards increased local ownership, agency and voice.

While activities within the three domains are all valid and important on their own, it is the joining between the domains – the demonstration of why a donation made at the community level for some kind of collective action, can be recognized and responded to by other stakeholders and power holders (governments, institutional donors etc.) – which is the key cornerstone of this programme, and the idea that the whole will be greater than the sum of its parts.

The logic of the Theory of Change for the Giving for Change programme largely still stands, and in year 2 we saw it take shape more firmly, as partners have now settled into the programme fully, moving away from focusing on the administrative and compliance requirements of the programme. We are seeing relationships between partners become stronger and the connections between domain activities become more visible and evident. However, our experience shows that giving by itself does not necessarily translate to improved civic rights and space. Giving nurtures the consciousness about the need to do something to change a situation, and may require the work of facilitators to translate the inchoate feeling of doing good to questioning and taking action on the causes of the condition. At the same time, local resource mobilization can also serve as a powerful strategy for strengthening the bonds within and solidarity among marginalized or socially excluded communities. In some Giving for Change countries, it may be harder for national anchor organizations, particularly those that come out from a more conventional civil society strengthening or community development approach, to know how best to engage with and address the specific needs of minority or excluded groups generally and also on the specific issue of resource mobilization for and among these communities.

We hope to learn more on this in 2023 through the Mid-Term Review and the experience under the grants made to be able to determine whether this requires an adjustment of the Theory of Change.

We continued measuring data for indicators. During the partner meeting in Accra, we discussed the importance of seeing Measurement and Evaluation as something that is done for all and by all, rather than "expertizing" it. In addition, next to collecting data and numbers, it is important to take a human approach and use storytelling intentionally, capturing the emotions and feelings that are part of change processes. At the end of 2022, we started preparations for the Mid-Term Review, which will take place in 2023.

## Risk Management

While in chapter 2 risks related to the context have been discussed, in this section we will briefly high-light programmatic and organisational risks. The main programmatic and organisational risks we identified during the proposal development stage were:

- Wrong choices of partners or CoP members. This risk hardly materialised. Mapping processes when selecting CoPs members and key partners have proven effective. In some cases, we do see challenges in motivating potential partners or retaining CoP members. However, we recognize that building a movement for community philanthropy means accepting that not everyone will 'get it'. For some people, community-led development is a threat to their own self-appointed role; for others it is slow and time-consuming; for still others, it is perceived as nothing different from their own charity work, not seeing the structural or systemic dimensions of change.
- Insufficient engagement of marginalised groups in CoPs. The extent to which quality engagement of marginalised groups in CoPs have been achieved thus far differs per country. In most countries, we see high level of engagement from women, youth and people living with disability. However, some marginalized groups are still shying away from participating in Giving for Change activities, mainly because of fear for stigmatization or criminalization. These are especially the LGBTQI and sex workers. We continue to map out those organizations that are working to support these groups, to either link the programme activities to the groups or support them through grants. Secondly, through sensitization of the public, through the CoPs again, we aim to reduce stigma associated to these groups. In Mozambique, some progress has been made in including LGBTQI groups in the programme.
- Corruption and fraud. Policies and procedures related to corruption and fraud have been laid down in partnership and grant agreements. One incident of fraud has been discovered in Uganda. The third party involved has been supported by anchor organization UNNGOF to take appropriate action to address this issue and improve

- institutional governance and policies to prevent reoccurrence. More details have been shared with the MFA in April 2023.
- Incidences of sexual harassment or other types of misconduct. We have developed a Giving for Change policy on safeguarding and SEAH. No incidences of (alleged) SEAH or misconduct have been reported this year. Giving for Change alliance members participated in a Transformative Safeguarding training trajectory, organized by United Edge.
- Insufficient human resources and staff turnover. Although there has been some turnover among alliance members, the impact was considerably lower in 2022 compared to 2021.
- **Data breach.** This risk did not materialize.
- Relatively high financial dependency of some alliance members on the programme. The Giving for Change programme provides an opportunity to foster the organisational development of the alliance partners. The programme will contribute to their reputation and recognition as changemakers for community development and local philanthropy. We will address this risk more specifically in the year 2023 and beyond when we will start to allocate the institutional sustainability budget. Originally we had planned to start allocating the budget earlier, but with full focus on starting the programme, this proved too soon.

A new risk that materialised in the past two years was inflation. This risk could not be prevented but was mitigated through budget reallocation. This had no major impact thus far as some activities (meetings and international travel) were cancelled due to COVID-19. Other activities were re-designed to save cost or higher cost could be compensated by underspending in other areas. However, in some countries this risk may affect implementation in the remaining three years.

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## Annex 1 Country summaries

#### **BRAZIL**

In Brazil, the focus of the programme is on strengthening community philanthropy and social justice philanthropy to defend human rights and democracy. Having been governed by a far-right administration for 4 years. Brazil has seen a process of shrinkage of its civic spaces and a more hostile environment for civil society association, particularly those that represent minority groups and work on land and environment issues. On top of that, these organizations struggle to access financial resources. According to a report published in 2020 by GIFE, the association of private social investors in Brazil (institutes, foundations, corporates and family funds), minority groups are not considered a priority for private social investment in Brazil. Against this background, the Giving for Change programme aims to support civil society actors and independent grantmaking organizations by advocating for a shift in philanthropic practices in Brazil so that more resources are mobilized to support the claim of rights of marginalized groups and create an enabling and safe environment for CSAs while positioning community and social justice philanthropy as key enablers for that goal.

At the community level, a Community of Practice has been established by CESE in 2021, involving a diverse range of women's organizations from the Northeast of the country. In 2022, the participating organizations were trained on rights claiming and domestic resource mobilization. Jointly, these activities were eye-openers for CoP members, raising awareness on how local fundraising (and raising of other types of resources) is connected to the legitimacy, rootedness and sustainability of organizations. The varied profile of organizations that compose the CoP favoured enriching exchange among them - enabling a broader view of women's interpretation of the social and political context and strategies for influencing decision-making, increased empathy for each other's challenges, and enhanced perception of the collective power as women's movement in the Northeast region.

The Comuá Network (formerly known as the Brazilian Philanthropy Network for Social Justice) leads efforts to promote collective, networked action to position the agenda of community philanthropy and social justice

within the Brazilian and international philanthropy ecosystems. This is done through knowledge and narrative production, communication campaigns, webinars and meetings, as well as through partnerships with stakeholders, such as GIFE. 2022 was a milestone year for Comuá Network, as it celebrated its 10th Anniversary. The celebration of the 10th Anniversary was utilized as an opportunity to mark the Network as a political and independent actor in the philanthropic ecosystem.

In addition, the Network provides support to its members, whom are all social justice grantmakers, under Giving for Change to strengthen their institutional capacity and to test a series of initiatives that not only strengthen the claim of rights by marginalized groups in Brazil (i.e. indigenous and guilombola communities), but also experiment with different approaches around mobilizing community-based assets. For example, FunBEA started its first Giving Circle that links giving practices and environmental education. Members were also stimulated to systematize those experiences, through various formats (i.e. reports, videos, graphic materials, etc.) so that they could become inputs to support the Network's advocacy strategy. These initiatives showcase the potential of social justice-oriented grantmaking in bringing about change as well as highlighting its key role in the defense and the claim of rights by marginalized groups in Brazil.

The work is complemented by lobbying efforts conducted by CESE to advance a more enabling environment for civil society. In 2022, these efforts focused on mobilizing political support for a more favorable regulatory framework for CSOs and for the creation of a national council on the relationship among government and civil society, as well as on presidential vetoes on the new law for the Certification of Social Assistance Charities.

### Key activities:

 The 14 grassroots women's organizations that are part of a Community of Practice were trained and coached on rights claiming and local fundraising. Through small grants, 9 lobbying and advocacy initiatives were supported, which included campaigns, public hearings, training Annual Report 2022 — 29

activities and propositions of legislation. In addition, 7 fundraising campaigns were supported with match funding. The campaigns are aimed at a wide range of initiatives regarding the participation of (marginalized) women in society and decision-making processes.

- 6 initiatives to test and systematize resource mobilization initiatives of 9 members of the Comuá network were supported, resulting in R\$ 879,000 mobilized (162,500 EUR)
- 9 meetings were organized for the 4 CoPs consisting of the members of the Comuá network.
  The CoPs aim to strengthen the capacities of the network's members in the areas of grantmaking and resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation, protection and safety, and communications and narrative.
- Implementation of a communications campaign aimed at the Brazilian philanthropic ecosystem, with the objective of disseminating community philanthropy through narratives from funds and grassroots organizations (blog posts, social media messages and podcasts were produced)
- Comuá's 10 year anniversary was celebrated with an event that was attended by 580 participants (220 in person, 360 online) and was utilized to advance the agenda of community philanthropy and social justice philanthropy.
- Grants were made to 7 selected fellows 6 of them representing minority groups (women, black, LGBTQIAP+): these are community leaders from across the country that will produce knowledge and research in fields of social justice and community philanthropy.
- A project in partnership with GIFE (the association of private social investors in Brazil) was launched to conduct a survey with donors, grantees and key actors in the philanthropic sector on themes and agendas of community philanthropy and social justice and disseminate the findings as part of the advocacy programme.
- Two seminars to discuss key issues in international cooperation and philanthropy were organized; one targeting women's organizations and one as part of the Pan Amazonian Social Forum targeting both Brazilian CSOs and international donors.
- CESE participated in joint civil society lobby efforts to raise political support for more favourable legislation on CSOs. This included the drafting and publication of a letter by the MROSC platform ("Platform for a New Regula-

- tory Framework for Civil Society Organizations") with recommendations for the new government and co-organizing a debate with the participation of parliamentarians, representatives of civil society and the National Secretariat of Social Assistance on the role of parliament in strengthening CSOs and expanding social participation.
- A series of podcasts called "Não Bote fé nas Fake news" (Have no faith in fake news), was co-launched by CESE and Le Monde Diplomatique Brazil with the objective of addressing the phenomenon of fake news and its impacts on faith communities and Brazilian democracy.

### Story of change

Created in the context of Communities of Practices facilitated by the Comuá Network, the "Alliance between Funds" (consisting of Fundo Brasil, Fundo Baobá and Fundo Casa Socioambiental) established an innovative practice in the Brazilian philanthropic ecosystem: collaborative philanthropy for social justice. In 2022 only. the Alliance mobilized over 5mi BRL and supported 78 indigenous and guilombola groups in 19 Brazilian states. Amongst the grantees, 55 of them had no other sources of funding before their collaboration with the Alliance, showcasing its potential to reach the most marginalized populations and support their claim of rights. In addition to setting up governance structures, the Alliance also managed, with Giving for Change support, to produce advocacy and communications strategies and materials in order to present the case to philanthropic actors and private social investors, lobbying for social justice and claim of rights by indigenous and guilombola populations.

The MROSC platform ("Platform for a New Regulatory Framework for Civil Society Organizations"), of which Giving for Change Alliance member CESE is an active member, drafted and published an open letter with recommendations for the new government on more favourable laws and regulations for civil society organizations. Over 100 candidates in the 2022 elections received this letter and 82 of them signed it, of which 31 were elected. This opens perspectives to set an agenda in the parliament. All these efforts will hopefully lead to the creation of a national council on the relationship among government and civil society, establishing a permanent channel for monitoring public policies impacting CSOs. CESE is being appointed to be part of this council.

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#### **BURKINA FASO**

The Giving for Change programme invites communities and other stakeholders in Burkina Faso to embrace and foster "endogenous development". The word endogenous means "growing from within". The awareness that Burkina Faso must stand on its own feet for sustainable development is gaining ground at all levels. Prof. Joseph Ki-Zerbo's famous expression "on ne developpe pas, on se developpe" ("we don't develop, we develop ourselves") is considered fundamental by all. The programme is rapidly gaining momentum. Anchor organization Association Burkinabè de Fundraising (ABF) is increasingly invited by stakeholders and national media to talk about endogenous development and the vision and strategy of Giving for Change. Participating associations at the regional level testify how their participation in the programme has changed their attitude and vision and has made them understand that it is necessary to turn inwards to advance development in Burkina Faso.

At the local level, the programme aims to strengthen the capacities of 41 community based organizations in 6 regions to facilitate community-led development and mobilize local support and funds for their work, including support from the government. This is done through the formation of Communities of Practice (CoPs). In a very challenging context, the programme contributes to the resilience of communities that have been hit hard by the security and humanitarian crisis as it enhances social cohesion, according to the communities and authorities involved. In the course of 2022, the security situation in Burkina Faso continued to intensify and created political instability, with two coups d'état as a result. In response to the security situation, ABF has decentralized activities in the Sahel (Gorom Gorom and Dori) and Centre Nord (Kaya and Kongoussi) regions because of the risks related to travel for participants and trainers. Extra budget has been made available to split two Communities of Practice, allowing members to meet closer to home and bring on board new organizations in those CoPs.

At the national level the focus is on lobbying for civil society support to set up a certification mechanism for CSOs raising funds at national and local level. The programme also advocates for the introduction of legal tax reductions for companies who adopt a Corporate Social Responsibility policy for the benefit of endogenous community development.

Anchor organization Association Burkinabé de Fundraising coordinates the national Community of Practice, consisting of Pananetugri Initiative for Women's Welfare IPBF (a women's rights organization), Atelier de recherche sur l'éducation et la formation au Burki-

na (AREB), Centre National de Presse Norbert Zongo and the leads of the regional CoPs, which are all CSOs from the different regions. The regional CoPs consist of community-based organizations, including women's groups, youth groups and associations of people living with disability.

#### Key activities realized:

- Training trajectories for 41 community-based organizations (including those representing women, youth and people living with disability) in the area of mobilizing support (lobby and advocacy), domestic resource mobilization, endogenous development, human rights, gender and inclusion were completed. To this end, 16 trainers from the regions were trained and coached, enabling them to roll out training and mentoring. The 41 organizations developed community action plans which will be implemented from 2023 onwards. The majority (13) made plans to advocate for and work on childrens' health and education, social security, human development and good governance. 10 made a plan on promoting development of agriculture and livestock breeding, 7 made plans to promote womens' rights and integration, 5 for youth, 5 on environmental issues and one on the integration of internally displaced persons in their locality.
- 2 new regional Communities of Practices were launched in September 2022 (making a total of 8 Communities of Practice) and 10 new organizations were on-boarded as a result of decentralization of activities in view of security threats.
- The early 2022 newly appointed local authorities were approached and successfully engaged in the programme; the military regime that took over at the end of September continues working with them.
- Two special events were organized in 8 cities in the intervention regions: an "inclusion night" (focused on the inclusion of people living with disability) and the "72 hours of human rights". For the latter, the regional CoPs invite the population and authorities to reflect together on human rights issues through discussions, theater, music performances and other activities.
- A study on a self-monitoring mechanism for civil society actors was conducted: 20 CSO accreditation systems across the globe were reviewed. The aim is to draw lessons from this and design a monitoring mechanism for CSOs in Burkina Faso to enhance their credibility. Potential stakeholders (including SPONG, the network of (I) NGOs and CSOs) were approached and they

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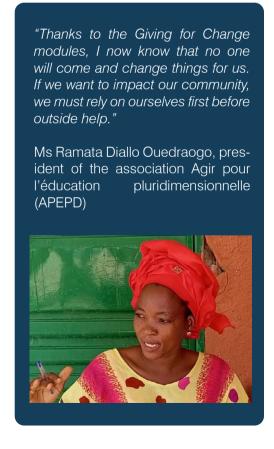
- expressed their commitment to this initiative.
- In collaboration with APN, a study on women and philanthropy in Burkina Faso was conducted.
- A network of 10 journalists of 10 different media outlets (radio, television, newspaper, online media) has been established, who have been induced in the vision and work of Giving for Change. This network has published 15 articles and produced 8 audio and video productions on Giving for Change in 2022.

### Story of change

The Hamssoiaguini Association of Disabled Women of Gourma was invited to join one of the Communities of Practice, following a recommendation of the mayor of their municipality who saw they were struggling in the absence of donors. Women living with disability are a marginalized group that face multiple, intersecting challenges. After participating in the training, the members of the association developed a project for the production and marketing of soumbala (a fermented seed condi-

ment), to start generating income. They need 2,000,000 CFA (around 3,000 EUR) to kickstart their project and are currently raising funds. They have started to make monthly contributions themselves as well. They have also started to apply the acquired lobbying and advocacy skills. Together with two other CoP members, they invited 10 local organizations that work on humanitarian relief for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) with funding from large INGOs and donors to a workshop. The CoP members had learned that the funds that reached their region were meant to be shared in the form of 80/20: 80% for IDPs and 20% for vulnerable members of the host population. However, the latter did not receive any support. Through their advocacy effort they have ensured that the humanitarian organizations now cover 90% of health insurance costs for poor elderly community members.

ABF's director Abdoulaye SAWADOGO was distinguished "Knight in the Order of Merit with distinction in local development". For ABF, this distinction is an encouragement from the authorities to ABF and its partners at the national and international level.





#### **ETHIOPIA**

During 2022, capacity strengthening activities for the members of the Communities of Practice continued. Communities of Practice (CoPs) have been formed in the first implementation year in 7 districts in Oromia and Amhara. They consist of representatives of women's groups, youth groups, farmers associations and associations of people living with disability. This year, CoP members were trained on several topics related to resource mobilization, lobbying and advocacy and inclusion. It is encouraging to see communities' increased awareness of their rights and their quick action in terms of resource mobilization and advocacy. The CoP members identified and prioritized their lobby and advocacy issues and started making claims towards the government and private sector actors. Government officials, including the technical working groups at district level, steering committees at regional, and advisory committees at zonal level recognize the importance of CoPs for community development and provide support. In many cases, governments have responded positively to lobby and advocacy efforts from the CoPs. At the same time, some initiatives were discouraged by the government due to competing interests and sensitivity, for example when a CoP raised concerns around environmental pollution and health risks due to the use of harmful chemicals by foreign flower investments.

The Communities of Practice are registering themselves as legal entities to increase their legitimacy and possibility to raise and manage financial resources. The CoPs are also encouraging gender equity and social inclusion as a result of training activities. They are applying feminist principles in their internal governance structure by appointing women and youth to leadership positions. They also advocate for women leadership within the government and address societal exclusion by creating awareness on issues of exclusion and challenging stereotypes within the community.

As part of the ShiftThePower initiative, the Giving for Change partners advocate for localization of aid at the national level and efforts are aimed at mobilizing other organizations to understand and support this agenda. In addition, the programme seeks to enhance the enabling environment for resources mobilization and advocacy. In 2022 this was done through the National Philanthropic Network, which aims to promote philanthropy in Ethiopia, and through partnership with ACSO, a government agency for the registration and support of CSOs. The programme is led by Development Expertise Center (DEC), in close cooperation with CoSAP; consortium of self-help groups approach promotors.



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#### **Key activities:**

126 informal groups (including women's groups, youth groups, farmers associations and associations of people living with disability), participating in 7 Communities of Practice (2 in Amhara and 5 in Oromia) were trained on several topics, including rights based approach, policy literacy, life skills for lobby, media advocacy and gender equality.

- The CoP members implemented their fundraising and lobby initiatives, with support from Giving for Change partners. Initiatives focused on a wide range of issues, including access to health care, infrastructure, house construction for marginalized people, tree planting and gender equity
- CoP members organized events around international peace day, women's day and volunteerism day and engaged with local media to raise awareness in their communities and invite community members to participate.
- 53 Government officials in 7 woredas were trained on social responsibility and accountability. Many government officials lack clear understanding of their mandate and knowledge of existing laws and policies in their sectors. The training has increased their accountability and facilitated cooperation with the CoPs.
- International Voluntarism Day (IVD) was celebrated with members of the National Philanthropy Network by bringing the diverse philanthropic experiences of CBOs and CSOs, including members of the CoPs. The Authority for Civil Society Organization (ACSO) introduced the new voluntarism guidance note at the event.
- A research on Women and Philanthropy in Ethiopia was conducted in partnership with APN and the results have been disseminated among NPN members.
- DEC, in collaboration with the Ethiopian Civil Society Organization's Council (ECSOC), organized a high-level dialogue forum on localization of aid during the national CSO week, which was attended by more than 60 national CSOs, INGOs, CBOs, and philanthropists. The forum intended to influence in-country development actors (government, international NGOs and individual donors) to support community philanthropy and localization of aid.

## Stories of change

In Batu town, one of the areas where a CoP has been formed, gender inequality is prevalent, resulting in chal-

lenges around ownership of resources, participation of women in leadership positions and participation of women in decision-making processes in the community. After the training on gender and life skills, the members of the CoP discussed this issue and decided to use community philanthropy to advance gender equity. On international women's day, they organized a town street cleaning event which was supported by the government through provision of cleaning materials, a meeting room and assigned participants from the government. 150 volunteers participated in the event to clean the streets of Batu. After cleaning the town, a panel discussion on gender was organized, which was attended by different government officials. CoP members used the opportunity to advocate for women's rights and equality. A diverse range of issues that require collaborative efforts were discussed. During the discussion and during media interviews, the government officials pledged to support the CoP members in their action plans.

Furthermore, in two flower farms in the Kunzila region, employees face many challenges, including low salaries, unequal employment opportunities for men and women and gender-based violence. When workers addressed these issues, they were subjected to disciplinary measures or even dismissed from the work. This problem was discussed in the CoP and it was decided to establish two worker associations. To safeguard the rights of the workers, the Amhara Region Investment Office was engaged. The workers associations became members of the CoP and participated in the training activities. They advocated for the rights of the workers and were able to negotiate salary increments. The salary increased from 50 ETB per day to 75 ETB per day, which is a significant result although lobbying efforts for further increase are still ongoing in view of high inflation rates. Similarly, in Bahir Dar Zuria district, the flower company used to have only one restroom for both men and women. After CoP members discussed the issue with the government's investment office at woreda level, they presented the situation during the monthly meeting between the investment institution of the woreda and the senior leadership of the flower company. As a result, a separate restroom for women has been constructed and even a safe corner was built for female employees to take a rest during the menstrual cycle dates. This positive result inspired CoP members in Kunzila to include this topic as part of their efforts to lobby for a conducive environment for female employees as well.

Although Self-Help Groups of women in Ethiopia are numerous, they were not recognized by the government and had no possibility to register themselves. As a result, they were not able to own resources, access land, and engage with financial service providers, which limited their capacity to achieve their goals. For many

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years, SHGs in the country and stakeholders such as Kale Heywet Church and CoSAP (the umbrella organization for SHGs) have been advocating for recognition by the Ethiopian government. The Giving for Change programme, in which CoSAP participates as member of the Ethiopian consortium and many SHGs are part of the CoPs, gave new impetus to this advocacy process. Through the CoPs, the efforts made by SHGs were supported by allies such as youth groups, Idir associations (informal CBOs), and associations of people living with disability. The agenda was presented to the government during international day celebrations (such as international women's day) and quarterly dialogue forums with government representatives, organized under Giving for Change. In Oromia, governments' response has been very positive. When a task force prepared a draft regulation and presented it to the Oromia Labor and Social Affair Bureau and Regional Cabinet, the regulation was approved into local law. Giving for Change partners will continue to push the agenda in other regions, specifically Amhara, to follow in the footsteps of Oromia region in this endeavor.

#### **GHANA**

During 2022, anchor organizations STAR-Ghana and West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) largely focused on expanding the reach of partnerships under Giving for Change. The two Communities of Practice (CoPs), consisting of small NGOs and Community Based Organizations from the Northern and Southern regions, as well as the newly formed Central CoP, continued to be spaces for learning. Experience sharing was the main form of learning. Through the testing of innovative match funding, Giving for Change has been successful in bridging the gap between learning around local philanthropy within the CoPs and testing the skills by doing local philanthropy. A growing interest of communities to give was observed, even though they may not have enough themselves. It is evident that communities can take their own initiatives, and use their solutions to attract attention from local authorities and other actors. However, the role of facilitators working with communities proved critical to harness their interests and capacities to address pertinent challenges. Furthermore, efforts to create an enabling environment for civil society and for citizen's active participation in community development and nation-building were supported, with a specific focus on the new NPO Bill and Social Enterprise policy.

#### Key activities realized

3 Communities of Practice, consisting of 33 organizations, were facilitated. In addition to the

existing Northern CoP and the Southern CoP, a Central CoP has been created. This CoP has a rich diversity of organizations and individuals with experiences of working at multiple levels (local and national) in the ecosystem and can balance dealing with community issues with policy influencing. The central/national CoP will play a critical role in supporting the other two CoPs by lifting some advocacy issues beyond the community to the national level, for example, the E-Levy (a tax on electronic transfers) and implications for giving by philanthropists for social development.

- 44 CoP members from 22 organizations were trained on using communication in fundraising efforts.
- 8 matching grants were awarded to CoP members to stimulate and complement their fundraising efforts. As a result, local fundraising efforts were piloted, which included the launch of the Faako Fund. The Yen Somu Bi crowdfunding platform, which was developed in 2021 under Giving for Change, was upgraded.
- STAR-Ghana Foundation has begun the implementation of its Active Citizenship Strategy for promoting national volunteerism, promoting civic awareness, consciousness, and activism among the citizenry and their role in community and national development
- Engagement on a new NPO bill and a new social enterprise policy: STAR-Ghana is leading an Advocacy Committee comprising diverse actors, including academia, social entrepreneurs and civil society actors to advocate on enabling environment for social enterprise development in Ghana. The first phase of advocacy focuses on influencing the approval of the draft Social Enterprise Policy
- WACSI and STAR-Ghana Foundation hosted the first annual Giving for Change partner learning and exchange meeting in Accra.
- Three webinars on alternative financing models for CSOs were organized; themed Asset-Based Community Development, Social Impact Investment and Social Enterprise, with a total of 358 participants.
- A social media campaign was developed and implemented to educate the civil society community on ME&L and the right use of language in storytelling.

## Story of change

Several fundraising initiatives were successfully piloted or continued:

- One of the members of the Northern CoP, Songtaba, launched the Faako fund, which seeks to mobilize local resources for developmental purposes in the Northern Region and beyond, specifically to combat violence against women and girls. At the launch of the fund, the mayor of Tamala stated that "these efforts are being noticed by the Regional Coordinating Council and doors are open to more collaborations in securing basic rights for women, girls and the vulnerable groups in the Northern region". In the course of 2022, the Faako fund raised in-kind donations, valued at Ghc 80,000 (6,250 EUR) and cash of 12,000 (937 EUR) to support aged women accused of witchcraft and their dependents, who are children in school. 30 individuals and institutions have subscribed as monthly donors.
- Through the "Yen Somu Bi" ("Let's lend a helping hand") crowdfunding platform, which was developed under Giving for Change, around 5,000 EUR was raised to support three projects around girls' menstrual hygiene, livelihoods of rural women, and child healthcare.
- The Alumni philanthropy project has raised 28,000 cedis as cash and approximately 100,000 cedis in pledges, to support refurbishment of ICT lab of the Cape Coast deaf and blind school.

In the Kusali community of the Sisala West district, citizens faced difficulty in accessing health care services as no facility was present in the community. The community, with facilitation from Giving for Change partner

Community Development Alliance, successfully joined forces for the construction of a CHPS (community health planning and services) facility. Following the completion of the CHPS compound, the district health directorate has posted nurses and supplied equipment to the CHPS compound for the delivery of health services. Mariama Alhassan, a 32-year-old pregnant women who was among the first to access antenatal health care said: "Before our collective efforts in constructing this clinic. I would have travelled to Gwollu (25 kilometers) to access antenatal care. Because of the distance and cost of travel, many women who required antennal care were constrained and rarely got the care they needed. resulting in complications of pregnancy and stillbirths. Now I can walk from my home and in the next 3 minutes, I am in the clinic to access my antenatal care. I am so happy we did it. It is our clinic. We all contributed to constructing it. I participated in fetching water and also contributing money to support its construction. I am happy to be part of this project. I feel proud and empowered".

Engagements with the Non-Profit Organizations secretariat on the new NPO Bill has led to the integration of two inputs generated from the CoPs. The first input concerns the appointment of the steering committee to ensure the committee is devoid of political influence: the appointment should be led by the public service commission and not the President, to reduce the risk of targeting CSOs who criticize the government. The second input that was accepted is the recommendation to adopt a transparant means of appointing CSO representatives, so that CSOs participation in the governance structure is not compromised.



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#### KENYA

In 2022, the Kenya Community Development Foundation (KCDF) continued to support Communities of Practice (CoPs) at the county level to consolidate and amplify community voices and offer platforms for government engagement and feedback sharing. The programme focused on building the capacity of grassroots organizations to influence county- and national-level policies that impact civic space and philanthropic architecture. To achieve this, KCDF supported grassroots organizations through small grants and competitive matching grants that incentivize community philanthropy, while providing spaces for learning and sharing ideas. There is a growing interest in influencing governance processes. This has seen organizations through Communities of Practice seek audience with the government, submitting memos and petitions and influencing government planning processes for the good of the community. Government agencies have also appreciated the role that civil society actors through CoPs play in governance processes.

The programme also focused on influencing national-level policies to promote national philanthropic architecture and protection of the civic space, specifically the Public Benefits Organizations Act 2013, the Community Registration Act 2022, and the Trustees (Perpetual Succession) Act Cap 167.

KCDF works closely with strategic partners that include the East Africa Philanthropy Network (EAPN), Civic Freedoms Forum and International Centre for Not-forprofit law (ICNL).

### Key activities realized:

- 4 Communities of Practice in Kisumu, Kwale, Kakamega and Nairobi continued their regular meetings.
- 33 grassroots organizations in Kisumu and Kwale were trained in mobilizing support (lobby and advocacy). The capacity-building initiative has enabled them to identify advocacy issues, linking them to existing policies, and has helped them develop the necessary strategies to engage in advocacy work.
- 31 community organizations from Kakamega and Nairobi were trained on local fundraising. The training is aimed at strengthening their capacity to identify, mobilize and utilize local resources for their community development needs. All the organizations have been allocated a coach/ mentor assisting them to finalize local fundraising action plans.

- KCDF awarded small grants to 13 county-based organizations from 4 counties, each grant averaging Kshs. 2.5 million (7,375 Euros) to support lobby and advocacy initiatives across a spectrum of policy issues. The lobby and advocacy issues range from community-led social accountability initiatives, policy influencing initiatives to enhance public participation, access to public information, water and sanitation policies, and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) mitigation policies and awareness creation.
- KCDF working together with East Africa Philanthropy Network (EAPN), International Centre for Not-for-profit Law (ICNL), and the legislative drafter, continued holding stakeholder convenings and one-on-one meetings with key stakeholders, including the office of the Attorney General (AG), the Business Registration Services (BRS), on the Trusts and Foundations Law amendment in Kenya. As a result, proposed amendments to the Trustees Act have been drafted.
- An online donors and funders roundtable was held on 24th March 2022, themed 'Strengthening the Philanthropy Ecosystem'. The forum sought to influence and partner with international development actors to appreciate, support, and promote the development of community philanthropy as a central pillar of broader efforts to #ShiftThePower and resources closer to the communities. A total of 67 donors and funders attended the roundtable forum.
- EAPN organized the Kenya Philanthropy Forum (KPF). The Network organized an inaugural Committee of Experts meeting on 20th April 2022 on 'Community Philanthropy'. The KPF was held on 19th May 2022 dubbed 'Scaling Philanthropy through Local Resource Mobilization' and attended by 59 participants. The forums offered opportunities to disseminate findings and explore the possibility of growing community giving.
- KCDF held a series of convenings to mark KCDF's 25th-anniversary event bringing together development practitioners, civil society organizations, the private sector, environment agencies, and passionate individuals amongst other different stakeholders to reflect, examine, learn, and share different roles in addressing different themes at both national and global level.

## Story of change

The county government of Kisumu invited representation of the Kisumu county CoP members into the 2023-2027 County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) Technical Working Group (TWG). The TWG is developing the County Integrated Development Plan, a plan prepared

by all counties to guide development over five years. This is a direct result of the budget advocacy capacity strengthening for CoP members and their subsequent continuous advocacy efforts towards the county government. The inclusion of CoP representatives will ensure community voices are included in the county planning processes.



## **MOZAMBIQUE**

The aim of Micaia Foundation is to build a movement of community-led development in which community philanthropy helps power local actions and enables peoples' voices to be heard. This needs a set of processes driven from the base, not delivered top-down. For this to emerge it is important that knowledge and examples are available, that a large number of people are exposed to the ideas and that they can gain some knowledge, skills and insights that they can deploy in their work. All of these important building blocks began to be put in place in 2022.

More than 250 people from 120 associations and NGOs took part in one or more training or learning events linked to community philanthropy and local fundraising. A new approach to decentralize training and support was designed, which centers on Community Philanthropy Agents (CPA) who are deployed as part of the matching

grant and seed funding programmes. By the end of the year, examples of community philanthropy and local advocacy were seen in practice. The main emerging result is that we are seeing the change from Giving for Change being a programme of useful but discrete activities into being a movement for change based on promoting an approach: community-led development with community philanthropy at its heart. The recognition of the importance of building our programme from the bottom up (while looking for ways to influence decision-makers at higher levels) was reinforced by some of the common threads from the research conducted in Mozambique and consultation with individual (corporate) philanthropists. The real driver of community philanthropy is connectivity. In advocacy workshops, including linked meetings discussing the 'good society', CSO leaders and activists talked about how they had learned greater empathy for people challenged by their marginalization.

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The programme is coordinated by anchor organization Micaia Foundation and implemented with strategic and practical involvement of Communities of Practice (CoPs) in Maputo and Chimoio that bring together a diverse range of CSOs working in fields including human rights and community development.

### Key activities realized:

- More than 250 people from 120 associations and NGOs, including those participating in one of the CoPs, took part in one or more training or learning events linked to community philanthropy and local fundraising.
- A new approach of building a team of 63 Community Philanthropy Agents (CPAs), 35 men and 28 women, as advocates and trainers who can work with communities was designed and implemented.
- The concept of "matching grants" was introduced, which was new to many of the organizations who were given the opportunity to apply. Only organizations that had participated in training activities were sent the information on matching grants. Concept notes were received and assessed, and 29 associations were invited to prepare a full proposal. To assist in the process, CPAs were deployed to the 29 associations, each receiving 3 days of training and support from the assigned CPA. By the end of 2022, full proposals of 13 organizations were approved and contracts were signed.
- In addition, micro-grants were offered to support local campaigns and other advocacy actions of

- local groups who come through the training and other outreach work via the CoPs. 28 initiatives were supported: some dealing with health issues, others highlighted issues faced by specific communities (people living with disability, albinos, LGBTQI+ people) and some wanted to highlight and tackle sexual abuse. By the end of the year, 13 of the 28 had organized and carried out their local actions. An important reflection and result is that the very small amount of money available just 100 per group led to such a diversity of local campaigning and significant reach.
- Several studies were conducted/completed, results of which will be published in 2023. These include: a research on tax and philanthropy in Mozambique, a research on women and philanthropy in Mozambique, the impact of Cyclone Idai on patterns of giving in Mozambique, a research into traditions of giving and gifting in Mozambique
- A workshop was organized to bring INGOs together around the issues of philanthropy and #ShiftThePower. 12 INGOs were present and expressed eagerness to start a platform for learning and sharing, facilitated by Micaia.
- 9 CEOs/leaders of major companies participated in a meeting on the role of corporate leaders in philanthropy and committed themselves to stay involved. Nervous of NGOs and of high profile attention from the government, what these business leaders want is to see change on the ground, often in communities in which their businesses are involved.

# Story of change

Marlene Cabral is a 9 year old girl with serious physical challenges who dreams of going to school like any other child. Unfortunately, due to the lack of a wheelchair, Marlene was unable to make this dream come true.

Thanks to efforts of the Human Rights Community of Practice in Chimoio, working in partnership with the Mentes com Asas Association and AFDEMA, a fundraising campaign was launched, to help Marlene and other students facing difficulties. Within a few weeks, the campaign secured a wheelchair contributed by INAS (National Institute for Social Action) and money to buy other essential school supplies such as binders and notebooks.

Another story illustrates the emerging power of community philanthropy to stimulate action and mobilize people. In Chianga, one of the 33 neighbourhoods of the city of Chimoio, the community was in a difficult situation. Bacterial diseases affected the area frequently,

and the lack of sanitation management made the situation even more difficult. Most of the residents did not have good toilets at home, which forced them to practice open defecation at some point, further aggravating the public health problem in the area. However, a ray of

hope came when AVISOR, an organisation participating in the Community Philanthropy training and committed to promoting positive change in communities, spoke to members of Chianga. They identified that the problem was not insoluble and together they started to look for solutions within the community itself. It was decided to collectively build improved latrines in the community and replicate them in residents' backyards. Thanks to the commitment and dedication of the residents, the situation has begun to change. The community has

been contributing with blocks, cement, time, labour, and receives from AVISOR support in latrine covers, roof sheets and other elements that contribute to the construction of improved latrines in Chianga. This is an example of how it is possible to change a difficult reality with unity and teamwork. The community can now enjoy a healthier and more dignified life, thanks to the determination of a community that decided it was time to act and the support of an organisation that believed in its potential.



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#### **PALESTINE**

In Palestine, financial support to civil society organizations and groups comes mainly from international donors: it is mostly earmarked funding that only supports certain areas or fields and hardly reaches small grassroots organizations. Aid has distorted Palestinians' attitudes toward development and undermined self-reliance, philanthropy and local decision-making. In this context, Dalia Association is set out to restore communities' faith in their own resources and strength. Under the Giving for Change programme, this is done by supporting and mobilizing youth and women groups, so they are able to lead the process of inducing the change they aim for within their communities through translating their beliefs and values into action. In 2022, 30 youth and women initiatives were selected through a participatory process, involving voluntary selection committees. Administrative and financial procedures were successfully concluded, despite the difficulty of urging these initiatives to adhere to the application of the financial procedures. The selected initiatives participated in a community philanthropy camp and were subsequently mentored by Dalia's field coordinators. In addition, specialized and tailored technical training was offered to several initiatives, according to the wishes and learning needs of the initiatives. Decisions such as choosing the trainer, specifying the requirements and outputs, and choosing the location and date of the training were jointly made.

#### Key activities realized:

- Out of 200 mapped initiatives, 9 youth initiatives in WestBank, 8 youth initiatives in Gaza, 9 women initiatives in WestBank and 4 women initiatives in Gaza were selected through a participatory process, involving voluntary selection committees
- Four community philanthropy camps (2 in West-Bank and 2 in Gaza) were organized to train the selected initiatives on mobilizing local resources and freedom of expression, to build a participatory community learning space, and to promote the values of indigenous community philanthropy (known as al Aouneh). The "Giving for Change" camp was implemented to reflect Dalia's vision which is working with a community as the source of work, partnership and decision making. It also reflects the unconventional pattern of work, which is based on sharing knowledge and skills, rather than dropping and indoctrinating them to different groups, as well as focusing on mobilizing society's resources, components, institutions and youth groups,

to contribute to the realization of the culture of community giving. The aim is to strengthen solidarity and cooperation among different groups in society, to build partnerships based on common values and directions and to develop the concepts of inherent volunteerism. The community philanthropy camp was successful on many levels, including creating a safe space for expression and the networking among active youth groups from different regions in the West Bank.

- 18 initiatives (in Westbank) and 12 initiatives (in Gaza) were coached and mentored while implementing their projects.
- As part of the capacity building, the initiatives indicated their needs for technical training and these were subsequently organized. These included a training on environmental agriculture for a number of agricultural cooperatives, a training on digital advocacy and a psychosocial training for 12 youth and women's initiatives. The psychosocial training supported participating initiatives to establish a strong and durable supportive system to strengthen their work and overcome all the difficulties and psychological pressures they may face personally or in implementing initiatives.
- A strong network was created among the youth and women initiatives to enhance peer support in implementing their activities.

# Story of change

One of the community initiatives supported under Giving for Change is an awareness raising and advocacy campaign of the Alnashiton Group, the (activists) group for people with disabilities in Palestine, in cooperation with the Palestinian Disability Union. It is a community advocacy and human rights campaign that operates at the national level. It aims to mobilize support for transforming public transportation to suit the needs of people with disabilities. The campaign seeks to mobilize community resources to put pressure on the Palestinian Ministry of Communications and Transportation to move towards taking actual steps in this direction. Through support provided, the group learned the basics of conducting digital advocacy campaigns and designing media materials, which resulted in content such as this video. A meeting was held with representatives of the Ministry of Transportation and Communication. The campaign is still ongoing.

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#### **UGANDA**

The overall goal of the Philanthropy for Development project (the name of Giving for Change in Uganda) is to ensure strong, healthy and protected space for civil society actors that recognizes and harnesses the power of domestic resource mobilization to fulfill citizen aspirations and interests for development. The project is led by anchor organizaiton Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF) and continues to work with UNNGOF's Regional Advocacy Networks and the Open Space Centre. These partners are part of the 5 Communities of Practice, that each have a thematic focus: Education, Gender and Human Rights, Social Accountability, Governance & Civic Empowerment and Youth Participation and Empowerment. We continue to intentionally put focus on youth, women and women groups, people living with disability (PWD), district officials, political leaders,

CBOs, religious/cultural leaders, donors/development partners and the general citizenry.

At community level, activities are designed to increase local ownership, unlock agency and strengthen communities' ability to claim entitlements from different actors. Through community dialogue sessions, communities in 10 regions are invited to identify priority issues and design and drive solutions themselves. Over the past two years, a mindset shift has been witnessed amongst communities who have now embraced local philanthropy. Community members have been able to give locally towards the development of their communities, such as construction of pit latrines, classroom blocks, water sources among others. This has made them believe that collective giving is possible and leads

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to development. In addition, 51 Community Facilitators are trained on modes of engagement with duty-bearers. This was evident in the case of Sebei region where community facilitators mobilized the community towards the realization of a health center II, which was finally handed over to the government for it to stock it with drugs and hire staff.

In response to governments' crackdown on civil society over the past two years, and in line with UNNGOF's vision of promoting a legitimate and credible NGO sector, UNNGOF undertook compliance clinics under the #BeLegit Campaign. The 'door-to-door' compliance clinics were done in the form of site visits, right at the organization offices, to facilitate a face-to-face interaction between the visiting team (a lawyer and an UNNGOF staff member) and the host organization staff (Head of the Organization, Finance Team or Compliance officer). Candid conversations were held to facilitate a deeper health check on their status as far as complying to government regulations and administrative procedures is concerned. The campaign awakened organizations to appreciate the key compliance obligations at hand and acted as an eye opener for them to urgently embrace compliance if their organizations are to be stable and remain relevant. The overall objective at the national level is to enhance the ability of NGOs to comply with the ever changing government regulations.

## Key activities realized:

- 5 Communities of Practice continued their community engagement activities.
- Members of the 5 Communities of Practice organized community engagements activities that included 100 fireplace conversations and 20 community dialogues. These conversations are convened and facilitated by a pool of 51 individuals ("Community Facilitators") throughout the life of the Philanthropy for Development project. The facilitators are equipped by anchor organizations UNNGOF with skills to better engage the communities they work with. In 2022, the facilitators were trained on mobilizing support and during the training, the aspect of gender inclusion was discussed.
- 90 Community Based Organizations were trained on modes of engagements between citizens, duty bearers and other stakeholders. The CBOs pledged to work in partnership with the district leaders to support communities to address their problems rather than working in isolation. The training enabled participants to distinguish the roles of CBOs and District leaders and revealed

- the value of strong civil society coordination and networking for successful advocacy.
- From the disability inclusion point of view, UN-NGOF partnered with the First African Bicycle Information Organization and organized an induction training for PWDs' councilors in Jinja.
- 64 organizations were visited and supported through the door-to-door compliance clinics under the #BeLegit campaign. The visited members not only received legal documents that will aid in compliance but also were profiled via social media.
- 5 policy position papers on philanthropy in Uganda have been produced and disseminated through a series of webinars. The papers lay the foundation for policy engagements and reflections with the intended stakeholders at national and international level.

# Story of change

Members of the rural Chesower community had to travel long distances to access medical services as there was no nearby health facility. This would at times result in high maternal mortality rates. To improve the situation, someone in the community provided a room in his house as a medical post. However, the space was not up to standard for both the patients and storage of the drugs. KACSOA (member of the Community of Practice on gender and human rights) together with local leaders mobilized a number of community members to attend a meeting in which the challenge was discussed. The community members appreciated the idea of giving for community development and realized they could take matters into their own hands. Through a campaign that included regular meetings, radio talk shows (for which free air time was offered by the local radio station), community members were invited to participate. Almost everyone in the community contributed financially and/or in kind and a number of enterprises also supported the campaign. As a result, a plot of land was purchased and a clinic constructed. Since Health Centers II are normally constructed by communities themselves and only taken over by government at some point to provide drugs and pay workers in the facility, an MoU was signed with the government. KACSOA followed up to ensure that the government takes over the management of the facility. So far the government has provided the health center with a solar powered refrigerator for storing vaccines. Moreover, the facility currently has 4 technical health workers (3 nurses and 1 midwife), 2 volunteers and 2 support staff. Community members now have access to better health care and the facility serves up to 3 sub counties.

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