

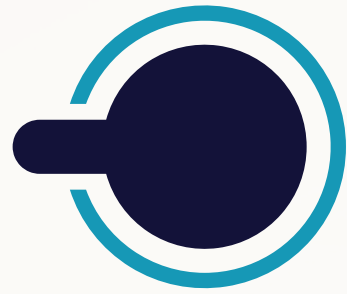


African Philanthropy Network  
THE VOICE AND ACTION FOR AFRICAN PHILANTHROPY

# Summary of Outcomes from Assembly Discussions

## Our Experiences:

**01** There is limited engagement in formulation of policies by those affected by policies.



**02** There are good policies in place but no implementation and no accountability mechanisms on such policies (e.g. PWDs)



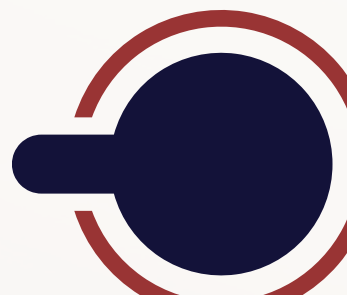
**03** Policies are in place but those most affected are unaware (e.g. climate change, tax incentives)



**04** Whilst policies are in place, they are unresponsive to the needs of the relevant community.



**05** There are good practices in place but there also exists an absence of policies to amplify and scale these (e.g. CSO space)



## Day1: Policy and Practice



## Recommendations:

**01** Advocate for more genuine participatory policy making; avoid lip service.

**01**

**02** We need to ensure there is enough awareness and access to information about policies in place by the most affected. Traditional and social media can be powerful in this respect.

**02**

**03** We need to ensure and influence effective implementation, co-creation and the review of policies is collaboratively done, so that we do not build an environment of silos operation.

**03**

**04** Where there is good practice in place, there is a need to scale, and secure such practices.

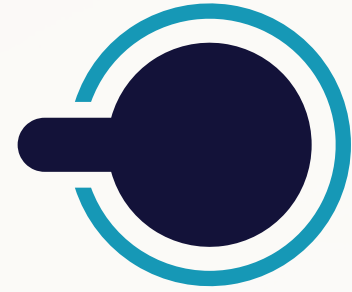
**04**

**05** We need to build legitimacy and trust with the relevant communities and CSAs to advocate on inclusion in policy processes.

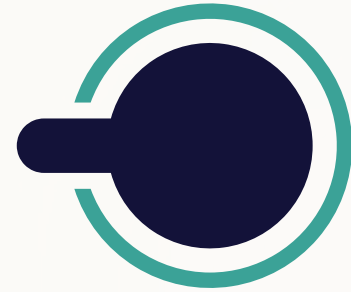
**05**

## Our Experiences:

**01** “We have become an industry that merchandises the misery of those who are in the front lines of struggle, and we are paid for talking articulately about the suffering of the sufferers. “We cannot sit as “warriors armed with a weapon of thought”, yet, sit crying waiting for a liberator because of our self infantilization and juniorization in the spaces of knowledge.” - Brian Kagoro



**02** We focus on producing expensive written products that few people read; while arts and media productions are watched more often; we are not engaging enough with media and artists.



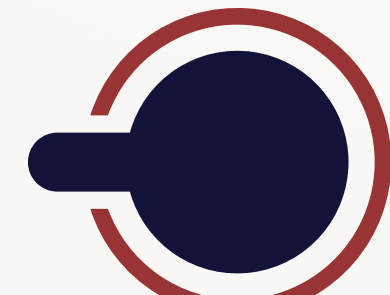
**03** Media is being policed in ways that limits the sharing of knowledge of people’s struggles, the issue is not just freedom of expression but “freedom after expression.”



**04** We enter communities and impose our ideas without sufficiently grounding our programmes on their indigenous knowledge.



**05** The knowledge for sustainable development we seek is not new, it has always existed in our communities “hidden” in norms, proverbs and values.

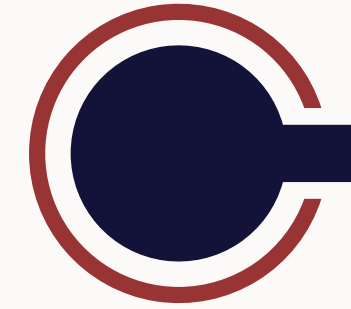


## Day2: Knowledge Production



## Recommendations:

**01** Engage more with media and artist; collaborate and bring them on board early in programme development



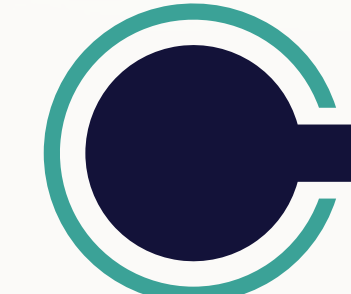
**02** Work with communities in ways that builds on indigenous ways of knowing and avoid “Western-fication” of development programmes



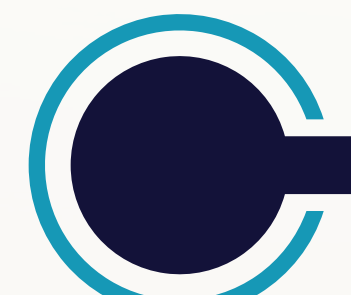
**03** Recognise that language has power; avoid words and terminology that further disempowers those we are seeking to serve; engage communities in languages they use. Challenge existing narratives that are disempowering e.g. “women in crisi”



**04** Hold intergenerational dialogues to pass on hidden and indigenous knowledge.

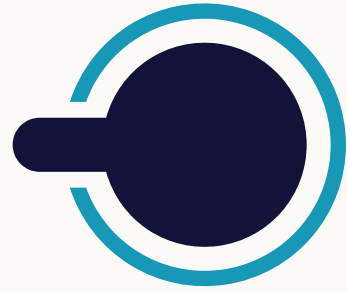


**05** Map the sources and sites of indigenous knowledge and document them in different ways.

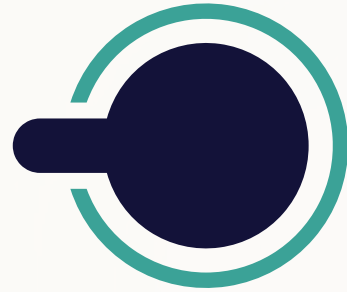


## Our Experiences:

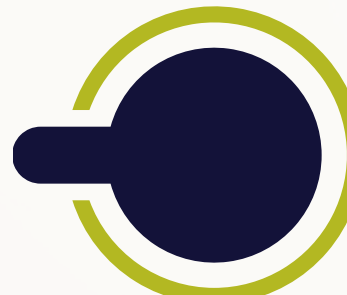
**01** Before civil society became institutionalised and professionalized; movements were the primary form of organised social action.



**02** Movements have always funded themselves in forms beyond money (time, skill, solidarity), we should be wary of the narrative when they are only externally donor funded.



**03** Sometimes, when a movement that started with self-funding receives external funding, it can lead to conflicts or a shift away from its original mission.



**04** Need to manage the unequal power dynamics that emerge when movements get external funding; they then become more responsive and accountable to donors than members.

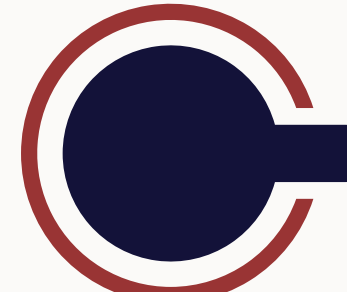


**05** Be aware that movements may sometimes receive support from those who want to instrumentalise them for their own political agendas.



## Recommendations:

**01** Be flexible in understanding how movements work; let them define their own identity.



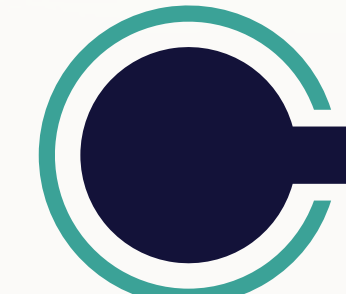
**02** We must constantly value and invest in movement leadership and recognize that the people own the struggle.



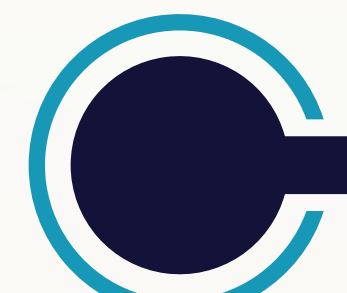
**03** Given the limitations of some funders, it may be useful to use intermediary organisations that are more flexible and responsive to the needs of movements. There is a need for more long-term funding if we truly want to see sustained change. Shift mindsets and explore digital tools that enable members to contribute to internal resource mobilisation



**04** Preserve their credibility and legitimacy, movements should resist being co-opted by political interests



**05** Create room for dialogue between movements and governments to create solutions that evade violence and loss of life.

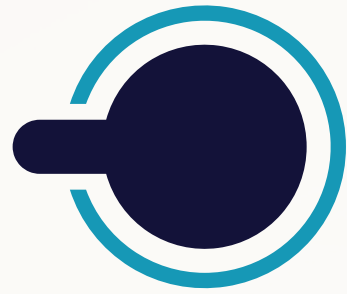


## Day3: Movement Building pt.1

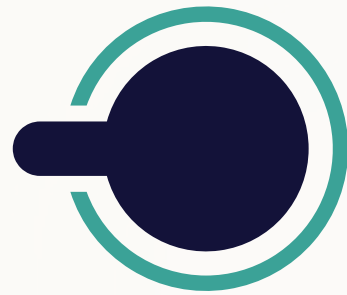


## Our Experiences:

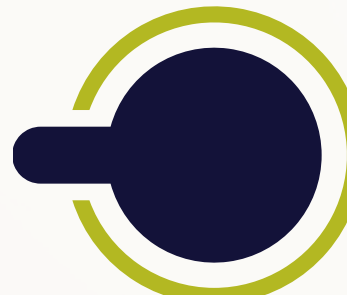
**01** There is a lack of trust, in some instances, in the efficacy of movements to drive social change; and yet CSOs have begun to realize they can't achieve change without movements.



**02** Movements are asking for support beyond money - they request knowledge and skills around negotiation, media engagement, govt budget, safety and security.



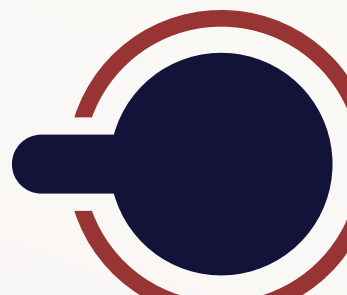
**03** Movements, especially survivor led face secondary trauma and burnout from supporting their members.



**04** Movements have been at the forefront of protests against injustice, inequality and human rights violations; for this they have faced serious reprisals from Governments.

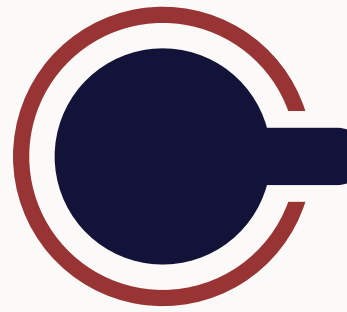


**05** Map the sources and sites of indigenous knowledge and document them in different ways.



## Recommendations:

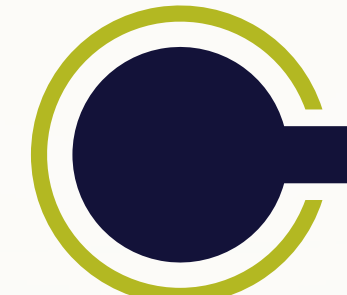
**01** Need to explore to how we move to relational-based conditions to strengthen movements rather than systems of control; prioritize care and belonging. We need to think of movements as an ecosystem of moving parts instead of a linear practice



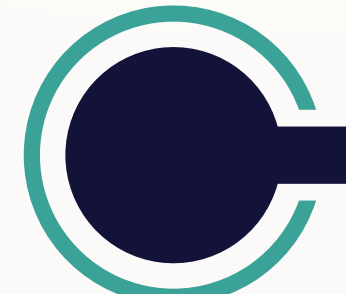
**02** We need to centre healing and inner peace building for practitioners for movements' longevity.



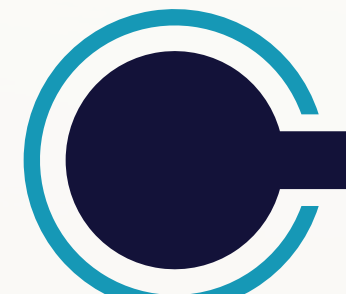
**03** We need to demoralise our definition of movements and recognise that it includes a means by which, people who have been impoverished come together to prosper themselves; we can learn how to scale this by partnering with Govt & the private sector on procurement, tax incentives and de-risking capital and infrastructure.



**04** We should continue to leverage technology to build movements across geographical borders



**05** Explore having a fund or platform by Africans for social movements across the continent



## Day3: Movement Building pt.2

