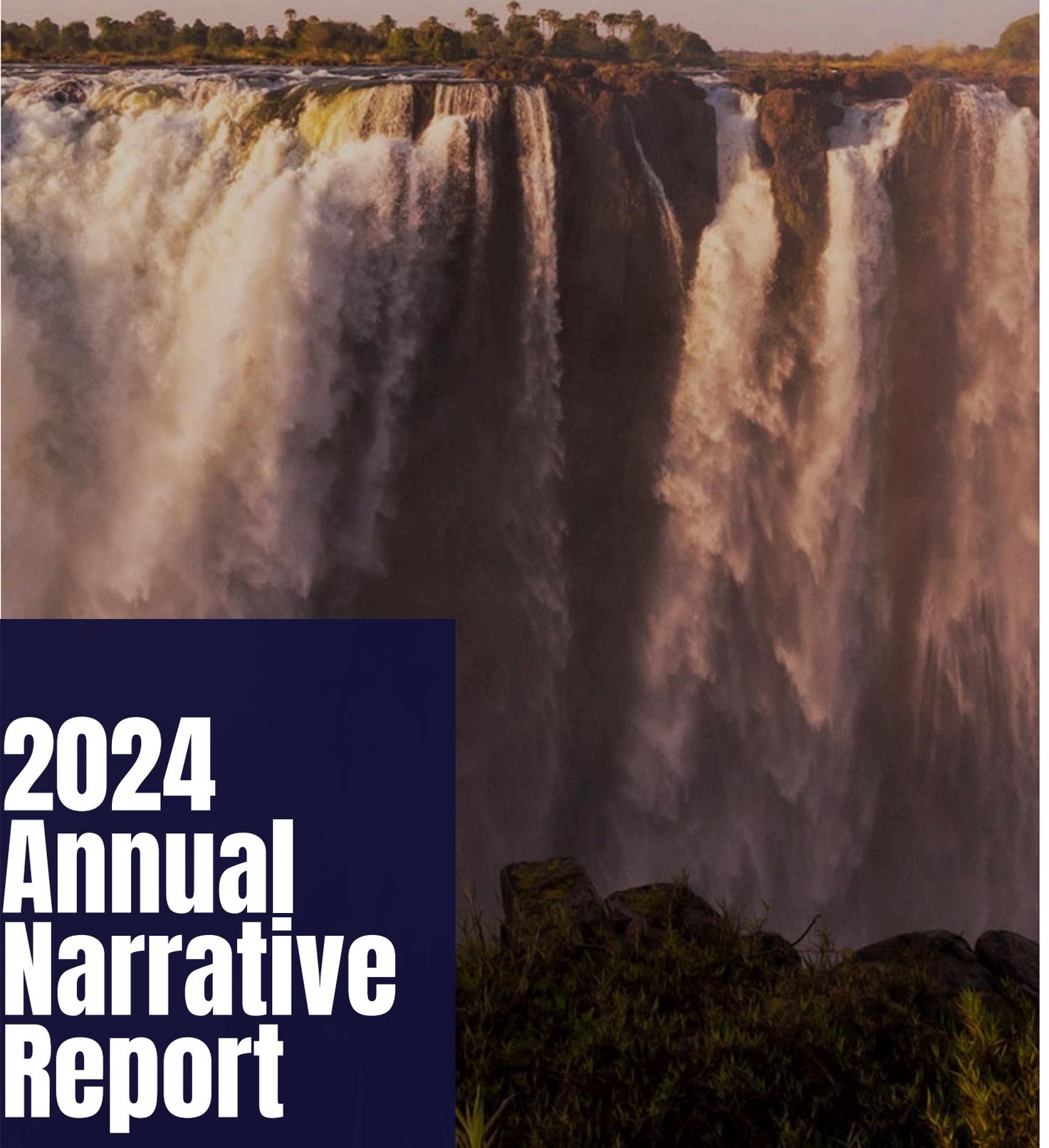


**African Philanthropy Network**  
THE VOICE AND ACTION FOR AFRICAN PHILANTHROPY

# 2024 Annual Narrative Report



# Table of Contents

**01**

**Who We  
Are**

**02**

**Introduction**

**03**

**Context**

**04**

**Achievements,  
Challenges and  
Opportunities**

**05**

**Strengthening  
APN Resilience**

# Who We Are

At its core, APN seeks to position African philanthropy as a fundamental expression of civic participation and solidarity for the purpose of building equitable and just societies in Africa.

## Our Vision

A relevant, effective and responsive philanthropy for building equitable and just societies in Africa.

## Our Mission

APN's mission is to elevate the power of philanthropic giving practices that are inclusive and beneficial to the communities across the continent. In absence of a strong enough infrastructure that can bring actors in the African philanthropy field together to articulate a common voice, APN serves as a home to philanthropy actors in Africa – nurturing a pragmatic and democratic learning community, a safe space, and a trusted source of collective intelligence on African philanthropies.

**APN values are premised on Ubuntu Philosophy – I am, because you are!**

## Our Values

APN believes in African agency -Africans should be at the center of the response to their challenges, have control over their actions and be more responsible for the consequences on their own lives and communities. As such, we will aspire to live the values of Solidarity, Inclusiveness, Innovation and Accountability.

- **Solidarity:** We recognise each other as fellow human beings. We believe in solidarity as an element of human association that emphasizes the cohesive social bonds that holds a group of people together, allows them to feel valued and understood, and is based on community interests, objectives, and standards.
- **Inclusiveness:** We value and encompass 'the breadth and depth of human differences', including but not limited to differences of ethnicity, race, gender, sexual orientation and identification, age, class, economic circumstance, religion, ability, geography and philosophy among other forms of human expression.
- **Innovation:** We value innovation and investing in the time and space for learning, developing and disseminating diverse knowledge products that are insightful of African-grounded experiences, as we adapt our cultures and practices by unlocking the inherent power and wisdom we have as communities in defining, shaping and determining our own development.
- **Accountability:** We hold ourselves to a high standard of ethical conduct, and encourage the same of our members, actors and stakeholders in the philanthropy field.

# 1. Introduction



The Africa Philanthropy Network (APN) is the only continent-wide member network that convenes African-established and Africa-led organizations to promote voice and action for African philanthropy. APN believes that African philanthropy as a strategy for systemic and transformative change in the development of people and their community.

This report provides a summary of progress and performance from the implementation of planned activities in 2024. It highlights the achievements made, challenges faced, and opportunities, as well as key lessons learned over the twelve months period, from January to December 2024.

# 2. Context

APN is in the first year of implementing its 2024-2028 strategic framework. Over the years, the APN has become an important continent-wide network of African organizations and communities promoting voice and action for African philanthropy.

By and large the operating context remain the same, characterized with shrinking civic space and limited trust between CSAs and national state authorities. In recent times, we have seen demonstrations by citizen, especially youth demanding for responsiveness governments, enabling laws, and respect for human rights in some program countries.

Across the world, philanthropy is undergoing rapid transformation that brings about both exciting opportunities and complex challenges. As a more unified global culture around giving emerges, so do new players, approaches, and renewed and projected the use of optimism and commitment. Yet, shifting attitudes toward people-led, home-grown philanthropy, intense debates about power and effectiveness and difficult and operating policy environments require philanthropic actors to demonstrate their value addition towards development. In addition, as many philanthropies broaden their activities, they face the challenge of imbalance of power that the systems change agenda seeks to address.

With so much in flux, and multi-layered power dynamics on the continent, philanthropy support actors (PSAs) are seeking alternative ways of doing and deciding. Leaders are asking how philanthropies achieve impact not just as a source of foreign funding, but also more and better alternative community resources and assets. APN's current strategy in responding to this surge of interest. From 2004, APN decided to nurture the infrastructure for philanthropy, bringing actors together to articulate a common voice to help drive solutions for Africa. As an African family will continue to nurture spaces for collective voice, strengthen national and regional networks; and focus on further enhancement of philanthropy practices on one hand, and promote that effective policy for African philanthropy to thrive. We also aim to strengthen the Network secretariat to further enhance its position as a

convener, coordinator, connector, and promoter of the voice and action for African philanthropy practice and an enabling policy in the continent.

In 2024, we prioritized nurturing spaces for collective voice and networking at the national and regional levels; enhancing the capacity to influence and advocate for enabling policy environment; and strengthening the secretariat to become more resilient and mobilize more and better resources, and linkages. At the core, we continued to enhance and form strategic partnerships with other networks regionally and globally.



# 3. Key Achievements, Challenges and Opportunities

In 2024, the APN recorded good progress from the implementation of planned activities. Specifically, activities implemented were aimed to contribute in achieving three strategic objectives under the strategic framework, namely:

1.

**Nurture spaces for collective voice and networking.**

2.

**Influence philanthropy practice and advocate effective policy.**

3.

**Strengthen APN Resilience.**

## 3.1 Nurture Spaces for Collective Voice and Networking.

This objective was significantly achieved by conducting studies to generate new data/information that should inform programming for ecosystems strengthening, peer learning events, tailor made capacity enhancement trainings for members and youth, as well as organizing series of webinars. We have also facilitated and co-created spaces for community voice and networking to members and other actors to share their experiences and create dialogue with the private funders and governments at the national and regional levels. We have witnessed more members working together and pan-African philanthropy support organizations forming strategic partnerships.

### 3.1.1 Studies Conducted and New Data Generated

- Women and Philanthropy Study

During the year, we were able to review and finalize the Women and Philanthropy Study Publications for six countries (Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, Kenya, and Uganda). The findings from these studies provides good recommendations on how to unlock the philanthropy's potential from women who engage in businesses and not-for-profit activities. It also presents the challenges faced and opportunities available for them to harness more resources. These findings and recommendation are available to APN members and other PSAs to adopt within their operating context and enhance women role and contribution to alternation resources for community development, hence, national development. In the coming year, we plan to disseminate these findings so as to create the awareness of the governments and the public on women's philanthropic contribution. In addition to that, we will use the findings to advocate for women's contributions to social justice works, and advocate for enabling policy environment. All country reports are uploaded in website, and here are specific links for [Kenya](#), [Burkina Faso](#), [Uganda](#), and [Ghana](#).

- **Corporate Social Investment Studies**

During this reporting period, the APN in collaboration with its members, managed to commission consultants to study the current practice and policy with regard, and propose in country mechanisms for unlocking Corporate Social Investment (CSI) for CSOs as an alternative philanthropy fund to do social justice works. CSI studies have been conducted in six countries; namely Ethiopia, Tanzania, Uganda, Ghana, Cameroon and Kenya. Next year, APN will develop a case for CSI model for Mauritius to be share with its members. In addition to that, all country studies will be finalized and published for public consumption.

- **Mapping of Philanthropy Support Actors (PSAs) in Africa**

As a way of deepening and expanding the study of Philanthropy Support Actors (PSA) in Africa that was conducted in 2022, APN further conducted a participatory mapping of PSA in Tanzania, Zambia and Cameroon. During the reporting period, at least 310 Philanthropy Support Actors (PSAs) were mapped. In the second round the 309 PSAs were mapped, 206 from Tanzania, 15 from Cameroon and 88 from Zambia. Out of 309 mapped PSAs 2 were Research and Academia, 2 Government and Intergovernmental Institution, 11 Network and Membership Organization, 294 Non-Profit promoting giving. The purpose of the mapping exercise was to provide more information on philanthropy actors, building a more interconnected field, and to help create a roadmap for strengthening the African philanthropy ecosystem.

- **Assessment of Legal Environment for Philanthropy**

By and large the operating and policy context remain unfavorable, characterized with shrinking civic space and limited trust between CSAs and national state authorities. In recent times, we have seen increased citizen demonstrations, especially youth demanding for responsiveness governments, enabling laws, and respect for human rights across the continent. Enabling environment for philanthropy requires attention to address concerns on cumbersome registration procedures, excessive tax and taxation obligations on donations and philanthropic resources, limited participations in policy processes and extensive Government oversights.

APN made a decision to keep tracking the legal environment for philanthropy to thrive as an important way of ensure its mission sustainability. As you may know, one of the limiting factors is the lack of progressive legislation to create an enabling environment for community philanthropy to grow. In 2024, the design of a web-enabled Policy Tracking System was initiated. The tracking tool will enable APN to track changes on operating space and the state of shrinking civil space. We shall start by tracking changes on the above listed five policy areas.

- **Social Justice Grantmaking Study**

Towards the end of the year, we decided to design the questionnaires for the social justice survey aiming to collect information and evidence for awareness creation, influence and advocate for donors (both institutional and) on the potential of African philanthropy and to increase donations, provide flexible and multi-year support that drive community-led development and promote respect for human rights. The survey will be rolled out in year 2025.

## 3.1.2 Studies Conducted and New Data Generated

- **Member Roundtable**

APN hosted one roundtable meeting for its members in February to increase understanding of the APN secretariat's strategic focus and planned activities for 2024. The meeting also focused on establishing new connections and collaboration opportunities within the APN network. A total of 39 participants attended the meeting. In 2025, APN will prioritize hosting regular and consistent peer learning and networking meetings by using a calendar for monthly roundtable discussions as a proactive approach to ensuring regular communication and peer learning collaboration.

- **Learning and Reflection by Giving for Change (GfC) Partners**

The Learning and Reflection event is organized annually and serves as a platform to enhance the networking, to reflect on the Giving for Change programme implementation, and collect lessons that inform the strategic review of the program’s theory of change and methodology for accountability. The 2024 annual learning and reflection meeting was hosted by the Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF) in partnership with the Giving for Change (GfC) Consortium from 11th to 17th August in Kampala Uganda.



The theme for the meeting was: *connecting, supporting, and influencing community philanthropy in a context of shrinking civic space.*

Different sessions (in-door and out-door) were organized to allow all GfC family members to share the experiences, learn from others, and fully participate.

At the end of the meeting, all partners agreed to enhance collaboration, connect and document impact stories. Collectively, nine actions were tabled for consideration, as partner organizations in promoting the recognition of community philanthropy and shift the power to the communities. The full report from the meeting can be accessed [here](#).

- **Webinar on Role of Community Foundations**

In collaboration with SGS Consulting, APN hosted a webinar focusing on the role of community philanthropy in driving community-led development and mobilizing social justice resources in sub-Saharan Africa. The webinar was attended by 43 individuals to deliberate on how can community philanthropy actors leverage domestic resources, engage in advocacy for social justice funds, and enhance recognition of community philanthropy as a national development strategy. Panelists shared insights on the importance of youth involvement, practical examples of local grant-making initiatives, and the challenges of securing funding without dependency on external resources. Key takeaways included the necessity of enhancing capacities and networking, and effective communication to demonstrate the impact of community philanthropy. Unanimously, participants made a call for an African Advocacy Agenda to create a supportive environment for local philanthropic efforts. This webinar culminated in a dialogue session on “Community-Led Approaches,” that was collectively hosted by SGS Consulting and the Initiative for Community Advancement at the 2024 APN Assembly. The dialogue provided first-hand experience from the Initiative for Community Advancement, Uganda, Ghana and Malawi community foundations representatives; and the strategic contribution from Zambia Governance Foundation, and the Africa Women’s Development Fund.



- **Communications Training**

The African Philanthropy Communications Strategy Training took place for 3 days in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, from November 10-12, 2024. The workshop brought together eight (8) communications professionals from selected APN member organizations with a purpose of enhancing their understanding of APN’s work and appreciate the need for building members infrastructure for collective communications to amplify network’s mandate, and members works in promoting the voice and action for African philanthropy. The training was also aimed to increase participants’ knowledge on how to use

communications as a tool for advocacy; and to create a framework that would pave way for joint promotion and enhance visibility of African Philanthropy.

Reflecting on the training, most participants recognized that a unified approach to communication would contribute to the collective impact of the network.

Participants also acknowledged that they did not have communication strategies within their organization so they would use the knowledge and tools gained from the workshop to develop their own strategies. Participants valued the training as it helped them to deepen their understanding of APN and its mission. The communication strategy will be finalized, along with a work plan for 2025 for all members to implement.



- **Training on Fundraising and Organizational Sustainability**

A total of 15 instead members, representing 11 organizations from six different countries including Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, South Sudan, Malawi and Zimbabwe were trained on the Fundraising and Organizational Sustainability.

The training took place from 11th – 14th November 2025 at the Azambezi River Lodge in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The training was designed in collaboration with Change the Game Academy (CtGA) under Wilde Ganzen Foundation; and it was delivered by experienced CtGA global trainers.

At the end of the training, participants extended their heartfelt gratitude to the APN for organizing and sponsoring the invaluable training to enhance knowledge and tactics on how

organizations can mobilize alternative resources. One participant said “the knowledge and insights gained will undoubtedly have a lasting impact on our work”. Other participants, thanked APN for its commitment to empowering its members across the continent

All participating organizations continue to receive mentoring and coaching with the same trainers until the end of May 2025. It is expected that the participants will have knowledge on the subject matter and also each organization will develop a Resource Mobilization plan.

- **Youth Training on Leadership in Philanthropy**

A total of 33 youths out of 35 (94.3%) selected from 10 African nations completed the training on leadership in philanthropy and received certificates of recognition. These 355 were selected from 127 applications, indicating the need for targeted youth trainings. The training was possible because of the extended invitation to partner from Pan Africa Leadership Institute (PALI). PALI provided this opportunity and mobilized experienced trainers globally to deliver earmarked courses. The participants were drawn from Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The assessment of lessons and benefits gained from this training were very positive. Below are some of the comments from a few participants:

*“The training about “Emotional Intelligence” has directly impacted my leadership style. I will pay more attention to the emotional aspects in my interactions and my leadership approach. This will work to improve communication, to enhance team morale.”- Julius Otieno Odhiambo.*

...*"During the course there were ample opportunities for networking with peers, fellow youth leaders who are passionate about philanthropy, social justice, and personal development. Engagement in discussions, breakout sessions, and collaborative activities facilitated not only a meaningful connection, but it also allowed exchange of ideas and insights. I have gained valuable perspectives and aspirations! – Gladys Malonza.*



*"I have enjoyed this interaction. It has helped me to grow as an emerging governance and human rights activist. I look forward to more networking opportunities. I hope APN and PALI will continue to inspire young people who have decided to take up leadership roles in addressing the challenges that our continent is currently grappling with." - Mathews Kajani*

• **A Dialogue on Youth Voices in AfCFTA**



A session on Youth Voices in AfCFTA was successfully organized at the 5th Africa Philanthropy Conference in July/August 2024 in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. This came after the dissemination of the Draft Protocol on Women and Youth in Trade and Structural Transformation of African Economies which was launched by the AfCFTA secretariat. During the session, youth raised concerns about the opportunities for meaningful involvement and identified existing gaps to be addressed at national, regional, and continental levels.

Below are the key takeaways and recommendations:

- Opportunities for youth empowerment, organization, and leadership in implementing the AfCFTA, and inclusive policies are needed.
- AfCFTA Youth Desks can be established at national levels to facilitate local implementation and ownership of the Agreement.
- A need to strengthen governance structures and implement safeguards to protect people and markets.
- Provide training and capacity-building programs for young people to equip them with the necessary skills to participate in the implementation of AfCFTA.
- Encourage youth-led initiatives and entrepreneurship to drive local industrialization and economic empowerment.

- **Commemorate the African Day**

APN continues to play a pivotal role in co-creating spaces that amplify and coordinate community voices across the continent and to commemorate the 2024 African Day, it partnered with the University of the Witwatersrand, Mandela Institute for Development Studies (MINDS Africa), Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR), Centre on African Philanthropy and Social Investment (CAPSI), and Southern Africa Youth Forum (SAYoF-SADC) to host a webinar titled "Resilient Education Systems and Skills Development: Pan-African, Inclusive Path to Accessible, Lifelong Learning". The webinar emphasized the importance of investing in removing barriers to learning and supporting access to education for all.

The key conclusions from the discussion include:

- Equal opportunities and resources should be provided to empower and enable underprivileged to have access to quality education.
- A resilient education system is needed to nurture respect, dignity, and empowerment.
- Stronger connections between African nations are necessary for true Pan-Africanism and continental leadership.
- The photo of the panelist is shared below, and you can follow the full discussion on the video clip to be accessed [here](#).

The banner features logos for the University of the Witwatersrand Johannesburg, Wits Business School, CAPSI, MINDS Africa, IJR, APN, and the African Union. The main title is "AFRICA DAY" in large red letters, with "COMMEMORATION" in white on a blue background below it. The theme is "Resilient Education Systems and skills development. Pan African, Inclusive path to accessible, lifelong learning". A grid of eight speakers is shown, including a Key Note Speaker and seven other speakers.

**THEME:** Resilient Education Systems and skills development.  
Pan African, Inclusive path to accessible, lifelong learning

**KEY NOTE SPEAKER:** Dr. Judy Dlamini

**SPEAKERS:** Dr. Keratloe Mogotsi (Facilitator), Dr Nkosana Moyo, Dr Tenga, Chiyembekezo Gwazayani, Mwanja Ng'anjo, Kamala Dickson, Mpule Kgotsi, Prof. Tim Murithi

**23<sup>rd</sup> MAY 2024**  
15 - 1630hrs CAT

**HYBRID EVENT**

**LINK**  
<https://t.ly/bUIMZ>

- Another webinar to commemorate the African Day in 2024

Another event was hosted to commemorate the African Day 2024 on 22nd May. The event was a result of APN collaboration with Youth Café, one of its member organizations located in Nairobi Kenya.

This webinar enabled participants to respond to the main question: “How to explore the role of African Philanthropy in supporting Education systems that accelerate the implementation of the AfCFTA?”

Youth leaders in the panel discussion, reminded the public on the significance of utilising local and traditional solutions

to tackle African challenges. They emphasized on the need for community-based efforts for responsiveness, ensuring education systems are culturally relevant and contextually appropriate. and the crucial role of funding and resources in implementing educational initiatives, support to enhance capacity and effectiveness of youth initiatives. To watch the webinar, [click here](#).

The banner for the Africa Day Webinar features the APN logo (Africa Philanthropy Network, Voice and Action for African Philanthropy) and The Youth Café logo (A Light bulb of Youth in African Development). The main text reads: "Africa Day Webinar", "From Theory to Practice: African Philanthropy and Education for AfCFTA", "Date: 28th May 2024", and "Time: 3pm EAT". Below the text are five speaker portraits with their names and roles: John Youhanes - Moderator, Tanaka Ndongera - Speaker, Mecktilder M.M - Speaker, Rouben Tamba - Speaker, and Pamba Ojera - Speaker.

### 3.1.3 Spaces for Community Voices and Networking

- **National Community Philanthropy and Shift the Power Spaces**

The Giving for Change (GfC) program partners have set the goal to organize philanthropy and shift the power forums, that bring together CSAs and other key development stakeholders to celebrate benefits of community philanthropy; and to create awareness of nations governments on the need to recognize community philanthropy as a key national development strategy. In return, national governments are expected to create spaces for dialogues and enabling policy environment for philanthropy to grow and balance of powers to allow ordinary people to be at the center of decision making and doing. In 2024, a number of countries successfully convened nation philanthropy and shift the power forum.

**In Ghana:** Our member organization and GfC partner, the STAR Ghana Foundation in collaboration with University of Ghana’s Centre for Social Policy Studies (UG- CSPS), Ghana Philanthropy Forum, West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) and Penplusbyte, LeadAfrique, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection and National Youth Authority organized the event for the second year running. The conference took place from 30th and 31st of October, 2024 in Accra; under the theme, “Volunteerism as a Civic action. The conference discussion topics emphasized the critical role of volunteerism in national development, social justice, and sustainable community engagement. More than 400 stakeholders, representing CSOs, government institutions, academia, private sector, and development partners.

*A call for action:* conference participants collectively concluded to foster a sustainable ecosystem of volunteerism as doing so will enhance social justice, community development, and national progress. It was also agreed that this will be achieved by recognizing volunteerism as a cornerstone of philanthropy, hence, national development. Among the key specific actions, was a call for the institutionalization of a National Volunteerism Day; and to consider enacting of the NPO Bill that ought to provide a legal framework for CSOs and offer tax incentives for volunteering efforts.

In Ethiopia: Development Expertise Center (DEC) collaborated with other CSAs, and the Government to conduct series of

advocacy initiatives. The primary objective was to bolster philanthropy in the country by influencing both domestic and international actors to support local philanthropic endeavors. In addition to that, DEC undertook various advocacy activities both at national and lower administration levels of the country.

Another forum took place on June 6, 2024 in partnership with East Africa Philanthropy Network (EAPN), and Ethiopian Philanthropy Forum (EPF) on sustainable funding mechanisms for philanthropic organizations. The forum brought together participants from government officials, NGOs, INGOs, private sectors and representatives from Communities of Practice (CoPs) organized by the GfC program.

DEC, also conducted a dialogue on CSO's readiness towards Localization. This was done in collaboration with the Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations Council (ECSOC) during the CSOs week. The workshop aimed to create awareness about localization initiatives and assess the preparedness of CSOs to benefit from localization initiatives in Ethiopia; since the country is one of the signing countries of international conventions on localization. The report on the forum can be accessed [here](#) on the link.

**In Zimbabwe:** In May 2024, APN in partnership with the Sivio Institute, organized the first meeting of the Community Foundations in Harare Zimbabwe. The one-day meeting resulted in the inauguration of the Community Foundations Network and all 27 participants representing Community Foundations expressed interest to join the network through their specific zones.

**In Tanzania:** During the CSO Week in August 2024, APN secretariat in collaboration with its members delivered a session on vision & values for African philanthropy under the theme "Where is the (local) Money for Social Justice?" Social justice organizations have sometimes been criticized as being agents of the "West" promoting work that does not reflect "local realities". This narrative purports that social justice work is mainly funded by organizations outside the continent. It undermines the legitimacy of actors as independent moral agents. It is also blind to the diverse community-led movements that exists outside the "mainstream NGOs" - that do not have access to international aid system. This session explored social justice work and philanthropic giving support.

More than 370 CSOs representatives had an opportunity to share their experiences and reflect on the required policy and operational environment to bridge the gap between social justice as "other people's problem" and "a local issue".

**In South Africa:** In April 24, members of the African Philanthropy Network (APN) from Southern Africa, alongside peers from East and West Africa, convened in Johannesburg to examine the need for a Southern African Philanthropy Network to address identified gaps in the region's philanthropic landscape. Participants agreed that such a network was required, but stressed that its formation needed inclusion, equal representation and joint ownership of the network's mandate and activities. The meeting made a shared commitment to advance the formation and effectiveness of a Network and agreed to work as an informal network to:

- compile and share a strategic discussion document with participants to outline the agreed-upon goals, strategies, and action plan;
- convene two additional meetings before the 2024 APN Conference to consult on and further refine and operationalise the network's objectives;
- establish communication mechanisms to facilitate ongoing collaboration and information sharing amongst potential network members;
- explore opportunities for national and regional convenings supported by research and knowledge-sharing initiatives to deepen understanding of the Southern African philanthropic landscape and identify and promote collaboration and collective action opportunities.

The meeting ended positively, with participants re-emphasizing their commitment to the process and consulting with others who were not in the room to bring them into the process of establishing a jointly owned and run Southern Africa Philanthropy Network.

- **5th Africa Philanthropy Conference:**

APN collaborated with the Centre on African Philanthropy and Social Investment (CAPSI) at Wits Business School, TrustAfrica, African Philanthropy Forum, Africa Philanthropy Network, East Africa Philanthropy Network, Southern Africa Trust, and the Zambian Governance Foundation to co-convene the 5th Africa Philanthropy Conference. Under the theme 'The New Frontiers for African Philanthropy,' delegates explored how emerging trends like artificial intelligence and climate change impact strategic practices and innovative approaches to address Africa's pressing challenges, including education, healthcare, environmental sustainability, and economic development. The 6th edition will be hosted in Cairo, Egypt, from July 28 to August 1, 2025. More information can be found [here](#).



## 3.2 Influence for Philanthropy Practice and Advocate for Enabling Policy

This objective was greatly achieved by implementing activities with a focus on the aggregated and dissemination of data and information to create awareness of governments and funders on the important role of community philanthropy and domestic mobilized resources in building just societies and sustainable national development. We have also deepened storytelling aiming at showcasing African philanthropy practices and shaping the narrative about what African can do to drive their own development by organizing community dialogues, producing blogs, booklets, newsletters, and tools to support members in conducting policy advocacy, with a gender and inclusion lens.

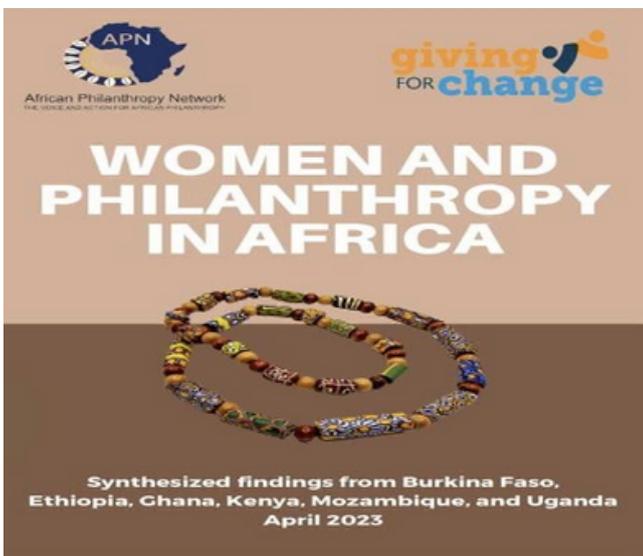
### 3.2.1 Aggregate and Disseminate Data and Information

- **Promote the Adoption Social Justice Charter:**

Since its launch in June 2023, the APN continued to create awareness of its members and other PSAs on the need to observe social justice principles in both, grantmaking and grant seeking processes. This move is aimed at fully inculcating social justice norms and facilitate the adoption and adherence to social justice principles across diverse membership. Different techniques and platforms were utilized to promote the Charter, including the following:

- EAPN at its Grantmakers Summit that was organized by East Africa Philanthropy Network (EAPN) in Nairobi from 8th to 9th July 2024.

- Three (3) community dialogue sessions were organized at the 2024 Assembly to discuss the challenges and benefits of addressing power dynamics (shifting the power structures) in funding relationships to promote transformative change in philanthropy. These include: (i) Feminism and Power Dynamics in Crisis Response, (ii) Community-Led Approaches to Sustainable Development, which emphasized the role of indigenous practices in fostering equitable systems; and (iii) a session on the Role of Language in Knowledge Production and Community-Led Development." This discussion session focused on the need to decolonize knowledge and elevate marginalized indigenous wisdom. Language barriers that hinder effective communication and community engagement were highlighted; while showcasing the value of indigenous languages in addressing contemporary challenges such as the climate change. At the end of this session, participants proposed some important measures for preserve indigenous knowledge, i.e., promote multilingualism in development efforts, English language is dominant; foster intergenerational dialogues to ensure that traditional wisdom is transferred and integrated into modern community-led initiatives.



- **Women and Philanthropy Synthesis Report**

The Women and Philanthropy Synthesis Report was disseminated through our social media platforms, including Facebook, X-space, LinkedIn, and Instagram, reaching over 19,000 users and generating more than 5600 engagements, reflecting a strong interest in the report and insights provided. Additionally, we shared the report via our newsletter, which has over 1400 recipients.

The positive reception of the report highlights the increasing recognition of women's contributions to philanthropy and underscores the need for ongoing advocacy in this important area. See the link [here](#)

- **French Translation and Interpretation of Knowledge Products**

During the reporting period, we continued to produce knowledge products in French, expanding the accessibility of valuable information and resources to French-speaking audiences and geographies. Products such as study and progress reports, social media content, blogs and meetings/Assembly documents that showcased best practices and insights in African philanthropy were translated and shared. We availed interpretation services in all webinar and in person events, both audio equipment and professional interpreters. When needed, we also provided services in Portuguese. This comprehensive effort ensured that all relevant documentation were accessible to a wider audience and geographies, ultimately promoting exchange of ideas and practices. During the implementation, we have learned about the importance of looking at translation beyond converting words, but also noting it's crucial role in conveying meaning in a cultural relevant way.

French speaking members expressed appreciation for translated materials while noting the need for consistency in translation across all communication platforms used by APN. Moving forward, we plan to gather feedback from French-speaking members to identify needs and preferences.



We produced a bilingual lexicon (English and French) by compiling commonly used terms and concepts within the African Philanthropy field. The lexicon will be reviewed by a credible institute and used as a tool to foster greater understanding and connectedness amongst our members, and other philanthropic actors across the continent. By providing accurate definitions and cultural relevant translations, the lexicon aims to enhance awareness of African Philanthropy and its associated terminologies, facilitating effective communication and knowledge sharing. These documents will be published on the APN website.

## 3.2.2 Showcasing African Philanthropy to Shape the Narrative

- **Stories to celebrate African philanthropy “APN Simulizi Blog”**

We have published about 23 stories, of which 13 are blogs, 5 research papers and 5 video clips, were produced by journalists, writers, bloggers, theatre artists, and social media activists showcasing African philanthropy and shape the narrative about the role of African philanthropy. A story book on Climate Justice Essays; My Giving Story Book and five youth research papers. All uploaded on [Simulizi Blog](#) and the [YouTube](#) channel.

We experienced some challenges during this initiative, including a low number of submissions from APN members, particularly from French-speaking countries; and a noticeable lack of understanding of African philanthropy reflected in the general submissions. Some articles were generated using AI, which resulted in a lack of practical information, depth and a lack of authenticity. Moving forward, we aim to address these challenges by enhancing our outreach by working closely with APN members, and rendering support for potential contributors, especially in French-speaking regions.

- **Podcasts/Interviews Series**

Towards the end of the year, APN planned to launch a podcast series to focused on African philanthropy, particularly the 15-Years Journey. The initiative began with a series of interviews conducted during the APN Assembly 2024 in Victoria Falls. These interviews, which involved members and participants from various assembly sessions, will be carefully packaged and rolled out as engaging podcast episodes. The goal of this podcast series is to provide a platform for sharing insights, experiences, and best practices within the philanthropy field across Africa. And, to share the narrative about African philanthropy.

- **Youth Research in Philanthropy**

As we work towards shaping the narratives around African giving under the values of Ubuntu, it is imperative that youth voices are at the center. We launched the APN Essay contest in 2021 with a focus on drawing inspiration from Africa’s youth on the power of African philanthropy in championing social change. In 2022, the theme was; “the role of African philanthropy in addressing community challenges”. Then, in 2023 the theme was; “African Philanthropy Practice in the age of ongoing Climate Change”. Since the launch of the contest, we have received an increased number of entries, from which winning essays have been awarded and published in [booklets](#). For the 2024 edition, we decided to deepen the contribution of youth in shaping the narratives about African philanthropic practices, advocating for recognition of philanthropy as a durable strategy for development and values through research papers instead of one-time essays.

This was the ethos behind the 2024 APN Youth Leaders in Research Project. Out of the thirty (30) youth who submitted applications responding to the call, we identified five (5) researchers from African countries (Kenya, Botswana, Nigeria and The Gambia), and diasporas (Brazil) who demonstrated a passion for African development, and whose proposals were most creative, coherent and relevant.

Each of the five researchers conducted and submitted a research paper around the theme “Philanthropic practices for Collective Freedom from Collective Struggles.” The thematic focus of the papers covered a wide range of issues afflicting Africans on the continent and in the diaspora including climate justice, African heritage, land rights and the intersection of disability and educational experiences. The five papers, informed by the researchers’ respective perspectives form a rich tapestry of knowledge that we welcome our members to tap into.

Their titles are as follows:

- Harnessing AI-Driven Simulations for Optimizing Renewable Energy Projects in Energy Scarce African Regions by Winfred Kiaire
- A perspective of Human Rights through Art: The Bumba Meu Boi Festival in Maranhão, Brazil by Ana Hortência Egíto
- A Study of the Intersection of Marginalization: Understanding the Educational Experiences of Muslim Girls with Disability in Northern Nigeria by Zuliehat Ohunene Abdullahi
- The Educational Experiences of Children with Disability in The Gambia by Mbemba Drammeh
- Regression and Advancements in Land Rights by Modisa Brilliant Kodie

The five research papers are available to read on our [website](#).

### • Youth Essays on Climate Change

APN published a story book of APN 2023 Essay competition of youth Aged 18-35 across the continent. The story book covers the stories of five winners. Themed, African Philanthropy in the Age of Climate Change, the report explores the critical intersection of African philanthropy and the ongoing challenges posed by climate change. The story book can be accessed [here](#)

### • My Giving Story

The APN provided catalytic grants to its members to enabled the production of articles showcasing the role of African philanthropy, highlighting diverse models and giving practices. The inspiring stories addressing issues like menstrual health and mental wellbeing to mention a few can be accessed in the Giving Story Book” in this link [here](#)

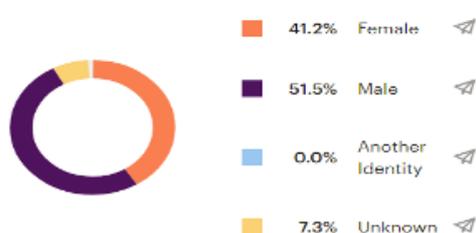
### • Success Stories in Africa philanthropy

Twenty-two (22) stories were collected from members and partners for the 2023 State of Philanthropy Report, which aims to showcase and generate new knowledge about philanthropic practices in Africa. Out of the collected stories, two articles are in French, while the remaining are in English. This report contributes to a deeper understanding of the frameworks for African philanthropy.

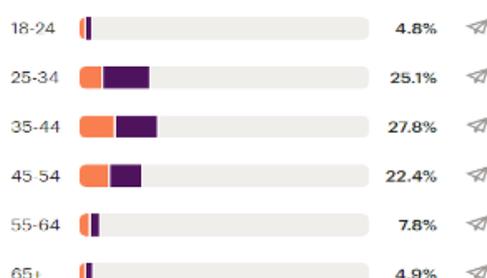
### • Monthly Newsletters

We have diligently produced and shared 11 editions of the APN newsletter through the MailChimp. Each newsletter highlighting members' activities and providing updates on APN initiatives. Notably, after the first half of the year, our publications shifted focus to the 2024 APN Assembly campaign drive which helped in raising awareness about the need to recognize philanthropy as a national development strategy, as well as Assembly to ensure an increased number of participants registered. The demographic data collected in terms of gender distribution, 41,2% of our readers are female while 51,1% identified as male. This data underscores the importance of continuing to promote inclusivity. Regarding age distribution, the larger segment of readers falls within 35-44 age range, closely followed by those aged 25-34 with younger age being the lowest. This distribution suggests that our audience is predominantly comprised of individuals in their prime working years. However, the lower representation of the younger participants (18-24) indicates potential gaps in engagement that we need to address in our outreach. People of all age from 24 – 54 years old were see to read our newsletter, the majority being men (51.5%) of age bracket from 35-44 years. See the figure below.

Gender



Age Range



## Monitor performance

Jan 24, 2024 - Jan 22, 2025 • Compared to last 365 days • 



Our newsletter distribution has experienced significant growth, expanding from 825 recipients in the previous year to 1,412 recipients. Engagement metrics have also improved, with an open rate of 34.9%, which is above the industry average of 20%, indicating an interest among our audience. Additionally, our open rate stands at 34.9%, with over 200 clicks recorded on key articles and links, demonstrating effective engagement with the content. All editions of the newsletter can be accessed [here](#).

A key learning from our newsletter production is on the need to include news in French so as to cater for our diverse audience. Another area is on the incorporation of more member news illustrating their impact and new initiatives.

- **Documentation of 15 year of APN**

APN is working to produce a documentary celebrating APN's 15-year milestone, showcasing the journey in promoting African Philanthropy, driving collaboration, partnerships, and collective freedom. This documentary further highlights APN's efforts in convening funders, developing African philanthropy, and curating knowledge on philanthropic practices over the past 15 years. Taking advantage of the 2024 APN Assembly, 19 interviews were conducted with APN board members, founders, members, and partners to capture diverse perspectives and insights for the documentary. The documentary is set to be finalized in the first quarter of 2025.

### 3.2.3 Strengthen an Enabling Environment

Targeted activities to strengthen the enabling environment for African philanthropy to thrive were implemented, mainly with regard to enhancing know-how; and developing tools to support influencing and advocacy activities including building effective campaigns for policy change and operating environment. Below, we are presenting a few examples.

- **Advocacy Training**

This training was held for Giving for Change partners from eight countries. The purpose was to enhance practical knowledge on how to form coalitions at the national level. Coalition building is vital in advocacy for change campaign as it enhances field the capacity to identification like allies and opponents in the ecosystem; and to work with other actors who have a stake of issue addressed to advance advocacy and influencing objectives. Specific objectives included the following:

- To show the importance of alliance and coalition building as essential relationships for advocacy we want to see at the national level
- To discuss ways to build and maintain alliances and coalitions to advance inclusive change.
- To identify ways to choose natural allies for an advocacy campaign

The training imparted knowledge and encouraged partners to adopt coalition building as a strategy to claim civic space and their right to perform human right works. We have noted a number of country partners including not only advocacy, but also gender and inclusion activities in 2025 work plans.

- **Advocacy tools to guide national level influence and advocacy for policy change**

Tools to guide members effectively engage with advocacy to promote African philanthropy and to promote policies that are enabling were developed. These tools will be packaged and disseminated next year.

1. **The Basics of Advocacy (Advocacy 101):** This tool is a comprehensive one presenting a full introduction to advocacy in philanthropy, understanding of social justice advocacy, role of power in advocacy, and how to conduct advocacy campaign. In addition to that, it provides a checklist for advocacy inclusion, and the definitions of key terms and references.
2. **Policy Advocacy:** One of our strategic objectives is to influence philanthropy practice and advocate for effective policy. The objective of the module is to guide members on how they can contribute to the advocacy for policy change. The tool will provide guidance through the intricate world of policy-making, its significance, types, and purposes. It is expected that, by the end of this module will deepen understanding of how policies shape the society we live in and how you can leverage this knowledge in various domains.
3. **Building An Advocacy Campaign To Promote African Philanthropy:** Next year, we shall focus on the production of knowledge and tools for building a campaign, particularly an online advocacy and digital engagement; as a response to our member request. A suitable resource person will be commissioned for this purpose.

- **Tracking Tool For Policy Changes**

One of the APN responsibilities in the GfC Consortium was to provide technical support and coordination so that program partners at country level, namely National Anchor Institution would increasingly seek to develop community philanthropy as a form of and driver of social and systems change. And, to strengthens influencing and advocacy capacity of CSAs to demand accountability and respect of human rights from the power holders.

In 2021/22 APN conducted legal assessment study in 10 countries (8 in Africa, Brazil and Palestine) to understand the legal context within which CSAs can promote voice and action for African philanthropy and mobilized more resources for social justice works. It was revealed that in all countries CSAs do experience either shrinking or closing civil space and the regulatory framework not conducive for community philanthropy to thrive. Five policy areas were identified requiring attention: registration, tax and tax incentive, resource mobilization, policy engagement and excessive government oversight. APN think it is time to assess and keep tracking changes in philanthropy policy in sub-Saharan Africa.

During the year, we started a process of developing a web-enabled tracking system that will enable GfC partners and our members to track changes with regard to the above listed five key policy areas of concerns. The consultant was commissioned and draft developed system has been shared for review. This system will be shared with members who have been trained on its use, to collect in-country policy information. As a result of this initiative, APN is expecting to produce 'Philanthropy Policy Reports' on annual basis.

- **Philanthropy Observatory and Innovation Hub**

APN is implementing a Philanthropy Observatory and Innovation Hub project in Tanzania with support from WINGS. The project focuses on promoting the understanding and enhancing the effectiveness to influence the potential for philanthropy and push for Enabling Environment (EE) across the ecosystem of philanthropy. In December, APN convened a workshop in Bagamoyo- Coast Region of Tanzania that brought together 17 participants from APN member organizations and partners to establish a Philanthropy Observatory and Innovation Hub in Tanzania. The hub is aimed at fostering the recognition of philanthropy as a national development strategy. During the workshop participants discussed and identified key priority areas for enabling the environment for community philanthropy to thrive in Tanzania. As a result, participants developed action plans with clear implementation strategies for the agreed key areas.

- **Local Leadership Lab (LLL)**

APN secretariat is a Regional Convening Partner for the Local Leadership Lab (LLL), an experimental initiative by the CIVICUS Global Alliance. The initiative is aimed at addressing the barriers (political, technical, and behavioral) that hinder governments, donors, and other stakeholders from recognizing, enabling, and resourcing diverse local civil society groups as key development actors. The initiative supports radically inclusive spaces where local civil society groups can collaborate with other key actors and

decision-makers to develop context-appropriate policies and solutions. Under this initiative we will be working in 3 countries: Uganda, Tanzania and Mauritius.

1. In Uganda: we shall work in partnership with 2 organizations identified by CIVICUS prior.
2. In Tanzania: APN has so far organized a meeting of its 14 members to identify key issues requiring collective ideas to be addressed. One of the priority concerns raised was the capacity to mobilize more resources and the need to promote the recognition and public awareness about the practice and benefits of community philanthropy.
3. In 2025 Mauritius: the LLL initiative has been introduced. We are planning to building the constituency and conduct a meeting to reflect on the context and collect key issues for collective solution setting.

- **Sixteen (16) Days of Activism Campaign**

As in previous years, the 16 Days of Activism were commemorated. This year we promoted the significance of gender inclusivity and feminism in African philanthropy. We showcased, "A Study of the Intersectionality of Marginazation," in Nigeria; revealing that 74.7% of Muslim girls with disabilities face discrimination, severely limiting their educational access. And, celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD), addressing the urgent need for gender equity in disability inclusion efforts. Another activities was to launch the documentary, "Kutsime: A Documentary on Women, Philanthropy and Mental Well-Being in Zimbabwe" produced by S.A.L.T Africa, to raise awareness about gender-based violence and the importance of community.

In addition to that, we disseminated information from the dialogue discussion at the #2024APNAssembly regarding "Feminism as an Approach for Interrogating Power Dynamics and Crisis Response". The discission is emphasizing the critical role of pan-African feminist philanthropy in crisis situations. We remain dedicated to influencing and advocating for gender equity and social including of marginalized population groups.

- **Monthly Advocacy Themes**

The advocacy themes and specific areas of focus for every month. This is done in order to encourage engagement of members to collectively influence for African philanthropy practices and advocacy for an enabling policy environment for philanthropy to grow. These themes will be adhered every month and guide dialogues and production of knowledge products to be disseminated through mainstream and social media. Feel free to access the list here and join the APN's influencing and advocacy agenda.

## 3.2.4 2024 APN Assembly

The biennial Assembly is the flagship event of the Africa Philanthropy Network (APN). In 2024, the Assembly was held between November 4th-8th, 2024 in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. It brought together over 200 participants including APN Members, philanthropists, like-minded funders and other development practitioners. Of these, 220 of which 53.2% (117) were female and 46.8% (103) male. Assembly participants were from 19 African countries, and Palestine, Brazil, UK, The Netherlands and USA. attended the Assembly. With the overarching theme of "Collective Freedom from Collective Struggle" the Assembly was designed as a safe space for varying communities to share their experiences and collective approaches with respect to African philanthropy.

The overall Facilitator for the Assembly was Taaka Awori. Her work together with the excellent keynote speakers, carefully selected panelists, community dialogue facilitators including young leaders, well known African artists and actively engaged audience made it possible for the Assembly purpose to be achieved to a great extent.

- **Program Focus**

The Assembly took place for four days, each day focusing on specific theme or activity as summarized below; and more detailed information can be accessed in the website: <https://assembly.or.tz/>



**APN  
ASSEMBLY 2024**  
**VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE**  
**4th-8th November 2024**

**Arrival and Registration**

NOV  
**04**

**Day 1: Policy and Practice**

NOV  
**05**

**Day 2: Knowledge Production**

NOV  
**06**

**Day 3: Movement Building**

NOV  
**07**

**Day 4: Trip to Victoria Falls**

NOV  
**08**

The Assembly session discussions were extensively shared within the continent and beyond; under the hashtag #APNAssembly2024. This was made possible by a team of 22 communications experts from our network who engaged from the planning to the execution phase, using targeted social media campaigns, informative newsletters, engaging multimedia content, and interactive webinars leading up to the assembly. In addition to that, a number of interpreters were commissioned to facilitate information and knowledge transfer. Every Assembly associated information was translated into French and English languages.

### 3.2.5 Youth Summit

The 2024 Youth Summit was held alongside APN Assembly in Victoria Falls Zimbabwe. The 2024 APN Youth Summit aimed at transforming the way development is taking place in Africa by connecting change agents of diverse ages and experiences. A total of one hundred seventeen (117) youth attended the APN Youth Summit, whereby twelve (12) youth were engaged as speakers and or facilitators.

The summit provided a platform for sharing experiences and effective approaches on collective struggles toward collective freedom, about philanthropy practices and social impact investments, and how to work together for innovative solutions.

Participants had an opportunity to connect with peers, engage with senior field practitioners, community experts and funders. Learn about scalable approaches to remove social and economic injustices that hinder collective freedom.



# 4. Strengthening APN Resilience

This objective would be achieved by implementing activities related to good governance and leadership, systems strengthening, accountability both operational and financial. The key achievements and lessons learned are discussed below.

## 4.1 Governance and Leadership

During the implementation period, the APN secretariat implemented a number of activities for the purpose of enhancing APN's leadership and management capacity which is a strategic initiative aimed at improving overall organizational performance and achieving long-term success.

- **Meetings of the Board**

Two Board Meetings were held as planned. The first one in May and the second in October 2024. All Board members or the alternate members participated and adequately provided strategic guidance. In addition to that, board resolutions were also implemented by the management.

- **The Meeting of Members**

We held a meeting of members on the 8th of November 2024 at the Elephant Hills Resort in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. A total of 58 individuals representing 35-member organizations attended the meeting.

The APN members meeting of 2024 was chaired by Ibrahim-Tanko Amidu, Executive Director of Star Ghana Foundation, who was appointed as the Chairperson.

During this meeting the Directors Report was well received, 46 new members were approved to join the network; and the request to postpone the election of the new board directors and approve the amend the APN constitution and Rules (2019 Version) section 5.2 on the appointment of the board is amended to accommodate changes in the context and within the network.

- **Staff Recruitment**

Staff (both full time, part time and retainers) were timely recruited. The Executive Director is currently supported by three (3) senior staff members at the secretariat: communications and member engagement, data and learning and the accountant. During the next year, we also recruitment of the GfC program coordinator for 6 months period. This position will be left vacant at the beginning of the next year due to limited funds.

- **Recruitment of New Members**

In 2024, twenty-eight (28) member organisations were recruited, out of the 83 applications received, increasing our membership by 28.1%. Currently APN members are located (with offices) in 29 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, while working with communities in 51 African nations. In the remaining years of implementing our 2024-2028 Strategy, we aim to mobilize members and establish a presence in Angola, Botswana, Cabo Verde, Chad, Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Namibia, Niger, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Seychelles, Cameroon, Sierra Leone, and Togo. We shall work in collaboration with the current membership to achieve this ambitious goal.

# 4.2 Communications and Knowledge Management

Among the activities implemented were to improve our internal and external communication systems.

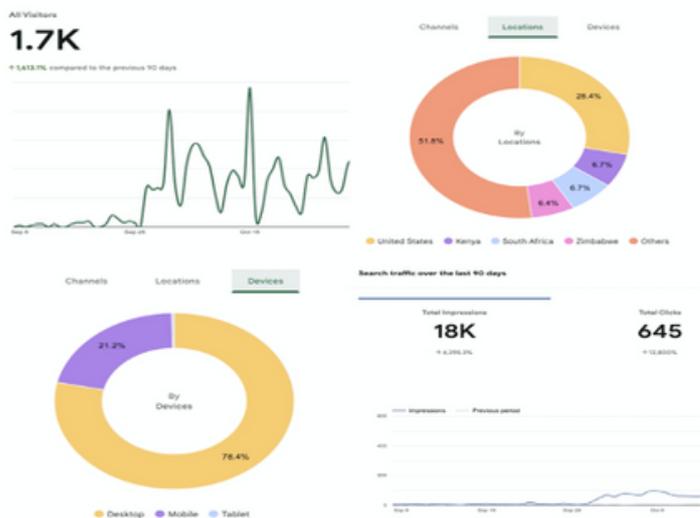
- **Communications**

In 2024, APN continued to experience notable growth across its social media outreach, reflecting an expanding reach and engagement with its audience. On Instagram, followers increased from 1,686 in 2023 to 2,350 in 2024, representing a growth rate of approximately 39.4%. Facebook saw a modest rise from 13,082 to 13,393 followers, translating to a 2.4% increase. However, it was LinkedIn that demonstrated the most remarkable growth, skyrocketing from 1,941 followers to 3,543, an impressive 82.5% increase. This growth was accompanied by substantial engagement, with over 3,700 interactions and 156,000 impressions, indicating that APN's content is not only being viewed but actively engaged with by its professional audience. Twitter (X) also saw an increase, growing from 6,999 to 7,362 followers, which is a 5.2% growth.

Overall, while all platforms showed positive growth, LinkedIn's exceptional performance highlights its effectiveness as a tool for professional networking and thought leadership, positioning APN as a key player in the philanthropic landscape and enabling greater connections with industry leaders, potential partners, and donors. Below is the LinkedIn performance matrix.

- **Website Design, Maintenance and Update**

APN developed a new website, <https://apn.or.tz/> which will continue to be updated ensuring that it remains a valuable resource APN members and stakeholders. Since the launch of the new website, it has recorded a total of 1,700 visitors and generated an



an impressive 18,000 impressions. These metrics indicate a healthy level of engagement with the site's content, reflecting the interest of our audience.

The number of clicks, totaling 645, suggests that visitors are actively interacting with the website, which is a positive sign for user engagement and the effectiveness of our online presence.

This Website will have a membership portal included to enhance member engagement and provide exclusive benefits such as streamline sharing and access to resources and information.

- **Knowledge Management**

A knowledge management repository at APN is found to enhance the organization's effectiveness in leveraging its knowledge assets. These include knowledge capturing, sharing through a number of platforms, transfers, and preservation on knowledge.

APN will lead continuous improvement efforts by monitoring the philanthropy field in Africa, benchmarking against best practices, and adapting knowledge management strategies and processes to evolving organizational needs and challenges. In the future, we will establish performance indicators to evaluate the effectiveness of knowledge management initiatives and identify areas for improvement. This will be done in conjunction with training and capacity building of employees and responding to the needs of members to understand their knowledge needs and preferences, align knowledge management initiatives with organizational mission and foster a culture of knowledge sharing and learning.

## 4.3 Systems Improvement

During the year, more efforts were directed to the improvement of our communications for advocacy, revised membership and the financial management. Next year, we will finalize all these and embark of the improvement of African philanthropy measurement and learning systems.

- **Updated and maintain communication plan**

With a new communication strategy in place, APN will develop a comprehensive member engagement plan that focuses on enhancing interaction and collaboration within the network. This plan will include the creation of targeted content such as informative newsletters, engaging webinars, and interactive forums that address the specific interests and needs of members. Additionally, APN will implement regular feedback mechanisms to ensure that member voices are heard and incorporated.

- **Revised Membership Plan**

A revised membership plan was developed to ensure high engagement among members within the network. This updated strategy focused on fostering stronger connections and facilitating meaningful interactions, thereby enhancing the overall member experience. In the next reporting period, APN will develop a comprehensive membership plan that encompasses an onboarding toolkit to equip new members with essential resources and information about the network's mission and activities. Additionally, the plan will feature individual membership options, providing personalized experiences and access to exclusive resources. A targeted recruitment strategy will be implemented to attract new members, while a robust feedback mechanism will be established to continually assess and improve member engagement, ensuring that APN remains responsive to the evolving needs of its members.

- **Financial Management System**

We have since mid-year, we engaged the system developer and initiated the process of Quick Books installation, after having decided to migrate from the use of "ZOHO Books" online accounting system. We are happy with the progress so far. In year 2025, we are planning to adopt the use of Quick Books in recording and managing our accounts. It is expected that the new systems will enhance the quality of our bookkeeping, financial processing and reporting.

## 4.4 Systems Improvement

Under the reporting year, we have managed to timely produce and submit required reports (both narrative and financial); and met the compliance requirements by the Governments and our donors.

- **Planning, Review and Narrative Reporting**

All plans, reviews and required narratives reports have been produced and timely submitted. This task was assigned and performed by a specific staff. In the future, we are planning to enhance the capacity of all staff and assign reporting roles as part of their accountability

- **Financial Management**

APN continues to strengthen its resources mobilization and to comply with our financial management policies and procedure for attaining its financial accountability. APN received a total of USD \$1,391,902.62 which is 48% more than USD \$724,655.92 that was received in Y2023. We are thankful and remained accountable to all our members and donors for trusting in us and their generous support to the mission and the Assembly which is our flagship event: C.S. Mott foundation, Hewlett Foundation, Wellspring Philanthropic Fund, WINGS and CIVICUS. And, our anchor members: AWDF, and the GFCFs for their continued commitment to support the strengthening APN mission.

Our members remain the anchors and pillars for the promotion of the voice and action of African Philanthropy. On membership subscriptions we collected a total of USD \$32,550.19, which is a bit more than USD \$24,281 received in Y2023. While we appreciate the support from our active members, in future we shall explore other effective ways to raise our members' support and collection of annual subscriptions. This will be factored in when reviewing the membership recruitment, engagement and benefit

There is a fully functioning staff team and an efficient financial management system with APN's own bank accounts, which enabled us to receive funds directly without using the support of our members as fiscal sponsors. Wherever required, we have opened sub-reference accounts. All account records and required financial reports are produced and submitted on time, and financial records reconciled.

Since 2019 to 2024, APN has received an unqualified audit. The audit of 2024 Annual Financials is scheduled to commence on the 10th February 2025. The report will be published on our website.



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