



African Philanthropy in Action: Adopt, Advance, Amplify: 2-6 November 2026 Call for Session Proposals

Important Deadlines

July 21, 2026	Launch of the call
July 31, 2026	Deadline for submission of session proposals
August 10, 2026	Preliminary session selection
August 31, 2026	Articulation, review and draft Assembly program
September 15, 2026	Final event program

Assembly theme

The overarching theme of the 2026 Assembly is “The overarching theme of the 2026 Assembly, “African Philanthropy in Action: Adopt, Advance, Amplify,” promoted through hashtags: *#AfricanPhilanthropyinAction* *#GivingAndPower*; *#GivingForChange*; *#ShiftThePower*

“African Philanthropy in Action” seeks to move beyond discussing theory to showcasing real-world African giving. The theme emphasizes the diversity of philanthropic models, the unique challenges faced on the continent, and the innovative solutions and partnerships emerging from within Africa. It also seeks to highlight how philanthropy supports sustainable development, drives social change, and empowers communities at all levels. For more information, read the [Concept Note](#) for the Assembly.

Sessions types

The Assembly is structured to provide a safe space for networking and for delegates to engage, creating an inter-generational and inter-sectoral movement of solidarity based on shared expertise and a drive for collective action, dignity, trust, and respect for all. This will be achieved through the use of different learning techniques, including thematic workshops in the form of panel discussions, moderated presentations, or interviews on selected topics, ignite talks, intergenerational talks, storytelling, skillshare, marketplace, open space, exhibition, network space, arts and culture, food & health breaks, etc.

Sessions are informal, in the community dialogue format, and designed to engage participants interactively.

Session content

Sessions should highlight topics and issues of interest to both new and experienced field practitioners, actors, and donors (individuals and institutions) partnering with communities in Africa. Session content should achieve one or more of the following:

- Introduce new researched information/a strategy/a tool
- Highlight best practices and challenges in adopting new approaches.
- Showcase strategies and tools to advance innovation within organizations and communities.
- Deepen our understanding of methods to amplify impact at the local, national, and global levels.
- Illustrate how to foster collaborations that accelerate the transition from adoption to amplification

Community dialogue sessions are about 90-120 minutes. Program time slots will be finalized once selections are made. Proposals should indicate speakers and moderators. Session topics can range from policies and practices to approaches for adopting, advancing, and amplifying voices and action in African philanthropy.

Guiding Questions

Here are some questions to help shape our analysis and thinking as we develop session proposals related to the Assembly theme. These questions will also guide deeper exploration, planning, and impactful dialogue within each sub-theme.

Sub-theme 1: Adopt African Philanthropy

- a. What are the traditional and contemporary models of philanthropy practiced across Africa?
- b. Which approaches, values, or structures distinguish African philanthropy from global models? How suitable are these models to the modern world?
- c. How can African communities, institutions, and governments increase the uptake of homegrown philanthropic practices?
- d. What barriers or misconceptions hinder the wider adoption of African philanthropic models?
- e. How can new generations be engaged to adopt and sustain African philanthropy?

Sub-theme 2: Advance African Philanthropy

- a. What innovations or strategies can propel African philanthropy to greater impact and scale?
- b. How can technology, policy, or partnerships help advance philanthropic ecosystems in Africa?
- c. What are the gaps in research, capacity, or infrastructure that need to be addressed?
- d. How can African philanthropy adapt to changing social, economic, and environmental contexts?
- e. What role do local, regional, and continental networks play in advancing the field?

Sub-theme 3: Amplify African Philanthropy

- a. How can the visibility and narrative about African philanthropy be strengthened locally and globally?
- b. What strategies are effective in documenting and sharing African philanthropic stories and successes?
- c. How can African philanthropic voices, knowledge, and leadership be elevated in global discourse?
- d. What communication platforms or tools are most effective for amplifying impact?
- e. How can collaborations with media practitioners, public intellectuals, and cultural leaders help amplify African philanthropy?

Qualities of a good session

Good sessions are interactive; they encourage healthy debate and respectful discussion of ideas, present different viewpoints, and go beyond a surface-level discussion of the topic. We find that the most successful sessions are those that:

- include speakers having distinct perspectives on the session topic
- use defined topics or questions designed for small group discussions
- are interactive and participatory
- facilitate discussion among participants and speakers, and are based on prepared questions
- focus on lessons learned and questions raised, and are not simply presentations of projects or organizational missions
- feature articulate and charismatic panelists and presenters
- limit formal presentations to no more than 20 minutes of the allotted time
- keep the discussion flowing smoothly by holding each speaker to their allotted time
- Control speakers so they do not use a lot of time to market their organizations

Submission

Kindly submit your session proposal via this [FORM](#) and remember to keep a copy of the information you have submitted. Send to the following address: assembly@apn.or.tz before 31st July 2026.