



Annual Report

1 April 2019–31 March 2020



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Dalit Community Foundation (India)
Fondo Semillas (Mexico)
Zambian Governance Foundation
FemFund (Poland), © Agata Kubis kolektyw

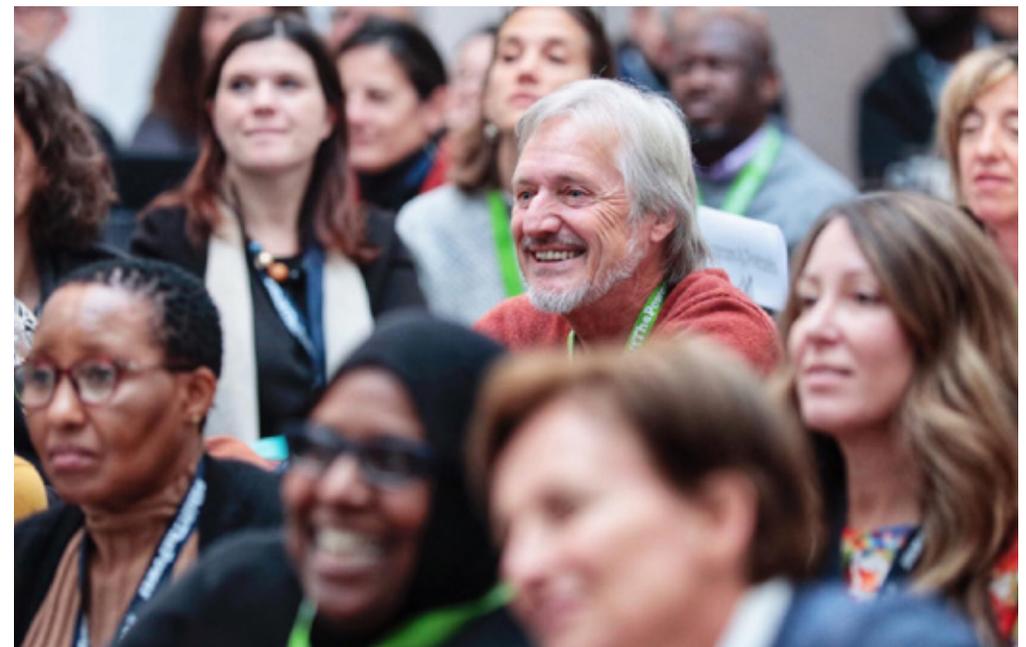
From the GFCF Chair

As I reflect on the year covered by this Annual Report, it already feels like a distant memory. The global impacts of COVID-19 had just started to be felt as we closed out our financial year in March. Some months on, the massive disruption caused by the pandemic has changed the world dramatically and, in many ways, permanently. Based on initial observations, I can

already say with considerable certainty that next year's report will tell a very different story. In particular, against a backdrop of crisis, uncertainty and despair, it will shine a light on the extraordinary response of GFCF partners around the world – including Nepal, from where I am writing this – to address the impacts of the pandemic on the communities that they serve.

Looking back on the twelve months we describe in this report, however, I am struck by the fact that so much of it was characterized by energy, optimism, and a real sense of progress in terms of the GFCF's core work and purpose. We saw a growing recognition both of community philanthropy as a strategy for fostering locally-owned development, and of the real need to address the question of power within the current funding system.

Photos from the Pathways to Power Symposium, November 2019





In particular, the year was dominated by preparations for the [Pathways to Power Symposium](#) which was held in London in November 2019. With so many global and national events subsequently cancelled because of COVID-19, little did we realize at the time how fortunate we were that it happened at all. That aside, the Symposium marked another important moment in the life of #ShiftThePower campaign, which was kick-started back in 2016 at the first Global Summit on Community Philanthropy in Johannesburg. The London meeting brought together over one hundred allies – old and

new – from 30 countries and from different parts of the civil society and funding eco-system to spend two full days in each other’s company, to listen and share, and to explore what kinds of collective action are really required to accelerate and join up different efforts – both from the bottom-up and the top-down – if we are to arrive at a more equitable paradigm of development (see page 14).

With so many in-person meetings soon to come to an abrupt end as a result of COVID-19, the Pathways to Power event was a precious reminder of how important face-to-face interaction continues to be when it comes

to building trust and new kinds of alliances, particularly among those whose paths might otherwise not normally cross and where power differentials can easily obstruct meaningful exchange. At the GFCF we are very aware that we must not squander the opportunities that the London meeting created as we continue to build on the conversations that took place and the connections made.

It is still too soon to understand the long-term effects of COVID-19, not just on our sector but also on our communities and societies more broadly. For the time being however, despite the enormous challenges that still lie ahead, it is nonetheless important to pause and take stock, and even to celebrate the gains that have been made. I hope that this year’s Annual Report succeeds in doing that.

Finally, let me take a moment to thank each one of you for your support: I hope that we can continue to work together to build our collective strength and synergies to really “shift the power.” Happy reading!



Rita Thapa Rita photo

Chair, GFCF
 Founder, Tewa – the
 Nepal Women’s Fund &
 Nagarik Aawaz

About our work

We believe in people-led development. That means shifting the power to the community level. It's not only the right thing to do, but it's also the most effective way to ensure results that will last and that are owned and shaped by the people they are meant to reach.

We believe that it is time for people, institutions and networks – wherever they are big or small – who care about inclusion, dignity and justice, to work together for a world in which top-down meets bottom-up.

Community philanthropy and durable development

With an emphasis on local assets, local decision-making and a long-term view, community philanthropy is a strategy to achieve durable development. We use the word “durable” because it suggests the ability of something to be strong, robust and to withstand pressure. Civil society organizations and non-profits that rely on external funding are often not durable: their work can be overly shaped by the priorities of their donors rather than those of local

communities and, if they have not invested in building a local support base, they are often vulnerable to sudden changes or reductions in aid and philanthropic flows.

For us, durable development means resilient systems – networks that include people, communities and organizations – and strong organizations that are rooted in their constituencies, that share and devolve power, and whose legitimacy rests on their ability to mobilize local participation, including local giving.



Our strategy

The GFCF is a grassroots grantmaker working to promote and support institutions of community philanthropy around the world. Our long-term goal is to embed the practice and paradigm of community philanthropy as a cornerstone of a new architecture for effective, locally-owned and locally-driven development that shifts power and voice to the community level.

We work with individual community foundations and other local grantmakers and their networks around the world, with a particular focus on the Global South and Central and Eastern Europe. Through small grants, technical support and networking, we help these local institutions to strengthen and grow so that they can fulfil their potential as vehicles for local development and as part of the infrastructure for sustainable development, poverty alleviation and citizen participation.

Our core objectives

- 1 To build institutional capacity (through the provision of small grants and technical assistance) among community philanthropy organizations to enable them to build social and financial capital and enhance local decision-making processes in their communities.
- 2 To promote collaboration and networks which advance the field of community philanthropy to increase their effectiveness.
- 3 To influence and build the relationship between the community philanthropy field and policy makers, governments and international development agencies.



1

Key outcomes in 2019/2020

Grants to individual community philanthropy organizations

Grants and learning programmes

We made grants totalling £374,507 to 28 organizations in 22 countries. Nine of these organizations were first time grant recipients.

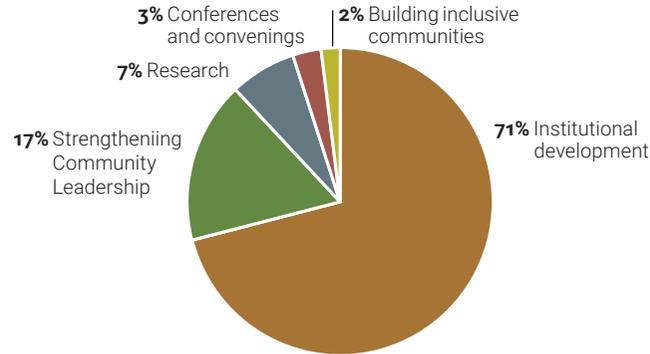


Institutional development These grants are tailored to the specific circumstances and requirements of our partners. Overall, they are aimed at helping to strengthen community philanthropy organizations' abilities to serve and engage their communities – including marginalized groups – around diverse local issues, to unlock new resources and assets at the local level as a way of building local ownership and agency as well as financial resilience, and to strengthen social capital and trust within and among different parts of the community.

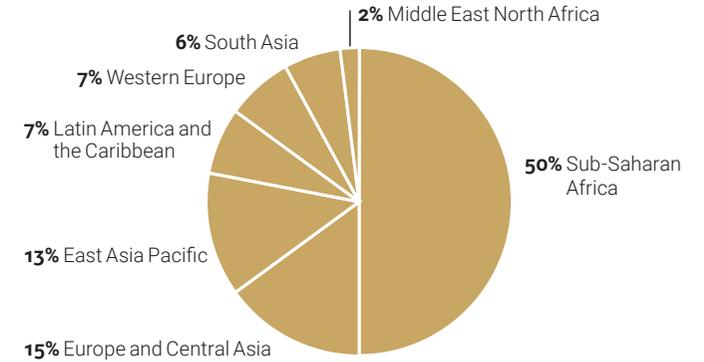


Strengthening community leadership In a new partnership with Facebook, we have been exploring different strategies for nurturing community leadership. Through a series of small grants, several of our partners have been exploring what community leadership looks like in their context and how it can be best supported, as well as the interplay between individual leaders and organizations in strengthening communities.

Grants distribution by programme



Grants distribution by geography

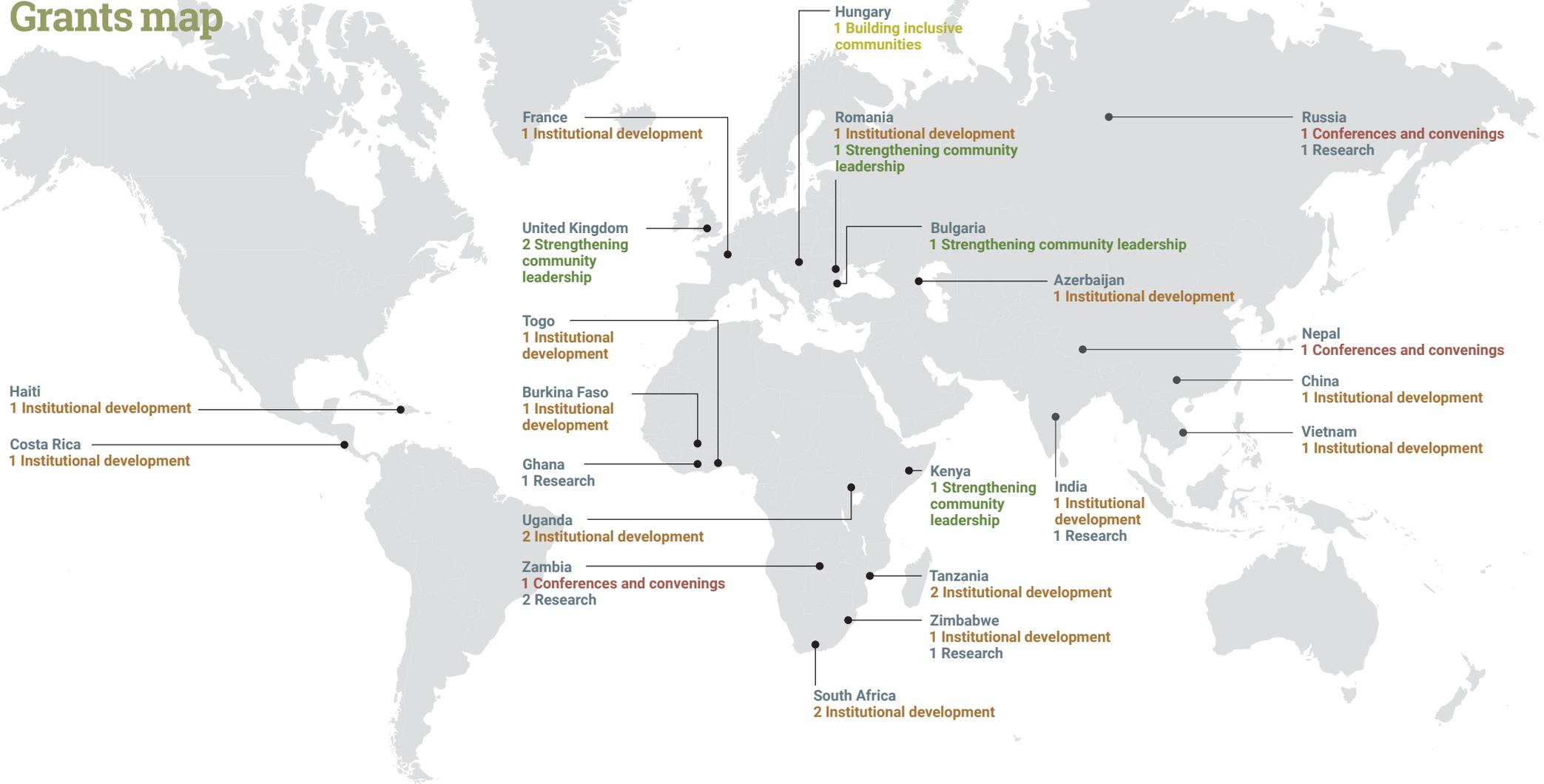


Research A key objective of the GFCF is to grow the evidence base for community philanthropy, in regard both to specific contexts and issues. Research grants support partners undertaking individual research initiatives that will have relevance to the wider field.

Conferences and convenings These grants are aimed at supporting our partners as leaders, convenors and advocates for community philanthropy in global and national spaces. They include support for partner-led national and regional events, as well as participation in relevant conferences and other peer learning opportunities.

Building inclusive communities These grants – supported by designated funding from the Open Society Initiative for Europe – are aimed at exploring how European community philanthropy organizations can build support for complex, unpopular or minority issues (such as migration, women’s and sexual minority rights, issues affecting Roma etc.).

Grants map



Key	Azerbaijan	China	Ghana	India	Romania	Russia	South Africa	Togo	United Kingdom	Zambia	Zimbabwe
Building inclusive communities											
Conferences and convenings											
Institutional development	Gandjabasar Community Foundation	Harmony Platform	West Africa Civil Society Institute	Solidarity Foundation	Covasna Community Foundation	Far Eastern Centre for the Development of Citizens' Initiatives and Social Partnership	Ikhala Trust	XOESE, Le Fonds pour les Femmes Francophones	Community Foundation for Northern Ireland	Zambian Governance Foundation	Community Foundation for the Western Region of Zimbabwe
Research				Solidarity Foundation	Bucharest Community Foundation	Arkhangelsk Centre of Social Technologies "Garant"	Social Change Assistance Trust		South Sinai Foundation	Zambian Governance Foundation x 2	Community Foundation for the Western Region of Zimbabwe
Strengthening community leadership											Community Foundation for the Western Region of Zimbabwe
	Bulgaria Bulgarian Women's Fund		Haiti Haiti Community Foundation	Kenya Kilimani Project Foundation			Tanzania Foundation for Civil Society	Uganda CivSource Africa	Vietnam LIN Center for Community Development		
	Burkina Faso Initiative Pananetugri pour le Bien-être de la Femme	Costa Rica Monteverde Community Fund	Hungary Ferencváros Community Foundation	Nepal Tewa			Tanzania Tanzania Association of Microfinance Institutions	Uganda Twerwaneho Listeners Club			



The study produced by TLC highlighted traditions of giving and solidarity in Uganda

How local radio can advance human rights – and build community philanthropy too: the story of the Twerwaneho Listeners’ Club

In 2006, a group of human rights activists in Western Uganda launched a local radio talk show called “Twerwaneho”, meaning “let’s struggle for ourselves.” Their intention was to kick-start a conversation about human rights violations within the local community, particularly in regard to land. The first programmes, which focused on the recent evictions of community members from land owned by the Tooro kingdom, resulted first in threats – to the station and staff – which soon turned into actual violence when security forces set fire to the station, destroying the transmitter. At the same time, programme contributors were arrested and future broadcasts were banned.

While this experience was a major blow to activism in the region, it also led local activists to explore the idea of a new kind of community-based entity which could serve as a broader platform for airing community issues and which could also, in turn, offer protection to individual activists from further attacks. And so, the Twerwaneho Listeners’ Club (TLC) was born.

With a small grant from the GFCF, in 2019 TLC set out to explore whether and how a community philanthropy approach might have something to offer, particularly by establishing a direct link between local asset mobilization and the claiming of communities’ rights. As a first step, TLC conducted a study, “Reflecting on the role community giving can play in transforming people’s well-being and development in resource strained communities.”

Drawing on the study findings, TLC decided to test the proposition that traditions of giving and solidarity in Uganda continue to be strong, and to apply it specifically in the context of a land dispute between the local community and a nearby national park. Community members were invited to contribute towards the fees of a survey to document the original and current boundaries of the park, boundaries which had expanded over the years as a result of “land-grabbing” by the park’s authorities. The finished survey would form an important part of the community’s legal case.

With court deadlines rapidly approaching, TLC had one month to submit their survey to the court. In a period of 30 days, 342 individuals made contributions totaling 18,260,000 Uganda shillings (more than US



\$5,000) towards the survey costs. As noted by TLC’s Coordinator, Gerald Kankya: “No one ever thought that our communities had the capacity to make such a contribution. The survey led to the creation of new boundaries with the park and, for us, marks a whole new chapter in the way community solutions to problems can be financed.”

TLC is now looking to build on this success and hopes to help several local communities to establish and manage their own funds. According to Gerald, this experience has encouraged their constituency to “focus more on how we can best address human rights and development challenges without having to wait for external support.”

Grants in the spotlight

Strengthening community leadership

The Bulgarian Fund for Women looks to the margins to foster community leadership

What does individual community leadership look like and how can it be best supported? This was the question that the Bulgarian Fund for Women (BFW) set out to explore with a GFCF grant in 2019. Established in 2004, the Fund has since invested more than US \$1 million in small grants to support the women's movement in Bulgaria.

Being based in the capital, Sofia, BFW was initially anxious about how they could promote their new community building and leadership programme with more remote grassroots groups, especially those from rural, closed and marginalized communities. The solution was to create a media partnership with the Bulgarian National Radio. The station not only helped with the promotion of the programme but also assumed a more active role, interviewing participants and promoting the concepts of community organizing and community philanthropy. The strategy proved to be extremely effective. Initially BFW had intended to include 10 participants in the programme, but having received 100 applications, they settled on a group of 20, ranging in age from 18–60 years (including LGBT activists, a village mayor, Roma and elderly women, environmental defenders, artists, etc.).

The programme kicked off with a two-day training in a mountainous area near Sofia, which brought together the

BFW's leadership programme participants ran projects in their communities: from assisting elderly residents during COVID-19 lockdowns, to the creation of a "Lady Bikers" group

self-defined community leaders to discuss tools for being more effective in their work, with a specific emphasis on strategies for local resource and constituency mobilization. Beyond tips and tools, the convening was just as much about providing moral support, solidarity, and building a network of individuals that can lean on each other going forward. BFW noted that: "The applications we received reveal that community leaders need support to realize their causes, as community building and organizing can be a lonesome, exhausting and challenging experience." Already during the training, new connections were made and ideas for joint projects discussed.

After the training, community leaders were invited to apply for small grants from BFW to implement projects in their communities, testing out their new learnings, particularly the use of community philanthropy as a tool for social change. 14 small grants were made in February 2020, just as the effects of COVID-19 were beginning to be felt across Bulgaria. One community leader – Tania Hristova, a 23-year-old from a Roma community – was so inspired by her experiences in the programme that she approached a large Bulgarian company with a request for in-kind donations. As a result, she received cleaning supplies, detergents, hygiene products, etc. and, working with two other "graduates" of the programme, distributed these supplies to 164 families in several rural villages.



Inspired by the success of the first round of the programme – and the strong interest it elicited – BFW will be running a second round in 2020, with further support from the GFCF. For BFW itself, the programme has generated important new insights, ideas and contacts, and has affirmed the value of reaching out beyond what they had considered their "usual" community.

2 Key outcomes in 2019/2020

Connecting the field and strengthening the evidence base for people-led development

Convenings

We regularly organize convenings of our partners – both online and in-person – as a way to deepen and expand community philanthropy networks, promote peer-to-peer learning and strengthen the field’s collective voice.

GFCF Assets, capacities, trust convening – Oaxaca, Mexico



Deepening and expanding measurement and metrics for community philanthropy

Through our grantmaking over the past fourteen years, we have identified three core features of a community philanthropy approach: mobilizing assets, strengthening capacity, and building trust. In 2018 we invited partners to apply to be a part of a learning initiative looking at how to track and measure outcomes both in terms of local (“horizontal”) and external (“vertical”) accountability. The 15 organizations who formed the group met for the first time in South Africa in 2018 and again in Oaxaca, Mexico in July 2019. One output of this process has been the draft paper, *Measuring what matters: in 2020*, GFCF partners looking to measure and demonstrate the impact of community philanthropy and asset-based approaches, particularly in the form of non-financial indicators, will be testing out some of the ideas presented in the paper.



How communications strategies, framing, and tactics can support efforts to #ShiftThePower

We were delighted to partner with Jennifer Lentfer of How Matters, who hosted a series of four online dialogues over December 2019 and January 2020 entitled *Changing the narrative: Weaving #ShiftThePower throughout the #GlobalDev sector*. This series, featuring contributions from a range of communicators from around the world and attracting around 50 participants per dialogue, considered how organizations’ communications strategies can support collective efforts to #ShiftThePower in aid, global development, and international philanthropy. It also underlined the importance of authenticity, creativity, breaking away from tired and damaging narratives, and letting people tell their own stories.

What do we mean by “changing the narrative”?

- The shifting of consciousness and values
- Evolving from charity to global solidarity
- #ShiftThePower in the social good sector requires new narrative frames.



Growing the evidence base

We commissioned, published and contributed to a number of research papers aimed at growing the evidence base for community philanthropy in regard both to specific contexts and issues.



Community philanthropy in Uruguay: The case of Colonia by Andrés

Thompson. The purpose of this paper is to describe the strengths and weaknesses of community philanthropy by examining the specific case of the Fondo Región Colonia in

Uruguay. The analysis centres on two main variables: capacity for social change, and, resource mobilization through a multistakeholder approach.



Disrupting and democratising development: Community philanthropy as theory and practice by GFCF

Executive Director, Jenny Hodgson, for the March 2020 issue of the Oxfam and Routledge Gender and Development Journal. The article

focuses on what community philanthropy looks like as development practice, drawing on examples from a global cohort of 16 organizations that identify with the concept. Translations are available in [French](#), [Portuguese](#) and [Spanish](#).



From billions to millions: How community philanthropy is helping to finance the SDGs by Jonathan Glennie.

Community philanthropy is growing around the world, but its progress has gone largely unnoticed in the world of mainstream development financing.

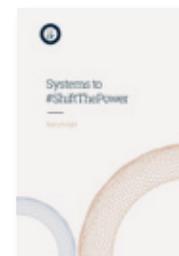
This is unfortunate for two main reasons. First, because there might be a significant amount of money at the community level that is already being, or could be, mobilized for the SDG effort. Second, because the quality of that money in terms of its unique characteristics make it a resource worth focusing on.



Footprints: How a community grantmaker shifts the power by Ninnette Eliasov and Alison Mathie.

This case study profiles the Ikhala Trust, a community grantmaker in South Africa attempting to unleash the power that exists in local communities and

shift and share the power of dominant institutions. Small but mighty (and working with the small and potentially mighty), the Ikhala Trust has been at the cutting edge of an approach to development assistance that is a clear departure from conventional philanthropic endeavours.



Systems to #ShiftThePower by GFCF Adviser, Barry Knight. Prepared in advance of the November 2019 Pathways to Power Symposium (see page 14), the paper explores the potential for “systems theory” to #ShiftThePower from external

agencies to local people in the delivery of international development programmes. It concludes by suggesting a tenstep framework for taking the work forward.



What is community philanthropy? by Dana R.H. Doan. Despite growing attention to the concept of community philanthropy, there is limited guidance for those who wish to apply or invest in community philanthropy approaches.

This paper provides an overview of the available literature and seeks to clarify, for those that may be working in the field of development, what it means to practice community philanthropy. Translations are available in [French](#), [Portuguese](#) and [Spanish](#).

3

Key outcomes in 2019/2020 Building a global movement to #ShiftThePower

The profile of community philanthropy has undoubtedly grown since the Global Summit on Community Philanthropy in 2016, particularly in the context of its relevance as part of broader efforts to #ShiftThePower. Although #ShiftThePower first emerged as a hashtag to promote the Summit, it went on to assume a broader significance as a rallying cry for long-term systemic change within philanthropy and international development. At the GFCF, we continue to do our part to build this global movement by partnering with donors interested in exploring community philanthropy as a strategy, ensuring the #ShiftThePower message is represented at various conferences and events and demonstrating what shifting power looks like in practice.

Pathways to Power Symposium

The Pathways to Power Symposium, held 18–19 November 2019 in London, brought together a hugely diverse group of 110 people from 30 countries who were all involved in various ways in disrupting, democratizing and reimagining the current civil society funding system, and who saw value in coming together to engage in dialogue and action.

Preparations for the face-to-face meeting began well in advance: in the months leading up to the event a number of “weaving conversations” were organized all focused, in one way or another, on the question of power: localization, the compassionate organization, re-imagining the INGO, measurement for people-centred development, the role of narratives and mind-set shifts, etc. Some groups got creative and produced blogs, podcasts and cartoons to share their weaving conversations more widely.

Pathways to power:
New ways of
deciding and doing
A Symposium
on people-led
development





At the Symposium itself, the idea was to create the feeling of an “unconference”: a space where those attending could set aside their formal job titles and roles for once and see themselves as part of a larger community of change-makers and disruptors. There were no formal panels or sessions: instead, participants had ample time for small group discussions on a variety of topics as well as just making connections. Short, provocative lightning talks from participants brought to life viable alternatives to the short-term, donor-driven, project-based system many are trying to break free from. A live social network mapping conducted by Root Change resulted in a multifaceted “map” of highly complex relationships emerging before participants’ eyes, which showed both the strengths (diverse,

distributed) and the weaknesses (overreliance on a few key actors, and weaker links amongst organizations in the Global South) of the current landscape for transformative change.

Participants collectively identified several “pathways” forward that will be further developed to continue advancing people-centred development. While the GFCF will contribute to these pathways, the Symposium made clear that changing a system requires multiple actors and actions: single grants, programmes, or even networks on their own are just drops in the ocean. What is needed now – and what the Symposium sought to contribute to – are new configurations of actors working collectively in pursuit of a reformed and reimagined system.

Lightning talks from (L – R): Fozia Irfan – Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation (UK), Florencia Roitstein – ELLAS, Mujeres y Filantropía (Argentina), Chernor Bah – Purposeful (Sierra Leone)



The live social network mapping conducted by Root Change

Feedback on the Symposium

Feedback on the Symposium was solicited through a survey to participants two months after the meeting in London. The response was overwhelmingly positive. Some representative comments from the survey include:

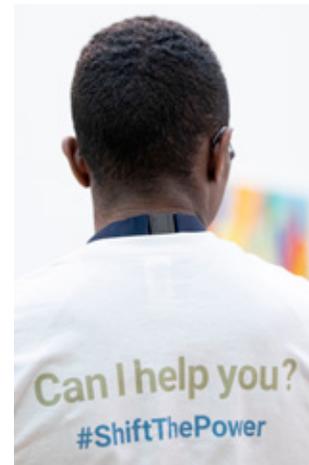
The challenge is how to extend this sharing, support and learning to a wider body of local level practitioners.

I'm in the middle of working on my organization's next three-year strategy and this is being heavily influenced by the conversations we had and issues discussed at the Symposium. Of particular importance has been making central the project of building relationships and trust, conversations around power and racism – taking measures to foster inclusion and diversity among all of our staff and stakeholders – and looking at what we measure and how.

Thank you for such a well-organized and interesting event with some lovely quirky ideas like the tattoos. I wear my bracelet every day to remind me of #ShiftThePower – especially when it can feel like power is being taken away in everyday encounters . . . Events such as these are humbling and remind me that there is still so much to do but that there are dedicated people across the world who are fighting on.

I loved that the Symposium was designed to be informative, inspiring, and helpful for everyone attending. Participants did not promote their organizations, they gave ideas, shared concerns, and spoke about issues of mutual interest. No one was higher or more powerful than anyone else. This made the Symposium truly unique from other forums I have attended.

It was the best conference I have been to in years! But we still need more strategy for change. And we still need to bring in more people from the INGO sector, many are eager for this.





Working with donors

Global Alliance for Community Philanthropy

The Global Alliance for Community Philanthropy was a multi-donor collaborative that ran from 2013–2019. The Alliance engaged in a series of learning activities aimed at advancing the practice of community philanthropy and influencing international development actors to better understand, support and promote community philanthropy’s role in achieving more lasting development outcomes. To mark the end of the collaboration, in 2019 the Alliance published [Donors working together: The story of the Global Alliance for Community Philanthropy and accompanying two-page Summary of achievements](#) – not just to see if the collaboration had achieved its goals, but also to explore what it means to be part of an “alliance” and what lessons this Alliance may have for other donors across the globe seeking to collaborate in new ways to make a difference. The GFCF acted as Secretariat to the Alliance, whose donor partners included:



Representation at conferences and events

The growing interest in community philanthropy and #ShiftThePower among new audiences was reflected in the range and number of events at which the GFCF was either invited to speak at, or to facilitate the participation of others to do so. Some highlights have been selected for this Annual Report.

Valuing lived experience

At the European Foundation Centre’s annual conference in Paris, we co-organized a session with the U.K.’s National Lottery Community Fund on involving those with lived experience in philanthropic decision-making. The session featured the example of FemFund, a GFCF partner in Poland that puts decision-making – around strategy, funding, etc. – into the hands of its constituency (women’s, girls’ and feminist groups) recognizing and appreciating the unique expertise and knowledge that they have to offer.



Cross-sector learning at the LIN Center conference

We attended the LIN Center for Community Development’s annual cross-sector conference in Ho Chi Minh City, which focused on building resilient communities through cross-sector partnerships. We also supported the participation of community philanthropy partners from China and Russia to attend. Commenting on their experience in Vietnam, Zhang Rong of the Harmony Community Foundation noted: “Most of the time, we have buried ourselves in our local mission and missed the opportunity to look at the sky and, through this visit, we saw a bigger global network – the Global Fund for Community Foundations – through which independent dots can connect.”



Expanding and strengthening community philanthropy in Brazil

GFCF Executive Director Jenny Hodgson spoke at this seminar, which was organized by the Brazil Social Justice Philanthropy Network in São Paulo and examined the current state of community philanthropy practice in Brazil. There was agreement that a crucial starting point when considering the community philanthropy space is that it must be perceived as something that is inherent rather than imposed, and as a field that is constantly evolving.

From the margins to the mainstream

Community philanthropy has shifted from the margins to the mainstream. This was the premise of our session at the Community Foundations of Canada conference in Victoria. With insights from Canada, Kenya and Nepal (including our partners from the Kenya Community Development Foundation and Tewa – the Nepal Women’s Fund) we looked at how, by emphasizing local resources and constituencies, engaging the most marginalized as participants rather than problems or beneficiaries, and prioritizing justice over charity, community philanthropy is shifting power around the world.



Our finances

Global Fund for Community Foundations A company limited by guarantee

Statement of financial activities (incorporating the income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2020

	2020 total £	2019 total £
Incoming resources		
Donations and grants	1,008,239	1,203,310
Total incoming resources	1,008,239	1,203,310
Resources expended		
Administration costs	3,987	7,510
Audit fees	4,920	5,609
Bank charges	4,693	5,722
Board expenses	11,960	11,515
Communications and website costs	13,046	29,839
Computer expenses	–	96
Consultancy fees – Grants and learning co-ordinator	106,859	89,174
Consultancy fees – International	129,657	69,762
Depreciation of FF & equipment	550	203
Exchange variations	(67,607)	(45,756)
Grants disbursed: Burning Issues	–	9,752
Grants disbursed: Partner Conferences and Convenings	12,031	10,652
Grants disbursed: Refugees	62,395	–
Grants disbursed: Research	26,915	3,837
Grants disbursed: Institutional Development	266,210	574,756
Grants disbursed: Migration & Inclusion	6,956	72,540
Legal & professional fees	–	–
Meeting costs	109,818	60,838
Membership & subscription fees	12,598	11,035
Office & general expenses	4,227	1,479
Payroll fees	216	–
Staff costs	104,138	99,066
Staff medical insurance	641	3,846
Staff pension costs	5,007	5,007
Technical support costs	318	–
Transfers to GFCF (South Africa) office costs	56,000	57,000
Travel costs – consultants	6,702	5,889
Travel costs – GFCF partners	37,033	16,598
Travel costs – staff	23,761	40,702
Total resources expended	943,031	1,146,671

The Global Fund for Community Foundations

A company limited by guarantee

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2020

	2020 £	£	2019 £	£
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets		1,792		610
Current assets				
Debtors	39,949		64,814	
Cash at bank and in hand	1,443,458		967,648	
	1,483,407		1,032,462	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(1,339,111)		(952,192)	
Net current assets		144,296		80,270
Net assets		146,088		80,880
Funds				
Restricted funds		105,817		51,462
Unrestricted funds		40,271		29,418
Total funds		146,088		80,880

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board on 22 September 2020 and signed on its behalf by



Stephen Pittam
Director



Clotilde Perez-Bode Dedecker
Director

COVID-19 Impact

COVID-19 is having a devastating impact on communities around the world and the GFCF is responding by offering additional grants to community foundations building resilience in their localities. Additional income has been sought and gained from some of our key funders to support this work. This has resulted in the Directors making an assessment that there will be a minimal negative impact on the running of the GFCF over the next financial year (2020/2021) as a result of the pandemic.

Our legal and administrative information

Our board

The GFCF was registered as an independent charity in Northern Ireland and South Africa in 2009 and 2010, respectively. It has two legally constituted boards. The founding board is legally constituted in the U.K. It was the founding organizational member of the South African board and a sub-set of U.K. board members constitute the South African board. Board members (Directors) are nominated for a three-year period, with the possibility of two renewals. Nominations are made and approved by current Directors.

The board is responsible for guiding the GFCF's programmes and operations. Specifically, the Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

We currently have an international board of individuals highly experienced in the fields of community philanthropy and social development. For the period 2019/2020 period Directors included:

- Rita Thapa, Tewa – the Nepal Women's Fund (Founder), Chair (Nepal)
- Stephen Pittam, Treasurer (U.K.)
- Amitabh Behar, Oxfam India (India)
- Robert Ian Bird (Canada)
- Bagyendera Hope Chigudu, Zimbabwe Women's Resource Centre and Network (Zimbabwe)
- Barbara Jane Klugman (South Africa)
- Clotilde Perez-Bode Dedecker, Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo (U.S.)

The board is governed by the GFCF Governance Manual, which was adopted in May 2015 and was developed in compliance with its statutes of registration in Southern Africa and Northern Ireland:

- Articles of Association (amended by special resolution passed on 14 November 2009) of the Global Fund for Community Foundation, Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a share capital, Companies (Northern Ireland) Orders 1986 to 1990.
- Memorandum of Incorporation of a Non Profit Company without members known as Global Fund for Community Foundations (South Africa) (RF) – NPC, Registration Number: 2010/000806/08 (Companies and Intellectual Property Commission, Republic of South Africa, The Companies Act No. 71 of 2008, as amended).

Safeguarding policy

The GFCF strives to foster a working environment free of any kind of intimidation, aggression or violence, and which upholds the highest standards of operations. As such, and in response to various instances of abuse and malpractice from development actors that surfaced over 2017, in 2018 we published a Safeguarding Policy and updated our Whistle-Blower Policy, to reiterate our commitment to these ideals.

As outlined in the policy, we as an organization strive to ensure that our working atmosphere is a safe and welcoming one, and one in which respect between all colleagues is fostered, regardless of gender expression, race, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, state of health, or political leaning. This applies to all staff, board members, temporary personnel, consultants and others who carry out work on behalf of the GFCF. In terms of safeguarding, the GFCF treats seriously any allegations of exploitation or abuse. This may include but is not limited to: sexual exploitation and abuse; child exploitation and abuse; bullying and harassment; and, malpractice in the workplace.

For the period covered by this report, the GFCF complied with all requirements laid out in its Staff Manual and Whistle-Blower Policy. All staff reviewed these documents again in detail in March 2020, as part of an annual practice and commitment to upholding the values laid out therein. No suspected or actual integrity violations were reported in the period covered by this Annual Report.

Our funders

We are grateful for the ongoing financial support of partner foundations and donor organizations. Funders for the period include: Aga Khan Foundation, anonymous donor, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Facebook, Fondation Assistance Internationale, Ford Foundation, Foundation for a Just Society, GlobalGiving, Inter-American Foundation, King Baudouin Foundation, National Lottery Community Fund, Open Society Initiative for Europe, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, and USAID.



Our public benefit statement

The GFCF board confirms that they have complied with their duty under section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 with regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and that the public benefit requirement has informed the activities of the GFCF for the period reflected in this Annual Report.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year the Directors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped to achieve the charity's purposes and have provided a benefit to the beneficiaries. The Directors believe that all the work of the GFCF is for the public benefit, as defined in law.

In evaluating public benefit the board notes that while individuals, who work for partner organizations, may indirectly benefit from participating in capacity building activities (including workshops and events) all activities are designed to help strengthen individual organizations.

This Annual Report and financial statement for the period 1 April 2019 – 31 March 2020 are approved by the board.

References and administrative details

Registered charity name

Global Fund for Community Foundations

Commonly used acronym

GFCF

Northern Ireland charity number

NIC101135

Company registration number

NI073343

Registered office and operational address in the U.K.

Community House, City Link Business Park, Albert Street, Belfast BT12 4HQ, Northern Ireland, UK

Registered office and operational address in South Africa

Fourth floor, 158 Jan Smuts Avenue, Rosebank, Johannesburg 2196, South Africa

Auditors

McGroarty, McCafferty and Company, 2 Carlisle Terrace, Derry BT48 6JX, Northern Ireland, UK

Bank

HSBC, 25–29 Royal Avenue, Belfast BT1 1FB, Northern Ireland, UK

Solicitors

Jennifer E. A. Ebbage, Edwards & Co Solicitors, 28 Hill Street, Belfast BT1 2LA, Northern Ireland, UK



RAWA CREATIVE PALESTINIAN COMMUNITIES FUND



GFCF ASSETS, CAPACITIES, TRUST CONVENING – OAXACA, MEXICO



IKHALA TRUST (SOUTH AFRICA)