



Big, Bold, Brave: Building a Philanthropy Movement

Gathering of Givers 2021



The Genesis

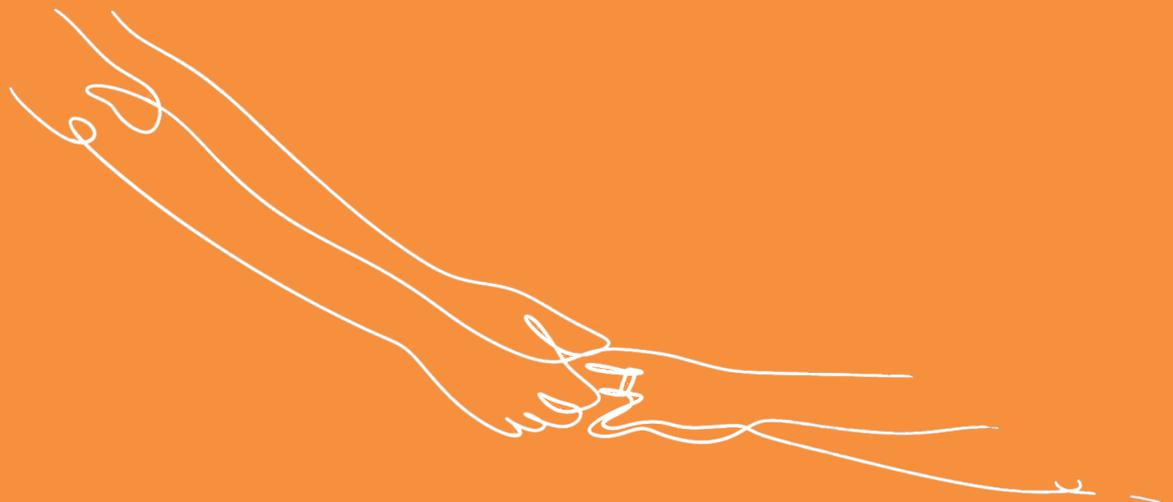
In 2019, CivSource developed its philanthropy program around 5 C's. One of the C's is connecting. Through this, we wanted to connect givers across the country, so that they could know each other and learn from each other, as a way to strengthen local giving in Uganda. The Gathering of Givers was conceived as one of the ways through which to connect givers.

To this end, CivSource Africa has dedicated 30th September to host the Gathering of Givers. Despite the Covid19 restrictions in place at the time, the inaugural event in 2020 connected givers from across the nation to celebrate and learn from one another. This was a hybrid event hosted both on TV and online and watched across Africa.

Givers was "Count. Recount. Account". We wanted each giver to know that they count and that every form of giving (time, treasure, or talent), counts. We also wanted to use the moment to recount the innumerable stories of giving and generosity in our country then take the time to account for all that was given. The event threw a spotlight on stories of givers all to highlight the fact that giving is still significant regardless of the size of the gift.

The Chief Guest in 2020, was HRH Lady Sylvia Nagginda, the Queen of the Buganda Kingdom. In the spirit of shaping the narrative of African Philanthropy, a book on African Proverbs on Generosity was launched by its illustrator Kwiz Era in partnership with CivSource Africa's Kuonyesha Art Fund.

The theme of the first Gathering of



The Present: 2021

On September 30th, 2021, we held the second Gathering of Givers, this time as an East African event. The theme, Big, Bold, Brave: Building a Philanthropy Movement. We told stories and showcased initiatives and practices of local giving which embodied those three elements. In the process, our desire was to inspire 'bigness', boldness, and bravery among givers to appreciate the power within them to change their community, nation, region and eventually, this continent. The objectives of this year's Gathering of Givers were to Educate, Inspire and Mobilise. These objectives meant raising awareness of the different kinds and shades of givers in East Africa, inspiring, rallying and celebrating new and experienced givers to continue the practice of African Philanthropy. The Gathering featured addresses and stories from givers in private businesses, young givers, civil society organisations and foundations. We shared stories of impact on both the giver and the community.

The Gathering of Givers was livestreamed via

the CivSource Africa's YouTube via <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bu6XfnAgtjI> and Facebook channels bringing together an audience of 730 givers in the region to recognize, mobilize and celebrate local giving.

The keynote address was a conversational one delivered by Executive Director UNAIDS Winnie Byanyima and Irwin Fernandez Chief, Global Individual Giving UNICEF.

In our continued efforts to shape narratives and build a body of knowledge on African Philanthropy, we launched a book, Our Generous Spirit: Symbols and Expressions of Generosity in Uganda. The book is a pictorial documentation of the symbols and expressions of generosity from 14 regions in Uganda. As a precursor to the launch of the book, we also hosted an online photo exhibition titled 'Ubuntu DNA



Our Generous Spirit

Symbols and Expressions
of Generosity in Uganda



Our Partners

We could not have orchestrated a regional Gathering of Givers single handedly. To gather givers from East Africa, we partnered with the East African Philanthropy Network in Kenya, African Philanthropy Network and Foundation for Civil Society in Tanzania, Segal Family Foundation and Global Fund for Community Foundations. One other partner for the Gathering was Wellspring Philanthropic Fund (WPF).

The unwavering collaboration prior, during and after the event was unprecedented. We worked virtually over countless Zoom meetings where we brainstormed and planned to the finest detail, the Gathering of Givers East African Edition. Our partners are briefly profiled below:

1. East African Philanthropy Network

EAPN is a Kenya-based network that brings together Trusts and Foundations in East Africa to promote and grow a culture of giving. The Network's mission is to nurture a local giving and resource mobilization culture through effective grant-making, advocacy, and networking. "Thank you for putting your love into action and that action is service." Asante Sana!

2. African Philanthropy Network

APN was established in 2009 and is a continent-wide network of organizations and individuals in Africa and its diaspora who promote the culture of philanthropic giving. APN brings an ecosystem of philanthropy support institutions and civil society member organizations serving different forms of philanthropy currently in 48 African countries. It was conceived as a space for African institutions to interrogate and intervene in the power dynamics that shape how resource

mobilization, distribution, and spending impact the possibilities of transformative change in Africa.

"Your giving makes a difference."

3. Foundation for Civil Society (FCS)

FCS is an independent Tanzanian non-profit organization that provides grants and capacity building services to civil society organizations to enhance their effectiveness in enabling engagement of citizens in development processes.

"You did good and good will come to you."

4. Segal Family Foundation

The foundation focus is on building an equitable community of visionary organizations—both doers and donors—across Sub-Saharan Africa so that together we can improve the lives of millions.

"Your selfless giving is a testament to the art of living."

5. Global Fund for Community Foundations

GFCF is the only organization working globally to build community philanthropy as an essential strategy for people-led development and shifting power through a programme of grantmaking, peer exchange and evidence-based learning.

"As you have worked to create light for others, you have naturally lit your own way."

To all our partners, we are grateful! Your support for the Gathering of Givers 2021 touched our hearts and was a cornerstone in building a philanthropy movement. May the universe serve you with an overflow of opportunities that will enable you to continue serving within your communities.

The Service Team



The service providers were efficient and meticulous in the organization of the Gathering of Givers. We are grateful to have had them on board.

Name	Service Provided
TelliT Events	Events Planner
Stuart Nsingwire	Graphics Designer
Dr. Mich Egwang	Event Emcee
Nze Eve Photography	Photography for Uganda's host party.
MovingAds Limited	Videography
Susan Mujjawa	Sign Language Interpreter
Streamside Plants	Plant décor
Nineteen 21	Floral Centre Pieces
Apt Media	Livestream Services

The givers we gathered.

The Gathering of Givers was a hybrid event with an online audience and in-person host parties in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania. Our guest list was an embodiment of diversity in African Philanthropy. Every invited guest stood for something. We hosted royal representatives, young poets, givers in the private sector, grant making bodies, individual givers, leaders in civil society, partners, candidates for East African Philanthropy Awards, journalists passionate about the subject of philanthropy to name but a few.

It was an honour hosting all these givers in their different shades. Each of their voices and forms of participation spoke to the boldness and bravery we sought to ignite in every giver that gathered with us.



Speaking to the theme

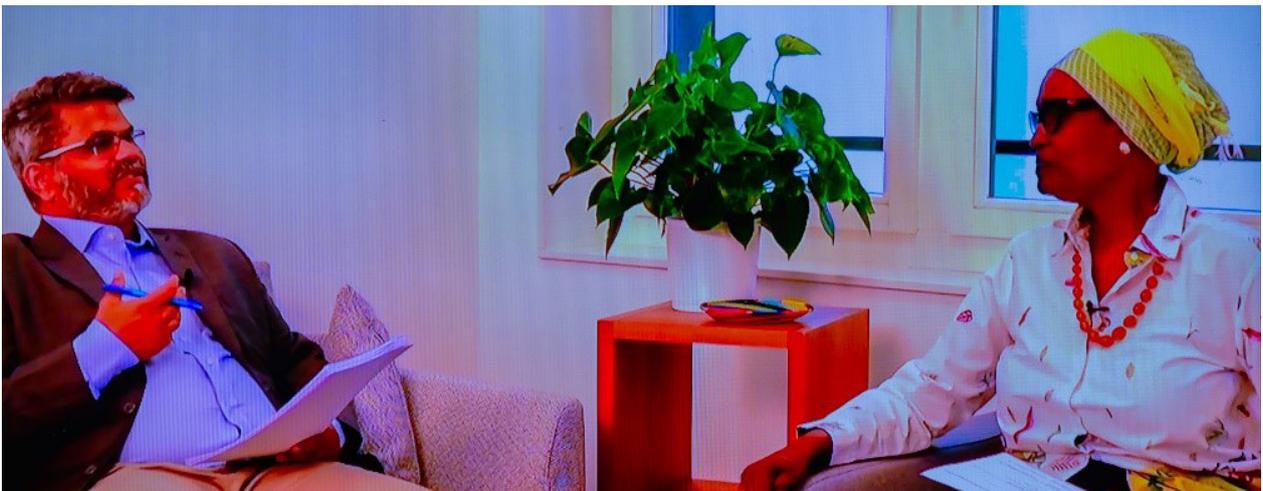
The opening remarks, keynote address, closing call to action and the conversations in between all spoke to the theme; Big, Bold, and Brave: Building a Philanthropy Movement. We highlight the messages that resounded in each of these speeches.



“As an African giver, I attend this celebration with bigness, boldness, and braveness because I am surrounded by my peers, all Africans... Movement building requires time and patience. We will contribute by engaging our voices and efforts to be part of this ongoing effort towards

a stronger philanthropy movement in Africa,” she said.

The keynote speech was on the other hand a conversational address between Winnie Byanyima, Executive Director UNAIDS, and Irwin Fernandes the Global Chief of Individual Giving UNICEF.



Irwin, in speaking to localized giving, said **“We need to build institutions rooted in local realities and aspirations.”**

“There is a space that needs to be built to analyse and conceptualise strategies for potential entrepreneurs to give back to the community. The potential giving pool is 7 billion dollars. It is exciting to know that that is money available and that we could raise it to do good. There are stories from communities about how people have always pooled their money, assets and time and contributed to causes. Gathering

that is part of building the constituency of philanthropy” – Winnie Byanyima

The Chief Executive Officer, East Africa Philanthropy Network made notable remarks during his address at the Gathering of Givers.

He said, **“We need to embrace collaboration and co-ownership, tell our stories and entities involved in philanthropy to change the narrative. The change starts with us, we have to champion philanthropy in a manner that meets our local needs.”** – Mr. Evans Okinyi, Kenya, Chief Executive officer EAPN.



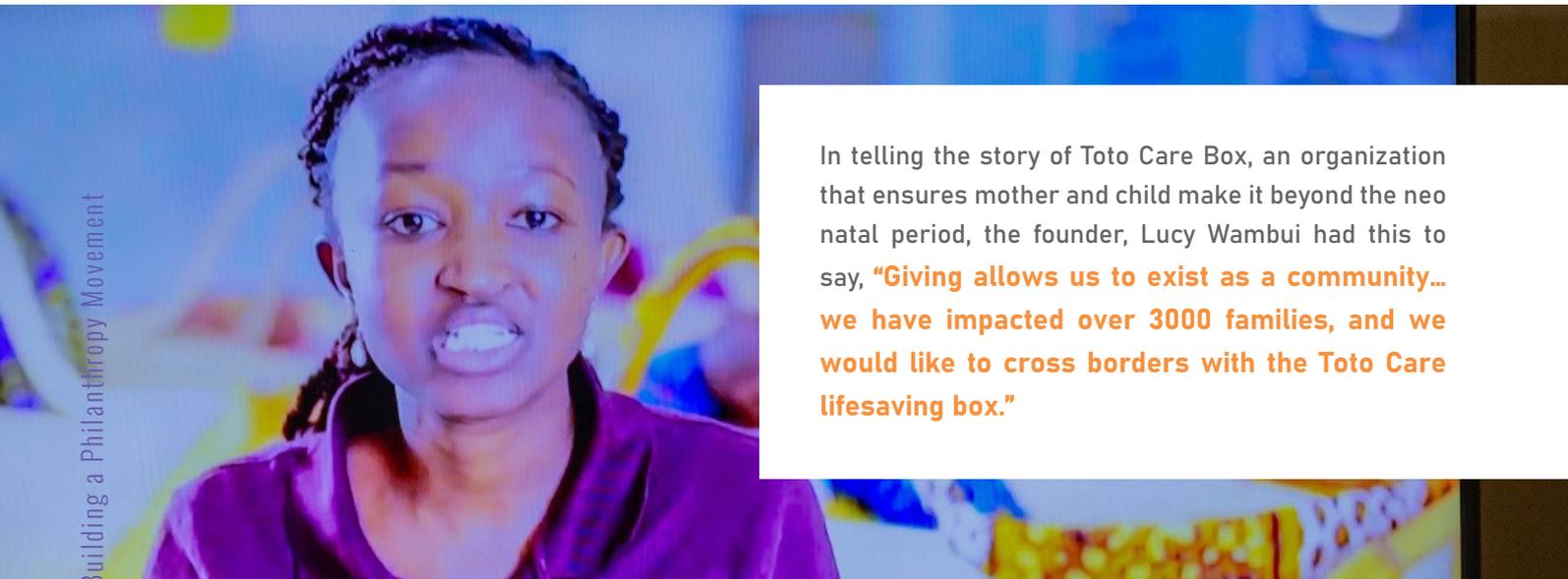
Evans O. Okinyi presents insights on giving from EAPN in Kenya

Jacqueline Asimwe, the Chief Executive Officer, CivSource Africa, in her closing remarks spoke to what was needed to build a philanthropy movement. She said, **“We need to build an ecosystem that feeds the philanthropy movement into what it can be...Building a philanthropy movement requires an enabling policy and legal environment that helps propel philanthropy in our networks and communities. Building a philanthropy movement requires that we challenge the unequal systems that create an ‘us-them’ dynamic. We need to shift the power and the narrative to recognize and honor African giving.”**

East Africa's Giving Stories

The Gathering of Givers shone a light on the work that East African Philanthropists are doing and how they are impacting their communities. Below, we highlight the messages that resounded in each story.

KenGen Foundation is a corporate citizen of Kenya intent on scaling its corporate social investments countrywide. While sharing their giving story, they said, **“Giving adds value to livelihoods of communities. As a foundation, we aim at establishing long-term relationships and implementing sustainable projects.”**



In telling the story of Toto Care Box, an organization that ensures mother and child make it beyond the neo natal period, the founder, Lucy Wambui had this to say, **“Giving allows us to exist as a community... we have impacted over 3000 families, and we would like to cross borders with the Toto Care lifesaving box.”**

“I was giving because there are people who gave to me. When I was given, it changed my life and because of that, I gave to others. There is no small giving because giving is from your heart and not from what you have.” – Dr. Helen Kijo Bisimba, Tanzania.

“Not everyone can give to hospices, but a little support goes a long way. Giving gives new hope,” said Dr. Doreen Agasha, the Executive Director, Hospice Africa Uganda.



“We need to accelerate local development through philanthropy. Giving is not something we do on special occasions.” – Daniel Haule (a.k.a Daniel, the volunteer) Tanzania.

In a conversation about the photography project that was undertaken by Jim Joel and Miriam Watsemba to capture symbols and expressions of generosity in Uganda they each had some thoughts to share about Ugandan and African philanthropy. They spoke to the simplicity of what giving looks like and what it means to humanity.

Jim Joel said, **“Arts and crafts are a form of giving especially in the West Nile. The coffee bean still to this day stands out for me as a symbol of giving.”**

Miriam on the other hand said, “Giving is a percentile of humanity.”

Two poets, Bright Ntakky and Alan Ntare graced the Gathering of Givers. Bright Ntakky is a young giver behind ‘Lovidex’, a drive that started as a one-man ride to deliver hope, resources, and medication to those in need during and after the first lockdown in Uganda. Alan Ntare shared his gift of poetry with the guests and was the youngest guest in the room. Both poems spoke to the day’s theme; Big, Bold, and Brave. Building a Philanthropy Movement.

September to Remember!

Poem by Alan Ntare

That's part two of celebrating a movement of open hearts
This time with three countries, we broke the charts Give, and it will come back to you
Pressed down, shaken together and running over
These are the words of Jehovah Written and unchanged
But remember

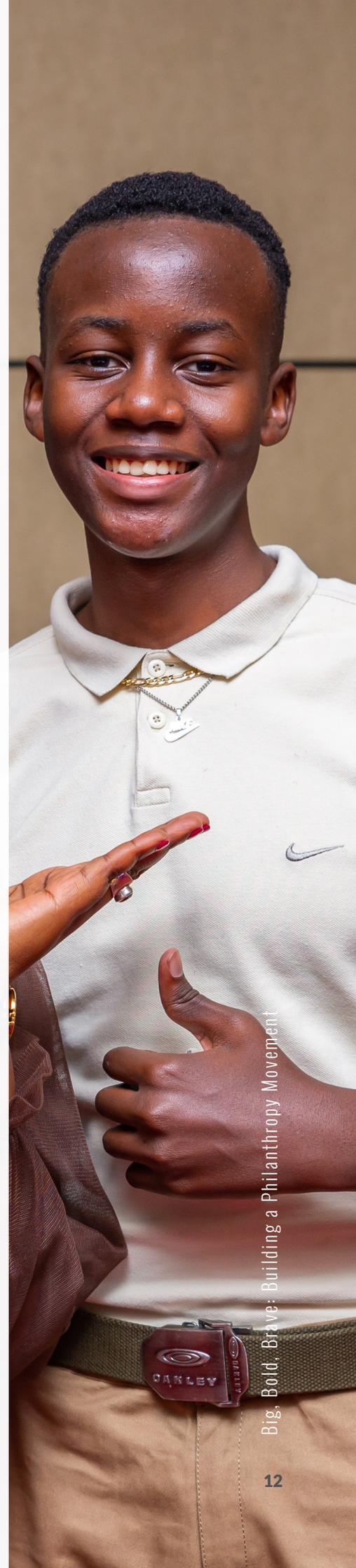
Giving does not call for recognition like broadcasting charity on television
That's not the vision So make the decision
Are you giving to those who need or to your ego
No
Refresh your thinking and make it new Yours selling charity like pay per view
Public view shouldn't be your only mention Because you can put on a show
And call a public conversation Yet be a corrupt leader steal the elderly's pension
My people suffer because of lack of knowledge You cannot take away from the earth that feeds you
There's a list of people in need and it exceeds just you

I didn't write this poem to make you feel uncomfortable about where we're at
Because sometimes comfort kills progress It's a hard pill to swallow and even harder to digest
I know I can't solve everything but I will do my best
I know we can all do more Let's all set a goal then aim to score
Now I'm not saying that you alone can solve each and every world issue
But the world's on fire so please don't add fuel Just don't litter your straws and consider energy that we can renew
Keep what you need and donate the excess Because excess can help more than I can even express
Teach lessons that kids will actually use at a later age Not only how to use a micrometer screw gauge
Teach them that they don't have to go for this or that Teach them that they get to
Tell them that their life is Teach them that some days are better than others But that doesn't make the bad days irrelevant
Normalize mental health and wellbeing
Because having a mental problem doesn't make you less of a human being
.....

Remember to give Not only in a traditional sense
Because we've become so accustomed to the customs
It's like the old ways of teaching with a blackboard and chalk
That's the reason why an Ariana Grande song inspires more than a ted talk
So also give the unexpected. Give a hug, give comfort
Give advice, give knowledge give a smile, give hope
Because the things we overlook are sometimes the things most needed
And if we can give like this, we've succeeded

The take, take, take mindset that's praised and adored Ignored all the love we
Have stored inside But it doesn't matter as much, hearing this on TV it matters
More if it resonates with you And it matters most if you do something

But most of all Do not be afraid to give your light
Fight to shine despite the spite From the unlit candles Let your wick burn as
they Watch in awe And believe me...They'll try to become what they just saw.





A poem by Bright A. Ntakky

Pandemics like this, beset the world
Horrific as a marauding wind
Clouds above dark and thick
With hopes at all dim and bleak
We all get to the edge
And need a hand to hold our ledge
Morning to dusk sowing seed
A dream and hope, for all in need

Planting our feet, big and bold
Lifting our chin, set as flint
In patriotic pride winning the fight
Our benevolent sparkle lit and bright
Jina njema hungara gizani
Kutoa ni moyo usambe ni utajiri
Haba na haba
Hujaza kibaba

Giving is a gift indeed
And there are many for us to feed
To care to share to dare
Talking of which we won't tire
The window of our soul open with light
For to aid the inadequate we rise in
might
Standing tall for our neighbours all
Without expecting any reward at all

Many are we with hearts of gold
Whose stories are yet to be told
Forever our legacy will hold
While our hands do not fold
And many more we shall inspire
As we with open hearts aspire
On this September
To Remember!

Beyond the Gathering of Givers 2021



Yes, East Africa gives enormously, boldly, and bravely. The stories showcased at the Gathering of Givers East African Edition prove this, yet there is more that needs to be done beyond the giving. There is need for a philanthropy movement.

The call to action on 30th September 2021, was for East Africa to unite, and together, build a philanthropy movement. In the closing remarks, the CEO CivSource Africa, said, **“Building a movement means galvanizing people and power to propel success and deepen impact.”**

What we have done so far may impact on individuals and various sectors, yet something greater is needed to change global systems, propel the success of African Philanthropy, and deepen the impact of what the present-day philanthropy is doing.

Each of the nations in attendance had work to do on their individual philanthropy landscapes as well as a collective responsibility to build a philanthropy movement in the region. The work would range from advocating for a legal and policy landscape that advances philanthropy to connecting givers for a collective voice on issues of philanthropy at national level.

1) Embracing a Giver's Identity

For CivSource Africa, several tools will be used in the building of a movement. First, there is need for the members of the movement to identify as philanthropists and walk boldly in that identity to change systems and deepen the impact of philanthropy. The recent virtual photo exhibition dubbed Ubuntu DNA showcased expressions and symbols of generosity. It

sought to spark that realization that would enable every Ugandan that encountered these symbols and expressions to embrace the inherent Ubuntu DNA that flows through them and know for a fact that giving was an age-old lifestyle that still lives on. While the first phase of the exhibition ended on 10th October 2021, a travelling exhibition is set to follow in 2022. This will entail travelling to the regions from which the photos were taken engaging and the communities in conversations on giving as well as sensitizing them about the Philanthropy Forum Uganda and inviting them to join the movement of givers.

2) Reviving & empowering national movements

This second intervention seeks to rally philanthropists in Uganda and create a space to express shared experiences. The Philanthropy Forum Uganda will enable givers in Uganda to sculpt the philanthropy sector they want to see. Givers are as varied as the causes they give towards, and the Forum is cognizant of this. Therefore, the membership of the Forum is as inclusive as can be with no limitations to what kind of giver can join. The Philanthropy Forum will give Uganda's philanthropists unity of purpose something essential in the process of challenging systems and speaking truth to power. The Forum will also enable Ugandan givers decide their giving agenda; an agenda that is reflective of Uganda's context, responsive to Uganda's needs and effective enough to challenge systems that affect not only Uganda's philanthropy landscape but the entire continent as well. Building the Philanthropy Forum in Uganda will be Uganda's contribution to the Africa's Philanthropy movement.

3) Building knowledge

It has often been said that knowledge is power. Knowledge and data about philanthropy would inform the blueprint of the philanthropy movement; without which we would be treading blindly.

While some data has been collected, more needs to be done. This is essential in building knowledge about what the philanthropy landscape looks like now and how its potential can be harnessed to build a philanthropy movement.

In 2022, we will disseminate the study on the self-representation of community foundations in Uganda as community leaders and a study that is mapping philanthropy by the private sector. It is also envisaged that the Givers' Garage a philanthropy support and tracking tool in Uganda will be developed over the year for centralized data on giving and for it to provide a knowledge base to individual givers, foundations and donors seeking advice on how to advance local philanthropy. At the East African Level, the East Africa Philanthropy Network (EAPN) will share data collected from the East Africa Giving Report and campaign for more organizations to input data in the Data Portal. Each of these interventions are the bricks, steel and stone that will altogether build the philanthropy movement we pledged on 30 September 2021.

A glimpse into the future

From where we sit, we hear 2022 calling. In response to this call, preparations for the 3rd Celebrations are underway. It is a September we want innumerable givers to remember. Since 2020 we have taken cumulative steps to reach givers beyond the geographical walls of Uganda in a bid to celebrate African Philanthropy. African Philanthropy is a phenomenon woven in the generational Ubuntu DNA flowing through every African on the continent. It is a subject so continent specific that one would have to stop and ask; would it be African Philanthropy if we took Africa out of the picture?

We have basked in the warmth of Uganda's philanthropy, celebrated the big, bold and brave generosity of East Africans, and now, we dare to take it a notch higher. In 2022, we are taking a continental leap of faith in all the bigness, boldness, and bravery we have mastered to hold the first ever Gathering of Givers Africa Edition.



30TH
SEPT

SEPTEMBER 2 REMEMBER

GATHERING OF GIVERS

THEME

BIG, BOLD, BRAVE
BUILDING A PHILANTHROPY
FORUM

#KutoaNiMoyo #GatheringOfGivers21 #OmutimaOmugabi





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