The System We Want

A curation of posters exhibited at the #ShiftThePower Global Summit

#Shift The Power
A Global Summit
5–7 December 2023, Bogotá

Introduction

In December 2023, 730 people from 77 countries met in Bogotá for the #ShiftThePower Global Summit. Participants represented the range of the civil society and funding eco-system, with the largest group coming from grassroots institutions, networks and movements. Much of their work often lies beyond the gaze and reach of big donors. During a Poster Session participants had the chance to share exciting examples of practice and research that are contributing to larger efforts to shift power, both at the community level and within the philanthropy and international development sectors more broadly. This e-book is a collection of those posters. It paints a picture of the system we want, based on new ways of deciding and doing, as exhibited at the Summit.

Table of Contents

Introduction 2

Adapt Peacebuilding, Global 5

Africa's Voices, Kenya 6

Assifero, Italy 7

Associação Nossa Cidade, Brazil 8

Bucharest Community Foundation, Romania 9

Carduma Social, Brazil 10

CDA Collaborative Learning Projects, United States 11

Center for Disaster Preparedness, Philippines 12

CISU - Civil Society in Development, Denmark 13

Comic Relief, United Kingdom 14

Community Power Learning Initiative, United States 15

Corporación Tamsa el Regalo es la Vida, Colombia 16

Dignitas, Kenya 17

Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy, United States 18

Firelight Foundation, Global 19

Fondo Acción Solidaria, A.C. – FASOL, Mexico 20

Fondo Sociambiental Ñeque, Ecuador 21

Foundation for Civil Society, Tanzania 22

Giving Tuesday, Latin America and Caribbean Hub 23

Harmony Platform, China 24

Humanising Development Collective, United States 25

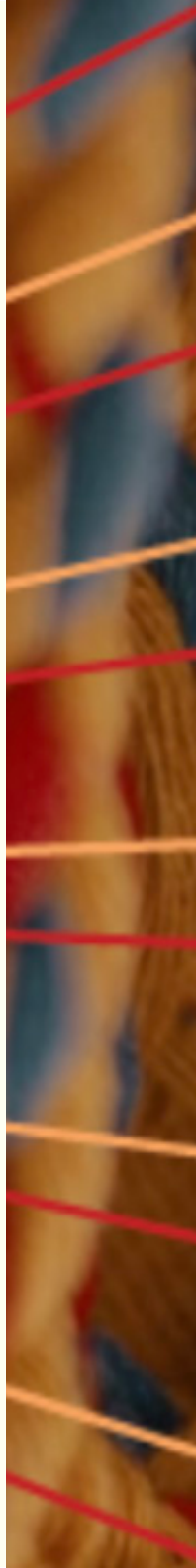
Idea Paz, Colombia 26

Indonesia for Humanity, Indonesia 27

Instituto Comunitário Grande Florianópolis, Brazil 28

Michigan Public Health Institute, United States 29

National Alliance of Humanitarian Actors Bangladesh, Bangladesh 30



Peace Direct, United Kingdom 31

Philanthropy Together, United States 32

Rebecca Hanshaw and Barry Knight, United Kingdom 33

Reimagining the INGO RINGO, Global 34

Resonance Network, United States 35

Resources Oriented Development Initiatives (RODI), Kenya 36

Root Change, United States 37

Seres, Guatemala 38

Sistema de Iniciativas de Paz, Colombia 39

Social Change Alumna, Serbia 40

STAR-Ghana Foundation, Ghana 41

Street Child, Global 42

Talk to Loop, Global 43

The Dev Hub, United Kingdom 44

Themrise Khan, Pakistan 45

Thubutu Africa Initiatives, Tanzania 46

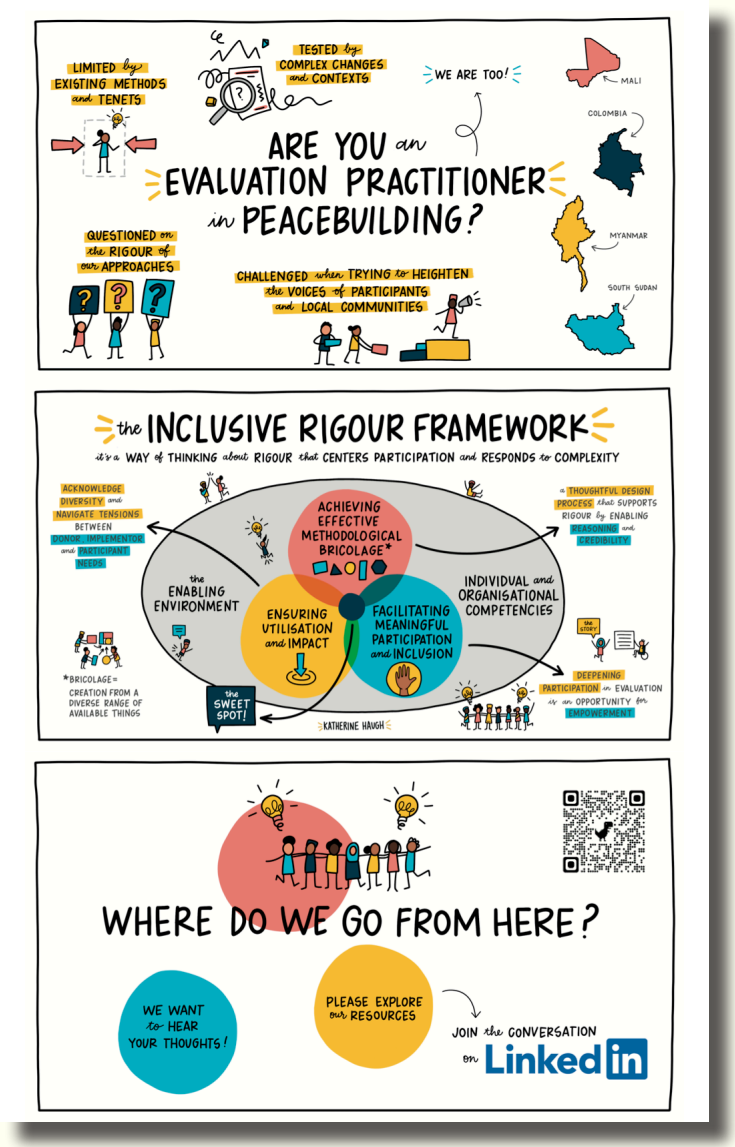
Transforming INGOs Models for Equity, Global 47

UHAI EASHRI, East Africa 48

Urgent Action Fund, Latin America and the Caribbean 49

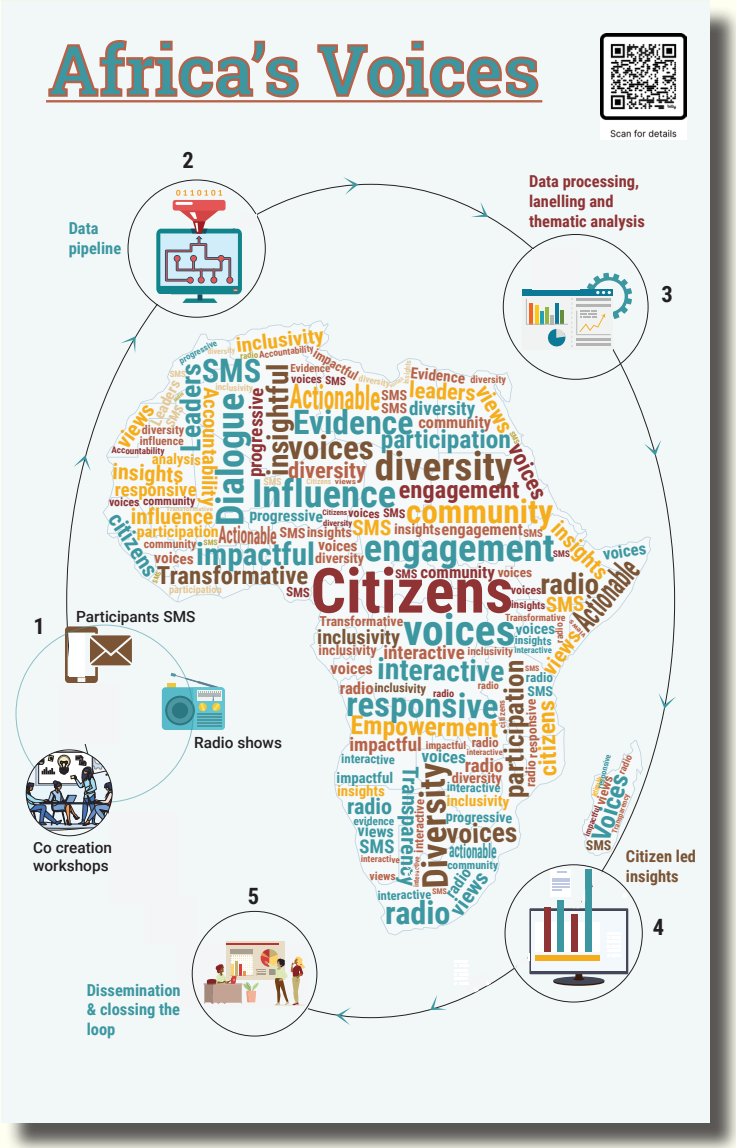
Virtual Community of Practice to Shift Power, Global 50

World Pulse's Research and Evaluation Group, Global 51



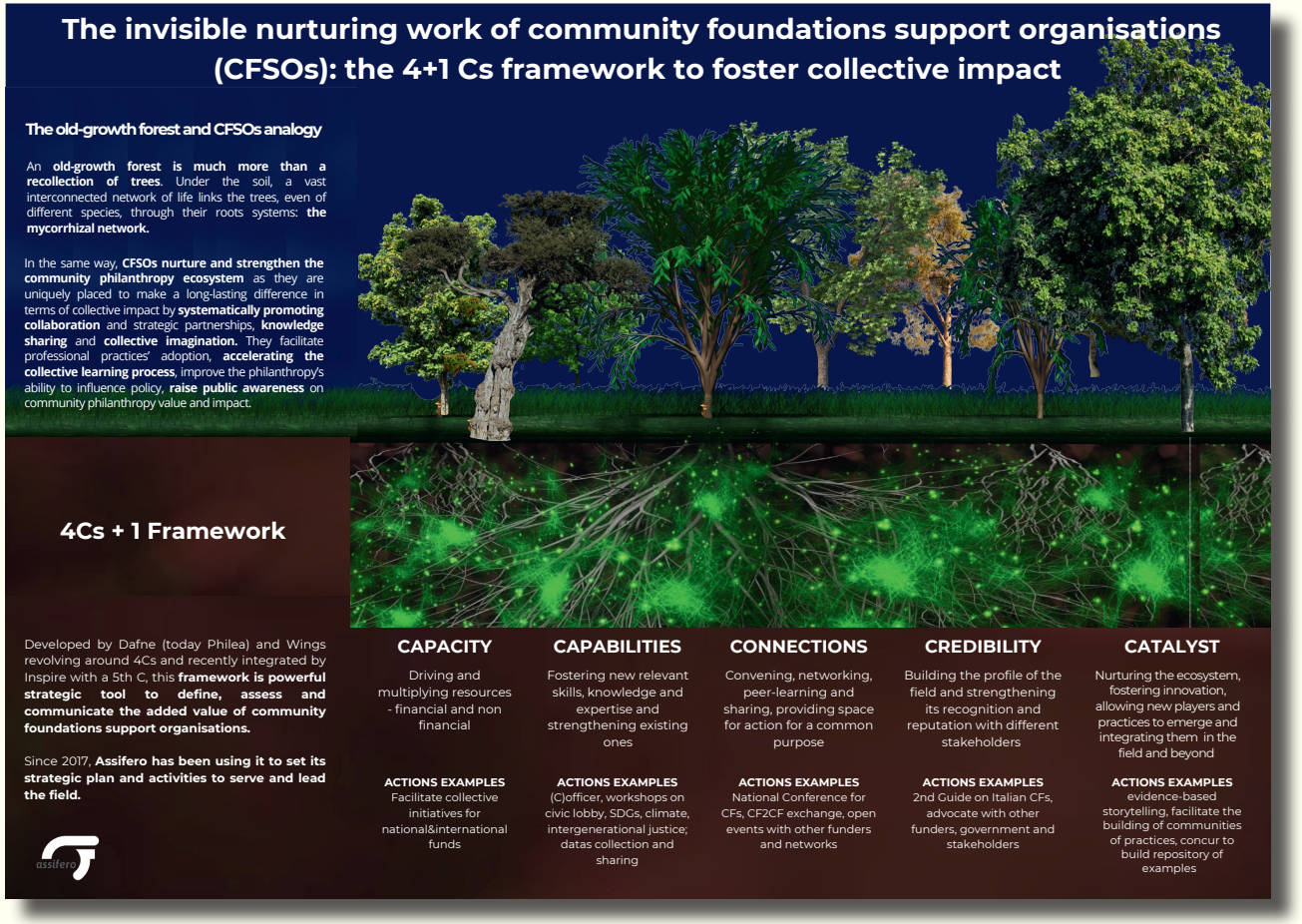
Adapt Peacebuilding (Global)

Putting the voices of local communities at the centre of peacebuilding through participatory evaluation.



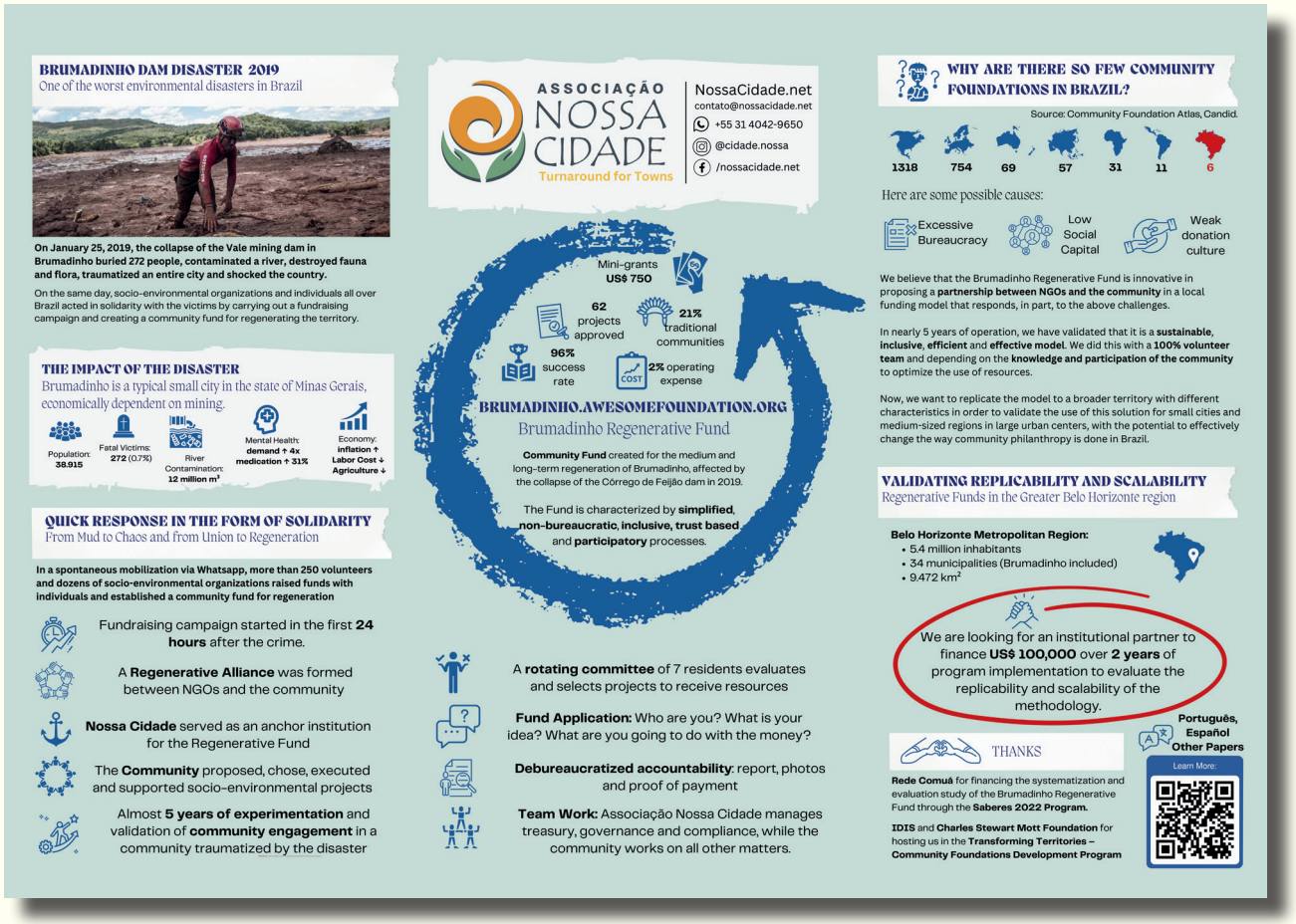
Africa's Voices (Kenya)

Utilizing interactive radio methods to catalyze citizen engagement across the African continent.



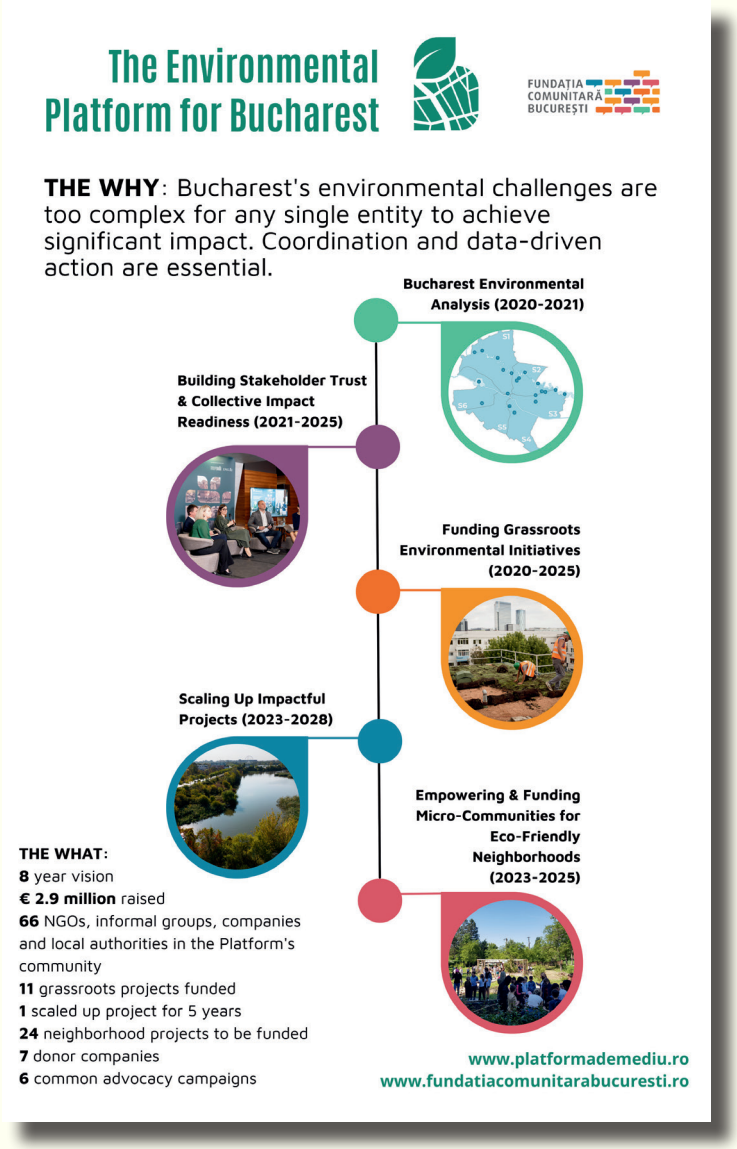
Assifero (Italy)

Using the 4Cs + 1 Framework to strengthen the community philanthropy ecosystem in Italy.



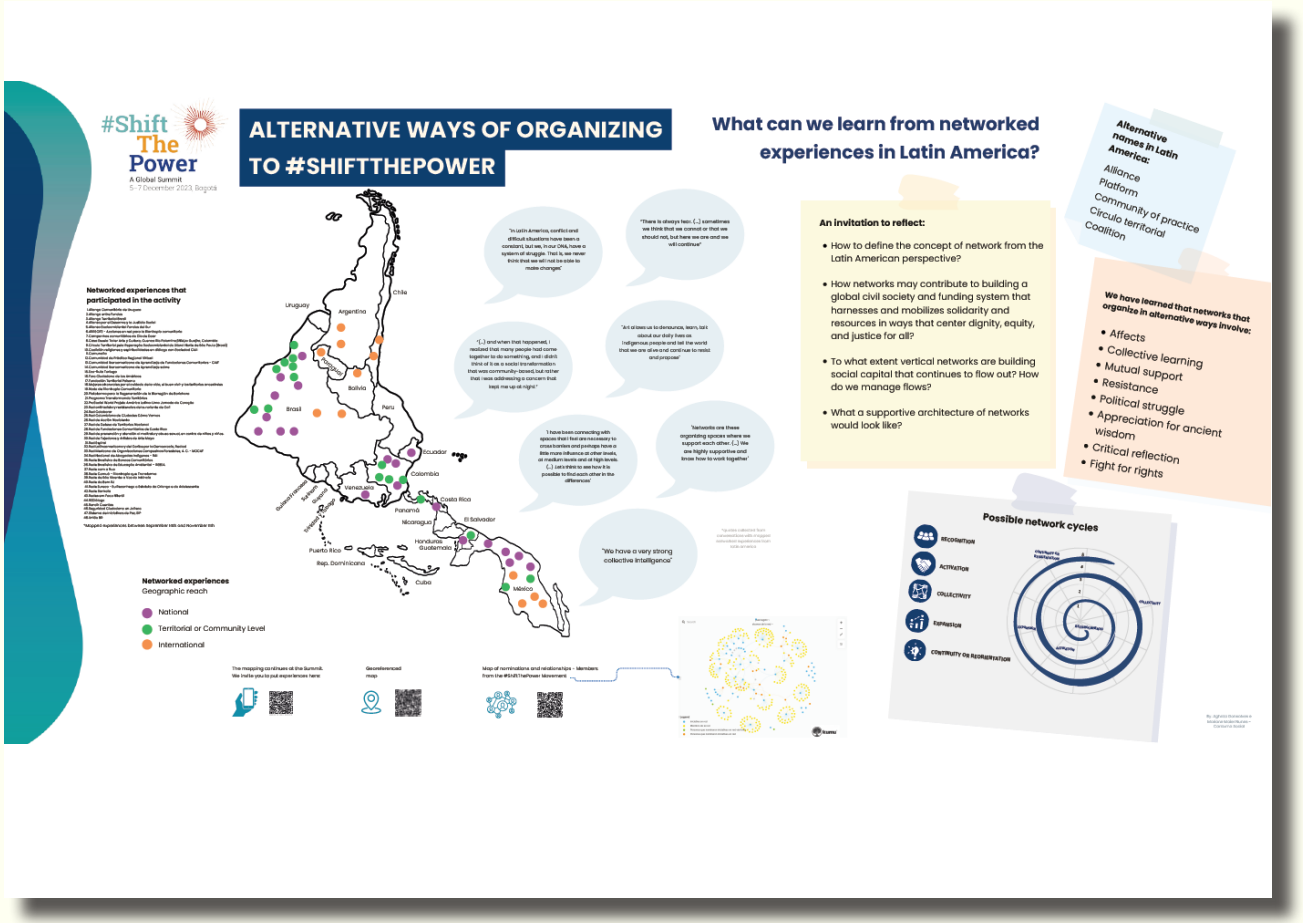
Associação Nossa Cidade (Brazil)

An approach to nurturing community-led initiatives and grassroots movements, including a methodology for establishing community funds within small territories.



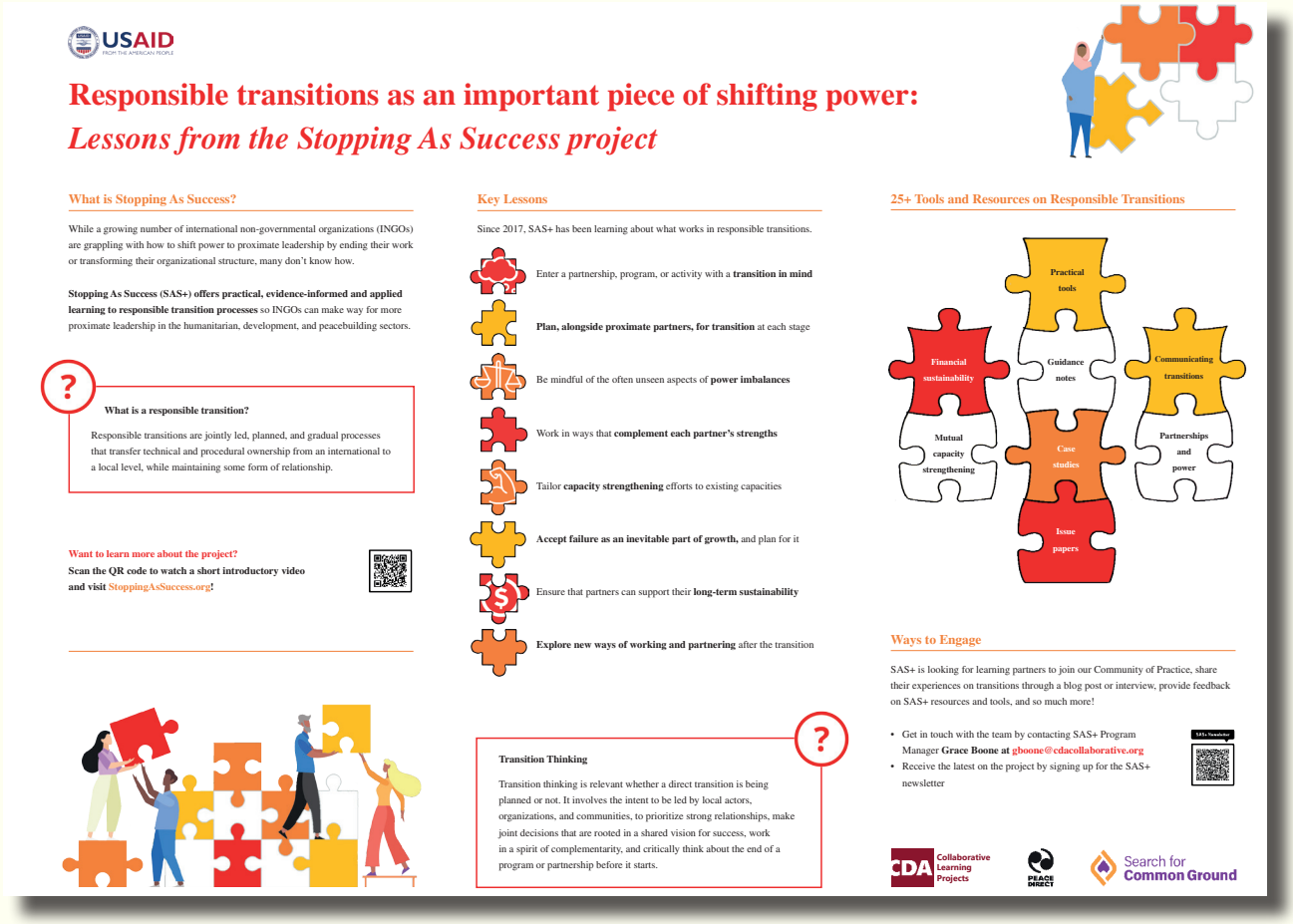
Bucharest Community Foundation (Romania)

Breaking silos and building collective action to address Bucharest's environmental challenges.



Carduma Social (Brazil)

Learning from Latin America's unique organizing traditions.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Responsible transitions as an important piece of shifting power:
Lessons from the Stopping As Success project

What is Stopping As Success?

While a growing number of international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) are grappling with how to shift power to proximate leadership by ending their work or transforming their organizational structure, many don't know how.

Stopping As Success (SAS+) offers practical, evidence-informed and applied learning to responsible transition processes so INGOs can make way for more proximate leadership in the humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding sectors.

What is a responsible transition?

Responsible transitions are jointly led, planned, and gradual processes that transfer technical and procedural ownership from an international to a local level, while maintaining some form of relationship.

Want to learn more about the project?
Scan the QR code to watch a short introductory video and visit StoppingAsSuccess.org!

Key Lessons

Since 2017, SAS+ has been learning about what works in responsible transitions.

- Enter a partnership, program, or activity with a **transition in mind**
- **Plan, alongside proximate partners, for transition** at each stage
- Be mindful of the often unseen aspects of **power imbalances**
- Work in ways that **complement each partner's strengths**
- Tailor **capacity strengthening** efforts to existing capacities
- **Accept failure as an inevitable part of growth,** and plan for it
- Ensure that partners can support their **long-term sustainability**
- **Explore new ways of working and partnering** after the transition

Transition Thinking

Transition thinking is relevant whether a direct transition is being planned or not. It involves the intent to be led by local actors, organizations, and communities, to prioritize strong relationships, make joint decisions that are rooted in a shared vision for success, work in a spirit of complementarity, and critically think about the end of a program or partnership before it starts.

25+ Tools and Resources on Responsible Transitions

Practical tools
Financial sustainability
Guidance notes
Communicating transitions
Mutual capacity strengthening
Case studies
Partnerships and power
Issue papers

Ways to Engage

SAS+ is looking for learning partners to join our Community of Practice, share their experiences on transitions through a blog post or interview, provide feedback on SAS+ resources and tools, and so much more!

- Get in touch with the team by contacting SAS+ Program Manager **Grace Boone at gboone@cdacollaborative.org**
- Receive the latest on the project by signing up for the SAS+ newsletter

CDA Collaborative Learning Projects
PEACE DIRECT
Search for Common Ground

CDA Collaborative Learning Projects (United States)

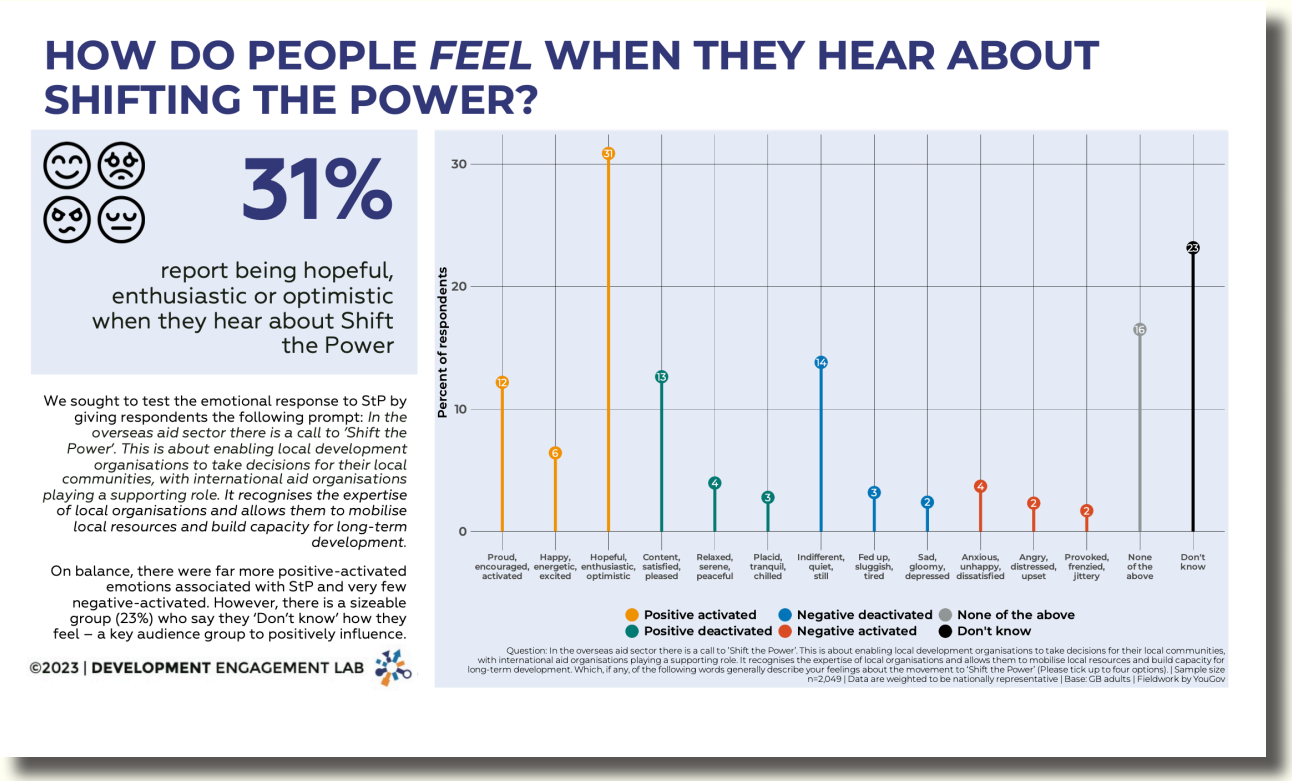
Building local influence and control through responsible transitions – lessons from the Stopping As Success (SAS+) project.

Center for Disaster Preparedness (Philippines)

Bayanihan (collective effort and shared responsibility) through the lens of community philanthropy in the Philippines.

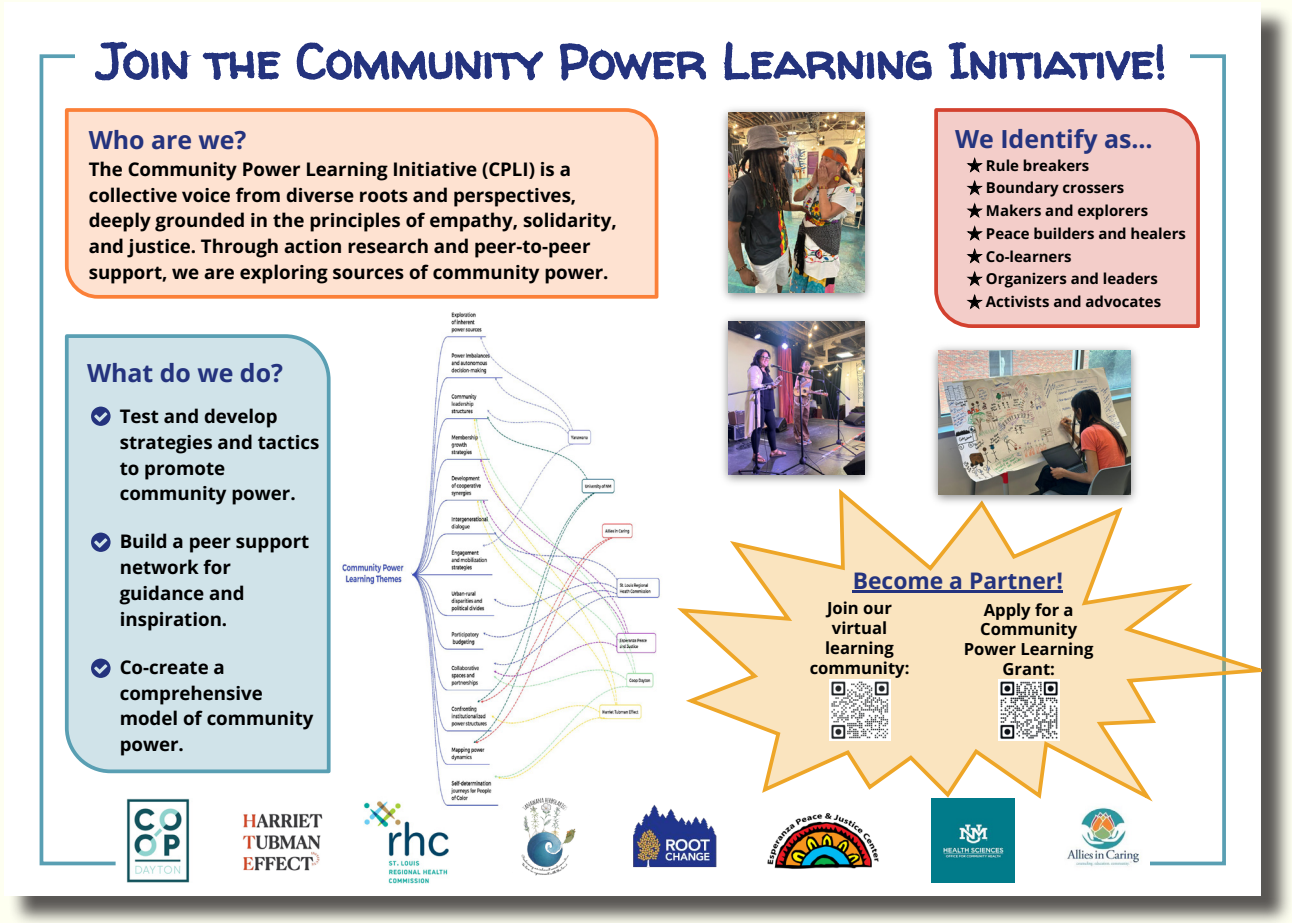
CISU – Civil Society in Development (Denmark)

The role of relationships in forging impactful partnerships in development financing.



Comic Relief (United Kingdom)

Testing the emotional response to #ShiftThePower.



Community Power Learning Initiative (United States)

A two-year journey of shared learning amongst US-based grassroots groups and international community power collectives.

Corporación Tamsa el Regalo es la Vida (Colombia)

Working for the defense of territory and the conservation of the environment in Colombia.

Dignitas (Kenya)

The power of co-creation, contextualisation and embracing tech-enabled solutions

Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy (United States)

How collective giving effectively shifts power and promotes greater philanthropic engagement, civic participation, and personal wellness.

HOW CAN WE PROMOTE REAL, TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE?

BY USING A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN SYSTEMS CHANGE (CDSC) APPROACH TO PUT COMMUNITIES IN CONTROL.

WHAT IS COMMUNITY DRIVEN SYSTEMS CHANGE?

An approach to development and social transformation, it starts by listening to communities and emphasizing the insight, leadership and ownership of the people who live there. It supports their work to create lasting change in the systems and root causes that underlie the critical issues they seek to address.

HOW WE KNOW IT WORKS

Firelight has worked with community-based organisations (CBOs) across Lesotho, Kenya, South Africa, Malawi, Namibia, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

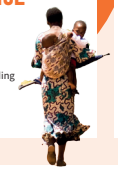
We spent three years collecting data and analysis followed by iterative processes of validation, deepening learnings, and co-analysis with community partners.

We learned that impactful and lasting change at the community level happens when:

- Community members determine, own, and drive the change process.
- Actions focus on addressing the underlying systems and root causes of concern – rather than only reacting to symptoms.
- There is trust at the heart of the relationship between funders and CBOs.
- Definitions of success and impact are reframed from the perspective of those living the issues.

HOW CBOs FOSTER SYSTEMS CHANGE

- Deep community-based analysis
- Thoughtful and thorough engagement
- Continued development that strengthens community capacity
- Establishing and nurturing relationships of trust and understanding
- Increasing community agency
- Being resilient, proactive and responsive organizations for their community.



WHAT CDSC INVOLVES	WHAT IT DOESN'T INVOLVE
Working with community and government stakeholders to surface key issues, share local knowledge, map systems and stakeholders, understand root causes and develop a shared action plan, with CBO as one of many actors. Working together to implement, evaluate/reflect on, and adapt, shared action plans.	Developing proposals without the input of community and government stakeholders, and delivering the proposed program to the target community.
Developing actions or interventions, with community stakeholders, in response to the issues and root causes identified in the community – drawing on available experiences, indigenous knowledge and practices, and internal and external tools and resources.	Starting with the premise of replicating or scaling or rolling out a pre-model, tool or program.
Sensitivity to expected and unexpected outcomes, and looking for intermediate indicators of progress. Using data and evidence to learn and improve action.	Using linear log-frames or logic models. Evaluation according to predetermined outcomes.
Thinking about the whole system, the context, different stakeholders, relationships, and dynamics. Different stakeholders recognizing and acting on different entry points. Investing time and resources into building community cohesion, shared analysis and learning, and collaborative action.	Implementing an isolated intervention.
Actions that aim to create lasting changes in systems – such as advocacy, normative change, strengthening existing community or government structures.	Only service provision.
Recognizing that: • It takes time and investment to create true shifts in systems that will last, that this change may not be immediately visible. • Beneficiary numbers in a given year are not an indicator of systemic change.	Trying to reach a large number of direct beneficiaries during a short funding/ project cycle without creating meaningful long-term change.

7 WAYS FUNDERS CAN SUPPORT CBOs

1	Meaningful funding over longer period of time
2	Simpler and more supportive grantmaking systems
3	Trust in CBOs and their communities to identify, prioritise and address the most pressing issues and root causes and identity measures of success
4	Flexibility that recognises complex and non linear nature of system change work
5	Mutual transparency and accountability for openness and understanding and more quality within funder-CBO relationships
6	Mutual capacity strengthening
7	Promoting voice of CBO leaders in national, regional and global development discourses

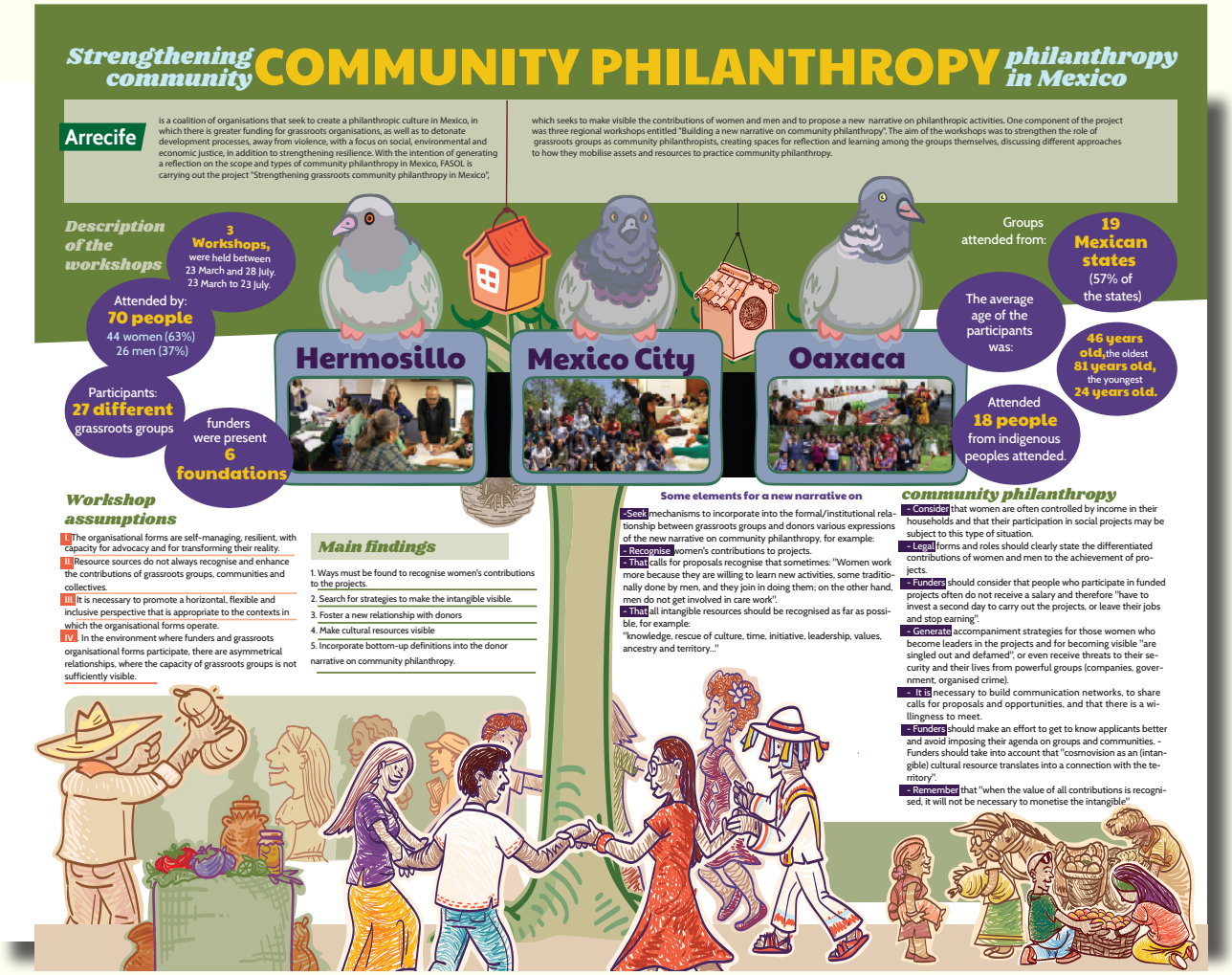
CHECK OUT OUR TOOLS TO SUPPORT CDSC

- Designing a new initiative that supports community-driven systems change
- Grant-making for community-driven systems change
- Guidelines for interactions with CBO grantees and their communities
- Capacity strengthening for community-driven systems change
- Evaluation and learning in community-driven systems change
- Top five indicators of CBO effectiveness as indicated by CBOs themselves
- Proposal template for implementation grant

firelight™ firelightfoundation.org

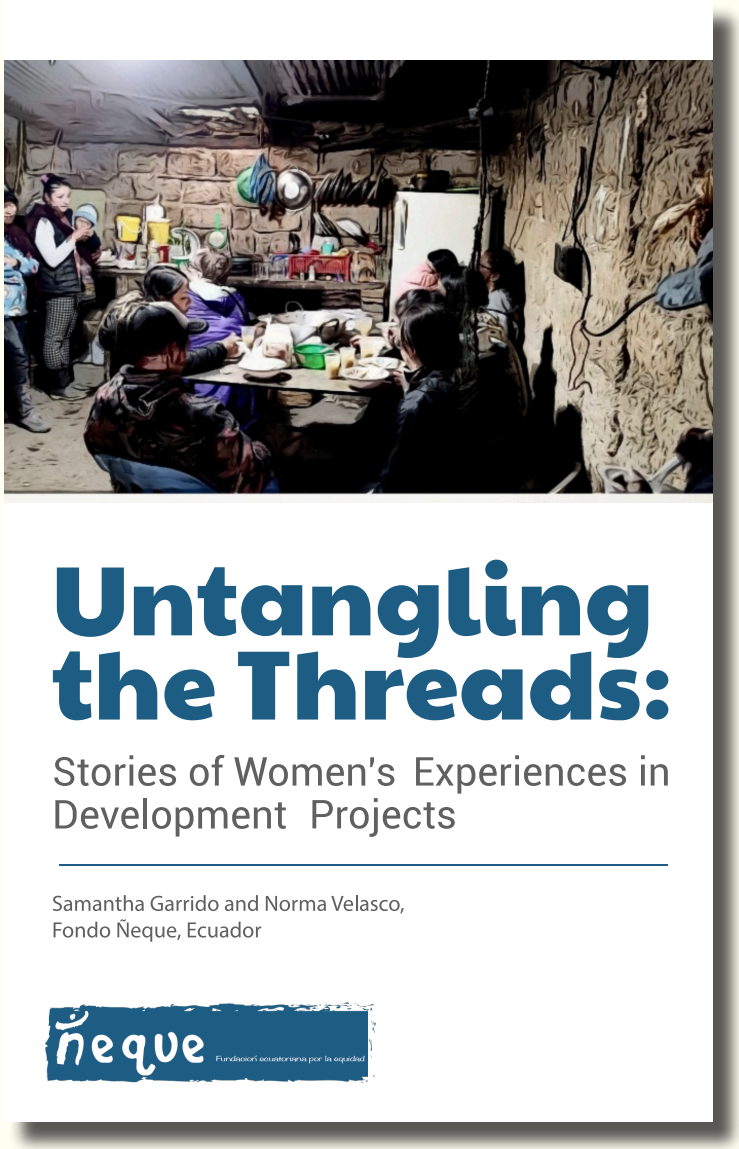
Firelight Foundation (Global)

How community-based organizations (CBOs) can catalyze significant change and guidance for funders on supporting CBOs effectively.



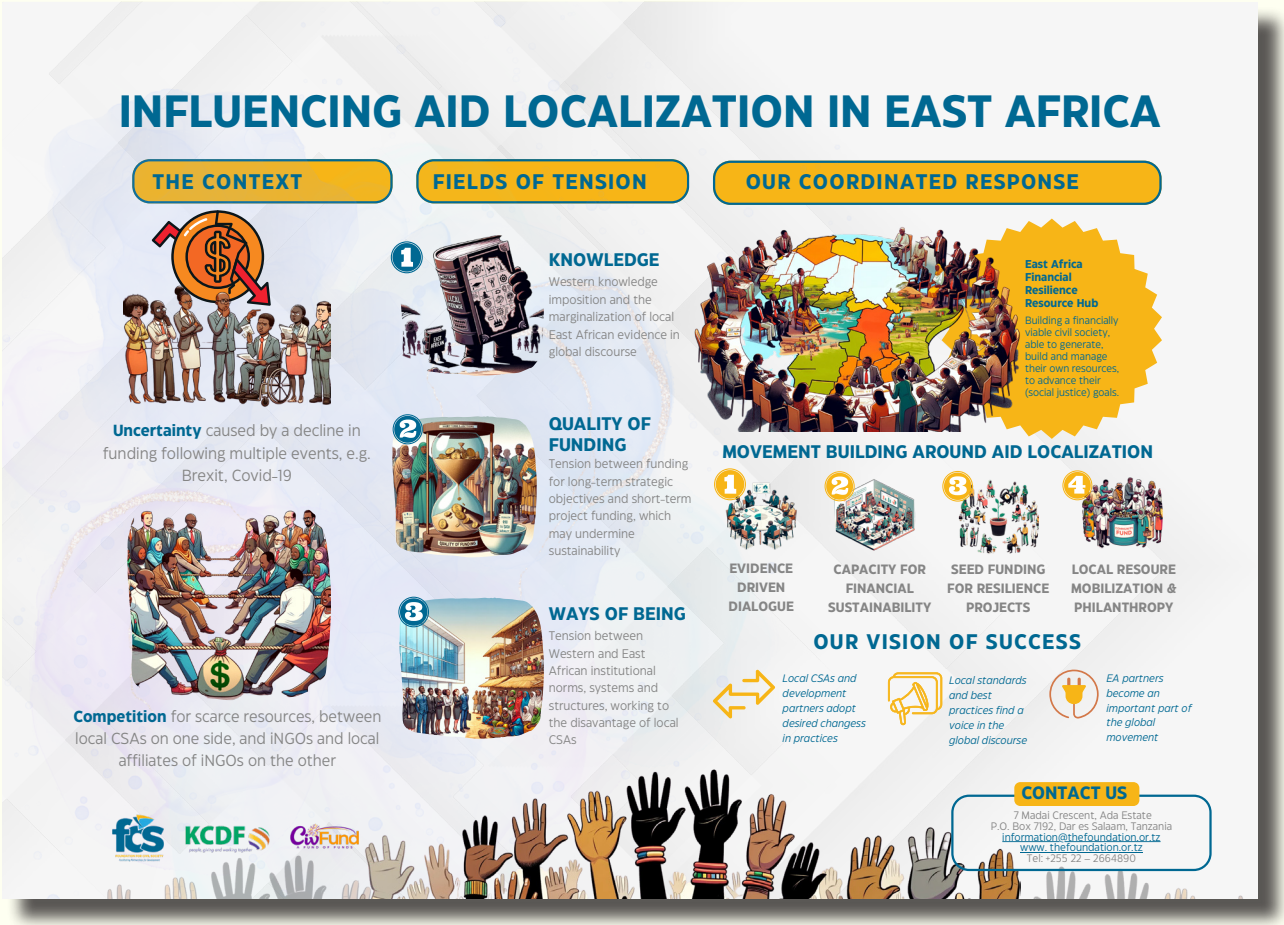
Fondo Acción Solidaria, A.C. – FASOL (Mexico)

Strengthening community philanthropy in Mexico.



Fondo Sociambiental Ñeque (Ecuador)

The intersection between community philanthropy and gender studies in Ecuador.



Foundation for Civil Society (Tanzania)

Movement building for East African civil society as a forward-thinking approach to financial resilience.

GIVING TUESDAY

GIVINGTUESDAY
DATA COMMONS

João Paulo Vergueiro, Director
Latin America + Caribbean Hub
jp@givingtuesday.org

Abstract

Started in 2012 from the 92Y in New York, **GivingTuesday is a worldwide movement** that spans over 95 countries and hundreds of communities.

Each leader helps mobilize local communities in an equitable manner through various nonprofits, community campaigns, and grassroots movements to promote a generous and fair world.

The poster illustrates learnings from case studies with examples of how the movement has grown and evolved, inspiring and encouraging change that people are creating in their communities through collective action. We will showcase how generosity is expressed in the world and how the movement has been helping shift the core of power and decision making from traditional institutional structures back into the hands of people through radical generosity.

Introduction: Radical Generosity

Radical generosity is the heart of the GT movement. It is about more than giving money or time, but about giving with compassion, creativity, and generosity in an equitable and inclusive way

Radical generosity is for Everyone - We all have something to give and every act of generosity, no matter how small, has the power to make a difference.

Methodology: Case Studies

Brazil: 90 community campaigns in local cities all around the country

Pakistan: GivingTuesday Pakistan and 70 volunteers visited flood-affected areas to bring much-needed supplies and support to communities in crises after the devastating floods that ravaged regions across the country in June 2022 (from the Impact Report)

Africa: Radical Generosity bus

Results

Implications & recommendations

GivingTuesday is an example of how movements can spread throughout the world shifting the way that philanthropy is promoted. One country came up with the idea and others followed suit adapting it to their own reality, with their own language and respecting local culture.

The value of generosity and doing good brought all communities together and served as a touch point for the movement to scale and grow decentralized.

Acknowledgements

Angelina La, Project Coordinator (angelina@givingtuesday.org)

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Lexa Wilson, Senior Manager, Technology & Projects (lexa@givingtuesday.org)

Matt Price, Senior Manager, Knowledge Management (matt@givingtuesday.org)

Parsa Torabian, Lead Data Scientist GivingTuesday, (parsa@givingtuesday.org)

Tan Madhavan, Academic Research Partnerships Manager, (tan@givingtuesday.org)

GivingTuesday Africa Hub

Giving Tuesday (Latin America and Caribbean Hub)

Shifting power and decision-making from traditional structures to the people through radical generosity.

Harmony Platform (China)

Building community philanthropy from the grassroots in China.

~~Development~~ is fallen and needs a paradigm change.
Would you like to help create a space to rethink it ?

The Humanising Development Collective

Ask us about the Humanising Development Collective: a nascent independent space where people bring their stories and experiences to envision and enact new compassionate alternatives to the current global "development" system.

Join people from different paths of life to shape the future of the collective as we work to heal the dynamics of power that hold our actions back.

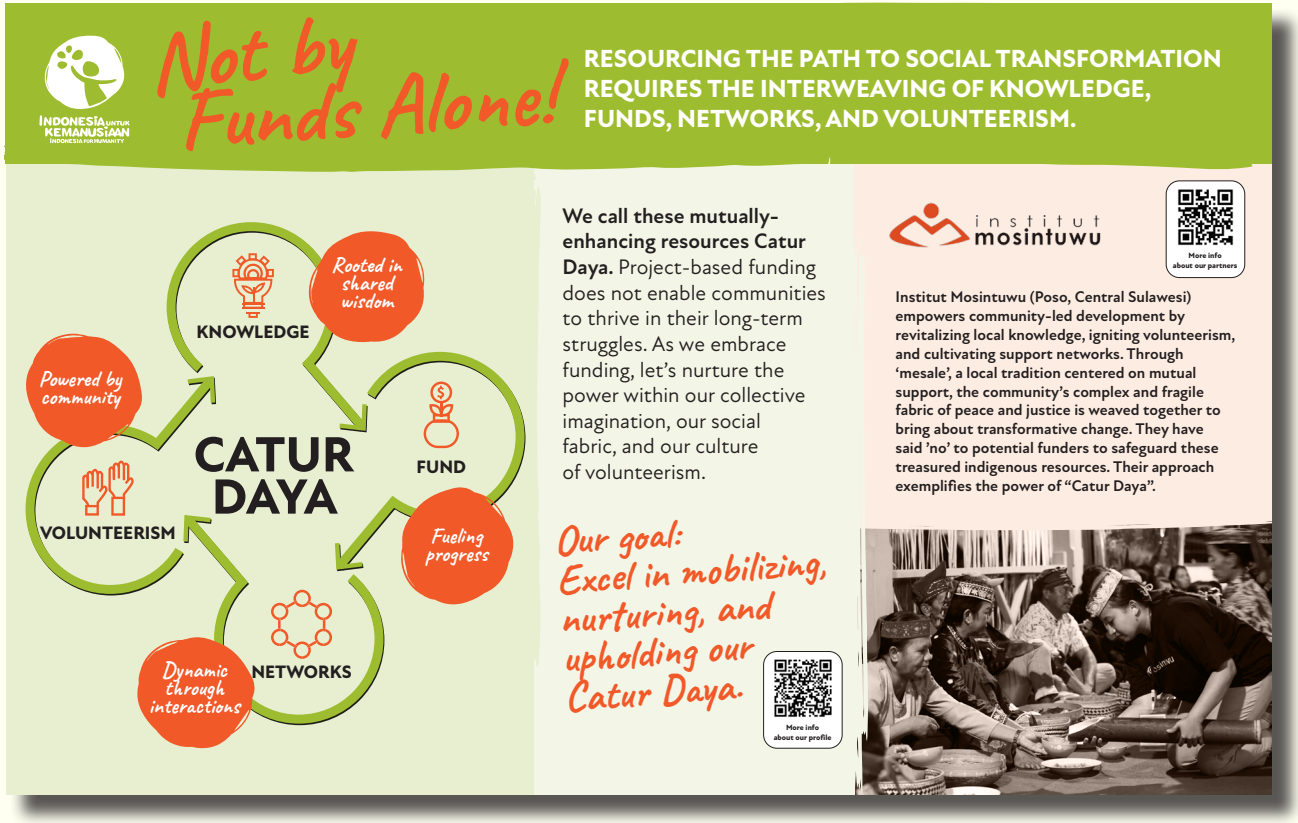
Find us at the conference or Contact us:
nina@humanisingdevelopment.org
ben@humanisingdevelopment.org

Humanising Development Collective (United States)

An invitation to join an independent space for co-creating compassionate alternatives to traditional development models.

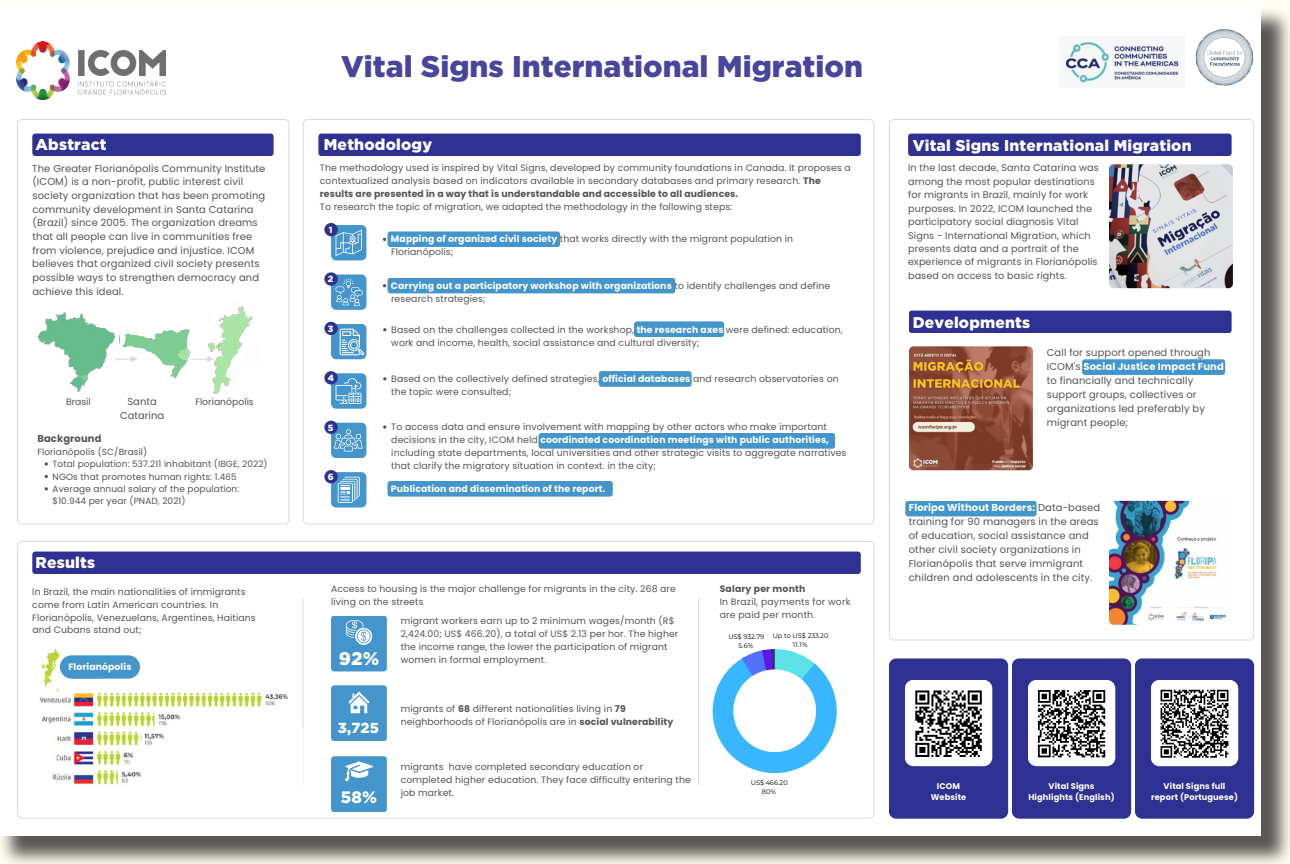
Idea Paz (Colombia)

Showcasing the "ingredients" for fruitful partnerships between funders and organizations: trust, communication, and recognition.



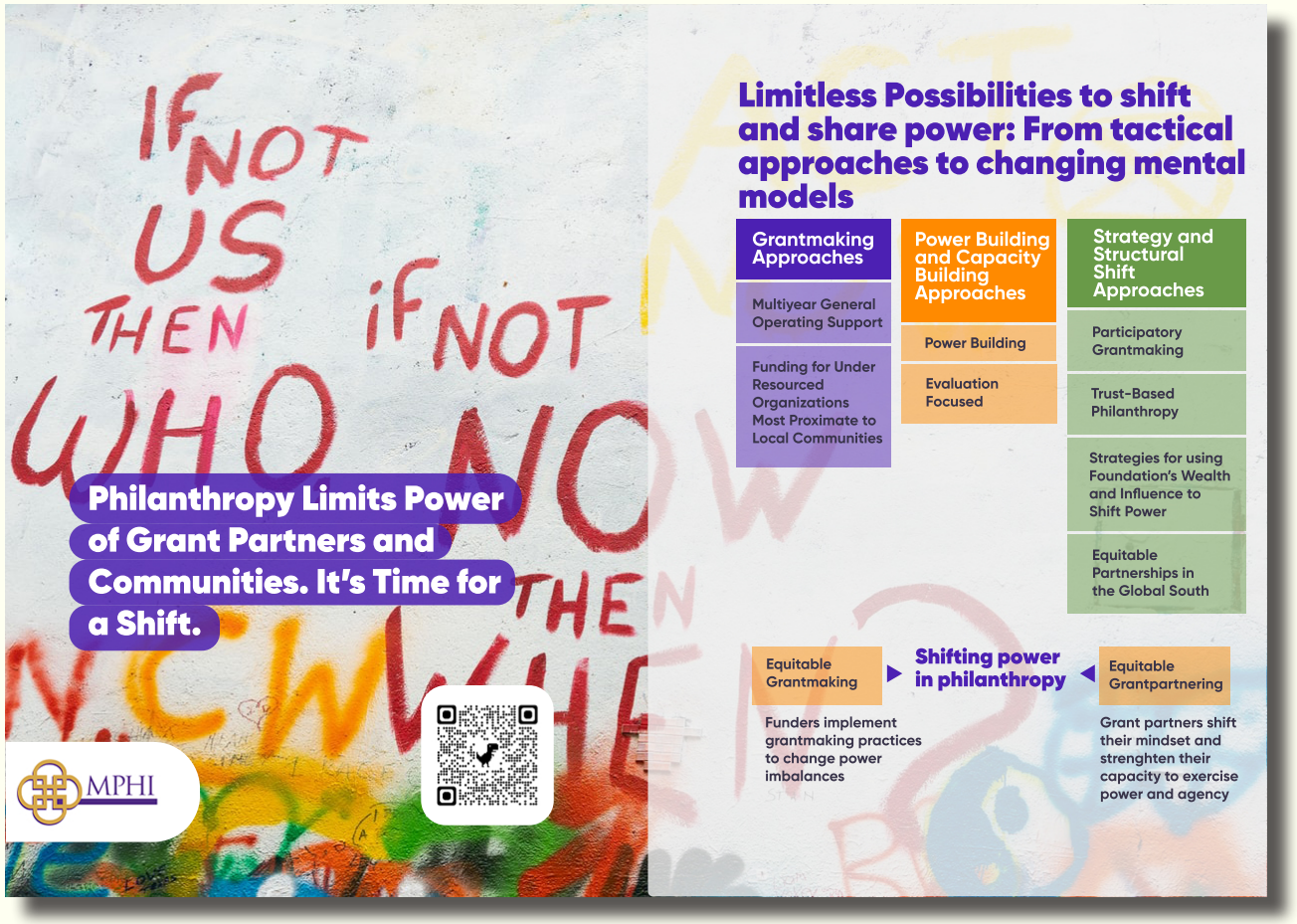
Indonesia for Humanity (Indonesia)

Demostrating the power of 'Catur Daya'—the synergy of funds, knowledge, voluntarism, and networks.



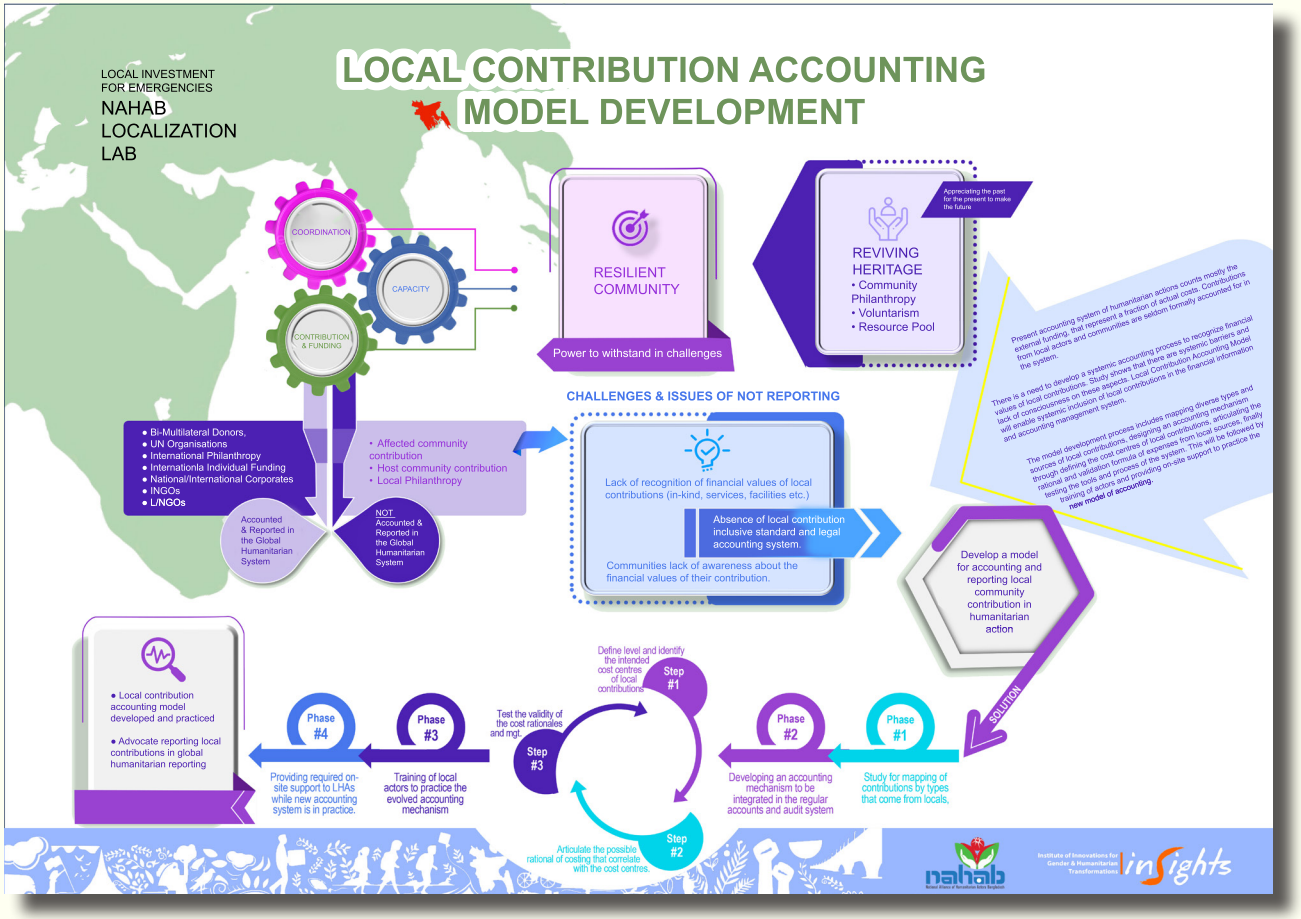
Instituto Comunitário Grande Florianópolis (Brazil)

Spotlighting migrant life in Florianópolis, Brazil.



Michigan Public Health Institute (United States)

Highlighting global power-shifting approaches and philanthropy's role in addressing deep-seated inequities.

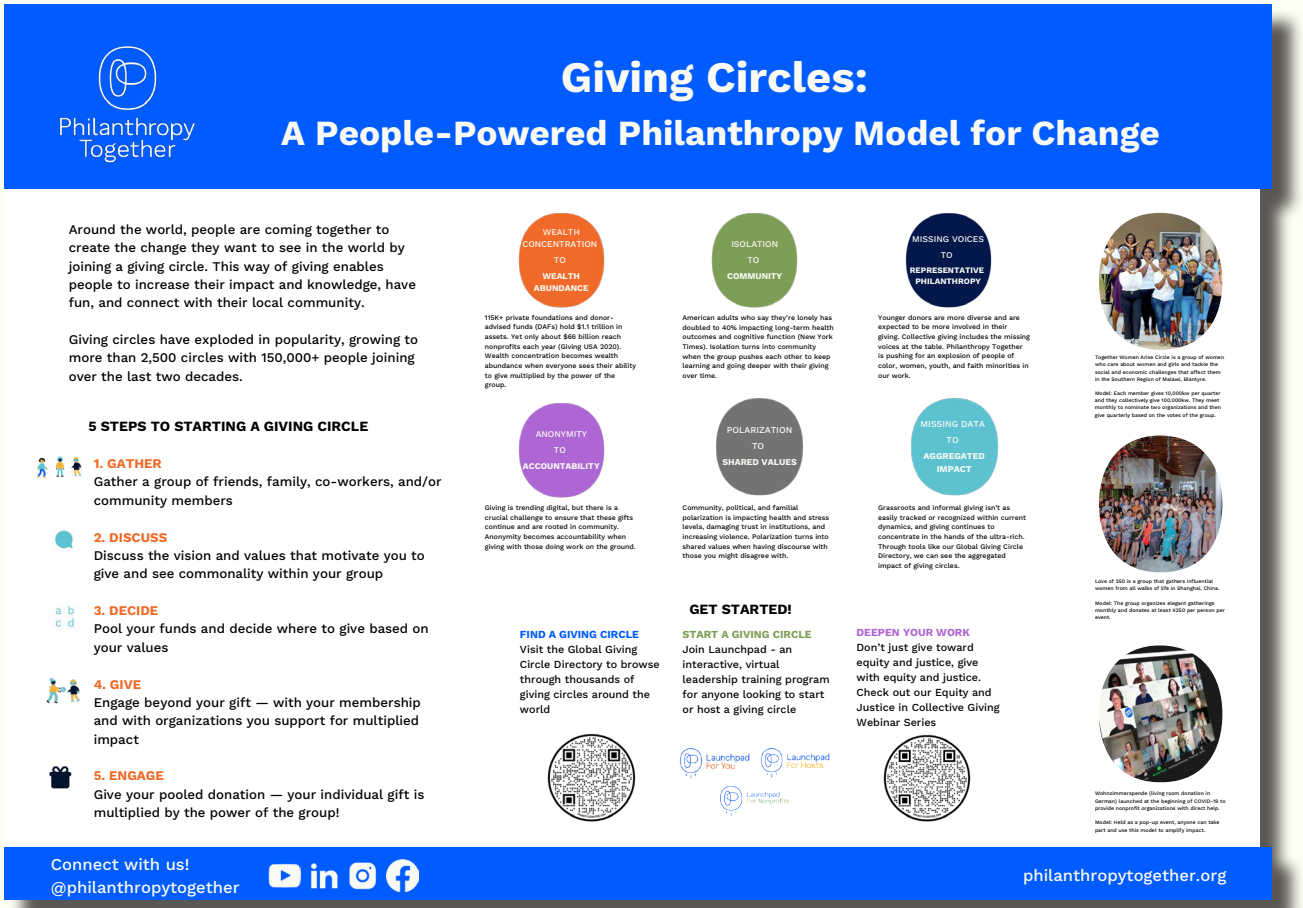


National Alliance of Humanitarian Actors Bangladesh (Bangladesh)

Accounting for the contributions of local actors in humanitarian actions.

Peace Direct (United Kingdom)

Local peacebuilding practitioners, activists, campaigners, artists, and mobilisers building peace from within communities.

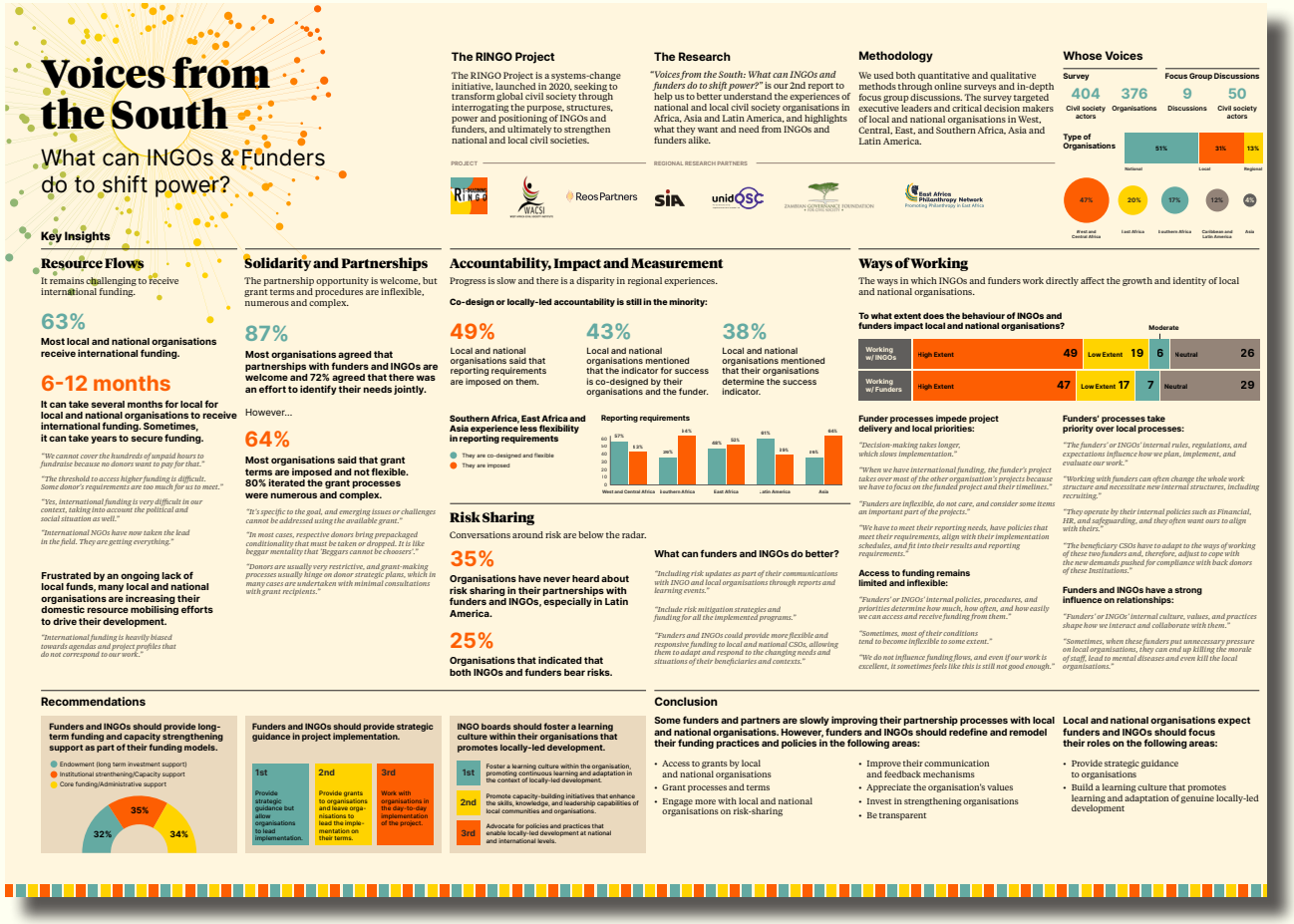


Philanthropy Together (United States)

Democratizing and diversifying philanthropy through giving circles.

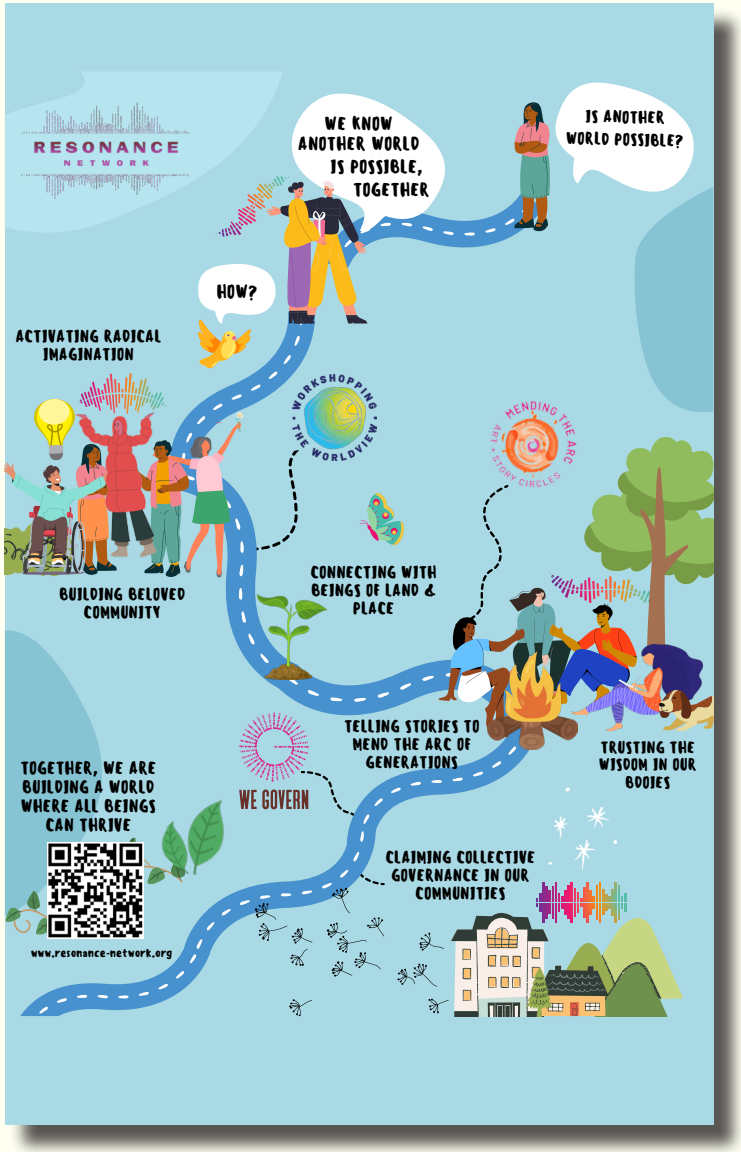
Rebecca Hanshaw and Barry Knight (United Kingdom)

Co-creating and crowdsourcing a shared vision for a reformed international development system.



Reimagining the INGO – RINGO (Global)

Listening to voices from the South: what INGOs and funders can do to #ShiftThePower.



Resonance Network (United States)

The power of organizing to create a world beyond violence.

Resources Oriented Development Initiatives – RODI (Kenya)

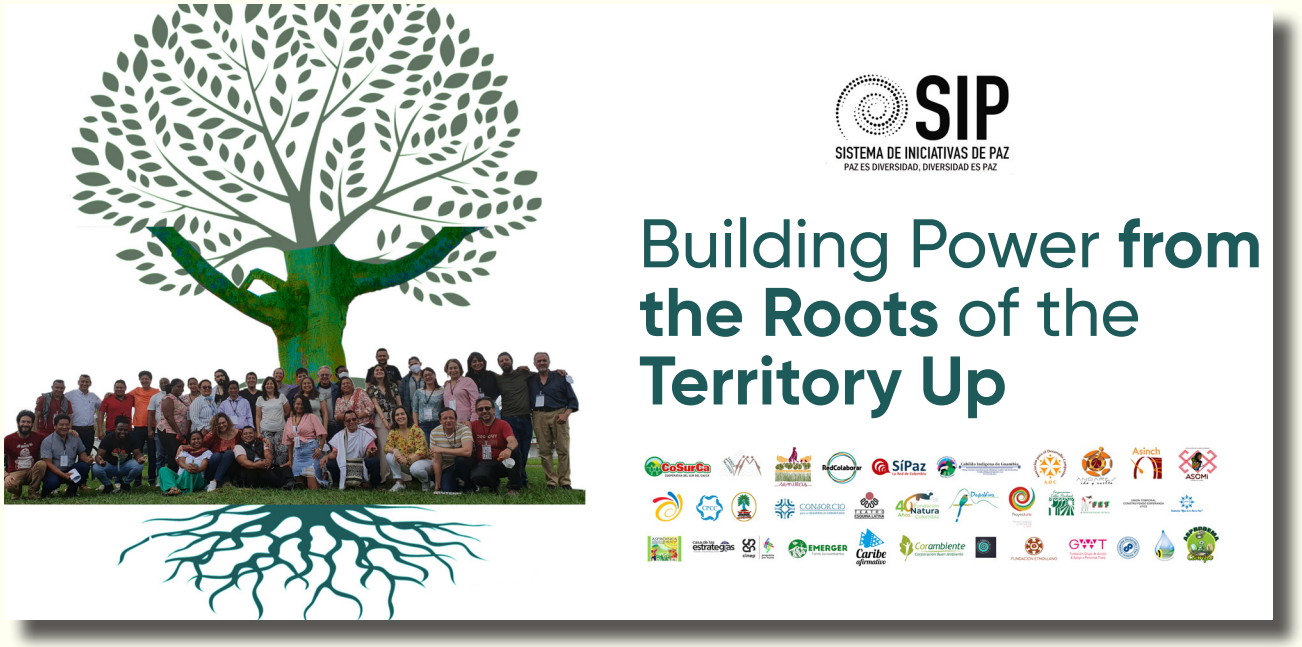
Communities as active participants to climate change responses.

Root Change (United States)

Peer-Driven Change (PDC) as a force for community empowerment, societal reform and the organic exchange of ideas.

Seres (Guatemala)

Strategies for fostering equitable partnerships within the philanthropic sector.

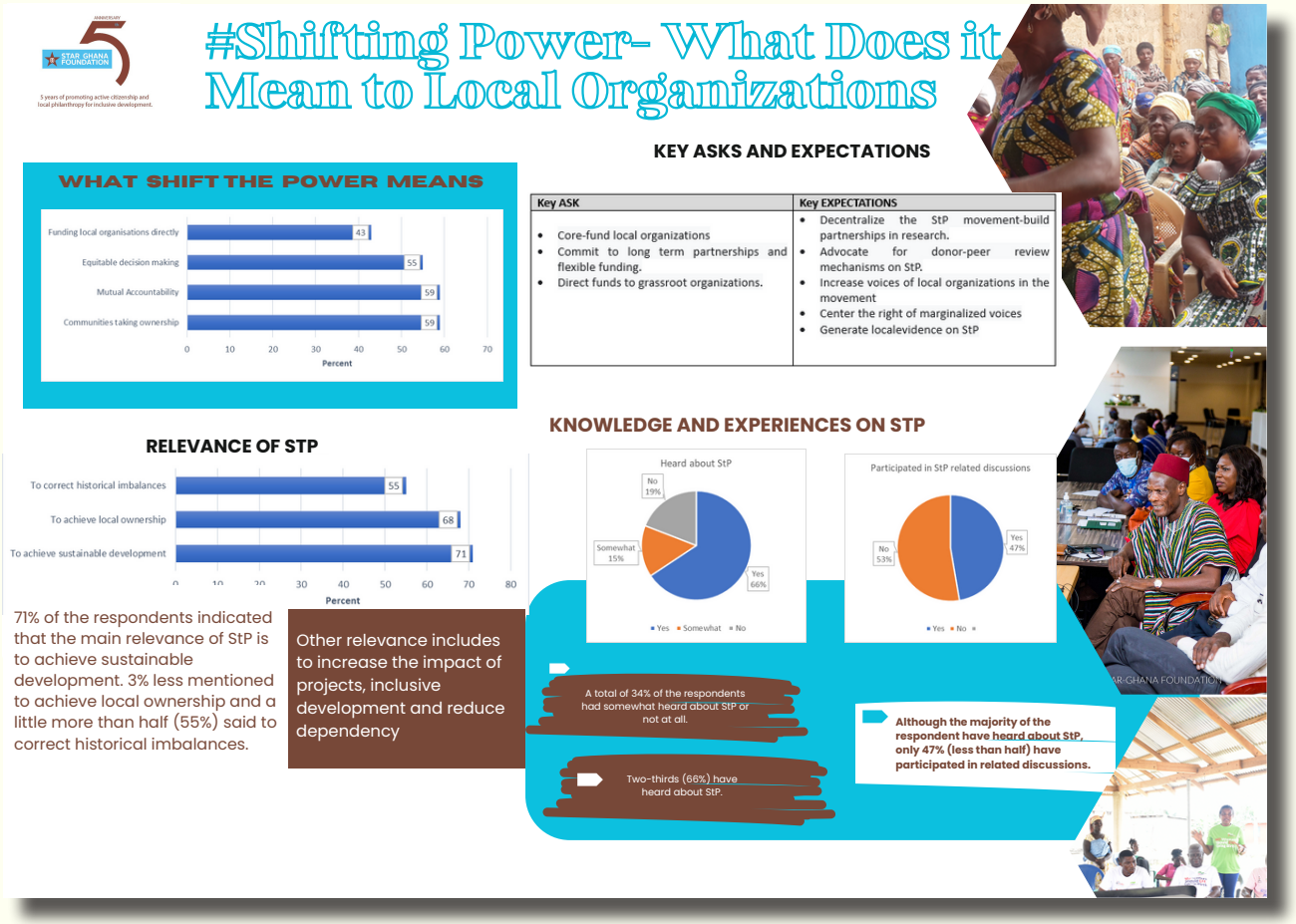


Sistema de Iniciativas de Paz (Colombia)

Diverse organizations working across Colombia to transform the peacebuilding agenda.

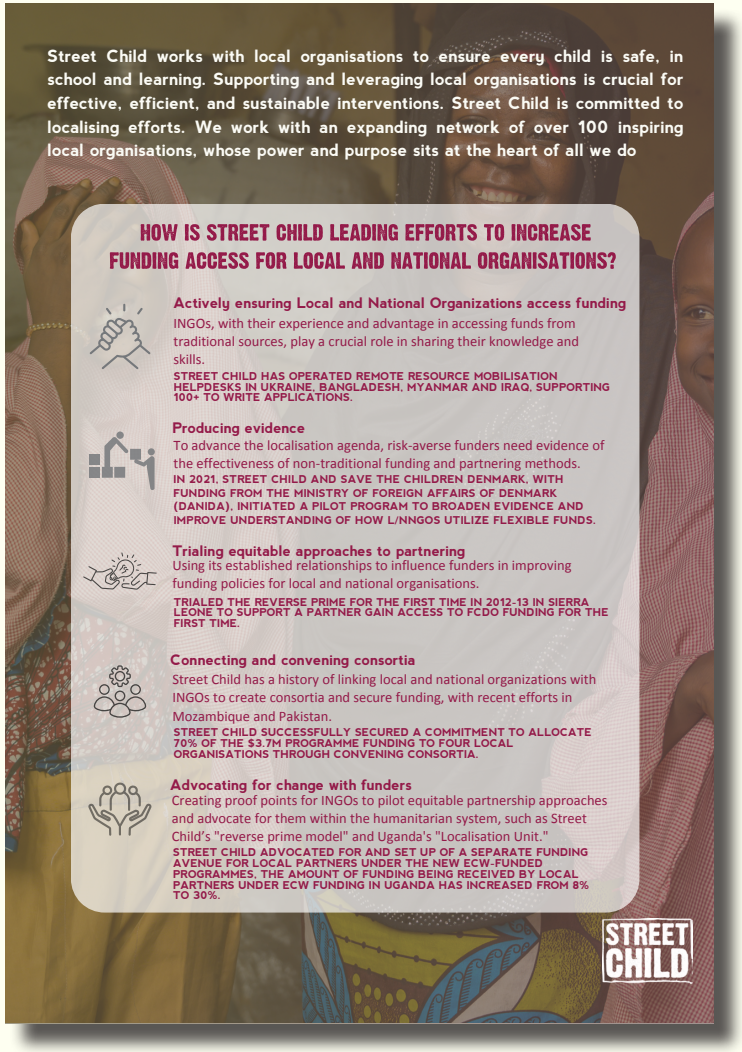
Social Change Alumna (Serbia)

Mapping types of resources and domains of transformation and care for organizations and collectives.



STAR-Ghana Foundation (Ghana)

Exploring what #ShiftThePower means to local organizations in Ghana.



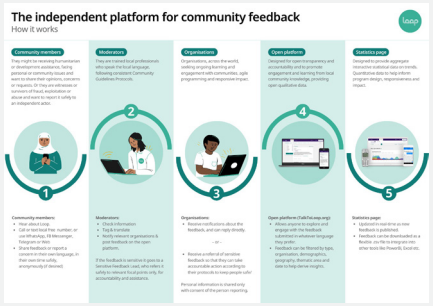
Street Child (Global)

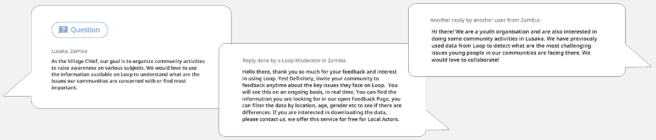
Increasing access to funding for local and national organizations – the role of INGOs.

talktoloop

A locally owned tool, holding power to account.

On the journey to the democratisation of feedback.





Why are we not listening to local voices?

Every individual possesses not only the right to, but the inherent power of their opinions. However, for communities disproportionately impacted by crisis and conflict, unlocking this power is a real challenge when the world is **not truly listening**.

Individuals seeking to exercise their right to feedback face many challenges with a system that doesn't have an **inclusive linguistic** approach, that requires them to spend time and financial resources to **travel** to relevant offices within designated hours, that doesn't definitively address the **digital access** gap or lacks on awareness raising efforts about the available mechanisms and the organisations responsible for specific issues. Research shows that, in time, these challenges and barriers have deepened communities' **lack of trust** in feedback channels and their **fear of potential repercussions** for raising their voices.

At Loop we believe in the transformative experience of being heard.

Loop was born as a resource for communities to own their own lever of accountability. For decision-makers to not just listen, but to respond with urgency. Our mission is to ensure that community knowledge reaches the people responsible for dismantling the unjust imbalances hindering local agency and power.

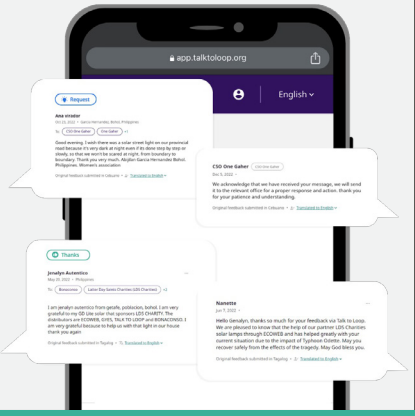
We achieve this by breaking down traditional barriers for feedback and reporting: We operate as a permanent, locally owned and inclusive channel available 24/7. Loop uses technology, under patent, which integrates Interactive Voice and Artificial Intelligence, coupled with human moderators, to provide a safe feedback and reporting mechanism. Loops interface is adapted to each person's preferences and capabilities and thus meets people where they are: in their own language, in their own time, on a device that they already own or that they can easily access, through multiple input channels (Voice, SMS, WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, Web).

Our operational structure moves away from a project-based feedback collection method and ensures permanent and sustainable communications channels available before, during, and after crises and open analysis of trends by anyone, especially those from affected communities. Importantly there is a built in safe and independent system for reporting of sensitive issues, using a survivor centred approach which enables anonymity if needed.

What have we learned so far?

A compartmentalised, organisation and project-oriented approach to listening is extractive and reinforces existing power dynamics because those in positions of power define: who is included, the language used, the timing, the purposes, and the questions asked. They also select who sees the resulting data and learnings, when, and in what format.

True empowerment and a shift in power dynamics requires the democratisation of listening and learning, and feedback ownership. Embracing community-driven and owned priorities in real-time, using an open, ongoing, accessible, safe and transparent approach, is a crucial tool for ushering in a new paradigm shift. This level of accountability not only enhances agency but also contributes significantly to fostering a culture of understanding, shared responsibility and decisions based on local people's experiences and priorities.



Do you want to join our cause?

If you also believe in the power of equitable access to information and want to contribute to the global challenge of power redistribution, find out the many ways you can start engaging with us here:

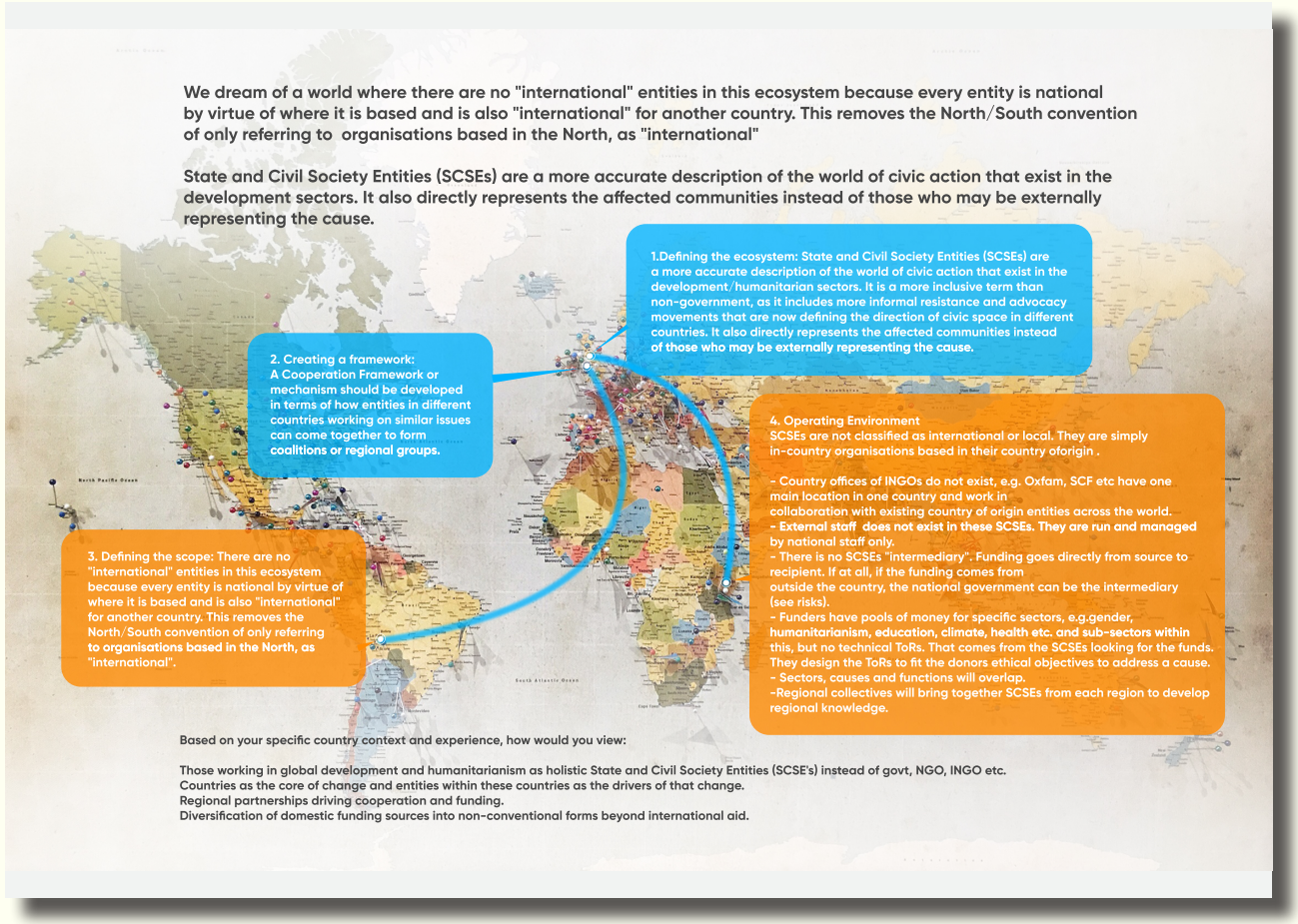
talktoloop.org @talktoloop

Talk to Loop (Global)

The power of being heard – Loop's approach to accountability and feedback.

The Dev Hub (United Kingdom)

Lessons from feminist organizing for anti-racism and decolonization work.

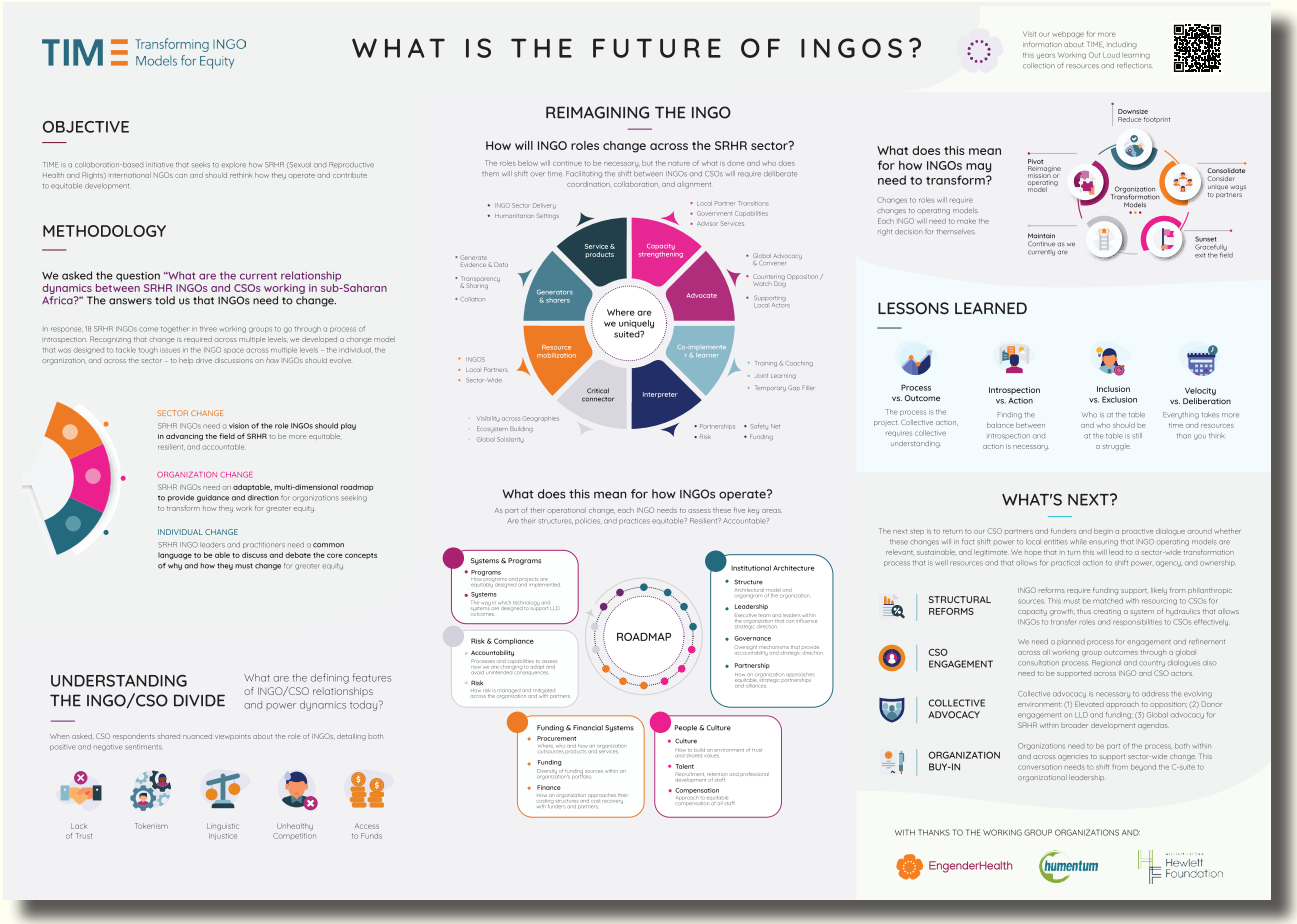


Themrise Khan (Pakistan)

Reimagining the landscape of global development by erasing conventional boundaries that define civic action.

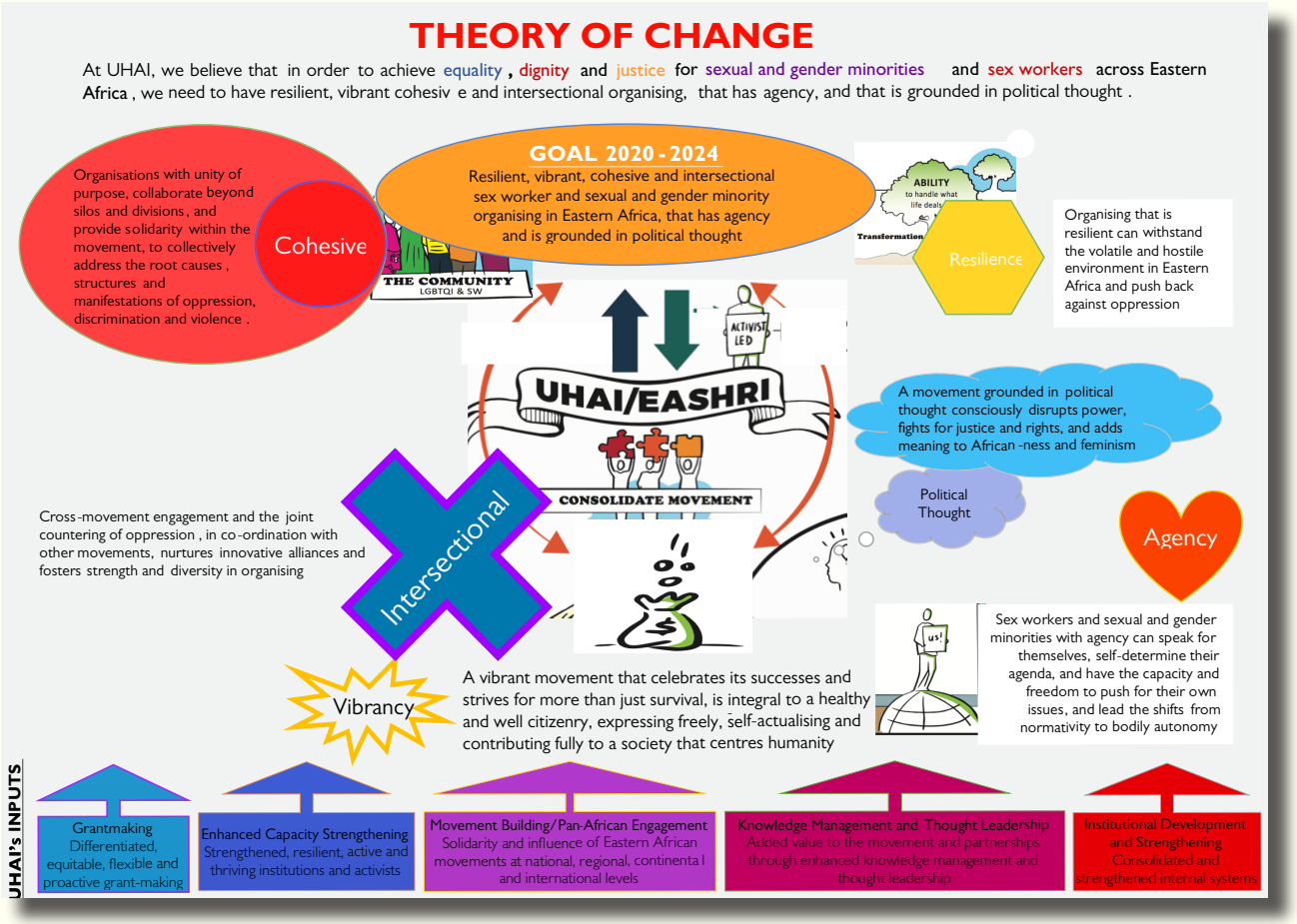
Thubutu Africa Initiatives (Tanzania)

Daring to do things differently: community philanthropy in action in Tanzania.



Transforming INGOs Models for Equity - TIME (Global)

Questioning the role of INGOs in future development and the steps necessary for an inclusive and power-balanced sector.

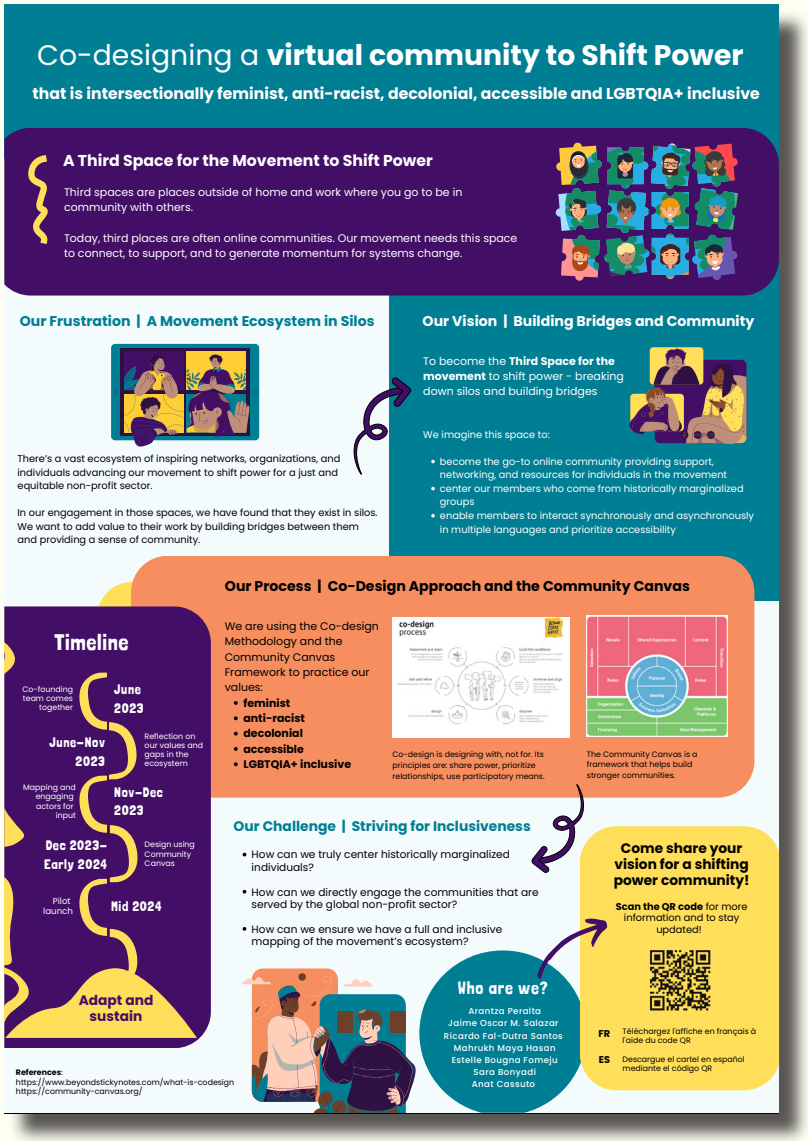


UHAI EASHRI (East Africa)

Disrupting the status quo that maintains the structural exclusion of historically silenced people.

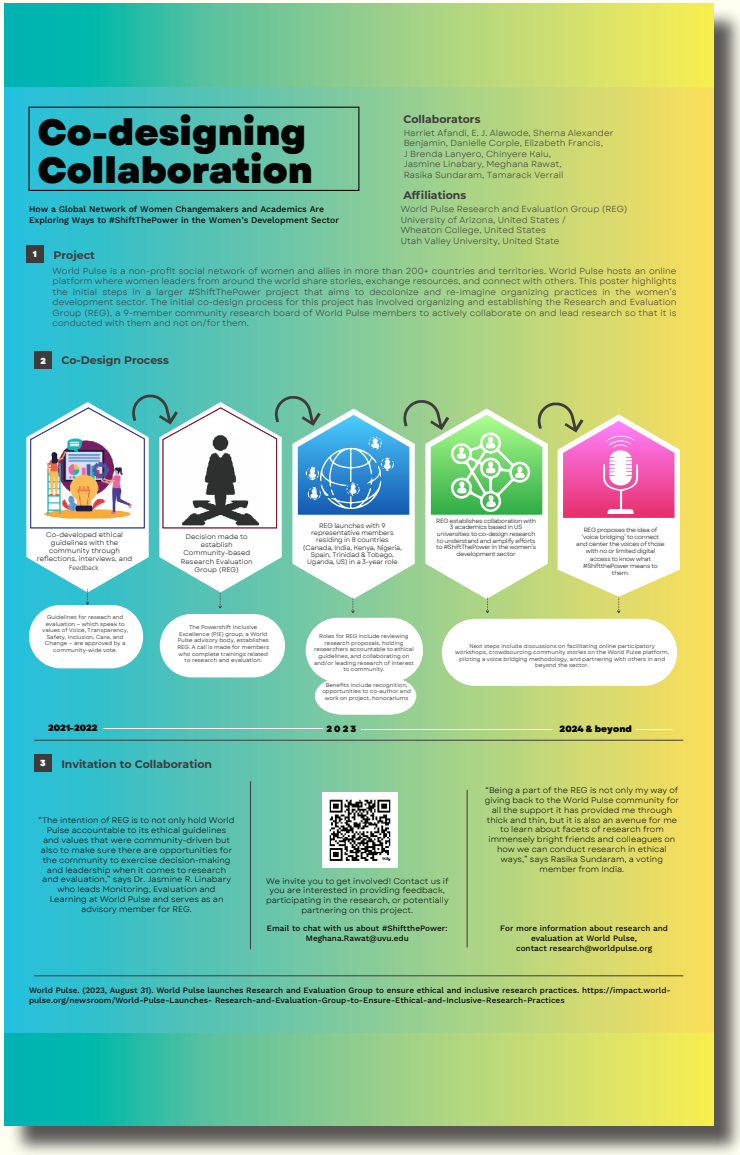
Urgent Action Fund (Latin America and the Caribbean)

Activists' perspectives on care, healing justice and protection.



Virtual Community of Practice to Shift Power (Global)

Online communities to connect and support change.



Co-designing Collaboration

How a Global Network of Women Changemakers and Academics Are Exploring Ways to #ShiftThePower in the Women's Development Sector

Collaborators

Harriet Afandi, E. J. Alawode, Sherna Alexander Benjamin, Danielle Corple, Elizabeth Francis, J Brenda Lanyero, Chinyere Kalu, Jasmine Linabary, Meghana Rawat, Rasika Sundaram, Tamarack Verrall

Affiliations

World Pulse Research and Evaluation Group (REG)
University of Arizona, United States /
Wheaton College, United States
Utah Valley University, United State

1 Project

World Pulse is a non-profit social network of women and allies in more than 200+ countries and territories. World Pulse hosts an online platform where women leaders from around the world share stories, exchange resources, and connect with others. This poster highlights the initial steps in a larger #ShiftThePower project that aims to decolonize and re-imagine organizing practices in the women's development sector. The initial co-design process for this project has involved organizing and establishing the Research and Evaluation Group (REG), a 9-member community research board of World Pulse members to actively collaborate on and lead research so that it is conducted with them and not on/for them.

2 Co-Design Process

3 Invitation to Collaboration

"The intention of REG is to not only hold World Pulse accountable to its ethical guidelines and values that were community-driven but also to make sure there are opportunities for the community to exercise decision-making and leadership when it comes to research and evaluation," says Dr. Jasmine R. Linabary who leads Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning at World Pulse and serves as an advisory member for REG.

We invite you to get involved! Contact us if you are interested in providing feedback, participating in the research, or potentially partnering on this project.

Email to chat with us about #ShiftthePower: Meghana.Rawat@uvu.edu

"Being a part of the REG is not only my way of giving back to the World Pulse community for all the support it has provided me through thick and thin, but it is also an avenue for me to learn about facets of research from immensely bright friends and colleagues on how we can conduct research in ethical ways," says Rasika Sundaram, a voting member from India.

For more information about research and evaluation at World Pulse, contact research@worldpulse.org

World Pulse. (2023, August 31). World Pulse launches Research and Evaluation Group to ensure ethical and inclusive research practices. https://impact.world-pulse.org/newsroom/World-Pulse-Launches- Research-and-Evaluation-Group-to-Ensure-Ethical-and-Inclusive-Research-Practices

World Pulse's Research and Evaluation Group (Global)

Creating ethical research frameworks that resonate with and for the communities involved.

#Shift
The
Power
A Global Summit
5–7 December 2023, Bogotá