

Report

Tanzania National Philanthropy Forum

23rd September 2015, Best Western Collosium Hotel, Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania



Nurturing Philanthropy in East Africa

**EAST AFRICA ASSOCIATION
OF GRANTMAKERS**



Background | Over the past decade, the landscape of philanthropy globally has seen a steady rise. In East Africa, the number of philanthropy actors has increased in number and diversity. There are more individual donors, responsible businesses, faith-based social development arms, community foundations and social impact investors championing social change in the region.

With this evolution, most organizations are increasingly keen to work as part of a larger, diverse and powerful network – a network that offers space for collaboration and coordination while building a collective voice that addresses shared concerns.

The East Africa Association of Grantmakers seeks to facilitate strong and responsive philanthropy support platforms that enhance best practices, promote local resource mobilization and advance a favorable operating environment for local philanthropy in East Africa. To achieve this, it is important to acknowledge the varying levels of engagements among philanthropy actors and the diverse contexts across the East Africa region. Although to a certain extent the region presents a shared context of philanthropy, the landscape, operating environment and practices are not homogenous. It is this background that necessitated EAAG's proposal to decentralize philanthropy conversations to the national level in a bid to capture and efficiently respond to emerging concerns and issues unique to the different East African countries. Through partner organizations in respective countries, EAAG is initiating discussions to kickoff *National Philanthropy Forums* in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

The forums are envisaged to;

- Consolidate and strengthen the voice of philanthropy in national development.
- Provide a learning and exchange platform for philanthropy organizations (foundations and trusts)
- Strengthen philanthropy collaboration and innovation at the national level

Increase awareness on the value/contribution of philanthropy in national development

The forums will primarily target local private philanthropic organizations established or with or a local presence in the respective countries. It will also seek to capture issues of interest to private foundations, family foundations, community foundations, corporate foundations and faith-based giving.

TANZANIA PHILANTHROPY FORUM ‘Working Together; Opportunities for Strengthening Philanthropy’

EAAG in partnership with the Foundation for Civil Society hosted the first National Philanthropy Forum in Tanzania on the 23rd September 2015. The objective of the forum was to understand and map the landscape of philanthropy in Tanzania, deliberate and validate pathways towards having an inclusive and active national philanthropy forum.

Themed ‘*Working together; opportunities for strengthening Philanthropy in Tanzania*’ the forum targeted local private philanthropic organizations established or with a local presence such as private foundations, family foundations, community foundations, corporate foundations and faith-based giving among other selected CSO groups.

OPENING SESSION

Francis Kiwanga, Executive Director, Foundation for Civil Society

The Executive Director of the Foundation for Civil Society Francis Kiwanga welcomed participants and set context for the discussions, highlighting the value of networking and knowledge sharing in the philanthropy sector in Tanzania.

Giving an overview of the Foundation for civil society, he emphasized the Foundation’s strong and demonstrable commitment to promoting philanthropy and CSO engagements.

The Foundation for Civil Society is a grant making organization supporting CSO’s in Tanzania. It was established in 2003. FCS operates in Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar. Areas supported by FCS are Peace Maintenance, Governance and Accountability, Policy Engagement and Capacity Development.

He also noted that discussions from the African Grantmakers Assembly hosted by the Foundation and the African Grantmakers Network (AGN) in July 1-3 2015 created an opportunity for philanthropy players in Tanzania to reflect on the value of organizing and forging an active and coordinated national space for them to interact, learn and advance an environment that promotes local philanthropy.

Appreciating the EAAG’s support in facilitating the process, he called upon philanthropy actors and stakeholders to actively engage in developing a Tanzania National Forum that is responsive to community needs and strategic in addressing national development agenda.



Francis Kiwanga. *Executive Director
Foundation for Civil Society, Tanzania*

Context of Philanthropy in Tanzania

Giving Culture | Tanzania has a strong culture of giving largely influenced by traditional concepts of giving, religious beliefs and global philanthropy trends such as family and corporate philanthropy. Deeply rooted in Tanzanians social fabric, giving is largely informed by the Ujamaa ideology of brotherhood and self reliance - that a person becomes a person *through the people* or community. There is particularly a steady giving culture at the community level that has seen a rapid emergence of structured community philanthropy organizations where community members offer monetary support, voluntary services and in-kind support in achieving collective community goals. {VICOPA, HARAMBEE}

The rise of socially conscious high net worth individuals and the middle class in Tanzania has seen a steady rise in structured philanthropy. Over the past few years billionaires have established foundations to coordinate their philanthropy activities. Billionaires like Mohammed Dewji, a Tanzanian businessman and the 38th Africa's richest man founded the Mohammed Dewji Foundation. The Foundation gives grants to sports initiatives, a cause close to his heart and is exploring partnerships with various non-profits to scale its impact. There is an opportunity for government, philanthropy support groups and civil society to support individual giving in Tanzania. With over 31.5 million registered mobile money accounts in Tanzania, growth of mobile money provides an opportunity to consolidate individual donations.

Tanzania also has a strong giving culture among young people. According to the 2014 World Giving Index, young people in Tanzania aged below 29 years gave more towards charity than those older than 50 years. Young people being the future leaders in philanthropy, charity organizations and other development stakeholders in Tanzania have been keen to leverage on young philanthropy as local development resource.

Corporate giving is on the rise. Businesses are going beyond Corporate Social Responsibility to establishing independent foundations and trusts that are dedicated to supporting communities. In 2014, it was reported in the Tanzanian media that the government was planning to introduce a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) law to encourage businesses, including multinational corporations, to contribute to community projects as is the case in India.

'VICOPA'

Organization is structured in such a way that poor people, especially those in the rural areas, are organized in groups and trained in various skills so as to build up their capacity to fight against poverty. VICOPA holds a strong belief that even poor people have skills, capabilities and abilities which when unleashed and utilized effectively can help them to attain and improve their economic development and social welfare

Context of Philanthropy in Tanzania

With the global economic strain, Tanzania like many other African countries is experiencing a decline in traditional developing streams. The Official Development Assistance (ODA) reduced from 40% to less than 10% in the past decade. With Tanzania \$30 away from attaining middle income country status, foreign funding for development programmes is bound to decline further. This situation is gradually causing resource competition between government and civil society organization but has also fostered growing appreciation of private public partnerships and civil society.

Despite the rise in numbers and diversity of philanthropy, Tanzania's giving remains largely informal, poorly coordinated, undocumented and is yet to offer an effective mechanism for strategic philanthropy.

Operating Environment | Foundations operate under different legal regimes and the legal policy that govern foundations is not harmonized. NGOs in Tanzania are registered and operate under a number of laws, the most recent one being the NGO Act of 2002. However, NGOs can also register and operate under Companies Act and Trusteeship Act. There is no specific law that distinguishes local philanthropy organizations.

With a tax policy of 2% on allowable deductions, the fiscal environment for philanthropy in Tanzania does not adequately encourage local giving. The greater problem is the low levels of awareness on the importance of tax in promoting philanthropy amongst the citizenry. In line with this is the debate for and against tax benefits for philanthropy among government, private sector, citizenry and civil society. The philanthropy has often been left in

these conversations and therefore there is need to come together to forge a collective intervention on legal and policy frameworks.

Evolving Development Approaches | There has been shift in the development approach in Tanzania where the focus is geared towards practical and result oriented development planning, multi-stakeholder collaboration and self regulation.



A Case for a Philanthropy Platform

Contributors;

Deus Vincent , Olive Luena & Nicanor Sabula

First | the growth of the local philanthropy movement across Tanzania, buoyed by a growing middle class, an increase in the number of High Net Worth Individuals and the growth of Corporate Social Investment means that there is sufficient ground and numbers to have a platform that will bring this diverse group together to work in a cohesive and inclusive manner to realize a common goal and embed philanthropy as a key contributor to social development.

Second | foreign donations have declined for the past few years causing a resource strain in the development sector. It therefore behooves communities, private sector and governments to step up and tackle head on the myriad social economic challenges. Such a forum would prove a good platform to discuss and prioritize local development issues while encouraging coordinated local mobilization.

Third | rapid economic growth powered by the extractive industry in Tanzania will heighten expectations from citizens, who will rightly so, expect to enjoy the benefits of their natural resources. Philanthropy will have to play a twin role here. First is to ensure that the voice of the local people is heard and no injustice is visited upon them by businesses and secondly but more importantly philanthropy is expected to play a critical role in supporting the creation of sustainable communities.

Fourth | the UN General Assembly will be adopting the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to replace the Millennium Development Goals. With ambitious 17 goals and 169 targets to achieve, it is expected that local philanthropy will play a crucial role in financing the achievement of the goals. Data is essential in the effective implementation of the plan. So far, data limitations have hindered the attempt to accurately track the contribution of philanthropy in development processes in Tanzania. A National Philanthropy platform can take strategic approaches in developing a framework for data collection on philanthropy. It is therefore important for philanthropy players to strategically prepare to take on the challenge.

Five | there is increasing fears that as African governments become more assertive buoyed by the impressive economic growth and continue to assert “African solutions for African problems” narrative, many of them are turning autocratic and end up constricting the civil space. It will therefore be important for philanthropies to rise up and take their rightful space in defending these spaces.

A Case for a Philanthropy Platform

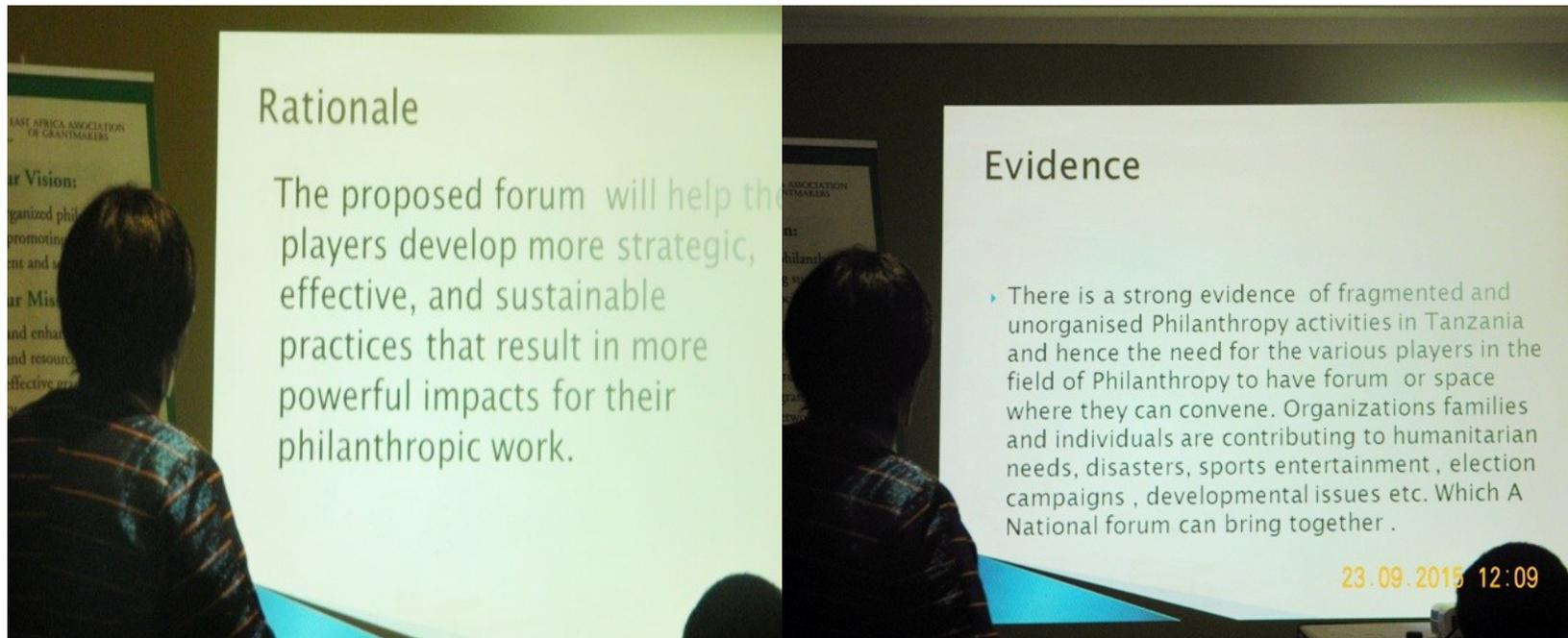
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Six | a national philanthropy platform provides an opportunity to recognize and encourage local givers who show exemplary commitment to supporting community. The platform also provides an opportunity to create awareness on the value and contribution of local philanthropy in national development processes.

Lastly | there is a general global trend of growing collaborations in development. In order to tackle global challenges we are seeing philanthropies and other development agencies pulling resources together in an effort to scale solutions for complex development issues. In keeping with this spirit, it is therefore important that our own philanthropies do the same. Linkages and interconnections is becoming critical for many working in philanthropy. For us Institutions such as the AGN, WINGS provides channel to link local issues with global ones and therefore the national forums will be an integral part of this channel.

Below: Olive Luena, CEO, TGT, facilitating discussions on the value of having a national platform in Tanzania



Proposals

Facilitated by Olive Luena, CEO, TGT

The Session presentations and plenary deliberations proposed the fundamental aspects of the Tanzania National Philanthropy Forum as Follows;

Broad Agenda

The following issues were identified as key areas of focus for the forum

- *Creation of an organized and sustainable Philanthropy in Tanzania that can bring lasting change to communities*
- *Consolidating and develop reliable philanthropy data in Tanzania*
- *Document trends and foster best practices for philanthropy*
- *Collectively lobbying Government for an enabling environment for local Philanthropy in Tanzania*
- *Provide a platform for networking, learning and knowledge exchange at the country level*
- *Recognizing and celebrate Philanthropy in Tanzania*
- *Monitoring and advocating against corruptive use of Philanthropy*
- *Creating stronger alliances at regional and international level*

Composition and Identity

Proposals on the composition of the forum noted that members should primarily be local philanthropy organizations including (corporate, family, religious, community and other private philanthropy organizations/groups/individual) and global Foundations/ international philanthropists operating in Tanzania. Emphasis was also made on the value of ensuring multi-stakeholder conversations between the forum members and other development stakeholders such as beneficiaries of Philanthropy, private sector, international donors with a presence in Tanzania, local and national government.

Leadership

Participants agreed to form an interim steering committee to provide strategic leadership in initiating the Tanzania National Philanthropy Forum. The committee is inclusive and reflective of the philanthropy landscape in Tanzania with representative from (*corporate, community, youth, family and private philanthropy organisations*). It was also agreed that the Foundation for Civil Society will be the lead convener and facilitator in Tanzania. EAAG committed to providing technical and guidance to kick off the forum.

Proposals

Facilitated by Olive Luena, CEO, TGT

Members of the interim steering committee as chosen include:

Philomena Modu – Tanzania Women Fund (Public Foundation)

Mwadhini O. Myanza – Morogoro Municipal Community Fund (Community Philanthropy)

Josephine Msambichaka – Reach for Change (representing the youth Philanthropy Network)

Deus Valentine – Advance Africa Associates (Technical and knowledge Support)

Thomas Kipingili – Deloitte (Philanthropy Support Organisation)

Nadia Paschetta – ETG Farmers Foundation (Corporate Philanthropy)

Francis Kiwanga - Foundation for Civil Society (Country Convener)

Nicanor Sabula, EAAG (Providing Technical Guidance)

Way Forward;

1. Steering committee will focus on defining a practical and clear mechanism for the Tanzania National Philanthropy Forum including;
 - Finalizing a clear concept of the Forum with general agenda and structure of the forum
 - Mapping potential participants
2. Foundation for Civil Society and EAAG will convene the second Tanzania National Philanthropy forum to validate the concept developed by the steering committee, mobilize additional members and deliberate on a 2016 work-plan for the forum.

Case Study

Kenya National Philanthropy Forum

Facilitated by the East Africa Association of Grantmakers, representatives of 30 Philanthropic Institutions in Kenya, including Foundations and Trusts met on March 2015 and mapped out mechanism of building a strong collective voice for philanthropy to strategically engage in development processes (*sustainable development goals and Vision 2030*) and advance a favorable operating environment for local philanthropy at the national level.

To achieve this, the Kenya philanthropy forum was established as a network that brings together local philanthropy organizations (foundations, trusts, and local NGOs) to building a common voice for philanthropy to engage in multi stakeholder's development platforms, enhance an enabling environment and foster knowledge and collaboration within the sector. Thematic groups were establish to take into account the diverse interests and form of philanthropy institutions in Kenya.

The Kenya National forum identified the following key objectives;

- Document and share knowledge the contribution of local philanthropy in development by supporting the development of relevant and reliable data to inform the sector's interventions.
- Foster philanthropy – government collaboration at different levels
- Represent the voice of local philanthropy in multi-stakeholder development platforms
- Advance favorable tax and policy environment for local philanthropy in Kenya

A planning team was established to conceptualize the forum and advice on the establishment of its short and long-term agenda and structures moving forward.

Case Study

Kenya National Philanthropy Forum (KPF)

PROPOSED STRUCTURE - KPF

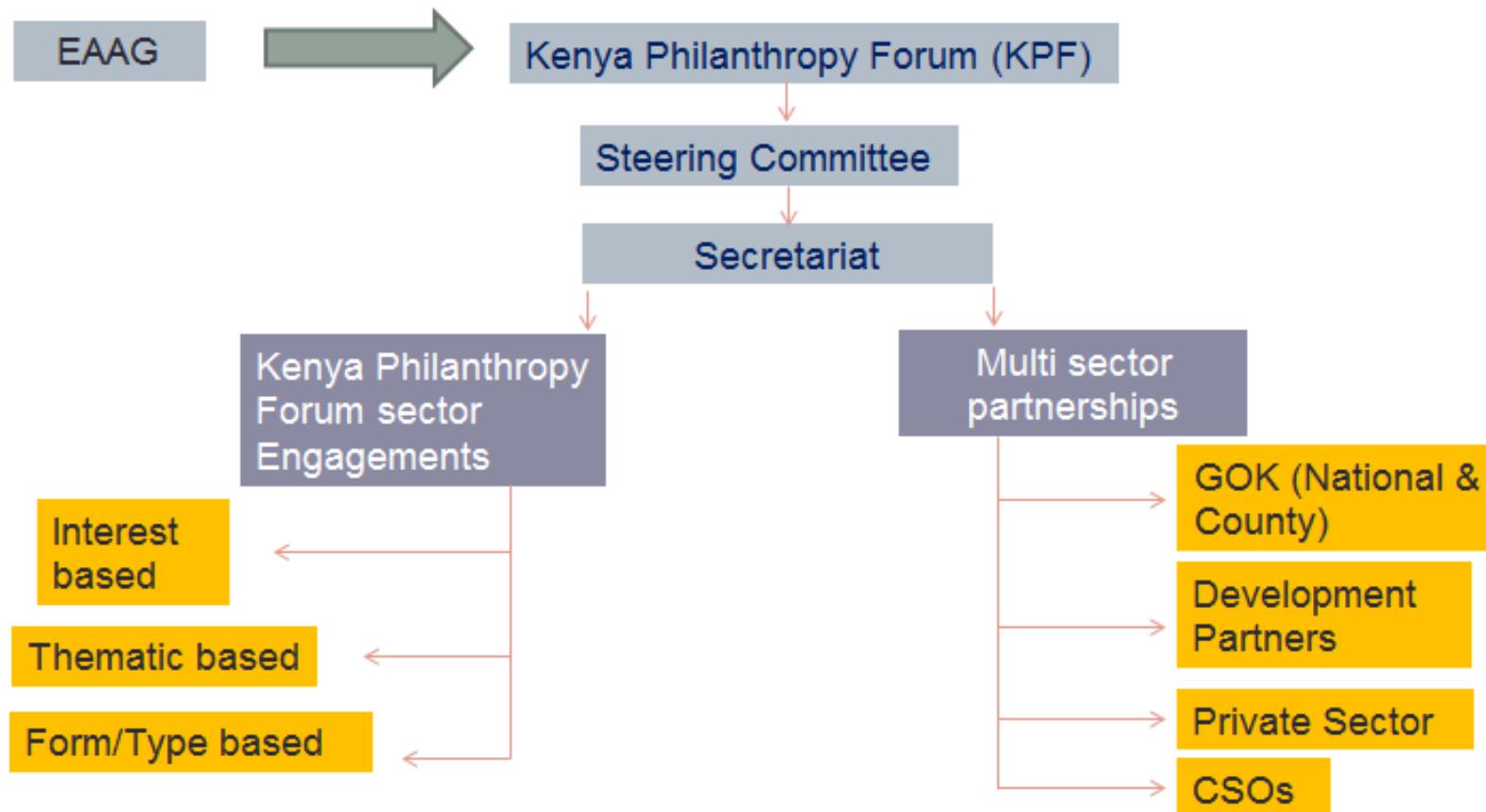
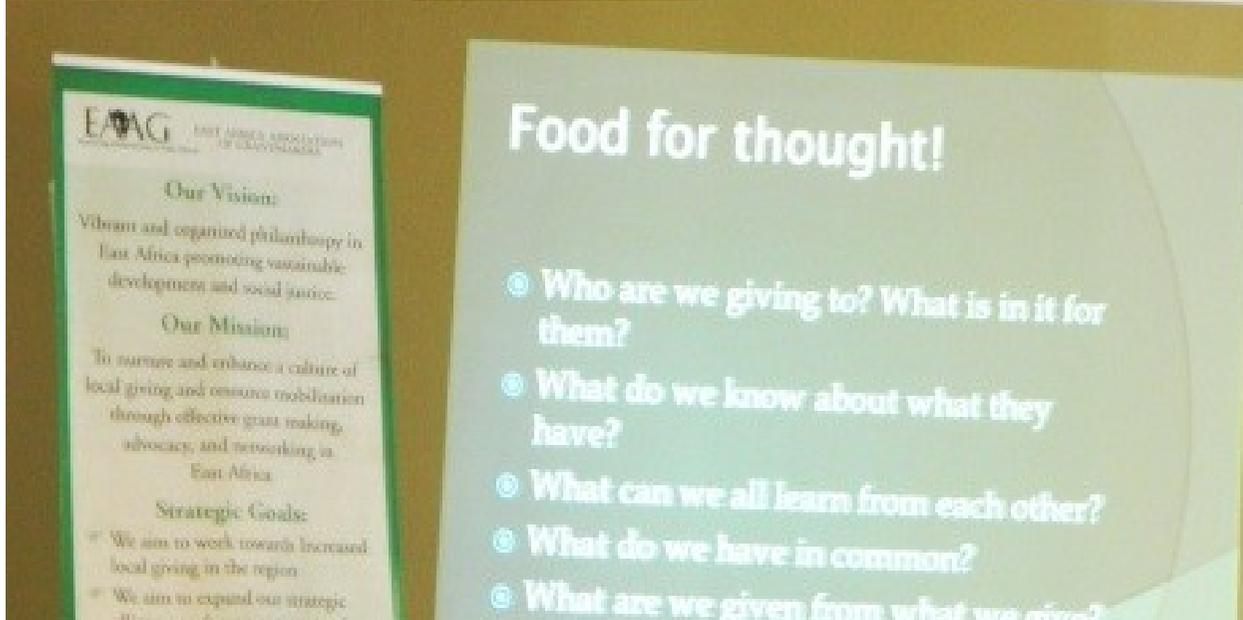


PHOTO GALLERY





EAST AFRICA ASSOCIATION OF GRANTMAKERS

P.O Box 49626-00100, Nairobi, Kenya,

Tel: +254-020-315773, Cell: 0722376224

www.eaag.org

Email — programmes@eaag.org

Twitter—[@EAAG_Africa](https://twitter.com/EAAG_Africa)

Tanzania :

Foundation For Civil Society

Email: information@thefoundation-tz.org

[Www.thefoundation-tz.org](http://www.thefoundation-tz.org)