TANZANIA
Data Strategy and Capacity Building

Building a Collective Philanthropy Data System
April 13, 2017 • Protea Court Yard • Dar es Salaam
Background

This report highlights the key outcomes of the *Building a Collective Philanthropy Data System Workshop* held in Dar-Es-Salaam on April 13th 2017, the third in a series of workshops conducted over the past year in Tanzania as part of the *Data Strategy and Capacity Building Program*, a joint effort of East Africa Association of Grantmakers (EAAG), Tanzania National Philanthropy Forum (TPF), Foundation Center, the Foundation for Civil Society, and more than 15 Tanzanian philanthropic organizations. The program aims to strengthen the capacity of foundations and trusts to collect, analyze, and share reliable data to highlight the value of philanthropy to national development outcomes in Tanzania, facilitate philanthropic collaboration, and inform grantmaking and programmatic decisions.

The workshop built on the outcomes of the first phase of the program, which was focused on developing a collective data strategy for the philanthropy sector in Tanzania. During the **Data Scoping Meeting**, held in October 2016, and the **Data Strategy and Capacity Building Workshop**, held in December 2016, the partners identified the key data needs and challenges facing the sector in Tanzania including but not limited to:

- Limited capacity for data collection and management due to a lack of systems, human capacity, skills, and dedicated funds.
- Unreliable timeliness of data.
- Poor data quality.
- Lack of shared standards for data collection, management, and sharing.
- Weak culture surrounding data sharing due to mistrust and competition among organizations and fragmented knowledge sharing practices.

To address these needs and challenges, the partners agreed on the following steps to guide the implementation of the *Data Strategy and Capacity Building Program*:

- Build the data collection and management capacity of the philanthropy sector.
- Demonstrate the value of data and foster a culture of data sharing.
- Increase investment in data and research.
- Develop data standards to harmonize data collection and management tools.
- Ensure transparency in data collection processes by documenting and sharing methodologies.
- Develop a collective philanthropy data portal that provides a clear picture of the landscape, trends and contribution of philanthropy in Tanzania.
During the previous workshops, the partners agreed on a set of values and principles to guide the program, which included: the upholding of guidelines on data quality and standardization, timeliness and frequency of data collection, confidentiality and trust, security, accountability and integrity, local ownership and inclusivity, transparency, and clearly defined roles and responsibilities among participating organizations. The group further identified the need to build capacity among relevant staff and stakeholders in the areas of data collection, research methodology, data analysis, reporting and presentation, as well as data collection. To guide the process, the partners have developed a data roadmap that details the key steps and action points of the Tanzania Data Strategy and Capacity Building Program. (For further details, see the Data Strategy and Capacity Building Workshop Report.)

The most recent workshop, Building a Collective Philanthropy Data System, was held to move the program from the initial strategy development phase to implementation. The workshop sought to solidify agreements made during the first year of the program and was focused on the development of a prototype data portal for the philanthropy sector in Tanzania. The partners agreed on which data are shareable at this time and outlined a suggested structure for the data portal. Having agreement on which information to share and how to structure it was crucial at this point in the process, as it will serve as a framework for data collection and to make sure the data that will ultimately be shared is contextually relevant and applicable. Further, the partners continued to refine the strategy and agreed on partner roles and concrete next steps.

Key Considerations for the Data Strategy and Capacity Building Program

During a session that sought to validate and confirm the values and principles for data sharing, which were developed during the Data Scoping Meeting in October 2016, the group emphasized the following key considerations:

**Data Security and Access**
Only those who contribute data and agree on a set of conditions and principles of use will have access to the data portal.

**Ownership and management of data**
Ensure inclusive management of the philanthropy data portal.

**Relevance and validity**
Ensure that the data is relevant and valid and correlates with relevant national indicators.

**Collaboration**
Use the portal as an avenue to deepen collaboration on knowledge management and sharing.

“Let us leverage on philanthropy data meetings to also explore deeper collaborations”
—PHILOMENA MODU
Building a Value Proposition

Given the weak culture of data sharing, especially within the philanthropy sector, there is a need to build a case for the value of quality philanthropy data and provide a shared reference point for mobilizing more support for the data process. Participants highlighted key elements to inform a value proposition for building a collective philanthropy data management system in Tanzania:

**Mobilize resources:** The data in the portal can serve as a powerful fundraising tool for foundations by providing information that helps organizations tell their story and show how their work fits within a broader landscape of philanthropic efforts.

**Enhance visibility:** Organizations can leverage the data in the portal to enhance their visibility and highlight the impact of their work.

**Promote informed and strategic collaboration:** The portal will include detailed organization profiles, making it possible to know who is doing what where in Tanzania. Having access to this information can facilitate strategic collaboration by helping organizations identify prospective partners, gaps and opportunities within the philanthropic sector.

**Share best practices:** The Data Strategy and Capacity Building Program provides a platform for cross learning, co-creation, and knowledge exchange based on individual and collective experiences among organizations.

**Demonstrate philanthropy’s collective impact:** A central repository with information and data on philanthropic programs in Tanzania can demonstrate the sector’s collective contribution to national development and empower philanthropic movements and organizations to advocate for policies that create an enabling environment for philanthropy in Tanzania.

Developing the Prototype Structure

To provide context and background for group discussions on which data to share and how to structure the data, Foundation Center gave an overview of components of data that are often collected around the world, based on the organizational structure and operating practices of foundations. This included existing philanthropy data portals, the types of data that are shared in those portals, possible ways to structure the data, how to make sure data captures relevant information regardless of the type of organization and operating context, and a variety of geo-mapping and other data visualization tools.

Possible “data buckets” presented included foundation profiles, and information on which populations, geographic regions, organizations and sectors receive from funding. The possibility of sharing program and M&E reports, research, surveys, and nonprofit resources was also discussed.
The group shared the following reactions to the data tools and portals presented:

- There is value in aggregating data by thematic area of focus and sector of beneficiary organizations. The level of data aggregation and analysis will depend on the amount and consistency of the data that is submitted.

- The prototype will make collaboration among the participating organizations easier, as they can submit data, provide feedback, and suggest enhancements to the portal both online and in-person.

- Up-to-date contextual information, which is necessary as a basis for interpreting quantitative data, is not readily available in Tanzania.

- To enhance the value of the data on the portal and to link it to existing national, regional and global data frameworks, it's crucial to identify and develop a working relationship with strategic data partners, such as Tanzania Bureau of Statistics (TBS) and UNDP country office.
Group Exercise Results: Deciding Which Data to Share

To inform data collection tools and define ‘data buckets’ to include in the Philanthropy Data Prototype in Tanzania, participants were tasked with identifying minimum shareable data based on their organization’s context. A list of proposed shareable information and ‘data buckets’ from earlier meetings was circulated to guide the discussion.

The groups identified the following basic data and information as most relevant and shareable during the prototype development phase:

**ORGANIZATION PROFILE**
- Type of organization: grantmaking, operating, or implementing.
- Office location.
- Contact information.
- Link to website.
- Demographics of beneficiaries.
- Mission and values of the organization.
- Regulations, standards, and ethics.

**REPORTS AND OTHER RESOURCES**
- Surveys results.
- Publications by organizations.
- Impact reports.
- Case studies.
- Best practices.
- Research publications (including methodological information).

**FINANCIAL DATA**
- Financial transaction data (disaggregate grantmaking information).
- Financial data (aggregate level data).

**PROGRAM INFORMATION**
- Program description.
- Program strategy.
- Sector.
- Thematic area of focus.
- Geographic area benefiting from program.
- Population group benefiting from program.

The discussion on data sharing generated the following recommendations:

**Language:** The prototype should be translated to Swahili.

**Authenticity of data:** Information submitted should be reviewed before it’s published on the portal, to ensure that the information is accurate and in a standardized format. It was suggested that EAAG should work closely with TPF and Foundation Center on this.

**Profile information should be standardized:** Foundation Center will provide a template for submitting profile and program information to ensure consistency and standardized format of data.

**Defining organization categories and program strategies:** EAAG will coordinate with Foundation Center and TPF to identify relevant organization type categories. Foundation Center will provide a list of program strategies for data providers to choose from.

**Values, mission, and affiliations:** The prototype should include an option for organizations to include their values, mission, and links to membership organizations they are affiliated with.

**Contextual information:** Integrate an Issue Lab knowledge portal into the prototype to capture reports and other publications (www.issuelab.org). Issuelab is a service of Foundation Center that includes more than 22,000 unique publications by and for the nonprofit sector. It allows organizations to create custom resource collections, grouped by geographic location, sector, and thematic areas, to integrate and publish on their own online platforms.

**Data visualization:** Make sure data is presented in a way that helps users to analyze, interpret, and apply the information.
Prototype Development Process: Sharing, Ownership, and Partner Roles

The data roadmap provides a set of concrete steps to ensure that the philanthropy data portal is relevant, responsive to the needs of key stakeholders, and sustainably managed. The process of developing the portal requires time and diligence to ensure that the product adhere to the shared and agreed upon principles and values.

The partners agreed that EAAG will sign an agreement with Foundation Center on behalf of TPF to ensure that data submitted is protected and used only as agreed with the data providers. The agreement will also state and ensure that only those who share data have access to the data.

In addition to conditions of access, a working agreement between TPF, EAAG and Foundation Center was drawn stating that Foundation Center will continue providing technical support to the process by first developing a prototype of the proposed data system, which includes collectively and systematically designing the tools and process to collect, manage, and share data for and with participants.

As a way forward in the development of a prototype, participants agreed to submit minimum shareable data and mobilize more foundations to contribute by submitting data and supporting the strategic objectives of the program. It was agreed that EAAG and TPF will partner to facilitate the data collection process during the prototype development phase.

Foundation Center will work with EAAG to develop a user friendly, standardized, Tanzania specific, data collection form for the participants. The form will be developed according to the principles, shareable data, and best practices identified by participants during the workshops.

Participants will be asked to complete the online form via a link circulated by EAAG, as well as upload any relevant qualitative documents. Once this data is received, Foundation Center will clean, index, process this data per the data roadmap presented throughout the workshops so it can be presented in the online prototype portal to display information about local philanthropic organizations and their work.

This data will then be fed into and presented in a prototype of a data sharing portal that will be password protected and only accessible to the participating organizations in Tanzania. (See graphic on page 8).

“"If you want to go fast, go alone if you want to move far, go together”
—AFRICAN PROVERB"
TANZANIA PHILANTHROPY DATA PORTAL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

From: EAAG
Please fill in DATA TEMPLATE

Accessible only to TANZANIA participants

DATA ROADMAP

COLLECTION

INPUT SYSTEMS
- Surveys
- Spreadsheets
- Data updater systems
- Grants management systems
- Qualitative data

DATA FIELDS
- Questions commonly asked of foundations
- Who is funding What and Where
- Measuring impact

TAXONOMIES
- Subject areas
- Types of support
- Geographic area served
- Beneficiary populations
  
  Taxonomy example: Philanthropy Classification System (PCS)

DATA PORTAL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

From: EAAG
Please fill in DATA TEMPLATE

TANZANIA PARTICIPANTS’ DATA

FOUNDATION CENTER SECURE SERVERS

DATA PROCESSING AND INDEXING

TANZANIA PHILANTHROPY DATA PORTAL

DATA TEMPLATE

COLLECTION

PROCESSING

CLEANING
- Internal consistency
- Boundary checks
- Missing data
- Stale data

INDEXING
- Applying the taxonomy
- Degree of precision
- Manual vs Autocoding

STORAGE (BACK END)
- Local
- Cloud based
- Third party

MAINTENANCE
- Periodic vs Continuous
- Technical capacity
- Refreshing the data
- Frequency/Scope

ANALYSIS

ACCESS
- User types
- Conditions of access
- Aggregate vs Disaggregate
- Ownership

DATA TOOLS (FRONT END)
- Data look up
- Interactive data queries

APPLYING THE DATA
- Story telling
- Visualization
- Reports
- Case studies
Way Forward

- Develop a program brief that gives an overview of the Data Strategy and Capacity Building Program in Tanzania, for use as a communications tool for participants, and in seeking necessary approval to submit data. The brief should include: the value proposition, a brief description of the process, a list of organizations ready to share data, similar initiatives in other countries and at the global level, key data stakeholders, conditions of data access, Tanzanian organizations that support the program, a list of the agreed upon minimum shareable data, and timeline for launching the prototype.

- Foundation Center will work with EAAG and the Foundation for Civil Society to develop an online template for participants to submit data.

- EAAG will work with local philanthropy to mobilize participants to provide data to Foundation Center, which will verify, process, and clean the data before adding it to the portal.

- The prototype will be presented during the next meeting for input and review and to inform the next phase of developing the Tanzania Philanthropy Data Portal.

Conclusion

EAAG, TPF, the Foundation for Civil Society, and Foundation Center are excited for the next phase of the Data Strategy and Capacity Building Program in Tanzania as it shifts from strategy development to implementation. This marks a crucial turning point in a region where foundations have traditionally been reluctant to share information widely, due to low levels of trust and the lack of a collective approach towards philanthropy data management. Having a national philanthropy data portal—and eventually sharing the data beyond the participating trusts and foundations—will undoubtedly allow the sector to partner more effectively, and to demonstrate its impact and contribution to development.

“It is important that there be a context specific strategy for communicating the data in a way that tells the relevant stories.”

—WORKSHOP PARTICIPANT
## Workshop Agenda

### Tanzania Data Strategy and Capacity Building

**Developing a Philanthropy Data System**  
**April 13, 2017 ♦ Protea Hotel ♦ Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08.30 – 09.00</td>
<td>Arrival and registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.00 – 09.15</td>
<td>Welcome <em>(EAAG/TPF)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>09.15 – 09.45</td>
<td>Recap of progress made in achieving a collective data system for philanthropy <em>(Foundation Center)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9.45 – 10.15</td>
<td>The process for building the Data Portal <em>(Foundation Center)</em></td>
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<td>10.15 – 10.30</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.30 – 12.30</td>
<td>Specifying the Portal Structure <em>(Foundation Center)</em></td>
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<td>12.30 – 13.30</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.30 – 14.30</td>
<td>Commitments and Next Steps for the Data Portal <em>(Foundation Center)</em></td>
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## Participants (by Organization)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Africa Philanthropy Foundation</strong></td>
<td>Stuwart Kitila</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Benjamin Mkapa Foundation</strong></td>
<td>Ankita Mehta, Rahma Musoke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EAAG</strong></td>
<td>Catherine Mwendwa, Evans Okinyi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ETG Farmers</strong></td>
<td>Belinda Naali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foundation Center</strong></td>
<td>Lauren Bradford, Larry McGill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foundation for Civil society</strong></td>
<td>Nasim Losai, Karin Rupia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Legal Services Facility</strong></td>
<td>Said Chitung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reach for Change</strong></td>
<td>Redemptha William</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tanzania Gatsby Trust</strong></td>
<td>Joan Kimerei</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tanzania Media Foundation</strong></td>
<td>Baraka Daniel</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WFT</strong></td>
<td>Philomena Modu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Women Legal Aid Centre</strong></td>
<td>Wigayi KissanduW</td>
</tr>
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About Tanzania Philanthropy Forum

On September 23rd 2015, the East African Association of Grantmakers (EAAG) in partnership with the Foundation for Civil Society hosted the first Tanzania National Philanthropy Forum (TPF). The objective of the forum was to understand and map the landscape of philanthropy in Tanzania and 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 locally established private philanthropic organizations, and organizations with a local presence such as private foundations, family foundations, community foundations, corporate foundations and faith-based giving among other selected CSO groups. The launch of the TPF marked an opportunity for the philanthropy community in Tanzania to come together and strengthen its voice and influence in national development processes.

The TPF has identified the following as its core objectives:
- Consolidate and strengthen the voice of philanthropy in national development.
- Provide a platform for knowledge sharing and join learning for philanthropy organizations, particularly foundations and trusts.
- Strengthen philanthropy collaboration and innovation at the national level.
- Increase awareness of the value and contribution of philanthropy to national development in Tanzania by providing reliable philanthropy data.

By targeting corporations, foundations, grantmakers, individuals, NGOs, CSOs, international organizations and other key stakeholders the forum has spearheaded inclusive dialogue and collaboration on philanthropy in Tanzania. The TPF has begun to identify and address the key capacity and data needs of the sector, such as through an online mapping of philanthropy in Tanzania, and continues to play a strategic leadership role in developing a collective approach to philanthropy data management in Tanzania. For more information about TPF or this work, please contact Karin Rupia, Resource Mobilization Executive, Foundation for Civil Society, at krupia@thefoundation-tz.org.

About Foundation Center

In order to strengthen the philanthropic sector to achieve more effective development and grantmaking outcomes, Foundation Center works with partners to understand the global philanthropic landscape and the in-country contexts within which philanthropy operates. We work with partners to understand specific data and knowledge gaps and associated capacity issues, and facilitate the building of long term sustainable local data strategies and capacity to address these issues. We work to provide technical assistance to local philanthropic organisations and associations to develop their own data collection processes and infrastructure and organize information in ways that allow it to be accessed, aggregated, analyzed, compared, and researched. Important partners in this work may include the National Bureau of Statistics, international and local foundations and philanthropists, grantees, and existing data infrastructure networks and processes both global and local, such as the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, Worldwide Initiative for Grantmaker Support (WINGS), and others.

For more information about Foundation Center or this work, please contact Lauren Bradford, director of global partnerships, at lbr@foundationcenter.org.