So far, data limitations have hindered the attempt to accurately track the contribution of philanthropy in development processes in Tanzania.

Overview

Tanzania has seen significant improvements to its national development data infrastructure in recent years. In February 2016 the country adopted an Open Data Policy aimed at increasing access to government data and promoting increased transparency and partnerships for social and economic development. Key government data has been made available for use by civil society organizations (CSOs) and the media through an open data portal. Additionally, the 2016-2021 National Development Plan includes among its key objectives the need to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets into its Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.

However, existing data initiatives are largely government driven and do not adequately take into account data from or about civil society actors. In particular, Tanzania lacks a dedicated platform and framework for collecting, sharing and analyzing data on philanthropy. In September 2015, inspired by similar initiatives in other East African Countries, the Foundation for Civil Society partnered with the East Africa Association of Grantmakers (EAAG) to form the Tanzania National Philanthropy Forum (TPF). The launch of the TPF marks 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.
- Enhance and improve knowledge sharing and use of data for philanthropy, particularly foundations and trusts.
- Enhance national policy development by collaboration and innovation at the national level.
- Collect, coordinate, and enhance national data.
- Strengthen data and management, in order to enhance the sector’s visibility, coordination, and influence on national development policy. The meeting brought together representatives from 12 local philanthropy organizations.

As reflected in the agenda, the specific objectives of the Data Scoping Meeting were to:

1. Understand the value and opportunities for advancing the philanthropy data agenda in Tanzania.
2. Establish common Principles for Collaborative Data and Knowledge Management.
3. Identify key Data and Knowledge Challenges and Needs.
4. Explore existing Technologies for Collecting and Sharing Data and Knowledge.
5. Set Local Data and Knowledge Goals.

This report summarizes the outcomes of the Data Scoping Meeting, including highlights from the discussions and key recommendations.
Setting the Scene

Tanzania has a long-standing tradition of philanthropic giving that is influenced by both traditional concepts and global trends in philanthropy. At the core of Tanzanian philanthropic tradition is the Ujamaa ideology, in which identity and self-reliance is developed through and with the community. With the decline of official development aid, the growth of the professional middle class, and the emergence of socially conscious high net worth individuals, Tanzania has experienced a rise in structured forms of philanthropy. These include grantmaking foundations established by wealthy individuals, a strong community of youth philanthropists, a rise in corporate giving, and the proliferation of community philanthropy organizations.¹

Acknowledging the significance of these emerging forms of philanthropy, including their contribution to national development, the TPF aims to strengthen the voice and influence of the sector. By targeting corporations, foundations, grantmakers, individuals, NGOs, CBOs, international organizations and other key stakeholders the forum has spearheaded inclusive dialogue and collaboration on philanthropy in Tanzania. In addition to providing strategic leadership, the TPF has begun to identify and address the key capacity and data needs of the sector.

In April 2016 the Foundation for Civil Society in collaboration with the EAAG organized a workshop on ‘Mobilizing Private Local Resources for Development’. The purpose of the workshop was to improve the capacity of philanthropic organizations in resource mobilization and to explore innovative ways of mobilizing local resources for sustainable social programs.

In recognizing the need for reliable data on local philanthropy, the forum conducted an online mapping of philanthropy in Tanzania as a first step toward identifying philanthropic institutions, actors, and areas of focus. The mapping found that most organizations are registered as Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). NGOs are also the main recipients of funding alongside Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and individuals, while the main sources of funding are foundations, trusts, individuals and international organizations. Among the key issue areas receiving funding are women’s empowerment, education, and human rights and advocacy. The mapping provided an opportunity for the forum to think broadly and more strategically about the next steps toward on a comprehensive plan for collecting and managing philanthropy data. Currently, there is no reliable data available on the contribution of philanthropy to the national development plans and the forum seeks to provide leadership in developing a collective approach to philanthropy data management in Tanzania.


Findings from Pre-meeting Survey on Current Data Practices

At the beginning of the Data Scoping Meeting, results were presented from a pre-meeting survey that sought views on the data-related experiences, context, and needs of participating organizations in order to set the stage for the day’s discussions. Survey responses were received from 7 respondents prior to the meeting. Among the key findings:

- 6 of 7 are willing to share lessons learned with peers
- 6 of 7 assess the impact of their programs
- 6 of 7 use indicators to track their impact
- 5 of 7 have a monitoring and evaluation strategy
- 6 of 7 use comparative information about the work of other organizations
- 5 of 7 have a monitoring and evaluation strategy
- 6 of 7 have access to the information they need to achieve their goals

The findings from the survey indicate that the participating organizations give high priority to data, learning and evaluation. This is indicated by the fact that 6 out of 7 respondents assess impact and use indicators, while 5 of 7 have an M&E strategy.

6 of the 7 respondents also said they are willing to share lessons learned with their peers while 4 of 7 already use comparative information about the work of other organizations, suggesting that organizations are motivated to learn from each other but perhaps also indicating a need for processes and systems to facilitate joint learning.

When asked about the most pressing data-related challenges facing their organizations, the most frequently mentioned were issues related to data application, sharing, technology, access, and comparability, highlighting the need for developing a deliberate and specific strategy for data collection and management that meets the needs of the philanthropy sector in Tanzania.
In a facilitated plenary discussion, participants proposed principles to guide philanthropic data collection and management in Tanzania. The principles provide a foundation for building trust and confidence among and between data sharing partners by prioritizing values that assure respect, transparency, objectivity and relevance of collective data collection processes. They serve as a starting point for the development of a collective strategy that addresses the data challenges and needs experienced by philanthropy organizations in Tanzania. Participants identified the following principles and values:

- **Data quality**: Joint guidelines on research methodology and clearly defined standards for data collection, management and analysis must be established to ensure credibility and reliability.

- **Standardization**: Standardized tools for data collection must be developed to ensure that data is comparable and applicable.

- **Timeliness and Frequency**: Developing a routine for collection and consistency a set time frame for collecting and sharing data should be determined.

- **Confidentiality and trust**: A mechanism should be put in place for reporting concerns about data quality and unethical use of data.

- **Transparency**: Clear and accurate information about the data process, including collection methods, analysis tools and technologies, must be made available to allow users to determine the reliability of data.

- **Clear defined roles and responsibilities**: Clearly defined roles and responsibilities should be agreed on among partners and a lead agency should be designated to facilitate and guide the data process in Tanzania.

- **Coordination**: Efforts should be made to integrate the philanthropy data process into national data collection systems.

- **Participation and Ownership**: Key stakeholders and beneficiaries of philanthropy data should be included, afforded appropriate ownership, and provided with the necessary capacity building to participate in the data process on equal terms.

- **Clear Value Proposition**: In deciding which data to collect, the impact of past data collected should be evaluated and the objective should be to only collect data when it’s clear what the data will be used for.

- **Cultural Appropriateness**: The data process must respect and appreciate the local context by ensuring culturally sensitive data collection and reporting methods.

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Participants identified the following data challenges:

- **Poor Data Quality**: Available data is not reliable and is poor in quality due to the lack of methodological practices that assure validity and comparability.

- **Capacity Constraints**: Organizations experience a shortage and high turnover rate of personnel with skills in data application, analysis and visualization.

- **Technological Constraints**: Organizations lack access to high quality technological tools for data creation, collection, analysis and visualization.

In a facilitated plenary discussion, participants proposed principles to guide philanthropic data collection and management in Tanzania. The principles provide a foundation for building trust and confidence among and between data sharing partners by prioritizing values that assure respect, transparency, objectivity and relevance of collective data collection processes. They serve as a starting point for the development of a collective strategy that addresses the data challenges and needs experienced by philanthropy organizations in Tanzania. Participants identified the following principles and values:

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- **Cultural Appropriateness**: The data process must respect and appreciate the local context by ensuring culturally sensitive data collection and reporting methods and by translating guidelines, publications and data portals into local languages, e.g. Swahili.

**Competing Principles**

In some cases, different principles may conflict with each other. In such cases, stakeholders should establish guidelines to decide which principle applies over the other.
Financial Resource Constraints and Costs: While the cost of collecting and analyzing quality data is high, organizations report a lack of dedicated investment in data related activities and capacity building.

Mistrust and Fragmentation: The sector lacks a culture for data sharing due to mistrust and competition among organizations, which in turn means that most organizations have their own research agendas and approaches and don't adhere to a shared standard for data collection.

NEEDS
Participants identified the following as key data needs to be addressed:

Capacity Building: To ensure that foundations and trusts have the necessary skills to implement the data strategy, training in research methodology and data creation and collection, analysis, reporting, visualization and application are needed in addition to support for design and harmonization of M&E frameworks.

Data Collection and Research Methodology: Higher priority should be given to the development of data collection processes and approaches, and to research methodology to ensure data is relevant, robust, reliable, and based on context specific realities. This requires dedicated effort and funds for building the methodological and research skills of staff and providing appropriate tools and technologies.

Documenting and Packaging Data: Greater focus should be given to documenting the data process by ensuring that the methodology for data creation, collection, processing and analysis is determined and clearly articulated from the outset and can be referred back to when defending findings, while also being adaptable based on realities on the ground. Data and research findings also need to be presented and packaged in the most appropriate way and tailored to specific user and audience groups.

Shared Standards: Common data standards are needed, including a guideline for research proposals and submission mechanisms, to harmonize data collection and management practices.

Tools and Technology: Technology for collecting and sharing data on philanthropy in Tanzania is needed, including a centralized data bank, to improve access to, standardization, and comparability of data.

Raising Awareness: Awareness raising on the value of philanthropy data is needed to enhance a culture of knowledge management and data sharing among stakeholders.

Linking Global and Local Knowledge Initiatives
A key component to advancing the philanthropy data agenda in Tanzania is tying it to existing data initiatives at the regional and global levels. These initiatives can serve as frameworks and tools to guide the process at the national level and as important forums to raise awareness about local philanthropy's contributions to global development. The group discussed the following key initiatives:

"Tanzanian foundations are allowed to get tax credit for their contributions, but awareness is very low."
—Tanzania Data Scoping Meeting Attendee

The Global Philanthropy Data Charter, developed by the Worldwide Initiative for Grantmaker Support (WINGS), is a framework to guide organizations in the sector to help them to improve philanthropy data, in order to allow for better measurement and to ensure that the methodology for data creation, collection, processing and analysis is determined and clearly articulated from the outset and can be referred back to when defending findings, while also being adaptable based on realities on the ground. Data and research findings also need to be presented and packaged in the most appropriate way and tailored to specific user and audience groups.

Tools and Technology: Technology for collecting and sharing data on philanthropy in Tanzania is needed, including a centralized data bank, to improve access to, standardization, and comparability of data.

Raising Awareness: Awareness raising on the value of philanthropy data is needed to enhance a culture of knowledge management and data sharing among stakeholders.

The 2014 Giving Report highlights key challenges and opportunities for advancing philanthropy in Tanzania. During the Data Scoping Meeting the group discussed how better access to and application of data can address each of the challenges and enhance opportunities identified in the giving report:

Limited funding: Impact and context data can build a case for resource mobilization and help to justify planning and program strategies.

Poor collaboration among stakeholders: Putting in place systems and processes for generating and sharing quality data among stakeholders can reduce duplication of effort and provide opportunities for collaboration through learning from success of other organizations, engaging in thematic dialogues, and identifying complimentary ways of working.

Lack of accountability: Data generated in and by communities are crucial in identifying development priorities and driving decisions about how to address them.
- The **SDG Philanthropy Platform** aims to foster partnerships among philanthropy, governments and multilateral organizations to facilitate a more enabling environment for the sector in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. For more information visit [sdgfunders.org/about](http://sdgfunders.org/about).

- The **Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data** works to build an enabling environment for harnessing the data revolution for sustainable development by supporting countries to develop data roadmaps, mobilizing collective global action on data and developing global data principles and protocols. For more information visit [data4sdgs.org](http://data4sdgs.org).

- National Statistical Bureaus, such as Tanzania National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), are the main keepers of data in country. It is crucial for philanthropy to engage with statistical bureaus and make sure their contributions and activities are linked to national data frameworks to ensure a complete picture of development financing and programs in Tanzania. For more information visit [ubos.org](http://ubos.org).

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- Example 2: The mobile-based platform **Wajibika** utilizes citizen-generated data to evaluate the impact of development programs across sectors. Using an SMS platform, citizens, journalists, and development actors share their experiences in interacting with various development organizations. Data generated, both quantitative and qualitative, provides donors and other stakeholders with information to inform decision-making.

- Example 3: An online, interactive map created by Asociacion de Fundaciones Empresariales (AFE) in Colombia shows AFE’s member foundations and their projects by geographic location. For more information visit [afecolombia.org/en-us/Foundations](http://afecolombia.org/en-us/Foundations).

- Example 4: **Foundation Maps** is a robust data visualization tool developed by Foundation Center that allows users to see who is funding what and where around the world. With millions of grants from 2006 to the present, innovative ways to visualize funding data, and the flexibility and precision to tailor inquiries, Foundation Maps helps funders and nonprofits access the knowledge they need to make strategic decisions and strengthen their impact. For more information visit [foundationcenter.org/home.php](http://foundationcenter.org/home.php).

- Example 5: **SDGFunders.org** is a key element of the SDG Philanthropy Platform. It presents aggregate data on foundation funding to the Millennium Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals. The portal illustrates the fact that, perhaps without realizing it, global philanthropy has already been working towards the MDGs and the SDGs. It makes data on SDG-related philanthropic investments more accessible, including investments by goal, region, country and population group, and allows for comparison to official development assistance. The site is also a knowledge center on partnerships, relevant events, stories and research related to philanthropy and the SDGs. For more information visit [sdgfunders.org](http://sdgfunders.org).

- Example 6: The **SDG Indicator Wizard** is a tool on SDGFunders.org that can help organizations determine which Sustainable Development Goal(s) targets and indicators relate to their work, enabling them to use data to document and track evidence of social change in addition to their own indicators. For more information visit [sdgfunders.org/wizard](http://sdgfunders.org/wizard).

**“Data Dreams”**

To begin the process of setting goals and priorities for philanthropy data in Tanzania the group was encouraged to describe an ideal data system that would address the sector’s data challenges and needs. Building on the discussions earlier in the day participants were asked to consider the types of data they would need as well as possible applications and impact of having that data.

The discussion was centered on the following elements:

- Philanthropy data that is credible, reliable, up-to-date and can be aggregated by sector, themes and demographics.
- A data collection system that is simple, cost effective, and allows users to enter data in real time.
- Data is openly available through a platform that is user friendly and accessible.
Data can be tailored to suit the needs of different end users and audiences, e.g. machine readable data for expert users and interactive charts and visualizations for a broader audience.

Participants also discussed their “data dreams”, i.e. the social benefits that could result from access to and more effective use of quality data:

- Access to reliable data on philanthropy allows journalists to produce more data driven stories about social issues.
- The data allows the philanthropy sector to demonstrate its contribution to national development.
- By making philanthropy data publicly available through an online platform, various stakeholders and decision makers can use the information to advance sustainable development.

"Access to reliable data on philanthropy allows journalists to produce more data driven stories about social issues."

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Goals and Priorities

In order to identify a way forward on developing a data strategy, a set of goals and priorities for the Tanzanian Philanthropy sector were agreed on, based on the needs that received the most votes in the earlier session where participants ranked needs and challenges by priority. The following three priority areas were selected to guide the data strategy going forward:

1. **Capacity Building**: The highest priority was given to building capacity among relevant staff and stakeholders. Capacity building is needed in the areas of data collection, research methodology, data analysis, reporting and presentation, as well as data collection and analysis for Monitoring and Evaluation. A necessary precondition for the capacity building work is to raise awareness among staff of the importance of data to their work.

2. **Data Collection and Research Methodology**: The group expressed a strong desire for quality data about philanthropy in Tanzania, and for the field to dedicate time and resources to data collection and research. There is a need to define joint standards for data collection and to invest in the appropriate training and tools to meet those standards.

Foundation Center’s Data Strategy & Capacity Building Program

Foundation Center’s Data Strategy and Capacity Building Program involves a series of activities taking place over several months. First, in partnership with key local stakeholders, Foundation Center gathers background information on current data issues, constraints, opportunities, and aspirations of foundations regarding in-country data collection and knowledge management. Then, to build a collective set of goals among local stakeholders regarding data collection and knowledge management, the partners collectively develop an agenda for and facilitate an in-country “Data Scoping Meeting” with local philanthropy and other relevant participants.

Data Scoping Meetings allow participants opportunities to:

- Learn about global data initiatives such as the Global Data Charter, other relevant regional and national data initiatives, and Foundation Center’s role in facilitating data collection and knowledge management.
- Discuss findings from pre-distributed surveys regarding data needs and provide input regarding issues, opportunities and bottlenecks, such as comparability with National Statistical Office data sets.
- Preview tools that can be used for collecting, displaying and presenting data, and highlight concrete ways in which other philanthropic associations and organizations around the world have successfully developed portals, tools and built capacity.

Following the Data Scoping Meeting, Foundation Center summarizes and synthesizes the findings and works with local partners to develop an agenda for a Data Capacity Building Training to follow. The Training is designed to address the strategy, capacity, and technical challenges highlighted in the Data Scoping Meeting.

After the Training has been delivered, Foundation Center provides ongoing technical assistance to its local partners to strengthen the country’s philanthropic support organizations and foundations, and continue to implement the longer-term data strategy and capacity building program in country. As appropriate, this may include working with local partners to develop a technical platform to enable local data collection, management and access and creating protocols for training stakeholders to develop and manage their own data processes.

At a broader level, Foundation Center works with its partners to thread the data capacity building and strategy work into other existing initiatives in country and internationally to ensure its long term sustainability, and position philanthropy as a leader in Global and National development issues and opportunities, as well as data and knowledge management processes.
3. **Documenting and Packaging Data:** The group expressed a need for the field to document the research process, including improved transparency on research methodology and data collection and appropriate packaging of data and information tailored to specific audiences.

While all three priority areas require dedicated effort, they are not mutually exclusive and should not be pursued in isolation. For example, capacity building and awareness raising are necessary preconditions for improving data collection and packaging, and documenting the research process becomes easier as methodologies and standards are refined.

**Closing Remarks and Next Steps**

The Data Scoping Meeting served as an opportunity for the philanthropic community in Tanzania to begin jointly developing a strategy for data sharing and management. It marked the continuation of a broader initiative to support the country’s philanthropy data agenda and address the need to document the sector’s contribution to Tanzania’s national development.

Building on the progress made during the meeting, the EAAG, the Foundation for Civil Society and Foundation Center renewed their commitment to supporting the data strategy and capacity building process in Tanzania. The key priorities and principles identified during the Data Scoping Meeting will inform the next steps of the process, including a Philanthropy Data Strategy & Capacity Building Workshop to take place on the 8th December 2016 in Dar Es Salaam.
Resources

Africa Philanthropy Knowledge Base
Trust Africa & Issue Lab

Global Philanthropy Knowledge Centre
WINGS & Issue Lab

Foundation Directory Online
Foundation Center

Discounted Software for NonProfits
KCDF & TechSoup Kenya

Global Philanthropy Data Charter
WINGS

Philanthropy Data System
AFE Columbia

Foundation Maps
Foundation Center

SDGFunders
SDG Philanthropy Platform

National Philanthropy Forums—East Africa
East Africa Association of Grantmakers (EEAG)

WASHfunders
Foundation Center

Early Childhood Development Funding Map for East Africa
Foundation Center

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Appendix A – MEETING AGENDA

Tanzania Data Strategy and Capacity Building—Data Scoping Meeting

*Strengthening organisations to develop their own long term sustainable in-country data strategy, capacity and tools for more effective development outcomes and grantmaking*

27th October 2016, Protea Hotel, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tr>
<td>08.00–08.30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Foundation for Civil Society (FCS) and EAAG Secretariat</td>
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<tr>
<td>08.30–08.45</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>FCS and EAAG</td>
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<td>08.45–09.30</td>
<td>Advancing Philanthropy Data in Tanzania</td>
<td>Foundation Center</td>
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<td>♦ Opportunities for advancing the data agenda in Tanzania; building on global &amp; regional data processes (e.g., Global Data Charter, SDG PP, Data Forums); and demonstrating the value of relevant, accurate and reliable philanthropy data for foundations and country.</td>
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<td>09.30–10.45</td>
<td>Data and Knowledge Challenges and Needs</td>
<td>Foundation Center</td>
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<td>10.45–11.15</td>
<td>Tea Break</td>
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<td>11.15–12.15</td>
<td>Principles for Collaborative Data and Knowledge Management</td>
<td>Foundation Center</td>
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<td>12.15–12.45</td>
<td>Leveraging Technologies for Collecting and Sharing Data and Knowledge</td>
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<td>12.45–14.00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>14.00–15.00</td>
<td>Setting Local Data and Knowledge Goals</td>
<td>Foundation Center</td>
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<td>♦ Way forward</td>
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<td>♦ Establishing a Community of Practice</td>
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Appendix B – PARTICIPANTS (By Organization)

Amref Health Africa
Dr. Pius Chaya

Asante Africa Foundation
Zelote Loilang’anaki

Benjamin Mkapa Foundation
Caroline Sanga

BRAC
Md Al Amin Sandan

EAAG
Catherine Mwendwa
Antonny Otieno

Foundation Center
Lauren Bradford
Larry Mcgill
Arif Ekram

The Foundation for Civil Society
Nasim Losai
Karin Rupia

Legal Services Facility
Kees Groenendijk

Morogoro Community Foundation
Mwadhini Myanza

Reach for Change
Redemptha William

Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP)
Gloria Schechambo

Tanzania Media Fund
Baraka Daniel

Tanzania Private Sector Foundation
Rehema Mtingwa

Women Fund Tanzania (WFT)
Philomena Modu
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, at krupia@thefoundation-tz.org.

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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.