

# APF QUARTERLY

AFRICAN PHILANTHROPY FORUM NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2020



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# About AFRICAN PHILANTHROPY FORUM

The African Philanthropy Forum (APF) was established in 2014 to build a learning community of strategic African philanthropists and social investors committed to inclusive and sustainable development throughout the Continent.

It was incubated by the Global Philanthropy Forum (GPF), a global network of strategic philanthropists and social investors committed to international causes from 2014 - 2016. In 2017, APF became an independent entity and continues to be an affiliate of the GPF.

Over the years, APF has established a stronger presence on the Continent, with footprints in Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda, through its regional meetings and conferences. APF has also invested in the development of two Toolkits for African Philanthropists and the "Why Give" Series, which consists of interviews with Africa's strategic philanthropic leaders to showcase their motivations for giving.

Since inception, APF has reached approximately 2,000 philanthropists, social investors and key stakeholders in the philanthropic space across Africa and the world.

Through APF's high impact convenings and initiatives, the organization has facilitated collaborations, amplified the work of change makers and shared best philanthropic practices and strategies for promoting homegrown development.

## OUR MISSION

**The African Philanthropy Forum is a strong and vibrant community of partners who through their strategic giving, investments and influence, foster shared prosperity on the African continent.**

## OUR VISION

**To transform the culture of giving on the continent to the extent that it exceeds development aid by 2030. (USD 42bn FDA in 2017, source: UNCTAD Report)**

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## HIGHLIGHTS



## Webinar Series

### COVID-19 and African Philanthropy - July 7

We welcomed the third quarter of the year with our webinar titled COVID-19 and African Philanthropy during which African Philanthropy Forum, in partnership with Dalberg hosted 174 participants from across the philanthropic community. The panel was graced with a diverse selection of change makers and philanthropists, including James Mwangi of Dalberg who moderated the session. Speakers included Tsitsi Masiyiwa, APF Board Chair/Higherlife Foundation Co-Founder, Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli, MUNA Foundation/Sahel Consulting and Robyn Calder-Harawi, ELMA Philanthropies.

The webinar highlighted the need for African philanthropists to reshape their thinking in a bid to tackle the challenges we are currently faced with. Conversations were centered on discovering new tools necessary to operate strategically in the Post-COVID era. The webinar also provided an avenue to share the findings from the Africa Philanthropy Barometer Survey conducted by APF and Dalberg.

## Importance of Leveraging Resources Across Africa

During the course of the webinar, the speakers discussed the following areas of urgent intervention:

- Communities must discover new tools for resilience.
- There is an increasing opportunity for local and global philanthropists to create platforms that encourage collaboration and improve the effectiveness of giving.
- It is critical to have difficult conversations about the racial inequality that has transcended during the pandemic and ways to distribute resources in a just and fair manner.
- New dimension philanthropists can ensure that there is effective collaboration, especially partnering with already established community-based organizations.
- There is a need to redesign and reimagine the food ecosystem to ensure it favours the most vulnerable.
- Government policies should be redefined to better suit the needs of citizens.
- A health crisis has taken longer to pick up in Africa but has been preceded by an economic crisis.
- The need to highlight social crisis that has arisen as a result of the lockdown should be addressed. These include but are not limited to sexual abuse and domestic violence.

The webinar closed on a powerful note encouraging philanthropists to rise to the occasion by leveraging the opportunity that the pandemic presents to transform the Continent. It was also highlighted that this is the time for philanthropists to address the loopholes which require urgent attention that the pandemic has brought to the fore for rebuilding Africa.

# COVID-19

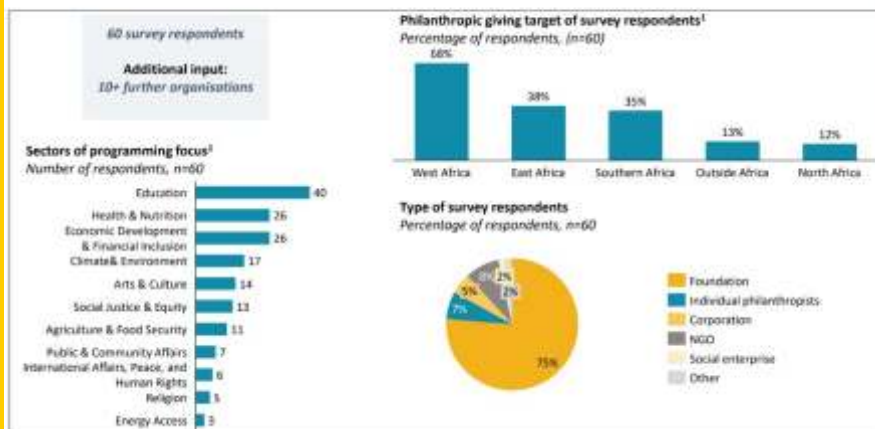
## Africa Philanthropy Barometer Survey

African Philanthropy Forum, in collaboration with Dalberg, conducted a COVID-19 Africa Philanthropy Barometer Survey in the second quarter of 2020. Its aim was to better understand the impact the pandemic had on the African philanthropy community and how the pandemic is shaping giving in Africa.

Results for the survey highlighted how the world's leading foundations and philanthropists are being impacted by and reacting to COVID-19.

Our insights on COVID-19 impact on the African philanthropic sector have been sourced from organisations across the continent

DRAFT FINDINGS

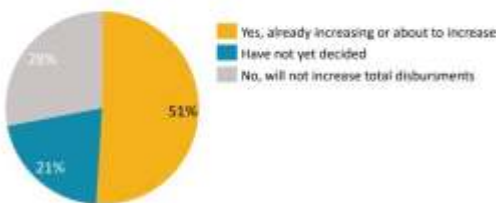


Philanthropy has ramped up their giving in 2020 to meet the increased needs across the continent

DRAFT FINDINGS

### CHANGE IN FOUNDATION GIVING IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Are you increasing the amount of giving/the share of its endowment to be disbursed in response to the pandemic compared to what had been allocated at the start of the year?  
Percentage, n=39



Around half of the surveyed philanthropists in Africa have increased or are considering increasing their share of endowments disbursed in 2020 due to COVID-19

Source: COVID-19 Africa Philanthropy Survey responses, Dalberg analysis  
APF Executive Brief – COVID-19 & African Philanthropy | Page 4



COVID-19 has forced philanthropic organisations to urgently re-evaluate their priorities, whilst under unprecedented levels of uncertainty

DRAFT FINDINGS



The economic/personal livelihood impact of the pandemic is much more acute in Africa, than globally. With individuals being far closer to the breadline, philanthropy in Africa is playing an important role in **combating food insecurity and malnutrition** and providing economic support to vulnerable communities.



Following an urgent push to support healthcare, focus is now shifting to each organizations' areas of expertise. COVID-19 impacts every area of philanthropy and social impact, in sectors as broad as **education, agriculture, civil society and human rights**



Organizations are still operating under extremely high levels of uncertainty. The number one operational challenge for organizations is "predicting future scenarios" - this was reported as a challenge by 62% of African philanthropic organizations. More freedom and flexibility is being given to grantees, with **two-thirds of organisations reducing their timelines for fund approval**, and two-thirds allowing grantees to redirect funds to entirely new needs

### Emerging themes from the survey are as follows:

Whilst there has been an immediate push to support healthcare, focus is increasingly (compared to global averages) on considering what this pandemic means for their current areas of expertise. We are seeing COVID-19 impact in every corner of philanthropy, and so each organization is considering what this means for their existing area of focus.

The economic/personal livelihood impact of the pandemic is much more acute in Africa. With individuals being far closer to the breadline, philanthropy in Africa is playing an important role in combating food insecurity and malnutrition, and providing economic support to vulnerable communities.

Organizations are still operating under extremely high levels of uncertainty. Whilst more freedom and flexibility is being given to grantees, the number one operational challenge for organizations is predicting and managing through future scenarios - this was reported as a challenge by 62% of African foundations and 55% of global foundations.

**These deep and valuable insights into key emerging issues, challenges and highlights opportunities that have risen due to COVID-19, will help shape the structure of giving during these unprecedented times.**

# BLACK PHILANTHROPY MONTH

Black Philanthropy Month (BPM) is a global celebration observed every August. Its primary aim is to inform, involve, inspire and invest in black philanthropic leadership to strengthen African-American and African descent giving in all forms. It was started by Dr. Jackie Bouvier Copeland and the Pan-African Women's Philanthropy Network (PAWPNet).

The theme for the year Foresight 20/20 was the foundation for this year's event which was co-organized with Valaida Fullwood of The Soul of Philanthropy and Tracey Webb of Black Benefactors.

This virtual celebration took place over four days and brought together more than 40 exceptional speakers- including Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli, APF Board member and Mosun Layode, Executive Director APF, and hundreds of participants from more than 35 countries.

This year's event was designed to cultivate a sense of community and identify actionable principles for equitable, impactful funding of Black communities ravaged by racism and COVID-19.

## Driving Systems Change on the African Continent - August 20

African Philanthropy Forum held yet another webinar on **Driving Systems Change on the African Continent** which also doubled as the launch of the **APF System Change Program**.

In recognition of the need to address systemic problems that have hindered the potential growth of Africa for decades and accelerate systems change initiatives across the continent, APF launched its Systems Change Program to build an African network of systems change leaders and philanthropists who can help cultivate conditions to make their transformative visions a reality.

The Systems Change Program, which began with a rigorous selection process managed by Dalberg, is a pilot with six initiatives led by system entrepreneurs who are solving problems in multiple SDG areas, including quality education, decent work and economic growth, good health and wellbeing, clean water and sanitation and reduced inequality. It is a direct response to the need to think differently and accelerate when considering Africa's problems and solutions.

The Program commenced in May, 2020 and was publicly launched at the virtual event on August 20, where panelists and the system entrepreneurs took part in a stimulating



conversation about *Driving Systems Change in Africa* towards achieving sustainable and inclusive development. The speakers included- Randy Newcomb- Senior Advisor The Omidyar Group, Dr Angela Gichaga- CEO Financing Alliance for Health, Mosun Layode- Executive Director African Philanthropy Forum, Elena Bonometti- CEO Tostan International, as well as Jeff Walker- Chairman New Profit/APF Board Member who served as the moderator.

The conversation addressed the need to ensure an extensive lens is used to view the world as a whole and make informed decisions not assumptions.

*"The role of system thinking is to get us out of the trap of thinking about issues as individual parts instead of a whole. System thinking approach has enabled us to view the world in a broader view and as a series of complex interventions!"*

Randy Newcomb

During the discussions, it was emphasized that there is a need to ensure that all parties involved understand that systems are not simplistic or linear, it requires time to understand and the ability to trust the process.

*"No one stakeholder has the full answer. We must see our organizations as the tree and also see the ecosystem as the forest and figure out how to balance the two. As a tree, what is my role and how do I map the other trees in the forest, understand how to leverage their visibility and relationship."*

Angela Gichaga

We also delved into the importance of transforming the social change model to the system change model and two vital areas to focus on- sustainability and the importance of data.

“Reliable data is the best way to make informed decisions, it is vital in the decision-making process.”

-Elena Bonometi

The speakers also discussed the funding gap, which has been made more evident due to the occurring pandemic and the need to create a collaborative system whereby long lasting change is achieved.

“The disruption caused by the pandemic has heightened the realities we face as Africans and presents an opportunity for African philanthropists to rise up to the challenge of fixing our fragile systems.”

-Mosun Layode

Through the Systems Change Program, APF serves as the connecting glue that joins the system entrepreneurs to the vital resources they need to achieve transformational impact in Africa. The organizations participating in the program will receive support in areas including, partner engagement, leadership development, organizational capacity building, communications, policy advocacy, improving operations and developing new ideas. They will also benefit from access to a ready pool of African philanthropists and other mentors who can help catalyze step-changes in impact. Participating organizations include- Delta Philanthropies/Higherlife Foundation, LEAP Africa, Malawi Agricultural and Industrial Investment Corp (MAIIC), Sesame Workshop South Africa, Teach for Nigeria, as well as The END Fund.

The program is funded by- Delta Philanthropies, Walker Family Foundation, Ford Foundation and supported by C.S. Mott Foundation, Dalberg and Bertha Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship.



## ARTICLES AND OPINIONS

# We Can't Forget About Africa During the Covid-19 Crisis

By Tsitsi Masiyiwa, Jeff Walker and English Sall



If we've learned anything in the months since Covid-19 entered the world, it's that this virus respects no boundaries. Even as we contend with rising cases and a faltering economy in the United States, we need to keep an eye on what's happening across the globe if we are to succeed in containing this viral monster.

among the places likely to be hardest hit in the months ahead is Africa, which is bracing for the full impact of the coronavirus. Last week, the number of coronavirus cases in Africa passed 1 million, including more than 2,000 dead, although the lack of testing means the number is likely far higher.

Given its weak health system and vulnerability to infectious diseases, Africa faces a particularly daunting set of Covid-19 scenarios. The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa has warned that the number of deaths on the continent from the virus could climb as high as 3.3 million if actions aren't taken quickly to stop its spread and treat those who become infected.

Fortunately, there is one proven way philanthropy can help: by supporting the continent's vital network of community health workers.

In normal times, these workers administer essential services, such as immunizations, HIV prevention, and malaria control, while also often serving as the only point of care in many African communities. Research has shown that community health workers save lives. John Hopkins University estimates that if Africa had all the community health workers it needed, more than 30 percent fewer children under age 5 —or about 1 million —would die each year on the continent.

Community health workers are an invaluable component for creating healthy and prosperous societies. During a pandemic, they serve an even more critical role. In the Ebola crisis, for instance, they were pivotal players in the identification, containment, and treatment of the lethal virus. In turn, a number of African nations with well-established community-health-worker programs, such as Liberia and Ghana, have incorporated the lessons from Ebola into their Covid-19 plans with great success. In Liberia, for instance, community health workers deployed during Ebola have undergone training to address the specific elements of Covid-19, while also continuing to provide routine health services.

But building up the cadre of these health workers is urgently needed elsewhere in Africa. The greatest short-term funding needs are for personal protective equipment, training, and contact tracing. The Covid-19 Action Fund for Africa, a \$100 million project launched this week to provide PPE to community health workers, offers one channel for philanthropists to provide resources for these frontline workers.



“ **To stop the spread of this deadly virus, we need to invest in Africa's community health workers.** ”



## Building Resilience

Over the longer term, sustainable funding will help Africa build more resilient community-health systems. Efforts to bolster these programs, while a priority for many African countries, are stymied by fragmented resources and a lack of clearly defined financing. To activate more paid community health workers across Africa, donors could work with local African philanthropists to establish for the first time dedicated and consistent funding.

Perhaps the most compelling call for such support comes from African leaders who have dealt directly with pandemics and are now confronting this one. A recent statement by the End Malaria Council, whose membership includes former Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, former Tanzanian President Jakaya Kikwete, and current Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta, noted that community health workers will continue to play a consequential role in saving lives during the response to Covid-19. We urge governments and donors to prioritize these essential frontline health workers.

Beyond health, Africa will almost certainly experience severe economic shocks as the fallout from Covid-19 puts the progress achieved in recent decades in peril. If Africa's economies tumble, already high poverty rates will likely elevate. The World Food Programme has sounded the alarm that the pandemic would further unravel into a food security emergency. With at least 20 percent of Africa's population already suffering from undernourishment, this confluence of factors could spiral into famine-like circumstances.

Recognizing Africa's challenges, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have responded with direct support and expanded lending programs. Additionally, Africa's foundations have mobilized to support the Covid-19 response. Strive Masiyiwa, co-founder for the Higherlife Foundation, is heading a partnership focused on local manufacturing of medical equipment. And Nigerian entrepreneur and philanthropist Aliko Dangote has launched the Coalition Against Coronavirus to address a range of health and economic needs.

Failing to help Africa wage the most effective possible fight against Covid-19 risks significant human loss within those countries and a perpetuation of the virus across the globe.

A robust community-health system will not only aid the pandemic response now, but will also help prevent or lessen the impact of future health crises. To stop the spread of this deadly virus, we need to invest in Africa's community health workers.

*Tsitsi Masiyiwa is the executive chair and co-founder of the Higherlife Foundation and chair of the African Philanthropy Forum. Jeff Walker and English Sall are co-chairs of the Community Health Acceleration Partnership and serve on the board of the African Philanthropy Forum.*

The article was first published in The Chronicle of Philanthropy.

Over the past decade, Africa has experienced increased economic growth, which translated directly to an increase in the number of High Net Worth Individuals (HNWI) and super-rich in Africa. This has put the emerging class of philanthropists in a unique position to drive homegrown development and redefine philanthropy in Africa by supporting African non-profits that are in the forefront of leading change efforts on the Continent. At first glance, this seems like an opportunity of growth for strategic philanthropy and philanthropic funds on the Continent but sadly, the persistence of patterns of dependency to fund social causes have remained.

As a non-profit executive who has been at the helm of affairs of three leading non-profits in Africa, I can attest to the fact that international donors are more accessible and willing to support African non-profits, which begs the question, here are the African Philanthropists?

Philanthropy, or giving, is an integral part of our African identity, whether in the form of contributing to family support, or community or national development, philanthropy serves as the glue that binds communities together and contributes to the development of the Continent. Therefore, it comes, as no surprise that philanthropy remains an important contributor to development on the Continent, and Africa's wealthy are keen to play a role.

Research drawing on the practices of philanthropy in Africa shows that while there is increased giving in Africa, a lot of the

philanthropists are giving to their own foundations, which means most of the foundations are operating foundations and not necessarily grant making. The few that are grant making are overwhelmed with the overload of demands, which they are unable to meet. Which leaves local nonprofit organizations relying on international donors.



## Where are the African Philanthropists? A Case for Local Funding for Non-profits in Africa

By Mosun Layode

Africa and indeed the world are at an inflection point. We have the opportunity to rise to the challenge that has been thrown at us and address the underlying issues and weak systems that the pandemic has uncovered or reminded us of. To do this, we need to ask some pertinent questions and provide practical solutions, which I will attempt to do in this piece. Why do Africans set up operating foundations? Is there a need to reinvent the wheel? Why do we work in silos? While there is absolutely nothing wrong with being an operating foundation, there is a need to align resources and objectives to ensure we are making maximum and sustainable impact.

Building trust: There is a trust deficit in our society, which forces philanthropists to opt for operating foundations. They are not sure their funds will be used for the purpose for which they are intended, but this is a valid concern that can be easily addressed. For instance, philanthropists can identify credible non-profits through networks such as African Philanthropy Forum and local networks of NGOs/CSOs. These networks have a database of vetted organizations

**Now more than ever, philanthropists need to contribute more to their communities and they can do this by partnering with local non-profits who have boots on the ground and need support to increase the scale of years and decades of documented impact.**

with track records of success, integrity and established systems and structures that ensure they deliver on mandates.

Do not reinvent the wheel: Our objective is to solve problems using the most efficient vehicle. As a solution, philanthropists can identify non-profits that are aligned with their objective and give to them, rather than implement projects that are already addressing the same issues. We need less initiatives and more impact.

Get it done faster and cheaper: In addressing and scaling many social issues on the African Continent, local knowledge and engagement is the currency and it is expensive. However, non-profits have significant experience implementing programs from cities to the most remote parts of Africa. They have developed trust within the communities they operate, they are skilled and efficient with execution, what more, they can get work done cheaper!

Increase your visibility: Non-profits make donors look good! Supporting causes through non-profits gives the added advantage of getting your story told on multiple platforms that they have access to.

Promote homegrown development: Supporting local non-profits helps drive homegrown development, development by Africans for Africa. A rise in the number of philanthropists giving in Africa elevates the quality of philanthropy on the Continent and forces philanthropists to be better organized and strategic in their giving.

Now more than ever, philanthropists need to contribute more to their communities and they can do this by partnering with local non-profits who have boots on the ground and need support to increase the scale of years and decades of documented impact.

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