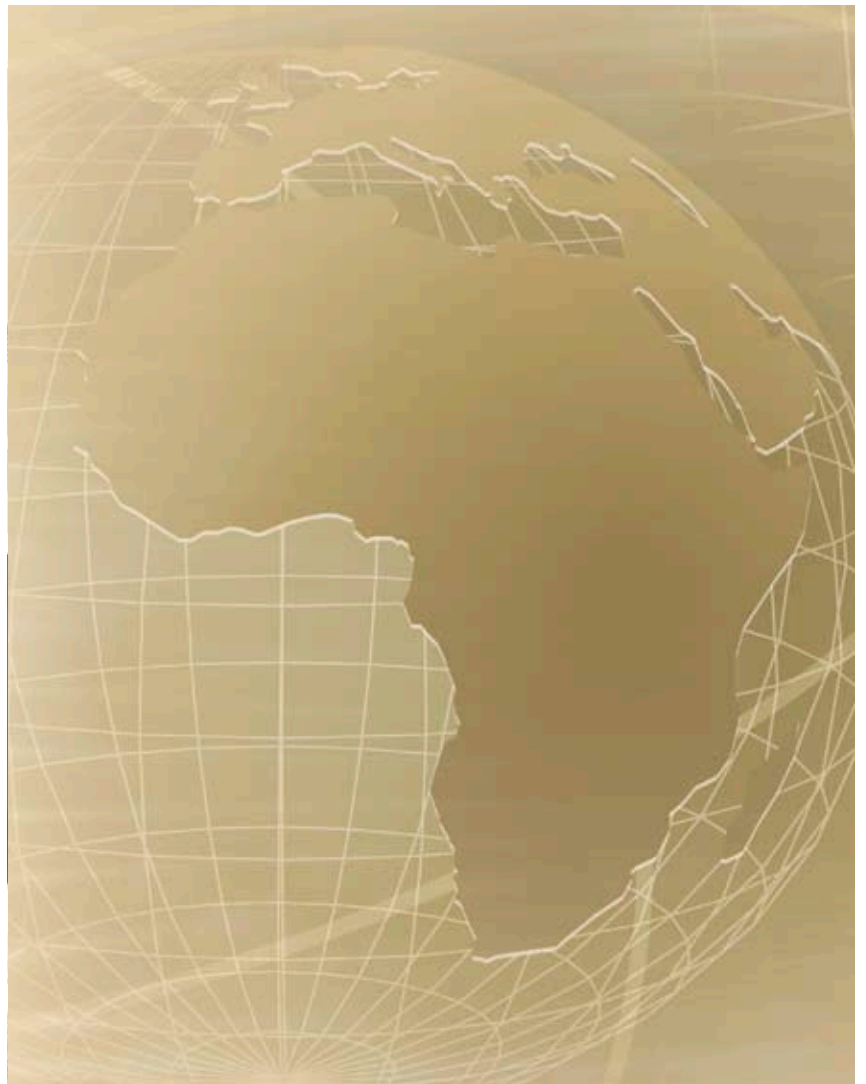


FUNDING IMPACT:
PARTNERSHIPS, NETWORKS,
AND COLLABORATIONS
A Learning Opportunity



FEBRUARY 4-6, 2008
JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA



Credits

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AGAG wishes to thank the following sources for the use of photos for this publication:

www.africa-photo.com • International Labour Organization/www.ilo.org • Panos Pictures/www.panos.co.uk

John Hopkins University Center for Communications Programs (JHU/CCP)/www.jhuccp.org

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The Africa Grantmakers' Affinity Group is a project of the Tides Center

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Africa Grantmakers' Affinity Group Conference Report

This Conference Report captures some of the diverse opinions, interests, ideas, and approaches that emerged from the AGAG Conference on "Funding Impact: Partnerships, Networks and Collaborations." The reason for such a gathering of funders from Africa, Europe and North America was captured in the Conference tagline, "a learning opportunity." Over three days, delegates engaged in networking, meeting new colleagues, heated discussions, and strong disagreements; all are parts of the organic process of building a community of practice among people with a common interest.

Over the past seven years AGAG has learned the value of creating such a space where funders and other stakeholders can pause in their busy and demanding work schedule to reflect and to share. In all of our activities, AGAG strives to be an advocate for Africa within the philanthropic community and a resource for the field.

The mix of people and funding agencies represented was quite unique. More than once, delegates commented on what a rare opportunity it was to attend a meeting in Africa about Africa with such a mix of funders at the table including African funders. We hope that this was just one in a series of similar gatherings convened by AGAG and other stakeholders. While AGAG holds an Annual Retreat for members and private funders, the Conference was an experiment to include funders from the public sector and to organize a meeting in Africa.

Africa is the second largest and most populated continent with over fifty countries. There are many stakeholders working to support the efforts of African communities to not only survive but to thrive. African organizations are developing innovative strategies and working with limited resources to address the challenges facing their communities often with amazing results. There are countless opportunities for funders interested in supporting and investing in the work of these organizations.

The Johannesburg meeting marked a new phase during which AGAG hopes to expand the community of learning and deepen our understanding in key areas. All of these developments reflect how AGAG has evolved over the past six years from an idea into an active and functioning network of Africa funders. What has been and will remain consistent are our efforts to be an inclusive space that welcomes diverse opinions and is not afraid to tackle difficult topics.

There were many people involved in organizing the AGAG Conference in Johannesburg, South Africa whose names do not appear in this report. Their contribution was highly valued and greatly appreciated.

A copy of this report is available on the AGAG website at www.africagrantmakers.org where you can sign up for AGAG ALERTS and be notified of upcoming AGAG activities. Printed copies are available by sending an email to info@africagrantmakers.org

Niamani Mutima
Executive Director
Africa Grantmakers' Affinity Group







Table Of Contents

WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW.....	1
Opening Plenary: “Viewpoints: African Funders on African Development”.....	2
EVALUATING OUR IMPACT.....	4
Report Back From the Off-Site Sessions.....	9
Plenary Session: “Building On The First Step”.....	11
Closing.....	14
AGENDA.....	15
Participants.....	17
Off-Site Sessions.....	20



Welcome, Introduction and Overview

AGAG seeks to create a professional, supportive space where all funders are viewed with equal importance...



Dr. Akwasi Aidoo, Executive Director of TrustAfrica based in Senegal, welcomed the delegates. He gave an overview of the work of the Africa Grantmakers Affinity Group (AGAG), saying that AGAG takes an inclusive approach in working with funders to share knowledge and learning. He commented that AGAG's passion for Africa is evident in convening this conference in Africa bringing together African and non-African funders. The core mission of AGAG is to promote increased funding for Africa, improve grantmaking practices and policies and maximize the efficient use of resources. It aims to build and share knowledge through networking and information sharing at events such as this conference. He highlighted that there is no other organization with a continent-wide focus on philanthropy in Africa.

Ms. Niamani Mutima, Executive Director of AGAG, welcomed the delegates and expressed her delight at the presence of funders from North America, Europe and Africa. In giving some background on AGAG, she noted that South Africa as the venue for the first AGAG Conference in Africa is very appropriate. AGAG began in the 1980's as the South Africa Grantmakers' Affinity Group focusing on support for anti-apartheid activities and later in the 1990's it became the Southern Africa Grantmakers' Affinity Group. In 2000, AGAG was reconstituted as the Africa Grantmakers' Affinity Group with a continent-wide focus and a more formalized structure.

She explained that AGAG works with a diverse group of funders who use a range of approaches including working on the global, regional, national and local level and in rural and urban communities. However, AGAG seeks to create a professional supportive space where all funders are viewed with equal importance and encouraged to share what they have learned with their colleagues. Since its inception, AGAG has worked to support development in Africa by bringing together funders who are interested in learning from each other, challenging assumptions, sharing new ideas, forming linkages, and developing partnerships.

In giving an overview of the Conference, she explained that its purpose is to explore the impact of different types of partnerships, networks, and collaborations, In bringing together such a diverse group, AGAG hopes to break down some of the barriers between funders, and to encourage those with common interests to seek unity around common goals





Opening Plenary

Viewpoints: African Funders On African Development

PANELISTS:

Moderator: Niamani Mutima, *Executive Director, AGAG*

Dr. Akwasi Aidoo, *Executive Director, TrustAfrica, Senegal*

Ms. Janet Mawiyoo, *Chief Executive Officer, Kenya Community Development Foundation*

Ms. Inviolatta Mpuli, *Executive Director, Community Foundation for the Western Region of Zimbabwe*

Ms. Thandi Orleyn, *Chairperson, The De Beers Fund, South Africa*

Mr. John Ulanga, *Executive Director, Foundation for Civil Society, Tanzania*

The Opening Plenary was a panel of African funders who discussed the role they play in setting the agenda for African development. It was emphasized that by bringing international and local African grantmakers together the conference aimed to foster a spirit of “learning together.”

The notion of what is “African” was raised and the panelists and audience engaged in a discussion of the ways to embrace the ‘Africanness’ in African grantmaking. It was noted that building capacity was important in addition to providing financial assistance, and working in ways that are sensitive to the African context. This includes understanding and detecting nuances when approaching issues of accountability

The panelist represented a national, regional, community and corporate foundation, all of which were based in African countries. They acknowledged that all grantmakers experience some of the same challenges whether they are based in Africa or abroad.

Panelists highlighted the unique aspect of the conference being held on African soil, noting that discussions about African philanthropy usually take place in Europe or the United States without direct input from funders based in Africa. Although a number of clear themes emerged during the Opening Plenary, there were many different perspectives and the rich discussion highlighted the fact that the issues were complex and many of the questions that were raised had no quick or easy answers.





One consistent comment was that foundation beneficiaries are more in touch with the needs of the community and should be allowed to participate in shaping the funding agenda. This allows funders to respond to the voices of the communities more effectively. It was noted that governments, NGOs, CBOs, trade unions and faith-based organizations should be consulted also in identifying the development agenda.

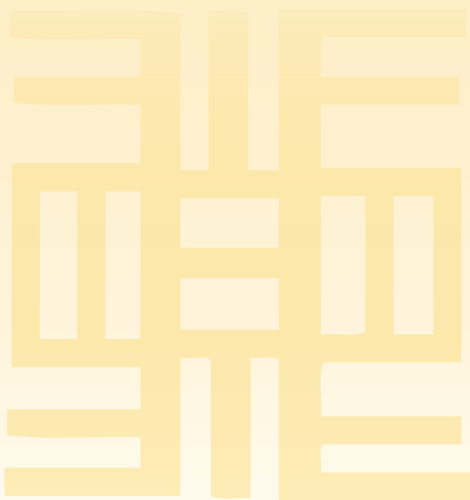
Akwasi Aidoo explained the approach of TrustAfrica, which was established by the Ford Foundation as the Special Initiative for Africa. It is now an independent foundation and works to add value by working across borders to create horizontal and vertical linkages by sponsoring activities where regional organizations can share perspectives and lessons and document approaches.

John Ulanga gave a brief overview of the evolution the Foundation for Civil Society which was established to support civil society efforts in Tanzania to reduce poverty. It grew out of the Civil Society Program, a project designed, managed and funded by DFID, which remains one of its principle donors.

Inviolatta Mpuli Moyo described the work of the Community Foundation for the Western Region of Zimbabwe that was launched when 50, 000 community members contributed their own resources to create the Foundation's endowment. These funds were used to leverage additional resources and to promote a sense of ownership among community members. The Foundation focuses on developing the intangible assets that are hidden within the communities.

Thandi Orleyn of the DeBeers Fund highlighted the link between corporate social investment and the profits of the institution, revealing some of the tensions involved in corporate philanthropy. She emphasized that De Beers focused on developing appropriate partnerships to achieve greater impact and make funding more visible.

Janet Mawiyoo of the Kenya Community Development Foundation (KCDF) explained KCDF's approach as a grantmaking public foundation that supports communities to raise and invest funds and resources and works to promote philanthropy in Kenya.





Many grantmakers expressed that processes were as important as outcomes and placed an emphasis on strengthening systems, creating accountability and building capacity.

Evaluating Our Impact

One of the main questions that delegates grappled with is how they measure the impact of their work. Attempts were made to identify the guiding principles that different grantmakers use to inform their choices. Local and international grantmakers expressed similar struggles in determining whether they are allocating funding to the most appropriate organizations to support projects that are making a difference in the lives of the communities they serve. The complexities inherent in monitoring and evaluation were highlighted. One delegate cautioned against focusing solely on quantitative indicators. For instance, how many people attended a particular training session, rather than how the training benefited the community.

This discussion generated a variety of considerations, which they use to evaluate the impact of the projects they fund. These included :

Funding Guidelines

Different funders have different eligibility criteria. Some focus on funding established projects to support organizations with a proven track record and genuine community buy-in. Others are willing to take more risk and support innovation and start-up projects. One delegate felt that it was contradictory for funders to fund innovation but not to fund start-ups, saying that often organizations start out small and then scale up. It was noted that supporting innovation is riskier than investing in more established organizations, but the pay-off will be much greater if the innovation is successful. If the investment is not successful there are lessons that can be learned. If it is successful, then it is a candidate to scale the project up.





It was emphasized that grantmaking organizations should also ensure that their strategies coincide with other actors in the development arena to avoid duplication and to maximize the synergies.



Many funders prefer to support specific programs rather than service delivery initiatives because they believe that these are more likely to bring about lasting change. Others attempted to create an even geographic distribution, although it was noted that it is seldom strategic to simply 'drop a coin everywhere.'

Some delegates felt that there is a bias against start-up projects or organizations with less capacity to generate professional funding proposals. This tends to perpetuate the status quo, with the result that funding is always allocated to the same well-resourced organizations and new projects or under-resourced organizations do not get an opportunity to prove their worth.

Sustainability

Some funders are interested in funding projects that are financially viable in the long term emphasizing economic emancipation and sustainability. One example given was providing funding to a disabled person to set up a for-profit enterprise.

Janet Mawiyoo echoed the need for lasting solutions. Since its inception KCDF has invested in building the capacity of the community and ensuring that strategies are informed by the local context. Consequently, they have successfully managed to leverage significant local resources to prevent organizations from becoming dependent upon a single source of funding.





Partnerships

There was widespread support for more partnerships between civil society, the private sector and the public sector and the need for funders to support partnership initiatives. Funders prefer to work with partners because this enables them to make a more visible impact and allows grantmakers to support different aspects of the same project. One example given was funding for the construction of new schools included government support for materials and staffing while other partners supported mathematics and science programs. Partnerships were also seen as a useful way of stimulating creative thinking and innovative ideas.

It was emphasized that grantmaking organizations should also ensure that their strategies coincide with other actors in the development arena to avoid duplication and to maximize the synergies. Foundations accomplish their work through partners and ultimately their success is dependent upon the quality of their partnerships. However, partnering with the same organizations can make the pool of potential partners limited.

Foundations accomplish their work through partners and ultimately their success is dependent upon the quality of their partnerships. However, partnering with the same organizations can make the pool of potential partners limited.

Processes versus outcomes

Many grantmakers expressed that processes were as important as outcomes and placed an emphasis on strengthening systems, creating accountability and building capacity. In addition, outcomes are more quantifiable and easier to measure, e.g. secured agreements with government or the construction of infrastructure.

Poverty eradication versus wealth creation

There was also a discussion about the mindset of poverty eradication. Are organizations thinking about poverty alleviation or wealth creation? In South Africa, broad-based Black economic empowerment presents corporate social investors with an opportunity to educate South Africans about being philanthropic and creating wealth.

Social Poverty

It was suggested that areas such as conflict resolution, law and civic education help to challenge impoverished ways of thinking. However, it was noted that these programs require longer timeframes before their benefits are evident and these benefits can sometimes be less tangible, making them less attractive to funders.



Building Institutional Capacity

John Ulanga emphasized the need to document feedback, which could then be used by other organizations involved in similar interventions. For instance almost 70% of organizations funded by the Foundation for Civil Society in Tanzania have not received funding before. Therefore, institution building is a vital process because it leaves a legacy of systems, structures, and processes that will outlast the lifespan of the funding contract.

He commented further that a shortage of good funding proposal from under-resourced organizations can be a challenge. The fundraising process presents foundations with an opportunity to build the capacity of organizations by proactively soliciting proposals and working with organizations to develop viable proposals.

Indigenous vs. international philanthropy

Bhekinkosi Moyo, a researcher at TrustAfrica, focusing on philanthropy in Africa, made remarks from the floor. He flagged several issues about philanthropy in Africa including balancing indigenous and international forms of philanthropy; reactionary forms of philanthropy; the potential for philanthropy to lead from the front or behind; and the feasibility of philanthropy to share power. He commented that philanthropists can achieve positive results without doing the work themselves and while philanthropy is seen as the expert, the best ideas often come from collective brainstorming involving all stakeholders.

Accountability

Thandi Orleyn outlined the De Beers' two-pronged approach of accountability to its Board as well as to the community groups receiving funding. However, she noted that CSO's also need to become more accountable to the communities they serve and accountability between government, communities and NGO's is also important.

Janet Mawiyo explained that for KCDF it was imperative to find Kenyan stakeholders to contribute a portion of their funding thereby cultivating a sense of ownership amongst community members. Its location in Kenya over the past ten years has enabled them to establish mechanisms to hear the voices of the community, such as a stakeholder's forum to talk about what is working on the ground. This forum helps to facilitate two-way accountability. Some delegates expressed a skeptical view about the proximity of African philanthropists to the communities they serve. One delegate suggested that African grantmakers must not become merely another layer of grantmakers who were not accountable to their target communities.



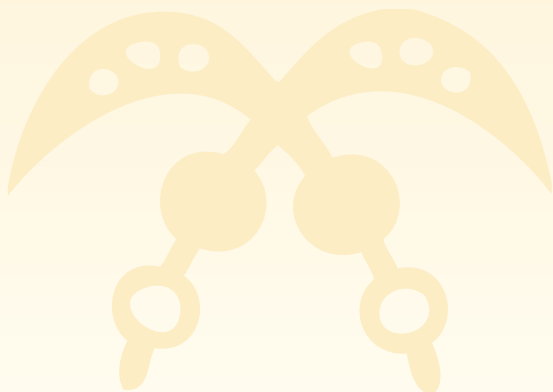
Millennium Development Goals

There was a comment on the extent to which African grantmakers incorporate Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) into their planning. A funder based in the US commented that he was surprised that there had been little mention of the MDG's. Several African funders responded that the MDG's are a useful tool for international NGO's who are working in Africa, but they are more of a framework than a roadmap. There are similar initiatives in Africa such as the Lagos Plan of Action and NEPAD.

Niamani Mutima closed the session by thanking the panelists and the audience for beginning the Conference with such a frank and open discussion. She noted the range of issues discussed and urged delegates to be proactive in raising those of most interest to them in the small group discussion which followed the Opening Plenary Session.



institution building is a vital process because it leaves a legacy of systems, structures, and processes that will outlast the lifespan of the funding contract.



Report Back From The Off-Site Sessions



On Tuesday the delegates attended Off-Site Session that included visiting various local projects and organizations working on a range of developmental themes. These sessions were examples of a variety of partnerships and approaches. After reconvening in their groups to discuss their perceptions and experiences of the trips, representatives of each group shared insights, questions and possible inspiration for future funding strategies (See the appendix on page 20 for a description of the Off-Site Sessions).

Delegates felt that the Off-Site Sessions were the highlight of the conference and provided an opportunity to see how the partnership between funders and grantee partners were addressing challenge in South Africa. These sessions also provided a space to come together around shared interests and share specific approaches and strategies. Several themes emerged from the comments.

Leadership

- There is a need to invest in leadership development.
- Funders should see leadership development as an investment rather than simply a cost.

Knowledge Sharing

- Knowledge sharing is necessary to scale up the work and the impact and is linked to capacity building.
- Knowledge emerges organically.
- The flow of knowledge must become better institutionalized, especially from south to north.
- In building knowledge, many organizations have knowledge and information that they are reluctant to share for various reasons.



Capacity Building

- Organizations are often given support for capacity-building on the basis of what donors would like to see happening, rather than what the organizations themselves feel they need.
- Providing vocational skills, especially for orphans and vulnerable children, for example, will provide them with incomes and ensure their futures.
- In supporting communities, make sure the need is real, and that they have identified it as a need, rather than have funders simply assume a need exists.

Grantmakers

- Identify organizations or groups that are real, innovative and energetic.
- Funders must have the courage to take the first step and provide support where others have chosen not to.
- Funders must accompany those whom they support and walk with them, not just sign checks.
- Adopt the intuitive approach to grant-making, and be flexible enough to address the critical issues of a community as they arise.
- Grantmakers should allow potential grantees to indicate what they want to achieve rather than funders dictate the outcomes.





Advocacy

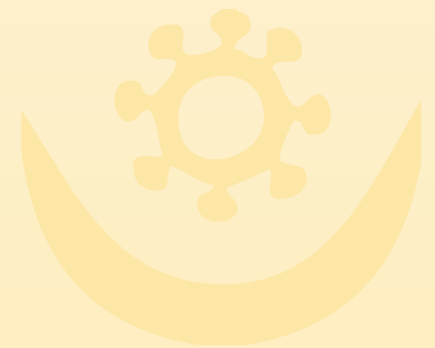
- We must be innovative and avoid doing things in the same old way. Power is the key issue that underpins structural poverty.
- Three challenges for funders: 1) a sound analysis of the structural causes of poverty is necessary as the basis for all work; 2) where is the voice of the community? How can poor communities be subjects and not objects of development? and 3) engage in advocacy for change, rather than simply providing money. Provide an enabling environment in which rights may be recognized.
- The role of government is critical and communities must be empowered to demand their rights and hold their governments accountable.
- Poverty is downplayed, but by whom? By governments and others, but not the people who feel it.
- Are governments and corporations doing enough to empower the communities they work with and to enable them to speak for themselves?
- Government tends to focus on poverty alleviation but funders tend to focus on economic empowerment

General

- People already have a lot of capacity that is not always recognized.
- Grantees could be more clear and honest about what their real issues are.
- More time is needed for detailed discussion on how to improve grantmaking, including case studies and personal experiences.
- Keep in mind that there are many different African voices and viewpoints.
- AGAG represents an ideal vehicle for a paradigm shift, and for funders to try new ways of engaging in Africa.

Partnerships

- Funders should take a different approach to identifying possible partners, and look for good initiatives that can be improved through collaboration, rather than only wanting to support new projects.
- There are legitimate different interests between different partners (north and south) so be clear on why a partnership is being put forward.
- Partnerships require much time and effort and every organization works a bit differently – how far are organizations willing to compromise?
- Collaboration and partnerships among NGOs must be in place to make an impact.
- Many organizations are already partnering but do not document what they do - this links to knowledge sharing.





Plenary Session

Building On The First Step

Facilitator: Raoul Davion, John D. and Catherine T MacArthur Foundation

Raoul Davion explained that the Conference was an experiment for AGAG, linked to the Annual Retreat; to create a specially designated space for interaction. While much of the content has developed organically in the process of organizing the conference, it was also important to bring issues into the whole group and capture the knowledge, as this will inform the group discussions about how to take the work forward. He noted that this is one of the few occasions where Northern-based funders have come together with those based in Africa and shared experiences. He posed the following questions to the group for their reaction.

What have we found out about working together that will enable us as funders to do better going forward?

Delegates shared their experiences and views.

- There has been little contact between European and American foundations, and it has proved difficult to foster linkages. This is a good initiative, as we need to look in places previously unexplored for new partners. There are many good initiatives in place that could be even better with our support and collaboration.

- We must as funders or foundations guard against going to a different extreme of assuming people in the South know everything about their country while people in the North know nothing. We bring a lot of valuable knowledge and can add value. This is apart from the actual provision of funds. We should also examine why partnerships have not worked. We all agree they are good to have, so what are the barriers?

- Horizontal partnerships (not necessarily political) also present a possible way of working. People on the ground have a better understanding of the needs, and strong ideas emerge from that environment. We should also note that often leaders with a strong vision are required to dilute their vision to conform to funder agendas, where the focus may be on different issues. We should be working with them to build on their vision.

- We are skeptical about partnerships – the truth is that we bring funds, resources and power, and often might patronize people by saying they are partners when in reality they will still do what we want. Whether implicitly or explicitly, we tell them about what we really require, and even though we say we might not expect compliance they will still try to comply to ensure that they receive our money.



How can funders act as better partners to African-led efforts to amplify the impact of their support?

What is the nature of the partnerships, networks and collaborations that have proven to be the most effective in addressing development challenges in Africa?





- A hindrance to real partnerships are those organizations on the ground who assume they are saying what funders want to hear, and do take the risk of being honest with funders. Grantees could be more open about what their real issues are. Funders on the other hand are under pressure to spend funds and to account in numbers. As funders we are afraid to take a risk in who we support. We should critically assess quality over quantity. Quality creates the relationships that give people the space to think through and to decide for them what is important. Communities may often move more slowly but the outcome will be a more sustainable project in the long term. Strong implementers are also critical to the success and sustainability of a project. A different kind of funder is needed who can be flexible.
- In the South African context, much has been done in the fourteen years of democratic government, but much remains to be done. Organizations working on the ground are seldom told how well they are doing and even where their approaches work often funders don't acknowledge the contribution.

Raoul Davion acknowledged that the challenges of resources are integral, but that funders are also dependent on groups not just for maintaining our reputations for delivery and for philanthropy, but also for knowledge. We want to try to continually access that knowledge, whether from organizations on the ground or from those organizations we work with as partners.

- Partnerships present an ongoing challenge, and can be compared to a marriage. The question is what we expect from our partner in development. Our experience is that there is no real conflict between north and south, we are always able to communicate with each other and reach agreement. Problems arise when we are tempted to act on assumptions, or are influenced by the media, and then generalize. We need time to deliberate on what will be best for everyone, since mutually negotiated partnerships will take us a long way.

- It is important that the structural challenges of eradicating poverty are not downplayed. We tend to do things the same old way but need to become more innovative. Power inequity underpins all issues of poverty.
- We must analyze structural causes of poverty as this will make our work more effective. Take account of the voices of the poor communities, who should be the subjects and not the objects of development.
- Funding is insufficient on its own, we must advocate for change. This is a group of funders and we need to look at what will be creative and also realistic.

Can funders agree collectively to communicate with each other better and focus on doing more of what works?



- By uniting the voices of North and South, AGAG could provide a unique analysis. If we are truly committed as a group to real change, then we can critique each other and learn from each other. We spoke about the need for leverage and scale – the challenge is to embrace discomfort and critically assess the scale of our impact, and collaborate between ourselves and other key players.
- We are putting pressure on ourselves to enter partnerships – they work when there is a real interest and effort on both sides, but it takes lot of time to get a partnership working. We should consider other options such as collaboration on certain initiatives and activities without actually partnering for a long-term relationship. We should be clear on the reasons for suggesting a partnership, and the extent to which an organization would be flexible in accommodating the needs of the other partners. The list of delegates and their organizations proved most helpful as information was provided on what they do and this assisted with networking possibilities.

- What are our commonalities? These include our passion for our work; the fact that we are forces for change wherever we are; and our commitment to grow communities. How do we build on this interaction and draw on what unites us in our diversity? This dialogue in itself is a big step forward. How to build on what unites us in our diversity? Money is important, but so is our common work of development, and shaping the broad agenda of development. We cannot be partners with everyone, but we can collaborate with like-minded people in many ways. We want to be part of the changes for the better, but must do this together with communities. Grantees should go into communities more and just listen. Find ways to share in their objectives – everyone has something to give and something to learn.
- Capacity building is spoken of a lot – but for what and for whom? We may want to build capacity simply to maximize funder returns, when in fact people already have a lot of capacity that can be drawn on, and that we do not always recognize. We are moving in the right direction, and must continue these discussions as representatives of the communities that we serve. We need to find the mechanisms to enable us to move from talk to action as agents of change, and as part of a process.

- We must keep in mind that our own work comes first, and then supplementing the work of others. The increase in co-funding and parallel funding does compel us to talk to each other more to ensure constructive collaboration. The main role of AGAG is knowledge sharing, and whether people are rich or poor, knowledge is the equalizer. As grantmakers, we must also remember that our contributions must be given with respect.



Closing

Ms. Niamani Mutima, *Executive Director, AGAG*

Ms. Niamani Mutima thanked the participants, speakers, and staff for making this Conference such an outstanding and exciting event. It was also hoped that the seeds of partnerships were sown during the conference.

Niamani noted that the group had been engaged in the process throughout and this was appreciated and indicated that the Conference offered something that was both needed and wanted. Both discipline and timekeeping were excellent and acknowledged.

Appreciation was given to TrustAfrica as the co-sponsor of the event, and to the Steering committee of AGAG, including local AGAG members. Special acknowledgement was made of the Ford, Mott, Kresge, and Kellogg Foundations and TrustAfrica for their financial support of the conference. Niamani also thanked the South Africa conference staff, local transportation provider, printing company, and local organizations who all made valuable contributions to the success of the event.

In closing, Niamani encouraged delegates to seek out AGAG and become involved; all feedback, ideas, and communication would be warmly welcomed.



Dr. Akwasi Aidoo, *AGAG Steering Committee*

Dr. Akwasi Aidoo officially closed the Conference. He expressed appreciation for the ongoing efforts of Niamani Mutima that had brought everyone to this point, and also noted the committed support of the Steering Committee. He explained that AGAG is about a paradigm shift. For fifty years so much was done for, in the name of, with and in Africa, and to be brutally frank, there was little to show for such input. AGAG represented a vehicle for a paradigm shift, and for trying new ways of engaging Africa.

On the question of partnerships, while there was a tendency to overanalyze the situation rather than simply get on with the work, it was believed that many good partnerships would come out of this meeting. There was also a critical need to reach out more to North Africa and the Central African region, since Africa is more than Sub-Saharan Africa. North Africa presents special challenges that must be engaged. The hope is that the AGAG will continue to meet in Africa going forward.



We need
to find the
mechanisms
to enable us
to move from
talk to
action as
agents of
change, and as
part of
a process.



Agenda

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2008

1:00 – 6:00 pm

Atrium

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Registered participants can pick up Conference materials

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

8:00 – 9:00 am

Sondela Foyer

MIX AND MINGLE NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Get to know your colleagues over a light continental breakfast

9:00 – 9:10 am

Ezweni 2

WELCOME AND CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

Mr. Akwasi Aidoo, Executive Director, TrustAfrica

9:10 – 9:30 am

Ezweni 2

WHY A FORUM FOR AFRICA GRANTMAKERS?

Ms. Niamani Mutima, Executive Director, Africa Grantmakers' Affinity Group

A brief overview of the Africa Grantmakers' Affinity Group

9:30 – 11:00 am

Ezweni 2

OPENING PLENARY:

PART I – “Viewpoints: African Philanthropists on African Development”

Niamani Mutima, Executive Director, AGAG, - Moderator

Mr. Akwasi Aidoo, Executive Director, TrustAfrica

Ms. Janet Mawiyoo, Chief Executive Officer, Kenya Community Development Foundation

Ms. Invioletta Mpuli, Executive Director, Community Foundation for the Western Region of Zimbabwe

Ms. Thandi Orleyn, Chairperson, The De Beers Fund

Mr. John Ulanga, Executive Director, Foundation for Civil Society

While all funders have a stake in African development, African funders have a unique and important voice that is often missing in the conversation. This session will begin with moderated conversation among representatives from a range of African funders about their vision of the ways African philanthropy shapes the development agenda and the types of partnerships they feel have been effective in addressing development challenges in African communities.

11:00 – 11:15 am

Sondela Foyer

BREAK

11:15 – 12:30 pm

Ezweni 2

PART II – “The Discussion Continues: Questions and Comments”

Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions and make comments.

12:30 – 2:00 pm

Koi Room

LUNCH

2:00 – 4:00 pm

Ezweni 2

WORLD CAFÉ – “Peer Learning”

Against the context set by the morning conference sessions, participants will meet in pre-assigned small groups to discuss the three Conference questions and explore the different approaches to funding through a world café model. Participants will share knowledge, listen together for insights and connect diverse perspectives.



4:00 – 5:15 pm

OFF-SITE SESSION ORIENTATION – “Understanding Context”

Participants will meet in their Off-Site Session groups. Session leaders will provide background, answer questions and lead the group in developing questions to frame their reflection session following the Off-Site Sessions they will attend on Tuesday.

5:15 – 5:30 pm

CLOSING REMARKS

Ezweni 2

Ms. Niamani Mutima, *Executive Director, Africa Grantmakers’ Affinity Group*

5:30 – 7:00 pm

INFORMAL RECEPTION

Atrium



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

8:00 – 9:00 am

MIX AND MINGLE NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Sondela Foyer

Share a cup of coffee with new colleagues and explore issues of common interests

9:00 am

DEPART FOR OFF-SITE SESSIONS

Ezweni 2

Participants will see the impact of development funding on communities in Johannesburg and the surrounding areas. Lunch will be provided.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

8:00 – 9:00 am

MIX AND MINGLE NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Sondela Foyer

A chance to exchange email addresses so conversations started can continue after the conference has ended.

9:00 – 10:00 am

REFLECTIONS

Ezweni 2

During this session, groups will reconvene to reflect upon the previous day’s Off-Site Sessions and share insights, answers and new questions to explore.

10:00 – 10:15 am

BREAK

Sondela Foyer

10:15 – 12:00 pm

SHARING INSIGHTS AND NEW QUESTIONS

Ezweni 2

Reflections from the individual Off-Site Sessions will be shared with the entire group

12:00 – 12:30 pm

CLOSING - “Building on the First Step”

Ezweni 2

The AGAG Conference was a first attempt in bringing together a range of public and private sector development funding agencies supporting Africa. During this closing session, participants will reflect on the conference experience and how to move forward in shaping the Next Steps.

12:30 – 2:00 pm

LUNCH

Koi Room





Participants

Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi

Executive Director
African Women's Development Fund

Akwasi Aidoo

Executive Director
TrustAfrica

William Bacon

Program Officer
David and Lucile Packard Foundation

Kathy Bonnifield

International Program Administrator
McKnight Foundation

Erin Brandt

Executive Director
Global Philanthropy Alliance

Alice Brown

Representative
Ford Foundation

John Butler-Adam

Program Officer
Ford Foundation

Ria Collingwood

Tom Ford Fellow in Philanthropy
Partnership for Higher Education in Africa

Karen Colvard

Program Director
HF Guggenheim Foundation

Robin Cunningham

South Africa Country Manager
Christian Aid

Raoul Davion

Program Officer
John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Nomvuyo Dayile

Director
WHEAT Trust

Christine Delport

Chief Operating Officer
Greater Rustenburg Community Foundation

Deborah Diserens

Director Program Development
FAIMER

Bernie Dolley

Director
Ikhala Trust

Victor Dukay

President
Lundy Foundation

Maria Farinha

Program Director
W. K. Kellogg Foundation

Marion Frew

Board Member
Wilson Foundation

Claudia Frittelli

Program Officer
Carnegie Corporation of New York

Carley Furness

Asst. Program Officer
ELMA Philanthropies Africa Pty. Ltd.

Neville Gabriel

Executive Director
Southern Africa Trust

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ELMA Philanthropies Services (U.S.) Inc.

Nicole Genereux

Senior Partnership officer
International Development Research Centre

Eva Gerson

Head of Finance and Administration
International Foundation for Science (IFS)

Joseph Gitari

Program Officer
Ford Foundation

Suzanne Grant Lewis

Coordinator
Partnership for Higher Education in Africa



Ashley Green-Thompson

Grants Manager
Southern Africa Trust

Anne-Marea Griffin

Regional Program Officer
ELMA Philanthropies Africa Pty. Ltd.

Patricia Haynes

Director
DOCKDA Rural Development Agency

Johanna Hendricks

CEO
West Coast Community Foundation

Jenny Hodgson

Director
Global Fund for Community Foundations

Liz Hosken

Director
Gaia Foundation

Eno Isong

Senior Program Officer
Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation

David Issroff

Trustee
Issroff Family Foundation

Lisa Issroff

Trustee
Issroff Family Foundation

Andrea Johnson

Program Officer
Carnegie Corporation of New York

Rosalind Kainyah

Director, Public Affairs USA
De Beers Group

Herbert Kashililah

Board Member
Foundation for Civil Society

Mpho Kgosidintsi

Senior Communications Officer
Southern Africa Trust

Saira Khan

Director: Development & Strategic Partnerships
MaAfrika Tikkun

Kuela Kiema

Field Advisor & Board Member
First Peoples Worldwide

Sharon King

President
F.B. Heron Foundation

Andrew Kingman

Consultant
Allavida

Christa Kuljian

Trustee
Eugene Saldanha Memorial Fund

Don Lauro

Senior Advisor
David and Lucile Packard Foundation

Jennifer Lentfer

Monitoring & Evaluation and
Technical Assistance Coordinator
Firelight Foundation

Macame Macame

Executive Director
Lurdes Mutola Foundaiton

Joanna Mackie

Chief Executive
Wood Family Trust

Halima Mahomed

Project Coordinator
Ford Foundation

Joyce Malombe

Program Officer for Education
ELMA Philanthropies Services (U.S.) Inc.

Mairo Mandara

Senior Country Advisor
David and Lucile Packard Foundation

Oshadi Mangena

Acting Executive Director
Pitseng Trust

Victoria (Tori) Mannes

Executive Director
Wilson Foundation

George Mathuse

Chief Executive Officer
Greater Rustenburg Community Foundation

Janet Mawiyoo

Chief Executive Officer
Kenya Community Development Foundation

Gail McClure

Vice President for Programs
W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Chris Mkhize

Chief Executive Officer
Uthungulu Community Foundation

Bernadette Moffat

Executive Director
ELMA Philanthropies Africa Pty. Ltd.

William Moses

Senior Program Officer
Kresge Foundation

Bhekinkosi Moyo

Research Fellow
TrustAfrica

Inviolatta Mpuli

Executive Director
Community Foundation for the
Western Region of Zimbabwe

Nancy Muirhead

Assistant Secretary and Program Director,
South Africa
Rockefeller Brothers Fund

Sarah Mukasa

Director of Programs
African Women's Development Fund

Mary Jo Mullan

VP, Programs
F.B. Heron Foundation

George Murumba

Senior Grants Officer
Southern Africa Trust

Participants (continued)

Betty Murungi
Executive Director
Urgent Action Fund - Africa

Benjamin Musoke-Lubega
Program Officer
Trinity Church Wall Street

Louise Myers
Board Member
Better Way Foundation

Katherine Namuddu
Associate Director
Rockefeller Foundation

John Natoli
Board Member
McKnight Foundation

Nicolette Naylor
Program Officer
Ford Foundation

Fadel Ndiame
Program Director
W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Paula Nimpuno-Parente
Program Officer
Ford Foundation

Nicole Norfles
Education Program Officer
Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy Foundation

Charlotte Obidairo
Chief Executive Officer
Coxswain Social Investment

Babatunde Olugboji
Africa Policy & Advocacy Manager
Christian Aid

Thandi Orleyn
Chairperson
De Beers Fund

Carroll Osburn
Partner
Caris Foundation

David Pain
Head, Africa Division
Christian Aid

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Nyambura Rugoiyo
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Bernard van Leer Foundation

Mandivamba Rukuni
Regional Director, WKKF Africa Program
W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Acia Sales
Communication and Resource Mobilization Officer
Foundation for Community Development

Mimie Sesoko
Program Director
W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Kole Shettima
Country Director
John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Vuyiswa Sidzumo
Program Officer
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

Hilda Tادريا
Board Chair
African Women's Development Fund

Stigmata Tenga
Board Chair
Foundation for Civil Society

Tina Thiant
Consultant
African Women's Development Fund

John Ulanga
Executive Director
Foundation for Civil Society

Christy Wallace
Treasurer
Wallace Global Fund

Scott Wallace
Co-Chair
Wallace Global Fund

Adele Wildschut
Senior Manager
Synergos Institute

Ekanem Williams
Program Officer
Ford Foundation

Margaret Winter
Director
Greater Durban Community Foundation



Off-Site Sessions

Scaling Up: Children, HIV/AIDS and Poverty

This session will explore two examples of collaboration to improve models of care, education, and support for children affected by HIV/AIDS and poverty. Funders will visit a community-based organization working with Ma Africa Tikkun, a collaborative funding model which is mobilizing the Jewish community to support vulnerable children and their families. Funders will also visit a school participating in Save the Children's Caring Schools Network that is exploring the potential of schools to become nodes of support in a time when HIV/AIDS has captured the attention of policymakers and education leaders in Southern Africa.

Session Coordinators: **Saira Khan**, MaAfrika Tikkun;
Nancy Muirhead, Rockefeller Brothers Fund

Advocacy, Churches and Economic Justice

The session will examine the work of church-based partners in South Africa who are working on economic justice and governance issues at the national and local levels and using advocacy programs and strategies rooted in the experiences of the poor and informed by research, policy analysis and communications. This session will take place at the Khotso House Johannesburg, a well known center of resistance during the struggle against apartheid and now home to a number of NGOs and civil society organizations.

Session Coordinator: **Rob Cunningham**, Christian Aid

Helping Youth Make the Right Choices: Skills for Shaping Their Future

During this session, funders will join loveLife's youth leadership corps, program leaders, and community members in a dialogue about the challenges of HIV prevention and youth development, lessons learned in sustaining a national scale intervention and innovative ideas for capitalizing on the positive trends in HIV prevention among youth. The session will take place at the loveLife Orange Farm Y-Centre and focus on this national HIV-prevention program targeted to 12-17 year olds that combines national outreach and support programs in clinics, schools and community organizations, with a sustained multi-media campaign.

Session Coordinator: **Eno Isong**, Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation

Community Foundations in South Africa

This session will take place at the Greater Rustenburg Community Foundation (GRCF) in Rustenburg, Northwest Province. Funders will learn about its history, approach, lessons learned and some ingredients for the survival of community foundations. Funders will visit a project funded by GRCF and engage with representatives of community foundations and indigenous grantmakers in a dialogue about the experiences and lessons from working in various contexts and locations and how successes and failures have resulted in alternative models of giving common in South Africa.

Session Coordinator: **Vuyiswa Sidzumo**, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

Perspectives on Developing and Retaining the Next Generation of Academics in African Universities

In this session, funders will engage with young scholars, university leaders and researchers who are studying academic staff retention in African universities. These "presenters" will speak to the nature of the problem, the disincentives for staying in academia and what they see as promising approaches to develop and retain academics, encourage in-migration, and counter depletion. The session emphasizes the exchange of views across the presenters and an opportunity for funders to talk with the presenters in a small group setting. The collective knowledge of the whole group participating will be captured.

Session Coordinator: **Suzanne Grant Lewis**, Partnership for Higher Education in Africa

Integrated Intervention to Maximize Job Opportunities: Research, HIV/AIDS and Enterprise Development in Rural South Africa

This session will introduce participants to a collaborative project that involves three program portfolios in the Ford Foundation Office for Southern Africa, and three participating stakeholders - the University of Johannesburg, Artists Proof Studios and Phumani Paper. Participants will learn about an ongoing partnership that builds synergies to address the impact of HIV/AIDS in natural resource-based enterprise groups, consisting primarily of women. The session will take place at the University of Johannesburg.

Session Coordinators: **Kim Berman** and **Frikkie Meintjes**, University of Johannesburg; **Alice Brown**, **Paula Nimpuno-Parente**, **Eka Williams** and **John Butler-Adam**, Ford Foundation

Notes

Notes





ABOUT THE AFRICA GRANTMAKERS' AFFINITY GROUP

Established in 2001, the Africa Grantmakers' Affinity Group (AGAG) is the only advocate for Africa within the philanthropic community in the United States. AGAG's mission is to promote increased and more effective funding in Africa through building and sharing knowledge. Our members range from those with decades of experience in and commitment to Africa to those who are just beginning to fund efforts on the continent.

The size of Africa and the challenges posed by the continent's uneven transportation and communications networks make it difficult for foundation staff to share information or develop partnerships, and so AGAG plays a critical role in helping funders learn from one another about effective funding strategies and

potential funding opportunities. Sharing information can help foundations reduce duplication, maximize resources, enhance the development of more successful grantmaking programs, increase staff professionalism and effectiveness, and encourage partnerships and collaboration among funders.

AGAG convenes its members annually, publishes a monthly newsletter, maintains an on-line membership directory, and organizes quarterly conference calls on issues members have identified as topics of common interest. In addition, AGAG conducts research on grantmaking trends in Africa that is designed to promote more effective grantmaking in Africa.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

KNOWLEDGE BUILDING

AGAG activities include research to map funding trends, and analyzing strategic grantmaking approaches, and organizing meetings where funders can share experiences and lessons learned about the effective use of funding resources. AGAG strives to build knowledge among members about major development initiatives in Africa that affect the grantmaking context.

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

AGAG organizes networking opportunities for funders to promote information sharing and increased collaboration and disseminates information about the field of foundation funding in Africa.

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