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Title of Paper

Philanthropy's contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals in emerging countries

Subtitle

Lessons learnt and experiences from the SDG Philanthropy Platform

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2. What are models of collaboration between governments and other stakeholders which increase development impact?

3. What are the capacities needed among national philanthropic associations in developing countries to pursue such cross sectoral collaboration?

4. What is the role of governments in creating an enabling environment for collaboration which effectively engages philanthropy?

Contents

1. **Philanthropy is a growing phenomenon worldwide** 4
2. **Sustainable Development Goals, an inclusive vision for globalization** 4
3. **SDGs can be a powerful force for philanthropy** 6
4. **About the SDG Philanthropy Platform** 8
   4.1 Key achievements 9
5. **Winning Strategies for Impact and Scale** 10
   5.1 Become aware of the trends and interconnections, build on the existing trends 11
   5.2 Tap networks to extend the influence 12
   5.3 Understand what strategy of data sharing and collecting helps foundations collaborate and become more effective 12
   5.4 Collaborate with Governments 13
   5.5 Develop pathways to scale solutions 16
   5.6 Drive innovations 19
6. **Conclusions** 20
7. **References** 21

1. Philanthropy is a growing phenomenon worldwide

Greater wealth accumulation across the world has produced expanding levels and types of philanthropy. In recent years, the growth of formal philanthropic activity in developing countries has been significant, marked by home-grown philanthropists, and new institutions and initiatives that are well attuned to local development needs. Some are supported by private international foundations based in developed countries or by an expanding community foundation network, while others are set up by wealthy families, businessmen, or as corporate foundations linked to large local businesses. Limited data on philanthropic activities in countries makes it tough to understand the scope and behaviour of philanthropic entities. In her paper "Philanthropy as an Emerging Contributor to Development Cooperation," Heather Grady broadly defines the key trends in global philanthropy[1]:

i. Expansion of philanthropy in the Global South marked by the emergence of a variety of philanthropic expressiocoady

social justice and global prosperity. Unlike the MDGs, the SDGs are universal which make them relevant to the entire global community.

Figure 1: The Sustainable Development Goals

The SDGs represent a very high level of ambition not only because of the breadth of the issues involved ranging from poverty to inequality to safeguarding the environment but also the extraordinary promise of "leaving no one behind" which implies reaching those traditionally left behind (people marginalized due to factors like gender, place of origin, race, class, ethnicity, disability, or religion). The challenges are massive in scale, with issues such as climate change or global health transcending borders, and are anchored in an increasingly volatile and uncertain global systems.

The SDGs are interconnected and indivisible which means that achieving them must be viewed holistically with an understanding of how investing in one goal affects others. For example, increasing food supply for the projected population growth of 4 billion more people will be a challenge of its own and will also result in an increase in pressure on environmental systems such as higher carbon emissions, and higher water and resource consumption.
The Agenda

Ultimately governments are responsible for achieving the Agenda 2030; however, it has been recognized that multi-stakeholder approaches and private sector investments are essential. The text of the Agenda 2030 explicitly acknowledges the role of philanthropy in contributing to the SDGs in paragraphs 41 and 45.[4]

The SDGs are expensive; estimates show that annual costs of the SDGs are between 3 to 5 trillion USD with a gap of 2.5 trillion USD expected to be covered by private sector capital.[5] The Addis Ababa Action Agenda, a UN framework which defines a roadmap for financing the SDGs, emphasizes the need to blend different sources and types of finance - private and public, traditional and new as well, to align the capital markets with sustainable development Agenda. [6] The specific reference to the role of philanthropy is mentioned in paragraphs 10 and 42.[7]

Many governments have already started formulating plans of engaging the private sector, foundations, civil society, academia and others in the implementation and the models of collaboration different in countries. The High Level Political Forum is the UN Central platform for follow up and review of the Agenda 2030 implementation, in which efforts towards the Goals are discussed on an annual basis every July. While catering mostly to governments and UN agencies, it also has a track for partnerships to inform and engage the experiences of the private sector, foundations and others.[8]

At a recent conversation launched by the UN on financing the SDGs, speakers from the capital markets and government representatives agreed for the need of more mechanisms, tools and policy actions to realign the "abundant" capital and sustainable development financing and emphasized the importance of collaboration and investing in innovative financial instruments which test and measure capital engagement and is critical for progress. [9]

3. SDGs can be a powerful force for philanthropy

Foundations have a huge role to play in achieving the SDGs for two important reasons: they offer financing as well as innovative and complementary approaches to development. Governments and the UN take a government-centric view of

over 360 billion USD to the SDGs.[12] However, this number is much smaller than the official development aid, which

that even small changes can scale rapidly if the right pressure points are found, while high effort changes often stay neutral.[17]

Figure 3: The Platform ¶ ∂perating model in a country

4.1 Key achievements

The Platform has brought together over a thousand foundations and philanthropists across many countries to create new partnerships so that together, funding and programs have a greater and more sustainable impact on people's lives. Many of which are from outside the US and Europe, with strong ties to several African philanthropy networks (e.g., Southern Africa Trust, East African Association of Grantmakers, Kenya Philanthropy Platform). The Platform fosters collaboration between philanthropy and relevant UN and government agencies, and brokers the entry points to multi-level, cross-cutting institutions focused on SDG implementation in specific countries. It brings philanthropy's collective voice to policymaking both in specific countries and globally, and demonstrates to governments and the UN system the power of philanthropy and its important role in Agenda 2030. The Platform's growing number of partnerships, and countries in which it operates, illustrate the dedication of foundations from the global North and South, as well as the interest of governments, to join forces to achieve the SDGs.

The Platform has enabled philanthropy institutions and grantees to collaborate with national governments. Key areas include addressing the complexities of combining private and public data, creating an enabling legal environment for philanthropic investments, and incubating institutions which allow philanthropy to formally collaborate on SDG implementation. The established portal *sdgfunders.org* is a novel and a unique place which tracks philanthropy's contributions to the SDGs, and a more interactive linked

multiyear model for change. Instead, the project staff was given space to identify and amplify positive outcomes, following the vision of strong collaboration between philanthropy, the UN and governments in implementing the SDGs. The staff was forced to be continuously adaptive to the changing circumstances and reality on the ground, and revise their course of action based on learnings. Such approach, as defined by McGill University management professor, Henry Mintzberg as an “emergent strategy”, capt

5.1 Become aware of the trends and interconnections, build on the existing trends.

As a first step, foundations should orient themselves within the ecosystem of 17 goals and 169 targets. The SDG Wizard is a simple and yet powerful tool that allows foundations to link their activities against the goals and targets relevant for their work.[20]

Secondly, philanthropic organizations should become aware of their surroundings: who is around and working on similar issues, what are the power dynamics between organizations and how resources affect the issue at hand. They need to know how their issues are connected (or not) with the work of others and able to spot potential synergies and opportunities as well as bottlenecks. Adapting this rule in practice means using mapping and

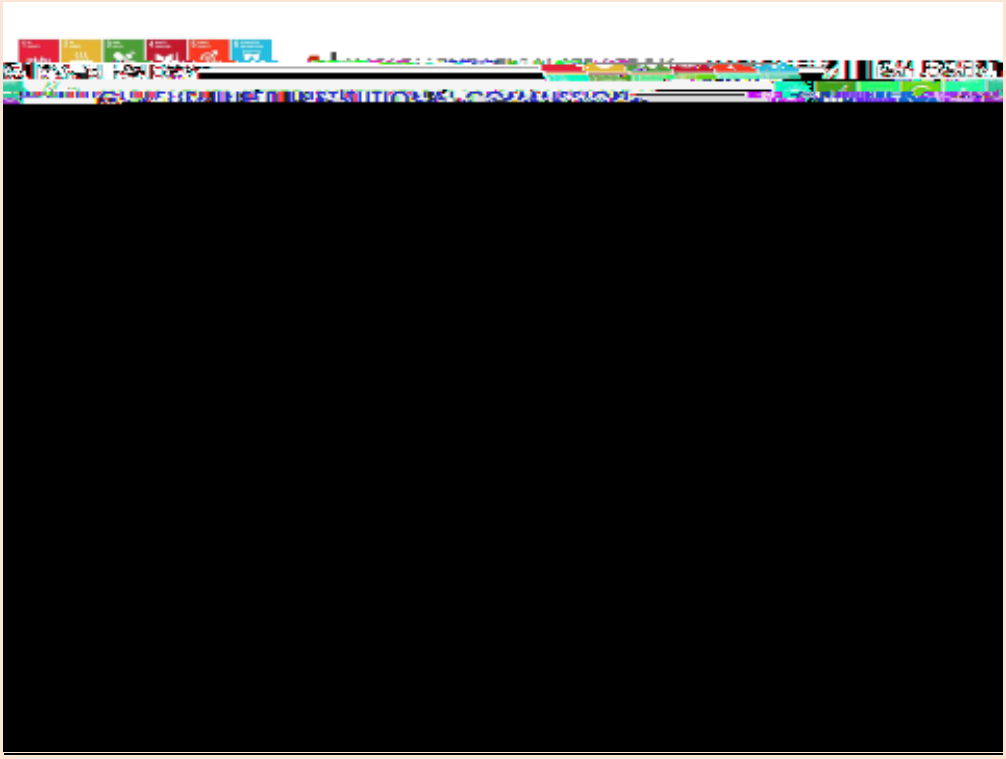
5.2 Tap networks to extend the influence

Engaging in networks to connect with organizations with similar objectives and to coalesce around common challenges and find synergies is an important tactic in expanding influence and subsequently impact. By joining hands, foundations drive leadership and effectively advocate for specific social issues. The networks create alignment around common challenges, garner commitments, reduce duplication of efforts and increase impact. Complex environments reward participation in flexible and responsive networks. [22]

While philanthropic networks in rich countries are popular, the level of association in emerging countries is relatively low. In Kenya, the SDGPP has partnered with locally based philanthropic institutions, Kenya Community Development Foundation (KCDF), East African Association of Grantmakers (EAAG), and the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) to create the first national voice for organized philanthropy in Kenya - the Kenya Philanthropy Forum (KPF), which represents a collective voice of local philanthropy in issues such as engaging philanthropy in the SDGs. KPF successfully represented a collective voice for over 80 local foundations and trusts, to amend the draft leg

Case Study: Philanthropy and the SDGs in Colombia

The SDGs High Level Inter-Governmental Commission for the implementation of the SDGs in Colombia was established by Presidential Decree (#280/2015) in 2015. From the outset, the Commission invited stakeholders including philanthropy, civil society, and business to participate in a technical-academic committee led by The Department of National Planning to work out mechanisms for stakeholders' participatory mechanisms, data sharing, public private partnerships including at the sub national level, and reporting and communication among others.



The relationship between the government and philanthropy in Colombia is characterized by trust and a long history of collaboration. SDGPP partners in Colombia, the Association of Foundations (AFE) established a geospatial visualization where over 1300 projects by AFE foundations members are currently filtered against the SDGs, http://mapa.afecolombia.org/. In addition, at the request of the government and in collaboration with DANE, or the national statistical office, AFE produced a novel report analyzing the concept of 'leaving no one behind' for the Colombian context, with recommendations for actions for Colombian foundations.[1] AFE has also embarked on an innovative demo project and convenes twelve local foundations in the region of Antioquia, who jointly with the local government developed a strategic investment plan inspired by the SDGs. The plan was put in to effect with a diagnostic discussion on where and how philanthropic investment would be most impactful.[1]

Figure 6: Case study, Philanthropy and the SDGs in Colombia

Figure 7: Forum Filantropi dan Bisnis

5.5 Develop pathways to scale solutions

The methodology of “Collaborative Pathways for SDGs” builds on cross sectoral collaboration and causal loop mapping --

iii. Propose systems approach at two levels: how different elements of an issue system (e.g. access to water) are interrelated, and dynamics that drive it are analyzed against a much bigger SDG ecosystem with 17 goals, 169 indicators, etc. to explain how SDGs are interconnected with stakeholders working on various elements of the ecosystem.

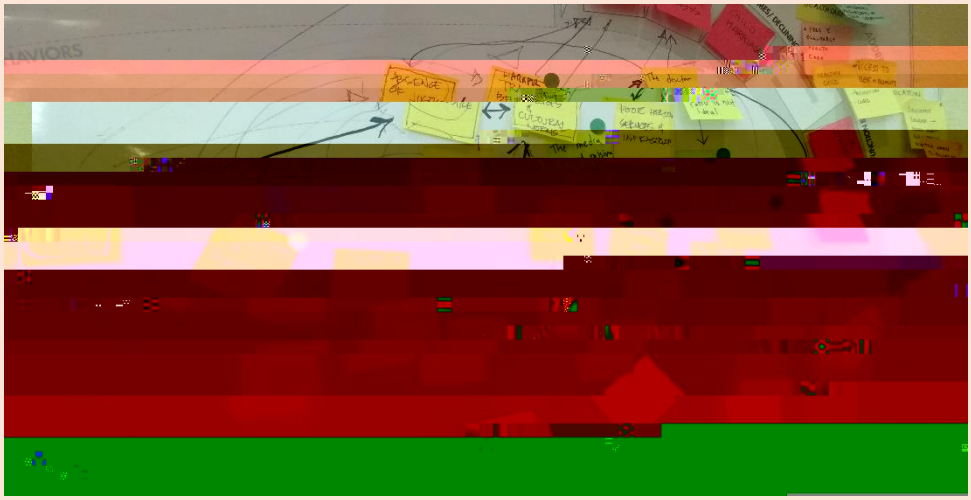
iv. Continuous monitoring of

Case Study, collaborative workshop in Zambia

The collaboration pathways in Zambia address the well-being of children, which has been the priority theme for the Conrad N Hilton Foundation. The intent of the foundation has been to foster more collaboration and innovative partnerships which accelerate progress for issues of children's well-being. The Foundation has had a funding strategy to support a wide range of organizations which can positively affect the desired outcomes in an ecosystem. With an introduction of the SDGs, the foundation has supported an approach which tests new approaches that respond to interconnections of the issues, drive innovations and extend the field of potential collaborators with new players such as social entrepreneurs.

The SDGPP team in Zambia conducted an in-depth mapping of stakeholders, policies, resources and interventions on the topic of the well-being of children. The research was then validated in a series of meetings with the stakeholders to gain additional perspectives especially on the current situation of the flows and main bottlenecks of resources.

During a one day workshop, participants conduced an in-depth root causes analysis and causal loop mapping. The participants gravitated towards social protection for adolescent girls against child marriage and pregnancy as those investment areas which can create transformative changes in the country. The strategic interventions selected including changing social norms through working with parents and social leaders, testing innovative models for health and education services provision at community level, investing in livelihoods and jobs especially for women and young mothers, and securing governance and social accountability from both a top down and bottom up approach.



Causal loop analysis

Figure 9: Case Study, collaborative workshop in Zambia

5.6 Drive innovations

There is a current recognition among the development community, as well as governments, that with the current

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