

Edition : July 2023

# THE NGO WORLD



**The "Ocean-Viking" Ambulance Ship Rescues 86 Migrants...**

**Donor touchpoints: The importance of relationships**

**Jigsaw Charity (UK) Türkiye-Syria Earthquake Response**

**Child Labour has to end for Sustainable Development**



# Impact as the North Star: The Key Priority for Nonprofits

In today's rapidly evolving world, nonprofit organizations play a pivotal role in addressing the most pressing societal challenges. These organizations operate with a distinct purpose - to make a positive impact. However, the concept of impact encompasses far more than just achieving desired outcomes. It necessitates a holistic approach that integrates transparency, accountability, and strategic thinking into every facet of their operations. As the editor of this magazine, I find it essential to shed light on why nonprofits must prioritize impact above all else and how it can shape their endeavors for the betterment of society.

**Defining Impact:** To grasp the significance of impact as the top priority for nonprofit organizations, it is crucial to define what impact truly means. Impact extends beyond the mere execution of programs and initiatives; it encapsulates the transformative change that organizations strive to achieve in the lives of individuals, communities, and the environment. It encompasses measurable outcomes, sustained improvements, and the cultivation of lasting social change.

**Fostering a Culture of Impact:** Nonprofits must cultivate a culture that places impact at the core of their operations. This entails instilling a collective understanding and shared commitment among staff, volunteers, and stakeholders regarding the organization's mission and desired outcomes. By fostering a culture of impact, nonprofits can create a unified vision, aligning their

resources, efforts, and strategies toward achieving meaningful change.

**Emphasizing Transparency and Accountability:** Transparency and accountability serve as vital pillars for nonprofit organizations seeking to maximize their impact. By operating transparently, nonprofits inspire trust and credibility among their stakeholders, including donors, beneficiaries, and the wider community. Additionally, accountability ensures that organizations stay true to their mission, effectively manage resources, and continuously evaluate their progress toward achieving desired outcomes.

**Leveraging Data and Metrics:** Data-driven decision-making is instrumental in maximizing impact. Nonprofits should adopt a rigorous approach to data collection, analysis, and evaluation. This enables organizations to measure the effectiveness of their programs, identify areas for improvement, and adapt strategies accordingly. By leveraging data and metrics, nonprofits can allocate resources more efficiently and optimize their efforts to generate the greatest positive impact.

**Collaborative Partnerships:** Collaboration lies at the heart of impactful nonprofit work. By forging partnerships with like-minded organizations, governments, businesses, and communities, nonprofits can leverage collective knowledge, resources, and expertise. These collaborations allow for the exchange of ideas, cross-

sectoral innovation, and the scaling of impact to address complex social problems that require multifaceted solutions.

**Amplifying Success Stories:** Nonprofits can amplify their impact by sharing success stories and best practices. By showcasing tangible results and stories of transformation, organizations inspire others to join their cause and foster a ripple effect of positive change. Through various communication channels, such as this magazine, nonprofits can raise awareness, engage the public, and garner support for their mission, further expanding their impact.

In the realm of nonprofit organizations, impact must always reign as the foremost priority. By embracing transparency, accountability, data-driven decision-making, collaborative partnerships, and effective communication, nonprofits can enhance their ability to address critical social issues and create lasting change. As the editor of this magazine, it is my hope that this article will inspire readers to recognize the indispensable role of nonprofits and encourage them to actively support these organizations in their relentless pursuit of impact.

Together, let us strive for a world where the power of nonprofits transforms lives and leaves an indelible mark on society.

Warm regards,

**Zafar Iqbal**

Editor-in-Chief, The NGO World

For queries, suggestion & feedback  
[editor@thengoworld.com](mailto:editor@thengoworld.com)

CHIEF EDITOR:  
**ZAFAR IQBAL**

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# Leading Global NGOs Launch SCoNe Coalition to Deliver Nature-based Climate Solutions in Southeast Asia

The Coalition aims to accelerate investment in nature-based solutions to climate change, while ensuring benefits flow to local communities.

**H**ONG KONG, June 21, 2023 /PRNewswire/ -- Eight globally recognized environmental and conservation non-profit organizations launched the Southeast Asia Climate and Nature-based Solutions Coalition (SCoNe Coalition) during Ecosperity Week, taking place in Singapore 6-8 June 2023. The SCoNe Coalition is a partnership that aims to support the delivery of and investment in high-quality, triple-benefit Nature-based Solutions (NbS) across the region.



Triple-benefit NbS are actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore ecosystems, that are designed to simultaneously combat climate change, conserve biodiversity and benefit local communities and Indigenous peoples whose lives are intertwined with these ecosystems.

"The successful implementation of NbS is crucial in addressing the climate crisis we urgently face today. The SCoNe Coalition was set up with the aim to drive adoption of these solutions at speed and scale, and to foster collective action across the region. We invite like-minded partners from industry, government, academia, and the wider community to join us in this endeavor, as we work together to make a sustainable future a reality," said **Will McGoldrick, Co-Chair of the SCoNe Coalition and the Regional Managing Director, Asia Pacific of The Nature Conservancy.**

The members of SCoNe Coalition are Conservation International

(CI), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), IDH-the Sustainable Trade Initiative, Birdlife International, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Mandai Nature, World Resources Institute (WRI) Indonesia, and WWF-Singapore (World Wide Fund for Nature Singapore), with Boston Consulting Group (BCG) providing strategic advice to SCoNe and its initiatives. Google's philanthropic arm, Google.org, has provided US\$1 million in foundational support to Mandai Nature to partner with the members of the SCoNe Coalition to develop the NbS Tool.

"Investing in nature is key to combating the adverse effects of climate change and the time for action is now. We must come together to effectively collaborate, combining our expertise and resources to achieve impact," said **Sonja Luz, SCoNe Coalition Steering Committee Member and CEO of Mandai Nature.** "The launch of the SCoNe Coalition and our aim to build up regional capacity for NbS projects brings us one step closer to realizing positive outcomes for climate, nature, and people in

Southeast Asia." The SCoNe Coalition will be demoing the MVP version of an NbS Tool on 8 June as part of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) APAC Event 2023: Ambition, Action, Accountability, being held in partnership with Ecosperity Week.

The NbS Tool aims to lower the barrier to entry for Frontline Organisations (FOs) to access climate finance from NbS projects, as well as to support investors to channel funds to FO-led projects. During the event, the SCoNe Coalition will demonstrate the NbS Tool's functionality and collect feedback from participants active in the region's carbon market ecosystem, to ensure it caters to the actual needs of FOs and investors as the targeted users of the tool.

"As demand for NbS for climate rises, a new challenge looms. Where will credible NbS come from? How will we ensure these solutions benefit climate as well as local communities and biodiversity?"

said **Martin Callow, Co-Chair of the SCoNe Coalition and Regional Director, Southeast Asian Archipelago of Wildlife Conservation Society.** "The NbS Tool, as part of a suite of solutions, is designed specifically for both investors and FOs, to answer this twin challenge."

Private investment into NbS is gradually increasing. This is necessary to address the climate crisis. To date, carbon markets are one of the most effective tools for leveraging private investment in the service of NbS. Therefore, there is an unparalleled opportunity to access and direct climate finance to NbS projects that deliver, not only climate outcomes, but also outcomes for biodiversity and people across Southeast Asia.

In its next iteration, the NbS tool will also include NbS Portfolio, a feature to showcase high-integrity triple-benefit NbS projects, that will help inform market participants on NbS best-practices, as well as direct market demand and climate finance to additional triple-benefit NbS projects in Southeast Asia. The current MVP version of the NbS Tool is publicly available on [scenecoalition.org](http://scenecoalition.org).

The Coalition is also developing an NbS Incubator program, which aims to ensure the delivery of scientific, regulatory, technical, technological, financial, and business development support to FOs at various stages of project development, from pre-feasibility through to carbon sales. More details on the NbS Incubator will be available toward the end of this year.

## SCoNe Coalition

The Southeast Asia Climate and Nature-based Solutions (SCoNe) Coalition is a collaboration between leading non-governmental organizations with an established presence in Southeast Asia aimed at accelerating and increasing implementation of and investment in high-quality, high-integrity, triple-benefit NbS across the region.



## Why small NGOs can represent outstanding value for money in international development

Enable Ed CIC has had the privilege of both working with and carrying out various independent project evaluations for large and small NGOs. What has become apparent is the exceptional value for money that many small NGOs provide.

Enable Ed believes passionately in providing pro-bono or low-cost work for small organisations. Often small organisations do not have the budget to do an independent evaluation of a project and that's where we, and others, can support. Some funders believe in the importance of independent evaluations (but we need many more), and I would give a massive shout-out to UK aid for initiating the Small Charities Challenge Fund, though it is a huge disappointment it was axed in 2021 as part of the funding cuts to UK aid.

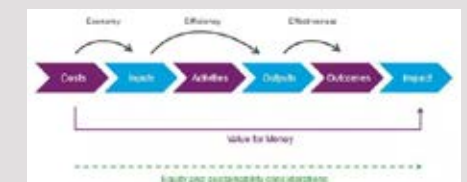
Enable Ed CIC has had the privilege of both working with and carrying out various independent evaluations for large and small NGOs and their projects (most often in the context of education - our speciality). What has become apparent in our evaluations is the exceptional value for money that many small NGOs provide.

Given this, Enable Ed now tries where possible (resources are limited) to provide pro-bono or low-cost work for small organisations. Often small organisations do not have the budget to do an independent evaluation of a project

and that's where we, and others, can support. Some funders believe in the importance of small NGOs and the value for money they provide (but we need many more), and I would give a massive shout-out to UK aid for initiating the Small Charities Challenge Fund, though it is a huge disappointment it was axed in 2021 as part of the funding cuts to UK aid.

### The 4Es

To explore how to get value for



money for an organisation, the context we use is the 4Es: Economy, Efficiency, Effectiveness with Equality (and sustainability).

To support other NGOs to think through ways they can ensure value for money, I am going to share some examples from the organisations we have worked with.

Source: <https://www.bond.org.uk/news/2023/06/why-small-ngos-can-represent-outstanding-value-for-money-in-international-development/>



## Fortress Europe': NGOs and MEPs critical of EU following migrant Mediterranean tragedy

Last week's tragedy off Greece took place a week before World Refugee Day.

LAST WEEK'S SHIPWRECK off the coast of Greece, in which hundreds of people are thought to have died, has brought the plight of those attempting to reach safety in Europe to the forefront of public consciousness once again.

The latest tragedy took place a week before World Refugee Day, which falls today, and is yet another example of what is unfolding on the world's deadliest migration route.

This month alone there have been ten other cases of boats in distress that have resulted in the deaths for some of those onboard.

Last month The Journal reported that the first quarter of this year was the deadliest in the Central Mediterranean since 2017.

The total number of dead or missing people along that stretch of the sea now stands at 1,289, according to the UN's International Organisation for Migration, which is likely to be an underestimate due to the way in which figures are counted.

According to NGO workers in the Mediterranean and a number of Irish politicians, EU policies are directly contributing to making the situation more hazardous for those attempting to make the journey to Europe.

### 'This will all blow over again'

Media attention paid to Mediterranean migration has ramped up since the fishing boat carrying hundreds of people sank off the Greek coast last week,

according to Caroline Willeman, a search and rescue coordinator with Médecines Sans Frontières (MSF), or Doctors Without Borders.

"I'm grateful that at least people are willing to pay some attention. I wish there wasn't such a bad reason to speak about it but here we are," she said.

Speaking from her years of experience working in the area, Willeman believes "it takes this level of disaster for people to talk about it".

"And then, not wanting to sound cynical, I'm afraid I've been doing this too long to not also be afraid that this will all blow over again," she added.

Willeman does not hold out much

hope that the prominence of this latest disaster will prompt a change in European policy on migration.

"In terms of, let's say, the likelihood that the attention will actually impact policies or will impact practices of how Europe is assisting people in need, let's say that I'm at a point where I'm not sure how much difference it will make."

She also believes that part of the reason for the extra attention from politicians and the media is due to the fact that the fishing boat sank off the coast of an EU country and not an African one.

"The scale of this disaster was very big, which is why gaining more media traction. But that's also because it happened close to European shores, and many of the drownings happen closer to Libya or Tunisia."

When people do make it to Europe, often traumatised and in need of medical attention, they are met with yet more hostile conditions.

This is the case on the Greek island of Lesbos, which became infamous for the Moria camp, which held over 20,000 people at one point. After a fire tore through the camp in September 2020, it was closed.

Greek prime minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis recently visited the island while campaigning during the country's general election.

"The hellhole of Moria, as it would become known abroad, is no more," he said.

"It belongs to the past. And of that I am especially proud because I kept the promise I had given to local society, particularly local communities ... We enforced a tough but fair policy on the migration issue."

### 'Very chaotic'

While the number of refugees on the island may have come down from its peak in 2015, conditions for those who arrive by boat or are rescued nearby are not much better now, according to Nihal Osman, a project coordinator with MSF on Lesbos.

Moria might be closed but there are two other camps in operation, one of which was a Covid quarantine facility during the pandemic.

A new Greek policy decision has made the work of NGOs like MSF more difficult and is pushing people into homelessness, Osman said.

"The ministry is trying to reduce the capacity, which means to only keep asylum seekers inside the camp," she explained.

"So they're not providing any more food or basic services to people who were denied international protection and the ones who were granted refugee status.

"They consider that once people get the asylum status or refugee status, then they don't get any kind of support because they are somehow immediately integrated within the society, which is of course not the case.

"So far the authorities are not physically forcing people to go outside of the camp, they just don't provide the services. So now NGOs are covering the food distribution for the ones that are excluded from the food provision.

"It's very chaotic. We are very concerned that it will probably end up in homelessness for a lot of people."

MSF provides medical assistance to those in the camps and to new arrivals, but the presence of what appear to be anti-refugee vigilantes is complicating their efforts.

There have also been reports that Greek coast guard authorities have been doing 'push backs' - forcing migrants arriving on boats to return to where they came from - which was reported by the New York Times.

Of the vigilantes Osman says: "We see them around the location where we're going [to attend a landing]. We see cars without number plates, we see people with masks."

While MSF staff say they have not seen this happen themselves, their patients on the island have reported it to them often, Osman says.

"Most of our patients report to us that this happened to them before or it's happened to them upon arrival," she said.

### Safe pathways

For Willeman, tragedies such as the one which occurred last week are avoidable. However, until the EU's approach to asylum seekers and other migrants changes, she believes that they will continue to happen.

"I think we need to be very realistic. That if there are no safe and legal ways for people to flee their countries and enter Europe, they will keep resorting to these very dangerous ways," she said.

"They know that it's very dangerous. The vast majority of people that I've spoken to know very well the risks that they take, but they find themselves in the kind of desperate limbo that they are willing to take this risk."

This is especially true for those attempting to escape Libya, where the EU funds local coast guards which are reportedly made up of former militias who have been found to have committed human rights abuses.

"We hear on a relatively regular basis that people tell us they would have preferred to die at sea than go back to Libya, which says quite a lot about the situation there," Willemen says.

While some of those who end up in Libya may have come as economic migrants, many end up faced with these dire conditions, which pushes them to attempt the perilous journey across the sea, in many cases more than once.

"When they start finding themselves in such situations of forced labour, extortion, etc. that's when they decide to move on."

Green Party MEP Grace O'Sullivan is of the same view when it comes to why people make these desperate boat trips.

"There are now almost no safe and legal paths for people from countries like Sudan and Afghanistan to make it to Europe without significant funds and connections," she told The Journal.

"In creating this environment, we make it almost inevitable for desperate people to take desperate and dangerous methods to make it to Europe and to safety.

"As a result, we have just seen hundreds more needlessly lose their lives in the Mediterranean, which has become a graveyard for refugees."

### Fortress Europe

Due to EU policies on policing the Mediterranean Sea border and the stances of member states like Greece and Italy, there is no sign that things will improve for those making journeys to Europe.

EU countries used to conduct their own search and rescue operations in the Mediterranean, particularly

back in 2015 at the height of that decade's so-called 'migrant crisis', but that is no longer the case.

Rescue operations are often only carried out by EU coast guards when a boat in distress is found in their territorial waters.

The core of the EU's policy is arrangements it has with countries like Libya, where local coast guards are trained and equipped by the EU. Their job is to prevent migrant boats from ever reaching the European side of the sea.

Frontex, Europe's border policing force, recently announced that it plans to hire an additional 8,500 staff members by 2027.

The body conducts a small number of rescue operations in the Mediterranean but mostly alerts coast guards authorities in north Africa and Europe of boats in distress via their planes.

Willemen says she would like to see more coordination between Frontex and NGO rescue boats but says MSF rarely get notified by the agency.

"Why is it that it happens so rarely, that we are informed by Frontex about distress cases like this?" she asks.

"It happens very, very rarely. So yes, of course for us, we just have questions. Are we really never ever the best equipped ship around? You know, we have a rescue crew of 20 people, we are a certified search and rescue vessel.

"We are out at sea quite often. For sure it raises questions about why we are never asked by Frontex to assist a distress case."

She also doubts that expanding Frontex will necessarily make a difference to the safety of people in the Mediterranean unless there are policy changes that come with it.

"They might have more staff, but if they still don't inform, for example, search and rescue NGOs of distress cases, I don't necessarily see how it will substantially change the safety of people at sea."

MEP Grace O'Sullivan believes that expanding Frontex is "insane".

"I have always opposed the insane proposals to expand Frontex, whose complicity in crimes against migrants and refugees has been proven time and time again," she says.

"The agency has failed entirely to take responsibility for abuses within the agency and the blank cheque the Commission seems prepared to give to Frontex cannot be justified."

She also described the approach as "even more significant and deadly than President Trump's notorious calls to 'Build the Wall' on the border with Mexico".

O'Sullivan also lamented the EU's general move away from conducting its own rescue missions with particular reference to Ireland's role.

"In previous years Ireland has played a positive role in the EU's role in helping migrants reach European shores safely," she said.

"Unfortunately, the EU has changed its approach since then from saving refugees in distress to pushing refugees back and building 'Fortress Europe'. At European Council level, this policy is being led by far-right governments in Hungary, Poland, Italy and elsewhere.

"Ireland should play a stronger role in Council to push back against the regressive policies that have led to the tragic but ultimately avoidable deaths of thousands in the Mediterranean."

## French-Philippine NGOs Call for Proposals 2023

Every year since 2007, the French Embassy to the Philippines and Micronesia has been launching a call for proposals to support a project benefiting disadvantaged populations, or in favor of sustainable development.

Numerous associations have already been awarded, including SCAPH Pro Recherche Océanographique in 2022, for its project to build artificial reefs to revitalize underwater biotopes in Silago, and Anak-Tnk, for its project to finance a day-care center in the shantytown to help children through the fight against malnutrition, medical support for beneficiaries and education for children who do not attend school or who have difficulties at school.

These two prize-winning NGOs join the list of associations that have been awarded by the French Embassy to the Philippines since 2007, namely Alouette in 2007, Anak-Tnk in 2008, Augustins de l'Assomption in 2009, Fondation Enfance in 2010, Caméléon in 2011, Passerelles Numériques in 2012, Water and Life in 2013, Solidarités International in 2014, Fondation Enfance in 2015, Enfants du Mékong



Source: <https://ph.ambafrance.org/French-Philippine-NGOs-Call-for-Proposals-2023>

in 2016, Fondation Virvanie in 2017, Entrepreneurs du Monde (1st) and Water and Life (2nd) in 2018, Anak-Tnk (1st) and Phil'Rouge (2nd) in 2019, Enfants d'Asie (1st) and Médecins du Monde (2nd) in 2020, ACAY Missions Philippines Inc. (1st) and Espoir School of Life Inc (2nd) in 2021.

**The 2023 call for proposals is open from June 20 to July 31 (23:59) 2023 to the associations of the France-Philippines NGO network.** Proposals are not limited to a particular theme - these can be related to health, environment, education, or social issues.

Two NGOs will be selected this year. Following evaluation of the projects, the first awardee will receive a total of PHP 300,000 in financial support, and the second awardee will receive a total of PHP 100,000 in financial support from the French Embassy to the Philippines.

## Applications open for Crain's Best-Managed Nonprofits

**Applications are open for Crain's Best-Managed Nonprofits 2023 program.**

The program honors the best in leadership and financial stewardship in Southeast Michigan's nonprofit community.

This year's contest asks nonprofits to share how they seek feedback from the people they serve and how they use that information to improve programs and services. This might include shifting to help clients overcome barriers, filling gaps in services and adjusting how and when services are offered.

Applicants undergo a financial review by the nonprofit practice group at Plante Moran PLLC, and

winners are selected after initial scoring and in-person interviews by a panel of nonprofit experts.

The deadline for applications is Aug. 7. Finalists must appear for in-person interviews with judges the morning of Tuesday, October 3. Applicants will be considered with similar-sized organizations.



Source: <https://www.crainsdetroit.com/nonprofits-philanthropy/craains-best-managed-nonprofits-applications-open>

Crain's will publish profiles of the selected honorees on Dec. 4, and they will receive a "best-managed" logo from Crain's for use in promotional materials.

Nominees, which can be any size, must be 501(c)3 organizations based in Macomb, Oakland, Wayne, Livingston or Washtenaw counties.

Applications must include an entry form, a copy of the organization's code of ethics, a copy of its most recent audited financial statement and a copy of its most recent IRS 990 form.

First-place winners within the past 10 years are not eligible; neither are hospitals, HMOs, medical clinics, business and professional organizations, schools, churches or foundations.

# How Organizations Can Help Address Gaps In Mental Health Support



Dena Trujillo

**T**oday's corporate environment demands that employers integrate mental health discussions into employee engagement. To do this successfully, it's critical that decision-makers understand what mental health challenges their employees may be facing. In its fourth annual United in Empathy Report, our organization, Crisis Text Line, offers a picture of the issues texters across the country are seeking support for.

For the first time, the top stressor in people's conversations was tied to relationship dysfunction and stress. And roughly one in five people talked about feeling lonely or isolated as a result of a lack of human connection.

**Research from the American Institute of Stress shows that levels of stress have been steadily increasing since the pandemic, especially in light of people losing their jobs and facing higher costs of living. Employee stress can cause low engagement, lack of focus and productivity, poor performance and an increase in absences. As business leaders, we can help be part of the solution and take action to address stress levels in the workplace.**

In order to enhance productivity and engagement within our teams, we can encourage our team

members to take care of themselves and each other in the workplace and at home. The increasing stress levels we face each day have significant repercussions that we should acknowledge. When stress levels are higher, employees are more on edge, may get offended or frustrated more easily and have higher rates of burnout.

While stress cannot be entirely avoided, people, communities and organizations are more resilient when there are high rates of



connection, agency and purpose. Below are a few tips to consider to help build resilience and create a more supportive yet productive culture within your organization.

## Find ways to strengthen the human connection.

As leaders, we must provide space for people to develop a sense of belonging and connect with each other authentically. Human connection has always been an important part of healthy

organizational cultures with high employee engagement levels. As U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy shares, positive human connection is critical to our health as it can decrease health risks and improve overall mental and physical well-being and longevity. It is especially important now given our increasingly remote and global work environments. Many people can no longer have "watercooler" conversations to connect with coworkers.

A couple of simple additions to daily work life that can make a significant difference include taking an extra minute to ask how someone is doing and having quick check-ins at the beginning of small group meetings (e.g., favorite food or three words describing how you are doing). Other examples could be overtly reminding employees about the resources they have available to help them create their own support systems. Encourage colleagues to consider getting involved in any relevant programs such as

employee resource groups (ERGs) or sign up for team-based volunteer opportunities.

## Reinforce agency among employees.

Given today's external factors, we know that high stress levels are not going away. So how can we help employees take control or agency of their own wellness?

Acknowledging the increased stress levels of our employees can help support their well-being and yield long-term benefits to the organization. Giving workers more control over how they do their work is critical. Even small changes in worker autonomy can make a huge difference in employee well-being. Taking more breaks, listening to music or going for a walk can help manage stress levels.

**It is increasingly important to find ways to de-stress, given the increase in remote and distributed work environments. It is also critical to remind employees of the mental health and wellness resources they have available to them, including employee assistance programs (EAPs) and crisis lines that are available to offer mental health support anytime, anywhere.**

## Foster purpose to help support team building.

The loneliness epidemic is growing alongside the

Source: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbesnonprofitcouncil/2023/06/12/how-organizations-can-help-address-gaps-in-mental-health-support/?sh=4c542a8657b1>

mental health crisis, and it's more important than ever to help people find purpose on their teams and within their organizations. A great start is when employees have a chance to reflect on their own sense of purpose and see how it connects with the company's mission and values. As leaders, we should meet employees where they are to help them achieve fulfillment at work by making sure teams understand the larger impact of their work on customers and the community and offering projects that provide empowerment, satisfaction and meaning.

**In addition, encouraging employees to explore purpose outside of work is important. Activities such as volunteering, being an active part of a community and spending time with people who offer inspiration can be vital to fulfilling one's overall purpose. People with a purpose beyond self and profits tend to be more resilient during challenging times.**

Looking ahead, organizations can play a critical role in helping tackle the mental health crisis, but it is up to all of us to take action in our daily lives at work and at home. By prioritizing our own mental health, encouraging the development of human connection, enabling employees to take control of their own well-being and fostering purpose, we can start to make a difference in the lives of our families, teams and communities.

# Support for Start-Up and Early-Stage Nonprofits



**T**oo often, nonprofit organizations in their early phases are left out of funding or support opportunities due to their budget size, length of operations, or small staff. Taproot doesn't believe in these restrictions. In fact, **our staff members and volunteers are uniquely positioned to provide advice and resources for early-stage organizations building their IT, HR, marketing, business strategy, operations, and finance infrastructure for the first time.**

**During this free, one-hour webinar on Tuesday, June 20,** Taproot's Nonprofit Success Coach and Senior Director of Community Engagement will dig into:

- Why Taproot's services are a perfect fit for start-up nonprofits looking to elevate their work
- Volunteer consultations and projects in marketing, tech, HR, strategy, operations, and finance that we've seen be especially impactful for early-stage organizations
- How to connect with support from Taproot's community of 150,000+ skilled volunteers

Source: [https://finance.yahoo.com/news/support-start-early-stage-nonprofits-154500939.html?guce\\_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLnNvbS8&guce\\_referrer\\_sig=AQAAALuNI-ex8-hQhHELnSz3bD3qeJY0TCSyTgBbxl5gc\\_06vWicFwNW2kWml4BLpVkcucyKU4dE1NRGS99-MV7O3KyDK0kjh\\_1JrkZ8\\_aR9J93z7ki-069en2raZE64btqoRcJoS9xeh5mJ42Tz0g3sWrayFbaqMCD\\_199jBNzYF4Gill&guccounter=2](https://finance.yahoo.com/news/support-start-early-stage-nonprofits-154500939.html?guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLnNvbS8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAALuNI-ex8-hQhHELnSz3bD3qeJY0TCSyTgBbxl5gc_06vWicFwNW2kWml4BLpVkcucyKU4dE1NRGS99-MV7O3KyDK0kjh_1JrkZ8_aR9J93z7ki-069en2raZE64btqoRcJoS9xeh5mJ42Tz0g3sWrayFbaqMCD_199jBNzYF4Gill&guccounter=2)

## Donor touchpoints: The importance of relationships



Ronald Pruitt

**C**onnecting with your donors between asks is an important part of growing your relationship. Much like any relationship in our lives—if all we do is reach out to people (friends, co-workers, partners) when we want something, those relationships start to fizzle fast.

In sales, we think of the customer journey; the same can be said about donors. Think of your donors as needing to experience their donor journey—a guided trip you take with them, providing information and opportunities to build your relationship along the way.

### Think outside the box

The easy route for donor touchpoints includes emails, text messages or mailed letters. Take your donor touchpoints further by thinking of opportunities by which you can connect with them personally in a way that other organizations may not. Use the [data you're collecting in your CRM](#) as a way to figure out the best approach for connecting with your donors.

For example, if you're able to pull attendance reports on the last time donors came to an event or visited your space, you can categorize those and reach out to donors who haven't made a physical appearance in over a year, 6 months, etc. Give them a personal phone call and invite them to your next event, walk or showcase.

Source: <https://4agoodcause.com/donor-touchpoints-the-importance-of-relationships/>

Another way to keep those touchpoints going on a personal level is to celebrate your donors' special events. Use your CRM to track birthdays and other special dates in their lives and send a handwritten birthday card, congratulatory message or anniversary wish.

Need a few more ideas? Here's a shortlist to get you started:

- Invite them for a personalized tour of your program/space/facility
- Invite them to attend an event for free
- Interview them for a donor profile piece (for your e-news, magazine, blog, etc.)
- Go to them—meet them where they are for a no-strings update visit and to gather feedback and input
- Send a fun postcard or small swag gift just because
- Produce a custom video message with URLs that can be sent via email or in a mailed card

### Track your touchpoints

As you develop a strategy for how often you'll reach out to donors



outside of annual asks, ensure that everyone on the team knows what is being done by tracking these touchpoints in your CRM. Likewise, ensure that your donor touchpoints have more to do with your donors' interests than with yours—another reason a CRM is a great tool to get to know and track information on your donor base.

### Work together

Sit down with your communications team, your fundraising department and others in your organization in charge of sending communication out to donors and other constituents. Create an annual touchpoint calendar that includes dates and timing for annual asks, special campaigns and the “just because” touchpoints so that no one is stepping on toes and that you're all on the same page. This will provide a nice visual for the months to come and will make the distribution and execution of those touchpoints easier as you move through them.

Combat donor attrition with a solid donor touchpoint strategy throughout the year. Think of these touchpoints as building blocks that helps create long-lasting trust and relationships with your donors for the long term.

## Leadership classes at CHHS donate to local nonprofits



**C**rescent Heights High School leadership classes presented cheques to local nonprofit organizations Tuesday, having now given away more than \$30,000 in the community over the years.

Leadership classes run throughout the year where students decide which charity they want to support.

“We have a competition where the kids present all the reasons why they think their charity should win money from the Community Foundation,” explained Heather McCaig, a leadership teacher at the school. “Some of our groups do their own fundraising as well.”

The school has been working with the Youth in Philanthropy program with the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta since 2005.

“This is one of our favourite days with Heather and her leadership groups every year,” said Niki Gray,

executive director of the foundation. “They will be distributing \$3,000 worth of Community Foundation Youth in Philanthropy funding and then some they have raised (money) on their own.”

Gray added that McCaig was the one who taught her how to run the Youth in Philanthropy program.

“The model she's created at Crescent Heights has been phenomenal and I appreciate the school and the district.”

Three groups of students talked about why they chose their selected charity. Naomi, Taylee and Laura raised more than \$600 for the Women's Shelter.

“The women and children there are struggling,” said Naomi. “If you are suffering and struggling, you'd like someone to help you as well.”

Amethyst, Kindley and Brody raised \$400 for CORE because they believe

everyone deserves to be treated equally.

“Back in December, we went to CORE and did a tour and learned if they were to win the money, they would get an iPad to go towards the puppeteers,” explained Amethyst.

Kaitlyn, Emily and Victoria raised \$600 for the SPCA because they wanted to help stop animal neglect and homelessness.

“We think they strive for good animal companionship and good morals,” stated Kaitlyn. “Some of our animals we adopted from the SPCA, so they hold a special place in our hearts.”

Other charities receiving cheques were McMan Youth, Family and Community Services (\$400), The Root Cellar (\$209 plus a bin of food), Prairie Cleaners (\$714), The Connection (\$36) and APARC (\$817).

Source: <https://medicinehatnews.com/news/local-news/2023/06/14/leadership-classes-at-chhs-donate-to-local-nonprofits/>

# Nonprofits' Employee Morale Conundrum – Insights from our Survey

**The race for talent is not just a corporate phenomenon.**

The pandemic was an inflection point for many workers, causing them to reevaluate what they want out of a career. For some, this meant finding a new job that was more societally impactful and personally fulfilling.

But there's more to evolving employee needs than a quest for more meaning. Nonprofit leaders did not experience a boom in hiring amid 2020s waves of resignations, and they are still grappling with how to best attract and retain talent in a hypercompetitive employment landscape. In fact, according to BDO's Nonprofit Standards benchmarking survey, staff retention and employee morale is nonprofit leaders' top challenge aside from budget constraints.

Employee expectations and desires are changing. In an era of hybrid work, a degree of workplace flexibility is expected—whether that be via flexible hours or the ability to work from home. Beyond this, employee needs are different in the current environment. The same economic conditions that are tightening nonprofits' purse strings are also straining consumer wallets. The cost of living is higher, and salaries need to reflect this reality to support workers.

**Following are tips to help nonprofits boost employee morale and encourage retention and recruitment:**

## Reevaluate expenditures—including salaries and hiring

- Are there opportunities to cut down on operational costs and increase investments in employees? Identify ways to streamline how people, processes, and technology work together to increase efficiencies. When done properly, the results not only lead to efficiency but great impact to beneficiaries and employee morale as processes are streamlined and reinforce the mission of the organization. By the same token, consider opportunities to increase employee wages and salaries—and bolster recruitment efforts—as appropriate to remain competitive. Many organizations are already on the right track: The majority of nonprofits (76%) are increasing spending significantly or slightly on hiring new talent, and nearly all (90%) are increasing spending significantly or slightly on existing employee salaries, according to our survey.

## Update benefits and review flexibility

- While compensation is important, it is not the only condition of employment that matters. Many nonprofits recognize this and are on the right track, with 47% adding or updating employee benefits and 43% updating or introducing

flexible work hours. Remote work arrangements have also become more prevalent and may allow organizations to reconsider their real estate footprint and further reduce unnecessary costs. Make sure worker benefits and workplace policies are at a minimum on par with those of peer organizations to encourage retention and draw in new talent.

## Enhance or introduce professional development pathways

- Not to be forgotten is the potential to cultivate talent from inside the organization. Promoting from within may reduce hiring and onboarding costs and has benefits from an employee morale and satisfaction perspective. Employees need to be able to grow into new roles, learn new skills and advance in their careers. Nearly half (46%) of nonprofit leaders are updating or introducing employee training/development programs to this end. Another 15% of nonprofit leaders are updating their promotion philosophies to attract and retain talent.

Nonprofits that adopt talent attraction and retention practices that reflect how workers' priorities are changing have a greater chance of reducing employee turnover (and, thus, hiring costs) and boosting employee morale. While the days

may not be entirely gone that employees accept a position just to have a job, employers increase their chances of attracting the right people if they are taking a critical eye to their own organizations and intentionally creating an attractive workplace culture. Those that go beyond surface-level band-aids in order to attract the right candidates will increase the odds that employees will stay. The mission, paycheck and benefits are crucial components to the workforce talent acquisition and retention effort.

**Finally, for organizations struggling to fill positions, looking at interim staffing may be a temporary solution. Almost one-fifth (19%) of organizations are changing their staffing model—for example, outsourcing or consolidating positions—in order to mitigate the impacts of inflation.**

Nonprofit leaders are far from passive about the effects of the changing employment landscape. As our survey reveals, many are proactively altering their hiring and workplace processes. Organizations that are able to continually adapt to evolving employee needs and the shifting labor market will be better positioned to succeed in the long run. This may require upfront investment, but the return will ultimately outweigh the cost.

Source: [https://www.bdo.com/insights/blogs/nonprofit-standard/nonprofits-employee-morale-conundrum-insights-from-our-survey?utm\\_medium=Social&utm\\_source=Twononprofit&utm\\_campaign=NonprofitStandard&utm\\_content=Nonprofit&utm\\_term=](https://www.bdo.com/insights/blogs/nonprofit-standard/nonprofits-employee-morale-conundrum-insights-from-our-survey?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twononprofit&utm_campaign=NonprofitStandard&utm_content=Nonprofit&utm_term=)

# Lawmakers earmark nearly \$1 billion for Minnesota nonprofits along with new oversight

Vanessa Young and teachers at a St. Paul summer literacy program on Tuesday morning encouraged a roomful of second and third graders to line up for play time outside.

The youngsters shuffled over from their tables and echoed a song from their teachers: "One, two, buckle my shoe, three, four, shut the door, five, six, Nike Kicks," as they walked out the doors of the reclaimed bank building.

Young is the director of programs and policy at a nonprofit called 30,000 feet. The nonprofit offers after school support and arts programs centered in culture and African American empowerment. And its leaders have had to relocate over the last few years after issues with landlords or temporary spaces that didn't accept students experiencing emotional meltdowns.

"We kind of hit our final straw of being yanked around, jerked around into so many different places," Young said.

After years of going to the Capitol with a request to fund the design and construction of a Black Arts and Tech Center in St. Paul — a more permanent hub for its programs — the Legislature this year approved the nonprofit's \$3.5 million ask.

"Them seeing all of our children squished up in someone else's space made a really huge case. And I think they've also seen the work in action," Young said. "For the state Legislature to get it, I think it's going to really help others kind of understand the significance and the importance of our work."

Young and her organization aren't alone.

The group is one of dozens of nonprofit organizations set to receive funding as part of Minnesota's next two-year state budget. An MPR News analysis found that as part of those bills lawmakers approved more than \$900 million for nonprofit organizations and entities funded through local economic development chambers — both in direct appropriations and competitive requests yet to be filled.

The Legislature approved the grant funding aimed largely at supporting communities that prior budgets had overlooked. And a little more than a year after the Feeding Our Future scandal that allegedly saw \$250 million in federal nutrition aid stolen, lawmakers also increased transparency and accountability measures that officials say could stave off wrongdoing or alert them to problems sooner.

Please visit for more at <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2023/06/28/lawmakers-earmark-nearly-1-billion-for-mn-nonprofits-along-with-new-oversight>

# The Vital Role of NGOs in Promoting Bipartisan Cooperation with Europe - Opinion

**NGOs provide additional efforts to the official channels in a variety of fields, such as defense, national resilience, innovation and energy.**

In an era of intense political polarization, fostering mutual understanding and cooperation between nations has become increasingly challenging, both in the West and in Israel.

However, amidst this complex landscape, there are crucial entities that transcend political divisions and serve as a bridge-builder between countries - international bipartisan non-governmental organizations (NGOs) operating in the sphere of diplomacy. These NGOs provide additional efforts to the official channels in a variety of fields, such as defense, national resilience, innovation and energy.

The current atmosphere has made relations somewhat dependent on the role that international NGOs play in strengthening ties between nations that share democratic values and strategic interests.

At the heart of Europe-Israel relations lie shared historical values cherished by both entities. Israeli and European leaders should foster a safe and open environment that encourages dialogue and exchange of ideas between policymakers. This approach strengthens the foundation and infrastructure of mutual trust and understanding, facilitating cooperation on shared fields of interest.

In addition to shared values, the impact of the war in Ukraine has led to overlapping strategic interests between Europe and Israel as they face similar challenges in Europe and the Middle East. NGOs should

engage, alongside official efforts, in promoting strategic cooperation in fields such as defense, national resilience, innovation and energy.

By highlighting the potential for mutually beneficial partnerships, Europe and Israel should work hand in hand to facilitate discussions and initiatives that enhance bilateral ties. In doing so, they will foster a synergistic environment conducive to shared prosperity, benefiting both sides.

In the current global context, relying solely on official channels may hinder progress and jeopardize the much-needed advancements between nations. NGOs that work closely with policymakers excel at bridging this divide by maintaining a non-partisan and direct approach. European and Israeli leaders should endorse an environment where different perspectives can be understood and respected in direct and frank discussions.

In a world grappling with global and local polarization, all efforts by NGOs serve as invaluable forces in strengthening Europe-Israel relations. NGOs engaged in global diplomacy assist nations to focus on what is important - shared democratic values, strategic interests and the

ability to mitigate political divisions.

We need concurrent efforts to bridge political and cultural gaps while fostering strategic cooperation. By promoting frank and direct dialogue, mutual understanding and collaboration, NGOs contribute to official and diplomatic efforts to build a more peaceful and stable region. As we navigate the challenges of our era, it is crucial to recognize and support the vital role played by such organizations in building bridges across nations and shaping a better future for Europe and Israel.

Source: <https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-746124>



## WaterAid UK

A few weeks ago clean water finally arrived in the community of Frat in Ethiopia, where Yenus lives!

You might remember we asked you to support them as part of our winter appeal in 2020.

Bringing clean water to this remote area wasn't easy. Our local team faced challenges that caused delays, like finding the right borehole drilling firm. Then, an extended rainy season also delayed work, and a bridge that connected Frat to the nearest town was washed away by a flash flood.

But pooling skills and sharing knowledge to support each other is a way of life in Frat, and with their support - and yours - we got the work done.

Here are the results:

- ♦ A solar-powered pumping system brings water from 2 boreholes.
- ♦ A female-led local committee now manages the new system.
- ♦ Community members learned how to manage the watershed and conserve water and soil, including planting 30,000+ seedlings.

[https://web.facebook.com/wateraid?mibextid=ZbWKwL&\\_rdc=1&\\_rdr](https://web.facebook.com/wateraid?mibextid=ZbWKwL&_rdc=1&_rdr)



Thanks to you, collecting water is a thing of the past for Yenus

Thank you so much for being part of the WaterAid community that helped make this happen - it's your support that means we can reach the remotest communities, whatever the challenges.

In 2020/21 our Future on Tap appeal raised just over £4 million to help communities in Ethiopia and around the world. The UK government matched £2 million of those donations, bringing the total raised to £6,084,108.



## USAID Pakistan

The U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission Andrew Schofer, along with Federal Secretary for Energy Rashid Mahmood Langrial and USAID Mission Director Reed Aeschliman, concluded

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/100064908753270/posts/pfbid02eNmuD6iv5h66dL7ixwwSjhszLUirrkFxWo6KSUQf1GFWdmuqWf6Rnen6D1xNz7WFI?mibextid=Nif5oz>

the second cohort of the Future of Women in Energy Scholars program with a certificate distribution ceremony today in Islamabad.

Launched in 2022, the program aims to support and inspire Pakistani women to pursue careers in the energy sector.



## EU Youth Event on Race Led by NGO Linked to Muslim Brotherhood

**T**he European Parliament has been hit with fresh accusations of platforming a youth group linked to the Muslim Brotherhood. A Spanish NGO, speaking at this week's European Youth Event, appears to have Islamist links.

Sobre los Márgenes is a Madrid-based youth organisation that led a workshop on race during this week's EU Youth Event in Strasbourg. The objective of the gathering is to bring Europhile youth organisations together.

The organisation has links to the Muslim Brotherhood, sources claim, by way of its president, Fatima Bourhim Mesaoudi, and apparently receives support from the controversial Turkish-based Al-Sharq Forum.

The Forum is financed by the former director of Al Jazeera, Wadah Khanfar, and specialises in cultivating Islamic elites. It has been linked to the promotion of Islamism before and has received EU Commission funding.

This is not the first time an Islamist group has been featured at the Parliament. Many MEPs have criticised inadvertent aid given to Islamist groups. The NGO ENAR (European Network Against Racism) earned a reputation among some as the Muslim Brotherhood's mouthpiece in Brussels.

In an email response to The European Conservative, Mesaoud referred to the accusations as libellous,

Source: <https://europeanconservative.com/articles/news/european-parliament-workshop-on-race-led-by-ngo-linked-to-muslim-brotherhood/>

denying any link to Islamism and the Muslim Brotherhood. She said that "conspiracy theories" such as this played a role in fueling violent hate crimes against minorities.

The Muslim Brotherhood is an expansive and, more often than not, covert network of Islamist extremists that has been accused of operating a well-organised civic society outreach through numerous NGOs and think tanks throughout Europe. In Sweden, an academic report this year revealed that the organisation was penetrating the heart of Swedish society through youth organisations and maintaining a hold over immigrant communities.

French MEP Catherine Griset and the ID group have similarly denounced the inclusion of the Muslim student organisation FEMYSO in the proceedings of this week's EU Youth Forum. The group has been repeatedly lambasted by MEPs and security experts for its ties to the Muslim Brotherhood.

FEMYSO has defended itself, saying it has been the subject of an elaborate smear campaign. MEPs, however, highlight the financial ties between the group and the European Commission.

The European Youth Event, which concludes this weekend, has been criticised again and again as a soft underbelly that allows policymakers to be influenced by various ideologues.

## Azerbaijani authorities to close criminal case against a number of NGOs begun in 2014

The investigative department of the General Prosecutor's Office of Azerbaijan closed the criminal case against several non-governmental organizations, which was started back in 2014. The Azerbaijani edition of Radio Liberty, citing a source in the prosecutor's office, notes that the process of closing cases began in May 2023.

The source added that the heads of the organizations were recently invited to the investigative department. They were informed that the case had been closed.

### Take statements and close the case

"According to Article 39.1.2 (lack of corpus delicti) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the case is closed. In this regard, the heads of the organizations against which the criminal case was initiated, apply with statements, on the basis of which the cases are closed," the prosecutor's office said.

Mirvari Gahramanli, the head of the public association Organization for the Protection of Oil Workers' Rights, confirmed this information with Radio Liberty. The human rights activist said that she was invited to the department by the Deputy Head of the Investigation Department of the Prosecutor General's Office, Gasim Mammadov, and she was asked to write a statement: "In the statement, I indicated that I asked to close the case due to the lack of corpus delicti. I was told the case was closed."

### "This criminal case was used to persecute NGOs"

Source: <https://jam-news.net/azerbaijani-authorities-to-close-criminal-case-against-a-number-of-ngos-begun-in-2014/>

In response to a request from MeydanTV, the press service of the Prosecutor General's Office did not specify which criminal cases against which NGOs are considered closed.

Lawyer Elchin Sadigov noted that he defended in court in 2014 two organizations accused in this case:

"In 2020, the case against one of those organizations was closed, I don't want to name it. But the case against the Foundation for the Support of the Open Society Institute was not closed, it continues to this day. Bank accounts, the property of this organization were arrested, and there was an appeal to the ECHR on this issue."

Sadygov considers the closure of criminal cases to be a positive moment:

"But according to the information I have, the case against the Open Society Institute Support Fund did not stop."

### According to the lawyer, in 2014 many NGOs and donor organizations were held accountable:

"We can say that this criminal case was used to persecute NGOs. Rasul Jafarov, Intigam Aliyev, Leyla Yunus were arrested, and subsequently the case against Khadija Ismailova was transferred to a separate proceeding. Aziz Orujov was arrested in the same case."

### "All this is necessary for fairy tales about 'reforms', 'dialogue' "

Human rights activist and former

prisoner of conscience Intigam Aliyev says that no one summoned him to the prosecutor's office, they also did not offer to write a statement about closing the criminal case:

### "And they did right, because I'm not going to beg anyone."

Aliyev recalled that the ECtHR made a decision on the political motivation of his arrest, as well as the falsification of criminal cases against his organization:

"The government is obliged to carry out individual and general measures based on the implementation of those decisions. You illegally arrest people, forbid them to leave the country for years, close their offices, close their accounts, spread lies and slander against them, and then say, go ask me for a favor."

"What will change even if the case is closed?! Civil society in the country - independent media, the NGO sector, political parties - has been destroyed. All the steps taken by the authorities show that whom they cannot frighten, buy, they see in them their enemies.

The forced closure of the criminal case against 5-6 NGOs does not reflect good will or a change in the essence of the government. All this is necessary for fairy tales about "reforms", "dialogue", in order to restore damaged relations with international organizations. So that they continue to turn a blind eye to gross violations of human rights in the country, they allocated money," Intigam Aliyev said in an interview with MeydanTV.



## How the Employee Retention Credit can benefit nonprofit organizations



Maxwell Burns – CPA  
Managing Director,  
EZ-ERC

**E**Z-ERC discusses how nonprofits can benefit from government stimulus programs. Charitable giving reached a record high of \$471 billion in 2020 [1], which is an incredible testament to the work and spirit of the charities themselves. However, as a result of this record-giving year, many nonprofit organizations (NPOs) had no revenue decline during 2020 and/or 2021. We find all too often that because of this

fact, many NPOs may still be under the incorrect assumption that they do not qualify for the Employee Retention Credit (ERC).

There are two avenues of eligibility for ERC and only one needs to be met. The first is an objective test, which looks to see if there was a substantial decline in revenue, however, there is a second avenue of eligibility for ERC under the partial suspension of operations test, which is completely agnostic as to revenue and looks to see how COVID-19 related state and local orders adversely impacted the company's operational output. The "full or partial suspension of operations test (or FPSO) is not a financial statement test. Therefore, a

business is not required to have any decline in gross receipts to evidence the existence of an FPSO.

Congress created the FPSO test recognizing that: (1) gross receipts do not always tell the full picture of a business' COVID-19 hardship; and (2) even profitable businesses may have had to make tough employee retention decisions due to COVID-19-related changes to their business. For example, a company may be successful in one line of business and not another, causing total revenue to increase while certain business lines suffer or diminish. The ERC was designed to encourage the retention of employees in both profitable and non-profitable businesses.

For many nonprofits and their employees, temporary or total shutdowns and other financial impacts of COVID-19 and government COVID-19-related regulations were detrimental. Depending on their unique missions, some nonprofits saw an increased need for services while others were deemed nonessential or required heavy social distancing, which led to significant business interruptions for their day-to-day operations.

**These interruptions led to decreased services and impacted jobs at mission-driven organizations. According to a recent study published in the Journal of Consumer Affairs, the US nonprofit sector lost over 900,000 jobs during the pandemic, which created financial hardship for many nonprofit organizations by impacting donor intent, revenues from fee-for-service programs and grant funding availability.**

These impacts affected each nonprofit sector differently: health care had the lowest job losses of -3.7%, while arts, entertainment and recreation suffered the higher losses of -34.2%. Regardless of these losses, nonprofits that retained any of their employees during the COVID-19 pandemic may still qualify for the ERC even if they didn't see a decline in revenue.

In our experience, CPAs and auditors of NPOs have

been overly fixated on the revenue aspect of an NPO during 2020-2021; however, it's important to note the ERC was not intended to be a revenue replacement like the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) was, but rather, a reward for retaining employees despite adverse face-to-face working conditions.

We encourage all NPOs to do their own research and speak with a qualified advisor to understand whether any eligibility was missed. We are generally finding our clients ERC is in excess of their first-round PPP loan, and therefore, given the magnitude of what's at stake, it is important to make sure all avenues are considered.

### Greatest benefit for nonprofits

Most nonprofit dollars and donations are restricted to specific spending. Personal contributions may be limited to one family, scholarship or event. Grant funding might only be allowed for program materials, reporting or administrative costs. The Employee Retention Credit is unrestricted and can be used to bolster any programs or objectives within your organization. An increase in non-restricted funds can alleviate the burden of impacted services and be used to create or support new services or programs where your nonprofit's mission can have the largest impact.

Source: <https://www.bizjournals.com/southflorida/news/2023/06/21/erc-can-benefit-nonprofit-organizations.html>

## Jigsaw Charity (UK) Türkiye-Syria Earthquake Response

**T**he devastating 7.8-magnitude earthquake near the Türkiye-Syria border in the early hours of Monday 6 February 2023 was followed by another one nearly as strong. The earthquakes that struck Türkiye and Syria caused one of the biggest disasters to impact the region in recent times. Thousands of people have been killed and many more were injured. Thousands of houses collapsed, leaving countless people exposed to unforgiving winter conditions. Schools and hospitals were also destroyed. The earthquakes struck as the humanitarian crisis in northwest Syria was already at the highest level since the conflict began, with 4.1 million people relying on humanitarian assistance to subsist.

Jigsaw response on the ground  
A team of volunteers were deployed to both locations initially providing emergency relief, food, thermal blankets and other life-saving items. Team Jigsaw crossed into northern Syria through the Bab al-Hawa crossing delivering shelter and relief supplies. Our long-term earthquake response is focusing on rehabilitation in Syria through our flagship Jigsaw Village 2.0 model. The village will consist of 500 houses, masjid, school, playground, and commercial projects to try and make a self-sufficient village.

To get involved or for more information, please visit [www.jigsaw.charity/jigsawvillage](http://www.jigsaw.charity/jigsawvillage)



## ActionAid Kenya Showcases at the NGO Week

ActionAid International Kenya participated in the NGOs Week 2023 celebrations held between June 5 and 9, 2023, at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre, Nairobi.

The event was graced by Raymond Omollo, the Principal Secretary State Department for Internal Security and National Administration, who together with the NGOs Co-ordination Board's chairperson Gichira Kibara and executive director Mutuma Nkanata launched the 2021/2022 NGO Sector Report.

This year's theme was 'NGOs in the Frontline: Powering Sustainable Development in the 21st Century.' The week-long annual celebrations serve as a platform for knowledge and experience sharing, raising awareness on NGOs' role and impact in society, and showcasing NGOs' efforts and achievements. During this period, NGOs also enhance synergy and collaboration between the public and private sectors in attaining social and economic development.



During the exhibition, we interacted with participants and exhibitors from different organisations, eager to know what ActionAid does and where we work. In line with this year's theme, most of those who visited AAIK's booth wanted to know how our organization works with communities affected by the drought since 2021, deemed the worst in 40 years.

Many visitors at our booth expressed interest in their

organizations partnering with ActionAid International Kenya, while some invited AAIK to introduce her programmes in their communities. Few beneficiaries of ActionAid's programmes as far back as three decades ago (from Kibwezi, Kitui and Marsabit) expressed their appreciation. We were also delighted to meet an organization we partnered with in its infancy in Marsabit Horn of Africa Development Initiative (HODI) who are very stable and has expanded to Ethiopia.

Following our interactions during the three days of exhibition at the NGO Week 2023, ActionAid International Kenya looks forward to meeting persons and organisations to chart new (or rekindle past) partnerships as we continue to work in solidarity with people living in poverty and exclusion, building their capacities to demand for their rights and nurturing sustainable and resilient livelihoods.

SOURCE: <https://actionaid-kenya.org/news/actionaid-kenya-showcases-at-the-ngo-week/>



## AGN to collaborate with NGOs in nation building



Actors Guild of Nigeria (AGN) has said it would collaborate with non-governmental organizations. "I am the future of Nigeria youths Initiative, and Abuja film village to transform the future of Nigeria youths through educational films.

AGN President Ejezie Emeka Rollas stated this yesterday in Abuja at the "Born talent Audition.

Rollas stressed that Nigeria's greatest challenge is perception which can only be changed through transformational film shows.

He added that it is time to change narratives in governance and other aspects of life which would help in the reduction of vices that is gradually destroying the country .

"We are calling on Nigerians with special interest in education for our

Source: <https://sunnewsonline.com/agn-to-collaborate-with-ngos-in-nation-building/>

reduce some vices which has been introduced into our society, he said

He , therefore appealed with the government at all levels to support the initiative for the rebuilding of rewarding future for Nigerians.

Founder of I am the future of Nigeria youths Initiative Noni Okocha said the audition would be used for the selection of those to feature at the forthcoming Youth educational film festival from the 27 to 28th July.

She stressed that it is not all about being talented but the ability to read the scripts and express one's self in a good English.

Okocha lamented that a lot of talents have remained unused due to the educational background of most individuals.

"We are here to give alot of people the opportunity to showcase their talents after which the selected ones will be featured in our up coming film festival from the 27 to 28th of July. We are talking to schools to change the narratives of Nigerians about education,she said.

### European court decision

**In 2014 the Investigation Department of the General Prosecutor's Office of Azerbaijan initiated a criminal case against branches and representative offices of a number of foreign non-governmental organizations and local NGOs.**

**In the same year, the head of the Institute for Peace and Democracy Leyla Yunus and her husband Arif Yunus, the head of the Legal Education Society Intigam Aliyev and others were imprisoned. They were accused of fraud, abuse of office, tax evasion and other criminal acts, although they themselves did not plead guilty to the charges.**

**The European Court of Human Rights in its verdict pointed out that these persons were punished not on the charges, but for political reasons.**

**The Azerbaijani government claims that no one in the country is persecuted for their political views, and all prisoners are punished for specific crimes.**

# Child Labour has to end for Sustainable Development

Every year on June 12th, we observe World Day Against Child Labour to promote awareness that child labour robs dozens of millions of kids of their childhood and to generate more action to put an end to child labour once and for all.

In 2022 we were shocked by the fact that [global progress to end child labour](#) has stalled for the first time in 20 years. This year we must recognize that, also for the first time in 20 years, child labour is on the rise. 160 million children are in child labour. Half of them, 80 million, are doing the worst and hazardous work, some being enslaved, separated from their families, exposed to serious hazards and illnesses, sexually exploited or left to fend for themselves on the streets of large cities – often at a very early age; that is work with a real threat to their physical and mental health.

What these figures mean: one in ten children in the world are victims of child labour, and while there is progress around the world, the number is currently growing. This year, the ILO calls on the international community to support greater social justice and step up the fight against child labour. Social protection is key to providing an environment to keep children away from this reality, and the EU continues working with its international partners to this end.

**The European Union has a longstanding commitment to eradicate child labour and safeguard the rights of the children**

On the 2023 World Day against Child Labour, the European Commission and the High Representative underlined that **no sustainable and equitable future is achievable until children around the world will continue to be exploited, denied their rights, and hindered from reaching their full development.**

The European Union has a **longstanding commitment to the eradication of child labour and the promotion of the rights of children.** The [EU Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2021-2025](#), supported by the [Youth Action Plan in EU External Action](#) aims to ensure that all children in the EU enjoy their rights and that the EU promotes and protects the rights of children globally. As laid out in the [EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024](#), the European Union is determined to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking, and extinguish all forms of child labour by 2025.

**The fight against child labour needs a comprehensive approach**, effective in addressing the root causes of this phenomenon, including poverty, inequality, lack of access to education and limited social protection offered to children, while promoting decent work for adults worldwide. Given this, EU actions in this area include supporting and enforcing effective legislation against child labour; promoting social welfare programmes for poor households that are vulnerable to child labour; and strengthening access to education, including in situations of conflict or crisis and for children who are on the move both within and between countries, and providing them with protection services.



The EU seeks to ensure that all countries around the world implement **minimum standards for the protection of children in the workforce laid down in the Conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO)**, notably the Convention on minimum age (No.138) and the Convention on worst forms of child labour (No. 182), while advocating for a higher level of protection.

**The EU is also involved in several projects and programmes aimed at eradicating child labour.** The CLEAR COTTON project aims to combat child labour in the cotton supply chain, while the Sustainable Cocoa program promotes the use of sustainable cocoa

production methods and works to prevent child labour in cocoa farming.

**Eliminating child labour needs partnerships.**

This is why the EU has enhanced further its collaboration with governments, international organisations, social partners, and civil society and has strengthened its partnership with the United Nations and other international organisations to combat child labour in particular. The EU contributes funds to development programmes aimed at reducing child labour, such as the ILO's [International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour \(IPEC+\)](#), and has supported initiatives to combat child labour in specific sectors such as mining and construction. The EU is in the process of joining [Alliance 8.7](#), and together with its partners is committed to accelerate all necessary efforts to protect and safeguard the rights of all children, and to ensure that they can enjoy their childhood free from all forms of exploitation and abuse.

One of the key components of the EU's approach to addressing child labour is to **promote corporate social responsibility and sustainable supply chains.** The [Directive on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence](#) proposed in 2022, requires EU companies to perform due diligence to address human rights abuses, including child labour, in their supply chains. This is in line with the EU's commitment to

Similarly, the Commission has proposed a [regulation](#) to prevent the importation of goods produced through forced child labour. Moreover, through projects like the [Sustainable Cocoa program](#) the EU promotes the use of sustainable cocoa production methods, and works to prevent child labour in cocoa farming.

This year as we celebrate the **75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights** which laid the foundation of international human rights law. A number of its provisions foresee special protection, care and assistance for children (notably Articles 25) and Article 26 the Right to Education. Child rights were further developed in the [Convention on the Rights of the Child](#), the most ratified international human rights treaty in history. It lays down the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing work that is likely to be hazardous or harmful or to interfere with the child's education (Article 32).

Source: [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/child-labour-has-end-sustainable-development\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/child-labour-has-end-sustainable-development_en)

## The "Ocean-Viking" Ambulance Ship Rescues 86 Migrants In The Mediterranean

'Ocean-Viking, an ambulance ship chartered by SOS Méditerranée, rescued 86 people in distress off the coast of Libya on Tuesday 27 June. On a makeshift boat, they were trying to reach Europe, the Marseille-based humanitarian NGO said in a statement. "The survivors, mostly from Gambia and Senegal, are suffering from dehydration, exhaustion and fuel burns", tweeted SOS Mediterranean In the evening. They would be mostly minors and attempted this perilous crossing without being accompanied by their relatives.

The survivors were cared for by teams from SOS Méditerranée and the International Federation of the Red Cross on board the Ocean-Viking. The Italian authorities have designated Bari as a safe port for the disembarkation of the survivors, which represents three days of navigation, regretted the NGO.

Read also: On board the "Ocean-Viking", the rescue sailors face the "new Italian strategy" in the Mediterranean Sea

In early January, several international NGOs involved in rescue operations for migrants in the Mediterranean denounced the will of the far-right Italian government "to hinder the assistance to people in distress". They pointed to the cross-effects of a decree obliging ships to surrender "without delay" to an Italian port after each rescue, and the usual assignment of very distant ports, reducing assistance capacities.

The central Mediterranean is the most dangerous migration route in the world, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The UN agency estimates that since the beginning of 2023, 1,724 migrants have disappeared there, compared to 1,417 for the whole of 2022.

In June, a shipwreck, presented as one of the most serious involving migrants in the Mediterranean, left at least 82 dead, but in the eastern Mediterranean. IOM and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimate that between 400 and 750 passengers were on the trawler, including women and children.

Source: <https://globeecho.com/news/europe/the-ocean-viking-ambulance-ship-rescues-86-migrants-in-the-mediterranean/>

## Nissan Foundation to award more than \$1 million in grants to nonprofits promoting the value of cultural diversity

**N**ASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Today the Nissan Foundation announced that for the first time it is awarding more than \$1 million during its annual grant cycle. It is awarding \$1.2 million to 39 nonprofits that share and celebrate diverse cultural perspectives, experiences and voices to communities across the country. The grant recipients are based in communities surrounding Nissan facilities in Southern California, Middle Tennessee, Central Mississippi, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Southeast Michigan, New York City and Atlanta.

Fresh off its 30th anniversary, the Nissan Foundation has awarded nearly \$16 million to approximately 150 nonprofits since its founding in 1992. The Nissan Foundation was created as a direct response to the civil unrest that followed the Rodney King trial verdict. At that time, Nissan's then U.S. sales headquarters was based just blocks from the riot's epicenter.

"It was at this pivotal moment in time when Nissan resolved to create a foundation - one with a solitary mission to build community by valuing cultural diversity," said Chandra Vasser, President of the Nissan Foundation and Nissan's first Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer. "Since then, the Nissan Foundation has maintained its commitment to supporting organizations that celebrate cultural diversity through arts, education, and social and public programs."

The 2023 grantees include museums, public television stations,



libraries and other nonprofits promoting the many benefits that diversity brings to society.

"The work our grantees do to educate their diverse audiences about different cultures, religions and ethnicities is truly inspiring," said Ali Tonn, Nissan Foundation Executive Director. "We're impressed continually by the creative and moving ways our grantees engage audiences through events, exhibits, performances and hands-on experiences."

Among this year's grantees is the **Children's Museum of Manhattan**, a cultural destination and educational resource for families from New York City and beyond. The Nissan Foundation grant will support the museum's Gateway to World Cultures program, which includes performances, interactive story times and hands-on projects that explore and celebrate a variety of cultures and cultural traditions.

Another 2023 grantee is the **Native American Indian Association of Tennessee**, a nonprofit agency established to help improve the quality of life for Native American people in the state. The Nissan Foundation grant supports the NAIA's Annual Pow Wow, a cultural

revitalization event for both Native and non-Native Tennesseans to promote and educate the public on Native American history.

A third grantee is the interconnected **Museum of Mississippi History and Mississippi Civil Rights Museum**. These museums take visitors through the sweep of Mississippi history and the state's role as ground zero in the U.S. Civil Rights Movement. The Nissan Foundation grant supports the museums' school visits program ensuring that every Mississippi student has an opportunity to visit the museums free of charge at least once during their K-12 education.

"The experiences our grantees provide remind us all of our shared humanity," Tonn says. "There is so much to learn from and about each other. Our grantees provide those entry points for exploring and celebrating our differences."

Source: <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20230620686688/en/Nissan-Foundation-to-award-more-than-1-million-in-grants-to-nonprofits-promoting-the-value-of-cultural-diversity>

## The Standard Charitable Foundation Announces Grants to Three Nonprofits

**P**ORTLAND, Ore.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Standard Insurance Company's charitable foundation, The Standard Charitable Foundation, announced three grants totaling \$140,000 to nonprofits. The recipients are:

**Junior Achievement of Oregon and Southwest Washington:** \$75,000 was awarded to Junior Achievement to expand and update their Portland facilities and establish a new program site in Hillsboro. With the addition of the Hillsboro site, BizTown and Finance Park – JA's signature programs focused on financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship – will reach more than 25,000 students annually.

**Hillsboro Community Foundation:** \$50,000 was awarded to Hillsboro Community Foundation to support disability access to a playground adjacent to Hidden Creek Community Center. The project is a partnership between City of Hillsboro Parks and Recreation Department, Hillsboro Community Foundation and Hillsboro School District. When completed, it will be Hillsboro's first fully inclusive park and playground.

**New Avenues for Youth:** \$15,000 was awarded to New Avenues for its social enterprise programs including the Ben & Jerry's PartnerShop and screen-printing business, New Avenues INK. New Avenues works to prevent youth homelessness and provide young people experiencing or at risk of homelessness with the opportunities and resources to lead healthy, productive lives as well as gain work experience, develop job skills and earn wages.

"At The Standard, we champion nonprofit organizations that increase economic self-sufficiency and livability," said Dan McMillan, president of The Standard Charitable Foundation and president and CEO of The Standard. "These grants will help individuals and families gain exposure to business and career possibilities, inclusive recreation and employment opportunities."

foundation's broad goal is to make a positive difference in communities, it places special emphasis on helping individuals and families who have experienced a loss or setback such as a major disability or the loss of a loved one. Since 2007, The Standard, its employees and retirees and The Standard Charitable Foundation have contributed more than \$55 million in grants and social investments.

### About The Standard

The Standard is a family of companies dedicated to helping customers achieve financial well-being and peace of mind. In business since 1906, we are a leading provider of financial protection products and services for employers and individuals. Our products include group and individual disability insurance, group life, dental and vision

insurance, voluntary (employee-paid) benefits, paid family leave and absence management services, and retirement plans and annuities for employers and individuals. For more information about The Standard, visit [standard.com](http://standard.com) or follow us on Facebook, Twitter or LinkedIn.

Source: <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20230623933651/en/The-Standard-Charitable-Foundation-Announces-Grants-to-Three-Nonprofits>



The foundation's giving is separate from the corporate giving of The Standard. Since 2007, The Standard Charitable Foundation, The Standard and its employees and retirees have contributed more than \$55 million in grants and social investments.

### About The Standard Charitable Foundation

**The Standard Charitable Foundation** was founded in 2006 with the mission to make a positive difference by supporting community development, education, disability and health organizations. While the

# Why Wealthy Donors Are Distancing Themselves From Nonprofits



Paul D'Alessandro

**W**e know that we're the most philanthropic country on the planet. For decades, wealthy and not-so-rich donors have contributed billions to nonprofit organizations. However, something has quietly been happening at the millionaire and billionaire levels right under everyone's noses. It's a shift away from dealing directly with nonprofit executives and fundraisers and instead, wealthy donors are adding layers of distance between themselves and the nonprofits they support.

**The fact is there's an expectation among nonprofit boards or executives that wealthy donors should support their cause. How often has someone said, "Mackenzie Scott should support the nonprofit. It's such a great cause"? Of course, your nonprofit is a great cause. That goes without saying, but wealthy donors have been expected to support every nonprofit that gets a chance to pitch them.**

In recent years, Scott stands out as an example of what's happening with wealthy donors. Of course, she's earned lots of praise for her hands-off approach to giving and also providing unrestricted funds. That allows nonprofit experts the flexibility to allocate the funds they receive as they need. However, when someone's so hands-off, the downside is that they're not as involved.

Further, Scott uses The Bridgespan Group, an advisory firm, to coordinate her giving. So, adding another layer between herself and nonprofits creates greater distance between her and nonprofit leaders – and fewer opportunities to build meaningful relationships. Scott isn't the only one doing this, however. Slowly but surely, this distanced approach has taken over major donor giving and especially that of wealthy donors.

## Wealthy Donors Using Intermediaries to Donate

Many wealthy individuals and families now prefer working through intermediaries, such as lawyers, donor-advised funds (DAFs) and donor advisories to handle their giving activities. You may have noticed you're seeing fewer and fewer major and wealthy donors – and more and more of their intermediaries. It's a pattern that's developed over some time, and it's becoming much more commonplace.

## The Emerson Collective

Laurene Powell Jobs coordinates her giving through the Emerson Collective, founded and named after the 19th century writer Ralph Waldo Emerson. The collective is innovative on a few fronts. For one, it operates under a limited liability company (LLC) structure, so it's not a typical donor foundation.

When the new monied donors from Silicon Valley started creating LLCs rather than foundations, it was a new approach, but it prompted the distancing. As a result, the collective doesn't simply provide funding for nonprofit organizations.

It also provides capital to impact investors, and works on policy and advocacy to try to effect change at the government level. Here are the Emerson Collective's priorities:

- **Philanthropy.** It provides grants to nonprofits working on education, immigration reform, environmental sustainability, health concerns, as well as issues of social justice.
- **Impact investing.** It also invests in for-profit ventures, such as those in media and technology, that meet its mission. These investments aim for systemic change while producing financial returns that can get reinvested into other projects.
- **Policy advocacy.** It tries to influence policy reforms that align with its mission. So, it works with policymakers, advocates, and others to drive legislative and policy change aligned with its mission.
- **Partnership and collaboration.** The Collective also forms strategic partnerships with other philanthropic organizations, companies and groups to expand its impact. These alliances happen to scale solutions more quickly.

The Emerson Collective takes an innovative and multidimensional approach to its giving, but there are drawbacks for nonprofits wanting to get close to decision-makers. For instance, the fact that it's structured as an LLC means less transparency as a private entity than a traditional foundation. Further, in the case of Powell Jobs, everything goes through the collective, so a committee does her decision-making for giving through the LLC. Again, that approach distances nonprofits from donors.

## Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

The Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, created by Mark Zuckerberg and Priscilla Chan, also operates differently from traditional private foundations. Like the Emerson Collective, it, too, is an LLC. Again, donors rightly believe that it provides them greater flexibility; however, LLCs are less transparent and intend to create an institutional structure that makes personal distance. The initiative accomplishes its work through various approaches.

- **Grantmaking.** It offers grants to nonprofits that align with its mission to support research, innovation and social good programs.
- **Investment.** Like the Emerson Collective, the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative makes private investments in for-profit companies. Profits generated may then be reinvested back into projects furthering its goals.
- **Policy and advocacy work.** It engages in policy and advocacy work in education, science and criminal justice reform.
- **Technology development.** And, of course, technology plays a prominent role in its efforts, as it develops and leverages technology to share and analyze data.

This trend of creating LLCs or using advisories echoes a larger narrative. Donors want control of how and when they give. They also don't want to deal with the expectations or assumptions they should give to anything they don't want to support. As I always say, donors – not nonprofits – dictate the terms, and they're using LLCs, donor-advised funds and intermediaries to create distance between

themselves and nonprofits.

## Strategies for Nonprofits in an Era of Philanthropy

As a result of all of this, nonprofit organizations face a growing challenge. They must adapt to a world that will create even more distance. Here are a few tips to help make the adjustment.

### 1. Leverage Technology

Donors will soon have more opportunities to leverage tech to vet nonprofits making a substantial impact. That said, it's essential and an existential need for nonprofits to lean into technology as well. Those that don't will perish. It might sound hyperbolic, but that's the reality.

### 2. Strengthen Reporting and Transparency

Now's the time to be more transparent than ever. If you want intermediaries to pay attention to you, you have to put your best foot forward. So, publish and guarantee effective spending of donor dollars and create robust reporting that documents impact and upholds high transparency standards.

### 3. Develop a Broad Donor Base

While wealthy donors remain vital to nonprofits' fundraising success, organizations should also work toward cultivating an array of smaller donors as a sustainable funding source and reduce dependence on just a few significant contributors.

### 4. Engage With Donor Advisories

Nonprofits must engage proactively with donor advisory firms, DAFs and other intermediaries to increase the chance of securing funding. Understand their selection criteria and try to build relationships to increase opportunities for funding with perhaps grantee-hosted informational events in your favor.

As we all know, philanthropy is evolving, and nonprofits must adapt accordingly. While additional layers of separation present challenges, they also present opportunities for innovation, transparency improvement, and expanding donor bases. As they say, "necessity is the mother of invention," and this maxim rings true within philanthropy's ever-evolving landscape. Now's the time to be a step ahead and prepare for the future that's already here.



Source: <https://www.nonprofitpro.com/post/why-wealthy-donors-are-distancing-themselves-from-nonprofits/>

# Giving USA: Total U.S. charitable giving declined in 2022 to \$499.33 billion following two years of record generosity

**Stock market drop and economic uncertainty accompanied decrease after giving surpassed half-trillion-dollar milestone during pandemic era**

## WHAT TO KNOW

**K**ey findings from **Giving USA 2023: The Annual Report on Philanthropy for the Year 2022** released today report that individuals, bequests, foundations and corporations gave an estimated **\$499.33 billion** to U.S. charities in 2022.

- Total giving decreased in 2022, a relatively rare occurrence usually seen during years with difficult or unusual economic conditions. Giving was influenced by stock market volatility and economic uncertainty. Total giving declined 3.4% in current dollars – down 10.5% after adjusting for inflation – from a revised total of \$516.65 billion in 2021.
- The 2022 results follow the two best years on record for charitable giving, including **2021 when giving surpassed \$500 billion for the first time.**

**Giving USA: The Annual Report on Philanthropy**, the longest-running and most comprehensive report on the sources and uses of charitable giving in America, is published by **Giving USA Foundation**, a public service initiative of The Giving Institute. It is researched and written by the **Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy at IUPUI.**

## WHY THIS MATTERS

- **Total charitable giving has fallen only three other times in the last 40 years in current dollars:** in 1987, 2008 and 2009.
- **Giving had been especially strong in 2020 and 2021** as donors rallied to help address increasing needs amid a global pandemic and economic crisis and recovery, and supported efforts to advance racial justice.
- **Decreases in giving can affect the ability of nonprofit organizations to meet needs and fulfill their missions.**

“Drops in the stock market and high inflation caused many households to make tough decisions about their charitable giving for the year,” said **Josh Birkholz, Chair of Giving USA Foundation and CEO of BWF.** “But despite uncertain economic times, Americans demonstrated how essential they view the nonprofit sector and its ability to solve big problems—by still giving nearly half a trillion dollars in 2022.”

“Declines in giving like those we saw in 2022 have a tangible impact on nonprofit organizations, especially those that rely on charitable dollars to support their daily work. Nonprofits and donors alike experienced the steady, negative impacts of inflation such as the growing cost of goods and high

interest rates throughout 2022, and many of those challenges remain,” said **Amir Pasic, Ph.D., the Eugene R. Tempel Dean of the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy.** “However, Giving USA’s historical data also provide a case for hope: we have seen charitable giving rebound from each decline.”

## DIVING DEEPER

Giving in 2022 occurred amid tough economic conditions – especially for giving by individuals. Challenging economic conditions included:

- A 19.4% drop in the S&P 500 (-25.4% adjusted for inflation), the first double-digit decrease since the Great Recession in 2008, creating economic uncertainty for high-net-worth households and foundations which are likely to be invested in the stock market
- Flat growth in disposable personal income (-0.1% in current dollars or -7.5% adjusted for inflation)
- 40-year-high inflation rate of 8.0%
- The S&P 500 experienced steep declines toward the end of the year, when a large share of charitable giving takes place.

“Despite the downturn in financial markets in 2022, there were some bright spots in the economy thanks

to a strong labor market and 9 percent growth in GDP,” said **Una Osili, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Research and International Programs at the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy.**

“The economic picture that emerges suggests that many households were stable—we did not see job losses or an increase in unemployment the way we did in the Great Recession. However, households tend to give when they are financially and economically secure – and the inflationary pressures meant that fewer households had extra to give. In addition, donors may not have been as compelled to respond to immediate needs as they had been during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic or during the Great Recession.”

There was growth in three of the four sources of giving in 2022 in current dollars, but all four sources declined when adjusted for inflation. Giving by foundations and corporations posted positive two-year growth, even when adjusting for inflation.

For the second year in a row, very large gifts by some of the wealthiest Americans represented nearly 5% of individual giving. Mega-giving from six individuals and couples totaled \$13.96 billion.

Source: [https://philanthropy.iupui.edu/news-events/news-item/giving-usa-total-u.s.-charitable-giving-declined-in-2022-to-\\$499.33-billion-following-two-years-of-record-generosity.html?id=422](https://philanthropy.iupui.edu/news-events/news-item/giving-usa-total-u.s.-charitable-giving-declined-in-2022-to-$499.33-billion-following-two-years-of-record-generosity.html?id=422)



## Zero Waste Future Programme successfully completed in Malta

**Zero Waste Future Programme engages coastal HoReCa businesses, citizens, authorities and NGOs to take ownership towards a sustainable future**

**T**he Zero Waste Future Programme took place in Malta for the third year in a row by the Cypriot NGO AKTI Project and Research Centre with the funding of The Coca-Cola Foundation and the support of GSD Marketing Ltd.

The project engaged coastal HoReCa businesses, citizens, local authorities and NGOs in Malta to take ownership of the efforts for sustainable development, to increase recycling and decrease land and marine litter, through a novel, engaging solution-oriented, awareness-raising and participatory process and to address the strategic topics of recycling and sustainable waste management within a Circular Economy in Malta.

The Zero Waste Future programme has been very successful in Malta for the past years; the activities have raised awareness among more than five million citizens through social and traditional media. Over 57 tonnes of plastic, metal and drinks packaging (PMD) have been

collected, and more than 1000 volunteers participated in the beach and seabed clean-up activities.

The results of this year’s “Zero Waste Future” (July 2022 – June 2023) are impressive! The waste characterisation study, which is happening for the first time in Malta, was expanded to cover all three cities of Cottonera, which covered 66 sampling points over three sampling sessions.

The positive impact of BCRS on minimising the amount of residual waste was visible. 50 HoReCa members were enrolled in the Responsible Coastal Business Network and 17 tonnes of PET waste was collected and recycled in cooperation with Festivals Malta and the NGO Zibel. Additionally, more than four million citizens were reached.

Sustainability is the only way forward. Malta is on the road to becoming a sustainability champion!

Source: [https://www.maltatoday.com.mt/announcements/announcements/123530/zero\\_waste\\_future\\_programme\\_successfully\\_completed\\_in\\_malta](https://www.maltatoday.com.mt/announcements/announcements/123530/zero_waste_future_programme_successfully_completed_in_malta)

## In Brazil, Adventist School Students Donate Pet Food to NGOs

Those walking through Dario Salles Square in downtown Joinville, Santa Catarina, Brazil, on the morning of June 4 noticed unusual activities. On the square's grounds were dozens of dogs and cats as well as some rabbits and hamsters.

The animals were under the care of their owners, who were there on that Sunday morning for a Happy Pet Day event, sponsored and promoted by Joinville Adventist Academy – Saguacu. Their goal? Collecting and donating pet food rations to two local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) who strive to rescue and protect pets in the area.

Joinville Adventist Academy – Saguacu principal Nara Falcão shared that the fundraising project had begun a month before. "It enlisted the involvement of parents, students, and other volunteers," she explained. "And here at

the square we are holding the closing of this year's campaign." Students' and Families' Involvement

Luana Ribeiro is the mother of one of the students who decided to get involved and collect pet food for the Happy Pet Day campaign. "We collected 21 kilograms [46 pounds] of pet food," Ribeiro said. "I am a personal trainer, and my son recorded a video asking my students to help," she shared. "Some donated money, and others pet food bags. My son is very excited about the result. And I think it's a really cool social action because it helps children to think of others."

Another donor was Darci Venancio, father of two students. According to Venancio, they have a puppy at home, a pet that his kids love very much. "We know there are many animals without a home," he said. "No doubt, these donations will make a difference in the lives of these animals. If every one of us helps a little bit, in the end, the result will be significant."

### Free Pet Services at the Square



In addition to the family outing and interaction with domestic animals, the June 4 event at the square offered some free services for pets themselves. People could enjoy a free consultation with a vet, who ran check-ups and provided tips to owners.

Visitors also received some gifts to help them take better care of their pets and could have their dogs participate in an agility course. The course included a specially designed circuit with various obstacles and equipment that prompts dogs to exercise and acquire new skills.

**Turma do Gatil, one of the NGOs that will benefit from the Adventist school initiative, was also on site, offering kittens for adoptions. Some of the visiting families decided to adopt an animal and left with a new pet.**

Source: <https://adventistreview.org/news/in-brazil-adventist-school-students-donate-pet-food-to-ngos/>

## Nonprofit leaders expand skills through UGA program

Participants gain an understanding of their own visions as leaders and an increased confidence in their leadership abilities

**A** University of Georgia program is helping equip current and emerging nonprofit leaders to strengthen their organizations and make a difference in their communities.

Through the [Executive Leadership Program for Nonprofit Organizations at the UGA J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership Development](#), nonprofit leaders from Georgia and around the nation receive leadership and professional development.

"We all left with tools to address challenges in the nonprofit sector," said Bonnie Holliday, chief strategy officer for the Georgia Charter Schools Association. "The program provided relevant content on topical issues. I have colleagues who attended previously and recommended the program in glowing terms. It lived up to the hype."

Participants from the 2023 program at UGA have indicated an increase in their understanding of their vision for themselves as a leader and an increased confidence in their leadership abilities.

"A big reinforcement for me was that leaders have to be self-aware," said Tim Self, executive director of AnMed Health Foundation. "We need to lead with the mission in mind, make space to let others shine and sometimes get out of the way to have the greatest impact."

Since 2007, the UGA Fanning Institute has led the program in partnership with the Andrew Young

School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University.

For one week each year, UGA Fanning Institute faculty along with experts from around the country cover all facets of leading a nonprofit organization from learning about one's personal leadership style to nonprofit finance and problem-solving.

"The program provided expert availability and support on the technical aspects of leading an organization," Self said. "At the same time, the program has tremendous heart. Leaders must connect the head and the heart to be effective."

The combination of technical management skills and leadership development skills makes the Executive Leadership Program for Nonprofit Organizations unique in the nonprofit sector, said [Julie Meehan](#), UGA Fanning Institute public service faculty.

"Participants have the chance to translate leadership and nonprofit theory into practice and concepts into strategies that are relevant, immediately practical, and usable to build their organizations," Meehan said.

Since its beginning in 2007, more than 300 nonprofit leaders from over 200 organizations

have attended the Executive Leadership Program for Nonprofit Organizations at UGA.

"Through the alumni network, program graduates are able to continue their education after the initial program, build collaborations across the nonprofit sector and between communities, and



develop lasting peer and mentor relationships," said [Sayge Medlin](#), UGA Fanning Institute public service faculty.

Both Holliday and Self noted the benefits of having a chance to network and connect with peers.

"The ongoing support of this program is so beneficial," Self said. "I left the program feeling like 24 friends have my back."

The UGA Fanning Institute will host the 2024 Executive Leadership Program for Nonprofit Organizations from Jan. 7-12, 2024, and applications are open now.

Source: <https://news.uga.edu/nonprofit-leaders-expand-skills-through-uga-program/>

## Women's endowment fund offers support to local nonprofits

**M**EDINA, Ohio – The Medina County Women's Endowment Fund of Akron Community Foundation recently awarded \$17,000 in grants to six nonprofit organizations that improve the lives of Medina County's women and children. This latest round of grants brings the fund's cumulative grantmaking total to nearly \$285,000.

Two grants awarded this year will address food insecurity in Medina County. The Battered Women's Shelter received a \$5,000 grant to provide residents of the Medina emergency shelter with three nutritious meals and snacks per day. Each day, the shelter feeds up to 18 adults and children.

"The Battered Women's Shelter seeks to alleviate food insecurity by providing domestic violence survivors in our Medina emergency shelter with three balanced meals and snacks each day. Basic needs,

such as nutritious food, must be met to begin healing from domestic violence and work toward a life free from abuse," said Kate Robbins, director of grants and public policy.

Main Street Medina also received a \$1,000 grant that will promote healthy and affordable recipes made with locally grown produce. The organization will provide monthly cooking and food preparation demonstrations at the Medina Square Farmers Market.

"We're proud to support these organizations that are rising to meet the challenges that women and children in our community are facing," said Joyce Fuerst, advisory board chair of the Medina County Women's Endowment Fund.

The following are the additional organizations receiving grants in 2023: Access the Arts, to provide digital arts classes to children at the Lodi Family Center and the Medina County Juvenile Detention Center, \$2,000; Medina County Share Cluster, to support leadership

development events for Medina County students in grades six through nine, \$3,000; Stewart's Caring Place, to provide support services for Medina County women and families impacted by cancer, \$2,000; Summer Reinforcement Program, to support an affordable summer tutoring program with lessons in reading, math and speech therapy for Medina County students, \$4,000.

The Medina County Women's Endowment Fund, an affiliate of Akron Community Foundation, was established in 1998 to improve the lives of women and children in Medina County. The mission of the Medina County Women's Endowment Fund is to fund organizations and programs in Medina County that support women and children, to serve as a catalyst for needed projects, and to assist women in their growth as philanthropists.

Source: <https://www.cleveland.com/community/2023/06/womens-endowment-fund-offers-support-to-local-nonprofits.html>

## NGOs plead for inclusive education funding

**T**wo Non-Governmental Organizations—Rays of Hope and Fount for Nations—have called for increased funding to inclusive education in Malawi to, among others, purchase the necessary technologies, materials and resources to promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

The two organizations are jointly implementing Pamodzi for Inclusive Education in South East Africa (PIESEA) project, aimed at reducing gaps existing between inclusive and Special Needs Education (SNE) policies and their implementation.

Through the project, the organizations conducted an analysis of current policies on inclusive education in the country which, among other gaps, found there is inadequate resources, which affects the implementation of policies and provision of learning technologies, materials and braille and resource rooms.

The findings were presented at a high-level stakeholders meeting in Lilongwe, during the commemoration of Global Action Week for Education.

Advocacy and Communications Officer for Rays of Hope-Pamodzi Project, Dailes Banda, said increased funding to inclusive education can, therefore, not be overemphasized.

"Education is a basic right for every person. With well-resourced inclusive education, Malawi will ensure that every child gets to enjoy that right.

"Without inclusive education, learners with special needs and other vulnerabilities are left out.

Malawi should strive to reach and assist all children with quality accessible education".

According to the analysis, the Department of Inclusive Education in the Ministry of Education is not fully-fledged and poorly funded, which limits its operations.

Apparently, another analysis of the 2023/2024 national budget by Civil Society Education Coalition, shows Malawi allocated a meagre MK97 million to SNE (up from MK77 million last year) for ORT.



"There is the need for collective efforts by government, CSOs, companies, traditional leaders, school authorities and everyone else to amplify this issue of increasing funding to inclusive education. Development partners must also come in to help Malawi to focus on this subsector of education".

Rays of Hope and Fount for Nations also rue the expiry of National Inclusive Education Strategy (2017-2021) and Education Sector Implementation Plan (2013-2017) and leaving out of the Inclusive Education sector (Malawi 2063) and failure of implementation of the Inclusive Education Policy.

Other policies the analysis looked at, include: National Policy on Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities (2006), Malawi Education Act (2013), National Disability Mainstreaming Strategy and Implementation Plan (2018 – 2023), Implementation Guidelines for the National Policy on Special Needs in Malawi (2009) and Disability Act (2012).

In Malawi, PIESEA, a multinational project, works with inclusive education coordinators—operating under the Department of Inclusive Education—who are, among other things, helping with allocating specialist teachers and identifying SNE learners and their needs.

The project has also trained community champions to advocate for Inclusive Education in their communities—447 of them in total (217 female and 230 Male).

The project is being implemented in Mzimba, Dowa, Lilongwe, Mchinji, Blantyre and Zomba.

Source: <https://www.nyasatimes.com/ngos-plead-for-inclusive-education-funding/>



## Sudan: Essential services at breaking point after two months of fighting

Geneva (ICRC) – Two months into the conflict, hostilities in densely populated urban areas have taken a disastrous toll on civilian infrastructure, especially in locations in and around the capital Khartoum and in Darfur. Power and water stations have been seriously damaged, and technical personnel have been unable to access them safely and make the necessary repairs.

Hundreds of thousands of civilians in Khartoum have spent many weeks without clean water and electricity, having to walk long distances, often putting their lives at risk, to reach these essential services. The skyrocketing prices and shortages of fuel used for generators have made the situation worse.

**“Sudanese civilians, those who left their homes and those who stayed, are enduring enormous hardship without access to the essentials, like water, electricity and healthcare,” says Jean-Christophe Sandoz, the head of the delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Sudan. “Civilian infrastructure providing essential services, and personnel who operate, maintain and repair it are protected by international humanitarian law.”**

The onset of the rainy season has raised the fear of outbreaks of waterborne diseases. Garbage has not been collected in many urban neighborhoods for weeks, and dead bodies still lie in the open in some

hard-to-reach areas. At the same time, many residents have had no choice but to use unsafe drinking water from the Nile or other sources.

Despite the enormous efforts of Sudanese doctors and nurses, many medical facilities had to close their doors. In Khartoum, we estimate that only 20% of facilities still function. The state of healthcare provision is also critical in many areas of Darfur. The healthcare system finds itself under an enormous strain not only to treat the large number of wounded but also to provide routine services to the population.

**Since the beginning of the fighting on April 15 the ICRC has:**

- Distributed surgical supplies sufficient to treat over a thousand of wounded people to 10 hospitals in Khartoum and the surrounding areas, as well as to 2 hospitals in Darfur, and 3 hospitals in other regions of Sudan.
- Donated 33 first-aid bags to the Sudanese Red Crescent Khartoum Branch, as well as dressing and suture sets, sufficient to treat nearly 500 people with light wounds.
- Donated 9 tons of chlorine to the water authorities in Khartoum to provide 1,000,000 cubic meters of clean water to cover the needs of 1,000,000 people for 60 days.
- Donated over 100 body bags, plastic sheets, and personal protective equipment (gloves, masks, gowns, overalls, sanitizer, and fuel) to the Sudanese Red Crescent Society, so their volunteers can continue recovering, burying, and preserving the identity of mortal remains. By mid-June, the volunteers have collected 140 dead bodies, and continue this essential and extremely difficult work.
- Together with the Sudanese Red Crescent, provided hygiene kits to more than 400 displaced families in Wad Madani, and essential household items to 170 families in Al Fashir.
- Supported Sudanese Red Crescent volunteers to facilitate over 2,000 phone calls between separated family members in Al Jazeera, Kassala, Northern State, Gedaref and East Darfur regions.
- Evacuated some 300 children and 70 caretakers from Maygoma Orphanage in Khartoum to Wad Madani.



## Over 80 NGOs to assist Simhachalam Devasthanam during ‘Giri Pradakshina’ in Visakhapatnam on July 2

The Simhachalam Devasthanam officials are seeking cooperation from over 80 NGOs to provide essentials to the devotees, who take part in the Sri Varaha Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy’s Giri Pradakshina scheduled to be held on July 2. The devasthanam is expecting a huge number of people taking part in the annual festival.

Executive Officer of Simhachalam Devasthanam Brahmaramba conducted a review meeting to discuss about the arrangements being made for the festival on Saturday. Initially, she was briefed about the arrangements which were taken during the previous Giri Pradakshina and the support from the NGOs as well as volunteers.

A few NGO members informed the EO that they would distribute various types of food, biscuits, milk, drinking water and medicine to the devotees taking part in the ritual along the 32 km route from covering Simhachalam – Arilova – Hanumanthuwaka – Appughar – MVP Colony – HB Colony – Seethammadhara – Madhavadhara - Gopalapatnam. A Chodavaram- based NGO informed the authorities that they are ready to distribute prasadam to over 10,000 people near Goshala area. The EO informed them that places will be allocated to all the NGOs for the programme. She said that the devasthanam will set up 27 stalls at various places. Besides the devasthanam will also make all arrangements for the devotees on the hill top, she said.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Visakhapatnam/over-80-ngos-to-assist-simhachalam-devasthanam-during-giri-pradakshina-in-visakhapatnam-on-july-2/article66980170.ece>

## Impact House, the premier facility for non-profits and social actors in Pakistan.

Impact House is a facility by The NGO World, designed with you in mind, from workstations equipped with internet access to a training hall with audio-visual support. We offer a range of spaces to support your social initiatives, whether you’re hosting a team meeting or a training session.

What’s more, our pricing structure is based on affordability, making our facilities accessible to all. We understand that funding can be a significant challenge for social initiatives, which is why we offer a limited number of opportunities to use our facilities completely free of charge.

The NGO World believes that everyone should have access to the resources and support they need to make a difference, regardless of their financial situation. That’s why we’re committed to supporting those who have impactful activity ideas but lack the financial resources to bring them to life.



At Impact House, we’re not just a facility - we’re a community of like-minded individuals committed to creating a better future for all. Join us and be a part of the change you want to see in Pakistan. Together, let’s turn great ideas into reality and create a positive impact on society.

So whether you need a workspace, a meeting room, a training hall, or other audio-visual support, Impact House has everything you need to make your social initiatives a success.

We know that creating real change can be a daunting task, but at Impact House, we’re here to help make it happen.

Source: [https://www.icrc.org/en/document/sudan-essential-services-breaking-point-after-two-months-fighting?utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=social&linkId=100000206188495&fbclid=IwAR3-AMTZqJ-J0\\_E2akNHvMuZXcMybBOXPRiN6and8zjuAFMiGiMUGBQTGo](https://www.icrc.org/en/document/sudan-essential-services-breaking-point-after-two-months-fighting?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&linkId=100000206188495&fbclid=IwAR3-AMTZqJ-J0_E2akNHvMuZXcMybBOXPRiN6and8zjuAFMiGiMUGBQTGo)

## OCCF Awards Grants to 16 Nonprofit Organizations

**Over \$55,000 in Community Grants were awarded during the first grant cycle of 2023.**

The Ohio County Community Foundation awarded a total of \$55,425 in Community Grants to 16 local non-profits during the first grant cycle of 2023. Each organization could request up to \$5,000.

The following grants were funded through Ohio County Today & Tomorrow Endowment Fund, created by the City of Rising Sun and Ohio County, to fund the pressing needs in Ohio County.

Laughery Valley Fraternal Order of Police #146 has been awarded \$5,000 for Ohio County families to participate in the 2023 Cops and Kids Shopping program.

Rising Sun Volunteer Fire Department has been awarded \$3,000 to purchase a Multi Gas Detector to detect hazardous chemicals and gases during a fire and a Lunar Camera, battery charger & batteries.

People Helping People, Inc. has been awarded \$5,000 to purchase canned goods to be distributed from the Rising Sun Church of Christ Christian Outreach Food Pantry and towards support for the Ohio County Services from the Heart program.

Rising Sun/Ohio County First, Inc. has been awarded \$5,000 towards the implementation of the 2023 Rising Sun Navy Bean Festival on September 15th & 16th.

- Life Time Resources has been awarded \$5,000 towards matching funds to obtain a federal grant 5339 to purchase

a replacement Catch-A-Ride minivan.

- City of Rising Sun for the Rising Sun Ohio County Parks has been awarded \$3,000 to replace worn out banquet tables at the Community Center.
- Denver Siekman Environmental Park has been awarded \$1,000 towards Ceil's Learning Tree program which provides back to school supplies for Ohio County students.
- Noah O'Banion Post 59 American Legion has been awarded \$5,000 to purchase kitchen equipment to upgrade and expand the Legion kitchen.



- Ohio County Rescue Services, Inc. has been awarded \$1,500 to purchase rain gear for emergency responders.
- Citizens for a Drug Free Ohio County has been awarded \$4,000 to create a new website for Drug Free Ohio County.
- Ohio County Tourism, Inc. has been awarded \$5,000 to provide entertainment for the 2023 Rising Sun Stars & Stripes Celebration on July 1, 2023.
- Rising Sun Ohio County Community School Corporation has been awarded \$2,500 to purchase books for the school libraries.

- Shiner Pride Band Boosters, Inc. for the Rising Sun High School Marching Band has been awarded \$4,925 to purchase a baritone saxophone and timpani drum heads.
- Phi Beta Psi Theta Lambda Chapter has been awarded \$1,000 towards the implementation of their 2023 Fall Card Party fundraiser.
- Ohio County Youth Development, Inc. has been awarded \$2,500 to create a storage area in the Brown Building at the fairgrounds to expand the storage needs for the 4-H Fair.

The following grant was funded through the Barbara Ruxton Community Fund in Memory of Bert A. & Sada Hickman established by the Ohio County Community Foundation Board of Directors to honor Barbara Ruxton for her years of service as an OCCF Board Member. It was Mrs. Ruxton's wish that the grant funds benefit the senior citizens of Ohio County.

- Rising Sun Ohio County Senior Citizen's Housing, Inc. was awarded \$2,000 to allow Rising Sun High School Art students to paint murals within the interior of the Hoosier Boy and Hoosier Girl apartment buildings under the guidance of the high school art teacher, Amberley King.

Endowment funds are established within the Ohio County Community Foundation by donors with a vision to create perpetual, charitable funds to be distributed in the form of grants to non-profit organizations whose projects and programs benefit the Ohio County community.

## 1 in 4 U.S. Adults Identifies as a Social Donor as Loyalty Trends Upward

A new OneCause research study found that social donor loyalty continues to trend upward as nonprofits regain momentum and re-establish fundraising equilibrium. Of the 1,101 social donors surveyed who donated to or participated in a nonprofit event or peer-to-peer campaign in the last 12 months, 75% said they would definitely sponsor or participate in another event at the same organization. This is up 5 percentage points from last year, and 9 points since 2021.

**The 2023 Giving Experience Study is the fundraising technology company's fourth social donor study and further examines how generosity has changed in a post-pandemic fundraising landscape. The study's survey results offer a glimpse into the mindset of today's social donors and explore what these donors expect from the social giving experience, what motivates them to trust and engage with nonprofits, and what influences their giving behaviors.**

"After years of ups and downs, one thing is certain: social donor expectations continue to shift," said Steve Johns, chief executive officer of OneCause. "Understanding changes in their expectations and giving trends is paramount for nonprofits as they navigate evolving donor expectations in a changing philanthropic landscape. Our mission is to equip nonprofits with fundraising insights that will deepen donor loyalty and steward generosity with their supporters."

The study polled 1,101 social donors in the United States who took at least one of the following actions in the 12 months prior to the survey:



- Donated to or attended a fundraising event like a gala or auction
- Sponsored someone or participated in a peer-to-peer fundraising event like a walk, run, or ride
- Donated or requested donations as part of a fundraising challenge, occasion, or giving day
- In addition to a rise in social donor loyalty, other key findings include:
  - Social giving is getting back to "normal."** During the pandemic, the number of social donors grew. As more people and households dramatically increased their average screentime, so did their access and participation in online giving opportunities. This year, the number of social donors returned to 2018 levels. Approximately 23% of consumers 18 years of age and older reported having made some type of social donation.
  - In-person events are back in a big way, and donors expect quality.** Eight-in-ten social donors reported that their last giving experience was in person. Among event-goers who attended functions like galas and golf tournaments, that number is even higher. However, fewer event-goers rated their experience as excellent this year, signaling changing expectations

for this subset of donors. Many donors also say it is important to offer choice and options at an event, like VIP experiences and different ticket packages.

- Mission, trust, and ease share the podium as top generosity motivators.** Social donors seem to be returning to their passions when it comes to philanthropy, with mission being the top motivator in this year's study. Ease has been a top three motivator in each social donor study since 2018 and remains a core motivator for today's donors. Donors reported that trust remains a vital connection and contributor to their giving.
- Social donor demographics indicate narrowing access.** During the pandemic, social giving opened doors for younger, more diverse donors. However, in this year's data, demographics are shifting back to pre-pandemic levels.
- There are new opportunities for social donor retention and recurring giving.** Certain groups of social donors, such as event donors, Gen Z, Millennials, Gen X, men, donors who gave \$500 or more, and urban donors reported being more likely to become regular annual or monthly donors.

"The data in this report provides nonprofits with endless opportunities and datapoints to help cultivate lasting relationships with social donors," added Johns. "We're delighted to share the 2023 Giving Experience Study to equip nonprofits with self-reported insights to deepen donor loyalty and enable effective connections with social donors of all ages and demographics."

Source: <https://www.nonprofitpro.com/article/1-in-4-us-adults-identifies-as-a-social-donor/>

# The Role of Non-Governmental Organizations in Expanding Internet Access in Lesotho

## The Importance of Non-Governmental Organizations in Expanding Internet Access in Lesotho

Lesotho, a small landlocked country in southern Africa, has made significant strides in expanding internet access in recent years. However, despite these efforts, internet penetration remains low, with only 15% of the population having access to the internet. This is where non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have played a crucial role in expanding internet access in Lesotho.

NGOs have been instrumental in providing internet access to communities that are often overlooked by government initiatives. These organizations have been able to bridge the digital divide by providing access to the internet in rural areas, where infrastructure is often lacking. NGOs have also been able to provide internet access to marginalized groups, such as women and people

with disabilities, who may face additional barriers to accessing the internet.

One such NGO is the Lesotho Council of NGOs (LCN), which has been working to expand internet access in Lesotho since 2006. The LCN has been able to provide internet access to over 100 NGOs in Lesotho, enabling them to better communicate with their stakeholders and improve their operations. The LCN has also been able to provide internet access to rural communities through its community telecentres, which provide internet access, training, and support to local communities.

Another NGO that has been working to expand internet access in Lesotho is the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA). MISA has been working to promote

media freedom and access to information in Lesotho since 1996. In recent years, MISA has focused on expanding internet access in Lesotho, particularly in rural areas. MISA has been able to provide internet access to rural communities through its community radio stations, which provide internet access and training to local communities.

NGOs have also been able to provide internet access to schools and educational institutions in Lesotho. The Lesotho Distance Teaching Centre (LDTC), an NGO that provides distance education to students in Lesotho, has been able to provide internet access to over 100 schools in Lesotho. This has enabled students in rural areas to access educational resources and participate in online learning.

NGOs have also been able to provide internet access to healthcare facilities in Lesotho. The Lesotho Network of AIDS Service Organizations (LENASO), an NGO that provides support to people living with HIV/AIDS in Lesotho, has been able to provide internet access to healthcare facilities in Lesotho. This has enabled healthcare providers to access medical information and communicate with other healthcare providers, improving the quality of care for people living with HIV/AIDS in Lesotho.

NGOs have also been able to provide internet access to small businesses in Lesotho. The Lesotho Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI), an NGO that promotes the interests of businesses in Lesotho, has been able to provide internet access to small businesses in Lesotho. This has enabled small businesses to access online markets and improve their operations.

In conclusion, NGOs have played a crucial role in expanding internet access in Lesotho. These organizations have been able to bridge the digital divide by providing internet access to communities that are often overlooked by government initiatives. NGOs have also been able to provide internet access to marginalized groups, such as women and people with disabilities, who may face additional barriers to accessing the internet. NGOs have also been able to provide internet access to schools, healthcare facilities, and small businesses in Lesotho, improving access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities. As Lesotho continues to work towards expanding internet access, NGOs will continue to play a crucial role in ensuring that all communities have access to the internet.

Source: <https://isp.page/news/the-role-of-non-governmental-organizations-in-expanding-internet-access-in-lesotho/>



## Ahsan calls for collective efforts to achieve SDGs

Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal has called upon international partners, civil society and private sector to join hands with Pakistan to achieve Sustainable Development Goals.

Addressing a ceremony in Islamabad today, he expressed Pakistan's commitment to achieve SDGs by 2030.

The Minister said under the banner of revival of economy, the economy pillar focuses on fostering economic growth and stability.

Ahsan Iqbal said under this strategic pillar the ministry has allocated a significant portion of the budget towards the infrastructure development including the construction of transportation networks, power plants and industrial zones.

He said these efforts will attract investments, promote entrepreneurship, and create employment opportunities.

He said government is committed to provide quality education to the youth. He said substantial investments have been made to renovate educational

infrastructure. He said 131 percent budget has been increased for Higher Education Commission which shows government's commitment for education.

Ahsan Iqbal said the ministry has also allocated funds for renewable energy projects, waste management, systems for preserving natural resources and water security.

He said a new initiative of green revolution 2.0 has been started to make Pakistan self-sufficient in food.

The Minister said government has allocated a significant portion of budget for social development. He said a new project has been initiated to develop twenty poorest districts of the country.

He said it is unfortunate that democratic governments did not devolved power to the local governments. He said empowering local governments is imperative for democracy and the development of the country.

Source: <https://www.radio.gov.pk/14-06-2023/ahsan-iqbal-calls-for-collective-efforts-to-achieve-sustainable-development-goals>

## A Culture & Knowledge Sharing Program

This program is designed to facilitate the exchange of ideas, information, and experiences between people from different cultures or countries. The program typically involves a group of individuals traveling to another country or region, where they can learn about the local culture and share their own knowledge and experiences.

The goals of this culture and knowledge exchange program is to foster greater understanding and appreciation of different cultures, promoting cross-cultural communication and collaboration, and increasing participants' knowledge and skills in their chosen field. These programs can provide valuable opportunities for personal and professional growth, as well as help to build stronger connections between people and cultures around the world.

### SOME OF THE TIPS TO GET STARTED

Choose your volunteering project: Selecting the most passionate volunteering project that specialise in cultural exchange and knowledge sharing programs is the key. Some of our preset activities are in the filed of research to accomplish our sustainable rural development goals, while others provide opportunities for individuals to share skills or knowledge in fields such digital marketing, fundraising, creative communication through optimum use of technology . Research and ask questions of various projects and the day to day activities before committing to a program.

Consider your skills and interests: Having a clear plan of action is essential for any volunteer, especially for those who are

providing skills and knowledge in a specific field. It is important to understand the needs and requirements of the organization or community that you will be working with, and to develop a plan that aligns with their goals and objectives. For example, if you are providing construction or technology expertise to a rural development charity like TGG Foundation, you may want to consider the specific needs of the community and develop a plan that addresses those needs. This may include providing training and education to local community members, providing hands-on support for specific projects, or even helping to develop new fundraising strategies that can support ongoing initiatives. In addition to having a clear plan of action, it is also important to stay organized and communicate effectively with the organization or community you are working with. This may include regular check-ins and progress updates, as well as maintaining open lines of communication throughout your volunteer period. By taking these steps and developing a clear plan of action, you can ensure that your volunteer experience is productive and meaningful, while also making a positive impact in the community you are working with.

Obtain an RHM Registration: Being aligned with our mission <https://tggfct.org/responsible-human-mission/> and obtaining one time registration for life time is the first step you need to complete once you have made up your mind to volunteer onsite with TGG Foundation.

Plan your trip: Once you have chosen a project and an RHM Registration is obtained, start planning your trip. Consider the

length of the program, the season, and any visa or travel requirements.

Be respectful and open-minded: When volunteering in a different culture, it's important to be respectful and open-minded. Take the time to learn about the culture and customs of the community



you will be working with, and be willing to adapt your behavior and communication style as needed. Be open to new experiences and perspectives, and be willing to learn as well as teach.

Share your experiences: When you return from your volunteer program, share your experiences with the TGG Foundation as well as others. The Foundation needs your valuable input to know ways to improve the experiences of the volunteers and to make it memorable. Spreading the word about the organisation and the people you have come across during the volunteering period, encourages others to consider similar opportunities. Use your experiences to inspire others and continue to promote cultural exchange and knowledge sharing.

## Giveeffect Launches Innovative AI Writer Feature to Help Nonprofits Accelerate Content Writing and Maximize Impact

**AI Writer is the newest feature in the connected all-in-one nonprofit software**

NEW YORK, June 20, 2023 /PRNewswire/ -- Giveeffect, the leading all-in-one nonprofit management software, today announced the launch of its latest innovative feature: AI Writer. This cutting-edge tool built within the connected Giveeffect software helps nonprofits write the most sought-after types of content quickly, easily and without leaving the platform.

Nonprofit teams often face the challenge of being stretched thin with limited resources and a constant need to produce compelling content to engage supporters. AI Writer addresses this challenge head-on by streamlining the writing process, saving time and effort for nonprofit professionals.

Using state-of-the-art artificial intelligence technology with simple-to-use templates and parameter settings, AI Writer offers a range of features and capabilities to create compelling nonprofit fundraising descriptions,

engaging blog posts, impactful social media captions, thoughtful grant applications, persuasive emails and appeal letters and more with just a few clicks.

"We are thrilled to introduce AI Writer to our all-in-one nonprofit software to automate content writing," said Allan Shin, Co-Founder and Chief Product Officer at Giveeffect. "We understand the challenges faced by nonprofit professionals. And with this innovative tool, we aim to alleviate the time constraints faced by nonprofit professionals, enabling them to focus on their mission and create meaningful impact without juggling between different systems."

By harnessing the power of AI, Giveeffect empowers nonprofits to deliver their message effectively and connect with their audience on a deeper level, all within the same platform that already includes their nonprofit CRM, donor management, volunteer management, fundraising, email marketing, grant tracking, analytics and more.

Source: <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/giveeffect-launches-innovative-ai-writer-feature-to-help-nonprofits-accelerate-content-writing-and-maximize-impact-301854467.html>

## Strengthening community, economy through arts nonprofits | COMMENTARY

The arts can heal, inspire and provide opportunities for connection – they beautify our neighborhoods, encourage creativity and collaboration, bring us joy, and create community. Nonprofit arts organizations play a large part in making our communities more desirable places to live, work and play.

Nonprofit arts and culture organizations are businesses, part of an industry that generates billions in economic activity and supports millions of jobs across the United States.

At the Maryland Center for the Arts in Bel Air, we continue to support the Central Maryland economy and community by providing a broad range of creative and collaborative experiences in all disciplines of the arts.

We strive to offer innovative, equitable arts programming for everyone in Maryland, and encourage folks to visit Maryland as a hub for the arts. We want to present programming and performances that bring together the people of Harford County, but also encourage tourism.

For example, the Bear Legacy Bluegrass Festival attracted music fans from all over – Pennsylvania, New England, West Virginia, even California and Washington state. This year, we're bringing back the festival, re-imagined as the Harmony Woods Music and Beer Fest, at Hopkins Farm Brewery on July 21-22.

Other arts events, like the Harford Plein Air Festival, Music at the Mansion, and the Bayside Dance Festival, offer local and regional tourism opportunities for artists to perform, paint and create. These events present families and arts aficionados with the opportunity to spend a few days in our hotels, dine at our restaurants, explore our parks, and celebrate our diverse and exciting arts scene.

Arts nonprofits have a significant economic impact, but their continued success relies on support, sponsorships and contributions from businesses and individual citizens alike. I hope you join us for an upcoming event, and perhaps we can raise a glass and sing a song at Harmony Woods in July.

Source: <https://www.baltimoresun.com/maryland/harford/aegis/opinion/cng-ag-letters-jun23-20230623-z16lfhjbra3no7i3joyedomqm-story.html>



## Nonprofits Break Ground on 47 New Affordable Homes in Santa Ana



HOSAM ELATTAR

**D**ozens of new affordable homes intended for people at risk of homelessness are expected to come to Santa Ana in the next couple years after local officials and nonprofits broke ground on a housing project last week.

The construction is underway amid pressure from state officials on local representatives across California to address the housing unaffordability crisis.

At the same time, Orange County is still behind on its goal from 2018 to build 2,700 permanent supportive housing units for local homeless people in need.

The \$30 million project is a collaboration between WISEPlace,

a nonprofit that aims to house vulnerable women and Jamboree, an affordable housing nonprofit, that looks to bring 47 new homes to Orange County.

Brateil Aghasi, CEO of WISEPlace, said in a Thursday interview that building houses ends homelessness.

"Housing is a fundamental basic need and a human right," she said. "This ends the homelessness of chronically homeless individuals."

Anaheim Mayor Ashleigh Aitken sits on WISEPlace's Board of Directors. Her father, Wylie, chairs Voice of OC's board of directors.

Once construction is complete – expected in the end of 2024 – Aghasi's organization will provide wraparound services to residents including therapeutic services, workshops on financial literacy and employment readiness.

There will also be an additional home for an onsite property

manager as well as a fitness center and community garden.

Homes will be reserved for people making 30% of the area median income or about \$30,150 for a one person household in Orange County.

Jamboree President and CEO Laura Archuleta said rent will cost around \$300-\$340 a month.

"The funding that came together on this property was specifically targeted to that number 30% of the area median income," she said in a Thursday interview. "It's really something that you can't find anywhere in Orange County, even to rent just a single room in a house."

Funding for the \$30 million project comes from various sources – including \$3.8 million from Santa Ana and \$1.5 million from the county through federal COVID bailout dollars in capital financing. The county's housing finance trust

provided \$2.5 million in Mental Health Services Act funding.

Bank of America provided a \$15.7 million construction loan about \$20 million in tax credit equity. Santa Ana kicked in an additional \$1.5 million to provide on site services and 25 housing vouchers.

**Supervisor Katrina Foley, whose office provided \$1.5 million from their share of county COVID funds provided by the federal government, said at the groundbreaking Thursday that housing costs are reaching unattainable heights in Orange County.**

"A single person can earn up to \$80,000 in Orange County to be eligible for affordable section eight housing. That is incredible," she said. "That doesn't seem like that would be normal."

Mayor Valerie Amezcua said Thursday that there were six housing projects currently underway in Santa Ana and that homelessness has decreased in the city in 2019 to 2020 because of their

investments in housing, outreach programs and shelter.

"We're doing our part," she said.

"That is a major priority for me and we are all still working on that, because we have a lot of work to do," she said about homelessness.

According to the 2022 Point in Time Homeless count, there are 990 homeless people in Santa Ana and 508 of them are unsheltered. In 2019, the count showed 1,769 people homeless in the city.

The new homes are being built where a WISEPlace shelter used to stand that serviced 400 women annually.

Aghasi said all the women in the shelter before construction were placed into housing.

"We're still operating our shelter services throughout the community, just no longer in this space. But we have homes throughout Orange County where we're using them as a shelter and a safe haven for women," she said.

The shelter has helped women like Tammy Hanson who called the

shelter a building block to a better life.

"It's the only way to get back on your feet. You can't get a job living in a bush," she said. "The importance of having a step up without being degraded is what's needed. You know what I mean? Because degradation keeps you down."

Hanson said she overcame a 30-year addiction through the shelter and ended up getting a job as a merchant service processor.

WISEPlace also helped Annie Parks, a Santa Ana resident, keep a roof over her head amid the pandemic.

She said housing projects like this one are needed.

"There's so many stereotypes floating around out there and accepted by people – they think that anybody who's homeless is an irresponsible addict and that's not so," she said.

"I have a year and a half graduate study. I have a bachelor's degree. I was a teacher for over 20 years. And I had a lucrative home based business for 13 years, but yet I ended up homeless."



## Seven ways to reform the global financial system for climate and sustainable development goals

Next week's [high-level summit for a "New Global Financing Pact"](#) will bring together world leaders and representatives from major multilateral financial institutions, civil society organizations (CSOs), and the private sector, to [pioneer new ways to steer financial resources](#) to simultaneously address climate change, biodiversity, and sustainable development challenges. The Paris event builds on the [Bridgetown Initiative](#), a call issued in 2022 to transform the current multilateral financial system by making it more just and channeling financial resources toward solving these multiple crises. Proponents of the initiative advocate sweeping reforms to

reduce debt burdens, free up additional funding for climate change mitigation and adaptation, and channel private finance to both climate and sustainable development. Indeed, it is hard to imagine the world achieving these global aims without devising more effective financial tools to get there.

How should the world address these calls to remake the current international financing architecture? What changes are needed?

Our research at the [Stockholm Environment Institute](#) spans a range of topics related to finance to address climate change and sustainable development – including matters on financing

[green infrastructure, industrial transitions, cross-border climate risks, fair and effective adaptation, and loss and damage](#). Based on this work, we propose seven measures that can inform the discussions at the Summit, catalyze financial reforms, and retool financial levers in ways that can unlock funds needed to gain traction on these intertwined crises.

### 1. Prioritize climate-critical infrastructure in debt restructuring processes

**Context:** In countries with non-investment-grade credit ratings, most large-scale investments critical to climate and development are

conditional on governments being able to issue sovereign guarantees. The sovereign debt crisis plaguing numerous countries, particularly in Africa, has led to debt restructuring proceedings and arrangements with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) that place limits on contingent liabilities, including guarantees, for the government. These provisions are effectively preventing financial closure for climate-critical infrastructure, such as renewable energy projects. These delays will further slow the deployment of infrastructure even in countries with a pipeline of otherwise viable projects.

**Actions:** Multilateral financial institutions (MFIs) should explicitly address climate infrastructure in debt restructuring processes. Given the urgency and magnitude of the development and climate challenges, the world cannot risk another "[lost decade](#)." Solutions must be found, particularly for clean energy to continue to be deployed even during macroeconomic shocks and their aftermath.

### 2. Establish currency safeguards in climate-infrastructure lending

**Context:** In many low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), high interest rates and short maturities make local currency finance an unattractive option for climate infrastructure. Thus, the predominant source of finance for infrastructure has been hard currency, long-term concessional lending, particularly through development finance institutions (DFIs). This, however, exposes the borrower (and ultimately the government) to currency risk, making debt service more expensive over time. This risk materialized recently in the economic aftermath of the pandemic, as rising interest rates in the US and Europe led to local

currency depreciation, exacerbating debt distress. This is particularly relevant for investments where there is a currency mismatch between revenues and debt service, such as in renewable energy.

**Actions:** DFIs should establish currency risk safeguards in their lending. In the same manner that DFIs set social and environmental safeguards, DFIs should determine under what conditions hard currency loans would create unsustainable debt burdens detrimental to the development mandate of borrowing countries. When these situations arise, DFIs should consider subsidizing currency hedging as an effective way to achieve their mandate.

### 3. Address cross-border climate risks by investing in systemic resilience

**Context:** Climate risks are complex and interconnected. The impacts of climate change in one country may spill over to neighboring countries and those thousands of kilometers away. Drought in wheat growing regions, for example, can lead to price spikes and famines in import-dependent countries. Risks travel across countries via ecosystems, infrastructure, river basins, supply chains, commodities, and migration. Most DFIs steer climate risk funding to national scales that do not address cross-border, systemic resilience.

**Actions:** DFIs should make interventions to address cross-border systemic risk. DFIs should overcome their current siloed approach and seek to enhance the resilience to climate risk at the regional and global levels. DFIs could begin to pursue [systemic resilience](#) in two ways. First, the World Bank and regional development banks should increase adaptation funding for

regional cooperation and risk management. Second, DFIs should support institutions in establishing innovative approaches for long-term cooperation between countries, such as [investing in strategic grain storage capacity](#).

### 4. Mobilize multilateral finance to decarbonize industry in emerging economies

**Context:** If the new green industrial revolution is to be both effective and fair, it must happen globally. A major hurdle for industry decarbonization worldwide is access to finance. In emerging economies, this challenge is compounded by both higher risk premiums and the precedence that other national development priorities have in multilateral assistance decisions. The UN Secretary-General has called on wealthier countries to support climate mitigation in emerging economies, and the Group of 20 (G20) has also highlighted the need for capital mobilization to support the deployment of climate technologies. Nevertheless, the coordination needed to make this happen for industry is lacking.

**Actions:** DFIs should mobilize blended finance and technical assistance for new facilities to bring breakthrough green technologies to industries in emerging economies. Leaders from the Global South can coalesce under the Bridgetown Initiative to demand such dedicated assistance and signal their willingness to decarbonize heavy industries.

### 5. Leverage private-sector mobilization through risk-mitigation programmes.

**Context:** There are high expectations about the role that private sector finance will play in

closing the climate investment gap. Yet commercial investors have specific mandates with regard to returns and risk tolerance, stemming from the expectations of their depositors and investors. Finance only flows when projects and investment opportunities fit investors' mandates. Certain sectors are particularly suitable for private finance, such as utility-scale renewable energy. However, investment has been limited in some regions, including much of sub-Saharan Africa. To achieve climate and development goals, this must change.

**Actions:** DFIs should increase support for risk mitigation programmes that help projects in developing countries meet the risk/return criteria of private financiers. With technical assistance, project preparation, and risk mitigation and sharing, projects in developing countries can attract private finance investment. DFI-backed risk mitigation programmes reduce the cost of capital, making projects more affordable. Even in countries facing difficult macroeconomic conditions, such programmes have succeeded in securing finance for important but risk-laden projects, such as non-creditworthy utilities. Such initiatives need to be expanded, improved, and accelerated.

## 6. Give affected communities sufficient loss and damage finance and decision-making power

**Context:** Following the decision to establish a new loss and damage fund at UNFCCC COP 27, negotiations continue to decide how it will work and who will provide the funds. It has found that for loss and damage finance to be both fair and effective, it should be in the form of grants, largely drawn from public finance. Funding

must not exacerbate existing debt burdens in recipient countries. Such funding should come with few strings attached. Additionally, loss and damage finance should include a high level of local ownership, giving affected communities decision-making power over the use of funds.

**Actions:** DFIs should provide reconstruction grants and suspend debt repayments in the aftermath of a natural disaster, freeing up fiscal space for affected countries to fund their responses. This should be in addition to any support provided to the loss and damage fund. To ensure an inclusive and effective recovery, a proportion of reconstruction grants should be earmarked to flow directly to local communities. Reconstruction grants should avoid stringent access requirements. They should be managed and utilized by local actors according to their needs.

## 7. Above all, modernize the financial system to improve its ability to address these intertwined, global problems

**Context and actions:** The current financial system requires a rethink, and time is of the essence. The upcoming summit and the Bridgetown Initiative are starting points. Key players will debate various possibilities and their details, but all involved should be able to agree on one thing: to make progress towards a more equitable and climate-resilient world demands change.

Source: <https://www.sei.org/perspectives/seven-ways-to-reform-the-global-financial-system-for-climate-and-development-goals/>

## Socialgood Quotes

“Always have a willing hand to help someone, you might be the only one that does.”

**ROY T. BENNETT**

“Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day.”

**SALLY KOCH**

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”

**MAHATMA GANDHI**

“Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others.”

**BOOKER T. WASHINGTON**

“The test of a civilization is in the way that it cares for its helpless members.”

**PEARL S. BUCK**

## Campaign launched to fight violence against children

**T**HE ActionAid Tanzania has launched a campaign to protect Tanzanian children against violence, as the government insists that electronic violence is currently on the rise.

The campaign which was launched in Chamwino District, Dodoma Region also coincided with the official launching of the district's child protection council.

The two activities were conducted as the Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) in collaboration with several stakeholders fighting for the rights of children kicked off a week-long activity aimed at averting violence against children, ahead of the much-awaited celebrations to mark the International Day of the African Child scheduled for Friday this week.

The official launching was graced by the Deputy Director for Justice and Children Development in the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups, Mr Mathias Haule on behalf of the minister, Dr Dorothea Gwajima.

**International Day of the African Child is observed on every June 16.**

On that day, in 1971, over 200,000 South African students protested against the poor quality of their education and demanded to be taught in their native language.

The march resulted in the killing of hundreds of protesters by armed police officers. The day became a public holiday in South Africa and is now globally known as a day to draw attention to the obstacles

African children face in accessing quality education.

At the weekend, ActionAid Tanzania convened government officials, NGOs, media and various stakeholders engaging in the protection of the rights of children in the country, to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing the full realisation of the rights of children in the country.

The theme chosen for this year is: 'Consider the Safety of the Child in the Digital World'.

The theme was specifically chosen due to the fact that violence meted against children through online channels were escalating in the world and Tanzania in particular.

At the event, in the speech read on her behalf by the Deputy Director for Justice and Child Development, Dr Gwajima said that children were currently forced to engage into sexual orientations through different social media platforms either by persons they know or those they don't.

The minister asked parents/guardians to control their children especially when using smartphones, as she equally requested all stakeholders to understand that their obligations were to join forces in the fight against children violence.

According to the coordinator of the ActionAid Tanzania, Joram Wimmo, ahead of the Ok International Day of the African Child, his organisation had decided to convene stakeholders so that they can join hands in the campaign to fight against violence meted on children.

“We need to know that children have important needs that bring about their rights and our target is to ensure that our children are well protected



and living at safe places,” he noted.

ActionAid Tanzania is an affiliate of ActionAid International Federation which is a global justice organisation working to achieve social justice, gender equality and eradication of poverty.

According to the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRGG) Gender Coordinator, Florence Chaki, who also attended the event at the weekend, there was a milliard of challenges in the fight against protection of children rights, among them lack of evidence and that some parents were killing cases by engaging into arbitration between two parties engaged.

Source: <https://dailynews.co.tz/campaign-launched-to-fight-violence-against-children/>

# Empowering rural communities through Social Innovation: A journey in Hushe Valley, Pakistan

## Hushe Valley

Sitting in the Chanche District of the northern Gilgit Baltistan region of Pakistan, Hushe Valley comprises eight villages. It lies amid the glorious Himalayan peaks, the Karakoram range's surrounding high mountains, and spectacular glaciers. While local tourists scarcely explore it, it is well known in international mountaineering communities and among trekking enthusiasts as it is the gateway to majestic peaks.

The valley and its population of 15,000 people have long been isolated due to its remoteness and poor communication networks. The region sits at altitudes ranging between 2,500 and 3,000 meters, making it difficult to access. The area has few land connections, contributing to its isolation. Winters in the valley are extremely harsh, with temperatures dropping as low as -15 to -20 centigrade, and sustained snowstorms last from late October to early April. During these months, the local communities rely on stored food.

While a broad range of interventions supported by the Government of Pakistan and development organisations have aimed to enhance the region's well-being and the livelihoods of its communities, the area still lacks basic necessities and struggles due to a lack of systemic development investments. These initiatives lack coherence and connections, preventing the achievement of holistic development.

## Social Innovation Platform

Since 2019, the Local Governance (LG) team at UNDP's Bangkok Regional Hub (BRH) has been exploring innovative approaches to address complex development challenges at the subnational level. One of them is using the Social Innovation Platform (SIP), developed by Agirre Lehendakaria Center (ALC) and iterated by UNDP. It is a systems approach that shifts from traditional top-down project design to bottom-up portfolio co-creation, which responds to the challenges and opportunities facing local communities in a more inclusive, participatory, and agile manner.

The SIP approach underlines the complexity and interconnectedness of development challenges. It infuses a strong focus on the real-time needs of people and the recipients of public goods, into existing development frameworks, and fosters more effective and inclusive collaborations between people, governments, and the private sector.

One of the main priorities of UNDP's work in the Gilgit-Baltistan region is to move beyond the traditional linear approaches and to engage with communities in the development planning processes. The AccLab sought to structure a multi-asset financing mechanism and portfolio of integrated solutions that can be scaled across a broad range of identified thematic areas such as food economy, clean energy, and sustainable tourism which

can create a larger impact on the livelihoods of the local communities. In the Hushe Valley, SIP worked as an open platform where agencies, local communities, and local governments could organise initiatives, actions, and partnerships under a shared mission for systemic change at the local level.

## Deep Listening: A passage to the hidden stories of Hushe Valley

The first and most important step is to 'Listen'

For any development intervention, the first step is to identify the problem. Developing a Social Innovation Platform begins with the practice of Deep Listening, which aims to cultivate a deeper understanding of the social, economic, cultural, and environmental dynamics underlying the complex and intertwined development issues in a local context. Essentially, Deep Listening is a set of tools to collect real-time and in-depth qualitative data that complements traditional quantitative data and helps pinpoint the challenges and reframe a community's real needs and opportunities. It goes beyond traditional consultation mechanisms and dives deep into the reality of local communities; the reality that not only reflects those who normally have a say in local development planning but more importantly, the reality of those whose voice often goes unheard, and needs go unnoticed, particularly women, the vulnerable, people with disabilities, and the marginalised.

Led by ALC and conducted by the GB Foundation, a set of 200-plus in-person interviews and consultations were conducted in the eight villages

prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. The initial batch of 100 in-person interviews from this set helped the AccLab develop an overview of the locals about their daily life, their major challenges, and where potential opportunities lie. Building upon the overview, the second batch of interviews dug deeper into the community narratives, encouraging the locals to think about and share changes that they would like to see in the community. Agriculture, food, tourism, and human resources were constantly cited when people reflected and shared their stories about their past, present, and future.

COVID-19 pandemic hit while the Deep Listening conversations were being analyzed. This called for a change of strategy. The team found it contradictorily challenging to listen to communities from a distance as Deep Listening is revolved around ethnographic research.

After a few trials and tests, the team swiftly shifted to Digital Deep Listening in response to the pandemic. Over 500 locals in the Hushe Valley were reached out through digital listening tools for deeper inquiries and follow-up interviews. To enable this level of outreach and connection, the digital tools used included Interactive Voice Response (IVR), 300, 750 blast SMS texts, 20,000 robocalls as well as social media platforms. To ensure that more people, particularly those whose voice is often unheard, like women, the old, and the youth, a call centre was brought in to facilitate conversations in the local language to engage the community in in-depth conversations.

The post-pandemic inquiry also hammered on the many effects that the community was facing. The conversations, questions, and prompts were constructed to

highlight barriers, motivations, influences, and concurring challenges and to map any new thematic areas that have emerged. One of these thematic areas was reverse migration, which directly impacts the economy and well-being of Hushe.

Following the Deep Listening exercise, the collected narratives were reviewed and analyzed during Sensemaking sessions. Sensemaking involves presenting and validating these narratives with local stakeholders and members of the community to ensure that they accurately reflect local realities. Through Sensemaking,



## The potential of Food Economy

An in-depth analysis of the data from Deep Listening brought to the surface many chronic issues including poor infrastructure, scarce economic capacity, lack of quality education, no access to clean water, lack of market access to local products, and lack of healthcare resources, especially for women. All these challenges added to the hardships of daily life in Hushe Valley. On top of that, the analysis highlighted the potential of the food economy for local community development as people rely on agricultural production for subsistence and income. The food economy was an anchor between development interventions in response to various thematic areas such as local economic development, women's empowerment, and sustainable production.

communities can collectively understand their situation, reflect on their needs and priorities, and identify actionable measures to address them. In the Hushe Valley SIP, Sensemaking sessions were held in the field and were split into two separate sessions. To facilitate the presentation of the identified narratives, we used ethnographic profiles, which we called **Personas**, as the main tool to:

1. Present the findings to stakeholders;
2. Extend the listening process; and
3. Further engage people and stakeholders.

One important aspect of creating Personas is constantly adjusting them to the results of the listening process, refining and reinterpreting the narratives, challenges, and opportunities identified, highlighting similarities and discrepancies, and proposing possible solutions.



## WITH EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT, BORN2WIN NGO BRINGS TRANSGENDER PERSONS INTO THE MAINSTREAM

**T**rans activist Swetha Sudhakar's NGO Born2Win has placed 120 members from the transgender community in the banking, IT and development sectors.

When Gowthami B came out to her family as transgender, she had their full support—something uncommon among transgender persons in India. However, after completing her BCom, she struggled for two years to find a job because workplaces in the country are still not progressive.

"My story isn't different from any other trans person looking to get employed. I was qualified and the interviews would go well, but I would never hear back from the organisation," the 27-year-old

from Chennai tells SocialStory. "Some would plainly tell me it is too ambitious for someone of my gender identity to fit into the workplace."

**Gowthami's luck changed when she met trans activist and social worker Swetha Sudhakar one-and-a-half years ago. Over the last ten years, Sudhakar has placed 120 transpersons in sectors such as banking, IT, hospitality and development through her NGO Born2Win.**

In less than a month after meeting Swetha, Gowthami joined Standard Chartered as a coordinator in the department of facilities. "Swetha's job is that of a mediator between candidates like me and

organisations that are hiring. She has a keen eye for skills and qualifications, and the jobs that will benefit from them. Her network with various corporate organisations makes this process simpler," says Gowthami.

### Uplifting the community

Swetha grew up in Chennai and aced school. She loved dressing up, wearing makeup and dancing—all of which she could freely do on the school stage. She even won several accolades. "Dancing was my disguise as well as true expression. Everything I couldn't be otherwise, I was able to do when I danced, and people appreciated it," she recalls.

But when she entered college, her femininity became a matter

of ridicule. She dropped out and joined an NGO working with persons living with HIV as an outreach worker for its AIDS prevention awareness intervention programme.

**"I made Rs 1,300 a month and went to beaches, parks, and other public spaces to talk to the public about safe sex and sexual health. I picked places where the trans community commonly engaged in the sex trade," says Swetha.**

While working with the NGO, she finished BA in Public Administration and MA in Sociology through correspondence, before getting trained as a counsellor and working her way up to become a community trainer in the organisation.

In February 2013, Swetha started and registered Born2Win as an NGO. Exactly two months later, on April 15—National Transgender Day, she launched the Trans Achievers Award, recognising pioneers from the community in the fields of law, politics, medicine, and entrepreneurship. The award celebrates people from the community who come from humble backgrounds and inspire others with their success stories.

"While on the one hand, we wanted to spur young people from the trans community to study and find jobs with our support, we also wanted to demonstrate to them what nurturing such ambitions could do to their life and their self-esteem," says Swetha. As a natural extension to this, Swetha runs a show on YouTube interviewing many of these trans pioneers in various fields.

In 2015, she launched Ms Trans Queen pageant as a platform for transwomen in Tamil Nadu to dress up the way they want and express themselves. The pageant is backed by LIC, Medimix, and Naturals Salon. Every year, Swetha also releases and sells a calendar of trans achievers, which brings in revenue for Born2Win apart from donations.

Many young trans persons from small towns and villages often can't take up jobs after fleeing home, facing stigma and inequity. Many turn to sex work as they have little support to fall back on, Swetha says. "This happens after they join the larger trans community as well."

To support these individuals, Swetha runs a free shelter in Chennai where they can stay, are trained in computer science, and receive guidance in finishing school and college—with the ultimate goal of finding jobs. She also carries out corporate training with companies to hire transpersons.

**"Our training with HR departments is centred on sensitising them, preempting the challenges trans employees may face in the organisation, and building awareness among staff while strengthening the company's anti-discrimination policies," she notes. Swetha and her team follow up with employees for three months after they have joined work to help them settle in.**

An HR official from Jones Lang LaSalle Incorporated (JLL), a global commercial real estate services company that hired two transmen, says a structured way into diversifying their workforce with

help from NGOs such as Born2Win makes the process seamless. "By working with Swetha and her team, we became well-prepared to not just hire but also address the grievances of our trans employees better. While we always had the intent to hire people from different gender identities, an engagement with community members helped us do this effectively and sustain it," he says.

However, experiences with placements have been bittersweet, she tells *SocialStory*.

"We see promotions getting delayed, contracts not getting renewed on time, and bullying by fellow workers," Swetha says. "I would like to think of our vision as a work in progress and in time, we can bring changes to the whole ecosystem."

But despite challenges, Born2Win has improved the lives of many transpersons in a way that can bring long-term change in the employment landscape.

R Reshma, who fled to Chennai from Vellore after being ostracised by her family, is now a 27-year-old banker thanks to Swetha's support.

"When I came to Chennai, my life took a turn for the worse as men in my neighbourhood began sexually abusing me and I had no network or self-confidence to find a job," says Reshma. "But now, I have 120 people working under me and every time I meet other young trans people, I am able to help them find jobs too. But most importantly, I let them know they have everything they need in them to live like anyone else, and a support system outside to take them there."

## World Whistleblowers Day

**O**n this World Whistleblowers Day 2023, we celebrate the people who have come forward to speak out against abuse and corruption.

Too often, whistleblowers face retaliation after bringing corruption or wrongdoing to light. They suffer personal, professional and sometimes legal attacks, sometimes even directed against their family, property or physical and mental well-being.

They speak up for the common good, often at great personal cost. Let's show them more empathy, amplify their voices, and advocate for greater protections to ensure their invaluable contributions are celebrated, not silenced.

Source: <http://anticorru.pt/20v>



## World Environment Day

World Environment Day 2023 was a global effort to #BeatPlasticPollution

World Environment Day 2023 was a reminder that people's actions on plastic pollution matters. The steps governments and businesses are taking to tackle plastic pollution are the consequence of this action.

It is time to accelerate this action and transition to a circular economy.

It is time to #BeatPlasticPollution.



## Public Service Day

Serving the #UnitedNations can be incredibly fulfilling, but also demanding in many different ways.

On #PublicServiceDay, we thank all United Nations Volunteers for supporting communities around the world.

We know your service does not come without sacrifices.

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/unvolunteers?mibextid=ZbWKwL>



## World Refugee Day

**T**his week, the world celebrates the strength and bravery of those who have been compelled to flee their homeland due to persecution or conflict.

On 20 June 2023, RI in Bangladesh commemorated World Refugee Day with the support of Community Based Child Protection Committees, parents and caregivers, and community members in its 15 MPCs in 8 camps.

The day was celebrated at all RI managed Women and Girls Safe Space centres in Bangladesh too.

This year, "Hope Away from Home" was the theme of the day. Interactive discussion sessions, video shows, drawing competition, photo exhibition were arranged to commemorate the day. In the discussion session, participants expressed their desire to return to their country with their rights and dignity protected.

Source: [https://web.facebook.com/reliefinternational?mibextid=ZbWKwL&\\_rdc=1&\\_rdr](https://web.facebook.com/reliefinternational?mibextid=ZbWKwL&_rdc=1&_rdr)

**“***Nights of starvation, fear and hopelessness were the everlasting theme. Basic necessities such as clean running water, food, medications, proper schooling and a future seemed so out of reach.***”**

**Mohamed Malim**

*a Somali refugee speaking at the University of St. Thomas*

## Young role models combat HIV stigma in Central Asia

Last year, Elina Kruglova made a bold decision. She disclosed her HIV status during the casting of a popular reality TV show in Uzbekistan.

"I disclosed my status right at the casting because the project lasted for several months, and I needed to take medicine daily," she said. "I made the decision to be honest and mustered up the courage. I thought they wouldn't accept me, but I passed the casting," Ms Kruglova explained.

In her second-year student in the Faculty of Agricultural Economics at Tashkent State Agrarian University in Uzbekistan, she grew up in an orphanage. She was the first child living with HIV in her country to start antiretroviral (ARV) therapy seventeen years ago. Despite facing stigma, she has been taking life-saving medicine daily.

### Uzbekistan struggles with HIV-related stigma and discrimination.

According to the recent [Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey \(MICS\)](#) in Uzbekistan, 76% of women aged 15-49 in the country would refuse to purchase vegetables from a vendor living with HIV and would not accept children living with HIV attend school with other children. Prejudice is fuelled by a lack of knowledge; only 14% of women in the same age group possess comprehensive information about HIV. Uzbekistan's HIV cases have steadily risen by 44% in the last six years (31,088 in 2016 to an estimated 45,000 in 2022.)

Throughout the TV show, Ms Kruglova shared her experiences



### Aida Muravyova knows all about the power of disclosing her HIV status.

She is a 16-year-old school student in Kazakhstan and learned about her HIV status when she was 6 years old. Although advised against disclosing her status at school and extracurricular activities, Aida chose a different path. She shared her HIV status with her classmates in school and took on the role of breaking down the myths and misconceptions surrounding HIV in front of her peers and adults.

"When I was told about my HIV diagnosis, I thought to myself, 'Okay, I have red hair, I have HIV, I take pills... what else?!'"

Ms Muravyova found solace through the Teenergizer Movement, a youth-led initiative supported by the Kazakhstan Government, UNICEF, UNAIDS and other donors. Teenergizer aims to empower young people living with HIV. It created a safe space for young women like her to connect, have fun, and share experiences without shame or stigma. The movement has reached many young people in the country, creating a ripple effect of reliable information and support.

When Teenergizer came along, Ms Muravyova invited classmates to join. "They got valid information, learned with me, and even conducted training sessions," she said. "The most gratifying part was when one of my classmates'



of being an orphan and living with HIV. Over time she became an inspiration for young people and those living with HIV.

"When the TV episode aired, I started contemplating how people would perceive me, what they would say, and how they would react," she recalled. "Psychologists were working with us during the project, which made it easier for me to handle the pressure."

To her surprise, people positively reacted when they recognized her on the streets, and she received numerous supportive messages from people living with HIV via Instagram.

"I am grateful for the trust they placed in me," she said.

For her, the Tashkent day-care center for children and families affected by HIV supported by UNICEF and UNAIDS played a crucial role in her life. It provided a safe haven, gave guidance throughout her childhood and teenage years. The center's support group, the professional consultations, and master classes helped her develop practical life skills. She is optimistic about the future and believes that people can change their attitudes towards HIV with the right information and education. In her mind, hiding only makes things worse.

mothers, initially frightened by my HIV status, learned about HIV through her child's participation in Teenergizer."

Her friend told her that her family had an open conversation, hashed out concerns, and now everything is okay.

Gender assessments conducted in several countries of Central Asia, including Kazakhstan, confirmed that gender inequality, stereotypes, customs and practices increase women's vulnerability to HIV as well as limit their choices and expose them to socioeconomic and health difficulties.

Ms Muravyova refuses to let her HIV status define her or limit her dreams. "I have seen many people living with HIV, but never in my field of Electrical and Aerospace Engineering... I want to change that perception and demonstrate that living with HIV can be different, cool, and interesting."

The UNAIDS Regional Policy and Equality Officer in Central Asia, Elena Kiryushina, sees role models like Elina and Aida as well as community networks as key.

"Promoting leadership among adolescent girls and young women, fostering positive masculinities in boys and men, providing care and support to adolescents living with HIV, especially those who lost parents and access to comprehensive sexuality education in and out of schools, and supporting gender-transformative approaches are essential steps to address HIV and gender-related stigma and to build foundation for the gender equality in Central Asia and beyond," she said.

UNAIDS and partners believe empowering women and girls and challenging cultural norms is crucial to address HIV stigma and ensure equal access to support and health services.

Ms Muravyova has one mantra. "Speak, and don't be afraid!" she said. "We are together, and together we'll make it through."

Source: [https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2023/june/20230622\\_central-asia-young-role-model-s?fbclid=IwAR2HT2y3byFE4CD6vSXMPsoRuoRlJXJk5s1mAT7zbytdBmZm64JRTptZf4o](https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2023/june/20230622_central-asia-young-role-model-s?fbclid=IwAR2HT2y3byFE4CD6vSXMPsoRuoRlJXJk5s1mAT7zbytdBmZm64JRTptZf4o)

## Foundation Sensitizes Nigerians On Sickle Cell Disease

Sickle Cell Foundation, Nigeria are sensitizing Nigerians about sickle cell anaemia with an event tagged 'Red Umbrella Walk'.

Mr Temitope Ashiwaju, the Group Corporate Communications and Events Manager, Dufil Prima Foods Plc, made this known in a statement on Sunday in Lagos.

Sickle cell disease is a genetic blood disorder characterised by abnormal haemoglobin, the protein responsible for carrying oxygen in the red cells. It significantly affects the shape and function of red blood cells, leading to various health complications.

According to Ashiwaju, 'Red Umbrella Walk' is an annual solidarity and awareness walk aimed at spotlighting sickle cell disease in Nigeria. He stated that the 2023 edition which was the seventh witnessed an outpouring of support from Nigerians and drew significant attention to dynamics of the disease.

Ashiwaju added that the foundation received support from some Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Indomie Instant popular music artiste and former Big Brother Naija winner, Laycon. He reiterated the commitment of to continually support the sickle cell community.

The Chairperson, Coalition of Sickle Cell NGOs (CSCNN), Ms Toyin Adesola, said sickle cell posed a significant public health concern in Nigeria as the country bore one of the highest burdens of the disease worldwide. Adesola noted that over 150,000 children were born with sickle cell disease yearly in Nigeria representing the highest number of newborns affected by the condition in any country.

She said the CSCNN would continue on its mandate as the umbrella body of advocacy and awareness in Nigeria, reducing the health burden associated with sickle cell disorder. Adesola said the NGO's mission was to amplify and raise strong voices within the sickle cell community thereby driving societal and policy changes in Nigeria.

**"I urge government to recognise the urgency of sickle cell disease and implement policies that prioritises the healthcare and well-being of individuals living with the disease."**

**"My heartfelt gratitude goes to all sickle cell NGOs, particularly fellow the CSCNN members, sickle cell warriors, supporters, and sponsors such as Dufil Prima Foods Plc, makers of Indomie Instant Noodles, for supporting the sickle community,"** she said.

Source: <https://von.gov.ng/foundation-sensitizes-nigerians-on-sickle-cell-disease/>

# Opinion: Lessons from 20 years of Accenture Development Partnerships



ROGER FORD



LOUISE JAMES

Accenture Development Partnerships, or ADP, is not a typical consultancy. Since our founding as part of Accenture in 2003, we have grown into a global practice delivering more than 1,900 innovative projects that have made a positive impact in nearly 100 countries. We help hundreds of clients – including leading NGOs, private foundations, public donor agencies, and the private sector – address society’s most critical challenges across key areas including agriculture; climate and environment; energy; gender, inclusion and diversity; health and nutrition; humanitarian aid and refugees; inclusive financial services and products; and access to quality education and sustainable livelihoods.

Here are three lessons that continue to inspire.

## 1. It takes an ecosystem to create real impact

2023 sees a more important milestone than just ADP’s anniversary – it marks the halfway point of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The SDGs represent both a blueprint to achieve a more resilient, more sustainable future and a road map for public- and private-sector innovation. As businesses increasingly use the SDGs as a consistent language for their environmental, social, and governance efforts, they also provide a framework for all stakeholder groups to work together, and articulate and measure shared value.

However, according to the latest U.N. Global Compact-Accenture CEO study, we must accelerate our work in sustainability to build a more resilient future if we are to rescue the SDGs. The complexity and sheer scale mean that no single organization, or even sector, can make significant progress working alone – it takes an ecosystem of players across multiple sectors, industries, technologies, and

innovations working together. ADP has built our ecosystem over the past 20 years, consisting of NGOs, donors, and foundations that are our clients as well as Accenture’s specialized technology partners and commercial clients, social entrepreneurs, governments, and in some cases even our competitors. We act as a nexus for these groups, converging shared interests and resources to help our stakeholders advance the SDGs.

For example, we helped The Human Safety Net, the philanthropic arm of Generali Group, a global insurance and asset management company based in Italy, better serve young families and migrants by developing new ways to think about inclusive insurance strategies that aim to solve for the “protection gap” – the difference between economic and insured losses – which hinders people from building economic resilience.

## 2. Technology and innovation are increasingly more important

Accenture’s purpose is to deliver on the promise of technology and human ingenuity, so, unsurprisingly,

we see the growing importance of technology and innovation in our work. Despite NGOs’ increasing digitalization, they tend to be less advanced than the private sector. Digital tools facilitate more effective, efficient, robust, and scalable data collection, analysis, and reporting – leading to more real-time ability to pivot and improve programming. Organizations that successfully build digital infrastructure and capacity can increase on-the-ground engagement while significantly reducing overhead costs and accelerating their impact.

A good example is the work that we’ve done in partnership with Novartis, the World Health Organization, and the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development’s working group on virtual health and care, to explore how virtual technologies can help make health care accessible through inclusive policymaking and data-driven digitalization.

## 3. The model matters

Since ADP was founded, we have put impact and purpose first and tried to make our services as accessible and cost-effective as possible. This commitment enables us to serve a large portfolio of clients around the world while still

offering the entire spectrum of Accenture services.

With a global core team, we can meet with clients to understand their needs and then draw on a rotating set of the 732,000 people of Accenture to implement ADP projects – and we’re never short of willing participants. They come from all different levels, sectors, and countries, and bring the expertise they have built working with Accenture’s commercial clients. ADP projects offer them the unique opportunity to develop their knowledge of ESG and international development. As sustainability continues to be embedded across businesses, circular experiences like these and participation from corporate and civil society are necessary.

As expressed by Save the Children US CEO and President Janti Soeripto: “Save the Children’s collaborations with ADP over the last 20 years have helped maximize our impact for children. Their project and change management teams are helping transform our operations, while their creative teams are working with us to develop campaigns and products that have contributed to our \$200 million global humanitarian fund. We’ve learned that we can do so

much together sharing the same ambition for children.”

## The next 20 years

We are optimists by nature, and the work we do reinforces that – we constantly see the good that comes when people work toward common goals, not just the SDGs. As we look forward to the next 20 years, we believe that increasingly everyone will think and act in ways that consider all stakeholders – so that growth, impact, and sustainability sit at the heart of everything that public- and private-sector organizations do. Achieving this will require different groups coming together to tackle complex themes where ESG issues overlap, such as climate’s impact on gender or health. Most of all, we are confident that ADP will continue to grow and evolve so we can forge connections that help our clients improve lives around the world.

Source: <https://www.devex.com/news/sponsored/opinion-lessons-from-20-years-of-accenture-development-partnerships-105638>

# Tips for writing a non-profit vision statement that will shape your organizations future

**Are you looking to shape your organization's future? Start with writing a Strong Vision Statement for your Nonprofit. Check out our tips for writing a Strong Statement.**

**A** vision is much more than a mere statement. It has an element of certainty attached to it, a philosophy, and a tactical tool. However, inserting clear and persuasive language round the belief is exceptionally significant. It is where the statement part comes in and demonstrates its importance.

An operative non-profit vision statement confirms you, along with the board members and the supporters, that all of you are striving to achieve similar objectives for the organization. A clear and authoritative vision statement plays an imperative role in conveying to the stakeholders your intentions and inspire to progress in its purposes.

An actual vision is a share of the establishment of the non-profit motive. If your non-profit organization is in the process of creating its main vision statement, it needs to be drafted in such a manner as to reveal the existing strategic route that you intend on the undertaking, or it merely needs to communicate better a vision that has always persisted.

## Essential aspects of the non-profit vision statement

There are certain vital factors that you must keep in mind before composing the main statement. It includes:-

### Impudent

Your vision statement must repent your intentions and perspective of the organization. Since it's a non-profit organization, it must show your passion for the work. It should represent your intention with the company and where you would like to see it in the upcoming future.

### Associated with core competencies

Your vision constructs upon the core competencies of your organization's comprising of you have previously created: The history of the organization, sponsor base, powers, exclusive capabilities, assets, and belongings.

It should furthermore include what you will endure launching as you keep putting in the effort to achieve your mission

### Future casting

Your vision delivers a depiction of the future. It must create a clear image in the mind of the board members as well as the supporters where the organization would stand in the future. Physiologically, it is one of the most efficient and essential factors when writing a vision statement.

### Inspiring

Your vision involves inspiring language. It produces a vibrant appearance in the mind of your stakeholders' that motivates and creates excitement and anticipation. It generates interest and presents a trial.

### Motivating

The vision statement should explain the track that your organization must take to move on and achieves all your objectives in a way that keeps on pushing everyone mutually.

### Purpose-driven

Giving stakeholders and the employees with a considerable intellect of purpose, even if they are trying to construct a church in place of laying stones.



**Writing a vision statement** is essential, and its significance is one that cannot be undermined, particularly when you consider the fact that it would be central to expansion. However, it is easier said than done, and sometimes it can get quite hectic.

If you have a busy schedule and you cannot find time to write a vision statement, or you have to write one in a short period, then you can try to get the anticipated results by using a paraphrasing tool.

### Paraphrasing tool and its benefits

Paraphrasing tools are online software that can assist you in writing a high-quality vision statement for your organization.

The benefit of using a rephrasing tool is that it saves a lot of time, and it produces results that are grammatically accurate while compliant with all the laws of the English Language.



Since we know that a powerful vision statement is audacious and necessary, a rephrasing tool will help you create that even when you have a tight routine, and you can't take out a lot of time for it.

Paraphrasing tools, apart from being very beneficial, are also straightforward to use. Furthermore, they are available online without any cost, and without possessing a high level of expertise with computers, you can use it efficiently.

The online tools work by replacing words in the inserted text with their synonyms. They ensure that the sentence structure is changed while any unnecessary clauses and statements are removed. The final book generated also does not have any grammatical mistakes.

### Benefits of Paraphrasing tools

The following are some of the benefits of using a paraphrasing tool online for writing a vision statement.

### Efficient and convenient

For years, people thought that composing text requires effort, and every script needs to be written with a lot of time to make it more appealing. It is no longer the case with the introduction of the advancements in the sector. Paraphrasing tools can now help you create an article, blog, or a statement within minutes and without having to scratch your head continuously thinking what more should you add.

Finance could be a problem for a non-profit organization, and the money generated needs to be used for the right purposes. A paraphrasing tool is available online, with several websites offering their proposed software without any costs involved.

### Time and energy saving

When you are running an organization, time is one thing you are continuously short on, and spending a lot of time writing a vision statement might not be the perfect way to utilize time. Considering its significance and influence, what you can do is write a statement once, and by using the paraphrasing tool, you can create multiple unique versions of it.

If you have to provide your directors and board members with a number of these statements, then using the paraphrasing tool is the ideal choice.

### Lower chances of an error

Regardless of your grip over the language, there is always a chance of human error. To minimize the risk of any punctuation, grammatical, and spelling error arising in the statement, you can depend on a paraphrasing tool.

Many advanced tools like Grammarly have an integral grammar checkers that will help you ensure that your script does not contain any error in the most convenient ways.

Source: <https://globalowls.com/write-strong-vision-statement-nonprofit/>



## From destruction to dressmaking - the story of two inspiring women

**Every minute, 20 people are forced to leave everything behind to escape conflict or persecution. But they aren't just crossing international borders to seek refuge in other countries. For some people, that isn't an option. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) share many of the same challenges refugees face, and overwhelmingly, the majority of them are women and children.**

Mindanao, an island in the southern Philippines, has a long history of conflict with communists, Muslim separatists, and clan militias which has resulted in migratory movements.



In May 2017, members of the Maute group, an extremist group with links to the Islamic State (ISIS), stormed Marawi City in Mindanao. They took civilians as hostages, captured key government buildings, and torched churches and schools. For five months, a fierce battle raged between the Philippine military and extremist forces.

When the Philippines army eventually drove the Islamist fighters out, the Marawi siege left a trail of death and destruction that displaced over 400,000 residents. Families were forced to leave their livelihoods and homes behind.

Six years on, the situation remains bleak. Many of Marawi's former residents are still living on the outskirts of the city, unable to return home and with little outside help.

### Fatima and Amina's stories\*

Before the Marawi siege, 20-year-old Fatima and her family had a dressmaking store in a shopping mall located in Ground Zero (often referred to as the main battle area). This was their source of income and although their lives weren't always stable, they had enough to support their family.

Just two days before the siege, they had clothing stocks arrive from Manila.

However, everything changed for them on the fateful night of May 23, 2017.

"When ISIS entered our town, the first thing that came to our minds was to run away from them. During the siege, ISIS came to our store and asked if we could say an Islamic religious term. Since we

were able to, they released us so we could go to our family and get our children. While we were running away from ISIS, we saw them chop off a person's head. At the time, we were going crazy and believed our source of income was destroyed. We thought the siege would only last three days, so we left our resources and things (including money) in the area. However, it went on for months," says Fatima.

After they escaped, Fatima and her family were transferred to seven different evacuation centres across the Philippines.

According to Fatima, "Life in the evacuation centres was very hard. We couldn't buy necessities, including medicine for our children, who were sick. So, the financial need at the time was very great."

Amina aged 30, has endured a similar heartbreaking experience. Pre-Marawi siege, life was very peaceful for her and her family. However, that all changed in the blink of an eye.

**"The first sign I noticed was the gunshots that were heard from our house. That's when I knew that something was wrong. I was very nervous."**

Amina was driven from her home with her family and forced to leave many things of sentimental value behind. This included photo albums of their childhood memories.

"The Marawi siege had such a devastating impact on our lives; our business went down, and our family couldn't provide for our children. ISIS burned everything and made our lives miserable," Amina says.



Although the Maute group is no longer in the city, extremist groups continue to operate in Mindanao though their numbers have dwindled and peace in the region remains precarious. The remnants of war are very evident, with the walls of houses and mosques still pockmarked with bullet holes and pro-ISIS graffiti. The deep scars left by the Marawi siege continue to haunt communities in the local area as life is very challenging for them.

However, today women like Fatima and Amina have hope for the future. They're part of a women's dressmaking business on the outskirts of Marawi City and have received technical assistance with VSO's support. They've also had five days of training in financial and organisational development management by long-standing VSO national volunteer Vilma Esoto. This training taught them how to make the business more profitable, about financial literacy and book-keeping; essential knowledge for running this type of initiative.

The dressmaking business has become a lifeline for these women, as they've received little other support.

### Boy with a VSO t-shirt Lisa Marie David

A member of the youth enterprise group N'ditarun Tano with one of the t-shirts they sell. The brightly coloured strip pattern on the left-hand side of the garment was made

Source: [https://www.vsointernational.org/news/blog/from-destruction-to-dressmaking-the-story-of-two-inspiring-women?fbclid=IwAR06fIT0cbD7XFj1KwxUb4zpLXgYsjtV\\_DNNOjWPPgTK1aVfAzLXCDAjVcE](https://www.vsointernational.org/news/blog/from-destruction-to-dressmaking-the-story-of-two-inspiring-women?fbclid=IwAR06fIT0cbD7XFj1KwxUb4zpLXgYsjtV_DNNOjWPPgTK1aVfAzLXCDAjVcE)

by the women's dressmaking group. "Only relatives of barangay officials can get assistance really; for us commoners, we aren't able to get help," Fatima explains.

The first items they sewed were bed sheets and prayer materials for women. They then made face masks during the COVID-19 pandemic. Some were purchased by members of the army, with around 200 pieces sold to them.

Recently, they've made uniforms for the opening of schools. The women sell these garments both within their community and to others at events.

**There are 17 active members in the group, including a president, a vice president, and a treasurer, allowing them to have some structure across their business. This helps to ensure their operations are sustainable not just in the short term, but for the future as well.**

The dressmaking initiative has meant that both Fatima and Amina, who are devout mothers, are better able to provide for their families.

Moreover, for women like Amina, the dressmaking project has been a good emotional distraction.

Every time we hear gunshots, it reminds me of the Marawi siege, as though it's happening again. However, since the dressmaking project became a habit and a livelihood, it has helped ease the trauma that we had. It's empowering!"

The initiative also fosters teamwork as the members help one

another. For example, if a member is unemployed, the other women will train them on basic skills like putting sequins on the fabric so they too can have a livelihood.

### Unlocking the power of youth

Fatima and Amina have also been given an opportunity to work with the assistance of youth social enterprise groups like N'ditarun Tano.

With VSO's support, N'ditarun Tano sells garments nationwide via Facebook. Some of the pieces of clothing feature part designs from the women's dressmaking group. Every time an item is sold, 30% of the profit goes to them.

Looking to the future, Amina wishes that the clothes-making business will grow bigger and become better known. If so, her son will be able to finish his studies with the income that she earns from the initiative.

Fatima hopes that she will provide her children with what they want, "I don't have aspirations to be the richest in our community, but I just hope I can support my family all the way."

*\*The names in this story have been changed.*



# UNWTO AND OXFORD SDG IMPACT LAB PARTNER AROUND BETTER TOURISM GOVERNANCE

**UNWTO joins forces with Oxford SDG Impact Lab, with the generous support of easyJet holidays, to develop the first environmental, social and governance - ESG - Framework for Tourism Businesses.**

## Public, private and academic sectors unite

In line with Sustainable Development Goal 17 on partnerships for development, the [ESG Framework for Tourism Businesses](#) project brings together leading businesses and top scholars with the multilateral system to co-design a measurement tool that is meaningful and feasible for improved monitoring how tourism businesses impact, and depend on, people, planet and prosperity. UNWTO and Oxford University will carry out a comprehensive mapping of current work, interview pioneering businesses in the accommodation and reservation services industries, and further research and development.

Based on this work, UNWTO plans to issue a first beta version of the ESG Tourism Framework for accommodation and reservation services, with a view to extending it into additional tourism industries over 2024 and launch the finalized, agreed version for global uptake.

UNWTO Executive Director, Zoritsa Urosevic, said "By drawing on the power of international consensus - based on the forthcoming UN Statistical Framework for Measuring Sustainable Tourism (MST) - the ESG Framework for Tourism Businesses will provide a comparable and relevant set of indicators for tourism industries. It will empower private and public sectors with more robust data to shape innovative policies, transform business models and promote better tourism governance".

"The ESG Framework brings together the University of Oxford's world class academic research with the international consensus-building ability and expertise of the UNWTO. Ensuring that this strategic approach is matched with real-world testing and consultation with industry experts, such as easyJet holidays, this project is uniquely placed to bring about meaningful impact in the sustainable tourism sector," said Professor Alexander Betts, University of Oxford's Local and Global Engagement Officer

Matt Callaghan, easyJet holidays' Director of Customer & Operations, said: "We have big ambitions when it comes to making sustainable holidays mainstream and we're committed to playing our part in supporting better tourism governance. So, as the SDG Impact Lab's founding partner we're delighted to be supporting the Lab's work with the UNWTO, to develop a first of its kind environmental, social and governance framework for sustainable tourism.

## Actionable data for real impact

In tourism, as in other sectors, the challenge often lies not in a lack of data, but rather in the absence of common and harmonized approaches to organizing data, especially given the complexity of numerous existing initiatives. This hinders the ability to benchmark performance across businesses and to communicate progress of the sector with policy makers. It can even undermine stakeholder confidence.

By applying internationally recognized statistical approaches, this project aims to establish a fundamental level of consensus and alignment in business disclosures, enabling more consistent reporting that is comparable:

- Between businesses within the tourism sector,
- Between tourism businesses and those in other economic sectors, and
- Between business level-data and public-level (national and subnational) data.

Moreover, the ESG Framework will demonstrate the potential of supplementing business-level data with national and global tourism statistics, for more holistic and cost-effective ESG disclosures that make the most of available information.

Developed under the umbrella of the UNWTO [Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism \(SF-MST\)](#), applicable to countries and destinations worldwide to guide the production of reliable and comparable data of tourism's economic, social and environmental aspects, the ESG Framework for Tourism businesses will bring the benefits of consensus and harmonization also to the private sector.

Source: <https://www.unwto.org/news/unwto-oxford-sdg-impact-lab-partner-around-better-tourism-governance>



# Responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism

**A**s the leading international organization in the field of tourism, UNWTO promotes tourism as a driver of economic growth, inclusive development and environmental sustainability and offers leadership and support to the sector in advancing knowledge and tourism policies worldwide.

## Our Priorities

**Mainstreaming tourism in the global agenda:** Advocating the value of tourism as a driver of socio-economic growth and development, its inclusion as a priority in national and international policies and the need to create a level playing field for the sector to develop and prosper.

**Promoting sustainable tourism development:** Supporting sustainable tourism policies and practices: policies which make optimal use of environmental resources, respect the socio-cultural authenticity of host communities and provide socio-economic benefits for all.

**Fostering knowledge, education and capacity building:** Supporting countries to assess and address their needs in education and training, as well as providing networks for knowledge creation and exchange.

**Improving tourism competitiveness:** Improving UNWTO Members' competitiveness through knowledge creation and exchange, human resources development and the promotion of excellence in areas such as policy planning, statistics and market trends, sustainable tourism development, marketing and promotion, product development and risk and crisis management.

**Advancing tourism's contribution to poverty reduction and development:** Maximizing the contribution of tourism to poverty reduction and achieving the SDGs by making tourism work as a tool for development and promoting the inclusion of tourism in the development agenda.

**Building partnerships:** Engaging with the private sector, regional and local tourism organizations, academia and research institutions, civil society and the UN system to build a more sustainable, responsible and competitive tourism sector.

## Our Structure

**Members:** An intergovernmental organization, UNWTO has 159 Member States, 6 Associate Members, 2 Observers and over 500 Affiliate Members.

**Organs:** The General Assembly is the supreme organ of the Organization. The Executive Council take all measures, in consultation with the Secretary-General, for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the General Assembly and reports to the Assembly.

**Secretariat:** UNWTO headquarters are based in Madrid, Spain. The Secretariat is led by the Secretary-General and organized into departments covering issues such as sustainability, education, tourism trends and marketing, sustainable development, statistics and the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA), destination management, ethics and risk and crisis management. The Technical Cooperation and Silk Road Department carries out development projects in over 100 countries worldwide, while the Regional Departments for Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and the Middle East serve as the link between UNWTO and its 159 Member States. The Affiliate Members Department represents UNWTO's 500 plus Affiliate members.

Source: <https://www.unwto.org/about-us>

# Tweets of Social Good

**UNESCO** 6h · 🌐

Education is central to addressing inequality, to healing our damaged planet, to the functioning of democratic societies, & to rebuilding broken trust. Let's invest in #education NOW!  
<https://on.unesco.org/42PZVIN>  
 #NewFinancingPact #LeadingSDG4



**Center for Nonprofit Management** · 13h

CNM is excited to share BIG news from our #Memphis counterpart, @momentumpn. Effective July 1, they will expand to become a state-wide #nonprofitassociation serving all #nonprofits in #Tennessee! Learn more:



**Bruce D. Sanders** @rimtailing · 8h

All donors seek commitment to #nonprofits' values. Old donors, commitment to volunteers. [bit.ly/3odtHOR](http://bit.ly/3odtHOR)



**Danita Dyess** @ladywriter1575 · 10h

My sister has been going thru a difficult time 😞, but decided to give donations to @GoodwillIntl in Lexington NC. Turns out, the visit did some good 😊 for her spirit ❤️ and helped someone else. 🙏 See pic.  
 #nonprofits #share #donate #northcarolina #thrift



**Charity Doings Foundation** 4d · 🌐

Harnessing the Sun for a better tomorrow!



**Richard Wesselt** @wesseltinit · 19h

Never give up on doing what you love to do, and most importantly, never give up on helping someone else. Even the small act can make an extraordinary impact on someone else.

#socialimpact #nonprofits #giving



**Leigh Tucker** @NonprofitCFOs · 13h

"Leaders in the for-profit community have finally recognized that board diversity makes for better decisions and reduces risk. It is time for the boards of #nonprofits that serve and employ diverse populations to do likewise." [buff.ly/43VF0iy](http://buff.ly/43VF0iy) via @BostonGlobe @GlobeNewsEd



**UN Volunteers** 1 d · 🌐

One single #volunteer can make a huge difference. Imagine what millions can do.

**CharityVillage** @CharityVillage · 12h

#Nonprofits are at the forefront of solving today's most significant challenges - they are responding to these demands by learning strategies to develop multiple #revenue streams that enable them to weather #financial uncertainty. @scalecollab

**Akhuwat** 4 d · 🌐

Dr. Amjad Saqib (Founder and Chairperson, Akhuwat) and Mr. Sajjad Leghari (Project Director - Homebridge) signed an MOU under which Akhuwat will be sponsoring scholarships to students enrolled in the two-year A-level program. Homebridge

#akhuwat #mawakhat #Homebridge #Beaconhouse

**Lions Clubs International** 1 d · 🌐

As the unimaginable devastation unfolded following the earthquake, Lions in Turkey quickly took action, providing food for survivors. Learn more about how the Lions are putting kindness into action. <https://bit.ly/3zAFJs2> #LCIFLions

**Melinda French Gates** · Following  
Co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation...  
1d · 🌐

Thank you Emmanuel Macron, President William Ruto, Kristalina Georgieva, and Ajay Banga for discussing ways we can better prioritize the needs of low-income countries at the Paris Summit for a #NewGlobalFinancingPact.

**Center for Effective Philanthropy** · 13h

How are nonprofits faring right now? Get a clear picture from CEP's new research: [cep.org/report-backpac...](https://cep.org/report-backpac...) #philanthropy #research #nonprofits #funders

cep.org  
State of Nonprofits 2023: What Funders Need to Know - The Center for Effective P...

**International Committee of the Red Cross** **Cross**   
2 d · 🌐

Clean water incoming for school children 🇹🇷 ❤️

We are delivering water tanks to a rural village school in the Southern Highlands in Papua New Guinea, ensuring healthy, hydrated students and a brighter, better future.



# Maximizing Impact: Social Media Strategies for Nonprofits

**S**ocial media has become an indispensable tool for nonprofits to engage with their target audience, attract donors, ensure sustainability, and maximize impact. Here are several reasons why social media is important for nonprofits and tips on how to use it effectively:

- 1- **Increased Reach:** Social media platforms allow nonprofits to reach a larger and more diverse audience than traditional marketing channels. By creating compelling content and utilizing sharing features, nonprofits can expand their reach and spread their message to potential donors and supporters worldwide.
- 2- **Building Awareness:** Social media platforms provide an opportunity to raise awareness about the mission, goals, and activities of a nonprofit. Regularly sharing updates, success stories, and impact statistics helps to educate the public and build a positive reputation for the organization.
- 3- **Engaging Supporters:** Social media enables nonprofits to engage with their supporters in real-time, fostering a sense of community and involvement. Nonprofits can share updates, respond to comments and messages, ask for feedback, and actively involve their audience in campaigns and initiatives.
- 4- **Donor Acquisition:** Social media platforms offer effective tools for attracting new donors. Nonprofits can create compelling campaigns, use targeted advertising, and leverage storytelling techniques

to connect with potential donors who share an interest in their cause. They can also encourage existing supporters to share their content and promote their campaigns, expanding their reach further.

- 6- **Fundraising:** Social media platforms provide convenient channels for nonprofits to launch fundraising campaigns. They can use platforms like Facebook Fundraisers, Instagram Donations, or crowdfunding platforms to create compelling campaigns, set fundraising goals, and encourage supporters to donate. By leveraging the power of social sharing, nonprofits can amplify their fundraising efforts.
- 7- **Advocacy and Activism:** Social media platforms allow nonprofits to advocate for their causes and mobilize supporters for action. They can raise awareness about relevant issues, share educational content, and encourage supporters to contact policymakers or participate in events and demonstrations. Nonprofits can also collaborate with influencers or partner organizations to amplify their advocacy efforts.
- 8- **Impact Measurement and Reporting:** Social media platforms provide valuable analytics and insights that nonprofits can use to measure the impact of their campaigns, track engagement, and adjust their strategies accordingly. Data such as reach, engagement rates, and demographic information can help nonprofits make informed decisions and demonstrate their impact to donors and stakeholders. To

use social media effectively, nonprofits should consider the following best practices:

- A- Define clear goals and objectives for social media efforts, aligning them with the organization's overall mission and fundraising priorities.
- B- Understand the target audience and tailor content to their interests, motivations, and preferred platforms.
- C- Create a content strategy that includes a mix of compelling stories, impact updates, educational content, and calls to action.
- D- Utilize a consistent brand voice, visuals, and messaging across all social media platforms to build recognition and reinforce the organization's identity.
- E- Actively engage with followers by responding to comments, messages, and mentions promptly.
- F- Leverage social media advertising to reach a wider audience, promote campaigns, and increase visibility.
- G- Monitor and analyze social media metrics regularly to assess performance, identify areas for improvement, and refine strategies accordingly.

By effectively utilizing social media, nonprofits can attract donors, build a sustainable support base, and raise awareness about their cause, ultimately contributing to the long-term success and sustainability of the organization.

Social media platforms have become powerful tools for nonprofit organizations to raise awareness, engage with supporters, and promote their causes. Here are some ideas on how nonprofits can utilize popular platforms such as Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, Instagram, TikTok, and Twitter

## Facebook:

- Create a Facebook Page for your nonprofit organization to provide updates, share stories, and engage with followers.
- Utilize Facebook Fundraisers to allow supporters to raise funds on your behalf.
- Run targeted advertising campaigns to reach specific audiences and promote events or campaigns.
- Use Facebook Live to stream events, interviews, or behind-the-scenes footage.
- Join relevant Facebook Groups and participate in discussions related to your cause.

## LinkedIn:

- Create a LinkedIn Page for your nonprofit to showcase your mission, impact, and job opportunities.
- Share informative articles, industry insights, and success stories related to your cause.
- Engage with professionals and organizations in your field by commenting on their posts and initiating conversations.
- Utilize LinkedIn's fundraising tools, such as Donation Stickers, to encourage financial contributions.
- Collaborate with influencers or industry leaders for cross-promotion and to expand your network.

## YouTube:

- Create a YouTube channel to share impactful videos about your organization's work, success stories, and campaigns.
- Upload educational content, tutorials, or interviews related to your cause.
- Use YouTube Live to stream events, webinars, or fundraising campaigns.
- Optimize videos with keywords and tags to increase visibility and reach a wider audience.
- Collaborate with YouTubers or content creators who align with your mission for mutual promotion.

## Instagram:

- Create an Instagram Business Profile for your nonprofit to showcase visually appealing content.
- Share compelling images and videos that tell stories about your organization's impact.
- Use Instagram Stories to provide real-time updates, behind-the-scenes glimpses, and interactive content.
- Leverage Instagram's donation stickers and fundraising features in Stories and posts.
- Collaborate with influencers or brand ambassadors to reach a wider audience.

## TikTok:

- Create engaging and creative short videos that raise awareness about your cause or showcase your organization's impact.
- Utilize popular TikTok trends and challenges to create content that resonates with the platform's users.

- Collaborate with TikTok influencers or content creators who align with your mission.
- Encourage user-generated content by launching hashtag campaigns or challenges.
- Utilize TikTok's donation features to collect funds directly within the app.

## Twitter:

- Create a Twitter account for your nonprofit to share real-time updates, news, and announcements.



- Engage with followers, respond to mentions, and participate in relevant conversations using hashtags.
- Use Twitter polls to gather feedback or opinions from your audience.

Retweet and share content from partners, supporters, and other organizations in your field. Leverage Twitter ads to reach a wider audience and promote events or campaigns.

Remember to tailor your content for each platform, engage with your audience, and consistently track and analyze your performance to optimize your social media strategies. Each platform offers unique opportunities to connect with supporters and expand your nonprofit's reach.



## FAO launches training course on food security monitoring system at NCSCM: Jordan

The project contributes to promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth

**A**MMAN — The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), in cooperation with the National Centre for Security and Crisis Management (NCSCM), launched a training course to build the capacity of 25 selected employees from the NCSCM, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship, Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply and the Jordan Customs department on the food security control system in Jordan.

This training course, which started on Monday at the centre, and will end on Thursday, comes within the framework of the activities of the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) between FAO and the NCSCM under the “Establishing a Food

Security Monitoring and Reporting Dashboard for Jordan” project, according to a FAO statement.

The project contributes to promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth, and investing in human resources and social development by strengthening data, evidence and analytics to provide accurate recommendations to decision-makers.

Mohamed Jalal, Special Adviser to the Assistant Director-General for the Near East and North Africa, highlighted the commitment of FAO being the custodian for SDG2-zero hunger toward the delivery of the FAO’s four betters: Better production, better nutrition, better environment and better life, leaving no one behind, and the role played by Jordan at regional and global

level toward managing crises linked to food security and the transformation toward a resilient sustainable sector.

“The dashboard will be a useful tool to support Jordan and the region to be updated and to enhance the readiness of the government of Jordan for any crises in the future, not only locally but also regionally,” Jalal said.

Deputy Head of the NCSCM Brigadier General Hatem Al Zo’ubi highlighted the support from FAO and the importance of the dashboard in the prediction and projection of certain indicators linked to food security.

Source: <https://www.zawya.com/en/economy/levant/fao-launches-training-course-on-food-security-monitoring-system-at-ncscm-jordan-mradlnu5>

## Report: None of the Sustainable Development Goals on course to be achieved by 2030

**A**ccording to the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), global progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has been “static” for the third year in a row, posing a threat to the world’s decade-long efforts on the Global Goals.

While the world made some progress on SDGs between 2015 to 2019, the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic and war in Ukraine have caused progress to fall behind projected performances based on pre-pandemic trends.

At the halfway point of the SDGs, a new SDSN report warns that not a single SDG will be achieved by 2030 at the current rate, and on average less than 20% of the SDG’s underlying targets are on track to be achieved.

The report highlights that there is a risk that the gap in SDG outcomes between high-income countries (HICs) and low-income countries (LICs) will be larger in 2030 than it was in 2015, putting a decade of progress against the Goals at risk.

The president of the SDSN and a lead author of the report Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs said: “Halfway to 2030, the SDGs are seriously off track—with the poor and highly vulnerable countries suffering the most.”

While the pandemic and the war on Ukraine demonstrate the capabilities of HICs to quickly mobilise vast financial resources, the report suggests that they are not yet prepared to mobilise such resources for global sustainable

development, despite previous commitments and urgency regarding climate financing.

As per the report, 64% of the world demonstrates limited to no progress on SDG individual targets at the midpoint of the 2030 agenda, whereas 15% of the countries note a reversal in progress.

Governmental commitments and efforts to the SDGs remain low, with no single G20 country having a sufficient mix of policies and actions to achieve the Paris Agreement objectives, except for the UK with an “almost sufficient” level of policy.

However, the UK ranks 11th in the report for the second time in a row with limited progress made toward the rest of the SDGs. While

the UK demonstrates a stagnation in its progress on SDG17 (Partnership for the Goals), it shows moderate improvements towards SDG7 (Affordable Clean Energy) including a decline in CO2 emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production and a growth in renewable energy share in total final energy consumption.

According to UN Global Compact Network UK’s second ‘Measuring Up’ report last year, only 23 of the 169 SDG-based targets had seen improvements since 2018. For most of the targets – 65 of them – no change had been seen.

### Impossible investments

While LICs and low middle-income countries (LMICs) obtain a higher

average score than HICs on political and institutional leadership for the SDGs, they remain vulnerable to self-fulfilling liquidity and balance of payments crises, making it nearly impossible for these countries to implement long-term sustainable investment strategies.

The report calls on UN Member States to support a comprehensive reform of the global financial architecture, and to ramp up financing flows by at least \$500bn by 2025 to close the gap facing LICs and LMICs.

It further emphasises the need



for science-based instruments at all levels to guide SDG action and strengthen accountability and promotes multilateral cooperation via global partnerships.

“The international community should step up at this month’s Summit for a New Global Financing Pact in Paris, and at the key upcoming multilateral meetings, including the G20 meeting in New Delhi, the SDG Summit New York in September, and COP28 in Dubai, to scale-up international financial flows based on SDG needs,” Sachs added.

Source: <https://www.edie.net/report-none-of-the-sustainable-development-goals-on-course-to-be-achieved-by-2030/>



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[editor@thengoworld.com](mailto:editor@thengoworld.com)