



Welcome to the Global Fund for Community Foundation's first e-bulletin!

When the EFC discontinued its Community Philanthropy Bulletin (which had some 700 subscribers) at the end of 2007 and its editor, Jana Kunicka, moved to Beirut, the GFCF (which is itself currently located at the EFC) seemed to be the natural new home for its successor.

One of the objectives of the GFCF is to stimulate and contribute to the knowledge base of the rapidly evolving field of community philanthropy globally. So, in addition to regular news items from the community philanthropy field, we will be including updates and stories from our grantee partners around the world and regular "spotlights" from the regions served by the GFCF.

The GFCF, which is currently a project of Worldwide Initiatives on Grantmaker Support (WINGS) and the European Foundation Centre is also going through its own evolutionary process as it moves towards becoming an independent legal entity. Through this bulletin, we will also provide regular updates on the consultation and incubation process.

We hope you find this bulletin informative and useful. Your comments and feedback would be most welcome as we develop this bulletin over the coming months!

Jenny Hodgson – Director, Global Fund for Community Foundations

News from the Global Fund for Community Foundations

New grants The Global Fund for Community Foundations is pleased to announce the results of its latest round of grants, our fifth round to date. Grantees include a community foundation initiative in Nigeria's oil rich and conflict-ridden Niger Delta, Romania's first two community foundations, a local community-based environmental fund in Baja California, Mexico and an emerging community foundation in Russia's remote Far East region. For a full list of grants click [here](#).

Incubation process update For the last 10 months, the GFCF has been engaged in a series of consultation activities aimed at mapping out its future direction when the three-year pilot phase of funding from the World Bank, Ford Foundation and Charles Stewart Mott Foundation comes to an end. Activities (some of which are ongoing) have included an online survey, individual interviews, national consultations led by local partners, and a variety of convenings – in Belgium, Washington D.C., and Naivasha, Kenya. Click [here](#) to read a report on some of the main findings of the consultation.

GFCF Management Committee member Linetta Gilbert has been awarded the Robert W. Scrivner award for creative grantmaking. The award was presented at the Council on Foundations conference Philanthropy's Vision: A Leadership Summit, held in May. To read more about the award, click [here](#)

News from Global Fund partners

Regional focus: Africa

African Philanthropy Symposium, Naivasha, Kenya

On May 12th and 13th 2008, 20 foundation practitioners from across the African continent (South Africa, Mozambique, Ghana, Senegal, Nigeria, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Kenya) came together on the shores of Lake Naivasha, Kenya for a two-day meeting hosted by the Global Fund for Community Foundations and [TrustAfrica](#). Foundations represented include the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, the Foundation for Civil Society (Tanzania), the Kenya Community Development Foundation, the Community Development Foundation for the Western Cape and the Youssou N'Dour Foundation

The main purpose of the meeting was to help the Fund develop its programmatic framework and philosophy for supporting the development of community foundations and local philanthropic infrastructure in Africa. A second purpose was to make a contribution to the debate about the nature of African philanthropy, to understanding emerging trends in different regions and to clarify some of the key issues that need to be addressed around linking traditional forms giving with "new" forms of organized philanthropy.

The conversation was lively and reflective and touched on a wide range of subjects. One cluster of issues was around foundation management and governance: the question of [leadership and succession](#) was a recurring theme (and the subject of a subsequent blog article by Bhekinkosi Moyo, TrustAfrica), as was the importance of both inter-personal and competence-based trust in building sustainable philanthropic institutions. There was much discussion around the importance of articulating a shared value-base among a critical mass of African foundations as a way of influencing and encouraging good practice among emerging players. And finally, broader contextual issues were discussed, including the potential effects of the "philanthrocapitalism" and Africa's own new philanthropists on the continent, as well as the need to challenge and revisit the assumptions of "international and expatriate-influenced" models of philanthropy to ensure that they resonate locally.

A full report of the meeting will be posted on the GFCF and TrustAfrica website in the coming weeks, alongside a web-based discussion. The meeting was also filmed, and edited interviews and presentations will also be made available.

Community Foundation for Northern Ireland consultancy visit to Uthungulu Community Foundation

One of the goals of the GFCF is to foster the enhancement of skills and knowledge through mutual learning and exchange among Community Foundations. A GFCF grant to Uthungulu Community Foundation in South Africa, which has been making grants to local non governmental and community based organizations since 2001, helped to facilitate a consultancy visit by Cormac McAleer of the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland. The visit, which took place in February 2008, with a follow up visit in April, proved to be a rewarding and enriching experience for both parties. Sharing his thoughts on taking his experience of Community Foundations from Northern Ireland to Africa, McAleer described how he was able to observe first hand the facility of Community Foundations for bringing together diverse, indeed competing or sometimes conflicting stakeholders, which is in his opinion, one of the model's most precious assets.

Following the visit, McAleer found himself all the more convinced that the Community Foundation model as a vehicle for promoting positive social change can travel well across cultural and continental divides. He was also struck by the extent to which people from these two culturally and geographically diverse nations were able to draw on their shared

experiences of conflict to break down cultural barriers: "Coming to SA as a white western male I was particularly conscious of the baggage attached to this identity from the different eyes of South African peoples. My shared experience as someone from Ireland of struggle and conflict and a new peace process was helpful in addressing these realities and getting into conversations on the current challenges facing the 'rainbow nation' ".

Uthungulu Community Foundation continues to move forward and McAleer is optimistic that Community Foundation for Northern Ireland will maintain and build on its relationship with the organisation.

For more information about Uthungulu Community Foundation please visit www.ucf.org.za . More information about the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland can be found at www.communityfoundationni.org .

Project success at the West Coast Community Foundation - Atlantis Athletico

Part of the Atlantis Youth Development Forum local government initiative, Atlantis Athletico runs a rehabilitation programme for 300 children and young people from 5 – 25 years of age, whose challenging behaviour has become a concern. Actively involving both children and parents, the programme uses the principles of discipline and integrity associated with sport to help tackle behavioural problems.

West Coast Community Foundation has been working with Atlantis Athletico since 2005, supporting the club with a total of 20,000 South African Rand (c. \$2,500 US) in grants. Providing funds to meet the basic needs of the team, such as soccer kits and other equipment as well as offering vital networking opportunities to link the club with other funders, West Coast Community Foundation has seen the programme go from strength to strength both in terms of sporting success and its organisational development. Local league winners and holders of 5th place in the Coke Tournament 2008, seven of the club's under 17 players have recently been selected for the Western Cape Provincial team for the 2010 Soccer World Cup. Johanna Hendricks of West Coast Community Foundation commented that "It's a privilege to work with people who are so passionate about the future of our children".

To learn more about the West Coast Community Foundation visit www.wccf.org.za.

Community foundation initiative in Western Kenya

Momentum is growing around a community foundation initiative in Western Kenya. Representatives of the local government, Mumias Sugar Company (a significant corporate in the region), the World Bank, [Kenya Community Development Foundation](#) and World Bank-supported community foundation initiatives in Tanzania and Nigeria participated in an awareness-building workshop in Kisumu on June 3rd, agreed on a set of steps and identified a steering committee to move the process forward. The process is being facilitated by the World Bank Western Kenya Community Driven Development and Flood Mitigation project. For more details contact Bill Lijoh (balijoh@yahoo.co.uk).

News from other regions

GFCF grantee ICOM launches first Vital Signs report in Brazil

Launched on 6th June, the programme aims to monitor various indicators of the vitality and sustainability of a community. A useful tool for community foundations in identifying priorities for their investments in local communities, it was inspired by a similar programme

created by the Toronto Community Foundation, which is now used nationwide by the Community Foundations of Canada.

The Brazil report 'Vital Signs Florianopolis 2007' used data collected around 16 indicators of sustainability, which were then analyzed by a committee of professionals, each with a different perspective on the community. ICom (Instituto Comunitario Grande Florianopolis, the first community foundation in Southern Brazil) has several partners in the project including the AVINA Foundation, UNDP and CFC.

For more information on Vital Signs in Brazil, visit the [AVINA website](#).

Community philanthropy news update

WINGS Global Status Report – snapshot of global trends

At a session at the COF Philanthropy Summit in Washington in early May, Eleanor Sacks presented an overview of the 2008 WINGS Global Status Report (to be published in the coming weeks). According to her research, community foundations have been established in 15 new countries since the last report in 2006, bringing the total number of community foundations to 1,473 in 50 countries. Moving from the general to the specific, Katka Minarova of the Presov Community Foundation, Slovakia and Anthony Mugo of Kenya Community Development Foundation spoke about the background, activities and local circumstances of their own foundations.

TCFN Book Preview - 'Local Mission – Global Vision'

Highlights of an upcoming book to be published by the Transatlantic Community Foundation Network were presented at a pre-conference event co-hosted by TCFN and TÜSEV at the European Foundation Centre's Annual General Assembly and Conference in Istanbul last month. The presenters included the book's two editors, Peter Hero (Silicon Valley Community Foundation) and Peter Walkenhorst (Bertelsmann Foundation) and Monica Patten (Community Foundations of Canada). Filiz Bikmen, chairing, facilitated a "talk show" discussion which touched on the changing global philanthropic landscape in which community foundations now operate and some of the challenges and opportunities that confront them.

European Foundation Centre AGA closing plenary focuses on the importance of creativity for foundations

In her closing keynote speech, Avila Kilmurray, Director of the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, said of the creative process that "there is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it will become a butterfly". She spoke of the importance of the moral imagination and stressed the need to give voice to the marginalised and the demonised. She outlined three key tenets underscoring this theme: the need to see issues through different lenses, the crucial importance of dialogue, especially with one's enemies, and human rights and social justice as the 'golden threads' running through peace-building. To read more, click [here](#).

Society Guardian interview with Stephen Hammersly

The chief executive of the Community Foundation Network gives his views on what Community Foundations have to offer donors as well as grantees. Click [here](#) to read the article in full.

Calendar

Registration for the Community Foundations of Canada Conference 2008 now open Billed as “a cosmopolitan conference in a cosmopolitan city” the event, to be held in Montreal, 7th- 9th November 2008, will “grapple with positioning community foundations in the dynamic global environment in which we all live and work.”

For more information about the conference click [here](#) and for full details of the scholarships offered by The Global Fund for Community Foundations, click [here](#).

Next Deadline for Global Fund for Community Foundations grant applications Letters of Intent for the next round of grants should be sent to the GFCF by 20th September. For full details on the application process and our funding criteria, please visit our [website](#).

Coming up in the next GFCF e-bulletin...

A focus on Eastern Europe and Central Asia, including the Russian Community Foundation Partnership’s Annual Conference in Togliatti, Russia.

Please send your news items and any other suggestions to info@wings-globalfund.org