OVERVIEW OF QUARTER TWO

EAPN Leads Philanthropy in responding to COVID 19 in East Africa

The quarter that just ended in June saw EAPN hold a record number of convening. The convening’s within the mandate of the network, were an opportunity for the Secretariat to continue to discharge its duties in fulfilling the call of duty in steering the activities of the secretariat even in the huge cloud of The COVID 19 hanging over the region.

in April, we examined COVID 19 pandemic response and effects on the disability sector in Uganda. We assessed the ongoing initiatives and opportunities with regards to the covid19 pandemic in Uganda, shared on data and story sharing on philanthropy during the covid19 and elucidated the benefits East African data portal. One of the major outcomes from this engagement was need to push for the voice of Persons with Disabilities, particularly those who need extra care in the form of therapies.

For Tanzania, we looked into Strengthening Philanthropy's Support for people with disabilities (PWDs). One of the major outcomes of the deliberations was the acknowledgment of the urgent need to amplify the voices of PWD in Information Sharing on the COVID19 Pandemic from government as well as representation at the National Taskforce on COVID19 Response.

The same April also saw us examine the Impact of COVID19 on the broader Philanthropy Sector specifically, the role of Philanthropy in the fight against COVID19 and the necessary support to Government Efforts by Philanthropy Community responses. The convening was fruitful in the deliberations that resulted into, among others the resolution to press for collaborations among funders, and emphasized the need for flexibility in handling of implementers.

During the quarterly Kenya Philanthropy Forum (KPF) meeting, the collective philanthropy efforts for effective COVID19 were evaluated. The ongoing initiatives and opportunities with regards to the Covid19 pandemic in Kenya, Knowledge Creation and Management as well as East Africa Philanthropy Data Portal (Kenya Updater) and
COVID9 Resource Centre, were discussed at length. Attention was also drawn to the ongoing efforts to improve legislation towards development of a Foundation’s Law. The issue of strengthening the Forum through pulling in more Members into the thematic Sub-groups were equally deliberated upon.

Another session for Uganda exploring philanthropy’s response to covid-19 pandemic explicated a number of areas of philanthropy. The participants in their various narrations identified the need for African Philanthropy in theory and practice to mature in conceptual understanding, language development, and scope of diversity. Cumulatively, the members present acknowledged the need for an instrumental platform that will serve as a continuous tool to inform the contribution of the work of givers in Uganda en masse while highlighting the positive developments at community and local levels and further visibility of these efforts is required at the national level.

A collaborative effort between EAPN and Civsource Africa was the next convening in Uganda. In this one, participants explored Philanthropy’s Response to COVID-19 Pandemic while unpacking the arising matters as follows: Adoptive measures, new initiatives and Post COVID19 strategies, the role of storytelling in promoting philanthropy in the COVID19 pandemic and the significance of data to organizations responding to the COVID19 pandemic.