Word Cloud from TrustAfrica Programs Meeting in September:
What Is Your 1 Word Prayer for TrustAfrica?

We're excited to share this latest edition of our newsletter with you, particularly because we've been privileged to be part of so many important conversations about Africa's development and the possibilities for transformative participation available to citizens, public and private leaders and academics. Read more to find out what interesting conversations we've been a part of around Democracy and Governance, Equitable Development and African Philanthropy. To start you off we have as our center piece in this edition remarks delivered by our Learning Manager, Ms. Tandilel Chigwedere during the 2nd African Philanthropy Conference from 3-5 August 2021.

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DEMOCRACY & GOVERNANCE
Consolidating and stabilizing the gains of democracy on the continent
One of the reasons we prioritize democracy and governance as one of our three pillars at TrustAfrica is the ongoing need to consolidate the gains of democracy on the continent. The last few years have witnessed a resurgence in coup d’etats which had receded on the African landscape. Mali saw two coups in quick succession (2020 and 2021), before Guinea’s President Alpha Condé was deposed by the army earlier this month. In this moment in history, we are deeply concerned by the destabilization caused by these unconstitutional changes of government, the backseat approach adopted by our regional governance institutions and the lack of accountability and transparency in governance processes.

EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT
Resources, inequality, public revenue
Numerous injunctions characterise the current global economic architecture including trade relations that disadvantage African countries; restricted space for African countries to independently set their own development priorities and make choices on economic policies; imposition of development models that continue to undermine industrialization and structural economic transformation; contracts and licensing regimes, especially in the natural resources sector that tend to benefit foreign multinational corporations at the expense of African countries; and a global financial governance architecture that promotes net outflow of capital (both illicit and illicit) from Africa.

AFRICAN PHILANTHROPY
Resourcing our Development through African Philanthropy
Our African philanthropy program seeks to strengthen the recognition, practice and strategic impact of giving in Africa. We recognize that solidarity and the culture of giving to help others is embedded in many African cultures and traditions as reflected in notions such as Ubuntu (I am because you are). We believe in philanthropy that "shifts the power", endowing communities with voice and agency. Through our African philanthropy program, we work to build knowledge on African giving and contribute towards building a movement that nurtures more African giving, harnessing domestic resources for Africa’s development, while...
ANNOUNCEMENT! TrustAfrica’s Shaping the Future Fellowship Program

The TrustAfrica Shaping the Future Fellowship was launched in August 2021, with the first Senior fellow joining ranks with a focus on African Philanthropy and an incoming fellow scheduled for October 2021 focusing on anticipatory governance and innovation, Africa’s development and the future of work. The Fellowship is focused on reflections on key themes related to the future we want for Africa and is structured into three categories.

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BOARD SPOTLIGHT

Tawanda Mutasaah

As a member of TrustAfrica’s Board of Directors, we are pleased to congratulate Dr. Tawanda Mutasaah on his appointment as the new Vice-President of Oxfam America’s Global Partnerships and Impact from September 2021. All the team, board and partners of TrustAfrica wish Dr. Mutasaah the best of luck in continuing the good work!

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STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Halima Mohamed / African Philanthropy
Welcome to Our First Senior Fellow working on African Philanthropy! If you have been in the philanthropy sector for any period of time, then Halima is not a new name. Even for us at TrustAfrica, we are welcoming her back, this time in a new capacity as a senior fellow. Halima Mahomed is a well-known independent researcher and consultant focusing on knowledge building, advocacy, and support to strengthen the narratives, practice, and impact of philanthropy in Africa. She is an Associate Researcher at CAPSI and serves as a member of the PSIP management team, Alliance Magazine Editorial Board, and ICNI Advisory Council. Halima has worked for and with a range of African and international philanthropic and philanthropy support organizations and written extensively on philanthropy, with a strong focus on linking philanthropy to local agency and power. We’ve worked closely in the past with Halima on some of our work with social movements, which is another critical area of inquiry for Ms. Mahomed.

Upcoming Events

African Feminist Macroeconomic Academy (AFMA)

15-19 November 2021 in Dakar, Senegal

This year’s academy will be held under the theme: “Promoting a Feminist Approach to Delivery and Financing of Public Services in Africa”. Participants invited to apply will be African feminist activists and movement leaders drawn from a range of sub-regions, organisations, movements and formations that are pushing for women’s economic justice and working in various sectors such as agriculture, informal trade, natural resource extraction, sexual reproductive rights, violence against women, economic justice, trade unions, women with disability, young women among others.

Past Events

#ShiftThePower – Revolutionising Transparency in the Third Sector: Driving Better Decisions, Legitimacy and Goodwill

Centre for Strategic Philanthropy at the Cambridge Judge Business School hosted a seminar titled #ShiftThePower – Revolutionising Transparency in the Third Sector: Driving Better Decisions, Legitimacy and Goodwill. This was part of an online series deconstructing the components of imbalanced power structures between Global North and Global South philanthropy actors. A better understanding of how change can come about and enabling philanthropy practitioners to define the nature of the change required for the long-term institutionalisation of COVID-19-induced changes in best practice.

TrustAfrica Roundtable at the Kwanza Nkrumah Festival 2021

TrustAfrica convened a Roundtable discussion on Wednesday, 22 September 2021, titled “Pan Africanism, Feminism, Youth and the Arts: Post-COVID Transition and The Future We Want”. This brought together a diverse group of pan-African thought leaders including Marie Thérèse Théven, Vice-Chair of CODESRIA, Brigie Bumba, Programme Director of TrustAfrica, Marie Hélène Perètra, Director of Programmes at RAW Material Company and was moderated by Columbia, Coordinator for Africans Rising and chairperson of the TrustAfrica Board. Use this link to follow proceedings.

TrustAfrica in Mali to Support Temedti Association and DWD Communities

A TrustAfrica mission visited Bamako, Mali on 2, 3 and 4 October 2021 to meet with the leaders of the Temedti Association on the situation of victims of discrimination based on descent and slavery.
TrustAfrica and Temedat after working sessions went to the Children’s City in Bamako where more than 131 people who have been unjustly displaced from their village, Baghainabougou, reside. Most of these displaced persons are affected by modern slavery practices in their local communities. They have been driven away from their villages because they refused to submit to the abusive demands of their masters. According to human rights activists, thousands of people have been driven from their villages in the Khayo region as a result of slavery. Read More

TrustAfrica to Co-organized the 1st High Level Forum on African Humanities
TrustAfrica, in conjunction with UNESCO and CODESRIA, has successfully organized a Training Workshop on Future Literacies in Africa. The workshop, held in Bamako, Mali, on 1 and 2 October 2021, was mainly to prepare young people from the continent to better understand the present and anticipate the future. Watch the livestream here and Dr. Ebrima Sall's speech here and Read more.

Tweetchat: Localizing Giving and Community-led Philanthropy in Africa
A TWEETCHAT was hosted at 1pm GMT on Wednesday, 29 September 2021 by Philanthropy Circuit (@CircuitEditor) in conversation with @TrustAfrica, @ChSourceAfrica and @GivingTuesdayNy on the theme of “Localizing Giving and Community-led Philanthropy in Africa” to engage conversation around giving practices and localizing philanthropy in Africa.

AFCOD
On Thursday 26 August 2021, our Programs Director Briga Bomba presented the Stop the Bleeding Campaign as an example of collaboration amongst Pan-African institutions at the African Conference on Debt and Development (AFCOD) hosted by the African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AfroNet).

7th East African Philanthropy Conference
Our programs Director, Briga Bomba moderated a session at the 7th East African Philanthropy Conference on 8 September 2021, in an exciting session which had a strong clarion call for big businesses, philanthropy, and Pan-Africans at large to move “beyond our egos, logos & silos to converge for impact in Africa!”. Read more

TrustAfrica and Partners Organize a training Workshop on Future Literacies For Young African Leaders
TrustAfrica, in conjunction with UNESCO and CODESRIA, has successfully organized a Training Workshop on Future Literacies in Africa. The workshop, held in Bamako, Mali, on 1 and 2 October 2021, was mainly to prepare young people from the continent to better understand the present and anticipate the future. Read more

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