Women from the Self Help Group Alita Kole, taking care of their crops that they own together as a group. Jonathan Torgovnik/Getty Images/Images of Empowerment

Local Coalition Accelerator
A unique opportunity...

Up until now, very little financing or structured technical support have been provided to build the long-term capacity of local organizations and leaders to reach their potential. However, the COVID-19 crisis unlocked opportunities to change the way that international assistance is designed and delivered, pushing donors to redefine risk, and opening the door to new types of partnership and ways of thinking and doing.

...for an innovative solution.

**Local Coalition Accelerator.** A platform to engage and help build coalitions of Local and National Organizations (LNOs) who can effectively co-design and implement locally owned solutions to address systemic, multi-sectoral problems.

- Provide holistic, evidence-based programming at scale.
- Meaningfully participate in larger-scale systems change.
- Directly access the significant bilateral and multilateral financing that is currently channeled nearly exclusively through UN or INGO vehicles.
“Our plea is that you work with us, not against us. We need to be supported, not competed with, and certainly not replaced.”

– 146 Global South-led organizations in an open letter to INGOs looking to “localize” operations, #ShiftThePower
The Problem
The Need

Commitments have been made by the international community to channel assistance to local actors...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paris Declaration</th>
<th>Accra Agenda for Action</th>
<th>Busan Partnership</th>
<th>Grand Bargain</th>
</tr>
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...with not enough follow through.

**Less than 1%** of the $187 billion in ODA in 2018 went directly to local development actors.

Humanitarian Aid to Local Actors

Grand Bargain signatories committed to targeting 25% of their assistance to local organizations. In 2018, only 0.4% of all humanitarian funding went to local and national NGOs. In 2019, total aid to LNOs was down 30% from 2016.

Official Development Assistance (ODA)

Who is giving?

- 93% from Donor Governments
- 10 funders (cross border funding)
- 38% is from the Gates Foundation
- 19% is now from domestic foundations providing support locally

Who is receiving?

- 42% upper middle-income countries
- 38% lower middle-income countries
- 13% low-income countries

Who is delivering?

INGOs, bilateral and multilateral efforts receive most of the funding, estimated at 97% or higher.

Top 10 in 2019:
- Afghanistan, India, Bangladesh, Syria, Ethiopia, Jordan, Iraq, Yemen, DRC and Myanmar

$152.8 billion in 2019

1. US: $34.6 bn
2. Germany: $23.8 bn
3. UK: $19.4 bn
4. Japan: $15.5 bn
5. France: $12.2 bn

Sources: data from 2016-2019, OECD 2021; and DI 2019
The Opportunity
The Need We See: A Lack of Bridging Initiatives

**Builders**
Networks and platforms that invest in thousands of individual, local initiatives to help them develop their visions for their communities and support them as they thrive and grow into strong LNOs, ready to manage larger amounts of funding.

7% ODA

93% ODA

**Bilaterals**
who cannot fund 100s of individual organizations

▷ Local Initiatives  ▷ Higher capacity, investment-ready LNOs
Bridging the Gap

**Builders**
Networks and platforms that invest in thousands of individual, local initiatives to help them develop their visions for their communities and support them as they thrive and grow into strong LNOs, ready to manage larger amounts of funding.

**Bridgers**
Initiatives, such as the LCA, who consolidate individual organizations into joint platforms that bilaterals can fund. They support LNOs to access greater pots of funding by supporting existing/new coalitions to prepare and apply for bilateral support.

**Bilaterals**
who cannot fund 100s of individual organizations

- 7% ODA
- 93% ODA

- Local Initiatives
- Higher capacity, investment-ready LNOs
- Coalitions
Supporting Community Needs

Building a model that channels more funding directly to local actors needs to have the voice and engagement of community members at its core.

One of the most effective models to do this is through empowerment collectives such as Self Help Groups.
Part of the community, **Self Help Groups** members listen to the shifting needs and priorities of their families and neighbors, working together to address what they can and advocate with local government officials for critical access to basic services.

**Local and National Organizations** provide specialized services and technical support to SHGs, often working through group-based models to deliver their programming.

When LNOs coordinate their efforts and lean into each others’ strengths they can provide a holistic scaled response to meet community needs and build an **enabling environment** that supports community flourishing and a healthy civil society.
Shifting Power, Process and Funding

**Power**
*Who?*
How can we ensure that community voices are at the table for co-design and implementation of any programming or policy change?

**Process**
*How?*
How do we shift donor processes and systems to ensure that they are conducive to local actors?

**Funding**
*What?*
How can we shift funding from UN/INGO directly to local actors?
LCA Model
Existing Networks/Platforms/Initiatives

Ex. Catalyst 2030, World Communities Forum, Community Independence Initiative, Open Government Partnership

Private Philanthropy

Local Coalition Accelerator
- Packaging
- Advocacy
- Facilitating flows

Self Help Groups
Representing 10 - 2,500 members, depending on stage of the process

Protection
Livelihoods
Health
Education
Environment
Governance

7% ODA – Philanthropy

93% ODA – Donor Governments

UN/INGOs
Bilaterals
Government

Self Help Groups

Advisory Council

Ex. Catalyst 2030, World Communities Forum, Community Independence Initiative, Open Government Partnership

Government

UN/INGOs
Bilaterals

Self Help Groups

Advisory Council

Ex. Catalyst 2030, World Communities Forum, Community Independence Initiative, Open Government Partnership

Government

UN/INGOs
Bilaterals
Journey of an LCA Coalition: 3 Years

Local Coalition
Operating at City or Regional Level

- Protection
- Livelihoods
- Health
- Governance
- Environmental
- Education

Develop, Test and Pilot strategies to better align and coordinate services

Propose and Launch larger scale systems change initiatives
LCA Theory of Change: Long Term

If coalitions of local actors are co-leads, and if bilateral processes are reframed, and if coalitions of local actors are funded directly, then the international aid system will be on track to reflect an effective complementarity of local, national and international efforts, meeting needs and building short- and long-term resilience.

A colonial, top-down system with onerous processes, driven by the West

- Bilaterals fund via 1-2 large grants to UN or INGOs
- Local actors are subcontracted with little voice in design and implementation

Bilaterals and philanthropy fund a coalition of local actors, via one intermediary organization

Bilaterals and philanthropy fund a coalition of LNOs via a local intermediary/governance structure

A locally owned and run system, supported by international, regional and national funds

- Bilaterals fund portfolios of local organizations directly via pooled mechanisms as well as joint action plans
LCA Theory of Change: Short and Intermediate Term (3-4 years)

Key Stakeholders

- **Community-based Coalitions**
  - Local and National Organizations (LNOs) + Self Help Groups (SHGs)
  - Strong community feedback mechanisms via SHGs
  - Inclusive governance structures
  - Holistic Joint Action Plans (JAP)
  - Capacity strengthening
  - MEAL

- **Government**
  - Commitments to transparency, accountability and public participation

- **Donors**
  - Bilaterals, multilaterals, private philanthropy
  - Shifting:
    - Power
    - Process
    - Funding

- Coalitions are:
  - Independently registered / organized
  - Implementing scaled JAPs
  - Delivering improved human outcomes

- Coalitions are:
  - Co-leads in decision making bodies
  - Leading on programming
  - Receiving direct bilateral financing

Ultimate Goal:

Local actors have the **financial** means to lead on large scale systems change with **significant impact** on human lives.
LCA Uganda (launched 2021)

**14 Members**
- AFFCAD
- ACODEV
- CAPAIDS
- ESAU
- Girl Up
- Hope Hub
- KDP
- Mukisa Foundation
- NUWODU
- RAHU
- REAL
- SBS
- Set Her Free
- Wezesha Impact

**Focus**
Livelihoods, education, and health for most marginalized

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**Kampala**
Kawempe and Rubaga Divisions with LCA Uganda in conversations about advising Karamoja coalition in partnership with USAID

**Steering Committee** (6 members)
- Chairperson: KDP
- Secretariat: CAPAIDS

**Working Groups** (17 members)
- M&E, Fundraising and Comms, Organizational Development

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**Strategic and Technical Support**
- Facilitator: hired by coalition
- Member Support Liaison: LCA team
- Tech Soup

**Philanthropic Partners**
- Hilton Foundation
- Humanity United

**Bilateral/Government Partners**
- USAID, Kampala City Council Authority (KCCA), UNHCR/Office of the Prime Minister
Bangladesh: Sundarban Coalition (launched 2022)

4 Coordinators

Uttaran, AVAS, CNRS and Jago Nari

Focus

Building resilient, disaster-ready communities prioritizing small scale climate resilience interventions, secure livelihoods and reverse impact of severe salinity WASH and SRHR

Sundarbans

4 coastal areas in Satkhira, Khulna, Barguna, and Patuakhali districts

Governance Structure

- 16 total orgs: 4 coordinating agencies partnering with 12 CBOs divided between 4 focal areas

Strategic and Technical Support

- Start Fund Bangladesh
- Facilitator: hired by coalition
- Member Support: hired by LCA

Philanthropic Partners

- Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies

Bilateral/Government Partners

- FCDO
**Nigeria: Adamawa Coalition (launched 2022)**

**9 Members**  
AGAOF, ADPWDVI, CVIF, DCR Ambassadors, FIRST, Horn of Hope, JONAPWD, LESGO and Morning Star Foundation

**Focus**  
Humanitarian response to regional violence and internal displacement

**Governance Structure**  
- 5-member Secretariat, guided by a Coordinator  
- General Assembly of nine members  
- Action committee of up to 30 members

**Strategic and Technical Support**  
- PLRCAP (Promoting Local Response Capacity and Partnership), INGO Forum  
- Facilitator: hired by coalition

**Philanthropic Partners**  
- Vitol Foundation

**Bilateral/Government Partners**  
- FCDO

**Adamawa**  
Four local government areas: Gombe, Hong, Mubi and Michika
Potential Kenya Coalition (to be launched in 2023)

Aligning bilateral and philanthropic partnership to directly support a coalition in Kenya with a focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).

Kenya

Coalition with SRHR innovators

Philanthropic Partners
- Skoll Foundation

Bilateral Partners
- Grand Challenges Canada
Contact us at info@thesharetrust.org to learn more.

Thank you!