

CENTRE ON AFRICAN PHILANTHROPY AND SOCIAL INVESTMENT

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2020

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ORIGINS

★ **The Centre on African Philanthropy and Social Investment (CAPSI) started as the Chair in African Philanthropy which was launched at Wits Business School in 2016 led by Professor Alan Fowler.** This was the result of a collaboration between the Southern Africa Trust and the University of the Witwatersrand ('Wits') through the Wits Business School (WBS). In 2018, when a full time director was recruited, the Chair was expanded into a Centre.

However, the genesis of the Chair began even earlier, more than a decade ago, with the establishment of the African Grantmakers Network (AGN), now the African Philanthropy Network, in 2009. At the forefront were foundations such as TrustAfrica in Senegal, African Women's Development Fund in Ghana, Kenya Community Development Foundation in Kenya, the Southern Africa Trust in South Africa, the Foundation for Civil Society in Tanzania and the Greater Rustenburg Community Foundation in South Africa, among others. There were other initiatives that were driven by TrustAfrica that included a pan-African study on philanthropy which resulted in a book called *Giving to Help, Helping to Give: The Context and Politics of African Philanthropy*.

In June this year, the Centre will be turning two years old, and we therefore take this opportunity to reflect on an eventful journey so far.

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BACKGROUND

Philanthropy has always been an integral part of African societies and cultures. The desire to promote the welfare of others and to use private initiatives for public good has a deep history on the continent. This is true of individuals and families, of institutions and communities. The reality, however, is that most of the existing literature and information on philanthropy in Africa focuses primarily on either external or Western forms of philanthropy and excludes many elements that make up the practice of philanthropy in Africa. This disadvantages the field of African philanthropy in relation to its global counterparts. It is precisely in response to this that the Centre on African Philanthropy and Social Investment was created.



The Centre is unique in that it is the only one in sub-Saharan Africa. The only other such Centre is based at the American University in Cairo.

In a nutshell, at CAPSI our goals are to:

-  Apply a pan-African perspective on the practice of giving, and acquire knowledge and develop theories, models and tools appropriate to the continent's experience, contemporary context and needs.
-  Fill the existing gap in the body of knowledge on philanthropy in general, and on African philanthropy in particular.
-  Collate teaching material that is relevant to African practitioners, captains of industry, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) practitioners, students and the civil society sector broadly.
-  Positively impact society through innovative and ground-breaking research, social entrepreneurship, mentorship and creativity by developing a pool of next-generation scholars and linking them to a network of social activists, donors and philanthropy professionals.

In pursuit of these goals we have a number of pan-African and international partners in the academic, civil society, business and corporate sectors, as well as a rich network of local communities, policy-makers, start-ups, foundations, enterprises and NGOs that integrate young people into a larger social fabric.

OUR JOURNEY SO FAR

JAN 2019

- Launch in New York at Carnegie offices

MAY 2019

- First annual conference on Philanthropy
- PhD workshops
- Research validation workshop

JULY 2019

- Report on the aftermath of Cyclone Idai
- Disaster management dialogue

SEPT 2019

- Research across Africa commences
- Research design workshop

NOV 2019

- Celebrating 'Africanness' Event
- Workshop: course development

JAN 2020

- Second cohort of PhD students arrives
- Research validation workshop

MARCH 2020

- Disaster preparedness dialogue in Zimbabwe

Since June 2018, the Centre has been busy with the following activities:

✦ **The development of the Master of Management in African Philanthropy curriculum.** The Centre's main mandate is to introduce an academic programme on philanthropy and social investment, and much progress has been made. The curriculum for the Master's programme has been approved by the university senate and by the Ministry of Higher Education and Training and is currently in the process of review by the Council on Higher Education. We are excited to start offering different modules in the not too distant future!

✦ **Other academic programmes.** The Centre has partnered with Inyathelo, an organisation based in Cape Town, to develop a Postgraduate Diploma in Philanthropy and Resource Mobilisation. Furthermore, the Centre has developed executive courses ranging from masterclasses to NQF levels 6 to 8. These will be rolled out later in the year.

1. The courses for Executive Education are:

Masterclasses: Corporate social responsibility; Finance for social enterprises; Introducing community foundations; Introduction to African philanthropy; Liquid leadership in the 21st century; Principles and fundamentals of fundraising and venture philanthropy.

Certificates: NQF Level 6: Introduction to Philanthropy; NQF Level 7: Advanced Philanthropy certificate; NQF Level 8: Executive Philanthropy certificate

2. Masters Programme

We are currently accepting applications for students to do their Master's by research, focusing on philanthropy and social investment issues. Applications for the next intake will open in July 2020. The entry requirements and application process are available on the Wits website below:

<https://www.wbs.ac.za/academic-programmes/masters-of-management/mm-by-research/>

3. PhD Programme

Students are welcome to apply for this on the Wits website using the link below. The entry requirements and application process are detailed here

<https://www.wbs.ac.za/academic-programmes/phd/>



✦ **MBA electives.** The Centre has also developed an MBA elective course on Social Entrepreneurship Initiatives, and incorporates themes and topics on philanthropy, the non-profit sector, resource mobilisation and fundraising, impact investing and venture philanthropy, among others. Two new MBA electives are under development, including Corporate Social Responsibility and Leading African Organisations. These will be offered in the fourth quarter of the 2020 academic calendar at Wits Business School.

✦ **New students.** Our mandate includes the creation of a cohort of young scholars and researchers in philanthropy, and we have therefore admitted three students who are studying towards a Master of Management in Philanthropy by Research, and 14 students who are doing doctoral studies by research. These students come from East, West and Southern Africa.

✦ **PhD workshops.** To assist our students, the Centre started a series of PhD workshops which focus on writing, research methods, theory and professional development. For the first workshop, which was held in collaboration with the International Society for Third Sector Research (www.istr.org), we received 45 applications from across Africa. 23 PhD students were selected to attend the workshop which took place on 14 and 15 May 2019 at WBS. The second seminar, which ran for a week, comprised WBS students only and was held at the Wits Rural Facility in Limpopo.



✦ **Research across Africa.** The Centre has created a facility for research associates to conduct research across Africa, and currently the Centre has ten research associates who are based in Ghana, Burkina Fasso, Cameroon, South Africa and Zimbabwe. In 2018, we commissioned eight research projects focusing on various topics that included community philanthropy, disaster management, social investment, CSR, foundations and scoping studies in different countries. These papers were presented at a validation workshop on 10 May at WBS. These papers will be published in the first issue of the International Review on Philanthropy and Social Investment Journal and will be used for teaching of various courses at WBS.

RESEARCH REGIONS
span across the continent
and include Nigeria, Senegal,
Cameroon, Mali, Côte d'Ivoire,
Ethiopia, South Sudan, Rwanda,
Sudan, Uganda, Zimbabwe,
Kenya and Ghana.

TOPICS COVERED

- Discourses, conceptualisation, manifestation and development potential of African philanthropy
- The regulatory landscape of philanthropic organisations in selected countries in Eastern Africa
- Mapping the contemporary and multiple dimensions on the philanthropy landscape in Zimbabwe
- The philanthropic funding in Kenya
- Domestic resource mobilisation and community foundations in Africa
- Institutional Philanthropy and popular organising in Africa
- NGO presence and government social spending in Ghana: Are they complements or substitutes?
- Analysis of CSR of the African "internationalisers" versus non-African founded MNCs
- Corporate philanthropy and firm value in Africa





✦ **Specific research projects.** Towards the end of 2019, the Centre launched three projects:

1. A study of high-net-worth individuals in Africa, focusing on the first 30 big economies based on Gross Domestic Product (GDP) figures.
2. A study of all forms of philanthropy and trends in the same 30 big economies in Africa.
3. A study of the non-profit sector in Africa and its readiness to adapt to the 4th Industrial Revolution.

The initial findings of these projects were presented at a validation workshop at WBS on 23 January 2020.

In addition, the Centre has developed three case studies: the Kenya Community Development Foundation, the West Africa Civil Society Institute, and Stanley Mliwa – an individual giver. Three more case studies are under development focusing on CSR. These will be finalised by the end of 2020.

✦ **Growing the centre**

We now have three full time staff members, a graduate assistant, an intern, an Honorary Professor and two visiting researchers. In addition there are 10 associate researchers conducting different research projects for the Centre. <https://capsi.co.za/the-team/>

✦ **A new journal.** The Centre is working on a new journal: *The International Review on Philanthropy and Social Investment* which will be launched towards the end of 2020. [For further details please click here](#)

✦ **Conferences.** Our three public events in 2019 drew more than 500 participants from policy, research, business and academia. We partnered with groups such as the Graça Machel Trust, the Mandela Institute for Development Studies, TrustAfrica, HigherLife Foundation, Inyathelo, Africa Philanthropy Forum, Africa Philanthropy Network, WINGS, the Harvard Centre for African Studies, the International Society for Third Sector Research and Southern Africa Trust, among others.

1. We hosted the first annual conference on Philanthropy in Africa on 16 and 17 May, 2019 at WBS. The conference was well-attended, registering 216 participants from countries that included Australia, Botswana, Brazil, Kenya, Ghana, Egypt, Senegal, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, USA, Zimbabwe, just to mention a few.

Click here for an article on the conference written by Professor Emmanuel Akyeampong of Harvard and Bhekinkosi Moyo of the Centre <https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2019-06-19-the-century-of-the-african-philanthropists-is-here-but-wise-choices-must-be-made/>



Click here for an overview of the conference:

https://youtu.be/_3Hn-5vz0E

2. In the aftermath of Cyclone Idai that rocked three countries in Southern Africa, namely Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, the Centre sent researchers to Malawi and Zimbabwe, and partnered with the Graça Machel Trust and the Foundation for Community Development in Mozambique to compile a report on what transpired. This was followed by a dialogue which was held in July 2019, attended by various stakeholders that included the private sector, government departments, researchers, donors, civil society and international agencies such as the United Nations World Food Programme, SADC and Africa Development Bank. The disaster management dialogue was attended by 176 participants, including Mrs Graça Machel, and members of the Department of Defence in South Africa.

Video footage can be found here:

<https://youtu.be/q-19Mo9Y2uM>

<https://youtu.be/Tt2NyEhutro>

✦ Celebrating 'Africanness'

The Centre held a special evening on 7 November to celebrate the essence of being African. The event was organised in collaboration with the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) and the Mandela Institute for Development Studies (MINDS). Some of the participants included the Wits Deputy Vice Chancellor and Principal, Prof Andrew Crouch, The NEPAD Goodwill Ambassador for TB and Nutrition Ms Yvonne Chaka Chaka, humanitarian and activist Mrs Graça Machel, Trustee of The Mandela Institute for Development Studies, Dr Ali Mufuruki, Professor of Law at the Centre for Human Rights and Development Studies at the University of Pretoria, Prof Charles Ngwenya, Director of Programme Innovation and Planning at the African Union Development Agency- NEPAD, Ms Estherine Fotabong, and author, public speaker and Professor of Sociology, Prof Kwesi Prah. It was a colourful and inspiring evening.

Video footage of the evening can be accessed here:

<https://youtu.be/HlrJWISLQ-w>

<https://youtu.be/ZD-fgm-P298>





✦ Learning missions and partnerships:

As part of building the Centre, we have been learning from other existing institutions that focus on philanthropy. In 2018, we talked to ten directors of centres of philanthropy in the USA and Europe. Four visits were also made to the Centre on Philanthropy at Kent University in the UK; the Centre for Philanthropy Studies at the University of Basel, the Centre on Philanthropy at the University of Geneva, and the John Gerhard Center for Philanthropy, Civic Engagement and Responsible Business at the American University in Cairo.



These experiences have helped in shaping the various programmes, developing the curriculum and putting in place a governance structure.

The Centre also begun a working relationship with Strathmore University in Kenya, and in 2020, the Centre entered into an agreement with Reckitt Benckisser and UNAIDS to run a competition among students to solve a public health challenge. Such partnerships are in line with our branding strategy to make the Centre a well-known advocate for African ideas and practice. For this reason, we are members of ISTR, ARNOVA, WINGS and IPASA.

SUMMARY

The last two years have demonstrated the value that the work of the Centre can bring to many levels of society - students, academia, research, policy makers and institutions. There is a real need for a platform such as ours to convene and set the agenda in the philanthropy space. Going forward, we will use our convening power to respond to the context but also set the agenda for African narratives. We have the opportunity to pave the way for the role of business in society, to help philanthropic organisations become effective as well as generate data and evidence for policy makers as they respond to challenges facing society. We presented our research findings on CSR at the Serious Social Investing Conference in August 2019 at The Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS). The response gave us impetus to do more. The Centre's ambition is to be a landscape interpreter in the field of philanthropy and social investment.

The two years have also been a learning process for us and along with success come challenges. One such challenge was when one of our friends and partners, Dr Ali Mufuruki, passed away very suddenly. Ali was a champion of the Centre and supported us right from the beginning of our journey. A tribute to him follows.



TRIBUTE TO ALI MUFURUKI



ALI MUFURUKI was a friend of the Centre and, in 2019, he had participated in two of our events. It was with great sadness that we learnt of his death, shortly after he attended our “Africanness” celebration.

Something numerically interesting happened with Ali’s passing. He flew in to attend the Centre’s Africanness celebration event on the 7th November 2019 and flew back to Tanzania on the 9th November 2019 after attending a MINDS board meeting. He was then flown to South Africa for medical attention on the 7th December when he fell ill in Tanzania; and he took his final flight back to Tanzania on the 9th December after passing away in SA.

Ali was a Tanzanian businessman, author and philanthropist. He founded Infotech Investment Group, the CEO Roundtable of Tanzania (CEOrt) and the Africa Leadership Initiative (ALI) East Africa, and was a trustee of the Mandela Institute for Development Studies (MINDS). He served on numerous boards of public, private and non-profit organisations.

In honour of Ali’s legacy, we will be holding a conference jointly with our partners later this year in Dar es Salaam on a theme that he cared about: the African Continental Free Trade Area.

LOOKING FORWARD

Please diarise the following date:

ARNOVA/AROCSA PHILANTHROPY CONFERENCE (28-31 July 2020)
Johannesburg, South Africa.

This year our annual philanthropy conference will be held in partnership with AROCSA (Association for Research on Civil Society in Africa). The theme is civil society sustainability in Africa’s changing landscape. Submissions for papers are open on conference@arocsa.org



Thank you for your interest in the Centre on African Philanthropy and Social Investment at Wits Business School! We look forward to sharing with you further news of our progress in the next quarter of 2020.

