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Rita Thapa, Chair 3

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Cover images (L–R)
Foundation for Social Transformation (India),
Zambian Governance Foundation (Zambia),
Bulgarian Women’s Fund (Bulgaria),
Trag Foundation (Serbia)
Welcome

I took up the position of GFCF Chair in March 2017, just a couple of months after our Global Summit on Community Philanthropy in Johannesburg. This was both an exciting and admittedly somewhat daunting time for us.

Exciting because we were still buzzing from the energy and enthusiasm that was so palpable at the Summit, as 400 actors came together in support of community philanthropy as a strategy that puts people in charge of their own development. Daunting because we sensed that this was a crucial moment for the field – community philanthropy suddenly seemed centre-stage, no longer development’s best kept secret, and #ShiftThePower had taken off – so what would be the GFCF’s next move to continue advancing the field? How would we (could we?) ‘top’ the Summit?

In the following pages, I hope you’ll read on to find out more about how we moved post-Summit, advancing each of our three strategic objectives. What I can tell you is that we recommitted to our work of supporting individual organizations through our grantmaking (pages 6–9) and building the field through convenings, workshops and growing the community philanthropy evidence base (pages 10–13). But we’ve been particularly buoyed by the energy and interest around our third objective – to build a global movement to #ShiftThePower (pages 14–19).

From our continued relationship with the Global Alliance for Community Philanthropy, to the numerous speaking engagements that put community philanthropy in the spotlight, to key regional events in Kenya, Zambia and Nepal, it turns out that we didn’t need to feel overly daunted post-Summit as so many of our partners and allies have enthusiastically and creatively taken up the #ShiftThePower mantle (at the time of writing I am, for example, aware of at least two #ShiftThePower rap songs in existence!).

I was lucky enough to attend one of the regional events mentioned above, joining the group of GFCF partners that attended the twentieth anniversary conference of the Kenya Community Development Foundation (KCDF), held in Nairobi in June 2017. During the event, I had the pleasure of hearing Janet Mawiyoo, KCDF’s Executive Director, recount KCDF’s origin story. She spoke about how, two decades ago, the general consensus was that the KCDF founders were slightly mad – why do the hard work of mobilizing Kenyan resources when there was so much development aid in the country? But the founders persisted, understanding that using local funds to build a local institution based on local values and agency could be a game changer. Two decades on, KCDF is thriving, building philanthropy in communities across Kenya and proving to be a point of reference and inspiration for so many other organizations in the GFCF’s global network.

It was in listening to Janet that I was reminded of the real value of the GFCF. Building community philanthropy institutions is not for the faint of heart. Rewarding? Yes! But it is undoubtedly tough, often lonely and painstaking work that requires patience, humility and maybe even a little madness. KCDF started out much like Tewa – just a few committed individuals meeting in someone’s house to boldly dream about how development could be done differently, over warm cups of tea. Without the GFCF, perhaps these would be one-off feel good stories. But the value of the GFCF lies in weaving our stories together, introducing us to kindred spirits we likely wouldn’t have otherwise met, supporting and validating our assumptions and journeys, and raising the profile of our alternative vision for development.

Of course the Summit was an enormous moment for us at the GFCF, representing a major step in putting the sector on the map, and rallying both stalwart supporters and unusual allies. But if the last year represented in this report has taught us anything, it’s that we need your continued energy and support if we are to top what has come before. So I invite you to read the following pages, and then to join us – with your ideas, creativity, and your madness – as we collectively continue building this global movement to #ShiftThePower.

Rita Thapa
Chair, GFCF
Founder, Tewa (the Nepal Women’s Fund) & Nagarik Aawaz
Our approach

Durable development

Community philanthropy leads to durable development that can #ShiftThePower

Why?

Local people know what they want and need best, and trusted and rooted local organizations bring deep insights and connections to, and a long-term stake in, the communities they serve. Resources should be used to engage local people as actors and agents in issues that affect them, and to fulfill their agendas rather than those of external agencies. This is a prerequisite for durable development.

How?

By creating organized spaces for local people to share, grow and channel financial and other resources, community philanthropy organizations around the world provide the architecture for durable development, and #ShiftThePower.
Vision
Empowered and resilient communities, working in an inclusive manner, using asset mobilization to drive their own long-term development.

Goal
To support a global movement of vibrant, resilient, and locally owned and directed community philanthropy organizations mobilizing and channelling resources and influence for progressive social change.

Objectives
To support the development of the global community philanthropy field, strengthen its effectiveness, its networks and its voice, and to link it with other parts of the development and philanthropic sectors as a credible and viable source of partnership.
Our highlights 1

Supporting organizations that #ShiftThePower

We made 47 grants totalling £622,092 to 47 individual organizations.

Small grants and learning programmes

Institutional development  The aim of these grants is to strengthen organizations. This may be around helping them to think through how communities can better drive their own development initiatives, to test strategies that unlock new resources and assets within the community, or in the form of core support.

Burning issues  What are the complex issues community philanthropy is responding to? From the protection of environmental activists, to creating shared community spaces, to working with marginalized groups, this grants and learning programme explores how the field tackles burning, sensitive topics in their communities, while also building local constituencies for what are often unpopular issues.

Migration and inclusion  In 2015 more than a million migrants and refugees crossed into Europe. It was the biggest influx of migrants into Europe since the Second World War, leaving countries struggling to provide vital services to migrant populations and fuelling anti-migrant sentiment in host communities. This grants and learning programme explores European community philanthropy’s response to the issue, and looks at how local funds and foundations can play a valuable role in both the provision of various supports (financial and other) and in promoting tolerance and inclusion more broadly at the community level.

Grants distribution by programme

- 15% Migration and inclusion
- 20% Burning issues
- 65% Institutional development

Grants distribution by geography

- 2% East Asia Pacific
- 25% Europe and Central Asia
- 24% South Asia
- 19% Sub-Saharan Africa
- 12% Latin America and the Caribbean
- 12% Latin
- 12% Western Europe
- 25% Europe and Central Asia
- 24% South Asia
- 19% Sub-Saharan Africa
- 12% Latin America and the Caribbean
- 12% Latin
- 12% Western Europe
- 25% Europe and Central Asia
- 24% South Asia
- 19% Sub-Saharan Africa
Community philanthropy? I didn’t know I was doing it! CASA Socio-Environmental Fund explores local resource mobilization with grassroots partners in Brazil

Community banks, revolving loan funds, micro-credit funds. When these terms popped up time and again in discussions with grantee partners in Brazil, the CASA Socio-Environmental Fund started noticing an interesting trend. While many of the groups it was supporting weren’t necessarily using the term ‘community philanthropy’ to describe their activities – indeed, they had never even heard of it – many of them were employing exactly the principles and spirit of community philanthropy in their work, particularly around the mobilization of local resources.

It was this ‘Aha moment’ that led to the creation of the ‘CASA Communities’ initiative, which the GFCF supported with a grant in 2017. Through the project, CASA sought to identify and map the different strategies and practices around local asset mobilization among its grantees. A group of these partners came together for a series of workshops aimed at introducing the idea of community philanthropy as both a global force and as a strategy to build local power and voice through local, self-organized, asset mobilization.

Why is this so powerful? The workshops helped these groups to see themselves as part of a larger global movement and to locate their resource mobilization efforts in the context of other conversations about how the organization of resources and power at the local level can offer an alternative to top-down development approaches. The process validated local systems of giving and solidarity, with participants receiving advice on strategies for making such efforts more successful and meaningful. The workshops also made clear that a community philanthropy approach is as much about building local constituencies, connections and awareness as it is about raising funds – as such, they offered a framework to engage people in a different conversation, which was neither about great wealth nor specific institutional models, but focused instead on community empowerment and voice.

The project has also been a game-changer for CASA itself. As a regional grassroots grantmaker, CASA has always had a strong network of individual local environmental actors across South America. But what this process has achieved is a new level of connectedness, solidarity and purpose within the CASA family – who is now beginning to pull together around a common language.
Grants in the spotlight

Migration and inclusion

Shifting the narrative on migration and inclusion – Bulgaria’s Varna Community Foundation breaks bread with newcomers

‘No one is larger than bread’ – at least so says a traditional Bulgarian proverb, speaking to the power of food in bringing people together. It was with this thinking in mind that the Varna Community Foundation, with a GFCF grant focused on migration and inclusion, set out to change local mindsets around migration. Although Bulgaria has largely been a transit country for the majority of migrants – most of whom are from Iraq and Afghanistan – some have chosen to stay and build a new life there. For Bulgaria, which has had little experience of migration, this has at times led to an increase in social tension.

Over 2017, the community foundation organized five culinary workshops, all hosted by local restaurants owned and managed by individuals originally from the Arab region. The immediate appeal of these events was that they offered opportunities for Varna locals to taste – and learn how to cook – delicious food. For the community foundation, however, the larger purpose was to use people’s mutual love of good food as a way to bring together different parts of the community, whose paths might not normally cross. ‘If we want to learn to accept each other, we need to first meet with each other’ noted the organizers.

Attended by everyone from Ambassadors to students, long-term residents to newcomers, as well as the old and young, the workshops were an instant hit. The foundation deliberately fostered a warm and convivial atmosphere, which would celebrate the richness and diversity of those attending, and put different cultures in the limelight in order to build empathy, dispel prejudices and encourage engagement.

As the diverse groups at the workshops broke bread together, they chatted about their backgrounds, experiences, and challenges: differences were seemingly put aside as commonalities were realized and celebrated. While the Varna Community Foundation doesn’t downplay or underestimate the difficulties that can be faced by new arrivals in Bulgaria, the purpose of these events was to illustrate the positive contributions that migrants can, and indeed are making, to local culture. They feel the workshops have been successful in doing just that, at the same time putting a human face on the word ‘migrant.’ The joint cooking experiences also made clear that inclusion takes effort on both sides, and resulted in many Varna residents rethinking how they associate with, and perceive migrants, on a day-to-day basis.

This shifting perspective around migrants to Varna was evidenced at a Giving Circle event organized by the community foundation following the culinary workshops. It was attended by both long-term supporters of the foundation – some of whom had previously voiced skepticism about the foundation working on the topic of inclusion – as well as new supporters who had learned about the work of the organization through the culinary workshops. A total of approximately $6,000 USD was raised in one evening to support three projects aimed at improving the lives and experiences of newcomers to Varna: a small but nonetheless significant step towards greater tolerance and inclusion.
Connecting the field and growing the #ShiftThePower evidence base

Workshops and convenings
We regularly organize convenings of our partners, which are intended to strengthen the field by consolidating existing networks while also building new conversations around particular topics and geographies.

Community self-management of natural resources
Directly prior to the Community Foundations of Canada 2017 conference in Ottawa in May, the GFCF organized a convening of stakeholders – including community philanthropy organizations, academics and researchers – to dig deeper into the topic of communities managing their own large-scale natural resources. The discussion explored the emerging opportunities, and the risks that must be navigated, as communities collaborate with corporate and government stakeholders to manage revenue from large-scale resources: from forests and fisheries to mineral deposits and gaming. Conversations built from the GFCF report *An untapped resource? The extractives industry and community self-management of assets*. Case studies from the U.S. based Cherokee Preservation Foundation, and Canada’s Clayoquot Biosphere Trust, were featured.
Burning issues

How are community philanthropy organizations responding to complex social justice issues in their communities? This was the question explored by GFCF burning issues grant recipients at the burning issues convening hosted by the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland in Belfast in July. A walking tour of East Belfast provided a sense of the complex local context that the community foundation operates in as well as a taste of some of their work to promote peace, equity and justice.

The event was instructive in the sense that it provided valuable learning around how individual community philanthropy organizations balance reacting to short-term crises, while still taking the long view on apparently intractable issues. Participants from the Community Foundation for Greater Flint, which played a key role during the Flint water crisis, and the London Community Foundation, who was at the time still responding to the Grenfell Tower fire tragedy, brought further richness to the discussions.

Migration and inclusion

The Fondazione di Comunità di Messina in Sicily – one of the first stopping off points for migrants to Europe – provided an apt backdrop to delve into the question: what is the contribution that community philanthropy can play to address the challenges posed by migration where we live, and build the kind of inclusive communities we want? The foundation was the perfect host, given its past experiences of re-claiming and re-inventing public spaces that had previously been hijacked and controlled by the mafia.

Organized in cooperation with Assifero and the European Community Foundation Initiative in October, GFCF grant partners were joined by other European community foundations working on the topic. Participants discussed ongoing activities and challenges in both transit and destination countries. They also discussed the distinct role that community philanthropy organizations can play in the area of migration – as distinct from other NGOs focused specifically on the issue. The ability – indeed, the mandate – of community philanthropy organizations to identify diverse issues within the broader communities they serve and to mobilize local people and resources to address them also means that they tend to build extensive networks and relationships across all sections of the community. When it comes to raising more sensitive or unpopular issues (in this case, migration, but the same could apply to issues of race, gender or sexuality) where they have already built trust within the larger community, community philanthropy organizations can be well-placed to broach the issue and bring different stakeholders to the table.

As noted by participants from the Ferencvaros Community Foundation, the meeting was important as it: ‘Gave the sense of being part of a wider network and an international community. The solidarity expressed at the meeting provides us with great reassurance and emotional ammunition’ as we continue this work in Hungary, where the issue of migration is particularly controversial and critical.’
Community philanthropy in India roundtable

In cooperation with the National Foundation for India, in February, the GFCF co-hosted a meeting of development and philanthropy practitioners in Delhi to discuss the #ShiftThePower agenda and its relevance in India. The roundtable offered space to discuss the emerging global community philanthropy field and the larger conversation to #ShiftThePower, including what it looks like and why development practitioners and donors are turning their attention to this approach. Participants also delved into what kinds of efforts and strategies are being deployed by others in India to reach and engage communities, with the group collectively considering what it will take to drive a social justice agenda in India that is supported by local resources and local constituencies.
Growing the evidence base

We commissioned and published a number of research papers, aimed at growing the evidence base on community philanthropy in regard both to specific contexts and issues. These included:

- Building community philanthropy in Vietnam: Understanding the experiences and expectations of donors to the LIN Center for Community Development by Dana Doan and the LIN Center for Community Development staff
- Case Study: Clayoquot Biosphere Trust (to be read as a companion to the 2016 GFCF report *An untapped resource? The extractives industry and community self-management of assets*)
- Giving projects: cultivating people of color as fundraisers and donors by Allison Johnson Heist, Headwaters Foundation for Justice
- Resilient funders by Chris Allan and Scott DuPree, Global GreenGrants Fund
Building a global movement to #ShiftThePower

Global Alliance for Community Philanthropy

The Alliance is a multi-donor collaborative engaged in a series of learning activities over a five-year period, aimed at advancing the practice of community philanthropy and in influencing international development actors to better understand, support and promote community philanthropy’s role in achieving more lasting development outcomes. The GFCF acts as Secretariat to the Alliance and the donor partners are:
Maintaining Summit momentum

The December 2016 Global Summit on Community Philanthropy put the sector on the map, and saw the birth of a global movement of diverse stakeholders who believe in the unique power of the field. The Summit also introduced the #ShiftThePower hash-tag, which has since become a rallying cry for the field, and an effective way to connect a global network of geographically dispersed actors. Post-Summit, #ShiftThePower continued to appear in different contexts around the world. The growing interest in community philanthropy and #ShiftThePower among new audiences was reflected in the range and number of events at which the GFCF was either invited to speak or to facilitate the participation of others to do so. Some highlights include:

**START Network members’ day**

At the START Network members’ day in London in May, GFCF Executive Director, Jenny Hodgson, gave the keynote address on ‘The role of communities, donors and institutions in creating system-wide change.’

**CDAC (Communicating with Disaster-Affected Communities) Network and SCHR (Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response) Global Forum on the Participation Revolution**

Also in May, we were invited to participate in a panel discussion on ‘Lip service consultation or decision-making powers?’ at the Global Forum in Bangkok. In the lead-up to the event, we were also asked to prepare a framing paper (Seeing the woods and the trees: the quiet rise of community philanthropy) aimed at stimulating discussion.

**Community Foundations of Canada conference session**

A standing room only breakout session at the Community Foundations of Canada conference held in May entitled ‘Charity is good, but justice is better: How does community philanthropy #ShiftThePower around the world?’ featured four GFCF partners presenting stories / examples of what shifting power looks like in relation to specific complex contexts, including Romania, Brazil, Northern Ireland and South Africa.
European Foundation Centre conference plenary

We were invited to organize and host the closing plenary of the European Foundation Centre’s annual conference, held in Warsaw in May 2017. The plenary ‘Building bridges not walls, philanthropy’s contribution to solidarity around the world’ brought together four speakers from Kenya, India, Mongolia and the U.S., who each reflected on the notion of solidarity. The issue of power – whether shifting, growing, sharing or giving it up – lay at the core of the conversation, as did the extent to which private philanthropy can facilitate more people-led and locally-owned approaches.

Human Rights Funders Network lightening talk

In July, Jenny Hodgson gave a lightening talk entitled ‘#ShiftThePower: Putting community philanthropy at the heart of human rights’ at the Human Rights Funders Network annual conference in New York. The talk flagged both some of the apparent disconnects between human rights and community philanthropy narratives and the urgent need to work to overcome them.

#ShiftThePower U.K. event

Together with the Big Lottery Fund, we co-hosted an event for funders and other development actors in London in September on the theme of ‘#ShiftThePower: community philanthropy and people-led development.’ The purpose of the meeting was to share developments from the emerging global community philanthropy field, understand how invited participants might develop partnerships to #ShiftThePower, and to explore potential synergies between the emerging community philanthropy field and different parts of the philanthropy and development space in the U.K.
CIVICUS Civil Society Week

Building on one of the plenary sessions from the Summit ‘Rethinking the resourcing of civil society’, which was chaired by CIVICUS Secretary General, Danny Sriskandarajah, we once again joined forces with CIVICUS as part of its Civil Society Week in Fiji in December. This – and participation in a series of online and offline workshops organized by INTRAC as part of the lead-up to Fiji – is part of an ongoing collaboration with CIVICUS around shifting power in development and mobilizing new and alternative resources.

BOND Conference plenary

Finally, we were asked by BOND (the UK network of INGOs) to help organize a session on ‘Leading from the South’ at its annual conference in February. This was a theme introduced at its conference the previous year, and closer contacts between the BOND and the GFCF have developed since then. We facilitated the participation of two of our partners (Ambika Satkunanathan of the Neelan Tiruchelvam Trust in Sri Lanka and Irungu Houghton of Kenya’s Kilimani Project Foundation) to speak at the plenary – which by all accounts was a highlight of the conference.
Supporting key regional events

While maintaining momentum at the global level has continued to be a priority, over the last year we have also sought to take the #ShiftThePower discussions to national and regional levels, working in partnership with national or regional anchor organizations, thought leaders and influencers.

The Kenya Community Development Foundation turns 20

We partnered with the African Philanthropy Network to support the Kenya Community Development Foundation at its 20th anniversary conference in Nairobi in June. The theme of the conference was ‘Durable development: Shifting the power and building community resilience’, and the lively celebration attracted over 250 participants. Our role at the event included providing social media support (with #DurableDevelopment and #ShiftThePower trending in Kenya and engaging wide global audiences in countries as far as apart as Nepal and the United States), assisting with live polling to elicit data and views from those in the room and the use of the same network mapping tool used at the Summit to understand the range and thickness of regional connections around community philanthropy and the #ShiftThePower agenda.

Community philanthropy as a strategy for people-led development in Nepal

This February event, which attracted more than 40 participants from INGOs and other civil society organizations active in Nepal, set out to explore questions around power and resources in development. It pushed participants to consider what could change in Nepal if development was owned by local people rather than imposed from the outside. In short, how could a community philanthropy approach counter existing realities? What became clear is that while local systems of giving and solidarity exist across communities in Nepal they are invariably overlooked as a central element of a people-led development approach.
‘From Dependency to Ascendency’: the Zambian Governance Foundation kicks off its philanthropic journey

In March we travelled to Lusaka for singing, dancing and quizzes at the Zambian Governance Foundation’s first ever national event on local philanthropy, ‘From Dependency to Ascendancy,’ which brought together 200 participants, including guests from Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda. The event coincided with the launch of the first report on giving in the country (conducted by the Zambian Governance Foundation with a grant from the GFCF).

Speaking at the event, one of the foundation’s founding members, Rueben Lifuka, called on the audience to reimagine how development work is approached: ‘We believe that building local capacities in a sustainable manner is not done through short-term funding cycles or projects, and, although we do not think that we have the magic formula, we think supporting local organizations requires a very different approach. We need to refrain from creating expensive projects with a short life span and overly ambitious objectives, which cannot be sustained because citizens have no stake in them. If we emphasize the importance of citizens’ power in the local development process, we contribute to right-sizing projects the community has decided it wants to work on. By doing so, citizens will have an interest in something they have co-created and they will more likely be supportive of it in the long-term. This is because they are co-investing in their own development.’

On the fringes of this event, we also organized a roundtable for 20 of our partners from East and Southern Africa. Co-hosting with the African Philanthropy Network, we discussed how to grow African resources for Africa’s development. Our guiding questions were: what will it take to build strong local constituencies and resources for progressive social change? What is the role for community philanthropy in this?
## Our finances

Global Fund for Community Foundations  
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating the income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2018

### Incoming resources

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Unrestricted funds £</th>
<th>Restricted funds £</th>
<th>2018 total £</th>
<th>2017 total £</th>
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<td>1,245,277</td>
<td>1,276,597</td>
<td>1,045,325</td>
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<td><strong>Total incoming resources</strong></td>
<td><strong>31,320</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,245,277</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,276,597</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,045,325</strong></td>
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### Resources expended

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<th>Restricted funds £</th>
<th>2018 total £</th>
<th>2017 total £</th>
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<td>Consultancy fees – Grants and learning co-ordinator</td>
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<td>Grants disbursed: Burning issues</td>
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<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>9,257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venue costs</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>39,324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total resources expended</strong></td>
<td><strong>12,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,345,061</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,357,061</strong></td>
<td><strong>948,693</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Global Fund for Community Foundations
(A company limited by guarantee)

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018 £</th>
<th>2017 £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fixed assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tangible assets</td>
<td>813</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>69,813</td>
<td>98,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and in hand</td>
<td>934,698</td>
<td>920,761</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,004,511</td>
<td>1,019,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</td>
<td>(961,083)</td>
<td>(914,520)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net current assets</strong></td>
<td>23,428</td>
<td>104,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets</strong></td>
<td>24,241</td>
<td>104,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted funds</td>
<td>1,051</td>
<td>100,835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted funds</td>
<td>23,190</td>
<td>3,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total funds</strong></td>
<td>24,241</td>
<td>104,705</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the special provisions on Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102).

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board on 7 September 2018 and signed on its behalf by

Stephen Pittam
Director

Barbara Klugman
Director

Global Fund for Community Foundations
(A company limited by guarantee)
Our board

The GFCF was registered as an independent charity in Northern Ireland and South Africa in 2009 and 2010, respectively. It has two legally constituted boards. The founding board is legally constituted in the U.K. It was the founding organizational member of the South African board and a sub-set of U.K. board members constitute the South African board. Board members (Directors) are nominated for a three-year period, with the possibility of one renewal. Nominations are made and approved by current Directors. The board is responsible for guiding the GFCF’s programmes and operations.

We currently have an international board of individuals highly experienced in the field of community philanthropy and social development. For the period 2017/2018 Directors included:

- **Rita Thapa**, Tewa founder, Chair (Nepal)
- **Stephen Pittam**, Treasurer (U.K.)
- **Amitabh Behar**, National Foundation for India (India)
- **Bagyendera Hope Chigudu**, Zimbabwe Women’s Resource Centre and Network (Zimbabwe)
- **Barbara Klugman** (South Africa) elected to the U.K. and South African boards in March 2018
- **Clotilde Perez-Bode Dedecker**, Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo (U.S.)
- **Gerard Salole**, European Foundation Centre (Belgium) stepped off South African board in March 2018

The board is governed by the GFCF Governance Manual, which was adopted in May 2015 and was developed in compliance with its statutes of registration in Southern Africa and Northern Ireland:

- Articles of Association (Amended by special resolution passed on 14 November 2009) of the Global Fund for Community Foundation, Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a share capital, Companies (Northern Ireland) Orders 1986 to 1990.
Safeguarding policy

The GFCF strives to foster a working environment free of any kind of intimidation, aggression or violence, and which upholds the highest standards of operations. As such, and in response to various instances of abuse and malpractice from development actors that surfaced over 2017, in early 2018 we published our new Safeguarding Policy, to reiterate our commitment to these ideals.

As outlined in the policy, we as an organization strive to ensure that our working atmosphere is a safe and welcoming one, and one in which respect between all colleagues is fostered, regardless of gender expression, race, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, state of health, or political leaning. This applies to all staff, board members, temporary personnel, consultants and others who carry out work on behalf of the GFCF. In terms of safeguarding, the GFCF treats seriously any allegations of exploitation or abuse. This may include, but is not limited to: sexual exploitation and abuse; child exploitation and abuse; bullying and harassment; and, malpractice in the workplace.

The policy, as well as updates to our Whistle-Blower Policy, were reviewed and approved by the GFCF board in March 2018. The GFCF Staff Manual has been updated accordingly.

Our funders

We are grateful for the ongoing financial support of partner foundations and donor organizations. This includes: Aga Khan Foundation, anonymous donor, Big Lottery Fund, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Fondation Assistance Internationale, Ford Foundation, Inter-American Foundation, King Baudouin Foundation, Open Society Initiative for Europe, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, and USAID.

Our public benefit statement

The GFCF board confirms that they have complied with their duty under section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 with regard to the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit, and that the public benefit requirement has informed the activities of the GFCF for the period reflected in this annual report.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year the Directors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland’s guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped to achieve the charity’s purposes, and have provide a benefit to the beneficiaries. The Directors believe that all the work of the GFCF is for the public benefit, as defined in law.

In evaluating public benefit the board notes that while individuals, who work for partner organizations, may indirectly benefit from participating in capacity building activities (including workshops and events) all activities are designed to help strengthen individual organizations.

This Annual Report and financial statement for the period 1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018 are approved by the board.
References and administrative details

Registered charity name
Global Fund for Community Foundations

Commonly used acronym
GFCF

Northern Ireland charity number
NIC101135

Company registration number
NI073343

Registered office and operational address in the U.K.
Community House, City Link Business Park, Albert Street, Belfast BT12 4HQ, Northern Ireland, UK

Registered office and operational address in South Africa
Fourth floor, 158 Jan Smuts Avenue, Rosebank, Johannesburg 2196, South Africa

Auditors
McGroarty, McCafferty and Company, 2 Carlisle Terrace, Derry BT48 6JX, Northern Ireland, UK

Bank
HSBC, 5 Donegall Square, South Belfast BT1 5JP, Northern Ireland, UK

Solicitors
Jennifer E. A. Ebbage, Edwards & Co Solicitors, 28 Hill Street, Belfast BT1 2LA, Northern Ireland, UK