

The Landscape of Large-Scale Giving by African Philanthropists

A Research Brief

By Jan Schwier, Craig Wallington, Maddie Holland, and Wendy Magoronga

African philanthropy—charitable giving *by* Africans¹—has seemed poised for liftoff. Nearly half of the world’s fastest growing economies are African,² and the number of wealthy Africans is also growing. There were 177,000 individuals worth \$1 million or more on the continent in 2018, up from 164,000 in 2013—and that number is projected to reach over 200,000 by 2023.³ *Forbes*⁴ identifies 20 African billionaires, of whom 12 are from sub-Saharan Africa.

While charitable giving has a long history on the continent (see sidebar below), the last 30 years have seen the emergence of more formal philanthropy in Africa.⁵ Some of Africa’s high-net-worth individuals are engaging in large, structured giving, often through organized vehicles, such as institutional foundations.⁶ Several have played a pronounced role in the continent’s response to the COVID-19 crisis, with major commitments to relief and recovery efforts (see [sidebar on page 9](#)).

Understanding large-scale African philanthropy in context

African philanthropy has a long history on the continent, and is a deeply engrained part of cultural identity. The South African concept of *Ubuntu* (meaning “I am because you are”) is an example of a cultural philosophy that motivates individuals to give back—in a variety of ways—in the country. “The division between what are elsewhere regarded as either ‘philanthropic’ or ‘charitable’ activities tends to collapse,” writes Dr. Bhekinkosi Moyo, director of the Centre on African Philanthropy and Social Investment at Wits Business School in Johannesburg, South Africa.⁷ While “philanthropy” might connote the formalized transfer of wealth from rich to poor, in Africa the term can be used to describe a much broader range of activities through which one gives back to family, community, and society—whether formally or informally, in large or small amounts. For example, a recent study on charitable giving trends in Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda found that the emerging middle classes are giving away roughly a third of their earnings each month to help others.⁸ Much of this is grassroots philanthropy, distributed informally to support friends, family, and community members. It is in this context, recognizing the deeply-engrained, far-reaching tradition of giving, that the segment of philanthropy that this paper focuses on (large-scale, structured giving) is best understood.

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- 1 Throughout this report, we use “Africa” or “African” to refer to sub-Saharan Africa (excluding North Africa). Gifts included in the data sample originate from five countries in sub-Saharan Africa, and analysis of the data reflects giving patterns from gifts in those countries only. Qualitative data collected from expert interviews was not limited to these five countries, and discussed giving in sub-Saharan Africa more broadly.
 - 2 Yinka Adegoke, *Quartz Africa*, January 13, 2019, <https://qz.com/africa/1522126/african-economies-to-watch-in-2019-and-looming-debt>.
 - 3 Tom Bill, et al., *The Wealth Report 2019*, Knight Frank, <http://content.knightfrank.com/research/83/documents/en/the-wealth-report-2019-6214.pdf>.
 - 4 “Africa’s Billionaires,” *Forbes*, <https://www.forbes.com/africa-billionaires/list/#tab:overall>.
 - 5 “The Annual Review of South African Philanthropy 2019,” Independent Philanthropy Association South Africa (IPASA), <http://ipa-sa.org.za/download/annual-review-of-south-african-philanthropy/>.
 - 6 *The Africa Funding Landscape: A Profile of Funders Focused on Africa and Perspectives on the Field*, Africa Grantmakers Affinity Group (AGAG), 2019, <https://www.africagrantmakers.org/the-africa-funding-landscape>.
 - 7 “The Annual Review of South African Philanthropy 2019,” IPASA.
 - 8 “Growing Giving in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania,” Charities Aid Foundation, February 2020, <https://www.cafonline.org/about-us/global-alliance/growing-giving-in-kenya-uganda-and-tanzania>.

While full data on large gifts isn't readily available, some high profile gifts over the last decade suggest that large-scale African philanthropy is making its mark.

Consider the example of Tony Elumelu, a Nigerian investor and philanthropist, and chairman of both the United Bank for Africa and Heirs Holdings. In 2015, his family foundation, the Tony Elumelu Foundation, committed \$100 million to a 10-year program to empower 10,000 African entrepreneurs with business-management training, non-returnable seed capital of \$5,000 per entrepreneur, mentoring, and access to Africa's largest entrepreneurship alumni network. Its goal is to empower women and men across the African continent, catalyzing economic growth, poverty eradication, and job creation. As Somachi Chris-Asoluka, the foundation's head of Policy and Partnerships told us, "The bank has always been a pan-African organization, operating across more than 20 African countries, as well as in the UK, France, and the US. Mr. Elumelu has always wanted to give back to the entire African continent. The foundation represents his personal commitment to the next generation of entrepreneurs, in line with his economic philosophy of Africapitalism—which underscores the private sector's critical role in Africa's development."

Just six years along, the program has already supported more than 9,000 entrepreneurs across all 54 African countries. It hosts 800,000 users on TEFConnect, Africa's biggest digital hub for entrepreneurs. In 2019, the Foundation sparked a new partnership with the United Nations Development Program—the global development network of the UN—to train, mentor, and financially support 100,000 young entrepreneurs in Africa over 10 years. This partnership follows others with the African Development Bank, the International Committee of the Red Cross, GIZ, and United Bank for Africa, to create meaningful and permanent impact across Africa.

Inspired by examples such as this one, our Johannesburg-based team from The Bridgespan Group set out to paint a clearer picture of larger-scale giving by African donors. Bridgespan has researched large-dollar philanthropy in the United States, India, and globally to better understand the role that large philanthropic gifts can play in furthering development and social change. This research builds on and seeks to extend that previous work.

Research overview

To understand the themes underpinning this type of giving in Africa, we interviewed 28 donors, foundation staff, and experts from seven African countries and the United States. Additionally, we analyzed gifts of \$1 million or more⁹ in five countries in sub-Saharan Africa. We studied 63 gifts in all, totaling over \$1 billion made between 2010 and 2019. (See [Appendix: Five-country sample of \\$1 million+ gifts](#).) We benefited greatly from the existing body of research on the topic of African philanthropy, including reports such as: IPASA's *Annual Review of South African Philanthropy*; the UBS and TrustAfrica *Africa's Wealthy Give Back* report; *The Africa Funding Landscape* by the Africa Grantmakers' Affinity Group; and various Nedbank reports on philanthropy and sustainable development.

9 We included a few gifts that were slightly below \$1 million because they related to the donations of large givers. Specifically, four of the 63 gifts in our sample fall below \$1 million, ranging from \$750,000-\$925,000.

We also compared our sample to a database of 202 gifts¹⁰ made by private non-African philanthropists to causes in Africa, to learn how African and non-African donors are similar to or different from each other in their giving. This comparative sample is from a previous Bridgespan study of trends in gifts of \$10 million or more made by philanthropists globally.

We want to emphasize that our sample of large gifts by African donors reflects only publicly available information and excludes informal or in-kind gifts. Accordingly, it is not a comprehensive view of large-scale giving. A great deal of giving in Africa goes unpublicized, in part due to the fact that many countries in Africa do not have tax incentives and accompanying reporting requirements for giving, as in Europe and the United States. Some interviewees also pointed to cultural and political factors that favor anonymous giving. “In African culture, philanthropy is supposed to be a private gesture,” said Ndana Bofu-Tawamba, executive director of the Urgent Action Fund-Africa, a feminist rapid response grant maker focusing on women’s human rights. “Public displays of wealth are often frowned upon. Some wealthy donors give anonymously because most African countries lack formal infrastructure that facilitate structured giving. In highly politicized and polarized contexts, anonymous giving is preferred as a way of avoiding unnecessary political scrutiny.”

Even with the database’s incompleteness, its size—63 gifts totaling over \$1 billion—confirms that there is a significant body of large-scale giving in Africa.

The gifts in the database also point to themes related to wealth distribution on the continent. Three of the five countries represented in the sample are included in Africa’s “big five” wealth markets—South Africa, Nigeria, and Kenya.¹¹ The other two countries in the sample—Zimbabwe and Tanzania—have a smaller number of gifts concentrated among fewer donors.¹² Additionally, only one gift in the sample appears to have been made independently by a woman¹³: Folorunso Alakija’s \$2.7 million donation to Ajayi Crowther University in Nigeria. This is a reflection of wealth disparity across gender lines. Of the 20 billionaires that *Forbes* named in Africa, only two are women (Isabel dos Santos of Angola and Alakija of Nigeria).¹⁴

Three large-scale giving themes stand out

From our research, three themes stand out related to large-scale giving by African donors:

1. African donors of large gifts **give mainly within their own countries**.
2. The majority of gifts by African donors **go towards addressing basic needs**.
3. African donors of large gifts give **mainly to the public sector and their own operating foundations**, with limited funding reaching NGOs.

10 For more information on this sample, which only included gifts by non-African donors of \$10 million or more; see Kim Ogden, Sridhar Prasad, and Roger Thompson, “Philanthropy Bets Big on Sustainable Development Goals,” *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, September 18, 2018, https://ssir.org/articles/entry/philanthropy_bets_big_on_sustainable_development_goals#.

11 *The AfrAsia Bank Africa Wealth Report 2019*, <https://www.afrasiabank.com/en/about/newsroom/africa-wealth-report-2019>. The other two countries in the ‘big five’ are Morocco and Egypt. Gifts from North Africa are excluded from this sample.

12 Gifts in the sample from Zimbabwe were granted by one family—Strive and Tsitsi Masiyiwa—and gifts from Tanzania were committed by the Foundation for Civil Society, a re-granting entity.

13 Some gifts may have been made at the family level and do involve women in partnership with men. For example, Strive and Tsitsi Masiyiwa engage in their philanthropic giving together.

14 “Africa’s Billionaires,” *Forbes*.

The Motsepe Foundation: a look at one large donor

In 1999 Patrice Motsepe and Dr. Precious Moloi-Motsepe founded the Motsepe Foundation in South Africa. In 2013 the Motsepe family was the first on the African continent to join the Giving Pledge, started by Bill & Melinda Gates and Warren Buffet. Seven gifts from the Motsepe Foundation are in our study's sample, and together they illustrate several of the themes in our research brief.

One from 2015, a 10-year, \$8 million gift to the South African Department of Basic Education for sport and cultural competitions in schools across the country, reflects the relatively high level of giving by African donors to the public sector. That gift also underlines the extent to which giving by wealthy individuals in Africa—as in the United States and other countries—is intensely linked to the donor's personal interests and experiences. Explaining why choral competitions will be part of the mix, Precious Moloi-Motsepe said, “My father-in-law, Mr. ABC Motsepe, loved choral and traditional music and before he started his businesses, the school of which he was a headmaster participated in choral and traditional music competitions.”¹⁵

Another gift was a \$4 million donation in 2017 for graduate-program scholarships for hundreds of South African students from low-income families. The scholarships are mainly in STEM fields such as engineering and medicine, and the majority are for women—in line with the Motsepe Foundation's commitment to gender parity. The foundation is distributing the funding directly—as an operating foundation—rather than going through an NGO or other intermediary.

Another group of gifts from Motsepe went to special funds (part of the “other recipients” category in the [chart on page 13](#)). In 2014, Motsepe gave \$10 million to the Global Fund (via the (RED) campaign)—a gift he announced at the World Economic Forum gathering in Davos—to fight HIV/AIDS in Africa through treatment, testing, and prevention services, focused on ending mother to child transmission. Though most of the foundation's programming focuses on South Africa, this one supported work in seven other African countries as well. Two other 2014 gifts of \$1 million each went to funds set up to fight Ebola. Similarly, there was the \$1 million gift to assist victims of cyclone Idai in Zimbabwe.

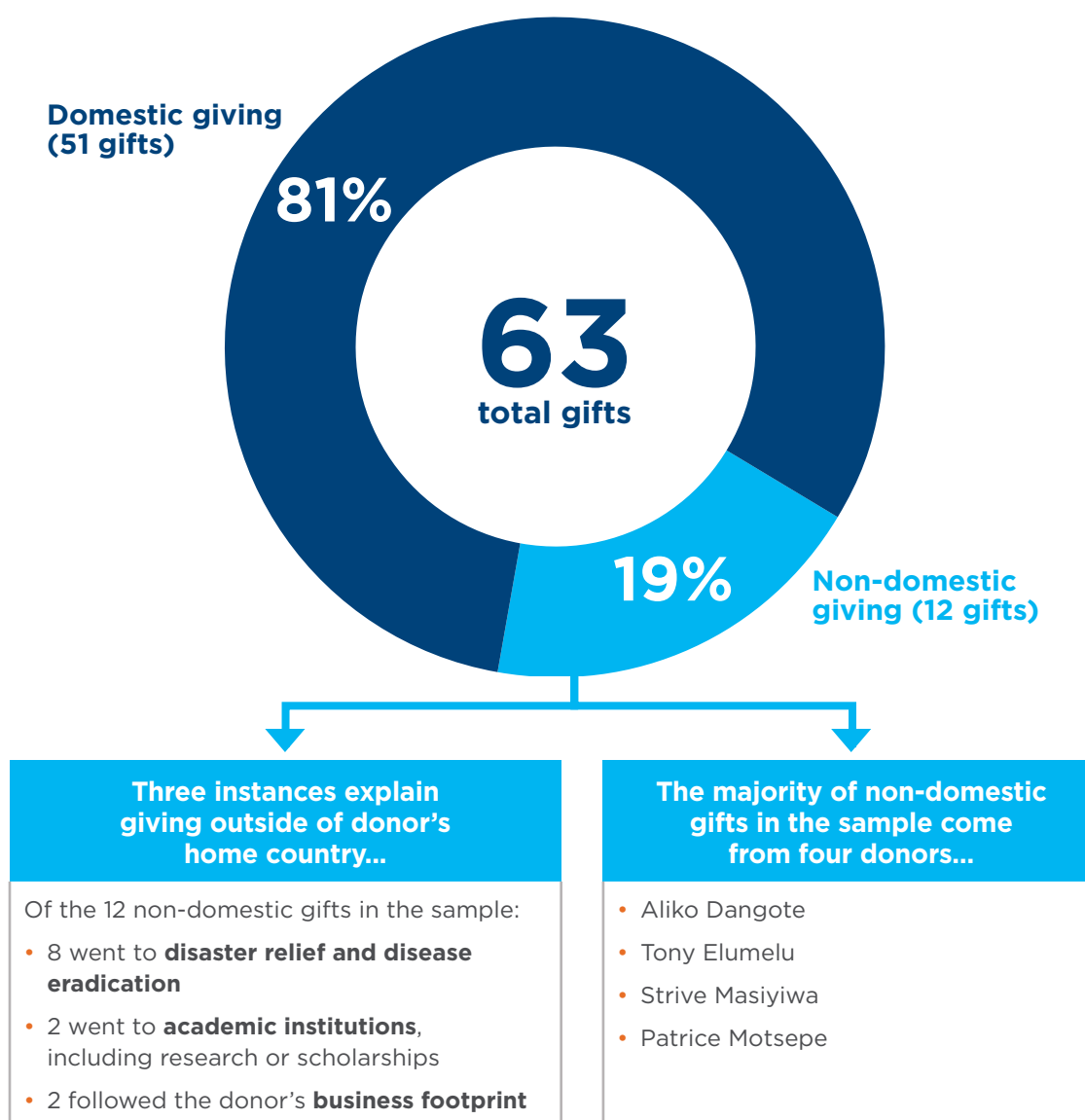
Notably, none of Patrice Motsepe's large gifts in the sample went directly to NGOs, further underscoring the theme of limited giving to NGOs in our study sample.

1. African donors of large gifts give mainly within their own countries

“African high-net-worth individuals prefer to do something within their communities before going outside,” explained Dr. Bhekinkosi Moyo, director of the Centre on African Philanthropy and Social Investment at Wits Business School in Johannesburg, South Africa. “As business people, they want to get the social license to operate”—referring to the acceptance of a company's business practices and operating procedures by the larger public where it does business. Moyo, like many other experts we talked to, emphasized the strong preference of most African donors to focus on their own countries—a preference reinforced by significant challenges in moving money across national borders within the continent.

15 “Motsepe Foundation commits R117,5 million to sports development,” South African Department of Basic Education, November 24, 2015, <https://www.education.gov.za/Newsroom/MediaReleases/English/tabid/2322/ctl/Details/mid/8584/ItemID/7479/Default.aspx>.

Breakdown of large gifts (domestic vs. non-domestic) by number of gifts



Source: Bridgespan analysis, based on sample of 63 gifts made by African donors to causes/organizations in Africa; all gifts made between the years 2010–2019.

The snapshot of larger-scale giving we developed from our five-country sample bears this out. **Eighty-one percent of giving (by number of gifts) was within a donor's own country.**

The propensity to give locally is also “motivated by African philanthropists’ personal connection to and familiarity with the cause,” said Brian Kagoro, founder and executive director of UHA! Africa Group, a governance and development consulting firm with operations in Johannesburg, Harare, and Nairobi. “They are more likely to give locally in education or health or other areas that can transform society.”

In our sample, there are a few types of exceptions to this preference towards domestic giving. The most common here are gifts for disaster relief and disease eradication—a reminder that moving funds across national borders is possible when the need is urgent. For example, in 2014 the Dangote Foundation in Nigeria gave \$3 million to the African Union’s Ebola Fund to be distributed across multiple West African countries fighting outbreaks of the disease. And in 2019 the South Africa-based Motsepe Foundation gave \$1 million to the government of Zimbabwe for victims of Cyclone Idai, which caused 344 deaths and affected over a quarter of a million people in the country.¹⁶

Another exception is giving to academic institutions outside the donor’s home country for scholarships, research, or policy work. Consider the \$5 million gift the TY Danjuma Foundation in Nigeria made to the University of Cape Town in 2014, to support research that addresses African issues and seeks African solutions to the continent’s changing economic, social, and political landscapes.

The Tony Elumelu entrepreneurship program exemplifies a third type of exception to domestic giving—when a gift reflects the broader footprint of the donor’s business outside the home country. A 2018 gift from Nigeria-based Oranto Petroleum to build schools in South Sudan, where the company has business operations, provides another example of this third category.

There are also examples of African philanthropists donating outside the continent—although we excluded these gifts from our sample given our focus on philanthropy as a driver of social change in Africa.¹⁷ Tendai Murisa, executive director of Zimbabwe’s SIVIO Institute, which focuses on policy and advocacy, entrepreneurship, and nurturing the country’s philanthropic sector across Eastern and Southern Africa, has written that gifts made to universities in the United States or UK are “quite common” and a “worrying trend.”¹⁸ Additionally, in 2019, in one of the largest known donations made by an African philanthropist to a US nonprofit organization, the Aliko Dangote Foundation committed \$20 million to The Africa Center in New York City, focused on “accelerating change in global narratives about Africa in Policy, Business and Culture.”¹⁹ Experts we spoke with highlighted this trend of giving to non-African entities as an area of significant debate within the field of African philanthropy.

16 Lynsey Chutel, “One month later: Cyclone Idai’s devastation by the numbers,” *Quartz Africa*, April 16, 2019, <https://qz.com/africa/1596668/cyclone-idai-death-toll-passes-1000-with-damage-to-cost-billions/>.

17 Note the sample does include gifts made towards students in Africa to attend US colleges, such as the \$6.4 million commitment made in 2012 by the Masiyiwa family for African students to attend Morehouse College.

18 Tendai Murisa, “African Philanthropy: Still Work to Be Done,” *Alliance*, September 6, 2016, <https://www.alliancemagazine.org/feature/african-philanthropy-still-work-to-be-done/>.

19 “The Africa Center At Aliko Dangote Hall Is Named In Recognition Of Transformative \$20 Million Donation By The Aliko Dangote Foundation,” The Aliko Dangote Foundation, September 23, 2019, <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/the-africa-center-at-aliko-dangote-hall-is-named-in-recognition-of-transformative-20-million-donation-by-the-aliko-dangote-foundation-300923606.html>.

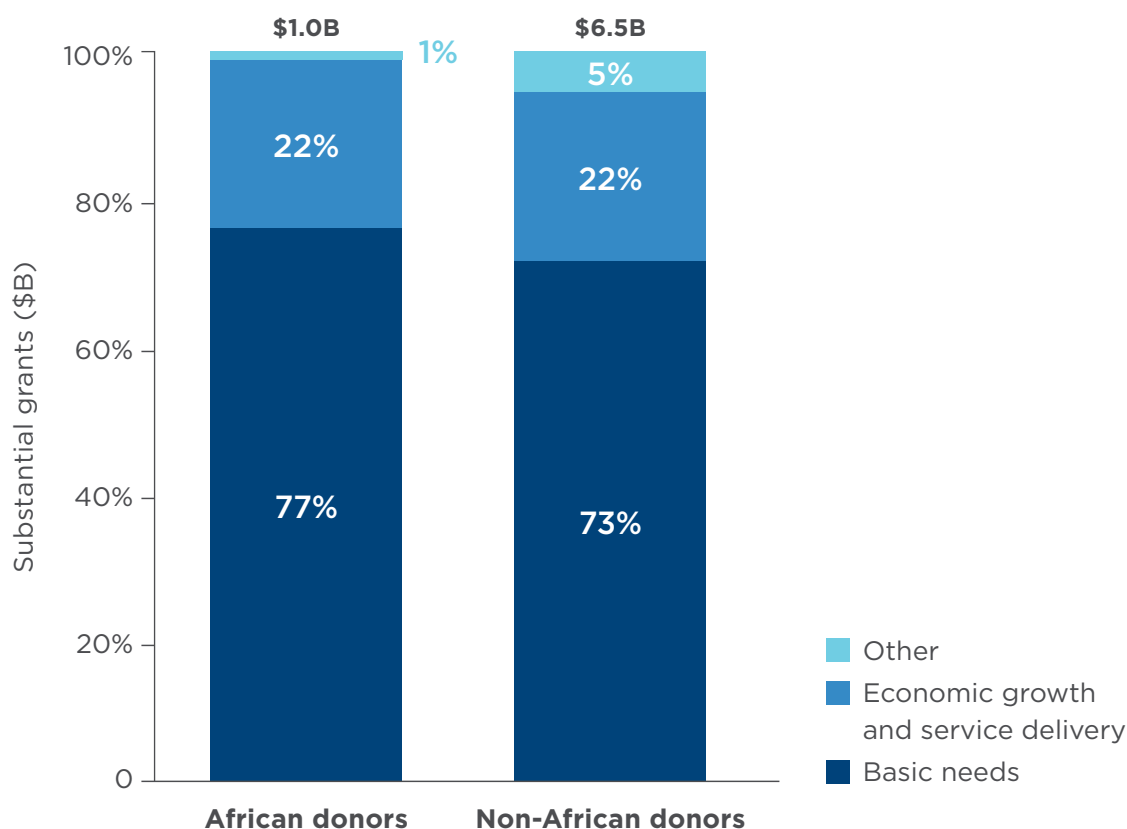
2. The majority of large gifts by African donors go towards addressing basic needs

To better understand and differentiate between the causes African donors support, we have borrowed from a framework²⁰ used to cluster the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- “Basic needs” covers six of the SDG areas: no poverty, zero hunger, good health and well-being, quality education, gender equality, and reduced inequalities.
- “Economic growth and service delivery” is a fairly broad category, which encompasses six of the SDGs: water and sanitation, energy, work and economic growth, infrastructure, cities, and responsible consumption and production.
- The gifts that fall into the “other” category represent the remaining SDGs: climate action, life below water, life on land, peace, justice and institutions, and partnerships.

Breakdown of giving by cause

Substantial grants by cause (\$B)—dollar view



Source: Bridgespan analysis, based on sample of 63 gifts made by African donors to causes/organizations in Africa; all gifts made between the years 2010–2019.

²⁰ This framework for grouping different categories of SDGs is described in a discussion paper by Ingeborg Niestroy, “How Are We Getting Ready? The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the EU and Its Member States: Analysis and Action So Far,” 2016, https://www.die-gdi.de/uploads/media/DP_9.2016.pdf.

Of the gifts in our five-country sample of African donors, 77 percent went to basic needs. Within this category, the greatest focus was on poverty reduction—42 percent of all gifts in the sample. Twenty-two percent went to economic growth and service delivery. The pattern was similar for non-African donors, with 73 percent of their gifts going to basic needs and 22 percent to economic growth and service delivery.

“In most African countries there is a focus on addressing basic needs—health, education, jobs,” explained Ali Awni, professor of Practice at the Business School, The American University in Cairo. “It’s the natural hierarchy. Once people have good health, education and jobs then everything else such as democracy will follow.”

Of course the term “basic needs” is a broad one, encompassing a variety of strategies and approaches within that terminology. “You can talk about education as a basic need, but there are a range of approaches to addressing educational disparities. You could be supporting family members to attend school, or you could be taking a highly pro-poor, holistic approach to supporting or advocating for changes in the education system—or many things in between,” said Halima Mahomed, an independent philanthropy consultant. “The term ‘basic needs’ can give the [false] impression that it’s purely about a survival element,” continued Mahomed, noting that some donors are in fact addressing ‘basic needs’ as part of a longer-term social change strategy.

“In most African countries there is a focus on addressing basic needs... It’s a natural hierarchy. Once people have good health, education, and jobs, then everything else such as democracy will follow.”

ALI AWNI, PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE, BUSINESS SCHOOL, THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, CAIRO

African philanthropy’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic

At this writing, the novel coronavirus threatens Africa, as it has the rest of the globe—and sizeable commitments have been made by donors in Africa in response to the crisis. While this pandemic is something entirely new, the philanthropic response reflects a history of giving by African donors towards disaster relief. Of the 63 gifts in our sample, 18 (roughly 30 percent) were in response to natural disasters (floods, famine, fires, cyclones) and disease outbreaks (Ebola and cholera).

These 18 gifts totaled \$130 million, roughly 13 percent of the total amount in our sample. Additionally, gifts made to disaster relief reflect an important exception to the prevalence of giving within the donor’s home country. For example, the Ebola outbreaks in West Africa drew significant donations from philanthropists across the continent.

Building off of this precedent of philanthropic leadership in the face of disaster relief, African donors from across the continent have announced significant donations to address the COVID-19 crisis. While not an exhaustive list, what follows is a set of examples of substantial gifts announced as of early May 2020.

South African billionaires Patrice Motsepe, Nicky Oppenheimer, Johann Rupert, and Mary Oppenheimer have each pledged \$57 million to assist with the current pandemic and its related challenges in South Africa, and a further \$9.7 million has been committed through

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philanthropic entities linked to the late billionaire Allan Gray.^{21, 22} The ELMA South Africa Foundation also announced \$13.3 million to the country's Solidarity Fund.²³ Many corporates have also made significant contributions in South Africa, including over \$84 million committed by Naspers to the Solidarity Fund.²⁴

In **Nigeria**, Tony Elumelu has donated \$14 million through United Bank for Africa to COVID-19 response across 20 African countries, including \$500,000 earmarked for research at the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control.²⁵ Aliko Dangote has committed over \$5 million through a newly-formed coalition, CACOVID, which is led by Dangote and to-date has mobilized \$55 million in total donations.²⁶ Additionally, Mike Adenuga donated \$3.9 million to the federal and state government, and Abdulsamad Rabiu donated \$2.6 million to COVID relief, while also providing testing kits and medical supplies to nine states in Nigeria.²⁷

In **Zimbabwe**, Strive and Tsitsi Masiyiwa donated 45 ventilators to address acute shortages in medical equipment,²⁸ and Masiyiwa's Econet Group will provide additional support to healthcare workers (ranging from clothing, insurance, cash, and transportation).²⁹

Congolose basketball player Bismack Biyombo also donated 10,000 face masks and 780 protective hazmat suits to assist his native **Democratic Republic of the Congo**.³⁰

And in **Kenya**, Equity Group Foundation has committed over \$11 million to support relief efforts in Kenya and support frontline medical staff—with support from Equity Bank, Mastercard Foundation, and the family of Dr James Mwangi.³¹

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- 21 Roxanne Henderson, "South Africa Billionaire Motsepe Pledges \$57 Million for Virus," *Bloomberg*, March 28, 2020, <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-28/south-africa-billionaire-motsepe-pledges-57-million-for-virus>; each committed ZAR 1 billion.
- 22 Nomahlubi Jordaan, "R180m Covid-19 boost from entities linked to late billionaire Allan Gray," *Times Live*, May 4, 2020, <https://www.timeslive.co.za/news/south-africa/2020-05-04-r180m-covid-19-boost-from-entities-linked-to-late-billionaire-allan-gray/>; Gray committed ZAR 180 million.
- 23 This gift from ELMA South Africa Foundation was announced as part of a larger gift from the ELMA Group of Foundations, in which \$106.9 million was committed to their global response to COVID, with a focus on Africa. "ELMA Group of Foundations Commits \$106.9 Million for COVID-19 Response," *Philanthropy News Digest*, May 15, 2020, <http://philanthropynewsdigest.org/news/elma-group-of-foundations-commits-106.9-million-for-covid-19-response>.
- 24 "Donations, loans & pledges: What you need to know about those billions aimed at fighting Covid-19," *fin24*, April 2, 2020, <https://www.fin24.com/Economy/South-Africa/donations-loans-pledges-what-you-need-to-know-about-those-billions-aimed-at-fighting-covid-19-20200402-2>; Naspers committed ZAR 1.5 billion.
- 25 Lisa-Anne Julien, "COVID-19: An opportunity for strategic African philanthropy," *Africa Portal*, May 11, 2020, <https://www.africaportal.org/features/covid-19-opportunity-strategic-african-philanthropy/>.
- 26 Linus Unah, "Nigerian private sector donates more than most other African countries in fight against COVID-19," *African Business*, April 14, 2020, <https://africanbusinessmagazine.com/sectors/health-sectors/covid-19/nigerian-private-sector-donates-more-than-most-other-african-countries-in-fight-against-covid-19/>; CACOVID is backed by Access Bank Group, Zenith Bank, Guaranty Trust Bank, and several others.
- 27 Hayley C. Cuccinello, "Billionaire Tracker: Actions the World's Wealthiest are Taking in Response to the Coronavirus Pandemic", *Forbes*, March 17, 2020, <https://www.forbes.com/sites/hayleycuccinello/2020/03/17/billionaire-tracker-covid-19/#67d5a1117e69>.
- 28 Ibid
- 29 Ray Ndlovu, "Zimbabwe Billionaire Offers Fresh Support to Health-Care Workers," *Bloomberg*, March 27, 2020, <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-27/zimbabwe-billionaire-offers-fresh-support-to-health-care-workers>.
- 30 Julien, "COVID-19: An opportunity for strategic African philanthropy."
- 31 "Big Names Back Covid-19 Response In Kenya," *Forbes Africa*, May 5, 2020, <https://www.forbesafrica.com/current-affairs/2020/05/05/big-names-back-covid-19-response-in-kenya/>; initial commitment of Ksh 1.1 billion.

One example of this focus on basic needs is the \$60 million gift to address the cholera outbreak in Zimbabwe in 2019 by Strive and Tsitsi Masiyiwa, London-based Zimbabwean philanthropists. This gift followed a previous emergency donation of \$10 million by Masiyiwa's Econet Wireless Zimbabwe at the onset of the cholera outbreak in the country in September 2018. The larger follow-on gift went beyond emergency aid by supporting a multiyear effort to eliminate water-borne diseases in the country, to bring a more lasting solution.³²

Another example of a very large gift for basic needs was the \$100 million commitment made in 2016 by Aliko Dangote of Nigeria, in partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, to address malnutrition in Nigeria. One of the ways that the two donors are working together to fight malnutrition is through food fortification—adding micronutrients to the food that families are purchasing every day, to improve health without needing to change habits. In describing the goal of this gift, Dangote and Gates noted that addressing malnutrition is critical to supporting the future prospects of Nigeria's youth; as of 2016, children ages 14 and under comprised 44 percent of the country's 196 million people.³³ This effort reflects a common strategy of African donors: giving to basic needs as a way to catalyze longer-term development.

Some observers also note that by funding basic needs, donors steer clear of causes that may have more political risk. "In society, there is often a close relationship between the business elites and political elites, which can make it difficult for business or philanthropies to support causes that are considered politically charged" said Audrey Elster, executive director of the RAITH Foundation in South Africa. Donors may be reticent to fund issues that could be viewed as political, such as social justice.

The gifts in the economic growth and service delivery category are less focused on direct support and more on building the infrastructure to address poverty, health, food, and other challenges. Several large gifts directed towards entrepreneurship fall into this category. One example is the Dangote Foundation's Micro-Grant Scheme, a program which provides cash grants and entrepreneurial training to women in collaboration with local governments in Nigeria. As of December 2019, this program had already reached 334,500 women and youths, and had pledged to reach an additional 106,000 by the end of 2019.³⁴ Tony Elumelu's investment in entrepreneurship is another example.

“In society, there is often a close relationship between the business elites and political elites, which can make it difficult for business or philanthropies to support causes that are considered politically charged.”

AUBREY ELSTER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
RAITH FOUNDATION

32 Note that this gift, while motivated by an initial focus on basic health needs, will also fund water infrastructure that falls into the category of economic growth and service delivery.

33 The World Bank, 2019, <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.0014.TO.ZS?locations=NG>.

34 Dangote Foundation announced a disbursement of \$3 million towards the Micro-Grant Scheme in December 2019, building off of an earlier disbursement of \$3 million in 2014. The program (with endowment) was established in 2011; Mfonobong Nsehe, "Africa's Richest Man Pledges \$3 Million To 106,000 Low Income Women," *Forbes*, September 24, 2019, <https://www.forbes.com/sites/mfonobongnsehe/2019/09/24/africas-richest-man-pledges-3-million-to-106000-low-income-women/#3710803a1042>.

The Sustainable Development Goals generally do not inform strategic funding decisions or inspire giving, but rather largely function as a reporting tool

The SDGs “were adopted by all United Nations member states in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030.” According to analysis conducted by the Brookings Institution, it is estimated that sub-Saharan Africa will need \$574 billion dollars per year until 2030 to finance the SDGs, with a current financing gap of \$256 billion per year.³⁵

Philanthropy can be an important platform to meet that financing gap. Yet when we asked experts about the role that the SDGs play in African philanthropy, many cautioned that the SDGs are not at the forefront of motivating African philanthropists to give. In fact, the vast majority of our interviewees do not believe philanthropists on the continent are using the SDGs to make funding decisions. We saw few examples of funders actively using the SDGs as a framework to inspire and guide their specific giving.

We heard two main reasons for this. First, some African philanthropists see the SDG framework as a global rather than specifically African framework for Africa's development. “Philanthropy in Africa will follow the SDGs as compliance, not to drive the agenda,” said Jeffer Mxotshwa of ADTICS Research & Media Consulting Services. “It’s not that we see ourselves in the SDGs. We see ourselves as having been asked to do something.” Second, the starting point for many philanthropists is to respond to causes they experience or witness firsthand, rather than referencing what might seem like an academic tool. Shelagh Gastrow, an independent consultant who served for many years as executive director of the South African Institute for Advancement, noted that “we have some African donors that look at SDGs, but they are not a driver of strategy. They aren’t in our face. They are farther away and more theoretical.” This second point is likely not unique to Africa, some interviewees noted, as donors in other parts of the world may be similarly unlikely to use a theoretical framework to motivate major giving decisions.

However, interviewees acknowledged that philanthropists often use the SDGs to explain or monitor their giving retroactively. Additionally, the share of large gifts going to basic needs such as health and education (see chart on page 8) shows that much of African philanthropy is actually aligned with SDG priorities. These two observations suggest that the SDGs are not irrelevant to African philanthropists, but recognizing the way in which the SDGs are used in practice (namely, as a monitoring tool rather than an inspirational framework) is important to more fully understand the role African philanthropy can play in closing the SDG financing gap.

35 Brahim Sangafowa Coulibaly, “Approaches for better resource mobilization to finance Africa’s Sustainable Development Goals,” Brookings Institution, January 17, 2020, <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/africa-in-focus/2020/01/17/approaches-for-better-resource-mobilization-to-finance-africas-sustainable-development-goals/>.

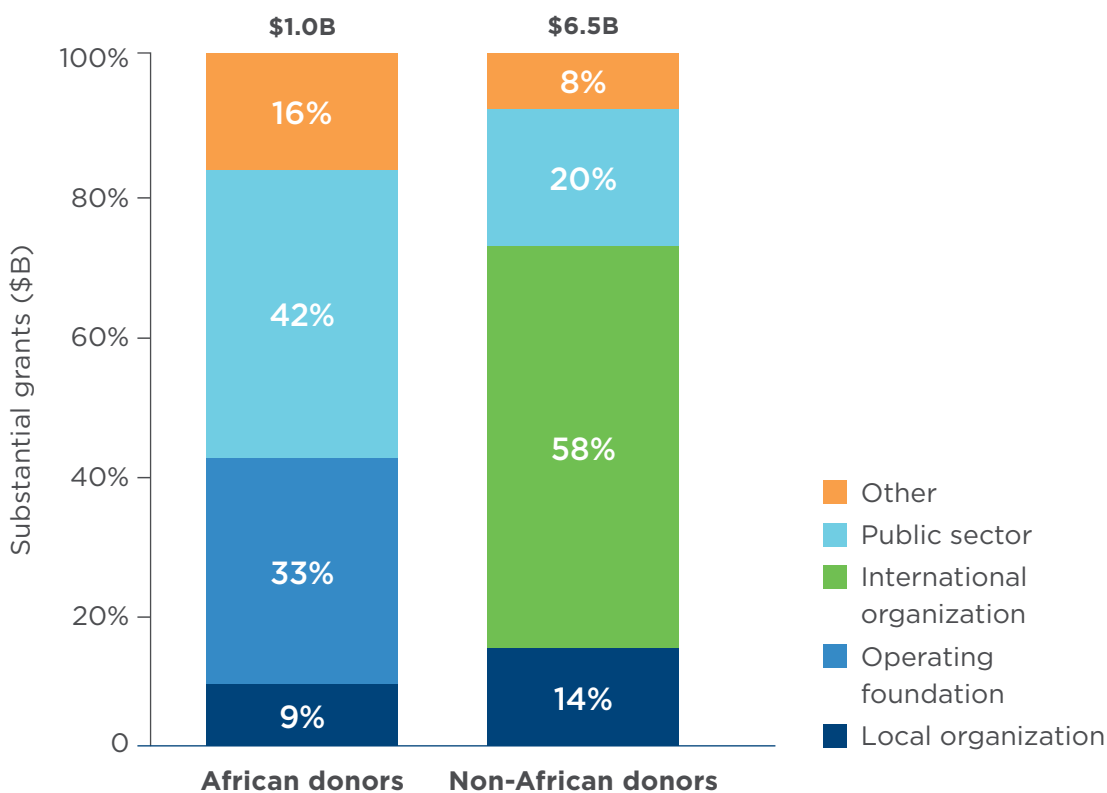
3. African donors of large gifts give mainly to the public sector and their own operating foundations, with limited funding reaching local NGOs

In terms of what kind of organizations receive these large gifts, the giving patterns in our five-country sample of African donors vary greatly from those of non-African donors. Three especially significant differences stand out.

The largest share of gifts by African donors goes to public sector:³⁶ Forty-two percent of the dollar value of large African donations in our sample went to government institutions, compared to 20 percent for non-African donors. The large share of funding going to the public sector from African donors may reflect some of the challenges faced by the local

Breakdown of giving by type of recipient³⁷

Substantial grants by type of recipient (\$B)—dollar view



Source: Bridgespan analysis, based on sample of 63 gifts made by African donors to causes/organizations in Africa; all gifts made between the years 2010–2019.

36 The “public sector” category includes state or local government entities such as ministries, departments, public hospitals, and government relief programs, as well as private-public partnerships.

37 The “Other” category in this chart represents giving to social businesses (e.g., microfinance institutions), money pledged to particular uses where the ultimate recipient has not yet been identified (particularly special purpose funds), and gifts made to unspecified recipients.

NGO sector in Africa (see below) and the focus of African donors on basic needs like health, education, and disaster relief, where government is typically the dominant actor. One example is gifts made by five Nigerian businessmen—Aliko Dangote, Jim Ovia, Arthur Eze, Tony Elumelu, and Mike Adenuga, whose donations totaled nearly \$40 million—to a government committee in 2012 to assist more than two million people left homeless by flooding in Nigeria.

The second largest share of giving by African donors goes to their own operating

foundations: Thirty-three percent of funds from the African donors went to operating foundations. While operating foundations also play a significant role outside Africa, several of the experts we interviewed noted their outsized importance in African philanthropy. One reason for the use of operating foundations is some donors' view that they already have the structure, capabilities, and networks in place through their business to implement a program directly. "It was easier and more practical for us to implement it ourselves because we already have the footprint, the network, the expertise," explained the Tony Elumelu Foundation's Somachi Chris-Asoluka. By delivering the ambitious pan-African entrepreneurship program through his own operating foundation, Elumelu was able to tap into the networks that he had already developed across the continent through United Bank for Africa. In addition, the Foundation leverages its strong relationships in the public, private and development sectors to drive its mission of creating prosperity for all. Additionally, some see greater benefit to their corporate or personal brand if they implement a program directly. Finally, as discussed immediately below, some experts observed that a trust deficit may discourage philanthropists from giving to NGOs.

Few larger gifts go directly to local organizations:³⁸ Only 9 percent of donations from African donors in the sample went to local organizations (including NGOs and academic institutions). This very small share is striking—especially compared to our sample of non-African giving to the continent, where more than 70 percent of giving went to grantee organizations, both local and international (see [sidebar on the next page](#)). It also stands in sharp contrast to the United States, where the great bulk of philanthropic funding goes directly to the nonprofit sector. However, many of the funders and experts we interviewed were unsurprised by scarcity of funding for local organizations—and in particular, local NGOs—from African donors.

The first challenge is scale. Several of our interviewees mentioned that there are relatively few local NGOs that operate at scale across multiple countries in Africa. This limits the options that donors have to support local NGOs that are operating at a pan-African scale. The NGOs with the largest reach across countries tend to be international NGOs (INGOs) headquartered outside the continent.

Some interviewees also remarked that some donors don't have much trust in NGOs. African donors might choose to run operating foundations rather than engage in grant making because they hold the perception that local NGOs have low accountability. Even if this type of narrative fails to reflect the reality of effective NGO practices on the continent, it constrains funding available to NGOs.

In some cases, political considerations may also be a factor. "Local donors are reticent to support NGOs engaging in political activities because it could harm their relations with the government," explained SIVIO Institute's Tendai Murisa.

38 "Local organization" includes grantee organizations headquartered in Africa—including NGOs and academic institutions. "International organization" refers to grantee organizations headquartered outside the continent—including INGOs, academic institutions, and multilateral institutions.

Non-African giving to the continent goes predominantly to international organizations

Compared to African large givers, a much higher share of non-African giving (72 percent overall) went to grantee organizations. The vast majority of these recipients were INGOs—organizations founded and headquartered outside the continent. Following the overall pattern in the global south,^{39, 40} non-African donors direct their funds mainly to non-African institutions to oversee their distribution. Fifty-eight percent of the funding goes to internationally-based organizations (international NGOs, non-African academic institutions, and multilateral organizations).

Non-African donors face the same barriers to funding local NGOs as African donors (such as scale), as well as some that appear unique (such as cross-border legal requirements). Only 14 percent of non-African funding went directly to locally-based African organizations. Note, though, that while a relatively small share of their total giving, the absolute dollars are still significant given the large scale of non-African funds flowing into the continent.

Historically, large INGOs have often raised the bulk of their funding from the United States and Europe, and then partnered with local NGOs in implementation. “You often have a scenario where INGOs act as brokers,” said Karen Levy, founding partner at Fit for Purpose, an Africa-focused organization supporting effective engagement with policymakers. “They do the large-scale fundraising, and share smaller amounts with local partners.”

However, there are signs that this dynamic is changing. Interviewees noted that, increasingly, international donors want their funds to be as close to the end beneficiary as possible; they may not want their money sitting in a regional hub in Nairobi or Johannesburg. Despite the challenges that may persist, this shift in mindset suggests local NGOs may begin to appear more frequently on the list of large gifts granted by non-African philanthropists in future. It is less clear how these changes may affect African donors.



Large-scale African philanthropy has distinct characteristics that do not necessarily follow the pattern of large-scale giving in the United States or Europe. It is shaped by culture, politics, economics, and—as around the globe—by the preferences of donors. Based on our sample, we see that the great majority of this giving is within a donor’s home country, most of it focuses on basic needs, and the main recipients are public organizations and the donor’s own operating foundation rather than NGOs. The scale of giving—\$1 billion in our five-country sample alone—and the growth of African economies and the number of wealthy Africans underline that this kind of philanthropy will likely play an important and perhaps growing role in supporting development and social change on the continent.

39 A 2015 report found that the majority of US foundation funding focused on Africa supported organizations headquartered outside of Africa. In 2012, just over one-quarter of foundation giving targeted organizations headquartered in 36 of the 54 countries on the continent, while 12 of the top 15 recipients of Africa-focused giving in 2012 were headquartered outside of the continent. Steven Lawrence, Anna Koob, and Niamani Mutima, *U.S. Foundation Funding for Africa*, 2015 Edition, Foundation Center, 2015, http://foundationcenter.org/gainknowledge/research/pdf/funding_for_africa2015.pdf.

40 A 2019 Echoing Green study of 2,574 funding applicants found that social entrepreneurs who are citizens of lower one third HDI (Human Development Index) nations report receiving significantly less funding to work in their own countries than social entrepreneurs from top two-third HDI nationals who propose to work in those same countries. Echoing Green, “State of Social Entrepreneurship 2019,” <https://echoinggreen.org/news/state-of-social-entrepreneurship-2019/>.

Appendix

Notes on methodology

- To assemble the database, we used information from publicly available sources such as foundation websites and news articles.
- We selected \$1 million as the threshold for grant size among African donors to be included in the sample.
- The sample only includes gifts from sub-Saharan African donors to causes or organizations in sub-Saharan Africa. We excluded gifts these donors had sent outside of Africa.⁴¹
- We focused on gifts to “social change,” using a definition adapted from The Bridgespan Group’s “big bets” research in the United States.⁴² Of note, our definition excludes gifts to art institutions and religious causes, and includes gifts to academic institutions. We recognize that a substantial amount of giving in Africa, including from high-net-worth individuals, is channeled through religious institutions, such as churches and mosques, but these gifts are not included in the current analysis. The sample does include gifts to religiously-motivated organizations, such as faith-based NGOs.
- We consolidated multiple grants from a single donor for the same recipient into one large grant even if the grants occurred in multiple years and independently did not meet the threshold. In these instances, we dated them with the year of the first gift in the series. One exception is gifts from the same donor to a government agency; we did not consolidate these repeat gifts unless they were explicitly intended for the same purpose.
- We did not differentiate between an individual and their foundation when identifying grants. While research suggests that many donors appear to make some gifts as individuals and others from their foundation, this distinction was often not clear enough in the source material (primarily news articles) to enable us to distinguish between giving vehicles on a gift-by-gift basis.
- We included grants from corporate foundations in our database, in addition to private funders, when the purpose of the gift fit our definition for social change. We recognize that a corporate entity’s motivations can sometimes be different from those of private philanthropists, but including corporate philanthropy allowed us to get a more complete view of the gifts African donors are directing towards social change on the continent.
- To determine the total amount of the gift in USD, we used the exchange rate from the month and year that the grant was made, and rounded numbers where appropriate.

41 For examples of gifts made outside of Africa, see Tendai Murisa, “African philanthropy: still work to be done,” *Alliance*, September 6, 2016, <https://www.alliancemagazine.org/feature/african-philanthropy-still-work-to-be-done/>.

42 William Foster, Gail Perreault, Alison Powell, and Chris Addy, “Making Big Bets for Social Change,” *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, Winter 2016, https://ssir.org/articles/entry/making_big_bets_for_social_change.

- We defined focus areas based on the SDG that we judged to best correspond with the grant, although grants could touch on more than one SDG.
 - The “basic needs” category includes grants to goals 1-no poverty, 2-zero hunger, 3-good health and well-being, 4-quality education, 5-gender equality, and 10-reduced inequalities.
 - “Economic growth and service delivery” includes grants to goals 6-clean water and sanitation, 7-affordable and clean energy, 8-decent work and economic growth, 9-industry, innovation and infrastructure, 11-sustainable cities and communities, and 12-responsible consumption and production.
 - “Other” includes grants to goals 13-climate action, 14-life below water, 15-life on land, 16-peace, justice, and strong institutions, and 17-partnerships for the goals.
 - This categorization is an adaption of a framework used to cluster the SDGs, as included in: Ingeborg Niestroy, ‘How Are We Getting Ready? The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the EU and its Member States: Analysis and Action So Far’ (2016), https://www.die-gdi.de/uploads/media/DP_9.2016.pdf.
- We defined recipient types as follows:
 - Local organization: Organizations that are headquartered in a country in Africa, including local NGOs and local academic institutions
 - International organization: Organizations founded and headquartered outside of Africa, including INGOs, foreign academic institutions, and multilaterals
 - Operating foundation: A foundation that makes direct expenditures and implements its own programs rather than making grants to another organization
 - Public sector: State or local government entities such as ministries, departments, public hospitals, and government relief programs, as well as private-public partnerships
 - Other: Giving to social businesses (e.g. microfinance institutions), money pledged to particular uses where the ultimate recipient has not yet been identified (particularly special purpose funds), and gifts made to unspecified uses

Five-country sample of \$1 million-plus gifts

Our database of grants by African donors covers 63 grants of \$1 million-plus from African donors over the period 2010-2019, made in Africa. This database includes grants by donors from five countries: Kenya, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, and South Africa, representing the regions of East, West, and Southern Africa. It is based on publicly available information from sources such as foundation websites and news articles. We would appreciate any corrections or additions to this database. You can provide us your input at [Bridgespan.org](https://bridgespan.org).

Donor	Donor country	Amount (USD)	Focus area	SDG	Recipient organization	Recipient type	Recipient country	Start year
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$5,600,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	Borno State	Public sector	Nigeria	2018
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$1,400,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	Fund	Other	Nigeria	2017
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$16,250,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States	Public sector	Nigeria	2013
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$4,000,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	Adamawa and Yobe states	Public sector	Nigeria	2013
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$16,750,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	The Nigerian Government Presidential Committee on Flood Relief and Rehabilitation	Public sector	Nigeria	2012
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$1,300,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	Fund	Other	Nigeria	2012
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$3,500,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	Nigerian states	Public sector	Nigeria	2011
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$2,300,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	Fund	Other	Nigeria	2011
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$750,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	Niger republic	Public sector	Niger	2010
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$100,000,000	Basic needs	2—Zero hunger	Dangote Foundation	Operating foundation	Nigeria	2016
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$28,000,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	Fund	Other	Nigeria	2016
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$5,000,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	Fund	Other	Multiple	2015
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$3,000,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	AU Ebola Fund	Other	Multiple	2014

Donor	Donor country	Amount (USD)	Focus area	SDG	Recipient organization	Recipient type	Recipient country	Start year
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$925,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	Government of Nigeria	Public sector	Nigeria	2014
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$3,300,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	Ahmadu Bello University	Local organization	Nigeria	2019
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$800,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	University of Ibadan	Local organization	Nigeria	2018
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$6,300,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	Nigerian universities	Local organization	Nigeria	2012
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$1,300,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	Katsina University	Local organization	Nigeria	2011
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$1,500,000	Basic needs	5—Gender equality	Fund	Other	Nigeria	2012
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$6,000,000	Economic growth and service delivery	8—Decent work and economic growth	Nigerian states	Public sector	Nigeria	2014
Aliko Dangote/ Dangote Foundation	Nigeria	\$4,000,000	Economic growth and service delivery	8—Decent work and economic growth	Kano state	Public sector	Nigeria	2011
Anonymous	South Africa	\$9,000,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	Wits University	Local organization	South Africa	2014
Arthur Eze	Nigeria	\$6,300,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	The Nigerian Government Presidential Committee on Flood Relief and Rehabilitation	Public sector	Nigeria	2012
Arthur Eze	Nigeria	\$15,900,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	Association of People Living with Sickle Cell Disorder	Local organization	Nigeria	2016
Arthur Eze	Nigeria	\$12,000,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	St Stephen's Anglican Deanery	Local organization	Nigeria	2013
Firststrand Foundation	South Africa	\$11,200,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	Multiple South African university students	Operating foundation	South Africa	2019
Firststrand Foundation	South Africa	\$6,500,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	ISFAP	Local organization	South Africa	2016
Firststrand Foundation	South Africa	\$2,700,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	Multiple South African university students	Operating foundation	South Africa	2016

Donor	Donor country	Amount (USD)	Focus area	SDG	Recipient organization	Recipient type	Recipient country	Start year
Folorunso Alakija	Nigeria	\$2,700,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	Ajayi Crowther University	Local organization	Nigeria	2016
Jannie Mouton	South Africa	\$3,600,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	Stellenbosch University	Local organization	South Africa	2016
Jim Ovia	Nigeria	\$6,300,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	The Nigerian Government Presidential Committee on Flood Relief and Rehabilitation	Public sector	Nigeria	2012
Manu Chandaria/ Chandaria Foundation	Kenya	\$1,160,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	Getrude's Children's Hospital	Public sector	Kenya	2012
Mike Adenuga	Nigeria	\$3,200,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	The Nigerian Government Presidential Committee on Flood Relief and Rehabilitation	Public sector	Nigeria	2012
Mike Adenuga	Nigeria	\$1,000,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	University of Nigeria Nsukka	Local organization	Nigeria	2011
Nedbank Group	South Africa	\$1,500,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	Nelson Mandela Children's Fund	Local organization	South Africa	2017
Nedbank Group	South Africa	\$1,360,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	Eyethu Community Trust	Local organization	South Africa	2017
Neville Isdell	South Africa	\$1,240,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	University of Cape Town	Local organization	South Africa	2019
Oranto Petroleum	Nigeria	\$800,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	Local schools	Operating foundation	South Sudan	2018
Partners for Seed in Africa (PASA)	Kenya	\$1,700,000	Basic needs	2—Zero hunger	Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa	Local organization	Kenya	2016
Patrice Motsepe/ Motsepe Foundation	South Africa	\$1,000,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	Fund	Other	Zimbabwe	2019
Patrice Motsepe/ Motsepe Foundation	South Africa	\$250,000,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	Government of South Africa	Public sector	South Africa	2018
Patrice Motsepe/ Motsepe Foundation	South Africa	\$1,200,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	City of Cape Town	Public sector	South Africa	2013

Donor	Donor country	Amount (USD)	Focus area	SDG	Recipient organization	Recipient type	Recipient country	Start year
Patrice Motsepe/ Motsepe Foundation	South Africa	\$10,000,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	RED campaign (Fund)	Other	Multiple	2014
Patrice Motsepe/ Motsepe Foundation	South Africa	\$2,000,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	Fund	Other	Multiple	2014
Patrice Motsepe/ Motsepe Foundation	South Africa	\$4,000,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	Patrice Motsepe Foundation	Operating foundation	South Africa	2017
Patrice Motsepe/ Motsepe Foundation	South Africa	\$8,000,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	SA Department of Basic Education	Public sector	South Africa	2015
Sir Emeka Ofori Foundation	Nigeria	\$10,250,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	Nigeria Ministry of Health	Public sector	Nigeria	2015
Strive Masiyiwa/ Higher Life Foundation	Zimbabwe	\$2,000,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	Fund	Other	Zimbabwe	2019
Strive Masiyiwa/ Higher Life Foundation	Zimbabwe	\$70,000,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	Zimbabwe National Taskforce for Cholera Elimination	Public sector	Zimbabwe	2018
Strive Masiyiwa/ Higher Life Foundation	Zimbabwe	\$6,400,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	Fund	Other	Multiple	2012
Strive Masiyiwa/ Higher Life Foundation	Zimbabwe	\$100,000,000	Economic growth and service delivery	8—Decent work and economic growth	Fund	Other	Zimbabwe	2019
The Foundation for Civil Society	Tanzania	\$2,700,000	Basic needs	10—Reduced inequalities	Tanzania Federation of Disabled People's Organizations	Local organization	Tanzania	2013
The Foundation for Civil Society	Tanzania	\$1,000,000	Other	16—Peace, justice and strong institutions	Tacceo-Temco	Local organization	Tanzania	2015
Theophilus Danjuma/ TY Danjuma Foundation	Nigeria	\$100,000,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	TY Danjuma Foundation	Operating foundation	Nigeria	2010
Theophilus Danjuma/ TY Danjuma Foundation	Nigeria	\$5,000,000	Other	16—Peace, justice and strong institutions	University of Cape Town	Local organization	South Africa	2014

Donor	Donor country	Amount (USD)	Focus area	SDG	Recipient organization	Recipient type	Recipient country	Start year
Theophilus Danjuma/ TY Danjuma Foundation	Nigeria	\$1,000,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	Unnamed NGO	Local organization	Nigeria	2015
Theophilus Danjuma/ TY Danjuma Foundation	Nigeria	\$13,750,000	Basic needs	4—Quality education	Ahmadu Bello University	Local organization	Nigeria	2013
Tony Elumelu/ Tony Elumelu Foundation	Nigeria	\$6,300,000	Basic needs	1—No poverty	The Nigerian Government Presidential Committee on Flood Relief and Rehabilitation	Public sector	Nigeria	2012
Tony Elumelu/ Tony Elumelu Foundation	Nigeria	\$1,000,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	AU Ebola Fund	Other	Multiple	2014
Tony Elumelu/ Tony Elumelu Foundation	Nigeria	\$100,000,000	Economic growth and service delivery	8—Decent work and economic growth	Tony Elumelu Foundation	Operating foundation	Multiple	2015
Tony Elumelu/ Tony Elumelu Foundation	Nigeria	\$16,000,000	Economic growth and service delivery	8—Decent work and economic growth	Tony Elumelu Foundation	Operating foundation	Nigeria	2014
United Bank for Africa	Nigeria	\$1,000,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	AU Ebola Fund	Other	Multiple	2014
Zarina & Naushad Merali Foundation	Kenya	\$1,200,000	Basic needs	3—Good health and well-being	Kenyatta National Hospital	Public sector	Kenya	2012

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About The Bridgespan Group

The Bridgespan Group is a social impact advisory firm with offices in the United States, Mumbai and Johannesburg. We work to build a better world by strengthening the ability of mission-driven organizations and philanthropists to achieve breakthrough results in addressing society's most important challenges and opportunities. Through our advisory work, Bridgespan has collaborated with philanthropist and non-profit clients doing social change work in many different regions of the world—from Southeast Asia, to Europe, North America, India, Southern and Northern Africa, the Arab Gulf and beyond.

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