



Left to right: Christ Mkhize- Uthungulu Community Foundation, KZN; Christine Delpont- GRCF, Nana Oye Mansa – Aquapem Community Foundation Ghana; Melanie Nicolau – UNISA Department of Geography; Sadi Luka – National Department of Social Development, Micheal Kirungi – Community Foundation for Masindi District Uganda; Dr Ernest Mkonyi – Arusha Community Foundation Tanzania; Prof Netswera – UNISA Research Administration; Prof Linington – College of Agriculture and Environmental Science



Seeing success in Mokgalwaneng, thanks to CAMP interventions.



Prof Makhanya, Vice-Chancellor of UNISA, being presented with a gift from the Department of Geography, an art-piece created by Jacob Molefe, local artist from Ledig.

Photos courtesy of UNISA

CAMP for CHANGE Conference – setting the tone for the future of development

BAKGATLA – A hundred and sixty delegates gathered in the peaceful resort in the Pilanesberg from 10 – 12 October, to discuss, debate and find a way forward for all stakeholders in the world of Philanthropy, relating to roots driven rural development. It was a jam packed three days, kicking off with an informational session by speakers from community foundations in Africa. Nana Oye Mansa from the Aquapem Community Foundation in Ghana, Micheal Kirungi from the Community Foundation for the Masindi District in Uganda, and Dr Ernest Mkonyi from the Arusha Municipal Community Foundation in Tanzania all asserted their experiences, and a golden thread was identified in how our African partners partake in roots driven rural development. We were also honoured to have Dr Juraj Mesik, a community foundation expert and consultant to the World Bank from Slovakia with us, commenting on how community foundations can be a catalyst to sustainable roots driven rural development from an international perspective. The afternoon session was dominated by speakers from our academic and technical partner UNISA, with Professor Linington, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, and Professor Netswera, Executive Director of Research Administration gave very insightful key notes on how the academia can contribute to, and facilitate rural development. Our speaker from government, Ms Sadi Luka, Executive Director of the National Department of Social Development, inspired us with her talk, on government's decision to partner with development agents such as community foundations. After the first day of informational sharing, delegates were exposed to some of the CAMP processes, for some, an eye opening experience, with many commenting on how they actually learnt something about themselves. Afterwards, delegates were treated to a day out in the field, where some successful projects, following CAMP (Community Asset Mapping Programme) in the village of Mokgalwaneng were visited. Some of the beneficiaries shared their stories, and a sense of hope and achievement were tangible on the bus ride back to the venue. The conference ended off on day three, with a final session on the way forward, where critical questions such as, whose agendas are we driving, whose line is it anyway, and whose permission do we ask to do good were discussed. Role clarification and the glue that keeps it all together were also on the discussion list.

Although conferences like these take up valuable time, it is also a critical opportunity for all stakeholders to have fruitful conversations, discuss future opportunities, and streamline efforts being made by all parties involved. We are very satisfied with the outcome of this conference, and are already in the process of manifesting decisions that have been made during these three days. A full report is underway, and will be made available on our website within the next month. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the University of South Africa, in particular the Department of Geography, for all their hard work and assistance in making this conference a possibility. We would also like to thank our key note speakers, and all delegates who took the time to attend, and share their experiences and providing valuable input. Keep an eye out for the full report, and let's keep the platform open for conversation.

CAMPing for British American Tobacco

We at the GRCF always feel a sense of accomplishment, when we are approached by donors who exhibit real and sustainable corporate social responsibility. We were humbled this month, when British American Tobacco approached us with an opportunity to assist them in a project that they've been running for a couple of years with emerging farmers in the Skuinsdrift area. This process is being done in two phases, where we took the core group of 12 farmers to Tlholego Eco-Village for the first phase. We undertook a Community Asset Mapping Program with these farmers, and will roll it out into the broader community of Skuinsdrift in the following few weeks as part of the second phase. We are once again assured of the efficacy of the CAMP process, where the flexibility and adaptability of the programme really lends itself to real and valuable information gathering, for all circumstances, where we can identify appropriate and relevant interventions in communities, driven by citizens themselves. We will keep you posted on the outcomes!



Staff from the GRCF and BATSA with the participants from Skuinsdrift.

In the process of mapping out their community, with input from all the members, focusing on assets.



The value proposition for companies, partnering with NGO's:

Partnering with an organization who is really effective at what they do, has excellent standards of measurement and evaluation, is well audited, and is ever growing in prominence due to the innovation of programs helps create both strategic CSR (in the case of project partnerships) and strategic CSI (in the case of monetary donations). Some examples of why a community foundation is an excellent partner and channel for CSI funds include:

- Intimate knowledge of and close relationship to the community
- Extensive experience in local development and with local NGOs (due to acting as a grant-maker and capacity builder)
- Excellent measurement and evaluation of impact, which helps ensure that initiatives are of maximum impact in communities and therefore strategically beneficial to donors as well
- International connections and exposure, leading to cutting edge programs and more chances for marketing
- Reflective of the communities they serve
- Not seen as self-serving by the communities, while business led initiatives often can be leading to decreased sustainability of business led projects
- Less resources wasted on implementation, due to prior knowledge and experience
- Perpetuity of initiatives beyond the existence of the business ensures a lasting legacy



We never leave without a song and a dance...

Nohline Geyer from QuantumStep Human Development, facilitating a process



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