Outline

The Share Trust: Our Approach

Strengthening an Ecosystem

What We Do

Self Help Groups
Coalitions of Local Actors
Enabling Environment

Our Approach

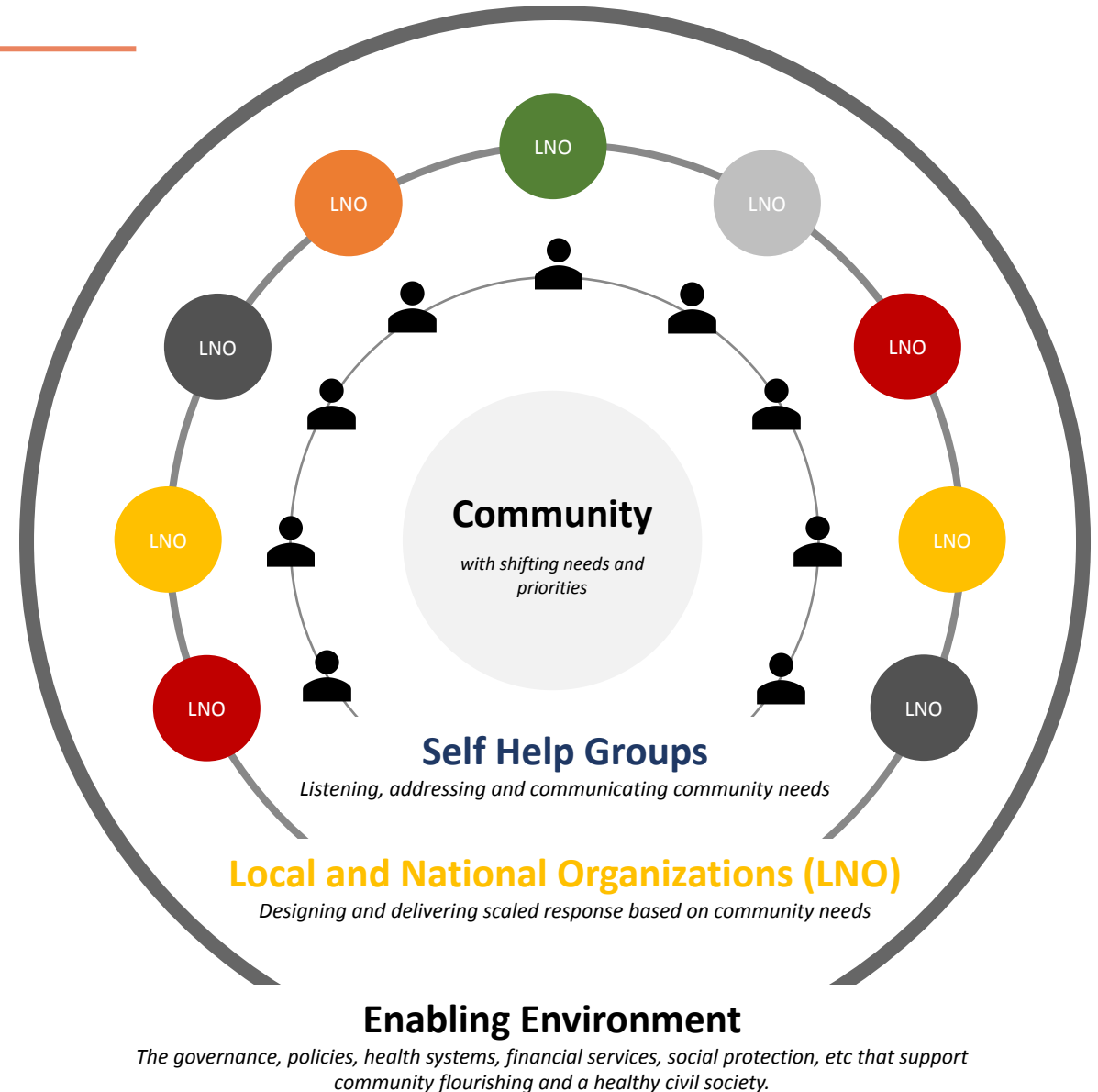Photo credit: Afghanaid

Community Driven Collective Action

We are working towards a world where the most marginalized members of society have a powerful and sustainable avenue to collectively build the future they want for themselves and their communities.

One of the most effective models to do this is through empowerment collectives such as Self Help Groups (SHG), and we holistically support and strengthen the SHG ecosystem globally to more effectively scale community driven collective action.

Strengthening an Ecosystem

We build collective action by working through SHGs, coalitions of local and national organizations (LNOs) and the enabling environment.

SHGs have been shown to have wide ranging impacts on their communities. When they work in partnership with LNOs, this impact is amplified. When all of this happens in an environment that enables locally driven initiatives to thrive, the effect is truly transformative.

Community
with shifting needs and priorities

Self Help Groups
Listening, addressing and communicating community needs

Local and National Organizations (LNO)
Designing and delivering scaled response based on community needs

Enabling Environment
The governance, policies, health systems, financial services, social protection, etc that support community flourishing and a healthy civil society.

Self Help Groups

- Amplify the organic growth of SHGs by building a strong community of practice around the model through technical support, training, advocacy and research

Local and National Organizations

Partner with LNOs to:
- Develop proof points through coalitions to shift power, process and funding to local actors
- Provide expert support and resources to SHGs globally

Enabling Environment

- Shift bilateral and government systems to center community-driven collective action to ensure that SHGs have a supportive enabling environment that allows them to thrive
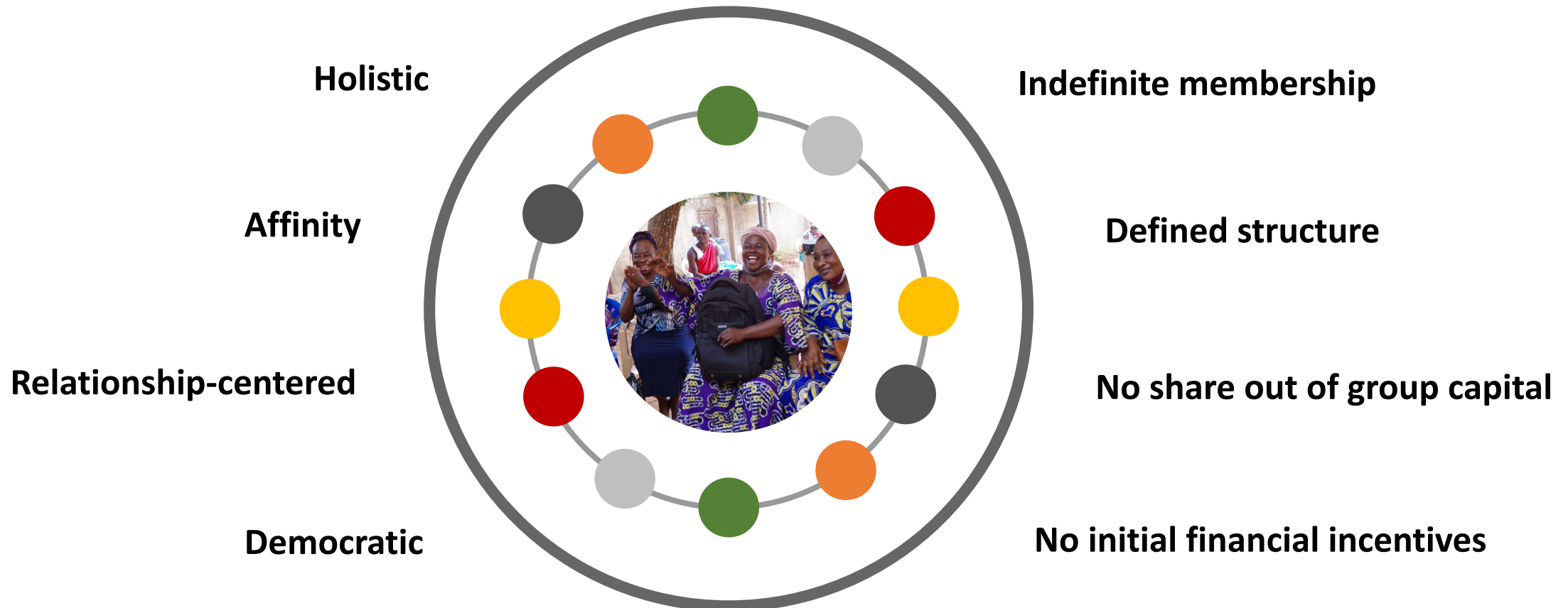
Community

Self Help Groups

Local and National Organizations

Enabling Environment

Self Help Groups

The Self Help Group Model

A group of 10-25 people - mostly women - who gather every week to save, build out their business activities, support each other and **create change for themselves and their communities.**

Holistic

Affinity

Relationship-centered

Democratic

Indefinite membership

Defined structure

No share out of group capital

No initial financial incentives

How Do They Accomplish This?

Self Help Groups inspire people to create change by:

- Creating a structured space for people to **articulate their vision for the future and develop strategies** to realize it

- Building **a support system** through strengthened trust and social connections

- Increasing people's **confidence** as they recognize their own worth

Aspirations

the presence of forward-looking goals or targets and a preference to attain them

Self-Efficacy

the belief in one's capability to act to achieve desired outcomes

Social Capital

social networks and the norms of reciprocity and trustworthiness that arise from them

Transformative Impact

Self Help Groups are created with the assumption that when individuals join forces to overcome obstacles and attain social change, the combination of **individual agency**, **group solidarity** and **community action** has a far-reaching impact.

37%
Women's groups are associated with a 37% reduction in maternal mortality.

2x
Women in Self Help Groups are twice as likely to participate in local politics.

19%
The presence of an SHG in a community increases use of family planning by 19%.

16%
An SHG intervention in Nepal decreased rates of acute and chronic malnutrition in children by 16% and 11% respectively.

A Cost-Effective Model

Self Help Groups were ranked the **second most cost-effective intervention in Africa** in the Economist because of their ability to address multi-dimensional needs through a combination of empowerment and peer support.
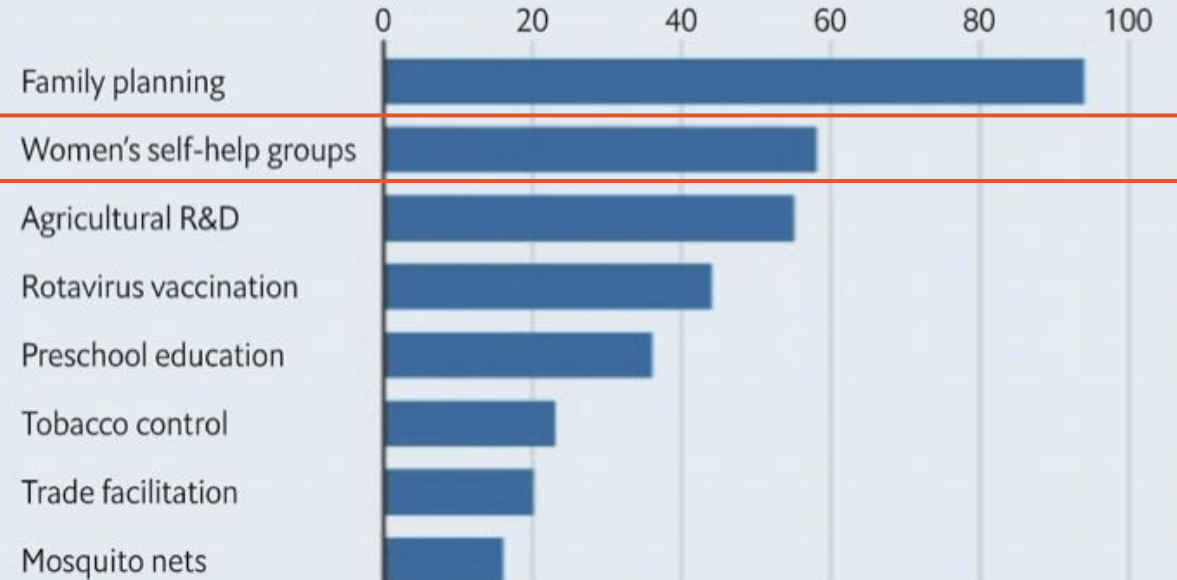
58:1

Self Help Groups in Ethiopia deliver over $58 in benefits for every $1 spent.

Getting ratioed

Africa, benefit of policies as a multiple of additional spending
Highest-ranked policies, 2019

Policy	
Family planning	
Women's self-help groups	
Agricultural R&D	
Rotavirus vaccination	
Preschool education	
Tobacco control	
Trade facilitation	
Mosquito nets	

Source: Copenhagen Consensus Centre

Impact at Every Level

Individual Agency

When women meet collectively, their self-esteem, agency and confidence grow. They begin to transform their own lives as well as the lives of those around them. By saving money collectively, SHGs start small businesses, fueling a cycle of economic empowerment.

Group Solidarity

When women meet, they work together, and as they work together, they begin to find ways to support each other through group solidarity. They help each other with child care, with starting a new business, or supporting each other through the loss of a family member.

Community Action

As groups mature, they often become advocates for change, transforming the lives of those around them. SHG members advocate for better access to services, they stop childhood marriage, and they work collectively to overcome the obstacles that lock them into poverty.
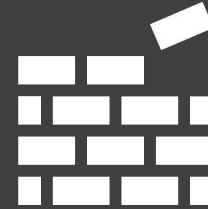
Process of Building Community Voice

Group Formation

Physically setting up the groups and setting rules of engagement
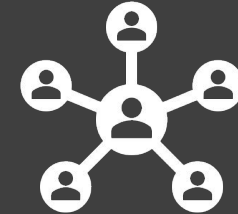
Group Strengthening

Start savings activities and go through the curriculum

Group Action

Social capacities are built up and groups start to activate in their communities

Group Growth

Groups begin seeding other groups and federated structures are formed

Partnering with: Self Help Groups in Afghanistan

Photo credit: Richard Pohle/The Times

The Share Trust partners with Afghanaid and SHG members in rural Afghanistan as they rebuild their lives and businesses in the face of one of the world's largest humanitarian crises, providing direct financial support as well as strategic and technical assistance.

2021: Taliban takeover in August led to an economic, social and political crisis, and SHGs stopped meeting due to safety concerns.

2022: SHGs reconvene and provided with vocational training, poultry/dairy farming inputs and seed grants to kickstart their group savings and loans activities.

2023: Taliban banned women from working at aid organizations, rendering SHGs more important than ever for meeting needs of women and girls.

Local Coalition Accelerator

Coalitions of LNOs

LCA Model: Coalitions of LNOs

The LCA is an initiative of the Share Trust and the Warande Advisory Centre in Kenya that supports **coalitions of LNOs** partnering with SHGs as they **co-design and implement holistic, evidence-based programming at scale** to address **systemic, multi-sectoral challenges.**

10-20 local actors

Collective, coordinated, at scale

Multisectoral and holistic

Phased joint action planning

3 year LCA financial and technical package

Speed of trust

Defined governance

Two way community feedback

Direct Funding to Local Actors

People should determine what happens in their own communities, and yet **only a small fraction of international aid makes it to local actors** driving the change they want to see.

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

+

In 2018, **only 0.4% of all humanitarian funding** went to local and national NGOs. In 2019, total aid to LNOs was down 30% from 2016.

Source: OECD (2020). "Aid for Civil Society Organizations", p. 7 (for numerator); OECD (2020). "Multilateral Development Finance 2020" (for denominator)

Source: Development Initiatives (2019). "Global Humanitarian Assistance Report 2019", p.64

93% Donor Governments

Philanthropy **7%**

Official Development Assistance (ODA)

$152.8 billion
in 2019

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

Who is giving?

Very concentrated.
- 76% from 10 funders (cross border funding)
- 38% is from the Gates Foundation

Though 19% is now from domestic foundations providing support locally.

Top 10 in 2019: **Afghanistan, India, Bangladesh, Syria, Ethiopia, Jordan, Iraq, Yemen, DRC** and **Myanmar**
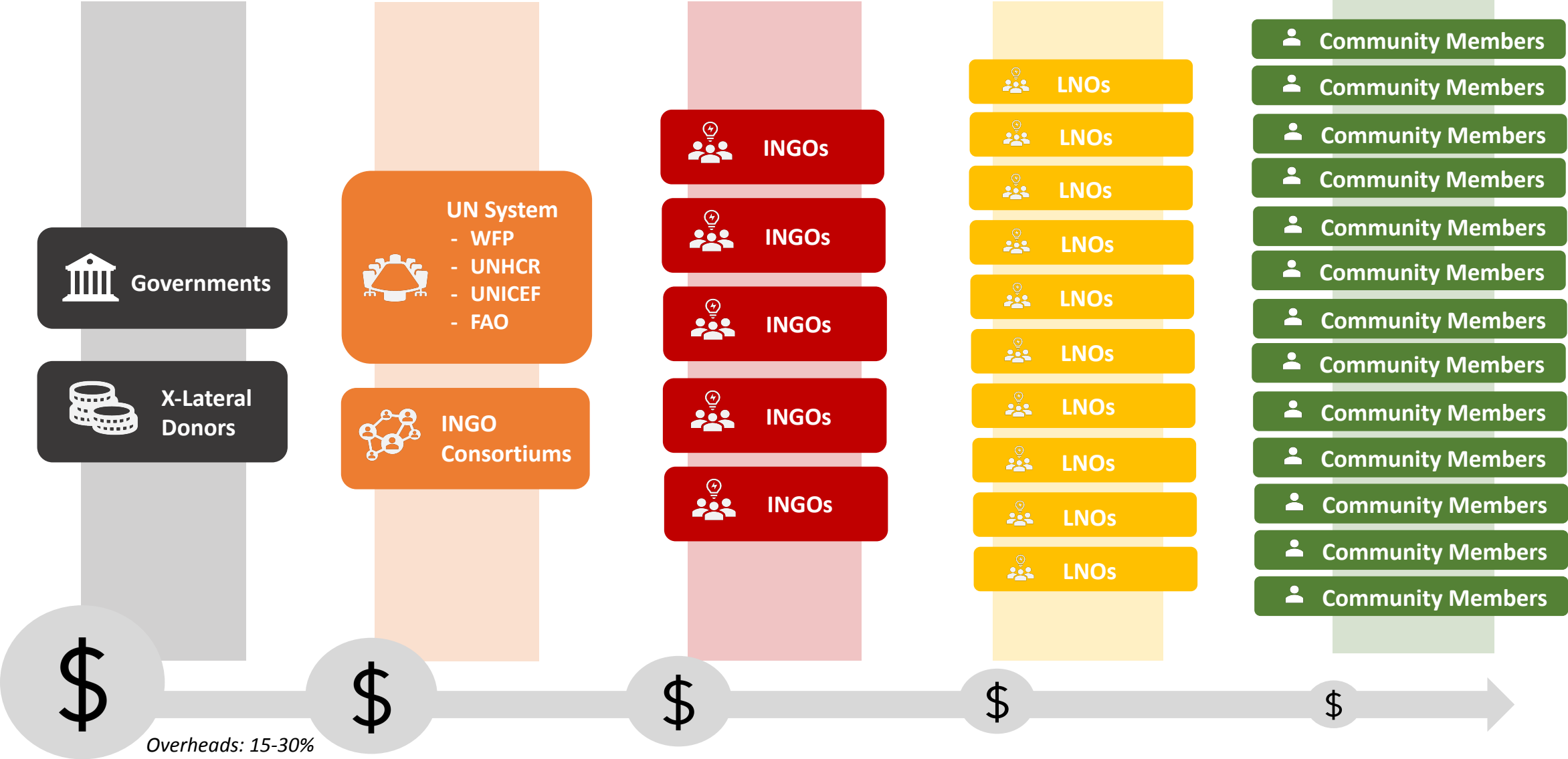
Who is receiving?

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

Who is delivering?

INGOs, bilateral and multilateral efforts receive most of the funding, estimated at 97% or higher.
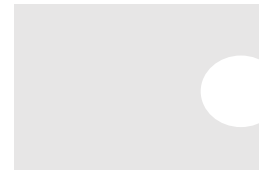*Examples include GAVI, Vaccine Alliance, WHO, Path, and the United Nations.*

Sources: data from 2016-2019, OECD 2021 ; and DI 2019

Current Flow of Development Financing

Governments

X-Lateral Donors

UN System
- WFP
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- FAO

INGO Consortiums

INGOs

INGOs

INGOs

INGOs

INGOs

LNOs

LNOs

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Community Members

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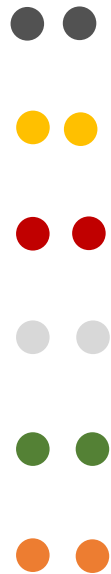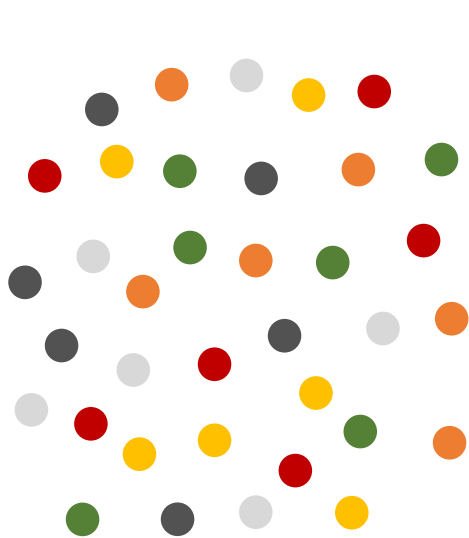
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Overheads: 15-30%

The Need We See: A Lack of Bridging Initiatives

7% ODA

93% ODA

Builders

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

Bilaterals

who cannot fund 100s of individual organizations

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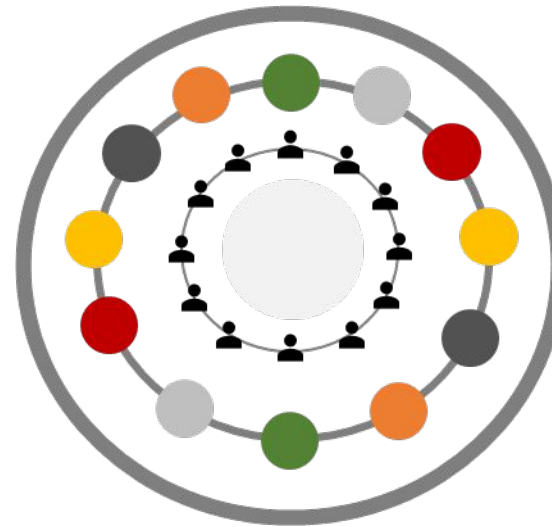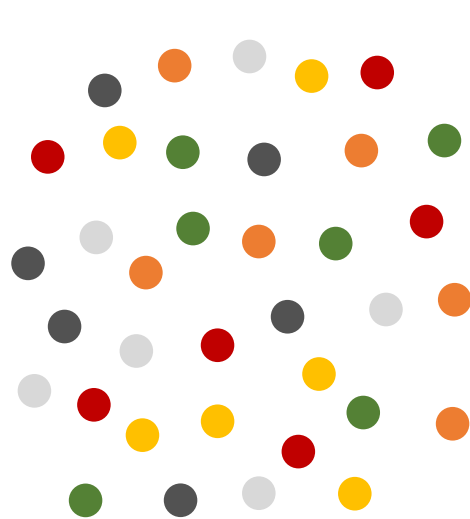
Bridging the Gap

7% ODA

93% ODA

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

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

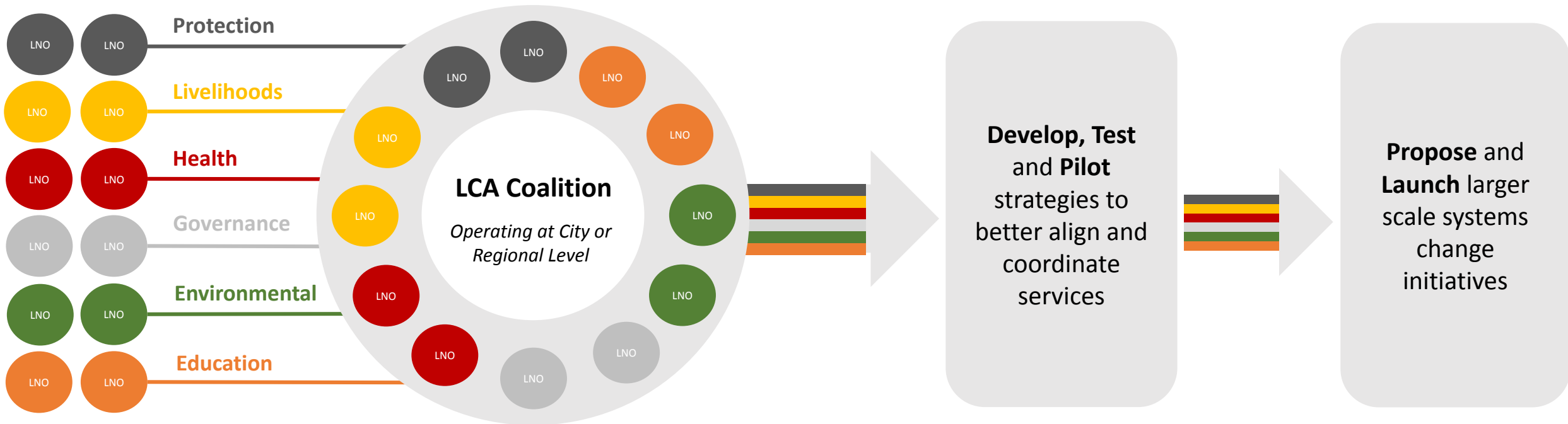## Bilaterals
who cannot fund 100s of individual organizations

> **Local Initiatives** > **Higher capacity, investment-ready LNOs** > **Coalitions**
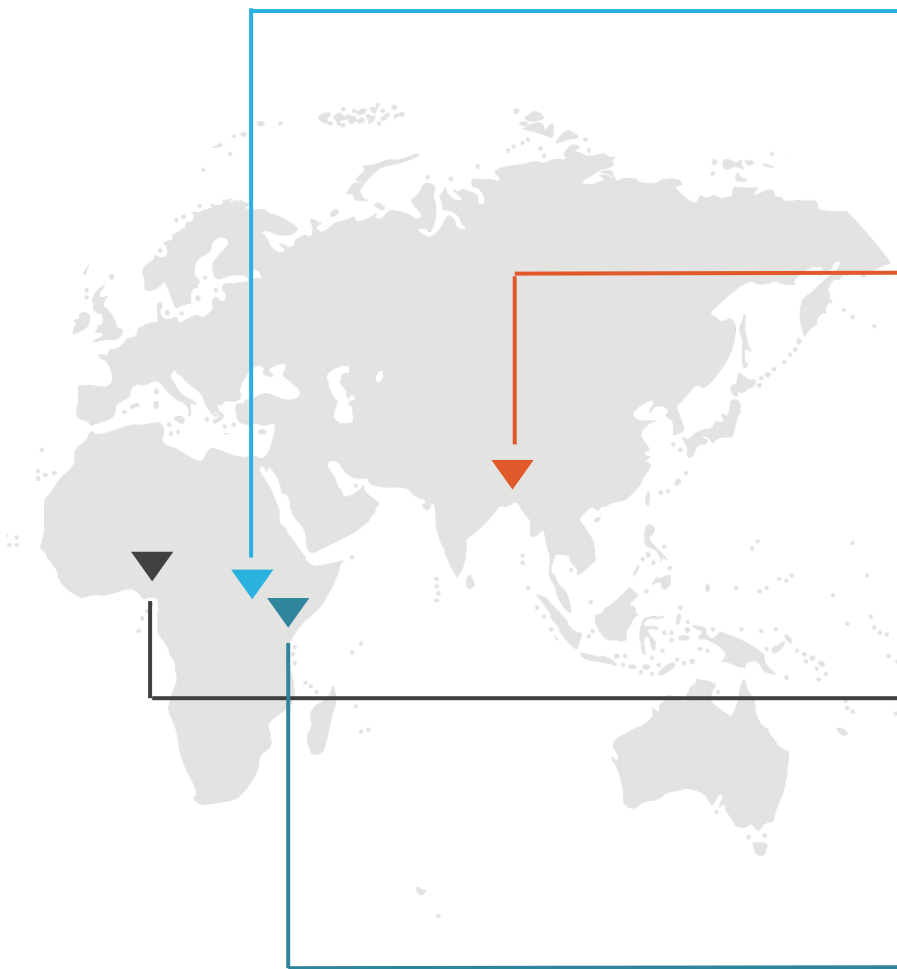
Journey of an LCA Coalition: 3 Years

The goal of the LCA is for local actors to have the capacity, autonomy and direct financial means to lead on impactful large-scale systems change. The LCA provides an intensive 3-year package of financial and technical support to enable high-potential local coalitions to achieve this.

LCA Coalitions: Overview

Uganda — 2021

- **Kampala**: Kawempe and Rubaga divisions
- **14 members**: 6-member Steering Committee and Working Groups (MEAL; Org. Development; Fundraising/Comms)
- **Livelihoods, education and health**

Partners: **Hilton Foundation; Humanity United; KCCA; UNHCR**

Bangladesh — 2022

- **Sundarbans:** Satkhira, Khulna, Barguna, Patuakhali districts
- **16 members**
- Building resilient, **disaster-ready communities** (livelihoods, addressing impact of severe salinity on WASH and SRHR)

Partners: **Start Fund Bangladesh; MACP**

Nigeria — 2022

- **Adamawa:** Gombe, Hong, Mubi, Michika government areas
- **9 members**: 5-member Secretariat; action committee of 30 members
- **Humanitarian response** to regional violence and internal displacement

Partners: **Vitol Foundation; PLRCAP; INGO Forum; FCDO**

Kenya — 2023

- **Formation stage** of a coalition focused on sexual and reproductive health and rights (**SRHR**)

Partners: **Skoll Foundation; Grand Challenges Canada**

Enabling Environment

Enabling Environment

A supportive enabling environment can help local actors meet the needs of their communities more effectively. We build infrastructure and help **revise processes and systems that systematically exclude significant direct investment in local actors to be more equipped to accompany and complement community driven initiatives.**

Governance

Social protection

Policies

Financial services

Health systems

Feedback mechanisms

Photo: Head antenatal nurse Margie Harriet Egessa at Mukujju clinic, Tororo, Uganda.
Jonathan Torgovnik/Getty Images/Images of Empowerment

Importance of Enabling Conditions

Part of the community, **Self Help Groups** members listen to the shifting needs and priorities of their families and neighbors, working together to address what they can and advocate with local government officials for critical access to basic services.

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

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

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Shifting Power, Process and Funding

Power

Who?

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

Process

How?

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

Funding

What?

How can we shift funding from UN/INGO directly to local actors?

Strengthening the Enabling Environment

Bridging Collaborations

We **facilitate** connections between different stakeholders to bridge perspectives and catalyze partnerships.

Our global **Advisory Council (AC)** regularly convenes over 100 individual members representing three groups that seldom interact together: Global South leaders, bilateral agencies, and philanthropic donors.

Shifting Systems

We **strategize**, **advocate** and **innovate** to shift power, process and funding to local actors.

We are working with the UN's International Organization for Migration (IOM) to **develop a Localization Framework** and Guidance Note for their Crisis Response strategy.
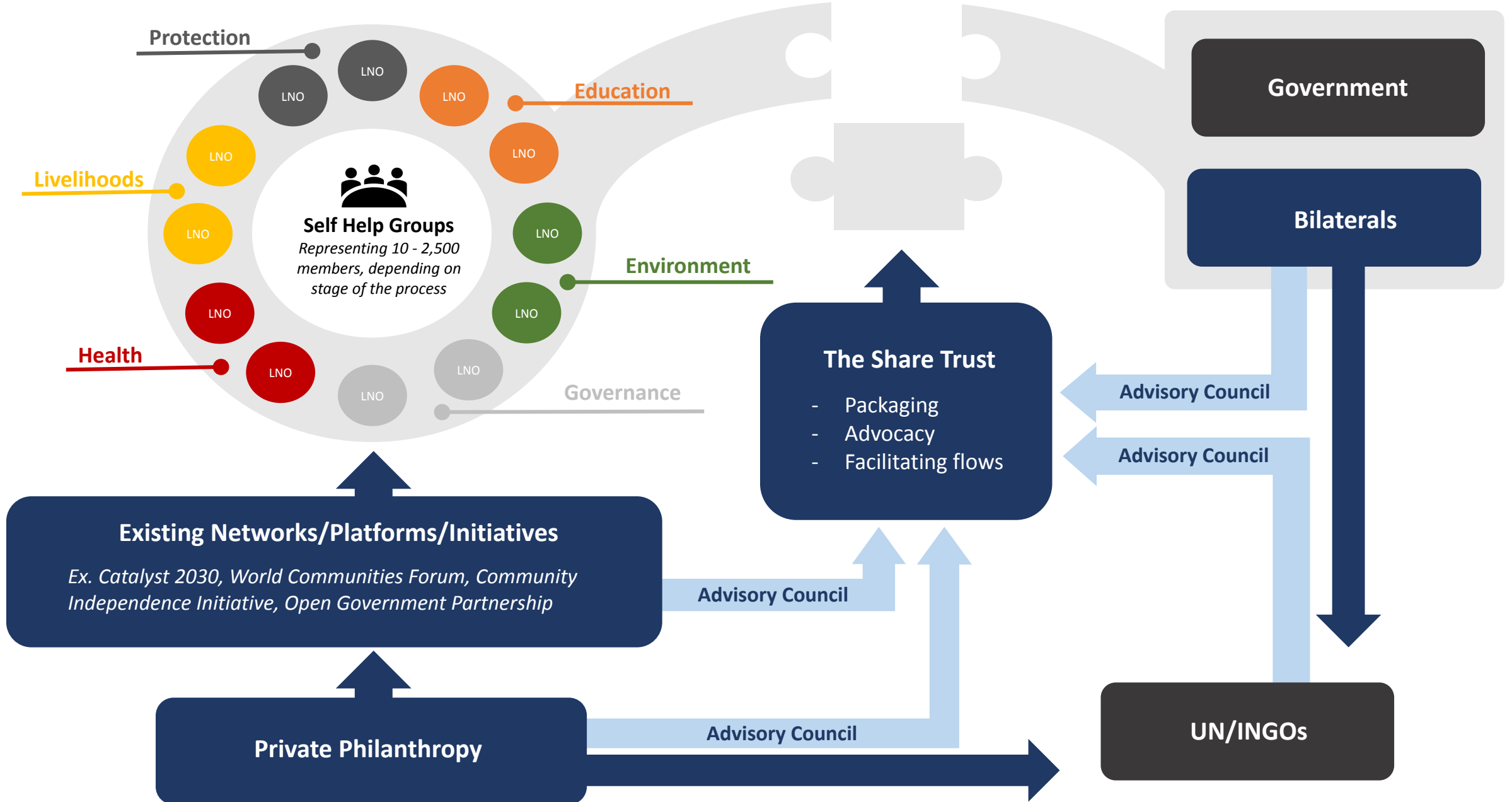
Research and Learning

We **package** and generate knowledge to help practitioners implement their work.

We published **a cost-efficiency analysis** that estimates that local intermediaries could deliver programming that is 32% more cost efficient than international intermediaries.

Thank you!

the **sharetrust**