Newsletter

May 2026 Edition

Structuring Wealth for Lasting Impact

Over the past two months, Wealth4Impact has been actively working across the ecosystem, supporting emerging philanthropists and engaging financial institutions and investment leaders to strengthen how capital is structured, stewarded, and deployed for long-term impact.

From guiding SEAPIN participants as they transition from informal giving to more institutional approaches, to working with stakeholders across banking, private equity, venture capital, and philanthropy, a consistent theme continues to emerge: Africa does not lack capital, it lacks the structures, trust, and systems required to steward it effectively.

Activating Strategic Philanthropy in Nigeria



L-R: Eme Essien Lore, Co-founder, Wealth4Impact and Kole Shettima, Director of the MacArthur Foundation's Nigeria Office

Africa is not short on capital. It is short on structured capital.

With trillions of dollars in private and institutional capital across the continent, and a development financing gap projected to exceed $400 billion annually, the challenge is no longer availability, but alignment.

This is the context behind the launch of the *Supporting the Emergence of Active Philanthropists in Nigeria (SEAPIN)* by Wealth4Impact.

Launched in March 2026, SEAPIN brings together 20 philanthropic families on a 10-month journey to transition from informal giving to structured, high-impact philanthropy, with a strong focus on governance, accountability, and long-term outcomes.

As Kole Shettima noted:
"We hope that you will build organisations and institutions that will outlast us and serve generations to come."

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Beyond Capital: Rethinking Philanthropy for Africa's Future



Philanthropy in Africa does not have a capital problem. It has a structural problem.

Across the continent, significant wealth exists, but without the systems, governance, and intentional frameworks required to translate that wealth into sustained impact.

In our latest thought leadership piece, Wealth4Impact explores a critical gap, the disconnect between wealth creation and long-term impact delivery. The focus is

clear: philanthropy must move beyond deploying capital to structuring it for lasting, generational impact.

The real question is no longer how much is given, but how well capital is structured to last across generations.

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Program Spotlight: Emerging Philanthropists in Nigeria



What happens when African wealth is approached with intention, structure, and long-term thinking?

Through SEAPIN (Supporting the Emergence of Active Philanthropists in Nigeria), a new generation of philanthropists is beginning to answer that question, moving from informal giving to more deliberate, systems-driven impact.

Insights from the programme continue to highlight a consistent direction. **Michael Moody of the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy** emphasised that philanthropy is not defined by how much is given, but by how well it is stewarded across generations, noting that wealth transfer without values and governance puts legacy at risk.

Similarly, **Kyle Peterson of Boldly Go Philanthropy** reinforced that how capital is deployed ultimately determines impact, highlighting the shift from simply funding organisations to shaping systems, where catalytic philanthropy drives long-term change.

In a fireside conversation, Osayi Alile, CEO of ACT Foundation, underscored the importance of ecosystem mapping, noting that meaningful impact begins with understanding who is already doing the work and identifying where support can be additive rather than duplicative.

Together, these perspectives signal a clear shift from philanthropy as an act of giving to philanthropy as a system of stewardship, structure, and long-term responsibility.

From Capital to Stewardship: Insights from breakfast meeting in Nairobi



In Nairobi on the sidelines of the annual AVCA Conference and VC Summit 2026, Wealth4Impact convened investors, family businesses, and ecosystem leaders for a focused conversation on a critical question: how can African wealth outlive its creators and drive multi-generational impact?

At the “Stewards of Tomorrow: African Investors and the Future of Multigenerational Wealth” breakfast roundtable session, one message was clear: Africa does not lack capital—it lacks structured deployment.

Three systemic gaps continue to limit impact at scale, including mindset, data, and capability. Investors do not consistently see themselves as stewards of impact, there is limited visibility into existing contributions, and there remains insufficient expertise to structure and sustain long-term impact.

This conversation reinforces a defining reality: the future of African philanthropy will not be shaped by how much capital is available, but by how intentionally it is structured and deployed.

In the Room: Shaping Global South Philanthropy



L-R: Mrs. Ifeoma Esiri, Dr. Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli, Eme Essien Lore & Nmachi Jidenma

At **AfricaXchange 2026** in Nairobi, conversations moved beyond intent to execution, focusing on how capital can be structured, not just deployed, for long-term impact.

Held under the theme *"Money, Markets & Mindsets,"* the convening brought together leaders across finance, philanthropy, and policy to explore African-led development and evolving models of global partnership.

Wealth4Impact was represented by co-Founders **Dr. Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli** and **Eme Essien Lore**, alongside SEAPIN participants including **Nmachi Jidenma** and **Mrs. Ifeoma Esiri**.

One of our SEAPIN participants, Nmachi Jidenma, reflected on the shift:
"We are at a turning point where catalytic capital is reshaping the architecture of global development finance, centering genuine partnership between local leadership and global capital. The opportunity now is to build enduring structures that absorb early risk, align incentives across the value chain, and unlock private capital at scale to back proven locally led solutions."

The conversations reinforced a broader reality: the future of African philanthropy will be shaped not just by capital but by how it is structured, aligned, and deployed through strong local leadership.

Looking Ahead: Expanding the Conversation

As Wealth4Impact continues to deepen its engagement across the ecosystem, the coming months will extend these conversations into key global and regional platforms.

In May, Wealth4Impact will participate in the Africa CEO Forum 2026 in Kigali, Rwanda, one of the continent's leading convenings of over 2,000 public and private sector leaders, alongside global investors. The Forum provides a critical platform to advance conversations on capital mobilisation, investment structures, and the role of African institutions in shaping sustainable development outcomes.

This will be followed by engagements in Washington, DC, where Wealth4Impact will convene diaspora communities to explore how their capital, networks, and expertise can be structured and deployed to support locally led initiatives across the continent.

Alongside these engagements, the SEAPIN programme will continue to deepen its focus on building structured, sustainable philanthropic systems. Upcoming sessions will explore critical themes including governance models, family dynamics and values, team structures, and approaches to measuring and maximising impact.

Participants will engage with leading practitioners, including **H.S.H. Prinz Max von und zu Liechtenstein, CEO of LGT Ventures**, as well as experts such as **Muneerah Merchant**, **Suzanne Daniel**, **Eme Essien Lore**, and **Fatima Abba**.

Together, these interventions reflect a continued commitment to strengthening the structures, partnerships, and capabilities required to steward African wealth for long-term, generational impact.

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