



Welcome

Dear Partners and Colleagues,

Welcome to the second edition of our e-zine newsletter!

I am excited to share significant developments within the Global Partnership Centre (GPC). We now report directly to Dawit Beyene, the Country Director of GOAL Uganda. This strategic change will allow us to leverage the robust relationships that GOAL Uganda has cultivated with various civil society and private sector partners, enhancing our approach to partnership building.

Our objectives under the Irish Aid commitment remain steadfast:

- Identifying local partner agencies for strategic investment to strengthen their capacities in moving vulnerable communities from crisis to resilience.
- Strengthening leadership and governance to promote locally-led decision making and actions.

- Facilitating strategic networking and collaboration among partner agencies.

We have made considerable strides in raising the GPC's profile. We have enhanced our social media presence and launched a dedicated GPC page on the GOAL Global website.

We've also engaged in a number of fruitful collaborations, including with the FBD (Funding and Business Development) team. Our efforts have been recognised on international platforms such as the European Humanitarian Forum and the EU's COHAFA (The Council for Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid)

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. We look forward to further strengthening our partnerships and achieving our shared goals.

Best regards,

Mandy Yamanis

Director, Global Partnership Centre

Our Objectives

The Global Partnership Centre currently has four objectives under our Irish Aid commitment. As we increase our reach under the GPC, we will include any new objectives.



IDENTIFY LOCAL PARTNERS FOR STRATEGIC INVESTMENT



STRENGTHEN THE LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE OF GOAL'S PARTNER AGENCIES



TO OFFER TECHNICAL GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT FOR FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE AND SCALABLE SYSTEMIC CHANGE



FACILITATE STRATEGIC NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION AMONG GOAL'S PARTNER AGENCIES

Raising the GPC's Profile

Significant progress has been made in enhancing the visibility of the Global Partnership Centre (GPC).

We have successfully designed a dedicated **GPC webpage**, pop-up stands, and posters. We have also enhanced our online social media presence with two LinkedIn posts and one blog.

The GPC has partnered with the FBD team to explore funding opportunities and enhance its profile. This collaboration involved creating boilerplates and profile statements on the Centre.

We supported country offices with their ECHO HIP proposals, including capacity strengthening for GOAL Zimbabwe and proposals for INTPA and Sierra Leone's SIHSA. The GPC also built relationships with donors, showcasing GOAL's localisation approach, which led to invitations to present at the **European Humanitarian Forum** and the EU's **COHAFA**. These presentations highlighted GOAL's expertise in capacity building and were well received by EU Member States representatives.



Director, and Ricarda Steinhans, Donor Engagement Coordinator, attending the 2024 European Humanitarian Forum.



Mandy Yamanis and Ricarda Steinhans attending the COHAFA in Brussels.



IDENTIFY LOCAL PARTNERS FOR STRATEGIC INVESTMENT

The Systems Analysis and Design Advisor, Robert Katende, has provided technical support to three country offices. Uganda received support in conducting food system R4S assessments and South Sudan received support related to R4S small-scale fisheries. In May, the Systems Analysis

Additionally, a systems-based training model was developed and successfully rolled out to 53 staff members across seven departments. This training model will be repackaged to support the needs of country programmes in the future.

These activities are aligned with our primary objective to identify local partners for strategic investment and GOAL's strategy for institutionalising its systems approach in 2024.

Watch the video to learn more.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)



Capacity building training on systems thinking at the GOAL office in Addis Ababa.



Robert Katende, Systems Analysis and Design Advisor, visiting one of our local partners, Center of Concern.

STRENGTHEN THE LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE OF GOAL'S PARTNER AGENCIES

To strategically support partner development, the GPC, with country office support, is creating organisational profiles for all partners. This classification will help identify trends in capacity strengthening, guiding the allocation of the 2024 Organisational Development Fund and Leadership Coaching resources.

Insights from a survey of the 2023 leadership cohort revealed that coaching should address individual needs identified through psychometric testing, consider regional differences (e.g., Middle East and Africa), balance one-on-one and peer sessions, and evaluate training impact. In line with these findings, we are partnering with URC Consulting this quarter to conduct leadership coaching for six partners in the Middle East.

Additionally, our presentation at the European Humanitarian Forum in Brussels helped us secure two free leadership trainings from the Global Executive Leadership Initiative (GELI). In May, two staff members from partner agencies in LAC attended the training in Panama.

Watch the video to learn more.



Ongoing technical support was provided across nine key areas between February and May, including partner mapping, partnership selection, onboarding, due diligence, staff recruitment, and proposal writing for ELLA, Uganda, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, Zimbabwe, and Sierra Leone.



FACILITATE STRATEGIC NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION AMONG GOAL'S PARTNER AGENCIES

The GPC established a Community of Practice (CoP) for GOAL's partners, providing short-term benefits like shared problem-solving and access to expertise, and long-term benefits like building support networks and fostering innovation.

Quarterly webinars began in April. Partners are engaged by being asked to choose themes for discussion, supported by subject matter experts. Proposed topics include safeguarding, fraud management, safety and access, disability and gender inclusion, to name a few. Country teams will mobilise partners, potentially leading to country-specific CoPs, with the GPC prepared to support these initiatives.

Partnership Spotlight: MUCOBADI



In May, the theme of the Community of Practice webinar was Safeguarding.

MUCOBADI, one of our local partners from Uganda, gave a presentation on their own journey of growth, highlighting how they **developed a culture of safeguarding** within their organisation with technical guidance and support from GOAL.

MUCOBADI is a Uganda-based civil society organisation and humanitarian development agency. The organisation is committed to tackling the root causes of poverty through a community-based approach. This approach aims to support society's **most vulnerable** members, including women and people living with disabilities.

MUCOBADI developed its Safeguarding Policy with financial and technical support from GOAL. Staff members then received **comprehensive training** on the policy and signed the code of conduct to ensure the learnings from the training had been internalised.

By integrating safeguarding into programming, MUCOBADI has reported an **increase in project participation** amongst women and people with disabilities.

Going forward, MUCOBADI now has the capacity to **identify and address** future challenges related to safeguarding. One challenge is that there are limited resources to implement safeguarding activities, especially when MUCOBADI is sharing the cost with other partners.

MUCOBADI, safeguarding is not a standalone budget item or a series of standalone activities; it is **woven into all project plans and activities** as a **cross-cutting strategy**.

Since MUCOBADI developed its Safeguarding Policy, the organisation has also **acquired additional funding** due to the **growing donor demand** for organisations to integrate safeguarding measures into programming.

[READ MORE](#)

GOAL's Local System Approach

GOAL has made significant strides with its Locally Led Approach (LLA) position paper, progressing through three key phases:

- **Phase 1:** Consultation and development of the LLA Position Paper
- **Phase 2:** Piloting and testing the GOAL LLA

During Phase 1, extensive consultations were held with 390 stakeholders via interviews, questionnaires, and workshops. A draft discussion paper was presented to the SMT/Board in December 2023, followed by a feedback workshop in Dublin in February 2024.

The SMT reviewed and presented a refined 5-page position paper aligned with the 2024 Risk Management Strategy in May 2024. Feedback is currently being addressed, with an update to be shared with Irish Aid at the upcoming bilateral meeting in July.

Let's get social

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