



LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME 2026

Let's lead the change - together

What do people say about the Leadership Programme?



The Leadership Programme has been a transformative experience for me. At a time when the social impact landscape is becoming more complex, the programme offered clarity. It created a space to pause, reflect, and strengthen the kind of leadership our sector truly needs – collaborative, intersectional, values-driven, and deeply human. The sessions didn't just build skills; they challenged mindsets, encouraged vulnerability, and reinforced the power of community. I leave with renewed purpose, practical tools, and a stronger belief that when we lead with authenticity and work together, we can create meaningful and lasting change.

Angel Flores, External Engagement Manager at World Animal Protection (Philippines)

The Leadership Programme has been an excellent opportunity to learn from others in the sector, especially as so many of us face similar challenges. I really appreciated the thoughtful facilitation and supportive atmosphere across the group. As someone working in emerging economies, where fundraising moves at a different pace, it can feel overwhelming to keep up with global trends, but the kindness & inclusiveness of the cohort made the learning experience both encouraging & empowering.

Van Vuong Ngoc Vy, Head of Fundraising and Communications at Saigon Children's Charity (Vietnam)



What do people say about the Leadership Programme?

The Leadership Programme came at such an important time for me, with the global development aid system on a downward trend. The approach of bringing together diverse leaders from different contexts provided a unique blend of perspectives, practice and purpose to learn from, which is so critical to transformative leadership. I am encouraged to continue investing in developing myself as a leader and cascading the learning to others in my organisation.



Engwase Banda Mwale, CEO at Zambian Governance Foundation (Zambia)



If you're looking for a way to not only grow as a leader, but connect with peers doing groundbreaking work around the world, the Leadership Programme is where you want to be. Not only does the programme help connect you with peers in the social impact sector, but you will work together on the most challenging issues facing our sector and create something of value together.

Maya Hasan, Founder at Fearless Project (Puerto Rico)

The programme was an invaluable experience that offered a rare opportunity to exchange knowledge with fundraising experts, explore emerging approaches, and build meaningful connections. While fundraising continues to evolve and demands innovation, we cannot navigate this work in isolation. Shared learning and collaboration are essential.



Robin Pouakouyou, Manager, Public Sector Partnerships at WWF International (UK)

Vision

We are in a moment of profound shift – where old structures are being questioned, new forms of leadership are emerging, and communities are reclaiming voice, agency, and power.

The **Resource Alliance Leadership Programme 2026** brings together a global community of leaders committed to reimagining how our sector works – how power is shared, how resources flow, and how narratives are shaped. Together, we explore practical ways to strengthen collective leadership, mobilise flexible and equitable resources, and build the community-led infrastructure our movements need to thrive.

At a time when collaboration, courage, and solidarity matter more than ever, this programme creates space to challenge assumptions, experiment with new models, and co-create actionable strategies for sector-wide transformation. We are not only responding to change – we are shaping it, together.





Why join the programme?

- **Learn from Bold Leaders:** Gain insights from global innovators challenging traditional models and reshaping our sector.
- **Collaborate Globally:** Build deep, trust-based relationships with peers from across the world who are committed to collective action.
- **Create Tangible Change:** Co-create practical tools, frameworks, and real-world strategies to implement in your leadership journey.
- **Drive Sector Transformation:** Join a community actively working to reimagine power, resources, and narratives in our sector.
- **Move Beyond Frustration:** The programme offers the space, support, and solidarity to create meaningful impact as a collective.

Who should apply?

Leaders ready to challenge the status quo – curious, collaborative, and motivated to shift power, strengthen community-led solutions, and tackle the urgent challenges facing the social impact sector today.

Global Voices, Shared Purpose

In 2025, the Leadership Programme convened **100 leaders representing 37 countries**. This diversity of geography, lived experience, and sector background is central to the programme’s purpose and impact.

Countries represented					Org Type	%	Gender	%
Argentina	Gambia	Nepal	Spain	UAE	NGO	45	Female	64
Australia	Germany	Nigeria	Sri Lanka	USA	Consultant	21	Male	36
Austria	Ghana	Norway	Sweden	Vietnam	INGO	17	Voices	%
Brazil	India	Pakistan	Tanzania	Zambia	Foundation	9	Majority / South	60
Cambodia	Ireland	Palestine	Thailand	Zimbabwe	Network	8	Minority / North	40
Cameroon	Italy	Philippines	Uganda	We ask prospective participants to apply to join the programme so we can sustain a diverse, globally representative cohort in 2026 — exactly what makes the experience so rewarding for everyone involved.				
Canada	Kenya	Puerto Rico	UK					
DRC	Mozambique	South Africa	Ukraine					

Guest Speakers and Expert Contributors

A key feature of the Leadership Programme is the opportunity to learn from a wide variety of expert speakers and external contributors. Here is just a snapshot of some of the guests who have joined us in Leadership Summits or Action Labs over the last two years.



Mandeep Tiwana
Secretary General
CIVICUS



Amitabh Behar
Executive Director
Oxfam International



Jeroo Billimoria
Co-Founder
Catalyst 2030



Tasneem Essop
Executive Director
Climate Action Network



Kate Moger
Global Director
Pledge for Change 2030



Asha Curran
CEO
GivingTuesday



Michelle Schenandoah
Co-Founder
Indigenous Concepts Consulting



Mauricio Preciado-Awad
Director of Innovative Finance
Save the Children



Jule Schnakenberg
Director
World's Youth for Climate Justice



Marlene Engelhorn
Heiress & Activist
Tax Me Now

2026 Programme Calendar*

Month	Day / UK time	Format	Topic	Month	Day / UK time	Format	Topic
Jan	N/A	Emails & survey	Welcome and orientation	Aug	Tue 18 Aug 12:00 – 15:00	Summit	Collective Leadership
Feb	Tue 24 Feb 12:00 – 15:00	Summit	Shifting Horizons	Sep	Based on group availability	Labs & Peers	<i>As previously stated</i>
Mar	Based on group availability	Action Labs	Fundraising Innovation, Strategy & People**	Oct	Tue 20 Oct 09:00–12:00***	Summit in-person	Insight to Action
Apr	Based on group availability	Peer Leadership	Support groups based on region / time zone	Nov	Based on group availability	Labs & Peers	<i>As previously stated</i>
May	Tue 19 May 12:00 – 15:00	Summit	New Models	Dec	N/A	Emails & survey	Feedback and 2027 planning
Jun	Based on group availability	Labs & Peers	<i>As previously stated</i>	<p>* <i>Dates subject to slight adjustment</i></p> <p>** <i>Further Action Lab topics may be added based on cohort feedback</i></p> <p>*** <i>In-person summit is local time 09:00 CEST (with remote options)</i></p>			

Leadership Summits

- Leadership Summits are **participatory, interactive gatherings**, designed to explore the themes disrupting our sector and strengthen our collective leadership.
- The first three Summits take place online via Zoom and feature **thought-leaders, shared learning, and deep peer dialogue**.
- **Please note:** The Summit themes below are intentionally broad because final content focus will be shaped through insights gathered during cohort onboarding and consultation.

Summit 1	Summit 2	Summit 3
Tuesday 24 February 2026	Tuesday 19 May 2026	Tuesday 18 August 2026
Shifting Horizons	New Models	Collective Leadership

The final Summit takes place at the IFC 2026 venue – **a rare and powerful moment to work together in person**. Together, we use this moment to deepen relationships, imagine boldly, challenge old thinking, and commit to the changes our sector urgently needs.

Your Leadership Programme registration fee covers: Airport transfers, accommodation, a drinks reception and dinner on Mon 19 Oct, and breakfast and lunch on Tue 20 Oct.

Summit 4 (In-Person at IFC2026)
Tuesday 20 October 2026
Insight to Action

Action Labs

- Action Labs are **small working groups** (c. 15 leaders) that **collaborate and problem-solve** around issues of **shared interest and urgency**. Participants co-create an *Action Framework* that guides their work for the rest of the year.
- Labs meet online **four times** throughout the year and **once in person** at IFC2026.
- Labs are split by time zone to ensure **global accessibility** and meeting dates are scheduled based on participant availability.

Track	Possible Topics
Fundraising Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exploring new resourcing models, including trust-based philanthropy, blended finance, social enterprise, and alternative capital flows• Strengthening financial sustainability through diversified, resilient, and equitable funding strategies• Reframing narratives around money, power, and impact to support more ethical and community-led resourcing• Leveraging emerging technologies – including AI – to accelerate digital transformation and enhance legitimacy, accessibility, and donor engagement• Sharing and showcasing examples of transformative fundraising innovation, especially from Global Majority and community-driven movements
Strategy & People	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building cultures of care that counter burnout, overwork, and extractive organisational norms• Supporting leaders to navigate polarisation, misinformation, shrinking civic space, and organisational resistance to change• Strengthening inclusive, anti-oppressive leadership practices that shift power and elevate community voices• Developing long-term strategic thinking in a landscape defined by volatility, complexity, and intersecting crises• Sharing case studies of effective strategy models and people management tools in the sector.
TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Additional tracks may be introduced based on priorities identified during onboarding of the 2026 cohort. Below are examples only:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Power & Narrative: voice, representation, legitimacy, storytelling, shifting power, decolonising narratives, Global Majority leadership◦ Systems Change: root causes, long-term thinking, policy influence, ecosystem collaboration◦ Resilient Futures: climate, disruption, crisis leadership, community resilience

* Participants are welcome to join multiple Labs – topics and conversations often overlap and interweave.

** Topics listed above are suggestions only – each Action Lab will co-define its own focus and priorities at the start of the year.

Peer Leadership Groups

Peer Leadership Groups create a **confidential, supportive space** for leaders to connect with peers in their region. Meeting online **four times** throughout the year, these small groups (**c. 8–12 leaders**) offer a rare opportunity to speak openly about real challenges, exchange practical wisdom, and build long-lasting relationships.

Sessions use a simple, structured **peer-coaching** approach designed to encourage openness, clarity, and meaningful human connection. Groups self-facilitate and naturally develop their own rhythm and trust over time.

Many participants describe these sessions as an invaluable place to **feel understood, regain perspective, and strengthen their leadership** alongside others navigating similar realities.

** Participants are placed into Peer Leadership Groups during the onboarding process, based on preferred meeting times, regions, and time zones. Each group then confirms its own meeting dates according to collective availability.*



Ready to join the 2026 Leadership Programme?

12-month registration is only **£949** and includes:

- Three online **Leadership Summits**
- Participation in at least one **Action Lab**
- A regional **Peer Leadership Group**
- The **in-person Leadership Summit** before IFC2026 on **Tuesday 20 October**, including:
 - Inbound airport transfers
 - Onsite accommodation
 - Drinks reception and dinner on Mon 19 Oct
 - Breakfast and lunch on Tue 20 Oct

For every full-price registration, we offer a **reduced or bursary place** to a leader who would otherwise be unable to attend. To apply, or if you have any questions about the programme, please contact:

James Tennet at james@resource-alliance.org.

We are committed to keeping this programme accessible to leaders across the global social impact sector and to convening a truly diverse and representative cohort.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:
(CLICK TO REGISTER)

PAY IN FULL

TWO INSTALMENTS

Paid over three months

FOUR INSTALMENTS

Paid monthly

What do people say about the Leadership Programme?

This journey not only transformed me personally but also empowered me to bring back fresh ideas and meaningful change to my organisation, igniting a ripple effect of growth and innovation.

Ritka Harju, Funding Director at Finn Church Aid (Finland)



The programme offers a unique and (truly) global opportunity to share the journey of leadership with a group of wonderful people doing amazing things that I would never have met otherwise. We connect as peers on similar paths, we collaborate, learn, and explore together. Supporting each other in this way has been an uplifting and humbling experience. I don't get that experience or feeling anywhere else.

Gavin Coopey, Insight Director at More Strategic (Australia)

The programme provided me with a unique platform to collaborate, innovate, and co-create solutions to some of the biggest challenges we face today. It was an invaluable opportunity to connect with inspiring leaders from all over the globe and gain insights to drive meaningful change in my own work.

Ramses Man, Global Fundraising Director at Amref Health Africa (Netherlands)



The programme reminded me that leadership might feel lonely, but it does not have to be. Despite living and working in different countries, the challenges we face as leaders are remarkably similar, and the opportunity to learn from and support one another across borders was incredibly powerful.

Vicki Rasmussen, CEO at Charlies Foundation for Research (Australia)

What do people say about the Leadership Programme?

You get to sharpen your leadership skills in an empathetic, safe space. You meet really interesting people and realize you are on similar journeys and face similar challenges. The support shared and inputs provided are exceptional. It's a game-changer for anyone ready to drive innovation, inspire teams, and make a difference on a global scale.



Payal Randhawa, Founder/Director at Bworks (India)



Connecting with global colleagues who share my energy & commitment, yet offer different approaches, has truly enriched my role. It reinforced that we are all part of a community united by purpose.

Ignacio Garcia-Vaquero, Team Leader Donor Services at SOS Children's Villages Int. (Austria)

The Leadership Programme has provided me with a strong network of great fundraisers from around the globe. To be able to share challenges and experiences with an international crowd has been very meaningful and important for me.



Andreas Drufva, Fundraising Manager at Better Shelter (Sweden)



If you ever find yourself on the Leadership Programme, just know you have signed up for the experience of a life time!

Adebayo Anthony Kehinde, Founder at CYM Education Foundation (Nigeria)