



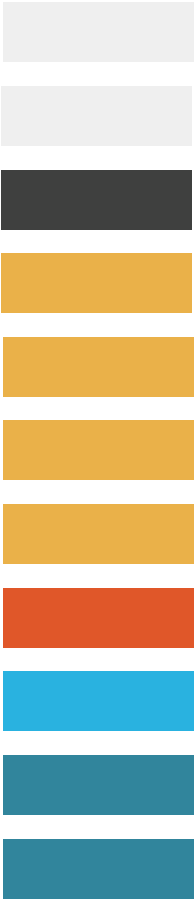
ANNUAL
REPORT

20
24



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MESSAGE FROM FOUNDER & CEO

Courtenay Cabot Venton



Since our founding in 2018, The Share Trust, with our partner Warande, has deepened our shared mission to forge a development and humanitarian aid system that shifts power, processes, and funding to local communities. This past year has been one of growth and strategic visioning for The Share Trust, a true springboard that has underscored the relevance/importance of the work we do and expanded our impact. Through our research, analysis and programs, our work this year directly or indirectly reached more than 14 million people.

We've continued to think big, developing a three-year plan to reach even more communities and improve the global aid system overall, particularly by engaging with bilateral donor governments and the UN. Our work supports donors' efforts to transform how they design and deliver aid to shift more power, resources, and decision-making to local actors. Our ultimate goal is to ensure that community members have control over their own solutions and build resilience so that they, their families and their communities can thrive.

We identify and amplify the work of innovative locally led programs, such as Self-Help Groups, while exploring how intermediary models can advance or constrain local action. Through robust research, we build the evidence base for locally led development and leverage these insights to advocate for systemic change at the global level.

As we look towards the future, our focus is on sustaining momentum by reaching more people, strengthening local systems, and continuing to bring you along on this journey.

Here's to continued shared progress and collective impact,

Courtenay Cabot Venton



OUR PARTNERSHIP

with Warande



In 2020, The Share Trust jointly initiated a partnership with Warande, a Kenya-based organization founded by Chilande Kuloba-Warria, and a new model of collaboration began to emerge. Together, we reimagined what equitable partnerships between organizations in the Global Majority and the Global North could look like, grounded in listening, shared leadership, open dialogue, mutual respect and collective decision making. We work together to amplify local voices, engage policymakers and donors, and strengthen systems change. This is more than a collaboration. It is a blueprint for equitable, community-centered impact.



Centering **COMMUNITY POWER**



The Share Trust strengthens community-led change by supporting Self Help Groups (SHGs) and other local drivers of collective action. Through research, collaboration, and advocacy, we connect practitioners and partners committed to putting communities at the center of development.

Lasting solutions come from within communities, yet local leaders often directly control only a small share of global aid. We work to encourage and support donors and other actors in the aid system to shift resources, decision-making, and influence to local and national organizations so they can set their priorities and shape their own paths forward.



Self Help Groups (SHGs)

Self Help Groups are among the most evidence-based approaches to community-driven development. These groups of 10–25 people meet regularly to save, start small businesses, and support one another, harnessing the transformative power of gathering to create lasting impact in their communities. The Share Trust works with funding and implementing partners to support, strengthen, and grow SHG programming.



Intermediaries

Intermediaries are often used to channel aid funding to smaller, often local partners. The Share Trust's research and analysis maps local organizations that act as intermediaries and identifies actions international intermediaries can take to shift resources and decision making power to local grantees and sub-partners. The Share Trust also supports innovative models – such as coalitions of local actors - to prioritize, design and implement programs that address complex community challenges.



Enabling Environment

A supportive enabling environment is also key to helping innovative locally led initiatives flourish. We collaborate with donors and international organizations, providing research, analysis, and tools to help support their policy-oriented and practical efforts to devolve more resources and decision making power to local levels.

SELF HELP GROUP

Transformative
Community
Change





SHGS PROGRAM

Afghanistan



The Share Trust partnered with Afghanaid to strengthen women's leadership through SHGs. When the Taliban took over in Afghanistan, many SHGs were forced to stop meeting. This initiative revived inactive SHGs as platforms for addressing food insecurity, advancing women's rights, and fostering resilience despite restrictive policies.

In 2024, ten "star groups" each established a new SHG through mentorship and local advocacy. Star Leaders received training on self-identified topics and shared this learning across new groups. Thirty SHGs also designed spending plans and accessed microgrants for small-scale initiatives. Ongoing data will measure how these women-led networks enhance agency, wellbeing, and community transformation.

Somalia



As the innovation and learning partner to the Building Resilient Communities in Somalia (BRCiS) consortium, The Share Trust worked to embed SHGs into resilience programming led by Somali organizations. A 2024 workshop in Mogadishu trained 15 NGO consortium members on SHG facilitation, followed by the creation of the SHG Champions Group to exchange insights and sustain momentum. SHGs are now being mainstreamed across BRCiS workstreams to strengthen local leadership, accountability, and resilience rooted in community priorities.

Yemen



The Share Trust worked with FCDO's country office in Yemen to examine the advantages of embedding SHGs into their humanitarian and social protection investments as a strategy to help localize their programming. The Share Trust provided guidance on how FCDO could invest in existing SHGs and local social structures.

South Africa



In 2024, The Share Trust partnered with the Trevor Noah Foundation (TNF) to introduce SHGs into Johannesburg's Khulani Schools Program. The Share Trust provided TNF with SHG training and planning, and TNF launched pilot groups in three communities, supporting wellbeing, literacy, and skills development. At Willow Crescent Secondary in Eldorado Park, SHGs aligned with the school's Wellness Committee to promote holistic wellbeing. In Braamfischerville, caregivers in the Khula Funda literacy project formed SHGs alongside literacy and storytelling sessions. In Ivory Park, alumni of the Faranani Infrastructure Project began SHGs grounded in their shared skills training experience. Through these SHGs, The Share Trust and TNF are fostering collective action and building educational and social resilience.

INTERMEDIARIES



Intermediaries play a critical role in distributing large grants to smaller, partners. Building on research that highlighted the potential cost efficiency of using local organizations as intermediaries, The Share Trust identified and profiled a wide range of local intermediaries, including alternative pooled fund networks and coalitions of all types that can play key roles in strengthening local leadership and collective action.

One type of intermediary that The Share Trust and Warande have helped support are Local Coalition Accelerators (LCAs), which drive community-led development and resilience. Each composed of 8 – 13 local NGOs who have come together to collectively address issues,

LCAs operating in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Nigeria, and Uganda have designed and implemented multi-year programs, ensuring decisions reflect local priorities and community needs.

Central to this work has been empowering intermediaries to lead governance, coordinate multi-stakeholder planning, manage resources, and implement accountability systems enabling them to navigate complex challenges from climate shocks to social inclusion.



LOCAL COALITION ACCELERATORS (LCAS)

Bangladesh



Bangladesh is at high risk for climate related disasters, and in 2024, the Sundarban LCA strengthened communities to be ready and resilient to survive and respond to disasters. With projects ranging from infrastructure repairs, to climate-smart interventions, and livelihood support, the coalition reached over 36,000 people, fostering local leadership and promoting collective action for disaster-ready communities.

Ethiopia



Building on the strong foundations that have already been created in the SHGs, the LCA designed a plan to help households and communities prosper. Yenege Tesfa means hope for tomorrow, and the LCA is planting the seeds for thriving communities.

Nigeria



The Nigeria LCA focused on improving access to healthcare, informal education, and environmental sustainability while building coalition members' organizational and financial capacity. Members also strengthened governance, multi-stakeholder coordination, and crisis-response mechanisms, and engaged in regional advocacy.

Uganda



The Uganda LCA officially graduated from the direct support of The Share Trust and Warande and successfully raised funds to continue to thrive. As the first LCA established, the Uganda leaders also chaired the first Transboundary Coalitions event, identifying lessons across five countries and reinforcing the coalition's capacity for independent, locally led development.

Transboundry Coalitions Event

The first-ever Transboundary Coalitions Event was held in September in Nairobi, bringing together participants from Bangladesh, Uganda, Ethiopia, Nigeria, and the nascent LCA in Kenya. Over several days, teams shared their learnings, challenges, and successes, while also exploring how to sustain momentum toward building a movement of locally led intermediaries shifting power and funding toward community-driven development.



RESEARCH

The Share Trust believes that development should be driven by robust, high quality evidence. Each year, we undertake projects that will add to the evidence base on the impact, effectiveness and efficiency of locally led development and humanitarian action. We also translate the evidence into tools, frameworks and guidance that can be used by a variety of actors to amplify their work.

OECD

The Share Trust served as the lead learning partner for the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC). Working alongside our partners, we guided 32 DAC member countries through a Peer Learning Exercise on Enabling Locally Led Development. Together, we shared insights on effective locally led practices, strong leadership, and methods for measuring progress.

Passing the Buck Series

The Passing the Buck series provided analysis estimating potential cost efficiencies of up to 32 percent. While the original study was released in 2023, this year we conducted additional studies using actual budget data from UNOCHA. These studies offer important evidence on the financial impact of localization and continue to inform advocacy for more equitable aid systems. An evaluation of the Ukraine and Nigeria pooled funds found that local intermediaries could deliver assistance at a 15.5% and 13.6% cost efficiency (respectively) compared to international intermediaries.

Self Help Group Tool and Guidance



The Share Trust developed a full suite of tools, guidance, and frameworks to help organizations transition their mutual aid groups into Self-Help Groups. These resources were used to support the Trevor Noah Foundation and the Somalia BRiCs consortium, where we standardized best practices, created an SHG roadmap, and designed a MEAL plan.



ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

The Share Trust continues to use our research and engagement with local communities to influence the policies and practices of bilateral donors, UN, international NGOs, philanthropy and others to shift power, process and funding towards local actors. The Share Trust continues to be a bold voice in influencing global development systems.



DevEx World

Executive Director Courtenay Cabot Venton was invited to speak at DevEx World in Washington DC, addressing policymakers, bilateral donors, NGO CEOs, and other development leaders gathered alongside the World Bank meeting. She showcased The Share Trust's work on the cost efficiency of local intermediaries and highlighted progress in shifting funding directly to local actors, demonstrating thought leadership in advancing more effective, equitable development practices.



IMPACT IN NUMBERS

In 2024,
through our:



Mentoring and capacity-building support to four local coalitions (Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Uganda), they directly reaching 390,833 people and contributing to a positive enabling environment that benefited 14 million people.

Research, advocacy, tools and training on SHGs with partners in two countries (Afghanistan and Somalia), they reached almost 8,000 people.

Policy support, evidence, and guidance on locally led action with intermediaries across 8 countries, they reached almost 4 million people in places like Ukraine and Syria.

2024

Afghanistan
12,600 people

Bangladesh
116,000 people

Ethiopia
31,000 people

Nigeria
160,000 people

Somalia
1,400,000 people

Syria
1,000,000 people

Uganda
85,000 people

Ukraine
11,000,00 people





STRATEGIC PLAN AND KEY INDICATORS

In 2024, we launched a new strategic plan to guide us for the next three years. Through four months of deep engagement with staff, board members, and stakeholders, we established a bold vision and strategic priorities to make it a reality.

Through our strategic plan, we aim to help influence the shift of \$1 billion in Official Development Assistance (ODA) to local actors by 2030.

Between 2025 – 2027,
our headline indicators include:
**Shift \$500M of ODA
to local actor**

Community Resilience and Control

75%



75% of people reached by an SHG or intermediary will report increased resilience and control over their own development, as a result of programming



FINANCIALS

Fiscal Year 2024

Audited Financials
Jan - Dec 2024

Financial Strength Enables Impact

The Share Trust directs 86% of every dollar to programs. With \$5.9M in ending net assets tied to multi-year grants for 2025–2027, we are able to make sustained commitments to local partners.

Beginning Net Assets \$2,082,972



Revenue

Grants	\$6,319,211
Donations	\$170,341
Service Fees	\$212,655
Investment Income	\$44,127

Total Revenue \$6,746,334



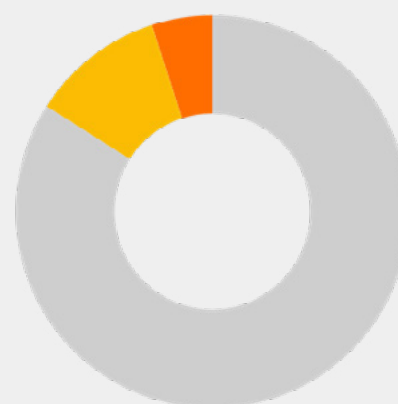
Expenditures

Program Services	\$2,498,673
Fundraising	\$126,756
Administrative	\$272,395

Total Expenditures \$2,897,824

Ending Net Assets \$5,931,482

FUND SPEND BY CATEGORY CASH BASIS



Program Services	84%
Overhead	11%
Fundraising	5%



Balance Sheet

Net Assets	\$5,931,482
Liabilities	\$86,041

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$6,017,523

Notes:

- Beginning Net Assets include multi-year grants whose revenue was recognized prior to 2024 but intended to be spent in 2024.
- Revenue includes multi-year grants whose full value was recognized in 2024, but are partially intended to be spent in future years
- On a cash basis, revenue was \$3,067,105 and expenditures were \$2,911,510.



DONORS

Thank you to the partners who made 2024's impact possible. Your support doesn't just fund programs; it helps shift power and change systems.

Innovators (\$50,000+)

Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies	Funding Partner
Imago Dei Fund	Funding Partner
Target Foundation	Funding Partner
Skoll Foundation	Funding Partner
Pilot House Philanthropy	Funding Partner
Conrad Hilton Foundation	Funding Partner
The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust	Funding Partner
LESGO	Strategic Partner
Vitol Foundation	Funding Partner
Dioraphte Foundation	Funding Partner
Prism Charitable	Funding Partner
David Cock Foundation	Funding Partner
Afghanaid	Strategic Partner
DAI Global UK Ltd Funded by Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)	Strategic Partner
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	Strategic Partner
Palladium International Limited	Strategic Partner
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Strategic Partner
Refugees International	Strategic Partner
Grace Garrity	Individual donor
Marcy Yuknat	Individual donor

Advocates (\$25,000-\$49,999)

Brooke Bailey	Individual donor
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Catalyzers (\$5,000-\$24,999)

Anonymous	Individual donor
Grant Stephen	Individual donor
Blakeslee Reiter	Individual donor

Builders (\$1000 -\$4,999)

Ingrid Bruha	Individual donor
Elizabeth Skelly	Individual donor
Emily Nielsen Jones	Individual donor
Sarah Kahoun	Individual donor
Phuong Pham	Individual donor



Join us in shifting power
to local communities.

DONATE:
www.thesharetrust.org/donate

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