



Pledge For Change Supporter Sprint Sessions

19th March to 21st March 2024

“Learn who you are, and unlearn who they told you to be”

Earlier this year, Pledge Supporters raised a concern that their full potential is not being leveraged when they are critical to the success of the Pledge for Change with their unique insights from across the ecosystem and their capacities to hold INGOs accountable to their commitments. With a current community of [42 supporters](#), we keep getting interest from several organizations across the ecosystem in joining our efforts to build a stronger aid ecosystem based on the principles of solidarity, humility, self-determination, and equality.

Mo Ali, founder of the Innovation Community and one of the Pledge supporters expressed his interest in supporting the Pledge Secretariat’s vision of elevating the voices of the Global Majority leaders present in the Pledge Membership across the Pledge community and the wider ecosystem. The supporter sprint sessions were co-facilitated by Mo Ali and Sidhee Patel.

The purpose of the Supporter Sprint was to provide the Pledge leaders with a space to connect as some had never met before, challenge normative discourses, and vision & forge new pathways to make the Pledge a reality. This sprint was a gathering of people and a catalyst for creating a powerful support network that will fuel real progress and turn the pledges into tangible action.

The facilitation of the sprint sessions was different from what some expected it to be, however, it was embraced by many across the group whereby they expressed their gratitude with the unique style and how it expressed the need to change. We had over 20 leaders join us during the sprint sessions. One of the leaders gave their feedback and mentioned:

“I am impressed by the sprint. At my org at minimum, there is a constant push for action and movement. I interpret Pledge grasping that seismic shift requires something different. This acknowledgement and atypical way of bringing together resonates with me as hopeful. I think of the adage that you don't get to a new place by doing the same old thing.”

On the first day of the session, the leaders shared their inspirations for social justice and wisdom from their cultures. On the second day, the attendees participated in a visioning exercise facilitated by Mo. Here are some of the dreams they have for where we will be in one year:

- How the power dynamics will change, allowing for more radical voices to be heard and influence agendas.
- The focus will move from achieving pre-defined goals to living missions and achieving impact. There was an emphasis on the need of bravery to achieve this change.
- There will be an enhanced sense of collaboration between the supporters where they will connect more effectively across all levels (local, national, and international) to drive collective change.

- There will be a global demand for transparency and accountability that will propel organizations to improve their practices.

On the third day, the leaders shared the hurdles of achieving the pledge. They highlighted the need to transition from “Supporters” to a powerful pressure group. Moreover, they acknowledged learning from the past work done and emphasized the need for bolder action. Additionally, they mentioned the importance of collaboration, open communication and community empowerment for the change we would like to see.

Despite the challenges discussed on the 3rd day, the session ultimately fostered a powerful sense of community. Honest and uplifting conversations thrived in the open space created, sparking a wonderful synergy amongst participants. This positive energy and a newfound sense of belonging are what we hope will fuel their missions back home, empowering them to enact positive change within their individual fields.

To capture the experience of participants, Mo edited a [video](#) showcasing their reflections after each session. Additionally, visual artist Nzilani documented the 3rd session through live scribing, which you can see below.

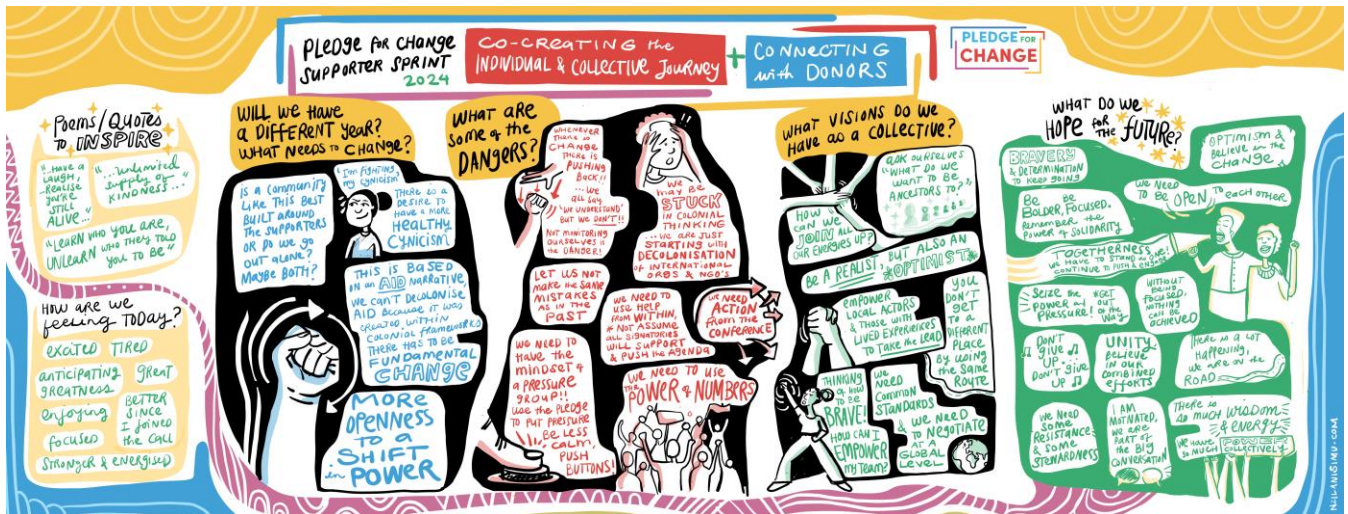


ILLUSTRATION DONE BY NZILANI