

Catalysing Change Through Hyper-Local Crisis Response









I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Future of Crisis Response is *Hyper-Local*

Resilio Fund is transforming how the world responds to crises by centering local communities, the true first and best responders in times of disaster. The international, external humanitarian aid system is often slow and inefficient, risks creating dependency, rarely reduces vulnerability to future crises, and undermines affected peoples' own agency and dignity.

Resilio Fund brings attention and funding to community-led crisis response, offering a more dignified, faster, and impactful way to help people. It's an approach that helps people respond to a humanitarian disaster in a way that reduces their vulnerability to future crisis.

Backed by Legatum Foundation's legacy of transformational collaborative funds, Resilio Fund is poised to scale globally, empowering communities to lead the charge in their own recovery.

As founding donor, Legatum has committed \$10M, and a number of anchor donors have already joined this movement that puts people first.

Resilio Fund is catalysing a new era of community-led crisis relief and resilience.

VISION BOOK I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

II. THE PROBLEM

The Global Humanitarian System is *Broken*

Billions of dollars have recently been cut from humanitarian aid, which is to be lamented, but the system also had several flaws. The humanitarian response industry, although well-intentioned and doing a lot of good, remained slow, inefficient, and riddled with issues that perpetuated dependency rather than fostering resilience. We need to demonstrate a better system.

KEY ISSUES INCLUDE

Slow Response: Top-down aid systems can take too long to reach

those in need.

Dependency: Rather than working with the strengths of

communities, international aid often creates long

term reliance.

Undermining

Dignity:

Current models frequently undermine communities' agency and self-respect.

Root Causes: Historic approaches failed to help communities

reduce their vulnerability to future crises.

Simply put, the international system has failed to put crisis-affected people, and their own efforts to help themselves, at the centre of crisis response. Even though these challenges are well-documented, reform has been slow and the moment for change is now.

Communities in crisis deserve better.

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"There has not been a system-wide shift in how humanitarians engage with crisis-affected people or support their dignity."

—State of the Humanitarian System – 2022

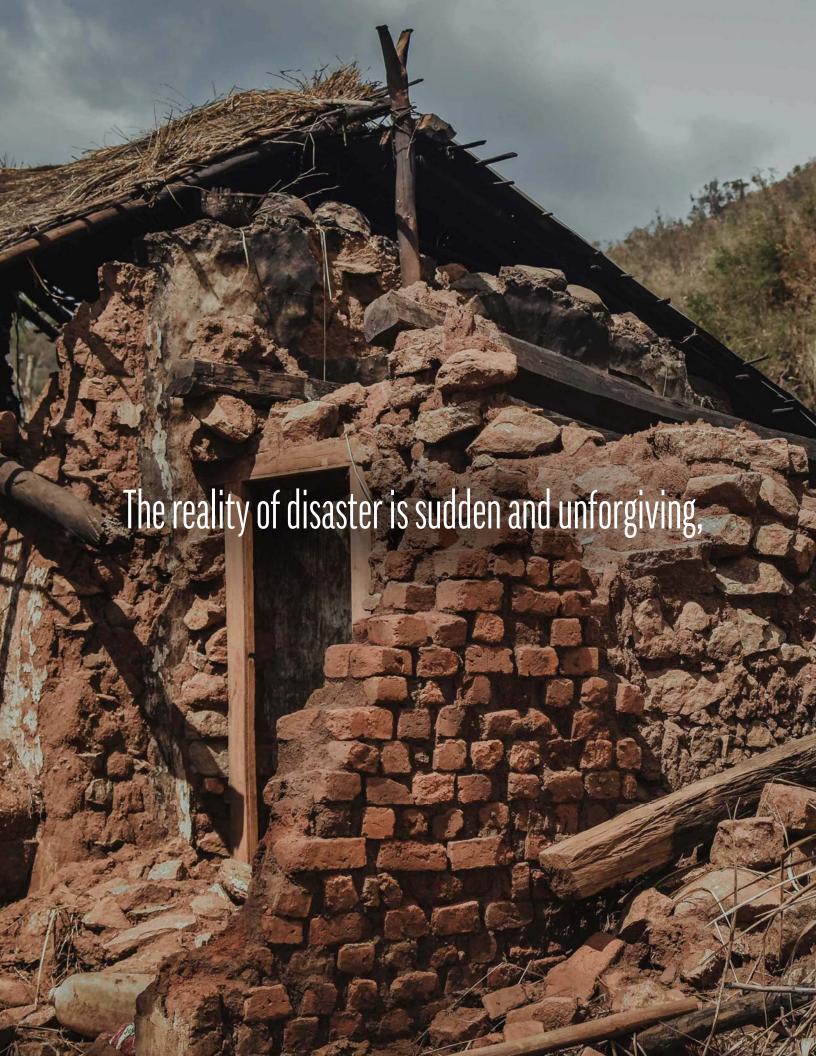
"Humanitarians have failed to deliver on the most basic of humanitarian endeavours: to put people at the centre of what they do"

—ODI Humanitarian Policy Group – May 2021

"[Supporting community-led response] is a common-sense invitation to strengthen proven ways of working that support the remarkable humanity, capacity, initiative and collective compassion of people in crisis."

—ODI HPN Paper – May 2021









III. THE SOLUTION

Resilio Fund: A New Way **Forward**

Resilio Fund offers a revolutionary solution by supporting local communities to take the lead in crisis response. At the heart of this approach is the recognition that in every country, in every culture, and in every type of crisis, the community is always the first to respond.

Indeed, we often see incredible altruism and collective compassion and action in the aftermath of a crisis. By getting behind what local communities are already doing to help each other, Resilio Fund ensures that aid is faster, more accurate, respectful of local dignity, and supports resilience.

"By investing in community-led responses, we're not just addressing today's crisis. We're building the foundation for a more accountable and just future."

—Myanmar NGO Partner

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KEY ASPECTS OF RESILIO FUND'S APPROACH:

Hyper-Local Action: Local communities are the first to respond, and they know their needs best. Resilio Fund supports small community groups to help those who need it most.

Trust-Based Microgrants: By giving microgrants to these community groups, via local NGOs, we speed up relief efforts while ensuring resources are used where they are most needed.

Long-Term Resilience: By supporting communities over cycles of multiple microgrants, we see groups not just address immediate needs, but also build long-term resilience and self-sufficiency.

Providing relief is necessary, so is dignifying and empowering locals to increase their long term resilience.

We've already been responding here:

- Myanmar
- Ethiopia
- Sudan
- Somalia
- Philippines
- Lebanon
- Northeast India



IV. WHY NOW?

Urgency = *Opportunity*

The time for change is NOW.

Though the need for change was there before, the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit highlighted the inadequacy of the international aid system and the urgent need for new humanitarian solutions - especially ones that "add value to what people and communities are already doing". However, change didn't come.

Now, as humanitarian crises grow in number and complexity, we see funding for the response shrinking, leaving affected communities more vulnerable than ever. Resilio Fund offers a cost-efficient, scalable solution that taps into the inherent strength and compassion of local communities, providing a more effective and sustainable model for crisis relief.

The urgency of this moment cannot be overstated. We have evidence that community-led responses work. Now is the time to scale these efforts and demonstrate to governments and institutional donors what can be achieved by supporting local leadership.



\$43B+

Over **\$43 Billion** of humanitarian assistance given in 2023.

1.2%

In 2022, **only 1.2%** of total international humanitarian funding went directly to local and national NGOs.

300M+

In 2024, over **300 million people** required humanitarian assistance.

4x

This is **4 times** the number of people who required humanitarian assistance 10 years ago in 2014.



V. OUR MODEL

A <u>Revolutionary</u> Approach to *Crisis Relief*

Resilio Fund operates with three key strategies, each designed to support and scale community-led crisis response efforts across the globe:

Ignite - In regions where this approach is new, Resilio Fund provides hands-on support, training, and funding to enable local or national partners to adopt and grow community-led crisis responses. We equip local leaders and organisations to effectively implement hyper-local relief efforts, building trust and resilience from the ground up.

Invest - In areas where community-led models are already in place, Resilio Fund invests further in order to demonstrate (and learn from) the approach at scale. By investing in the systems and networks that have already been developed, we amplify the impact of these efforts, helping them scale to new levels of reach, impact, and learning.

Influence - Resilio Fund's impact goes beyond direct funding. By generating evidence and insights from our work, we aim to influence the broader humanitarian sector.

Through advocacy and shared learning, we will demonstrate the power of community-led responses and work to shift international aid systems toward more localised, efficient, and dignified models.

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OUR CORE VALUES

At the heart of Resilio Fund's work are principles that guide every decision, ensuring that our impact is both immediate and lasting:

DIGNITY

We believe in the infinite value of everyone, and seek to respect their agency and dignity.

SOLIDARITY

We get behind what local communities are already doing to help themselves.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We seek to maximise amounts going to local groups, and to build authentic relationships with partners and donors.

HOPE

Providing more than just relief—supporting a path toward lasting resilience.

COLLECTIVE DREAM

By leading collaboratively a global community of practice, our dream is to drive an international system-wide shift in how humanitarian organisations engage with crisis-affected communities. Together we can create a model that not only alleviates suffering in the short term but also strengthens communities for the long term.







VI. IMPACT STORIES

Stories of Impact: How Communities Are **Leading** the Way

SUDAN

In the worst humanitarian crisis in the world, where the international humanitarian system has been severely hampered by the level of violence and insecurity, Sudanese volunteers have led the way in helping their communities. Forming themselves into community groups they call "Emergency Response Rooms", they have fed their neighbours, accommodated strangers, rescued the wounded, and helped traumatised children. It is an incredibly inspiring example of community-led humanitarian response. We quickly got flexible funding to these groups and have continued to support them in a number of ways.





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MYANMAR

Ever since the military coup in early 2021 there has been widespread conflict in Myanmar leading to great suffering, which, in some areas, has been further compounded by natural disasters. Although the military dictatorship has controlled where the international humanitarian system can respond, we have been able to support hyper-local community groups in all parts of the country reaching those that are in the greatest need. In some places this has meant getting microgrants to communities that have been driven from their village by bombing by the Myanmar airforce within 24 hours of the attack. In other areas, local groups have used their microgrants in ways that have strengthened their resilience to further crises.

ETHIOPIA

Here we have supported community-led humanitarian response in the north of the country where there has been conflict, as well as in the south of the country where communities were struck by drought. The leader of our partner in Ethiopia, a national NGO called Zegoch Le Zegoch (Citizen to Citizen) said:

"Communities already have the capacity, as well as the knowledge, originality, and skills to solve the problems that they face."

—Ethiopia NGO Partner





VII. THE OPPORTUNITY FOR DONORS

Why Resilio Fund is the *Right* Investment

For donors and foundations seeking high-impact opportunities, Resilio Fund offers a unique, proven model, being championed by a proven partner, that addresses the shortcomings of top down humanitarian aid.

Our approach is **faster, cheaper, and more dignified**—supporting local communities to lead the charge.

Anchor donors, by committing \$2M annually over the next three years, are playing a pivotal role in scaling this transformative model globally.

Proven Track Record: The approach has over 15 years of documented success, and with \$4M already invested in crisis regions since 2022, Resilio Fund is ready to expand its impact significantly.

A Legacy of Transformation: Legatum Foundation's history with collaborative funds like The END Fund, Freedom Fund, and Luminos Fund shows that targeted investments in scalable models can reshape entire sectors. Resilio Fund is poised to do the same for humanitarian aid.

VIII. FOUNDING STORY

From Vision to Reality: A Way of "Putting People First" is **What Led** to Resilio Fund

Resilio Fund was born out of Legatum Foundation's long standing commitment to empowering communities. Building on the success of three groundbreaking philanthropic funds—The END Fund, Freedom Fund, and Luminos Fund—Resilio Fund is Legatum's answer to the pressing failures of the global humanitarian system.



The establishment of the Resilio Fund was driven by one clear insight: In every culture and in every crisis, local communities are the first to respond. They are the ones who know best what their people need, yet are often sidelined by foreign-led interventions. Inspired by this reality, Resilio Fund aims to put local communities back at the center of crisis response—creating faster, more effective, and more dignified, long-term outcomes for those in need.

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OUR LEADERSHIP



Fanta Toure
Chief Executive Officer

Fanta Toure is Resilio Fund's inaugural CEO. Fanta was born and raised in Cote d'Ivoire, and started her career working in humanitarian relief at the grassroots level. She brings deep experience of leading a collaborative Fund focused on supporting community-led initiatives from her previous role as Director of the Girls First Fund. She holds a MA in International Affairs from the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) at Columbia University.

As Fanta builds out Resilio Fund's staff team she is supported by a number of consultants, including experts from Ethiopia, Myanmar, Somalia, and the Philippines, and international programme leads Kate Moger and Justin Corbett. She is also supported by multiple people from Legatum Foundation with experience of establishing collaborative Funds.

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Support Local Resilience.

Resilio Fund aims to reshape the future of global crisis response by supporting local communities to lead their own recovery and build lasting resilience. Together we can catalyse a revolutionary shift in how the world responds to crises.

RESILIOFUND.ORG

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