



Leveraging Strategic Philanthropy for Sustainable Impact

The Arab region has a rich tradition of philanthropy, often in the form of charity directed at emergency relief or crisis response. Recently, strategic philanthropy has emerged as a crucial force for transformation, contributing to the growth of the education and humanitarian sectors in the region. We (stakeholders) need to work together to leverage the growth of strategic philanthropy and contribute to the region's sustainable growth.



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Philanthropy in the Arab Region

Philanthropy plays a crucial role in addressing societal challenges through various initiatives, ranging from facilitating decent employment to high-quality education and contribution to the achievement of sustainable development goals. In the Arab region, philanthropy contributes to the long-term development and well-being of local communities, reflecting a deep commitment to empowering communities and creating sustainable impact.

Why Strategic Philanthropy is Important

High potential for growth: 89% of survey respondents believe Africa and Asia, including the Middle East, will see the highest growth in philanthropic giving over the next 25 years. ([Philanthropy Alliance Foundation](#))

Philanthropy can significantly contribute to sustainable impact by serving as a key financing source to help close the SDG funding gap, estimated at USD 2.5 trillion up until 2030. ([Charity Aid Foundation](#))

The Foundation's Approach to Strategic Philanthropy

The Foundation's strategic philanthropy approach consists of 8 essential steps:

- Establish a clear vision and comprehensive strategy
- Hire a professional team to oversee philanthropic initiatives
- Determine the significance and target areas for intervention
- Dedicate time, knowledge, and effort
- Ensure robust governance and accountability measures
- Engage actively and visit project sites
- Allocate and formalize the funding process
- Communicate impact and seek to motivate other philanthropists

Knowledge Products on Strategic Philanthropy

The Foundation leverages thought leadership and knowledge production to promote strategic philanthropy rooted in evidence-based methods, meaningful synergies, and outcome-focused approaches. It recently published two outcome papers on the topics of strategic and Islamic philanthropy:

Strategic Philanthropy: The Power of Impact Giving

Offers recommendations for unlocking strategic philanthropy's potential, highlighting the importance of an impact-focused approach and meaningful partnerships.

Unleashing the Power of Islamic Philanthropy for Sustainable Impact

Shares 6 action points to enhance philanthropists' efforts to create educational opportunities & sustainable impact for the world's most vulnerable, including refugee youth in the region.

