

FundWell

A Swift Summary of Wellbeing Stuff for Funders

July's edition of FundWell is curated by [WINGS](#)

Hello FundWell Community,

How do you feel about the multiple crises humanity is facing? Do you think about whether you have the right approach and tools to understand and respond to these enormous challenges? Despite many debates, discussions and think pieces, do you ever wonder why the philanthropy sector isn't shifting fast enough from ideas to action yet? Many of us ask these questions and feel overwhelmed by the complexity of the challenges and by trying to understand and address them.

The urgency of these challenges requires us to transform ourselves, our organisations, and the field, to step into a new role—a catalytic role that will challenge and transform our economic and governance models to create healthy, just, and resilient societies.

But can we transform philanthropy without transforming ourselves first?

Change will begin with us as individuals and feed into our relationships, organisations, and the broader field. The process will be difficult as it requires us to analyse our role, influence, and power within the systems we are trying to change. We must relinquish our power and reflect on the structures, barriers, and incentives preventing and encouraging action.

While the change we want to create may seem daunting, we are not alone and each of us has a key role in making this transformation take root. The collaborative and values-based approach that underpins the [Philanthropy Transformation Initiative](#) demonstrates the immense power of our collective intelligence, thinking, and action. By uniting our efforts, we can bring about the mindset shifts necessary for transformation.

This journey requires us to revisit the meaning of philanthropy and redefine our role to become 'enablers' dedicated to serving others, using philanthropy's full potential to leverage all of its assets and reflecting on the type of society we are contributing to building.

From,
[WINGS](#)

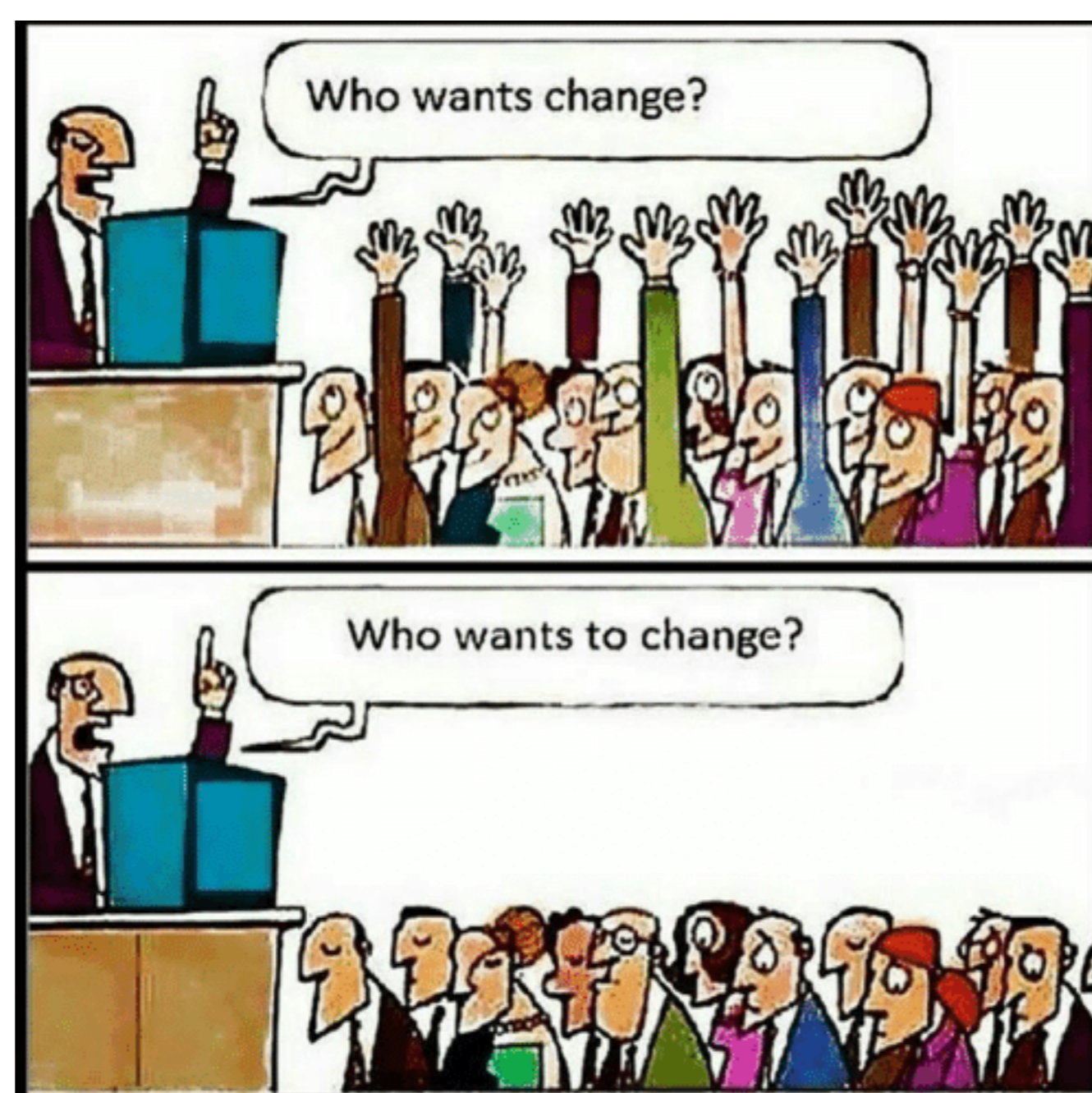


Image description: A contrasting shift in the crowd: initially saying YES to "Who wants change?", with every hand raised in enthusiasm, followed by the same crowd saying NO to "Who wants to change?", hands now lowered in a moment of collective introspection and apathy.

FundWell Essentials

- Discover the term 'strategic hope' introduced by the Impact Trust in the [Resilience Revisited 03. Framing a theoretical concept: Strategic Hope](#) blog. Unlike blind optimism the term acknowledges "the severity and complexity of challenges but still proposes that we identify and navigate pathways to envision and work towards a better future."
- "Addressing personal challenges is important not only for individual well-being, but also because there is growing evidence that doing so lies at the heart of effectively addressing systemic social challenges." Explore the connection between inner well-being and effective social change in a series of articles curated by the India Development Review for the [Centred Self I.A Special Series](#).
- Can you imagine a coming together of the field, in all its diversity, under the common call for transformation? Read [Philanthropy at the crossroads](#) and learn more about why philanthropy's transformation matters and the mindset shifts that are essential for philanthropic organisations to embark on a journey of transformation.

Talking Points: pick one and start a conversation!

- What worries you and what gives you hope in the philanthropy sector and beyond?
- What was your first encounter with philanthropy? Did your personal experiences play a role in your decision to be part of a philanthropic organisation?
- What is an image or a metaphor that describes you and your role within the philanthropy field? What aspects of this image or metaphor can enable or disable you from being part of philanthropy's transformation?

Words on Wellbeing

"Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself."

Leo Tolstoy

How does your funding organisation define wellbeing? Does it support wellbeing for its stakeholders? [Reflect and share here, in the Funders + Wellbeing Survey.](#)

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