



Catalyzing Change in Africa: Reflections from the Segal Family Foundation Annual Meeting 2023



Plot 2 Suuna II Road, Ntinda
civsourcedafrica.com
+256 393 224 056
info@civsourcedafrica.com

The Segal Family Foundation annual meeting took place at the beautiful Kigali Convention Center, nestled in the picturesque hills of Rwanda. Designed as a space of celebration, this event brought together innovative thinkers, ambitious doers, and progressive funders committed to catalyzing dramatic and positive change in Sub-Saharan Africa. The 2023 edition surpassed all expectations, uniting partners, donors, and service providers, providing a platform to brainstorm, share resources, and co-create a brighter future for the region. It was a truly transformative experience that redefined how change happens in Africa, fostering celebration, networking, sharing, and learning.

Throughout the event, I had the privilege to engage with visionaries, dreamers, funders, and leaders from diverse social justice spectrum, all dedicated to making a real impact in the lives of the people they serve. The keynote address delivered by Her Excellency Jeanette Kagame, the first lady of the Republic of Rwanda, who heralded the participants as catalysts for positive change which will see Africa no longer at the receiving aid but an active participant in her own transformation and development. From tailored and bespoke sessions on funder conversations to friend-raising masterclasses, the annual meeting provided endless opportunities for exploring collaborations, potential synergies and coalesce for the transformation of their communities.

Among the valuable insights gained during the 3-day event, one lesson stood out: nurturing unlimited leadership that can tackle complexity head-on. We realized that challenges cannot be solved with the same level of consciousness that created them, urging us to elevate our consciousness and tap into the collective wisdom of our teams. I look forward to identifying moments of alignment within the team I lead and using those as a springboard for even more success.

The most unforgettable lesson from the 3-day event revolved around cultivating limitless leadership, capable of navigating complexity without being overwhelmed. It became evident that challenges cannot be adequately addressed using the same level of thinking that gave rise to them. Therefore, elevating our consciousness is essential, enabling us to tap into the collective wisdom of our teams and propel the organizations we support toward success. I eagerly anticipate identifying moments of alignment within my team, using them as a springboard for even more success in the future.

Together, we are poised to create meaningful and lasting impact, contributing to the positive transformation of the communities we serve. The journey continues, fueled by passion, purpose, and the belief that change is indeed possible.

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Rotational CEO (July - October 2023),
Associate CivAdvisory
CivSource Africa