



Ubuntu Social Leaders Academy: some reflections from across the programmes

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**THE
UBELE
INITIATIVE**



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Case studies reflect the voices and experiences of those directly involved in the process. While it may be desirable to hear all the voices from those involved, this is not always possible. However, through some personal reflections, it is possible to provide some insights into what the course entailed, and more importantly, how the course impacted on participants.

In this Appendix to the main summary report, the reflections captured offers just a glimpse into the worlds of some of the participants. For further insights, the 'summary report' contains other, and different perspectives, drawn from interviews, survey feedback and whole group evaluation perspectives reflecting views gleaned from 214 participants. This report should be read alongside the other Appendices in this series.

This is Appendix two of three.

Appreciative Leadership

By Joseph: 27 September – 3 October 2021

What knowledge, skills and competences did you gain or improve as a result of your experience?

The programme offered so much but some of the stand-out areas of knowledge, tools and new concepts picked up included:

- Principles of Appreciative Enquiry: Discovery > Dream > Design > Create
- Appreciative Inquiry Models: Discovery, Vision & Triad Roles

Specifically, we were able to explore in depth key areas of action built upon the principles and framework:

- Leadership Skills
- Partnership working skills
- Working with other communities
- Information gathering
- Public speaking
- Ways to capture information and to use the information to bring about change in the community.

What would you say were your most important experiences as a result of the course?

The opportunity provided so many good and positive experiences that I hope to build on over the coming months. Perhaps the strongest and likely long term experience is meeting people from different communities and cultures which I will definitely build on.

Other areas worthy of mention relate to the availability of time to share knowledge and cultural differences, especially those opportunities that enabled new partnerships to be developed.

While traditional leadership focuses on problems, Appreciative Leadership focuses on potential, improves organizations and individuals by finding out what is working well and trying to get more out of it. Through participation and engagement I found that we were likely to benefit and get the most out of the programme when we engaged fully in the process. Through the practical exercises and tools I acquired knowledge and understanding in the following ways:

- Able to see another facet of the current situation within which my organisation is operating (e.g. effectiveness and adequacy of available resources)
- helping to maximize my ability to clarify the clients' and team vision, to deal with the problematic symptoms from another perspective or other important issues
- designing the necessary actions for the organisation to achieve our objectives by reframing some of what we too as priorities, which were reactive activities rather than thought through desired outcomes.

Youth leadership and employment: Future of Work

By Georgina, Sufiatu and Mirela: 26 September to 2 October 2021

What knowledge, skills and competences did you gain or improve as a result of your experience?

We participated in several workshops around the future of work, with a focus around the internet and future trends. During the course of the week, we attended a series of workshops led by Nexgen Careers at Betahouse in Gracia. The programme was designed to help young leaders like us gain a better understanding of the 4th industrial revolution and the gig economy.

We gained the ability to cater for the different skillset within the group to the advantageous work in the future. We learnt how best to participate as a team, even with people who you do not immediately get along with and of course, about the many different cultures, abilities, and technology that is currently available.

Through the programme we developed teamworking skills as we engaged in group activities through the sessions. Furthermore, we developed research and presentation skills and learnt how to provide effective feedback. Additionally, we gained a great insight into cultures. Being in another country with different values and environment helped us to expand our views and understanding of what a work environment and culture can look like (e.g. exploring the way of living in Spain and seeing work life in Spain). This has helped many of us realise that the work-life balance is important.

What would you say were your most important experiences as a result of the course?

Some of the most memorable moments included speaking to guest speakers as well as predicting future trends: the community and technology developments, community building and giving back to the areas we work in as a co-working space and about connections and networking. Many of us, for example, loved the community aspect, community building and giving back to the areas we work in as a co-working space. We learnt a lot about connections and networking.

Entering a new learning environment and traveling abroad has helped with confidence. We feel a lot more comfortable with trying new experiences and excited about the future possibilities for career progression. Experiencing a new culture has taught us the importance of traveling, networking, and learning.

Methods of Participatory Design using the Art of Hosting

By Wangu: 24 April – 30 April 2022

I participated in the Methods of Participatory Design using the Art of Hosting course hosted by Fractality. I enrolled into this course because I had heard great reviews about the programme from colleagues; that it had enhanced their communication abilities within their private and professional lives. What I gained from this course was much more than this.

Throughout the process, questioning was identified as a central tenet, and we participated in several activities to enhance our ability to ask questions and respond to them. One of the big questions that I had come with for my own life was *“how do I earn a living from a family estate whilst also positively impacting the community around me and my future generations to come?”* By the end of the course, through the rigorous activities that were thought provoking which encouraged participants to be introspective and deal with facts. It became apparent to me that I needed to move back to my home country Kenya and build a brand that will sell our teas while championing sustainable practices that benefit the people and planet.

I packed my bags and moved to Nairobi Kenya and in February 2023, my tea brand was born and retailing across Kenya, with other markets in the pipeline.

This was made possible as a result of the experience and the approach, which engaged other participants - a think tank if you will – in supporting and helping me to create a sense of purpose and action. It gave me the opportunity to dig deep and be interrogated on my ideas and assumptions. I still use the skills in my day to day life and will forever be grateful for having the space to critically analyse my own life and gaining a new way to handle complex problems in a simplified way.



By Carolina, Jada, Christina and Nureen: 24 April – 30 April 2022

What knowledge, skills and competences did you gain or improve as a result of your experience?

This has been a very powerful course in our journey of discovery and creating new things. Everything learnt can be implemented and we plan to do just that, especially around planning and organising projects. Some of the things we learnt can be best captured in the following way:

“I learnt about work at the individual level and how to benefit from our collective community, to develop purpose in our community and the process of moving from where I am today to where I am to be (the chaotic path). “

“Learnt about the power of passion and responsibility when it comes to developing a project and about what my next steps will be to achieve what I set myself to do.”

“The Art of Hosting was a life-changing programme, we learnt the importance of our motivations to realise our purpose and have the toolset to overcome challenges and the importance of how to contribute to reaching the greatest goals of community cohesion and partnerships.”

The course consisted of learning about approaches and theory, listening and networking with the like-minded people on the course. We collaborated on activities around facilitation, interviewing, hosting conversations, and shared knowledge around what this looks like in each of our home organisations. We were guided through self-reflection exercises which supported the development of our leadership skills and we looked at our communities, our role within them, and how to manifest tangible social change, through planning and ideation sessions, including co-working on our peers' real ideas on community engagement and projects.

Many of us recognised the acquisition of new knowledge in these areas, including how to intentionally facilitate discussion for a specific purpose, and the importance of forming the right questions to successfully host a conversation.

What would you say were your most important experiences as a result of the course?

The tools given through this training will help us identify the potential inside each of us and how to put our ideas into practice.

The most important experience to be gained from the course was the opportunity to listen and learn to other peoples' experiences that helped inform understanding of our respective field of work and has enabled us to network and build connections. Another important experience was the opportunity to learn art of hosting approaches and practise these over the course of the week. This gave us an understanding of several valuable theories and the context of their use. There was a good balance of both of these aspects: learning from theory and learning from peoples' experiences.

When we met with the psychologist over zoom we spoke about fear, which everyone contributed to even though we came from different backgrounds; we still felt the same way about fear... That was an eye opener and has pushed many of us to look at ways to get out of that rut. It was a very healing experience:

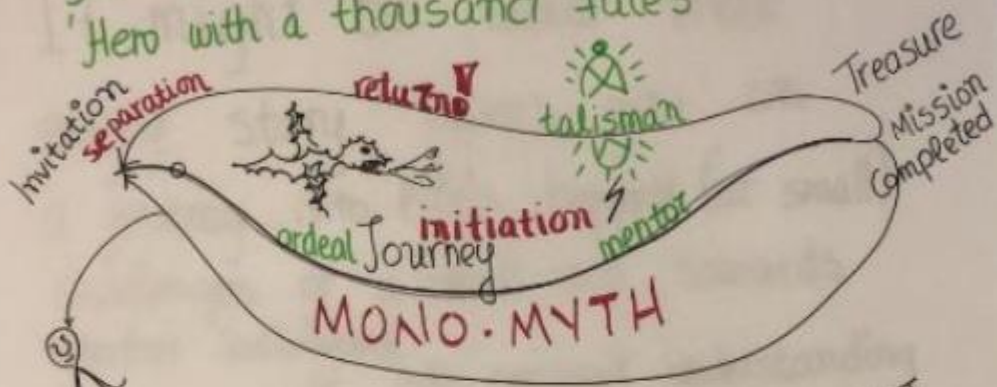
“To go on my own hero's journey and to truly take steps toward mastering myself was something I will always treasure on this trip. The facilitators were incredible to have a safe space to learn and be valuable was wow something that you don't get every day.”





Hero(ine)'s JOURNEY

JOSEPH CAMPBELL
'Hero with a thousand faces'



"BRINGING
HEALING"

transmute
the conflicts, pain,
trauma from/of the
past into
strengths for
the future.

STORIES

SENSE-MAKING

DIRECT

Social Change using ‘social lab’ methodology: Mental Health Lab

By Suzanne, Lucy, Wilan and James: 30 April to 6 May 2022

What knowledge, skills and competences did you gain or improve as a result of your experience?

We attended the Ubuntu Mental Health Lab programme delivered by Ubele initiative in partnership with Fractality, in Crete. We went through a structured course that enabled us to look at solutions from a Dragons Den approach to mental health dilemmas within the Black community. We were introduced to leadership concepts and tools alongside knowledge about the effects of mental health and wellbeing. Discussions provided a wealth of knowledge for coupled with reflective moments which provided an opportunity to improve skills and competence.

What we did not expect were discussions and considerations on sustainability imperatives of Afro-Caribbean charity organisations, in particular exploring concerns around staffing and personnel competence. These were explored through a mixture of talks, individual testimonies and experiences, movement and more creative ways of exploration. But most importantly, many of us learnt how to be comfortable within ourselves.

A stand out experience of the week was working in groups using imaginative processes to map the future which was extremely powerful and rewarding. Taking part in this exercise gave us confidence to speak into existence aspirations in front of a group, and to receive feedback was most powerful. Being challenged on assumptions provided added feedback that was needed. Learning and sharing in the small group settings felt therapeutic.

On the negative side, there were some concerns about the overall structure of the course which could be improved by breaking down the training into clear modules to be delivered on a daily basis and greater use of visual stimuli and videos.

What would you say were your most important experiences as a result of the course?

Above all, being able to undertake discussions and participate in activities in a safe and participative environment was perhaps the greatest take-away experience. The programme was amazing, and not what had been expected. We would go as far as to say it was life changing, especially as we were able to put away our work hats and bring our personal experiences into focus. We were able to switch that part off for the most part and just be ourselves.

We were able to share much about our challenges as well as thinking more strategically about how we address some of the inequalities we were encountering. For many of us, it was more of a personal journey than a professional one, feeling part of and accepted by the Black community (of which some of us don't always) and feeling comfortable in our version of Blackness (of which we don't always).

We were a mix of ages and in a little bubble which was lovely as we got lots of nurturing and wisdom from the elders, but it was also very intense at times because of the intersectionality, particularly when discussing all our differences.





Building Resilience in Organisations and Systems: reflections

By Nuala: 31 May to 7 June 2022

What knowledge, skills and competences did you gain or improve as a result of your experience?

We travelled from UK to Crete, Greece to take part in the Fractality/Ubele Appreciative Learning Lab 'Building Resilience' leadership training. The programme enabled me to acquire knowledge such as learning techniques to measure and interpret personal resilience using Resilience Advantage Questionnaire, the concept of Appreciative Inquiry, especially The '4-D' Cycle and the Art of questioning. The skills of working in a circle and applying the principles of open space were enlightening and inspiring with the competences gained incorporating self-care practices and the ability to focus on the now and re-authoring of the future (e.g. the ability to disseminate and to practice some of this learning within my own Latin American community in London).

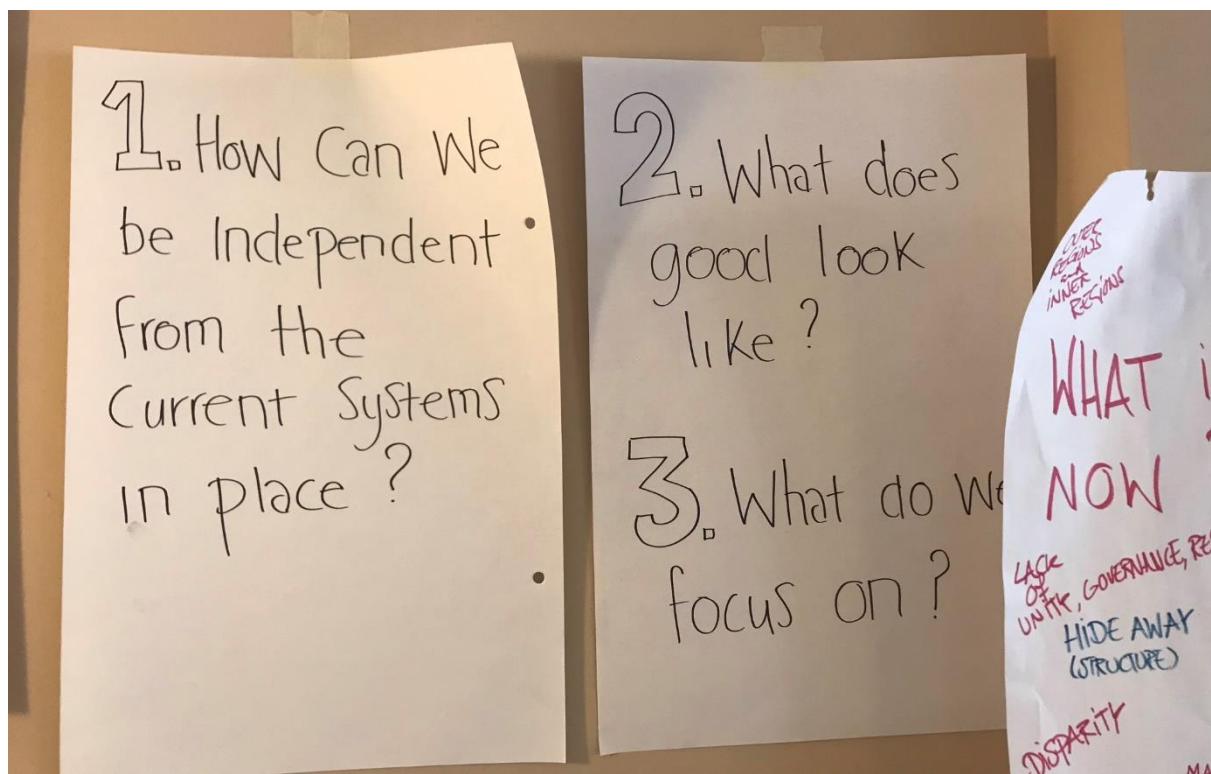
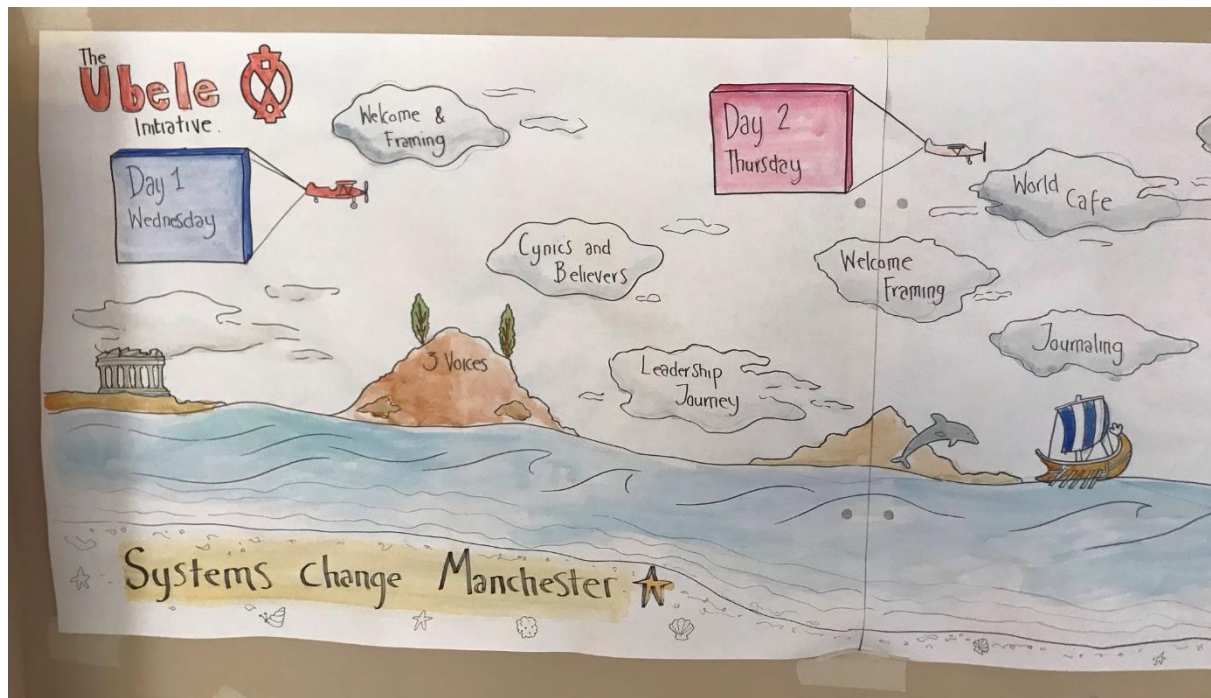
What would you say were your most important experiences as a result of the course?

The experiences were very positive, in that it was an extraordinary life changing experience in contrast to the realities of full London Lock down, isolation, despair and the setting was extraordinarily beautiful. This was crucial for stopping and reflecting upon our learning. The most important experiences, therefore, was the contrast of the fabulous location and freedom this brought to focus on study, quality of tutors such as Markos and the bonding and befriending of younger people from a cross section of communities. The lived life experiences and the bringing together of members of black and ethnic minority communities during moments of intense reflection on the lifelong racism experience, as the only white participant, would have been difficult to achieve anywhere else.

Ubele and their key staff have been an exemplary organisation with which to work and collaborate and their care and attention to detail before, during and after has been exceptional. The very same is said of Fractality with a specific reference to Markos. It was a pleasure to share capacity building and planning sessions with the other leaders on the course.

I arrived back in the UK inspired and confident to implement my learning within our registered charity to ensure we go forward in a positive way, despite the realities of a Covid-19 restricted world.

Understanding the importance of good facilitation in terms of hosting spaces and tuning in to group dynamics. Meeting interesting people that remain respected friends and colleagues to this day. The creative and one embodied learning was appreciated. The dominant style of the lead facilitator was not appropriate for the group. Cultural awareness and informed practices is essential for anyone undertaking facilitation.



Empowering Women leaders around social enterprise, coaching and skills development: some reflections of the Cologne experience

By Peggy: 3 May to 8 May 2023

Travelling from Birmingham, Bristol, Cumbria, Huddersfield, Manchester, Somerset, and London a cadre of 20 women made their way to Cologne Germany with the aim of reflecting on and sharing our lived experiences as Black women in leadership. We aimed to be centralised, to support each other in ways which nourished and rejuvenated us. We also acknowledged the void in systems of ways women share between generations and were intentional about starting a journey where we could explore and possibly commence prototyping ways of sharing leadership approaches, ways of working / being with all their highs and lows intergenerationally. The group were intentional about interacting in ways which resulted in all feeling valued, heard, and acknowledged as leaders who had something important to offer in spite of length of experience or context.

The programme ran from May 4th to 9th and aimed to incorporate the following as themes:

- Channelling my Araminta Ross (Harriet Tubman) – Centering the relationship to self in leadership.
- Strength to loving and liberating self – Exploring the needs, wants and boundaries of black female leaders.
- Re-assessing crossroads – What it means to lead in majority white / black spaces.
- Be free my body – Exploring expressions which may contribute to addressing trauma whilst opening us up to our ongoing healing in ways which are sustainable.



The London and Birmingham participants arriving.

We valued and appreciated the diversity of experience and wisdom amongst us, the multifaceted love, the knowledge and confidence of knowing how we wanted to be loved. We enjoyed love as nutrition, through touching. We translated love, sought opportunities to support and widen our networks, we made time for reflections, utilising the spaciousness

of the programme to dwell a little, on where we were from, how far we had come, and our individual and combined dreams in the making.

We got up close and personal in intergenerational pairs, using questioning to connect and explore some of the following:

- ◆ *How we first learnt to love.*
- ◆ *How we generally ask for support.*
- ◆ *How we resist support when we get it.*
- ◆ *How others can support us anyway.*



Visualising Black Feminism in Cologne

The Black feminist movement in Cologne is a vibrant one which is connected into issues of people of the diaspora. A visit from the women, brought gifts of libation, storytelling and singing. The lived experiences were in a variety of ways as similar as they were different.



Engaging, celebrating and singing with the sisters from Sonnenblumen Community Development Group

We gained insights into the journeys of Black sisters in Cologne and joined them singing of their dream of their tree growing to the sky.

when we returned home, we continued to acknowledge, love, update and affirm each other.

“Good morning my incredible sisters. I hope you all rested and well! I have just landed in Birmingham now. I,m deeply blessed and grateful that I got to spend the last few days with you all. I cannot really explain in words, but your stories, the ‘mmms’ and the laughter has just been so authentic, and the way in which we empowered, encouraged, and championed each other was inspiring. This has been one of the highlights of my year already (although the year hasn’t finished) It’s not a goodbye but see you soon. Until next time, have a safe flight home.”

“Ladies I just wanted to say a huge thankyou to you all for the past few days. I have learnt so, so much about so many things and I am eternally grateful for the opportunity to have met each and every one of you.”

Social Change using 'social lab' methodology: Black Queers Breaking Down the Walls

By Erol and Ian: 16 June to 22 June 2023

What knowledge, skills and competences did you gain or improve as a result of your experience?

Confidence building Mental health awareness Empowerment Self-development Self-love

I have attended courses and workshops that break boundaries Within Myself. After all the closest causes of black gay Elders breaking barriers, I've learned to have more self-confidence. I've known to be more mindful of myself and the effects I allow others to have over me. I have learned to control my interactions with others. I've learned even more that vulnerability is my strength; however, not everything needs to be shared. I also love to trust myself more than others.

What would you say were your most important experiences as a result of the course?

Being aware of others and their feelings Compassion for others who are going through challenging times. Learning how to interact with Queer men on a emotional & spiritual level Mental health management.

This has been a life changing experience

I would say refer to the above. However, I will list it out for you. Deposit is where soaking up the Sun being mindful of myself, learning to manage my emotions even better than before, and allowing the process to take place positively. The negatives I have experienced are only those of myself and my inability to deal with people's lack of understanding.



Black Activism in Europe: the Dutch Caribbean experience

By Christina and Rianna: 9 July to 15 July 2023

Ubele was successful in 2020 to deliver the Erasmus funded programme, Ubuntu: Social Leaders Academy (USLA) under Key Action I: Learning Mobility of Individuals, which covered 10 five day courses and 16 Job Shadowing (Fellowships) opportunities in countries within Europe. One of the courses was the 'In the Black: the Dutch Caribbean experience', held in Amsterdam, between 9 to 15 July 2023, delivered by Untold.

The programme sought to explore social and political activism in the Netherlands, drawing on the experiences of African Diaspora communities from Surinam and the Dutch Caribbean. Learning journeys took participants into the field to the physical spaces and community-based organisation of social and/or political significance to gain deeper insights into the some of the key challenges and achievements of Dutch Caribbean communities living in Amsterdam.

The approach included three interrelated strands:

- Understanding of the challenges and achievements of African diaspora communities in the Netherlands;
- Place-based Black history walk through the centre of Amsterdam from an historically focused economic, social and political perspective;
- Group-based comparative research and presentation assignment.

Outputs from the sessions were captured in various forms, including presentations based on the comparative research assignment as part of the process, which was designed to develop partnership working, research, interviewing and presentation skills.

Some group feedback reflections from participants



Social Change using ‘social lab’ methodology: Agbero2100

By Nelly: 9 July to 15 July 2023

What does it take for one’s expertise to be recognised?

Passion and joy constantly impact my behaviours in the most beautiful ways. Yet, over the years, I have joined many conversations structured around etiquette and unspoken rules not designed to acknowledge or celebrate my existence and energy.

I was once invited to contribute to a short paper exploring equity in decision-making. For a fascinating topic, the exercise felt typically academic.

On too many occasions, after having checked my privileges, after having spent time listening, investigating, researching, collaborating, after having put my whole self into writing papers that lay bare challenges, I am all too familiar with, along with solutions that would impact communities whose struggles I share, my academic and lived expertise would swiftly be dismissed. Too often, decisions would be taken following narratives I could not comprehend.

Moreover, what good practices look like has long been documented, with my every contribution comes the harmful risk of being redundant or performative.

In June 2023, I had the immense pleasure of joining The Ubele Initiative in Lisbon for a week-long, solution-oriented conversation exploring sustainable community asset building. With intention, thirty of us - community leaders, funders and infrastructure organisations - came together to generously share our knowledge and expertise. We named challenges and contributed solutions. We listened a lot and learnt some more. All of us, entrepreneurs, artists, activists and academics contributed on equal terms to designing Agbero 2100 - Ubele’s long-term strategic intervention and programme of support to increase the sustainability of Black and racially minoritised communities in the UK.

The fast-paced workshops, meetings, conversations and visits to local organisations with local partners were curated with brilliance!

The large circle we sat in on most days brought safety and closeness. It enabled us to hear all our voices, to build mutual respect, to enjoy the wellbeing practices, to exchange smiles, to hear our laughter and to make meaningful connections. Commitment, creativity and joy filled the space.

As a Black woman of mixed heritage background working in funding, I am particularly interested in understanding what gets resourced, what doesn’t, and why.

Insight trips, learning experiences, retreats, for all Ubele’s savoir-faire, talent, creativity and dedication, are also products of need reliant on funding to catalyse them. Ubele’s strength

stands in their assertiveness that intentional equitable collaborations and meaningful knowledge-sharing opportunities must move beyond funding dependency.

Today, in the UK, high profile institutions are taking courageous steps to assess where their wealth comes from. Redistribution and reparations are making the headlines. Resourcing this work, so multi-generations who have endured historic inequities can self-determine, so power can be rebalanced and devolved, and marginalised voices heard, isn't a tomorrow conversation.



H.R.Y.O. Human Rights Youth Organization: A reflection on the Fellowship experience in Palermo, Italy

By Andrew Sinclair and Chadney Wassmer von Langenstein: 27 August to 6 September 2023

We undertook the Ubuntu Fellowship (Job Shadowing) programme in Palermo, Sicily, Italy between 27 August and 6 September 2023 with the [Human Rights Youth Organisation](#) (HRYO). To say it opened our eyes is an understatement. And the opportunities and insight gained cannot be expressed in a few sentences, but we will try to share some of those experiences.

H.R.Y.O. and their people are warm, welcoming and kind. We've been received with so much care and consideration by Senem and her team. We arrived with open minds, open hearts and open wills, and soon decided with Senem that we were going to focus on Terra Franca, the permaculture garden of H.R.Y.O. that is also being used for workshops and training purposes. Due to recent fires in Palermo, the garden didn't look so good anymore, lots of trees, plants and grass had been cut to prevent the fires from destroying the garden. Together with two lovely, hardworking volunteers we created something beautiful in Terra Franca. Apart from spending time at Terra Franca, we joined a few meetings with our host Senem. She introduced us to some other human rights organizations and shared information about H.R.Y.O. and their projects.

We made some wonderful connections. There is definitely a desire to do more work for the community in Palermo, and lots of organizations that would benefit from our expertise. As we understand, there are a lot of different organizations in the field of human rights and youth work, and at the moment they're not really working together. Apart from the work with H.R.Y.O. we also connected with 3 other organizations: Giocherenda (www.giocherenda.it) is an artistic collective of young black people that invents, build live games that spark storytelling and sharing. They also custom make high quality clothes and bags from African fabrics.

Maldusa (www.maldusa.org) is a cultural association that facilitates freedom of movement, supporting existing infrastructures for migrant solidarity, as well as researching and documenting border violence, on land and at sea, on the Mediterranean routes. In Palermo, the Maldusa cultural association seeks to bridge a multitude of local and transnational realities that derive from anti-racist struggles, migrant activism and solidarity, as well as building bridges between communities on the move and their places of departure. The aim is to build further relationships between people, places and existing projects, actively involving people on the move in the organisation of the space. Both Giocherenda and Maldusa are led by young black people. Go Deep (www.godeepproject.org) is a game focused organisation that creates spaces for radical inclusion and embracing diversity without creating more polarization. In the game, participants learn about themselves and their communities. It supports individuals and communities to see themselves differently, to discover the inherent resources that are present but maybe not obvious. The participants get to learn new skills for facilitating human relations and communities. We were fortunate enough to spend a few days with some of the creators of the game.

Our time in Palermo has been amazing in every possible way. We created some wonderful things in Terra Franca with Weronika and Kamila and made lovely connections with everyone mentioned above. Spending time with these beautiful people that are all so open and willing to connect and share has been a true inspiration for us. I'm filled with gratitude and would love to go back and do more work with the local community.



Migrafrica: Exploring the Ukrainian African students' experience

By Edenamiuki:

This shadowing opportunity came at a perfect time to access German migration support networks. At this stage I had visited several European countries interviewing African refugees transitioning in to Germany due to the conflict in Ukraine in an attempt of developing a grassroots network. The focus of my placement was to meet refugees, reporters and organisations. In shadowing Migrafrica, I was able to learn about their organisation's history, community cohesion mechanisms and struggles. The coordinator was generous with time, enabling me with his local and national network leading to a series of interviews in Berlin, Cologne and Bonn. I developed on my research and interviewing skills, with this process being my first time consulting on ongoing refugee crisis via grassroots research.

THE SITUATION

The research arising from the experience speaks to the struggle of short term residency in Hungary for Black African refugees, and, with the Russian government recently cutting support to Hungary, this also carried an impact on how far Hungary go to support African refugees. Travelling to different European countries has enabled some understanding of the nuance difference of refugee settlement. Students that have decided to stay in Europe argue that the European Union should support black students with commitments from the Ukraine government. EU Countries should embrace these students and families. The struggles of the war are not directly inflicted students that have invested to study at a university in Ukraine. Most students spoke of everyday racism and fear for their life. In some cases, the EU and the people of Europe must come to understand that these refugees sacrificed their sanity to live and study in Ukraine. Losing a university admission might not be seen as a significant loss to Europeans, but in African countries it can be life and death. It can be the loss of family savings or investments. Some students struggle to communicate the truth to their families because of the fear of stressing family members.



RACISM TRYING TO BOARD THE TRAINS

“Every train that comes by, they don’t allow blacks to get in. They were all saying blacks should join the war. They gave us guns saying we should join the war, which was very traumatic to some people, even to me... imagine five trains passing us by, for two days and no black person, no black people there. Even from Morocco, Angola, any other black African countries, no one is inside the train, so you know that before, it’s not the same with the white people” (Dan)

“Ukrainians lied to us. We were at the right spot where the train was meant to come. The Ukrainian officers told us to go to the back, go to the back and stand... some black people were able to enter the train, then the police would start pushing us out so that their people can enter’ (Mary)

“I climbed in [the train] and the Moroccans were like, they were like literally racist, the Moroccan people on the train were very wicked to black people, very wicked to the extent that I sat on the floor on the train with my wrapper, they didn’t give me space at all... I’m telling you because I have been attending school with all of them. I’m the only black person in my class and the only girl. So it wasn’t easy with them. I know how they behave, so I had to ignore as much as I could... thank god that we all survived because the way they treated us. Really coloured people, even the ones that have called themselves Africans were treating us [badly]. But they didn’t allow us to charge our phones inside the train, they all took the rooms inside the train. They didn’t allow us. They were just allowing their people. It was really traumatising. (Mary).

There have been many reports from black students about racist and Afriphobic Ukrainian train guards and border guards where black people have not been allowed on trains to escape the country with everyone else. Additionally, there have been reports that other African students have been racist towards Nigerian students.



Source: [The Ubele Initiative - Support Migrants Fleeing The Russo-Ukrainian War](#)

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