

Better preparedness:  
**FUNDING RESILIENCE**



**LEARNING WEEK LABS**

**OVERCOMING LEGAL AND BANKING  
BARRIERS TO MOVE MONEY**

**Tuesday 14 November 2023**

# WELCOME





Captioning is  
available.

Subtitulado  
(en inglés).

Sous-titrage  
(en anglais).



Mute yourself.

Pon tu micrófono en  
silencio.

Mettez vous en  
silencieux.



It will be recorded.

Se grabará.

Il sera enregistré.



Mute



Start Video



Participants



Chat



Share Screen



Record



Live Transcript



Reactions



Interpretation

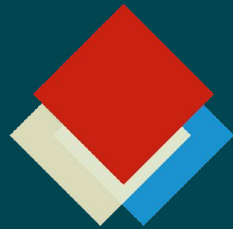
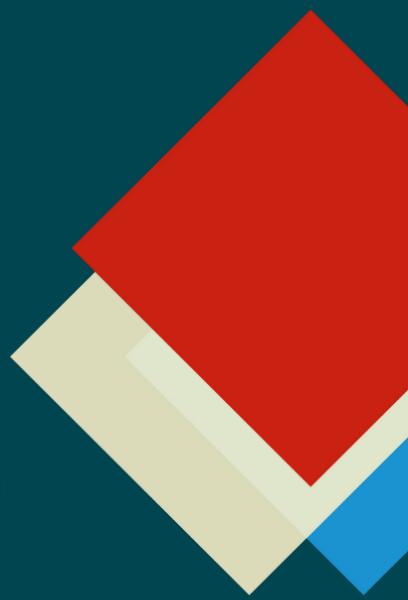


Apps

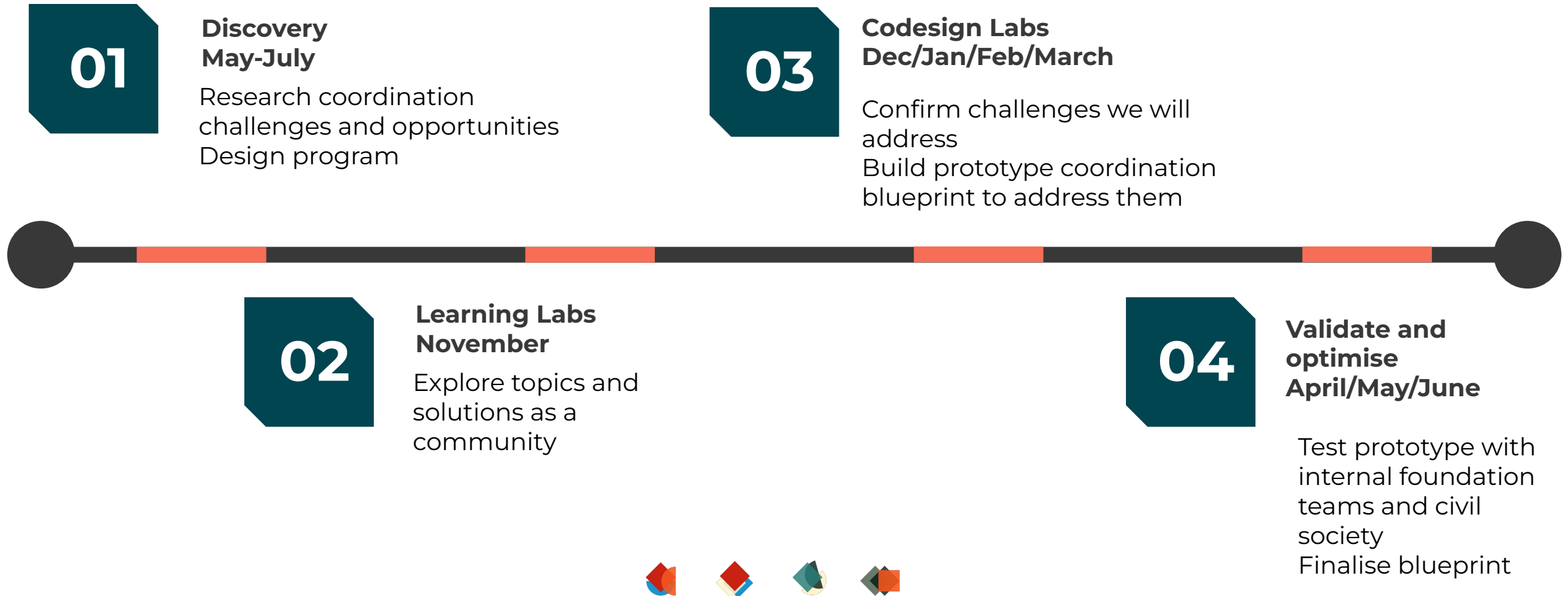
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# Better Preparedness: **Funding Resilience**



# Better Preparedness Funding Resilience

**Goal:** to ensure that human rights defenders, social justice movements, and civil society have access to resources when and how they need them.

# Better Preparedness **Funding Resilience**

**Why now?** An urgent need for new approaches to funding civil society and social movements where human rights are most under threat.

# Better Preparedness **Funding Resilience**

## **How are we doing this?**

Bringing together peace and security and human rights funders, and civil society to codesign a blueprint for better funder coordination, and to build the trust and political will to deliver against it.

# Better Preparedness Funding Resilience

## A blueprint for better coordination

By June 2024 we will have designed and validated a blueprint which includes a range of different approaches and tools that together enable coordination around different types of crises:

- coordination principles
- protocols and mechanisms for coordination
- crisis preparedness drills
- mapping of foundations' work and of an ideal wider funding ecosystem
- taxonomies of risk and crisis
- early warning systems

# Learning Lab Week

## LEARNING LAB: EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS

**MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER**

8am PST / 11am ET / 4pm UTC  
5pm CET / 11pm ICT

## LEARNING LAB: LEGAL AND BANKING SOLUTIONS

**TUESDAY 14TH NOVEMBER**

8am PST / 11am ET  
4pm UTC / 5pm CET / 11pm ICT

## LEARNING LAB: DECOLONIZING AND LOCALIZING GRANT-MAKING

**WEDNESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER**

8am PST / 11am ET / 4pm UTC  
5pm CET / 11pm ICT

## LEARNING LAB: AI AND HUMAN RIGHTS

**THURSDAY 16TH NOVEMBER**

8am PST / 11am ET / 4pm UTC  
5pm CET / 11pm ICT

# Learning Lab

## Overcoming legal and banking barriers

*Share questions and reflections  
in the Zoom chat as we hear  
from our speakers*

### Two lines of enquiry

How are colleagues overcoming legal and financial systems barriers and their related reputational risks to move money to civil society partners?

How might we build on these best practices, and what they mean for coordination between funders of civil society facing acute crises, and longer-term civic space challenges?



**Abi Knipe**

Deputy Director

**Funders Initiative  
for Civil Society**



**Federico Motka**

Head of  
Humanitarian

**Vitol  
Foundation**

# When the lines keep shrinking —

What's driving legal and financial barriers to funding civil society, and what can we do about it?

Abi Knipe  
Deputy Director, FICS

HRFN, 14 November 2023



# The context

- Philanthropy is facing new compliance costs and reputational risks to continue resourcing human rights and environmental work
- Private foundations are investing in new mechanisms to mitigate risks - including intermediaries, pooled and aligned funds, and local philanthropic infrastructure
- Restrictions are part of wider trends of rising populism and authoritarianism, and powerful actors abusing legal and banking structures to gain and consolidate power by cracking down on those demanding accountability or threatening their interests





Source: Shutterstock, Holli, climate change protest, Australia, March 15 2019

# Trends restricting resourcing —

1. Over-application and abuse of global norms to counter terrorist financing
2. Broadening definitions of extremism to 'scoop up' more causes
3. Increasing regulation of cryptocurrency and fundraising platforms
4. Contagion – the replication of legislation across territories

# Entry point #1

## TRANSNATIONAL BODIES

- Support civil society to build on transnational wins – to submit expertise, concerns and evidence of misapplication and abuse of FATF standards; to enable technical experts to support national civil society groups to leverage national FATF evaluations
- Resource advocacy in national contexts in the wake of changes to FATF guidance – for a model, see Spaces for Change's policy work leading to amendments to Nigeria's Terrorism (Prevention & Prohibition) Act and the Money Laundering (Prevention & Prohibition) Act
- Identify other advocacy targets – support transnational civil society coalitions to strategise and organise; join the Civic Futures learning community

# Entry point #2

## ADVOCACY AROUND BANK DE-RISKING

- Support civil society advocacy - see Human Security Collective's work with the Dutch Banking Association
- Where appropriate, engage in donor-led advocacy
- Provide grantees with core support or additional resources for administrative compliance, and access to local expertise or relevant training



Source: Unsplash: Stock photo of businessman with a credit card by rupixen



Source: Shutterstock, Ahmad Aburob, Hands raised in protest

# Entry point #3

## CHANGING THE NARRATIVE

- Use of narratives to justify legislative restrictions and interference by authorities in the operation and funding of civil society are widespread
- Provide grantees with core support or additional resources to build understanding of narrative change, and access to local expertise – connect them with the Global Narrative Hive for advice and signposting
- Invest in civil society efforts to develop new frames; join the Civic Futures learning community



[fundersinitiativeforcivilsociety.org](https://fundersinitiativeforcivilsociety.org)  
[FICS@global-dialogue.org](mailto:FICS@global-dialogue.org)



[civic-futures.org](https://civic-futures.org)



[narrativehive.org](https://narrativehive.org)

FICS is located in London, UK and is a fiscally sponsored and hosted project of Global Dialogue, a registered charity (1122052) and a limited company (05775827) in England and Wales.

# Learning Lab

## Overcoming legal and banking barriers

## Q&A

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# Thank you



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