

Transforming
global development
for a more
equitable and
prosperous
world.

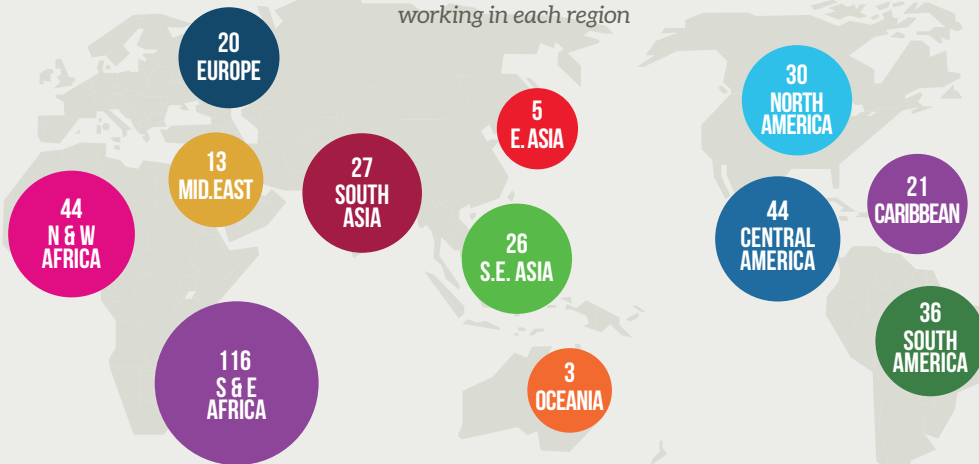
2020 ANNUAL
REPORT



POSNER
CENTER

Transforming global development

Number of Posner Center organizations working in each region



Impacting all corners of the world

MISSION

Catalyze the global development community, at home and abroad, to collaborate for greater impact

VISION

A more equitable and prosperous world

Convene

We convene the global development, working at home and abroad, creating a collaborative culture that is inclusive, diverse and innovative.

Connect

We connect our community to share expertise and knowledge, increase our organizational capacity, and promote our efforts and successes.

Catalyze

We catalyze the community through our thought leadership, programming, and advancing best practices in collaboration.

A dynamic community

200 Organizations | 100 Countries | 15 Sectors

We are a thriving community of international non-profit and for-profit organizations, universities, foundations, and consultants that joins together to share our knowledge, experiences, expertise and resources, pushing the concept of collaboration toward concrete, measurable results in the field of global development.

The nearly 200 organizations convening in our historic Horse Barn collaborative workspace in Denver's Curtis Park neighborhood work in over 100 countries, across virtually every sector of global development, from sustainability and economic development, to human rights and education. Our Community is contributing to many of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030.



Working together for a more *equitable* and *prosperous* world.

Gathering leaders to improve global development

Annual Symposium

The Symposium convenes international thought leaders, experts, and local and global stakeholders to share experiences with the goal of understanding and improving best practices in collaborative global development. It's not your typical symposium; we combine thought-provoking, relevant content with meeting protocols that are provocative, engaging, memorable, and innovative.

We aim to grow the Symposium to an international conference that will make Denver the center for collaborative global development ideas.

Advancing best practices in global development


Strengthening evidence based global development practices

Collaborative Global Development Report

Catalyst, our report on collaborative global development, consolidates the key findings of the Symposium as well as other invited contributions to advance the evidence base for global development best practices with a unique focus on collaboration. The report provides a key forum for the Posner Center Community to communicate its work and influence the field of global development.

praxis

A collaboration between the Posner Center and Regis University's Development Practice, the *praxis* program delivers a series of courses so social impact professionals can strengthen their evidence-based development impact. Field-expert-taught course offerings such as Monitoring & Evaluation, Qualitative Data Assessment, Data Visualization, and Program Design are designed for engagement of students around the world via real-time video-conference participation. Courses can be completed individually or combined into the 5-course *praxis* Certificate of Evidence-Based Development.



Capacity building through peer networks

Communities of Practice

In addition to offering formal mentoring and coaching programs to strengthen the global development leadership skills and competencies of its community members, the Posner Center facilitates outcome-oriented professional development Communities of Practice. These communities are established and led by Posner Tenants and Members based on their current needs and interests.

Current Communities of Practice include Organizational Leadership, Monitoring & Evaluation, Communications, Gender Advocacy, and Development & Fundraising.



Innovation through collaborative grantmaking

International Collaboration Fund

The International Collaboration Fund (ICF) supports collaborations between organizations in the Posner Center community.

ICF grants enable organizations focused on global development to build capacity, explore new directions, fuel action, and enhance their impact.

Since its inception in 2015, the Posner Center has awarded over \$365,000 to 69 Tenant, Member and partner organizations collaborating on 34 projects in 19 countries.

ICF Project Case Study: Moving up the Coffee Value Chain

With an ICF award for innovation in technology supported by Arrow Electronics, iDE and Bext360 are helping small Honduran coffee farmers “Move Up the Coffee Value Chain via Blockchain” by directly linking farmers in Honduras to coffee roasters in the United States.

Through this project, iDE and Bext360 are working to improve supply chain transparency through blockchain technology to address market failures. Their partnership serves as a model for connecting coffee producers and buyers with financial and agricultural technology solutions and the project is a continued evolution of market-based approaches to poverty reduction.

Check out our full
list of ICF projects at
www.posnercenter.org



Case Study: Beginning the Decolonizing Process

Karen Lee Hizola, Executive Director

The Philippines is a very diverse country with over 120 different languages with at least 26 surviving writing systems. These different cultures and customs come from ethnolinguistic groups and tribes that live on the over 7,000 islands that are part of the archipelago. 400 years of colonization by the Spaniards, Japanese, and Americans have, in most cases, violently erased what once was.

Decolonizing development was always an integral part of the work of Global Seed Savers Philippines, but it was never a fully conscious and intentional movement. The workshops have helped ensure that every team member is aware of the extent to which our cultures, lives, and everyday choices are affected by colonization. Because western standards have become our standards here in the Philippines in terms of work, profit, life priorities, some traditional values like family-first, mutual aid have been forgotten. Leadership hierarchies and social stratification (though unspoken) are the current norms. Global Seed Savers Philippines is currently working on a leadership model that is circular and not vertical.

Part of what we have always tried to share is that farmers are the backbone of our nation. We want to bring farmers and their work to the forefront and help people remember the importance of having a regenerative relationship with our land and seas. The Philippines is blessed with mega-biodiversity—we have over a thousand possible food crops that have been overlooked because they are not what we see as sexy or popular in the west. We are trying to incorporate decolonizing the mindset in our food and seed sovereignty work.

These changes we are implementing, we hope, will create a safe space for everyone who is evolving. This is something we've always been proud of, welcoming diversity, truly seeing each multi-faceted identity, and embracing the richness and the beauty of our culture.

Decolonizing Development

A Community Journey

The Posner Center has recommitted to centering equity, diversity, inclusion, and justice in our own work and in our programming over the past year. As a community of global development practitioners, we specifically have focused on decolonizing global development work—acknowledging and disrupting colonial legacies and re-imagining a transformed, more equitable sector without the influence of colonialism. We have explored the lens of decolonizing through various workshops and actions throughout the year.

Here's how these programs have impacted two staff of Global Seed Savers Philippines as participants and how they are beginning to transform their organization:

Harry Paulino, Cebu Seed Production Coordinator

A baseline of Global Seed Savers mission is the preservation and passing on the seeds of hope. And embedded to these seed varieties are the rich heritage and diverse culture of the Philippines.

In the Philippines infix to the norm for decades is naming or calling someone with “Ma’am/Sir” as a way for most to address someone. As a response, during the Annual Thanksgiving in December 2020 with the Cebu Seed Savers, our farmers decided to call one another “Ka-CSSAP” which means “Co-Cebu Seed Savers and Partners.”

It was a step to make a shift in how to acknowledge everyone and each other regardless of social status yet with due respect and acknowledgment on changing the latter tradition.

7 AFFORDABLE AND
CLEAN ENERGY



13 CLIMATE
ACTION



15 LIFE
ON LAND



Goalmakers 2020

17 Goals, 7 Cities

The Posner Center was proud to be Denver's host organization for Goalmakers 2020, a nationwide initiative to bring together practitioners from NGOs, companies, foundations, and universities to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) given the severe setbacks around the world from Covid-19.

Throughout 4Q2020, roundtable discussions and public events centered on individual SDGs were held in seven cities across the U.S.

Denver Goalmakers

Roundtables

Here in Denver, we focused on SDGs 7, 13, and 15, hosting two roundtables discussions with experts from academia, the private sector, state and local government agencies and local, national and international NGOs.

The first roundtable addressed distributed energy resources and accelerating the use of renewable energy in low- and middle-income countries (Affordable and Clean Energy - SDG 7).

The second roundtable focused on the equitable use of nature-based solutions to climate change in low- and middle-income countries (Life on Land - SDG 15 and Climate Action - SDG 13).

Contributions to National Forum

Thought leadership from these Posner Center hosted roundtables contributed to a national conversation around the SDGs and culminated in a Goalmakers2020 National Forum highlighting cross-cutting themes and needed action, and the 2020 Goalmakers Report summarizing the 13 Goalmaker City roundtable discussions across the U.S.

Check out the full 2020 Goalmakers Report at www.posnercenter.org

Executive Director's Message

Dear Posner Center Community, Friends, and Stakeholders:

This past year the Posner Center and its Community have faced existential uncertainty and a fight for survival. So many of our organizations and their people around the world were devastated by the Covid-19 pandemic and its health, economic and social crises. At the same time, we had a crucial reckoning on our role in perpetuating and ignoring inequities and racism in our development work at home and abroad.

We have emerged from all this a better organization with a bigger, more vibrant Community. We took bold, concrete steps in the right direction while navigating huge pandemic-related financial losses. We made a genuine commitment to prioritizing justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in all that we do. As a result, we put the entire organization through a systematic and systemic review. We looked at our mission, our policies, programming, and ways of doing business. We did not like what we saw and made some significant changes as a result. You will also see these changes reflected in our mission statement, strategic plan, staff and board recruitment, and our way of doing business, including grant-making and programming pricing structures.

This past year we did our best to keep the Community together and collaborating and expanded our global and local development network. We gave financial relief to many of our tenant organizations, extended memberships, were flexible with our grant-making, and provided other financial assistance where we could. In addition, we reached out to support our local community, conducting a neighborhood Covid-19 vaccine clinic with partners and the State of Colorado, and providing free office, meeting, and event space to local organizations.

Perhaps the biggest change this past year is that the Posner Center is utterly focused on decolonizing development. We want to support our Community and others to collaborate and learn ways to disrupt deeply-rooted imperialist power structures and assumptions that are still embedded in our development work. This focus will run through all our work, including our annual Symposium, grant-making, programming, and the annual Catalyst Report.

Our call to action to all of you is to focus on anti-racism in development work, diversify the global development field, and have a more equitable impact that begins to repair past and current injustices and re-imagine more just approaches for global impact. We are not experts and hope to learn and improve our work every day. We have survived, thrived, and found a new path forward re-imagining what Posner Center and its Community can and should be. As always, we invite you to join and support us in these efforts. Onward and upward!



Burke Fishburn

2020 Statement of Financial Position

Assets	\$542,589
Liabilities	\$111,103
Net Assets	\$431,576
Liabilities & Net Assets . .	\$542,589

2020 Statement of Activities

Revenue & Other Support . . .	\$673,055
Expenses	\$778,780
Net Assets, beginning of year .	\$447,461
Net Assets, end of year	\$341,736

For our complete financial statements, Board of Directors, IRS 990, and major donors, please visit www.posnercenter.org.

INVEST

...in transformation.

...in collaboration.

...in innovation.

...in impact.

The Posner Center is disrupting the phenomenon of global development organizations operating in isolation from one another. This is a magnificent time to invest in our model and our community as we take the next big steps to transform global development. Contact Julia Kennedy to get started.

julia@posnercenter.org



POSNER
CENTER

1031 33rd St.
Denver, CO 80205

info@posnercenter.org
720-382-7631