Embracing the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is good for you. The SDG framework can be used by community foundations to help demonstrate how local strategies and actions are relevant and impactful; to inform their planning and their own operations; to motivate staff, volunteers and donors; and to connect with other relevant stakeholders in the public, private and non-governmental sectors.

However, the work of community foundations is often seen as being far removed from the lofty ambitions of the UN. We believe that community foundations are unsung heroes when it comes to delivering action that contributes to the realisation of the Goals. There is already evidence from many community foundations of alignment between activities and the Goals. However, there is so much more potential, and by fully embracing the SDGs and adopting a whole-of-organisation approach community foundations can become leaders in their locality, thus enhancing their position as catalysts for change and creating greater impact.

ECFI has designed, and is already rolling out, a series of workshops which aim to help community foundations embrace the SDGs. These can be tailored to national circumstances and will be implemented with assistance from support organisations to ensure that there is on-going learning and identification of support requirements. The workshops are very practical and will ensure participants leave with:

1 - an understanding of the relevance of the SDGs to the work of community foundations

2 - a plan of how to embrace the SDGs and embed them in their own community foundation.

These workshops were originally designed as one-day gatherings in person. Lockdown has forced us to consider how to deliver these on-line and we have developed a format, tailored to the specific needs in the country, which involves a series of 4 one-hour on-line engagements over a period of time (normally one per week) with exercises to be undertaken between.

If you are interested in hosting or participating in a ‘Local Action for Global Good’ workshop contact James james@communityfoundations.eu