

Press release.

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We Don't Do Charity - new film shows why communities must drive development

A new documentary called “We Don't Do Charity” tells the story of grass roots NGOs and civil society organisations who are taking back control of their own destinies with sustainable development programmes, designed by them within their own communities.

Launching at the end of 2024, the film has already won a Sunrise Award at the Better World Film Festival.

Filmed in Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, India, Europe, and the United Kingdom, the feature-length documentary provides examples of local communities designing and driving their own programmes with dignity and respect.

It also includes interviews with experts in psychology and humanitarian issues who expose problems within the existing systems of ‘charity’ that can lead to humiliation, learned helplessness and racism.

Commentators and experts such as Degan Ali of Adeso; Charles Kojo Vandyck of the West Africa Civil Society Institute (WCASI); and Magsaysay award winner, Ashoka and Schwab fellow Anshu Gupta, call for the end of white saviourism and neo-colonial agendas in favour of a southern leadership agenda.

Former BBC News and Radio 4 Today Programme presenter John Humphrys offers an honest and revealing analysis of his own philanthropic efforts, while humanitarian experts such as Claire Barnhoorn of Solvoz, and former British Ambassador to Madagascar Brian Donaldson, add to the discussion with powerful stories from the front line of aid and development.

Produced by UK social impact filmmakers David and Amanda Campbell of Republica Media, the film launched at the London Business School, hosted by the Wheeler Institute, at the end of September and is now available to rent at <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/wedontdocharity>

The documentary's director, David Campbell comments: “Our mission, through this film, is to highlight an alternative; to help nudge the conversation towards a more equitable solution that brings control, dignity, and sustainability to local communities.”

Online and live screening events are also taking place from November 2024 and throughout 2025, hosted by leading NGOs, and civil society and humanitarian organisations. The

documentary will be fully released across major online streaming platforms including Amazon, Tubi, Plex ,and more in the spring of 2025.

For the latest announcements and more information, see; <https://wedontdocharity.com/>

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