

Co-hosted by
Ariadne & Dafne



PEXforum.

27-28 January 2021

From Crisis to Renewal:
Living up to Our Vision
For a sustainable and Just Europe



Storybook.

Introduction

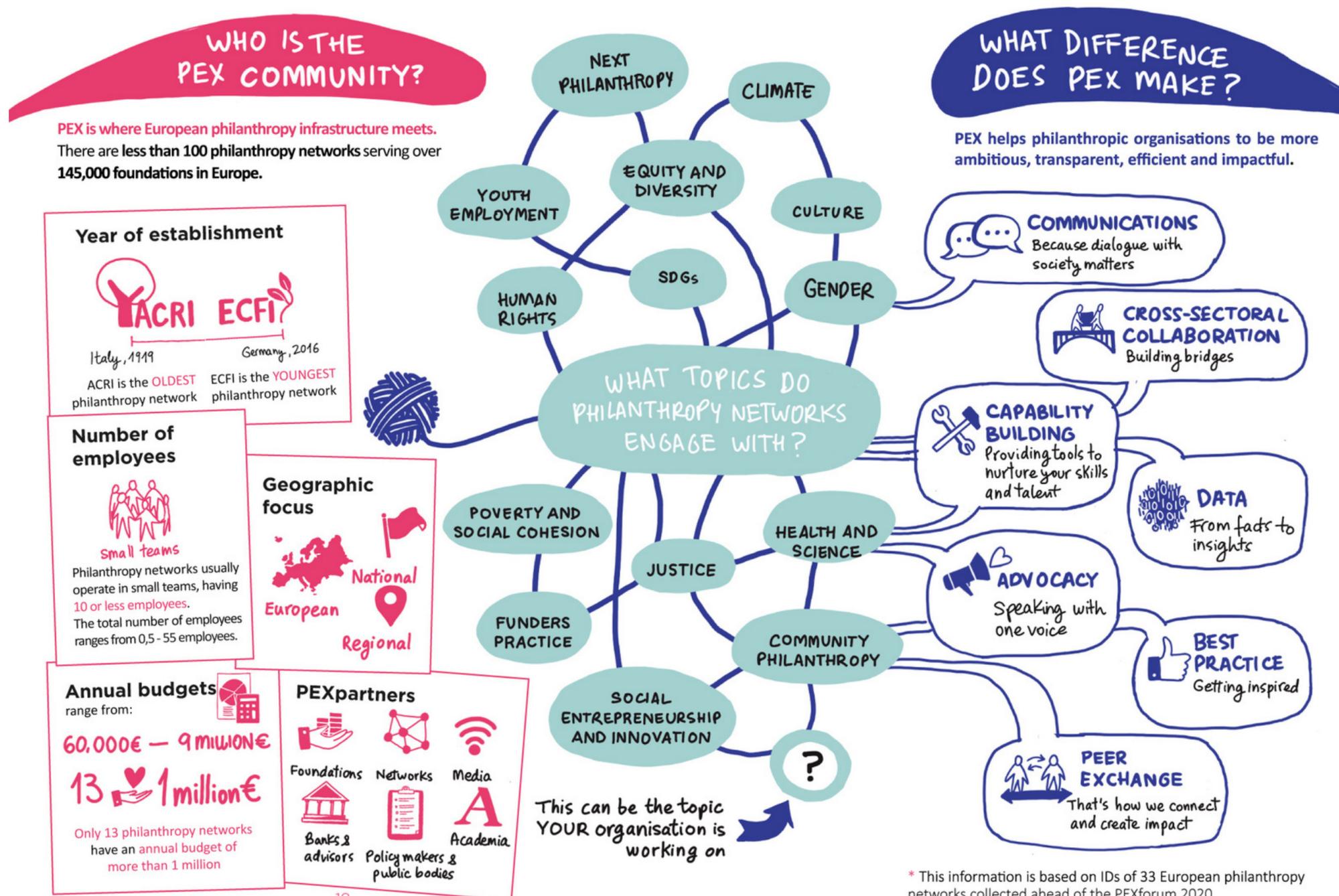
In late January, we gathered for the **PEXforum 2021**, not in Istanbul as we had hoped but on Zoom, as national, regional, thematic philanthropy networks, foundation representatives, social innovators, academics from Europe and beyond. This year's **PEXforum**, co-hosted by **Dafne** and **Ariadne**, was themed *"From Crisis to Renewal: Living Up to Our vision for a Sustainable and Just Europe."*

This storybook collates visual harvesting from the **PEXforum 2021** which sums up the essence of these two half days, to live or relive some of these highlights from the **PEXforum 2021**.

Now, let's start...

So... What is PEX about?

PEX is all about bringing leaders and experts from national, regional and European philanthropy support organisations together. PEX provides a unique space to create a European philanthropy identity as a common ground to jointly advance the philanthropy ecosystem in a changing world.



* This information is based on IDs of 33 European philanthropy networks collected ahead of the PEXforum 2020.

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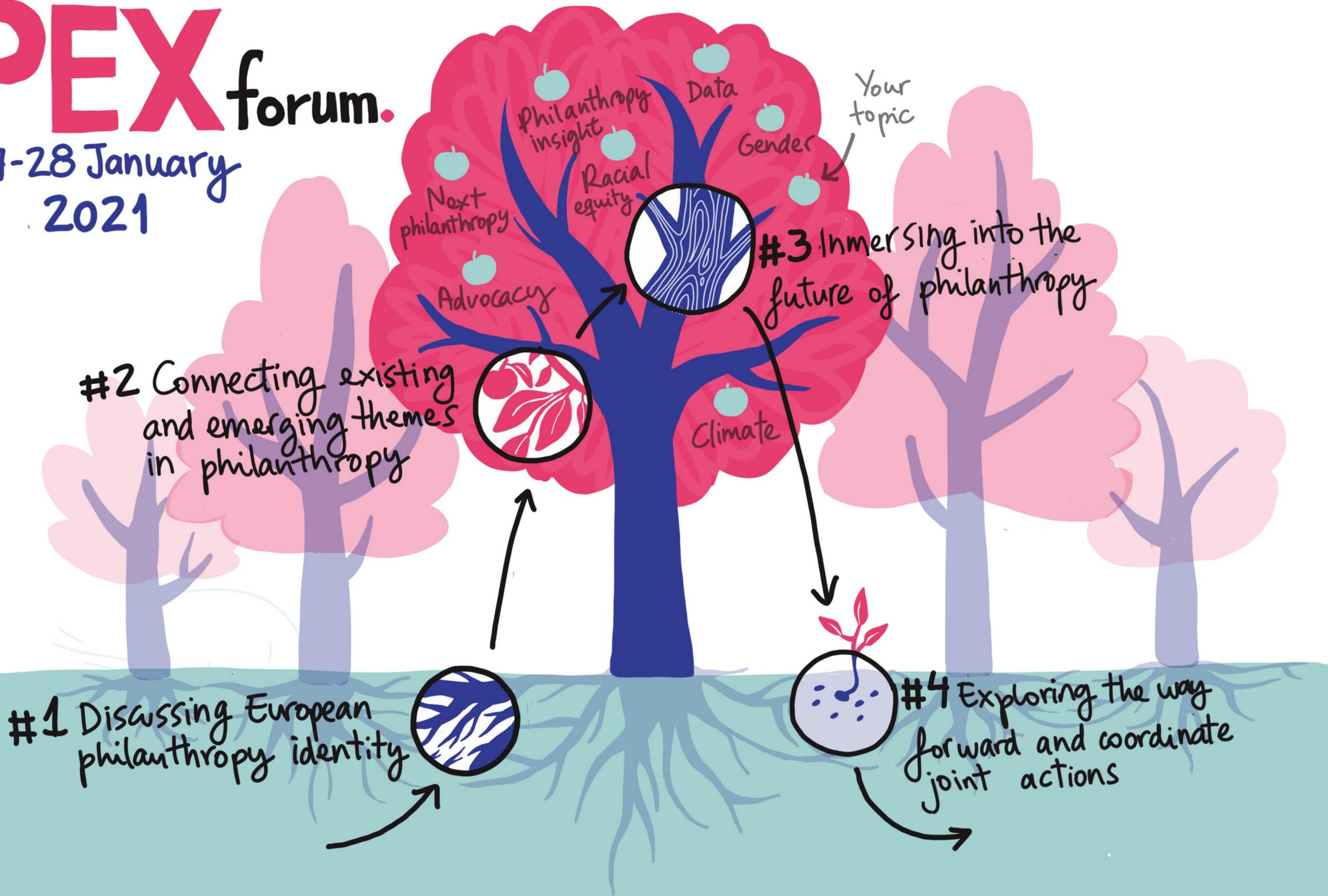


Illustration Marina Roa from SenseTribe

Chapter 1

Our roots

What anchors us? What ties us together?

1.1 – Opening session

What is more important than following a conversation and becoming one with a community is to listen to this very quiet voice that comes from within, and become one with yourself.

We kicked off the PEXforum with a meditation guided by **Vasco Gaspar** who encouraged us to STOP. LOOK. GO. This moment allowed participants to connect with themselves and each other and share their intentions for the coming days.

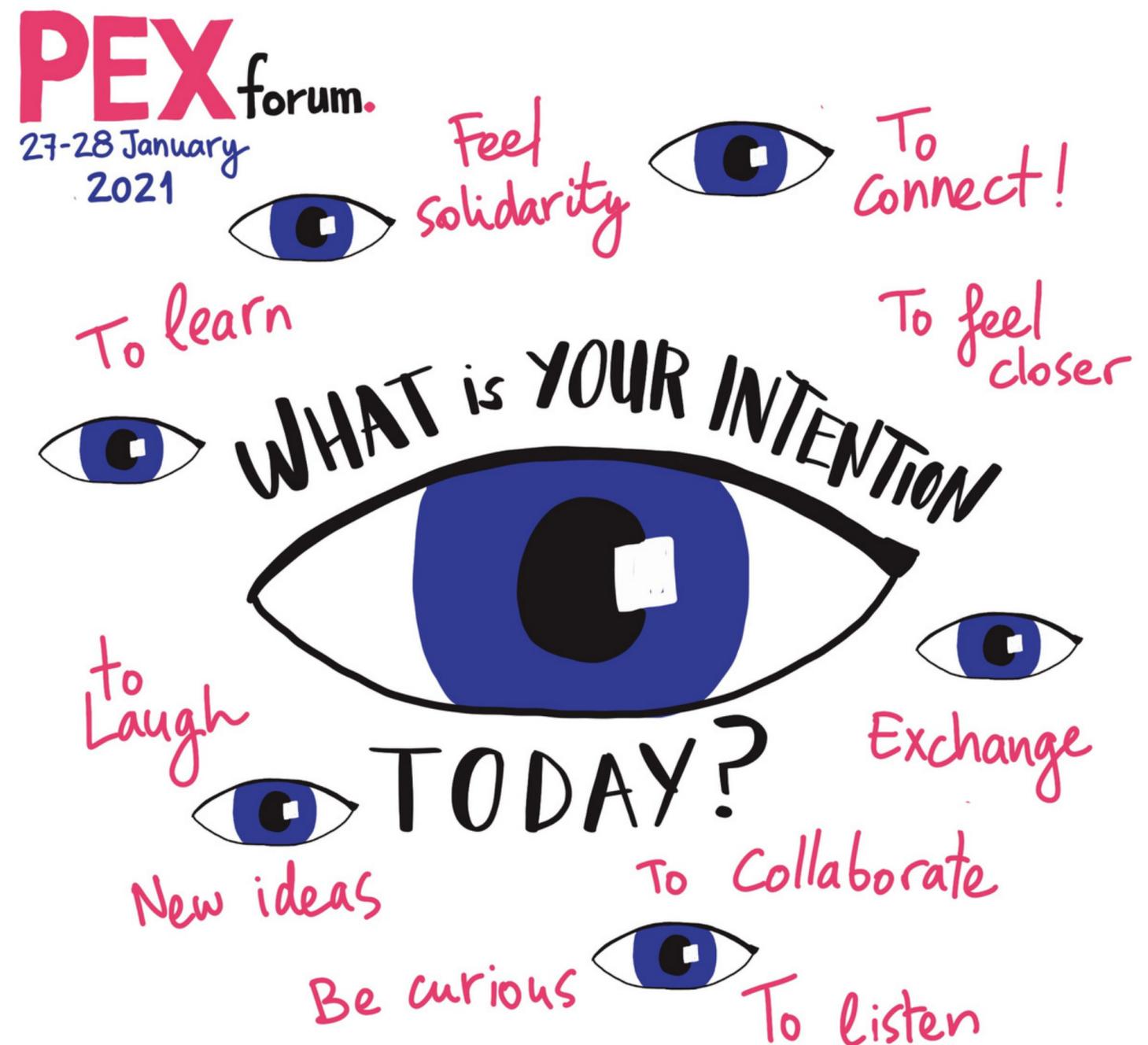


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1.2 – European Identity

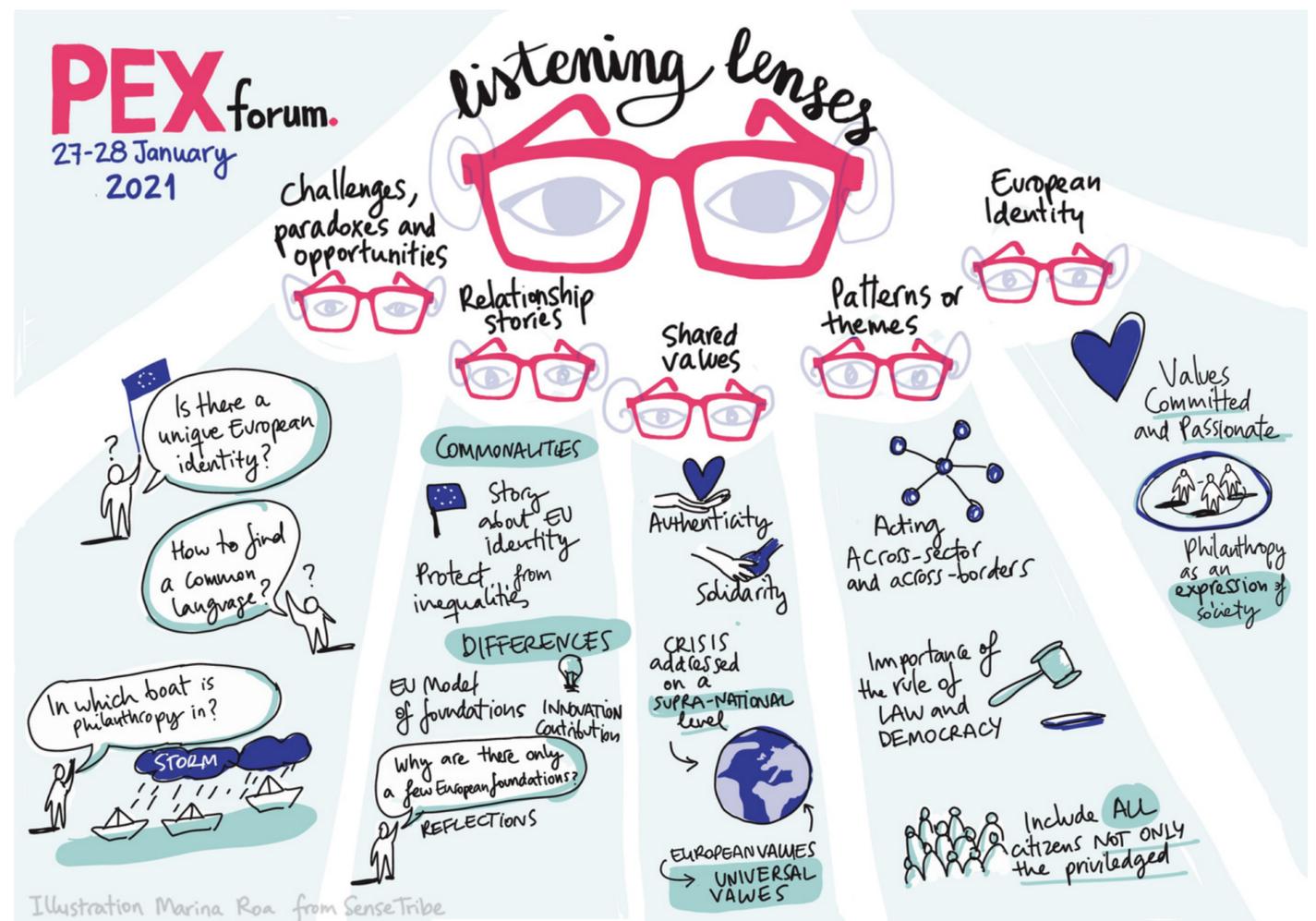
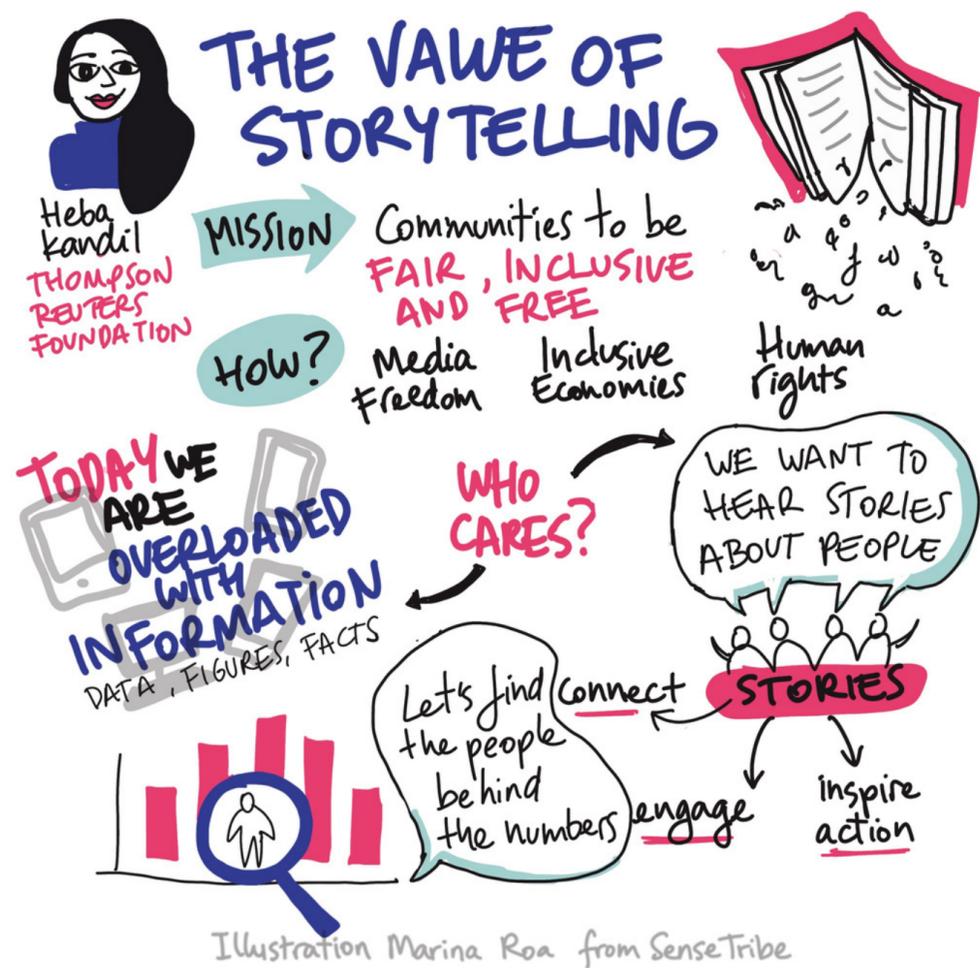
As the whole world is struggling with multiple global crises, philanthropy's crucial role across the globe and, accordingly, its increasing responsibilities become more evident as well as vital with every passing day.

Michael O' Flaherty urged us to live up to the universal values to which we, as Europeans, are committed and challenged us, as philanthropists, to champion this rights-based approach and give a voice to rights holders. He highlighted the unique role we can, and should, play as a sector in providing long-term funding.



1.3 – Storytelling

Facts and figures convey important information, but people want to hear stories about other people. As philanthropists, **Heba Kandil** of the Thomson Reuters Foundation encouraged us to find the faces behind the ideals and concepts that we support. The faces behind the values such as social justice, gender equity, the climate crisis, that tie us together and tell these stories...



We heard some of the human stories behind the ideals and values that tie us together – the PEXcommunity, European philanthropy and social justice. **Max von Abendroth**, Executive Director of Dafne, told the story of PEX through the drawings of his youngest son. **André Wilkens**, the Director of the European Cultural Foundation, shared his personal discovery on the creation of this Foundation by none other than Robert Schuman himself. **Julie Broome**, Director of Ariadne, shared her reflection on the effect of the pandemic on inequality and social injustice as well as our responsibility as a sector in addressing these.



Illustration Marina Roa from SenseTribe



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Chapter 2

Our fruits

What have we co-created so far?

2.1 – Nutshell talks

Leaders of existing **PEXprojects** took the floor to share their visions. Find out more on our projects [here](#).

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CLIMATE CHANGE



A **CROSS-CUTTING**
ISSUE TO FACE
AS A WHOLE

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SUPPORT DIVERSITY and
INCLUSION

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We need to talk
about
RACISM
in an
OPEN and **HONEST**
way!

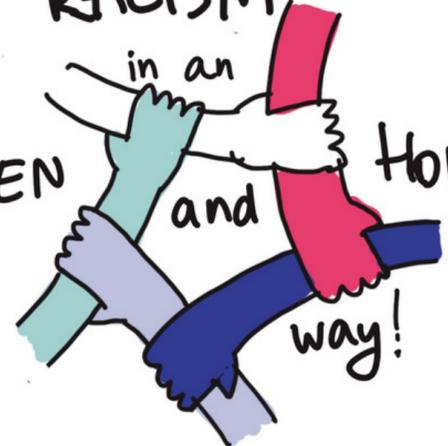


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What if philanthropy? ?
Next philanthropy ?
Supports social movements ?
Next generation ideas ?
We have many questions and no answers, YET!

JOIN THE CONVERSATION!

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Advocacy

YOUR STORY!
HERE

We should EXCHANGE MORE and hear your STORIES!

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IMPORTANCE OF
SYSTEMIC CHANGE



Resilience building



Present ourselves in
NEW AND CONSCIOUS
WAYS TO A WIDER
AUDIENCE

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Data insights

Decisions to be based on data

THE VALUE OF HAVING DATA AVAILABLE FOR INITIATIVES

Some countries have data, others don't

WELCOME TO JOIN US!

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Philanthropy insights

GENERATE TRUST 
IN OTHERS AND IN US

SETTING EXAMPLE FOR OTHERS



JOINT LEARNING and DISCOVERY

JOIN US!

Illustration Marina Roa from SenseTribe

Chapter 3

Our trunk

Where do we draw our strength from?

3.1 – Participatory Leadership

Methodologies are vital for delivering our messages and best serving our missions. To be more efficient and effective, we need to constantly build up our knowledge.

To better serve this purpose, we opened the second day with a practice called "Participatory Leadership". Presented by **Mira Bangel** and **Laura Grassi** from SenseTribe, facilitators of the PEXforum 2021, learning about four-fold practice and growing our awareness of how to host ourselves, be hosted, host others and be a part of a hosting community.



3.2 – Social Innovation

Sir **Geoff Mulgan**, Professor of Collective Intelligence, Public Policy and Social Innovation at the University College London, challenged us by sharing his reflections on the future of philanthropy, and highlighting what we could and should be doing better as a sector.

The philanthropy sector should do “the plumbing work”, and collaborate better in five ways:

- Shared picture of likely futures
- Shared intelligence
- Collaborate on evidence
- Collective intelligence
- Working together on imagination



Illustration Marina Roa from SenseTribe

Chapter 4

Our seeds

*What ideas do we want to sow, with
the hope that they blossom into
something new?*

4.2 - What's next?

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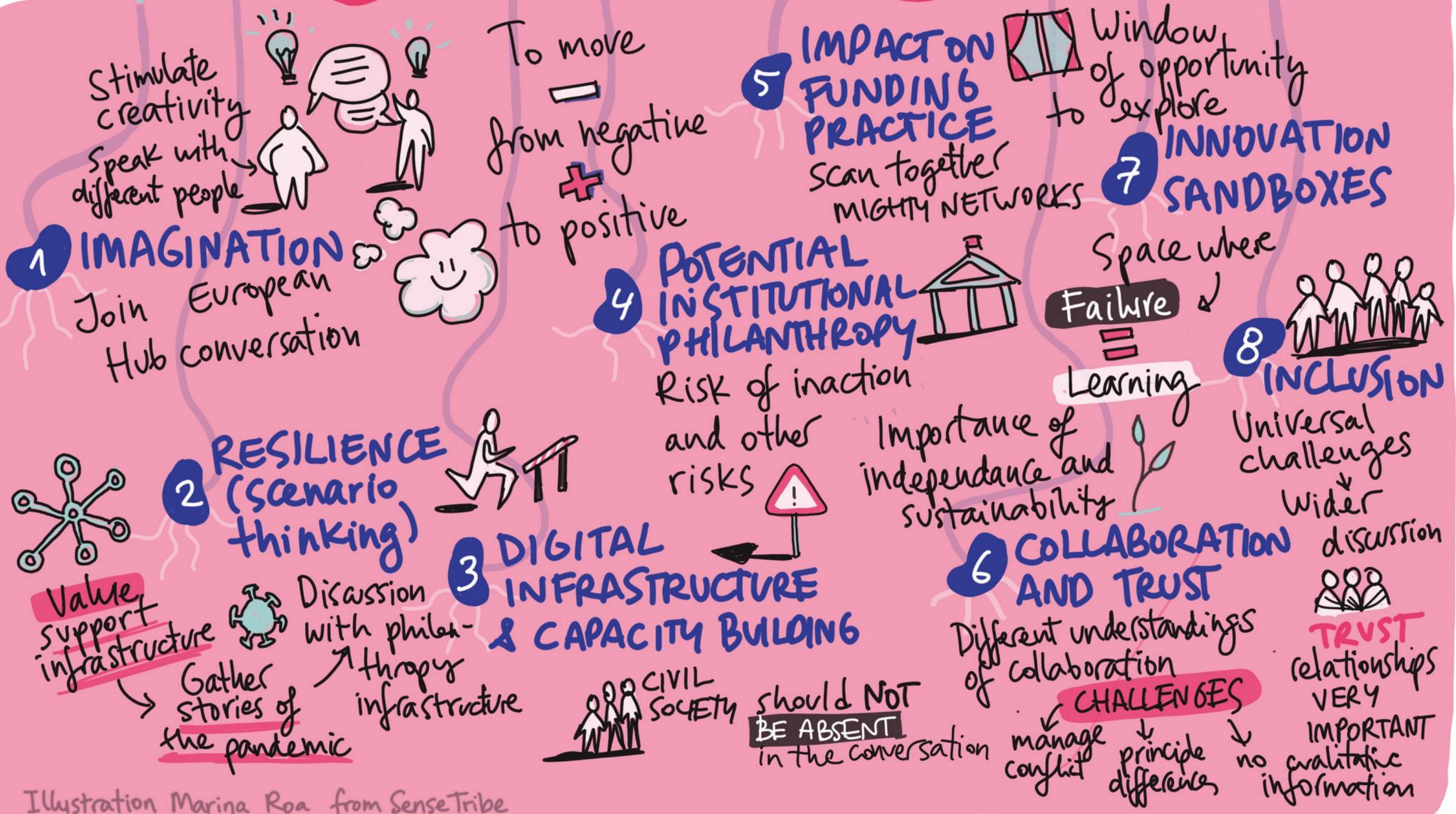


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4.3 – "All is present, all is here"

Here is to a forest full of strong, deeply rooted trees, which will always find a way to give back to the world, be it with their fruits and seeds, or as a shelter inside its body and under its shadow...

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"All is present
all is here.
The ancient one,
the newborn seed,
the Northern maple,
the chestnut sweet
the cypress, the olive,
the pine and the oak,
the cherry
and the Nettle tree.
An ocean of roots,
and branches,
and leaves.
ALL IS PRESENT,
ALL IS HERE.
Courageous hearts
even when bleeding
leading boldly
learning daily
how to invite agency
how to honour dignity

- Not working for
but working with -
Seeking perseveringly
how to tell the world about
the hidden vulnerability
in this pandemic
age and time
of amplified invisibility.

ALL IS PRESENT

ALL IS HERE

Some voices loud
Some lost in the storm
which hit us all
that is true

Though very very differently

ALL IS PRESENT

ALL IS HERE

The question is
How do we shape
a forest of equality
How do we grow
to trust the waves
that shape us
in to community

How do we step out
beyond the same old stories
too often told
How do we step
in to a future
of passionate possibility
embracing the complexity
of universal multiple identity.

If your wave is touching mine
if moment by moment
our roots reach out
to feed and be nourished
to intertwine

If in our hearts we can find all
while seeing what is missing
that ALL IS PRESENT
ALL IS HERE

Then maybe, surely
we can travel oceans deep
and forests wide
Then maybe, surely
we can shape the golden day
that morning bright."

Stien Michiels

Acknowledgements

First of all, we would like to share our sincerest gratitude to **Ariadne** for co-hosting this year's PEXforum with us and bringing out such a successful online event with their contribution.

Secondly, we would like to thank the **Co-Creation Council**: Anke Pätsch (German Association of Foundations); Benjamin Bellegy (WINGS); Carola Carazzone (Assifero); Christian Edelvold Berg (Danish Knowledge Centre); Delphine Moralis (EFC); James Magowan (ECFI); Julie Broome (Ariadne); Martina Fin (EDGE Funders Alliance); Max von Abendroth, Hanna Stähle, Hanna Hanses (Dafne); Olga Tarasov (Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors); Roberta Bosurgi (EVPA); Zibran Choudhury (Alliance magazine) for their openness, wisdom and honest feedback that has shaped the event; and **SenseTribe** for facilitating and making sure this year's virtual PEXforum 2021 an outstanding virtual experience.

Last but not least, we are incredibly grateful to our funders, **Assifero**, the **Charles Stewart Mott Foundation** and the **Robert Bosch Stiftung**, who have made this virtual event possible.



PEX is where the European philanthropy infrastructure meets. The **PEXcommunity** was jointly co-created at the **PEXforum 2020** in Madrid, the first Europe-wide event bringing together leaders and experts from national, regional and European philanthropy support organisations. **PEX** is hosted by Dafne.

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The images presented in this storybook were created by Marina Roa.