Evaluation of cred conference

* Attendance:
  + All partners attended at some point
  + Best attendance was from Ayele (AHISDO), Kenyanito, Bee (Ellilta), Terry, Janaki, Bishnu, Pius, and Francis (ILA)
  + Poorest attendance was from CBISDO and from Alice L (although Steve B represented BS at some of the meetings)
  + Aaron / Josephine attempted to attend all but internet failed them at times
  + Others came to a good number, or knew that someone else from their org was attending eg Samuel re Bishnu, Josh re Terry. John, Daniel and Etenesh also had some connectivity issues.
* Overwhelming vote of confidence for the conference re
  + Getting to know each other and hearing from each other
  + Feeling connected
  + Opportunity to learn
    - From each other and from the key speakers
  + Opportunity to include other team members at various points rather than attendance only by one person.
    - Majority of the organisations invited additional team members for various sessions as relevant.
  + Topics being covered
    - In this conference the key speaker topics were: funding and grants applications; mental wellbeing and soul care; from dependency to self-sustainability
  + Opportunity to pray together
* Learning points
  + Some found the timings hard, especially those who were using the work office as their base for accessing internet.
    - Aim to have the sessions earlier so that for African partners they fall fully in the working day
  + Some found internet connection hard, therefore good to have recorded the sessions for future watching
    - Not much we can do about this
  + Speakers maybe tried to fit too much in, which resulted in very full 2 hours and not a lot of processing time / Q&A time
    - Suggestion of future sessions to be 2.5 – 3hrs long: 1 hour speaker, 1 hour Q&A, 30mins - 1 hour breakout rooms and small group sharing and praying
  + Participants who took part in the breakout rooms really enjoyed the times of sharing together.
    - NB not all participants took part in these times. Some of this was due to the technology and not understanding what to do
* To bear in mind for future events
  + More time for Q&A components with the speakers
  + More time for breakout rooms / small group discussions / prayer times
  + Unable to afford to cover costs of in-person attendance
  + Majority vote for quarterly ½ day meetings, and annual 3-day conference
  + Review start and finish times to try and be a bit more user friendly

Proposal

* Annual cycle of meetings as follows:
  + Early June – 3-day conference
    - 3 days of 2.5hours morning and 1 hour afternoon
    - Morning sessions – external speaker; 1hr speaker, 1hr Q&A, 30mins intros and plenary
    - Afternoon session – prayer and reflection
    - 1 hour lunch break between morning and afternoon session
  + Early September – ½ day meeting (3hour session)
    - Peer group sharing
  + Early December – ½ day meeting (3hour session)
    - External speaker
  + Early March – ½ day meeting (3hour session)
    - Peer group sharing
  + HH to pull it together, in collaboration with partners to increase ownership.
* NB: how to include partners in the planning
  + All of them, or a few selected?
    - All of them would make it very cumbersome
  + If a few selected
    - definitely include Kenyanito for the first-time round, as it was his suggestion to have partners involved in the planning
  + Maybe have three per year who are on the ‘planning committee’ along with HH.
    - Partners can self-nominate whether they want to be on the committee or not.
    - No obligation to ever be on it, but will allow for more ownership