

Following the gathering in Nairobi, Adriaan and Adam reflected on the discussions, sharing several key takeaways that can inform future sessions and interactions.

Key Takeaways:

- 1. Engagement and Openness:** The participants were eager to engage in deep discussions, especially on sensitive issues like **corruption** and personal crises. They expressed frustration with the endemic nature of corruption, reflecting a mature understanding that the issue is systemic, but also a sense of helplessness about addressing it effectively. Participants shared personal stories and experiences, demonstrating vulnerability and openness, which created an environment of trust and authenticity.
- 2. Church's Role in Crisis Response:** The role of the church in responding to crises was a key theme. Participants acknowledged that the church should not only address spiritual needs but also actively engage in societal issues like corruption, infrastructure development, and leadership challenges. There was a focus on how the church could model **integrity** and **justice**, rebuking undesirable behaviours in leaders, and promoting civic education.
- 3. Focus on Solutions:** While there was considerable discussion on the problems, particularly related to corruption and governance, some participants were eager to move towards **solution-orientated discussions**. They wanted practical steps, reflecting a desire for actionable change rather than prolonged conversation. This highlighted the need to focus future sessions more on identifying tangible solutions and practical actions.
- 4. Challenges with Technology and Distractions:** The reflections noted that the venue and the presence of multiple technological devices created a distraction for many participants. Some were preoccupied with work, emails, or social media, which hindered deep engagement during parts of the sessions. Adriaan and Adam discussed the importance of setting clear expectations for engagement at the beginning of meetings and possibly restructuring venues to minimise distractions.
- 5. Vulnerability and Authenticity:** One of the most significant aspects of the gathering was the authenticity with which people shared their personal stories. The platform provided allowed for deep personal sharing, and participants appreciated the space to be heard without feeling like they were merely data points. The facilitation approach, which focused on **co-creation** and **listening**, enabled participants to reflect on their own roles in addressing crises.
- 6. Systems Thinking:** Participants in Nairobi demonstrated a growing capacity for **systems thinking**—linking various drivers of crises, such as poor planning, infrastructure issues, and greed. This analytical mindset allowed them to see crises not as isolated events but as interconnected challenges that require a more comprehensive approach to solving.
- 7. Time Management and Structure:** The reflection also acknowledged the challenge of managing time effectively. While participants were engaged, there were pressures to finish within a set time, which might have limited the depth of some discussions. Future sessions might benefit from better time management or a different structuring of discussions to ensure that participants can delve deeply into each issue.



8. **Co-Learning and Co-Creation:** A significant takeaway was the success of the **co-learning** model, where participants are seen as co-creators of the discussion rather than passive recipients of information. This approach fostered a greater sense of ownership among participants, making them more willing to engage deeply and share openly. The facilitators emphasised the value of this methodology in creating an inclusive, reflective, and action-orientated space.

Summary for Future Reflection:

The reflections underscored the importance of creating environments that foster authentic sharing and minimise distractions, encouraging both individual and collective reflection. The facilitators saw the need to balance discussion with action, ensuring that participants leave with both insights and practical steps. By continuing to build on the **co-creation** model and focussing on deeper engagement around complex issues like corruption, leadership, and societal crises, future gatherings can further empower participants to take meaningful actions in their communities.

