

# Program Overview

Transformations: Stories of Partnership, Resilience and Positive Change



[transformationstories.ca](http://transformationstories.ca)



## About Transformations

***Transformations: Stories of Partnership, Resilience and Positive Change*** is a five-year collaborative photojournalism project intended to increase dialogue and further understanding of international partnerships that address complex global challenges. Through individual and organizational stories, the Ontario Council for International Cooperation invites you to actively engage in a new narrative on international cooperation and solidarity. The Series features stories from communities in Peru, Nepal and Tanzania who are addressing Sustainable Development in partnership with Canadian Organizations.

With the support of an experienced photojournalist, OCIC seeks to share specific stories with Ontarians through a series of virtual and small-scale photo exhibits in select communities across the province.

**View the Online Transformations Exhibit:** <http://transformationstories.ca/>

### Partnership Approach

The photojournalism narrative is rooted in the Istanbul Principles for CSO Development Effectiveness, a set of mutually shared values guiding the development work of civil society organizations (CSOs) worldwide. These principles include:

1. To respect and promote human rights and social justice
2. To embody gender equality and equity while promoting women's and girls' rights
3. To focus on people's empowerment, democratic ownership and participation
4. To promote environmental sustainability
5. To practice transparency and accountability
6. To pursue equitable partnerships and solidarity
7. To create and share knowledge and commit to mutual learning
8. To commit to realizing positive sustainable change

OCIC seeks to practice the Istanbul Principles in our approach to partnerships, and to use these Principles as the overarching framework for the stories that we share. In creating this collaborative program, we work closely with members and their international partners in planning and undertaking the visit and the resulting exhibit. As a way to implement principles into practice, OCIC and our partners jointly develop a Partnership Agreement so that our mutual efforts are of significant value for all.

**Read more about Transformations:** <http://www.ocic.on.ca/transformations2017>



## Collaboration with Praxis Pictures

These stories were documented by OCIC and photojournalist Allan Lissner, Praxis Pictures.

**Allan Lissner** is an award-winning Danish-Filipino-Canadian photographer and filmmaker who was raised in in Ethiopia, Liberia, USA, Nepal, Lithuania, Denmark, Jordan, Bangladesh and Canada.

For the past ten years Allan has been working on collaborative multimedia projects with indigenous communities, documenting their efforts to protect their territories and preserve their ways of life. This ongoing work includes projects with over a dozen communities in the Philippines, Guatemala, Tanzania, Papua New Guinea, Australia, Chile and Canada.

**Praxis Pictures:** <http://www.praxispictures.org/>

## About OCIC

The Ontario Council for International Cooperation (OCIC) is an expanding community of Ontario-based international development organizations, institutions and individual associate members working globally for sustainable development.

As a Council, OCIC strives to increase the effectiveness and collective impact of all our members' efforts to promote sustainable, people-centered development in a peaceful and healthy environment. OCIC is committed to principles of fair and equitable cooperative international development and promotes public engagement that helps Canadians develop a global perspective and take action for social justice

**Visit:** <http://www.ocic.on.ca/>



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## Exhibits & Community Dialogues

Transformations is one of OCIC's core Public Engagement Programs. We invite you to collaborate with us to engage more Canadians in sustainable development and positive change. OCIC can set-up full and micro-exhibits in your space, host joint community dialogues related the themes of the exhibit, or work within our capacity to curate a program that makes sense to your audience.

Previous collaborative exhibits have been featured in public spaces available to the general public. Each exhibit can feature up to 35 physical photos along with their captions, as well as an invitation to view the full exhibit online. Depending on our partners' timeline, the exhibit can be installed from one week up to a month.

To provide context and deepen engagement, OCIC also hosts a community dialogue in collaboration with our NGO partners to discuss one or more of the topics explored in the exhibit such as climate change, gender equality, sustainable development, and beyond. These interactive sessions include the screening of the Transformations video, collaborative story-telling from OCIC Staff and our partners and if possible, key guest speakers to connect global to local issues.

This exhibit has been featured across Toronto at Metro Hall and Toronto Public Libraries including Parkdale, Maria A. Shchuka and Parliament Street Libraries. In February 2017, a micro-exhibit was also featured at the Centre for Social Innovation in Toronto and in March, the Elmira Public Library.



## Collaborate with OCIC

Community Dialogues hosted by OCIC have been curated for a range of audiences including Elementary Schools, High School to University youth and Social Innovation and NGO professionals at the Centre for Social Innovation. The themes this narrative seeks to tell relate to us all. With this series, our aim is to provide an entry point to global solidarity and positive change for everyone in Canada and abroad.



## CONTACT

For questions & collaboration opportunities please contact us, we'd love to hear from you!

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