

The Messenger

A tribe were gathered in the village meeting place puzzling over a missive that had arrived from Far Away, when out of the woods came a strange figure carrying a large sheaf of papers.

The tribe's people huddled together, the stranger greeted them but his words were unrecognisable. The stranger consulted his papers and spoke again. He reached out his hand in sign of friendship.

The stranger quietly began to make marks on his papers, pointing and saying words that slowly became understandable to the tribe members. They looked at the missive and noticed that some of the signs and symbols were the same.

As the days passed the stranger would come and go, each time the tribe's people learned a little more of his language and he learned a little more of theirs.

The missive and the supplies that would follow, he explained, were about helping them look at what resources they had in their village, how to make the most of them for all the people in the village. They would have to put it all in a plan.



He told them about other tribes who were also doing this work. He reassured them that he would answer any questions as best he could and find things out for them, taking and bringing messages from Far Away.

He became their friend, joined in celebrations and community rituals but kept reminding them to move on. They must complete their plan to ensure the future of all the resources in the village. The messenger would soon have to leave them.

The tribe were concerned. What would they do without their friend to help them? Who would take the time to learn their language and understand the unique qualities of their village?

KEY MESSAGES

- Change Up Co-ordinators have played a vital role in driving the agenda by being the messengers and runners between GOSE and the consortia.
- They are valued by the consortia as reliable, trustworthy, informed friends / champions / advisers.
- They have learned so much about each of the consortia, made relationships for GOSE, gathered useful knowledge and skills, speak the same / many languages, built trust and contacts and now know who to go to.
- Continuity is needed in the shift from GOSE to Capacity Builders. Relationships, skills and knowledge built up through the ChangeUp process should not be lost.