TAF NARRATIVE BREAKOUT DISCUSSION BRIEF

TAF UBUNTU 2026 ANNUAL GATHERING, 28 November 2026

THE AFRICAN FEDERATION

Annual theme: Creating Our Common Future • 28 November 2026 • 45-minute breakout
Purpose: Compare three proposed initiatives, select one primary initiative for 2027 and identify the people, first deliverable and follow-up needed to advance it.

1. Background and rationale

African leadership, cultural knowledge and contemporary experiences deserve to be researched, documented and communicated by African voices. TAF Narrative can connect writers, scholars, cultural practitioners, journalists and Chapter contributors to strengthen this work through responsible storytelling and knowledge exchange.

TAF has already begun this work through its African Leadership Series, which publishes profiles and reflections on African leaders and their legacies. The 2027 discussion should therefore consider how to strengthen an existing editorial programme as well as whether a different initiative offers greater value. Narrative's mission is broader than routine TAF publicity or social media management.

2. Three proposed initiatives for 2027

Option A - Expand the African Leadership Series

Build on TAF's existing series with a more consistent editorial programme, broader country and generational representation, and contributions from Chapters. Possible first steps: agree on editorial and fact-checking standards; identify a small contributor team; prepare a realistic publication calendar; and develop profiles that acknowledge both achievements and contested legacies. Possible 2027 result: a defined number of well-researched, edited profiles contributed from several countries.

Option B - African Heritage and Knowledge Preservation

Collaborate with communities, cultural custodians and researchers to document selected local histories, languages, oral traditions and cultural knowledge. Possible first steps: select one pilot theme; identify knowledgeable partners; establish consent, attribution and safeguarding practices; and produce a small curated collection. Possible 2027 result: a responsibly documented pilot with clear permissions and accessible outputs.

Option C - African Voices and Perspectives

Connect contemporary African writers, creatives, scholars, journalists and young people through interviews, dialogues and collaborative contributions. Possible first steps: choose a focused topic; convene a small contributor group; host a short virtual conversation series; and publish selected perspectives. Possible 2027 result: a documented exchange series with original contributions from multiple countries.

3. How TAF could contribute

TAF can provide coordination, a shared editorial framework, Chapter connections and existing publishing channels. A new media platform or repository is not required to begin. Whichever option is chosen should have an achievable scope, named volunteers and appropriate editorial oversight. Narrative can also support documentation of other Focus Units' Ubuntu in Action progress as a cross-cutting service, without treating this as a separate flagship initiative.

4. Live breakout session: facilitator agenda

Participants should review the three options before the gathering. The facilitator should invite alternatives but guide the group toward one primary initiative. The rapporteur records decisions and distinguishes confirmed commitments from suggestions.

Time	Discussion	Facilitator guidance
0–5 min	Welcome and purpose	Confirm objective and introduce options A–C; do not reread the brief.
5–15 min	Compare initiatives	Consider relevance, distinctive value, feasibility, existing work and available expertise. Invite alternatives.
15–30 min	Select and shape	Agree on one primary initiative. Define its audience, first activities and a credible 2027 result.
30–40 min	Secure commitments	Identify provisional lead, interested volunteers, Chapter roles, possible partners and first deliverable.
40–45 min	Confirm and prepare	Read back decisions, note unresolved issues and choose a three-minute plenary presenter.

5. Ubuntu in Action: 2027 commitment record

The rapporteur completes this record during the session. Do not list a partner or volunteer as committed without their agreement.

Selected primary initiative and reason for choosing it:

Intended 2027 result and measure of success:

First deliverable and target date:

Provisional lead and interested volunteers:

Participating Chapters and potential partners:

First follow-up date and plenary presenter:

6 Three-minute plenary report-back

Three-minute plenary report-back: Name the selected initiative, explain why it was chosen, state the intended 2027 result, identify who will coordinate the next step, and confirm the first deliverable.
After the gathering: The provisional team should confirm roles, assess feasibility and prepare a concise implementation plan. Progress should be tracked during 2027 and reported at the next Ubuntu Annual Gathering.