



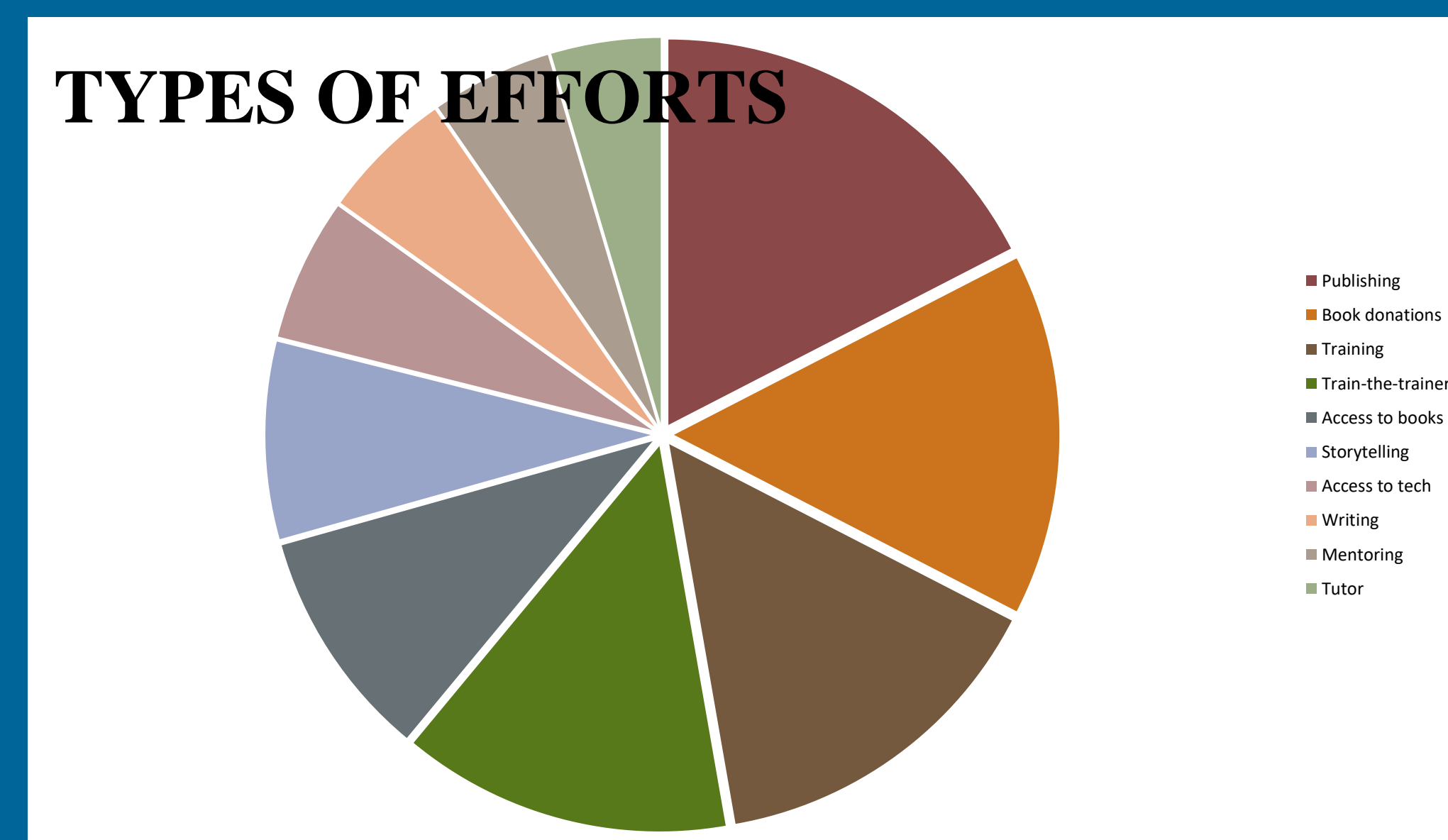
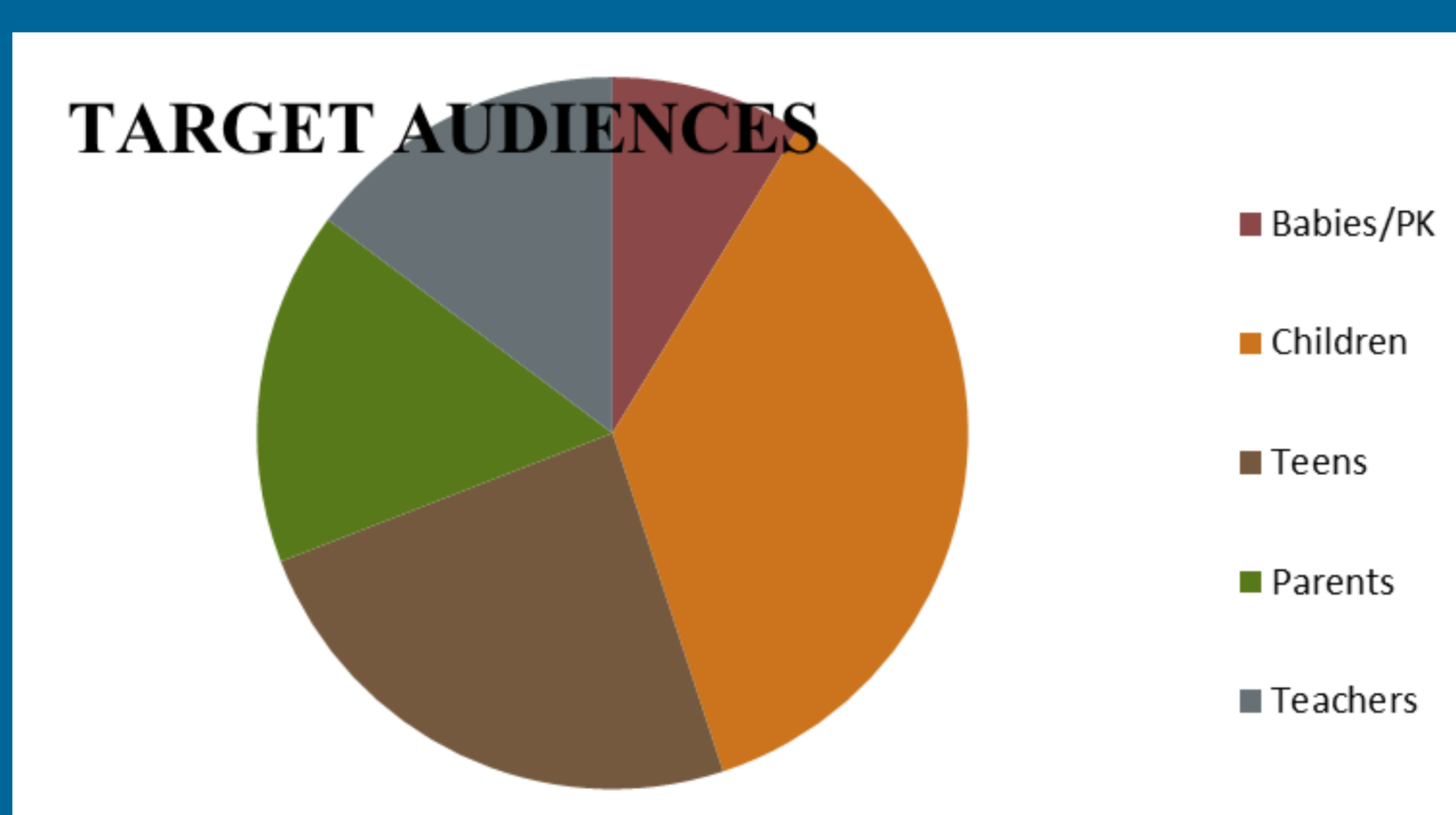
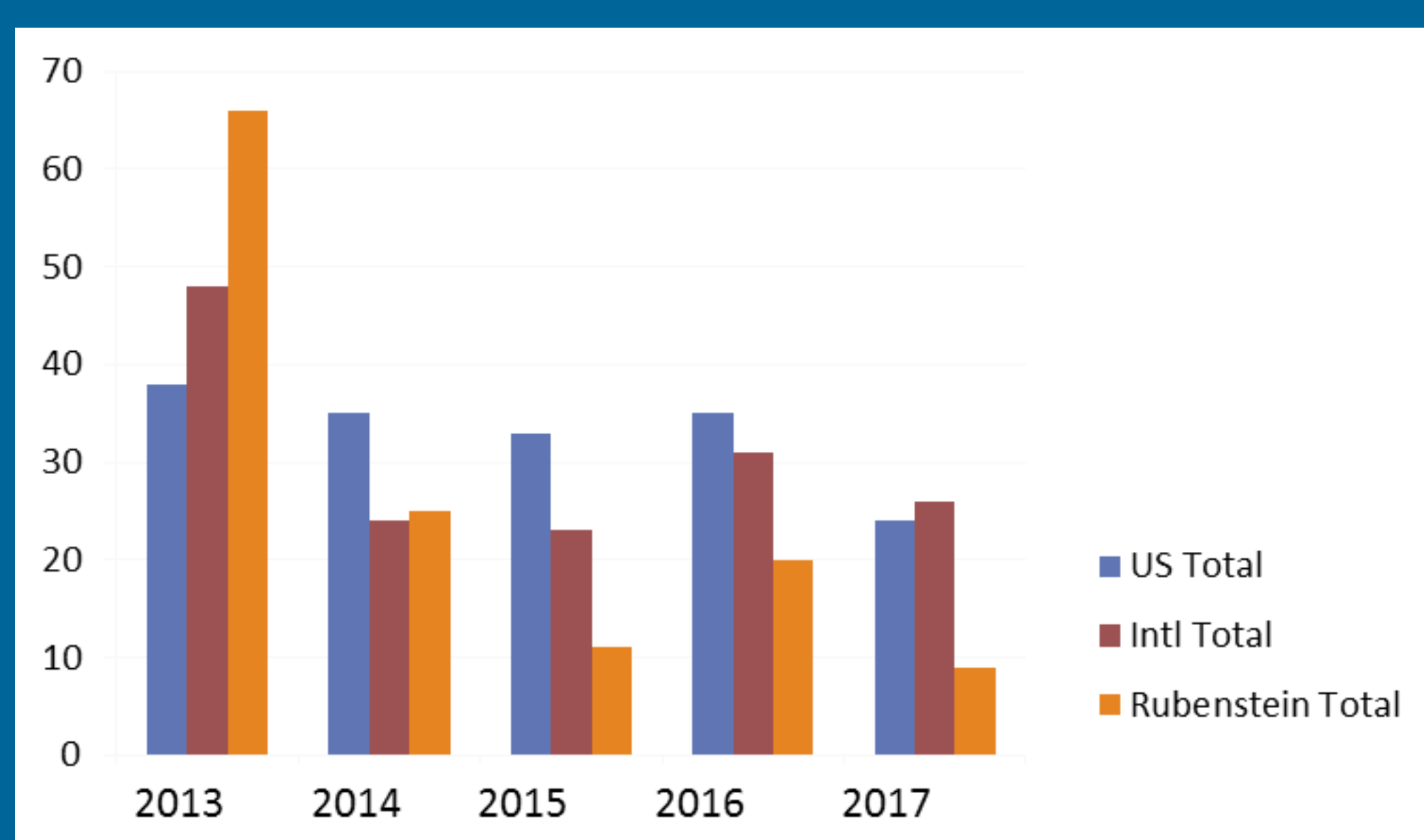
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS LITERACY AWARDS

BACKGROUND

- David Rubenstein donated \$5 million over 5 years (2013-2017) to award literacy projects in the U.S. and internationally.
- The worldwide prestige of the Library of Congress brings attention to a key cultural and educational issue, and champions it.
- U.S. and groups throughout the world submit applications, describing their projects and their impacts.
- A steering committee reviews and ranks applications, and strategizes about the awards and their dissemination.

AWARDS APPLICANTS

Libraries, education, non-profit organizations, government, businesses from 30 countries



LITERACY AWARDEES

Rubenstein Awardees: Reach Out and Read, Room to Read, First Book, WETA Reading Rockets
 International: Planet Read, Mother Child Education Foundation, UK Beanstalk, Libraries without Borders
 American: 826 National, Oregon Children’s Foundation SMART, United through Reading, Parent-Child Home Program

BEST PRACTICE LITERACY THEMES

- Facilitate access to print
- Support oral literacy: e.g., read aloud, story tell
- Foster early intervention and family engagement
- Promote and facilitate lifelong learning in all settings
- Address barriers to literacy
- Foster a culture of reading and writing
- Facilitate community voice and power
- Promote literacy in service of social goals
- Provide social services
- Ensure quality of instruction
- Assure cultural relevance
- Use technology
- Address equity issues
- Address underserved populations
- Cultivate diverse partnerships
- Leverage community resources



BEST PRACTICE CHARACTERISTICS

- Long-term stability and sustainability
- Able to build capacity through umbrella organizations and partners
- The larger the group, the more partners involved
- Community-based or responsive to community
- Needs-based: illiteracy and reading attitudes
- Focus on broad and deep impact that improves people’s lives
- Innovative
- Replicable
- Evidence- and research-based
- External evaluators: observe, test, measure efforts and impact
- Target audience involvement and impact: training, sharing, publishing, fund-raising, celebrating

