Purpose, Values & Vision

Purpose
To advance practice, research, and investment in cultivating collective leadership for sustainable development.

By collective leadership for sustainable development, we mean...

- Stakeholders throughout whole ecosystems exercising agency and leadership
- Who are purpose-driven and committed to justice and sustainable development
- Who are locally rooted and diverse, inclusive of people who have experienced the inequities being addressed and those who have more privilege and/or access to power
- Who have the networks and relationships to collaborate and learn together

Values
- Put love for people and planet at the center
- Believe in the human potential to change the world
- See abundance in different ways of being and doing

Vision
Collective leadership development becomes the primary focus to achieve sustainable development, so that humans, everywhere, are equipped to exert agency and leadership towards system change.

To get there, we’ll advance research, strengthen practice, and increase investments in an essential and under-appreciated lever for systems change: collective leadership development.

By 2030 the People First community aims to:
- Foster deep learning on how to develop collective leadership among practitioners involved in this space
- Advance research that investigates “how” to cultivate and build leadership capacity as a lever for system change
- Strengthen the case and advance storytelling about how collective leadership development strengthens systems for justice, equity, and sustainability
- Unlock and redirect an increased percentage of philanthropic investments in people (vs. things) and build out the case for government and multilateral investment