The Little Book of Big Crises

and the Networks that Handle Them



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and the Networks that Handle Them







If you want to fund a network,
first you have to find it.

That is the first problem.

The second problem is harder:
it does not want to be found.

Not because it is hiding.
Because it is busy,
holding things together
while we scroll for its LinkedIn.

If you want to find a network,
you might look for its address.

The network is a mattress on the floor
in someone's living room.
A WhatsApp group with disappearing messages.
A spreadsheet that no one knows who started,
but without it, no one would know where to go.
It's a safe house key on a string.
And the ping of an e-SIM
finding signal
through barbed wire.


POST



If you want to feed a network,
you might look for its bank account.

That makes sense.
Most things have bank accounts.

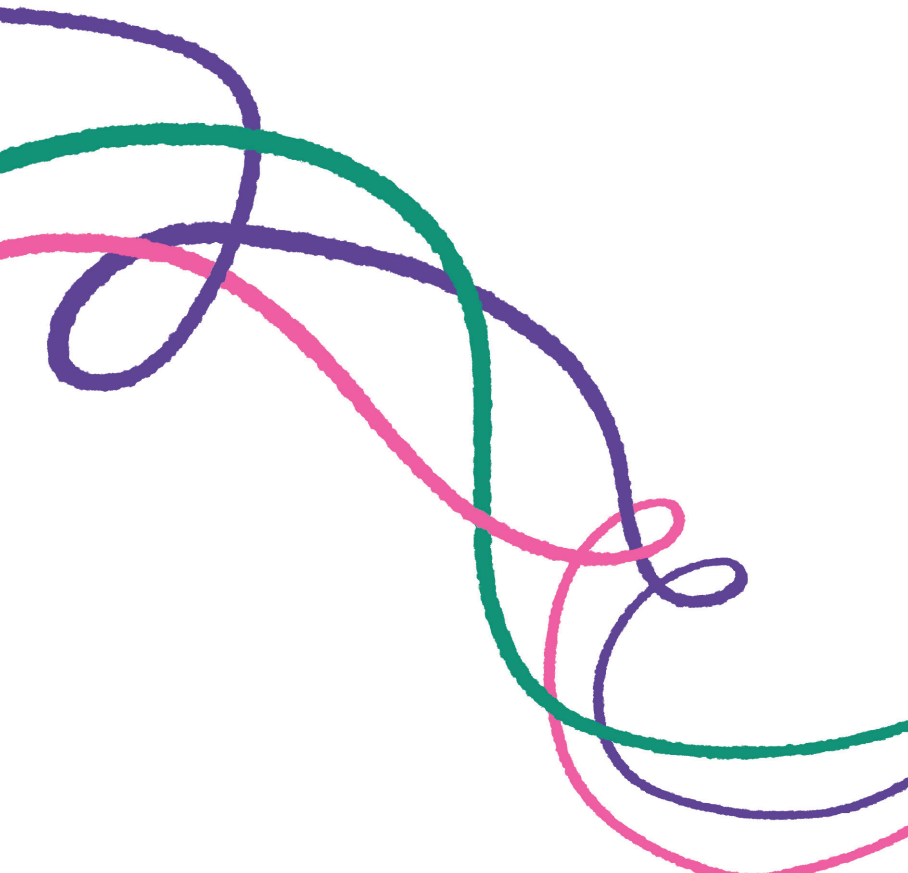
The network has 134 of them.
One for each person who ever passed through it.

133 of them are being monitored by various governments.
The last one is an envelope hidden in a drag queen's corset.
And that is the only reliable one.

If you want to accompany a network,
you might ask for a five-year plan.
Everyone asks for five-year plans.

But the network is not following a map;
it is becoming one.





If you want to sit with a network,
you have to keep up with it.

It moves at its own speed.
Sometimes it is lightning.
Sometimes it is an anchor.
And both are movement.



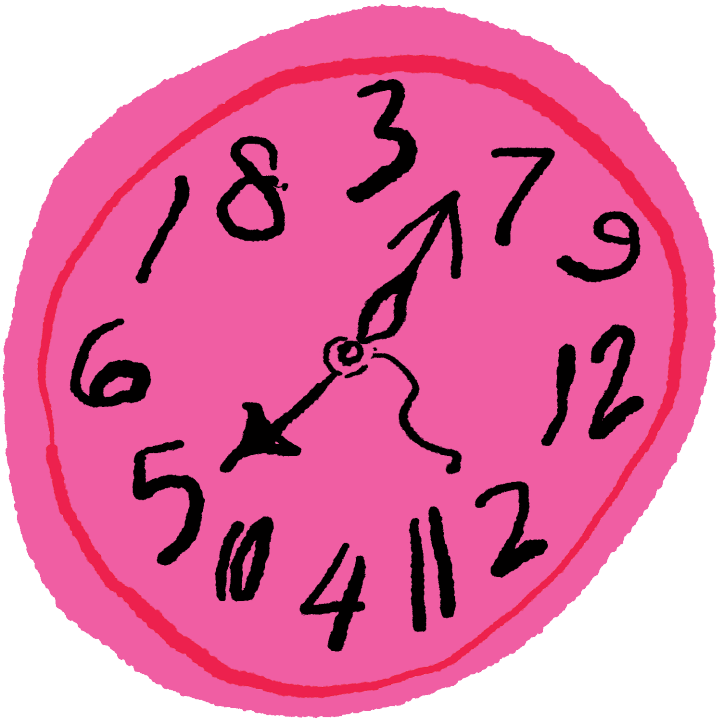
If you want to tend to a network,
you might ask: what do you need?

The network will say:
How much time do you have?
It's food, fuel, attorneys,
data, therapy, stipends.
A door that locks, a window that opens!

You will say: that's not a project.
The network will say: *exactly*.



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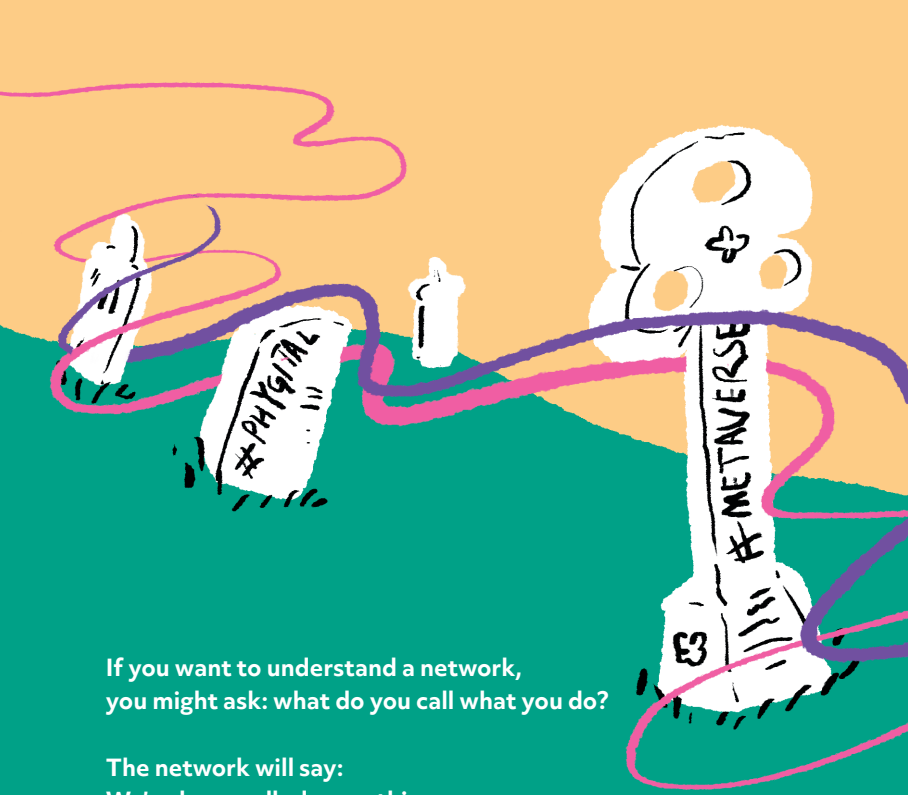
**If you want to learn from a network,
you might ask for a timeline.**

**Every day in the network's calendar has a column,
for "things we cannot predict."**

And it's the only column that is ever full.

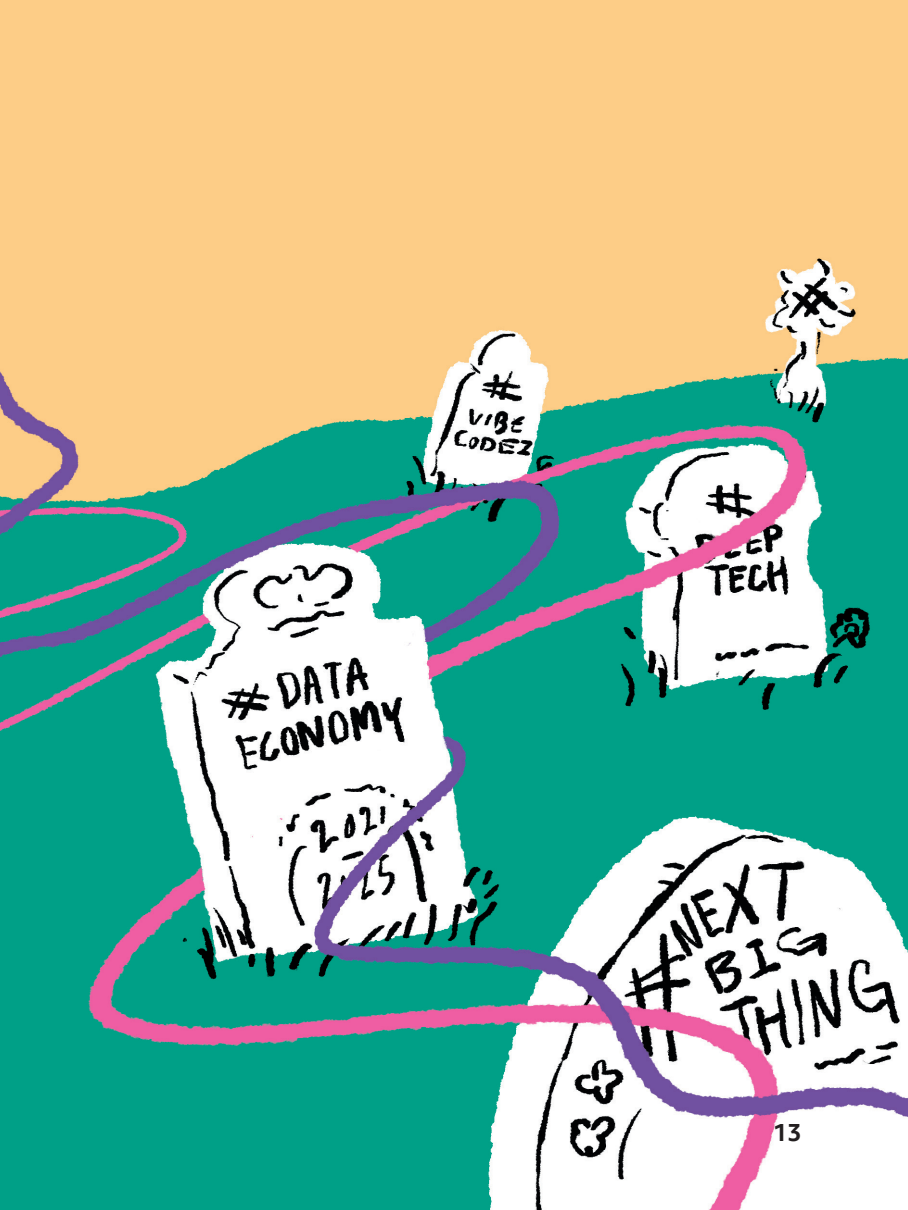




If you want to understand a network,
you might ask: what do you call what you do?

The network will say:
We've been called everything.
Resilience. Innovation.
Sustainability. Impact. Boots on the ground.
Transformation. Empowerment. Localisation.
A name for every letter of the alphabet!

But we were here before the words.
We will be here after.


#VIBE CODEZ
#DATA ECONOMY
2021
#TECH
#NEXT BIG THING

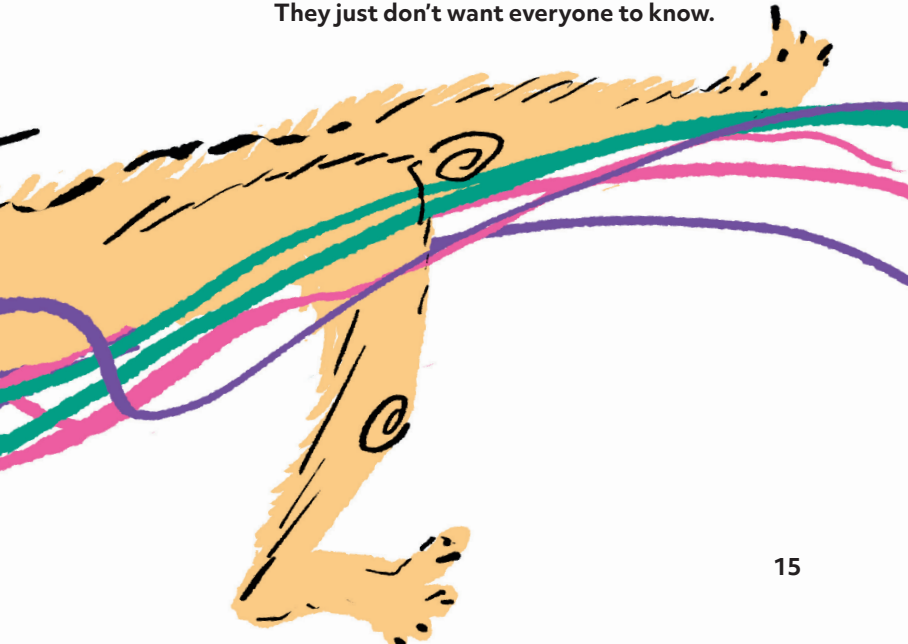

zzzzz...

If you want to walk with a network,
you might notice that it disappears sometimes.

Shhhhhhh.....
The network is sleeping.
That is not a bug, it's a feature.

Networks get tired,
they have been holding a lot.
They will wake up when something happens,
they always do.

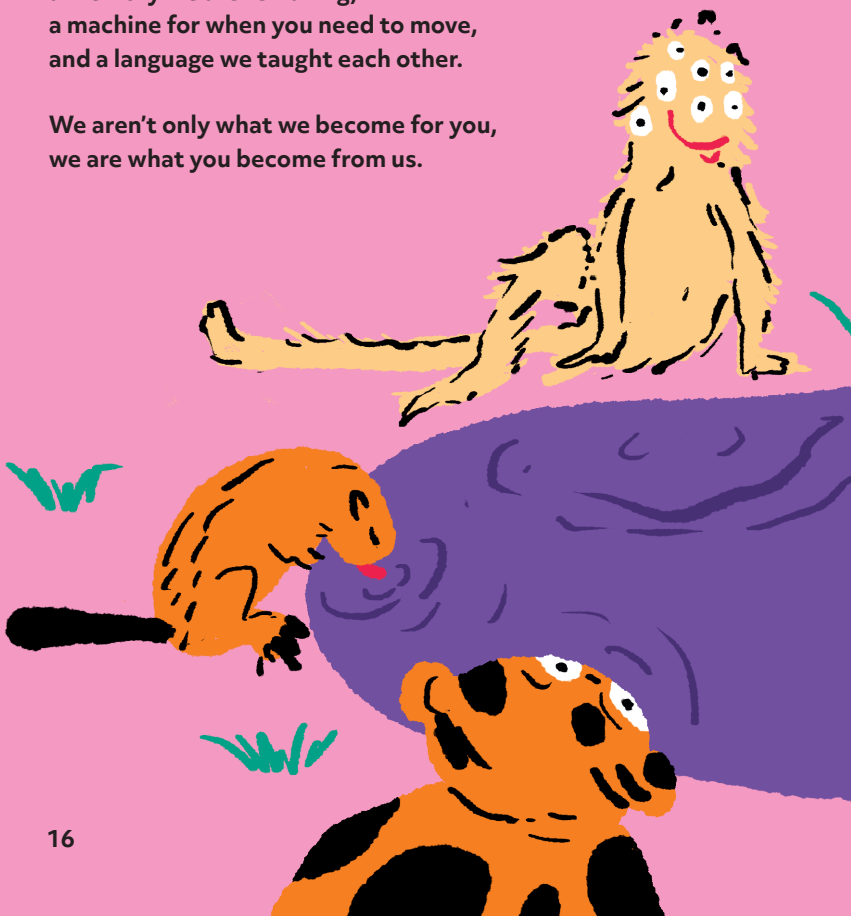
And sometimes they are already awake.
They just don't want everyone to know.



If you want to witness a network,
look for what outlasts us all.

We are a library we are writing,
a memory we are remaking,
a machine for when you need to move,
and a language we taught each other.

We aren't only what we become for you,
we are what you become from us.









If you want to be held by a network,
you could ask about their sky.

Some networks know the sound of each drone.
Another knows when the cyclones are coming.
Another can name every vanishing bird.

If you want to stand with a network,
you might ask how it began.

In one place, it began with a gunshot.
Another, on the dancefloor.
Or in a group chat about nothing,
which then became about everything.

They all began with a heart breaking,
and a bouquet of hands that bloomed open to catch it.





KHUYUT



CONCEPT AND WRITING
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This zine grew out of the report "What Holds Us Together" by Chithira Vijayakumar, commissioned by the Khuyut Network Grant, a collaboration between Numun Fund & the Association for Progressive Communications. Khuyut is a project funded by Equality Fund.

If you have more questions, write us:
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NUMUN FUND

APC
ASSOCIATION FOR PROGRESSIVE COMMUNICATIONS

KHUYUT

What happens when people decide to trust and build with each other, with no contracts, no funding, and no end in sight?

The answer is in these pages.

This zine is built on conversations with feminist networks across Africa, Asia, Latin America, and West Asia; regions where crisis is a constant, not an interruption. It maps the invisible infrastructure these networks are: the labour, the technologies, and the relationships that sustain movements when no one is watching.

Networks are often the first to respond, and the last to be resourced. And they are almost never written about.

Khuyut — and this zine — is an attempt to change that.



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