

environmental funding by european foundations

volume 4

environment
trends
philanthropy



EFC EUROPEAN
ENVIRONMENTAL
FUNDERS GROUP

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Foreword

By Luca Jahier, European Economic and Social Committee President

The report by the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) adopted in October 2018 scientifically confirmed the need for urgent action to confront climate change and environmental degradation. The rate by which sea levels are rising is accelerating, and much of the thick multi-year ice in the Arctic has melted. Carbon dioxide concentrations have never been so high. Either we act now to limit global warming to an increase of 1.5°C or the consequences will be truly drastic.

First and foremost, we need to fully implement the Paris Agreement. The UN climate summits, and most recently COP24 in Katowice, in which I took part, only reinforce the need to take all possible measures for rapid and forceful change. These measures need to be taken now! There is no Plan B and "business as usual" is not an option, at any level - not for citizens, governments or businesses.

In this context, the EESC welcomes this fourth edition of "Environmental Funding by European Foundations". It provides a treasure trove of valuable information on the support for initiatives that is provided by foundations, shaping environmental giving, and includes the preliminary results of a pilot study on the capacity of environmental CSOs across Europe.

As President of the EESC, I see climate change and environmental degradation as a cause for grave concern. This is one of the reasons why I have made sustainable development the highest priority of my EESC presidency. Efforts to improve the quality of the environment have to be placed in the context of meeting the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Sustainable development should underpin all the transformations that are shaping the Europe of tomorrow, such as the fourth industrial revolution, a circular and low-carbon economy, growing challenges to EU values, and threats to peace and stability on the EU's borders. An agenda for achieving economic prosperity must go hand in hand with social inclusion and environmental enhancement.

For this, we need a European Union with a strong focus on sustainable development and that provides leadership on this issue. At the EESC, we have been calling for an ambitious, overarching European Sustainable Development Strategy to implement the SDGs in the EU, which should provide effective responses to many of the problems that we are currently facing.

We have a shared responsibility to deliver on the SDGs, and civil society stands ready to play its part. The transition to sustainability will only be successful if it is based on the broad support and active participation of businesses, workers, civil society organisations and citizens, as well as local and regional authorities. Examples of growing citizen mobilisation against the degradation of the environment include bottom-up initiatives such as the European Citizens' Initiatives (ECIs). Several ECIs address key environmental issues, such as the

right to high quality water or a ban on the use of glyphosate. These ECIs are a testament to people's increasing preoccupation with environmental issues. Nurturing and supporting such initiatives, as well as facilitating access to finance to address climate change and improve our environment, are among the duties and tasks of the EESC, the one EU institution that is charged with representing civil society in the EU decision-making process.

We also need to move from popular will to political will. The blueprint for the EU's 2021-2027 budget offers substantial opportunities for research funding. However, only a relatively small amount goes to environmental research. For Europe to safeguard long-term welfare and prosperity, it must also show global leadership and ambition in research and innovation for the benefit of the environment, so as to properly take up the challenge of fighting against climate change and environmental degradation.

A clear strategy for sustainable development can provide an overall framework, but funding is also necessary for success. The EESC has repeatedly called for a substantially increased EU budget and more Member State funding for the environment: Most recently, the EESC has called for an average of 40% of the EU's global budget (2021-2027 MFF) to be allocated to climate finance. Other recent examples include an appeal to Member States and the European Commission for substantially more financing for the EU's main environmental protection programme (LIFE), and for vastly expanded protection of biodiversity.

EU foundations could play an important role in an agenda for change, by providing funds on their own or co-funding with other partners in EU R&D schemes, but also as beneficiaries of EU funding. As a former journalist myself, and given the battle for influence through social media, I believe that European foundations could increase their funding of think tanks in order to win the war of words on the internet, which is not always fought fairly.

The EESC aims to improve the operational environment for associations and foundations in Europe. In particular, the EESC will specifically promote philanthropy and foundations in its work during 2019, at the request of the Romanian Presidency of the EU. We can also count



Luca Jahier, European Economic and Social Committee President

on the strong personal commitment of EESC members, some of whom actually represent charitable foundations.

Philanthropy can and should play a more purposeful role in boosting Europe's environmentally focused research capabilities. Doing so will also add to the pluralism of R&D and strengthen its links with society as a whole, while helping to underpin long-term prosperity and well-being.

I see this EFC study as an important resource for reflecting on funding gaps and new opportunities to generate more knowledge as we tackle these urgent issues.

Executive summary

This report is the most comprehensive study to date into support for environmental initiatives provided by European philanthropic foundations. It builds on the three earlier editions, increasing the number of foundations and grants being analysed, along with the total value of these grants.

The long-term goal remains that set out in earlier editions: to establish as detailed a picture as possible of the state of European foundation funding for environmental issues with a view to raising the profile of environmental funders, building understanding of the sector, improving coordination, and providing analysis that informs discussion of effectiveness in environmental grantmaking.

The report features a detailed analysis of the environmental grants of 87 European public-benefit foundations,¹ as compared to 75 in the previous edition. These 87 foundations include many of Europe's largest providers of philanthropic grants for environmental initiatives, although there are undoubtedly additional foundations that could be included in a report of this kind.² The report focuses on the 2016 calendar year as this is the latest year for which comprehensive grants data could be obtained for all 87 foundations.

In this new edition we have complemented the analysis of the "supply side" of the environmental grants market with an initial exploration of the "demand side" of the market. This was carried out via a survey of EU environmental organisations that are partners of the Green 10 network. A total of 95 environmental organisations from 31 countries responded to the survey and the findings are summarised in Section 2 of the report.



87 foundations



4,093 grants



€ 583 million
granted for
environmental work

¹ A list is provided in Annex I.

² Five foundations that were covered in the third edition of this research were removed from the dataset this time (mainly because they are no longer actively funding environmental work) and 17 new foundations were added, of which 12 are based in the UK. The very "UK-heavy" emphasis from earlier editions remains, with 50 of the 87 foundations being UK based. This inevitably has an impact on the results.

Key findings from the **supply side**



**4,093 grants
worth
€583 million**

This report analyses 4,093 environmental grants, worth a total of €583 million, made by 87 foundations in 2016. This is the largest volume of grants analysed across the four editions of this research, both in terms of value and the number of grants categorised. These foundations made a further 14 environmental grants in 2016 worth € 24.6 million, but these grants were made to other foundations within the group of 87, and were therefore not included in the analysis in order to avoid double-counting.



**Growth of 8.6% in
total environmental
grants**

Comparison of the grants made by 71 foundations that are included in both the last edition and this edition shows growth in total environmental grants of 8.6% from €476 million (2014) to €516.8 million (2016). This is a very welcome development.



**Climate receives
most funding,
a first**

For the first time in these reports, the thematic issue category receiving the most funding from the 87 foundations was *climate & atmosphere*, accounting for 14.8% of grants by value, but for only 310 out of the 4,093 grants. The proportion of grants directed towards *biodiversity & species preservation* fell from 23.5% to 14.6% and the share going to *terrestrial ecosystems* also fell, with the two categories together accounting for just 23.1% of grants, down from more than 42% in the previous edition.



**Little funding
for transport-
related initiatives**

In addition to *climate & atmosphere* claiming the top spot, the proportion of grants going to *energy* also increased, from 8.2% in the third edition to 12.7% here. When *climate & atmosphere*, *energy*, and *transport* are added together they account for €171.6 million, up from €94.8 million in 2014, an increase of more than 81%. It is striking how little funding, relatively speaking, is directed to work on *transport* (just 1.9% of all grants), the main sector of the EU economy in which carbon emissions have been increasing since 1990.

“The thematic issue category receiving the most funding from the 87 foundations was climate & atmosphere, accounting for 14.8% of grants by value.”



**Systemic drivers
of harm receive
limited funding**

As was the case for 2014, the same “Cinderella” issue categories continue to occupy the bottom five places, namely *fresh water*, *consumption & waste*, *transport*, *trade & finance*, and *toxics & pollution*. Generally speaking environmental foundations are not providing much support to work on the “systemic drivers” of environmental harm, as noted in previous reports.

“Generally speaking, environmental foundations are not providing much support to work on the 'systemic drivers' of environmental harm.”



Large shifts in the thematic focus of grants

When we look at the thematic focus of the 71 foundations for which we have like-for-like data from both 2014 and 2016, we find the total amount of funding falling sharply in the categories of *fresh water* (down 59.3%), *terrestrial ecosystems* (down 45.5%) and *biodiversity & species preservation* (down 27.6%). By contrast, funding for *climate & atmosphere* rose by 73.3%, and grants for work on *energy* increased by 78.1%. Funding for *coastal & marine ecosystems* also rose significantly, by 66.9%. These are large shifts in the orientation of grants.



EU-wide funding remains very low

Turning to the geographical distribution of the grants we see that 131 countries benefitted from at least one grant. There remains a heavy concentration of funding in a small number of countries, although both the top 5 and top 20 countries received a smaller share of funding in 2016 than in 2014. In a noteworthy change to the group of the top 5 beneficiary countries, Spain and Italy are replaced by China and Germany. Funding for EU-wide work remains very low, at 4.4% of the total. This continues to stand in stark contrast to the 80% of European environmental legislation that is framed at the European Union level.



The proportion of grants supporting work in Europe has fallen

There has been an important shift in the distribution of grants at the continental level, with the proportion of like-for-like grants (71 foundations) that support work in Europe falling to just 55.6% in 2016, from 66.9% in 2014. This reverses the increase in the share of grants supporting European work that had been observed across earlier editions of this research. Meanwhile the proportion of international grants rose from 18.1% to 24.6%. The increase in the share of grants directed to Asia is also clear.



Grant distribution within Europe remains uneven

The allocation of grants within Europe remains extremely uneven, as noted in earlier editions. Within the 28 European Union countries Denmark received grants worth €949.83 per 100 people, with the Netherlands in second place with €524.90 per 100 people. At the other end of the scale there were 11 EU Member States where we identified less than €1 per 100 people of environmental philanthropy grants, and 5 of these countries received no grants at all, despite the dataset including 4,093 grants being distributed to 131 different countries.

“Funding for EU-wide work remains very low, at 4.4% of the total. This continues to stand in stark contrast to the 80% of European environmental legislation that is framed at the European Union level.”

Key findings from the demand side

In this edition the analysis of grants from environmental foundations is complemented in Section 2 by the results from a short survey of European civil society organisations (CSOs) working on environmental issues. The survey was completed by 95 CSOs located in 31 different countries. It provides a snapshot in terms of capacity, but is by no means representative of the whole environmental CSO sector, which we suspect includes tens of thousands of organisations across Europe.



Striking disparities in size of CSOs from EU15 and new Member States

The differences in the size of CSOs responding to the survey in the initial 15 Member States of the EU (EU15) and the 13 new Member States (NMS13)³ are very striking. CSOs in the EU15 group had a median income of more than €3.2 million, and median FTE (full-time equivalent) staff of 29, while those in the NMS13 group had a median income of less than €220,000, and median FTE staff of just 5.



Membership numbers also show major disparities

The disparities are even clearer in terms of members/supporters, where none of the 34 CSOs from the NMS13 group had more than 18,000 members, whereas in the EU15 group 15 CSOs had more than 100,000 members, and the largest organisation had more than a million members.



Marked differences in income sources

Not surprisingly, income sources for the EU15 and NMS13 groups varied markedly. Among the EU15 groups *donations from individuals* and *membership fees* together accounted for more than 60% of the combined income. In the NMS13 groups these two categories of income amounted to just 14% of their total income. *EU grants & donations* made up 48% of the income for the NMS13 groups, but just 5% for those from the EU15. *Foundation grants* accounted for 10.3% of income in the EU15 groups, and 8.0% in the NMS13, a little higher than the figure found in similar research in the United Kingdom.



Three main categories of threats identified

We also asked the CSOs which threats they felt philanthropic funders needed to be aware of. The responses fell into three main categories: 1) those relating to shrinking civil society space and a deteriorating political context for environmentalism; 2) those relating to under-supported types of work, where more foundation funding would be particularly valuable, and 3) those relating to the way in which funders (both governments and foundations) operate.

We hope that this fourth volume of “Environmental Funding by European Foundations” will inspire and encourage more funders to share their data and contribute to developing a more complete picture of the state of environmental funding by European foundations. More data and analysis of this kind can only improve environmental funding by serving as a catalyst for more targeted and strategic giving.

³ EU15 = the 15 countries that were member states of the European Union before the year 2000; NMS13 = the 13 member states that joined since the year 2000.

SECTION 1 **The supply side**

Environmental funding from philanthropic foundations

Methodology

This report focuses on environmental grants from 87 European philanthropic foundations. Unless specifically stated otherwise, readers should assume that these are what the text refers to, so the phrase “average grant sizes are lower in 2016 than 2014” means the average grant size for environmental grants from this group of 87 foundations.

This publication was compiled by gathering grants-level data from a select group of public-benefit foundations from EU and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries. A list of 254 foundations that appear to be active in environmental issues was developed through desk research. Funders were contacted by email with a request to submit a complete list of grants for 2016, in the language and currency in which it was available. The data provided by foundations was complemented by grants lists for English and Welsh foundations sourced from annual reports on the Charity Commission’s website.

Only foundations that have a defined environmental programme or mission were contacted for this study. Foundations were included in the analysis if they made more than £250,000

(€306,204)⁴ in environmental grants in 2016, although this condition was relaxed for foundations based in central and eastern Europe. A handful of foundations included in earlier editions whose environmental grantmaking has subsequently fallen below this threshold have been retained in the dataset in order to allow comparisons between years. The complete list of foundations is available in Annex I.

The grants analysed were made in 2016. Some foundations use accounting periods based on the calendar year, while others, particularly in the UK, tend to straddle the calendar year. Grants from UK foundations using the UK’s standard 2016/17 financial year (April 2016 – March 2017) have been aggregated together with calendar year 2016 grants from continental foundations.

⁴ Annual average exchange rates have been used to convert currencies throughout the report, with the annual average relating to the financial period in question.

Gathering grants-level data from foundations at the European level continues to represent a huge challenge, for a number of reasons:

- Grants-level data is not easily available, as there are few mandatory public reporting requirements across Europe. While many foundations now publish detailed annual financial statements on their websites, complete grants lists are still rare.
- Most data is available only in the official language of the country in which a foundation is registered; this represents both a translation and conceptual challenge.
- There is tremendous diversity of legal and organisational forms of public-benefit foundations⁵ across Europe, due to different cultural, historical and legal traditions. This makes it difficult to identify and engage the relevant actors.
- There is no clear consensus among European foundations, or even the foundations within a single country, on what constitutes “environmental funding”. For example, a foundation that defines itself as focusing on research might not consider itself to be an environmental funder, even if some of its grants would qualify for inclusion in this report.

“The 4,093 environmental grants were worth €583 million. This is the largest volume of grants analysed across the four editions of this research, both in terms of value and the number of grants categorised.”

Philanthropic funding on environmental issues

The 87 foundations that are the focus of Section 1 of this report made 4,107 environmental grants in 2016, amounting to €607.6 million. Fourteen of these grants, worth €24.6 million, were made to other foundations within the group of 87. These grants were removed from the analysis, in order to avoid double-counting. Once these grants were taken out, the remaining 4,093 environmental grants were worth €583 million. This is the largest volume of grants analysed across the four editions of this research, both in terms of value and the number of grants categorised.

While the breakdowns in expenditure across thematic issues and geographies provided below are based on a stronger data set than in the three previous editions, they are still not completely comprehensive since there is no definitive list of all the environmental foundations in Europe, and there are without doubt additional foundations that could have been included in this research. The authors would welcome recommendations of foundations that ought to be included in future editions.

While nearly €583 million is a significant amount of money, it remains a small share of total European foundation giving, which is estimated to be at least €60 billion per year.⁶ Research from environmental grantmaking networks in the US, Canada, Italy, France and the UK suggests that environmental grants rarely account for more than 5-6% of total philanthropic giving.

The average grant size for the 4,093 grants reviewed was €142,442 and the median grant size for 2016 just €17,300. These figures are both lower than in 2014, and this reflects the inclusion of a large number of smaller grants in the dataset, rather than a reduction in overall environmental grantmaking.

⁵ The EFC defines public-benefit foundations as purpose-driven, asset-based, independent and separately constituted non-profit entities.

⁶ Lawrence T McGill, “Number of public benefit foundations in Europe exceeds 147,000”, Foundation Center, October 2016. Donors and Foundation Networks in Europe (DAFNE) report.

A small number of large grants continue to account for a significant share of the total expenditure, with the 10 largest grants accounting for 23.4% of the money given (2014 - 35.2%). There were 95 grants of €1,000,000 or more, and together they accounted for 57.8% of the €583 million total (2014 - 65.4%). This pattern is not an unusual one when analysing the funds provided by a set of foundations. Grant sizes ranged from more than €25 million down to just €42 (!), and the total number of environmental grants made by the 87 foundations also varied hugely.

As in previous editions, average grant sizes across the 87 foundations showed huge variation, from more than €3.2 million to under €2,000. Some 51 out of the 87 foundations had average grant sizes under €100,000.

The 10 largest foundations in the group of 87 continue to dominate the picture, with their grants accounting for nearly 72% of the total giving.

Thematic focus

As in the previous report, the programmatic priorities of the 87 foundations were explored by assigning the 4,093 grants to 13 thematic issue categories. Annex II of this report provides descriptions of the categories, which were developed in 2008 in a collaborative process involving the Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network, Canadian Environmental Grantmakers Network, US Environmental Grantmakers Association, UK Environmental Funders Network, and the EFC.

Figure 1 shows how the 2016 grants are distributed across the categories.

In a notable change from earlier editions the *biodiversity & species preservation* category is pushed off the top spot by grants for *climate & atmosphere*, which accounted for 14.8% of the grants by value, but for only 310 out of the 4,093 grants. The proportion of grants being directed to both *biodiversity & species preservation* and *terrestrial ecosystems* fell markedly, with the two categories together accounting for just 23.1% of grants, down from more than 42% in the previous edition. The like-for-like comparison (on p. 13) for 71 foundations sheds more light on this change.

In addition to *climate & atmosphere* claiming the top spot the proportion of grants going to *energy* also increased, from 8.2% in the third edition to 12.7% here. When *climate & atmosphere*, *energy*, and *transport* are added together they account for €171.6 million, up from €94.8 million in 2014, an increase of more than 81%.

It is striking how little funding, relatively speaking, is directed to work on transport (just 1.9% of all grants), the main sector of the EU economy in which carbon emissions have been increasing since 1990.

As was the case for 2014, the same “Cinderella” issue categories continue to occupy the bottom five places, namely *fresh water*, *consumption & waste*, *transport*, *trade & finance*, and *toxics & pollution*. Generally speaking environmental foundations are not providing much support to work on the “systemic drivers” of environmental harm, as noted in previous reports.



AVERAGE GRANT SIZE
2014 to 2016

€ 164,461

- 13.4%

€ 142,442

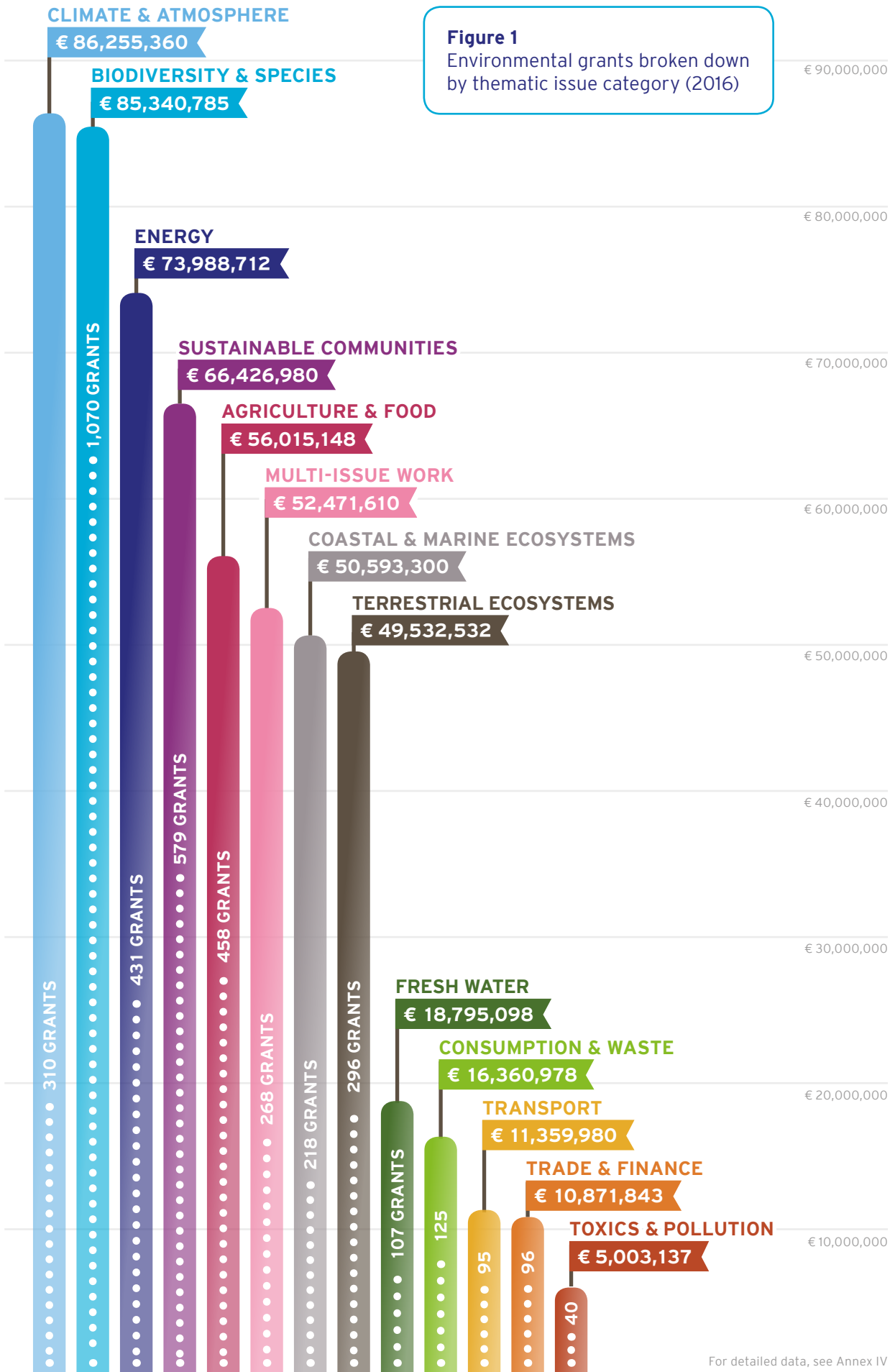


MEDIAN GRANT SIZE
2014 to 2016

€ 18,844

- 8.0%

€ 17,300



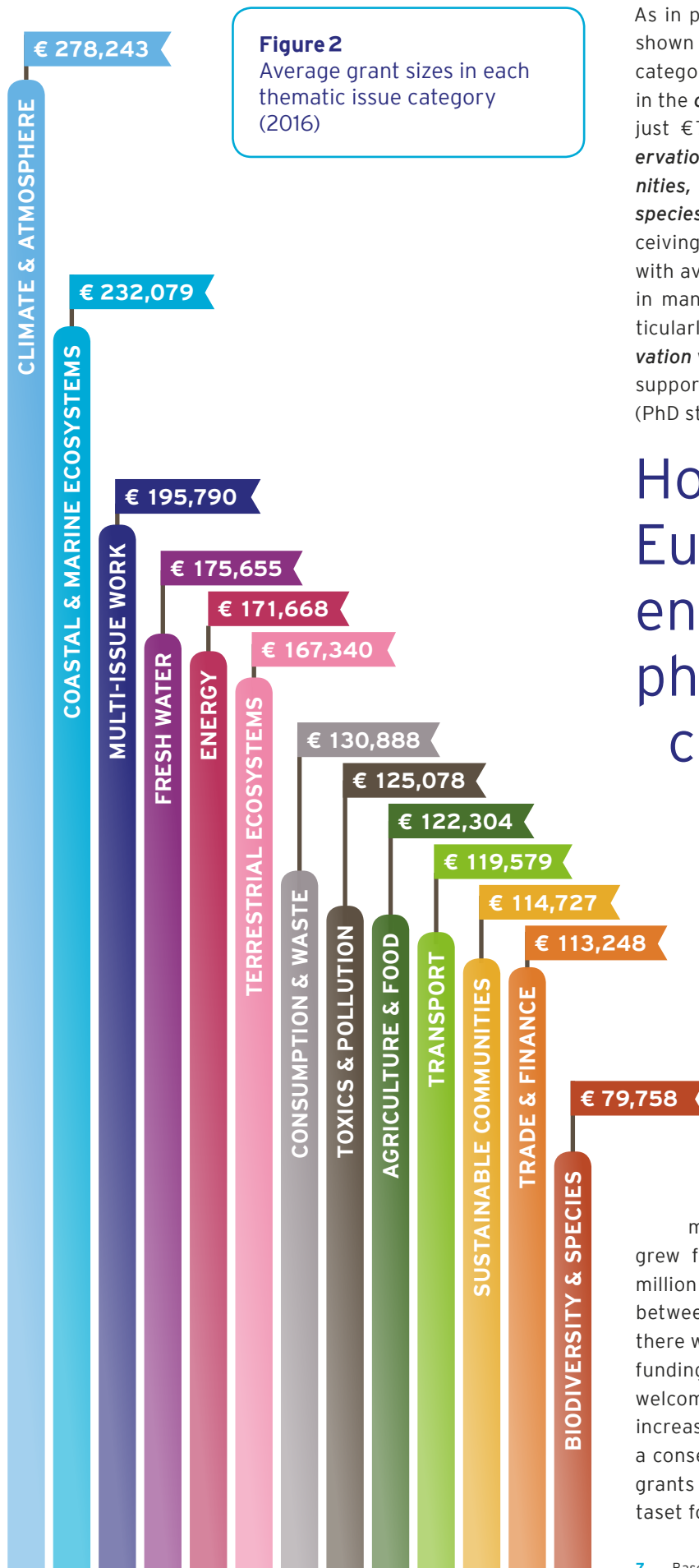


Figure 2
Average grant sizes in each thematic issue category (2016)

As in previous years, the average grant sizes shown in Figure 2 vary considerably from one category to the next, ranging from €278,243 in the *climate & atmosphere* category down to just €79,758 in *biodiversity & species preservation*. The categories *sustainable communities, agriculture & food* and *biodiversity & species preservation* are characterised by receiving relatively large numbers of grants, but with average grant sizes that are smaller than in many of the other categories. This is particularly true of *biodiversity & species preservation* where there are many small grants that support individual scientific research projects (PhD students, for example).

How has European environmental philanthropy changed in recent years?

Grants-level data was available for 71 foundations for both the third edition of this research and for this new edition, allowing for the direct comparison of their environmental grants in 2014 and 2016.

As Figure 3 shows, total environmental giving from the 71 foundations grew from €476 million in 2014 to €516.8 million in 2016, an increase of 8.6%. Inflation between these two years was just 0.27%⁷, so there was a definite increase in environmental funding between 2014 and 2016. This is a very welcome development. The number of grants increased from 2,871 to 3,713 but this is largely a consequence of the inclusion of many more grants from the Fondation de France in the dataset for this new edition.

⁷ Based on European Central Bank figures for the Eurozone.

Of the 71 foundations a total of 37 (slightly more than half) had increased their environmental giving between 2014 and 2016, while for the other 34 foundations environmental giving had fallen. **The sums involved are large in the context of the total grantmaking, with the 37 foundations who increased their giving having contributed €189.9 million more in 2016 than 2014, while the 34 foundations who reduced their grants having cumulatively given €149.1 million less. These figures represent a net increase of €40.7 million, which accounts for the 8.6% boost in total environmental giving.** Five of the foundations in the group of 71 increased their environmental grantmaking by more than €10 million between 2014 and 2016, and a further 4 by more than €5 million each. This suggests there is more turbulence in the grants market than might appear to be the case when looking at aggregate figures.

We noted in Figure 1 that **climate & atmosphere** had knocked the **biodiversity & species preservation** category off the top of the rankings for the first time ever in 2016, based on the grants from all 87 foundations. Figure 3 shows that on a like-for-like basis (71 foundations) **biodiversity & species preservation** just clings on to the number 1 ranking, despite a drop of 27.6% in the value of grants in this category between 2014 and 2016. In percentage terms the **fresh water** category fell even more, down 59.3%, along with the **terrestrial ecosystems** category, down 45.5%. By contrast funding for **climate & atmosphere** rose by 73.3%, and grants for work on **energy** increased by 78.1%. Funding for **coastal & marine ecosystems** also rose significantly, by 66.9%, part of which is accounted for by increased funding related to plastic pollution. These are large shifts in the orientation of grants.

The fact that the total value of grants made to a given thematic issue has increased (or decreased) does not necessarily mean that foundations have been changing the mix of thematic issues within their grant portfolios. It may simply reflect the fact that a foundation that is active on a given thematic issue has increased its overall level of environmental grantmaking. The changes to the percentage breakdowns across the 13 thematic categories are nonetheless important, and they are captured in Figure 3.

Figure 3

Comparison of environmental grantmaking by 71 foundations, 2014 to 2016

		Value of grants (€)		% of all grants	No. of grants
Biodiversity & species	2014	112,344,557	⊖	23.6	751
	2016	81,326,027		15.7	980
Climate & atmosphere	2014	46,570,602	⊕	9.8	183
	2016	80,693,858		15.6	262
Energy	2014	39,189,703	⊕	8.2	374
	2016	69,808,659		13.5	405
Sustainable communities	2014	40,073,155	⊕	8.4	417
	2016	52,972,832		10.3	551
Coastal & marine	2014	29,833,322	⊕	6.3	154
	2016	49,791,175		9.6	210
Multi-issue work	2014	40,459,734	⊕	8.5	160
	2016	49,103,687		9.5	231
Terrestrial ecosystems	2014	89,017,959	⊖	18.7	272
	2016	48,516,674		9.4	259
Agriculture & food	2014	30,974,459	⊕	6.5	248
	2016	40,169,478		7.8	431
Consumption & waste	2014	15,697,106	⊖	3.3	63
	2016	13,774,031		2.7	107
Transport	2014	9,036,652	⊕	1.9	80
	2016	11,059,993		2.1	93
Trade & finance	2014	6,397,300	⊕	1.3	59
	2016	8,802,917		1.7	77
Fresh water	2014	15,182,960	⊖	3.2	90
	2016	6,176,573		1.2	77
Toxics & pollution	2014	1,263,099	⊕	0.3	20
	2016	4,591,473		0.9	30
TOTALS	2014	476,040,608	⊕	100.0	2,871
	2016	516,787,376		100.0	3,713

Figure 4 – Countries benefitting from at least one grant

 Afghanistan	 Germany	 Norway
 Albania	 Ghana	 Pakistan
 Angola	 Greece	 Panama
 Argentina	 Grenada	 Papua New Guinea
 Armenia	 Guatemala	 Peru
 Australia	 Guinea	 Philippines
 Austria	 Guinea-Bissau	 Poland
 Bahamas	 Haiti	 Portugal
 Bangladesh	 Honduras	 Romania
 Belgium	 Hungary	 Russian Federation
 Belize	 Iceland	 Rwanda
 Benin	 India	 Saint Lucia
 Bhutan	 Indonesia	 Samoa
 Bolivia	 Iran	 Senegal
 Bosnia & Herzegovina	 Iraq	 Serbia
 Botswana	 Ireland	 Seychelles
 Brazil	 Israel	 Slovakia
 Bulgaria	 Italy	 Slovenia
 Burkina Faso	 Japan	 South Africa
 Burundi	 Kazakhstan	 South Korea
 Cambodia	 Kenya	 Spain
 Cameroon	 Kosovo	 Sri Lanka
 Canada	 Laos	 Sudan
 Cape Verde	 Lebanon	 Sweden
 Cayman Islands	 Lithuania	 Switzerland
 Chad	 Macedonia	 Tanzania
 Chile	 Madagascar	 Thailand
 China	 Malawi	 Timor-Leste
 Colombia	 Malaysia	 Togo
 Congo-Brazzaville	 Maldives	 Tunisia
 Costa Rica	 Mali	 Turkey
 Cote d'Ivoire	 Mauritania	 Uganda
 Croatia	 Mauritius	 Ukraine
 Cuba	 Mexico	 United Kingdom
 Czech Republic	 Moldova	 United States
 Democratic Republic of Congo	 Mongolia	 Uruguay
 Denmark	 Montenegro	 Vanuatu
 Dominican Republic	 Morocco	 Venezuela
 Ecuador	 Mozambique	 Vietnam
 Egypt	 Myanmar	 Zambia
 Ethiopia	 Namibia	 Zimbabwe
 Finland	 Nepal	
 France	 Netherlands	
 Georgia	 Nicaragua	
	 Niger	
	 Nigeria	

Geographical distribution of grants

In earlier editions of this research, we presented two different analyses of the geographical distribution of grants, both in terms of the location of grantee offices and the location of the end beneficiary, where the work actually takes place. In this edition we decided to focus only on the second of these, with the view that it is where the work actually takes place that is of more interest than where the grantee organisation is headquartered.

Location of end beneficiary

Listed in Figure 4, a total of 131 countries could be identified (2014 - 132) where at least one grant was made. There is a very broad geographical distribution of funding, but in many of these countries only a handful of grants, or just a single grant, could be detected.

Figure 5 shows the 20 countries receiving the most funding. Only grants that directly benefit one country have been included in the Top 20 ranking in the table.

The heavy concentration of funding in a small number of countries is clear, although the share of the grants going to both the top 5 and top 20 countries in Figure 5 has fallen between 2014 and 2016. In a noteworthy change to the top five beneficiary countries, Spain and Italy are replaced by China and Germany. We have commented in past editions on the importance of the so-called BRICS and MINTs⁸ countries when it comes to global environmental policy, and we welcome the increase in support for work in China, India and Brazil, in terms of the amounts being granted.

Figure 5 also includes figures for grants made on an EU-wide basis, and for those that support international work where a specific beneficiary country cannot be identified. EU-wide grants are those that are geared towards EU legislation and policies, such as the Common Agricultural Policy, or towards supporting civil society capacity across multiple EU countries.

⁸ BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa), MINTs (Mexico, Indonesia, Nigeria, Turkey).

Figure 5 – Geographical distribution of grants by beneficiary countries (2016). Top 20 countries

Rank	Country	Grants	Value in €	No. of fdns. granting to the country	% of total envt. grants	Rank in top 20 in 3 rd edition
1	 Netherlands	124	89,166,867	5	15.3	1
2	 Denmark	127	54,252,898	5	9.3	2
3	 United Kingdom	765	47,199,206	45	8.1	3
4	 China	24	27,039,627	10	4.6	9
5	 Germany	53	20,549,392	5	3.5	16
6	 Italy	143	14,308,245	9	2.5	5
7	 France	731	13,313,392	8	2.3	6
8	 Switzerland	66	10,089,716	5	1.7	7
9	 Spain	96	9,915,076	8	1.7	4
10	 Finland	161	8,985,269	2	1.5	18
11	 India	79	6,648,445	13	1.1	15
12	 United States	24	6,409,204	12	1.1	14
13	 Brazil	41	4,938,232	7	0.8	13
14	 Kenya	32	4,715,485	10	0.8	11
15	 Tanzania	16	3,234,747	6	0.6	10
16	 Canada	10	3,138,606	3	0.5	Not in top 20
17	 Poland	40	2,483,524	3	0.4	Not in top 20
18	 Mozambique	7	2,251,763	6	0.4	Not in top 20
19	 Guatemala	4	1,826,004	2	0.3	Not in top 20
20	 Haiti	4	1,567,256	3	0.3	Not in top 20
SUB-TOTALS		2,547	332,032,955	n/a	56.8	
	 EU-wide	181	25,567,998	28	4.4	--
	 International	395	164,374,972	57	28.2	--
TOTALS		3,123	521,975,925	n/a	89.4	

Figure 6 – Geographical distribution of grants at the continental level for 71 foundations

For detailed data for Figure 6, see Annex IV

EUROPE	2014 2016	66.9% 55.6%	⊖
INTER-NATIONAL	2014 2016	18.1% 24.6%	⊕
ASIA	2014 2016	3.6% 7.8%	⊕
AFRICA	2014 2016	7.1% 7.0%	⊖
LATIN AMERICA	2014 2016	3.2% 3.0%	⊖
NORTH AMERICA	2014 2016	1.0% 1.9%	⊕
OCEANIA	2014 2016	0.1% 0.0%	⊖

A total of 181 grants worth €25.6 million were made in support of this kind of work (2014 - 131 grants worth €20.5 million). While the overall value of grants continues to grow in absolute terms, such **EU-wide grants continue to account for just 4.4% of all grants made by the 87 foundations, almost exactly the same proportion as in 2014. This continues to stand in stark contrast to the 80% of European environmental legislation that is framed at the European Union level.**

Figure 6 shows how the distribution of grants at the continental level changed between 2014 and 2016, based on a like-for-like comparison of the 71 foundations for which we have two years of data.⁹

There has been an important shift in the distribution of grants at the continental level, with the proportion of the like-for-like grants that support work in Europe falling to just 55.6% in 2016, from 66.9% in 2014. This reverses the increase in the share of grants supporting European work that had been observed across earlier editions of this research. Meanwhile the proportion of international grants rose from 18.1% to 24.6%. The increase in the share of grants directed to Asia is also clear.

Domestic vs. international funding

There remain two distinctly different groups of foundations, in terms of the geographical distribution of grants. Some 22 out of the 87 foundations are entirely domestic funders, only funding initiatives benefitting the country in which they are based. A further 17 foundations made more than 80% of their grants to support projects in their own country.

At the other end of the scale there were 12 foundations that made no grants to projects in the countries in which they are headquartered - they have a completely international outlook, in contrast to their domestic peers. Another 18 foundations made less than 20% of their grants to projects in their home country. Figure 7 shows the difference in approach for these international and domestic funders, who are on opposite sides of the graph.

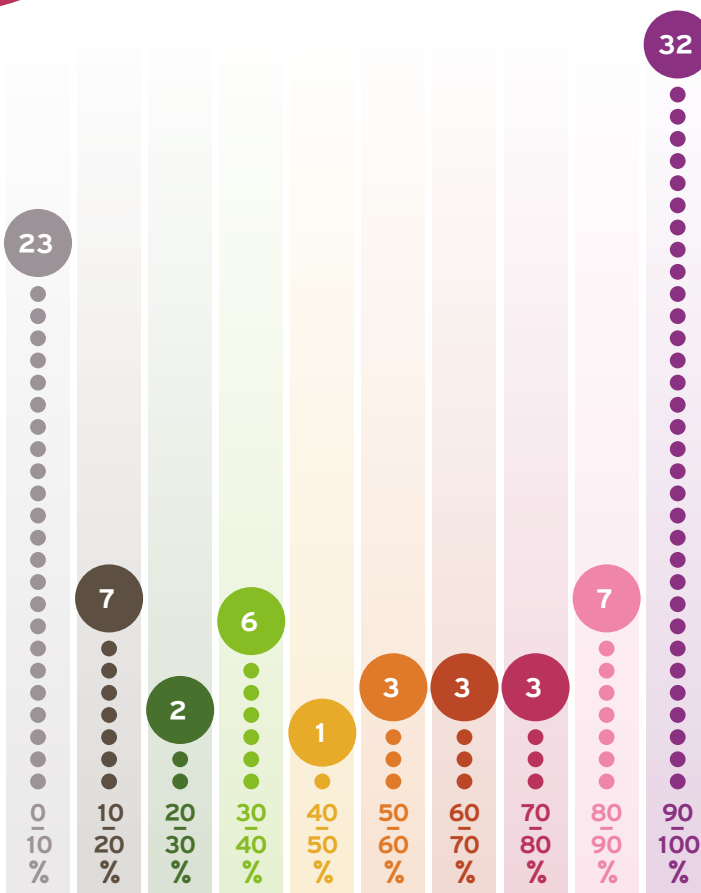


Figure 7 – Percentage of grants being directed towards projects in each foundation's home country

No. of foundations

⁹ The detailed data tables in Annex IV include breakdowns by continent in 2016 for the full set of 87 foundations.

Elsewhere in this report reference is made to the low level of grants being directed to central and eastern Europe, as well as the fact that less than 5% of grants are explicitly supporting EU-level work. This is perhaps not surprising, given that nearly half the foundations in the study might be described as domestic funders, with more than 80% of their funding supporting initiatives in the country where they are located. There are many good reasons for foundations to focus on funding projects in their home countries, and indeed they may be required to do this by their mandates or by national laws. At the same time, it is clear that many environmental challenges are international in nature, and require collective responses by nation states, climate change being just one example.

From this perspective, finding ways to strengthen the capacity of environmental organisations in countries where resources are less readily available seems like it should be a priority in future. Section 2 of the report sheds more light on this, with the results of our survey of European environmental organisations.

The distribution of grants within the EU

Earlier editions of this research have highlighted the marked differences between countries within Europe with respect to population size and per capita income, environmental performance (measured using various indices), environmental values, and public understanding of environmental issues. As Figure 8 on the next page illustrates, grants from European foundations remain very unevenly distributed across the 28 EU Member States, despite the fact that EU environmental policy is made via processes that involve all Member States. To re-state the question posed in earlier editions:

should European funders be playing a more proactive role in helping to build up environmental awareness and civil society capacity across the whole of the EU in order to help raise the overall ambition level of policymaking?¹⁰

Figure 8 shows the value and number of environmental grants from the 87 foundations that supported activity in each of the 28 EU Member States, along with the share of overall EU population represented by each country. The value of the grants has been divided by the population of each Member State in order to give a “per capita” measure that shows the value of grants per 100 people.

We have included the equivalent “grants per capita measure” figures from 2014 in the final column for ease of comparison.¹¹

Within the 28 European Union countries Denmark received grants worth €949.83 per 100 people, with the Netherlands in second place with €524.90 per 100 people. At the other end of the scale there were 11 EU Member States where we identified less than €1 per 100 people of environmental philanthropy grants, and 5 of these countries received no grants at all, despite the dataset including 4,093 grants being distributed to 131 different countries.

Readers should not attach too much weight to the specific per capita figures, because these would have looked different had more foundations provided data for the research process, and in particular if those foundations had been active in countries that currently show low volumes of grants per capita. What would not have changed is the overall pattern of philanthropic resources for environmental work being heavily concentrated in a limited number of EU Member States, with the rest of the countries receiving virtually no support.

¹⁰ The authors recognise that some foundations are constrained in this regard by their mandates or national laws.

¹¹ The French figures were boosted by the addition of a large number of grants made by the Fondation de France.

Figure 8 – Geographical distribution of grants to EU Member States, compared to population

			No. of grants	% of EU pop.	Grants (€) per 100 people	
Value of grants made to the country (€)					2016	2014
 Netherlands	89,166,867	124	3.4	524.90	553.37	
 Denmark	54,252,898	127	1.1	949.83	1,135.16	
 UK	65,788,574	765	12.9	71.74	89.61	
 Germany	20,549,392	53	16.1	25.09	2.60	
 Italy	14,308,245	143	11.7	24.08	26.33	
 France	13,313,392	731	12.7	20.57	15.61	
 Spain	9,915,076	96	9.1	21.39	44.16	
 Finland	8,985,269	161	1.1	163.28	31.02	
 Poland	2,483,524	40	7.5	6.50	2.52	
 Romania	1,270,309	71	3.9	6.42	1.18	
 Portugal	891,630	11	2.0	8.60	2.96	
 Belgium	631,185	49	2.2	5.56	3.37	
 Sweden	459,845	3	2.0	4.67	97.17	
 Greece	234,164	2	2.2	2.09	45.53	
 Slovenia	180,675	4	0.4	8.70	0.08	
 Hungary	141,107	34	2.0	1.43	8.18	
 Bulgaria	63,958	4	1.4	0.90	0.38	
 Czech Republic	61,268	2	2.1	0.58	1.34	
 Croatia	52,923	2	0.8	1.26	0.59	
 Austria	17,019	2	1.7	0.20	0.06	
 Ireland	14,000	1	0.9	0.30	0.03	
 Lithuania	5,000	1	0.6	0.17	0.00	
 Slovakia	3,746	1	1.1	0.07	0.00	
 Latvia	0	0	0.4	0.00	0.00	
 Estonia	0	0	0.3	0.00	0.00	
 Cyprus	0	0	0.2	0.00	0.00	
 Luxembourg	0	0	0.1	0.00	0.00	
 Malta	0	0	0.1	0.00	0.00	
TOTALS	282,790,066	2,427	100.0	n/a	n/a	

SECTION 2 The demand side

An initial survey of European environmental organisations

In this edition of the research we decided to complement the analysis of the “supply” side of the environmental grants market with an initial piece of research into the “demand” side of the market. This was carried out via a short survey which we sent to the partner organisations of the Green 10 network, asking for information relating to their 2016 financial year.¹² We drew on the two longer surveys of UK environmental organisations conducted by the Environmental Funders Network, which underpin the reports “Passionate Collaboration?” and “What the Green Groups Said”.¹³

In all we identified nearly 400 environmental organisations (once duplicates were removed) that are affiliated to one or more of the Green 10 organisations. We asked the directors of the Green 10 groups to reach out to these affiliate organisations, and to promote the survey to them. We are very grateful for the help which we received from many of the Green 10 organisations, and we greatly appreciate the time that organisations spent to complete the survey.

Greenpeace’s EU Unit regrettably decided not to send the survey out to their national offices on the basis that they wouldn’t have time

to complete it, even though Greenpeace is often one of the largest environmental organisations in the countries where it operates. We managed to get a few responses from individual Greenpeace offices, but more would have been welcome.

In the end 95 CSOs (civil society organisations) from 31 countries responded to our request for information. A list is provided in Annex III. A small number of these CSOs are not actually affiliated to any of the Green 10 organisations (they heard about the survey from partner groups in their country) but we kept them in the dataset in order to have the maximum amount of information to analyse.

There is no definitive list of environmental CSOs across Europe, as far as we know, and we suspect that any such list would run to tens of thousands of organisations.¹⁴ **The 95 CSOs responding to the survey should not be seen as representative of the sector as a whole, they provide no more than a “snapshot”.** We hope that more CSOs will take part if we repeat the survey in the future, such that over time the data gives a better sense of the capacity of environmental organisations across Europe.

¹² The Green 10 is a network of European environmental organisations which comprises: Birdwatch International, CEE Bankwatch, Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe, European Environmental Bureau, Friends of the Earth Europe, Greenpeace EU Unit, Health & Environment Alliance (HEAL), International Friends of Nature, Transport & Environment, and WWF European Policy Office.

¹³ Jon Cracknell, Florence Miller & Harriet Williams, “Passionate Collaboration? Taking the Pulse of the UK Environmental Sector”, Environmental Funders Network, 2013; Florence Miller, Jon Cracknell & Harriet Williams, “What the Green Groups Said: Insights from the UK Environment Sector”, Environmental Funders Network, 2017.

¹⁴ The National Council of Voluntary Organisations estimates that there are 5,934 environmental CSOs in just the United Kingdom. Data from “UK Civil Society Almanac 2018”, London, National Council for Voluntary Organisations, accessed at <https://data.ncvo.org.uk/>

Vital statistics

Unsurprisingly, the income for 2016 reported by the 95 organisations varied hugely, from more than €120 million down to just €2,500. In aggregate it amounted to nearly €674 million. The average income for the 95 organisations was more than €7 million, but the median income (a more useful indicator) was €875,000. More than a third of the 95 organisations had incomes in 2016 of less than €300,000.

Staffing numbers showed similar disparities, ranging from 1,200 FTE (full-time equivalent) staff down to less than 1. The median number of FTE staff was 14, and 43 of the 95 organisations had 10 or less paid staff.

Turning to membership we see that the 95 organisations had more than 7.7 million members between them. These members are very heavily concentrated among a small number of organisations, with just 15 of the CSOs having 100,000 or more members. These 15 CSOs accounted for more than 91% of all the members reported by the group of 95 organisations. The median number of members was just 860, and more than half of the 95 organisations had fewer than 1,000 members.

A Europe of two halves?

In past editions of this research we have commented on the relatively low levels of public awareness of environmental issues in countries in central and eastern Europe, compared to those in western Europe. In order to explore the capacity of the CSOs responding to the survey we separated the organisations into three groups:

A. those located in one of the 15 countries that were Member States of the European Union before 2000 (EU15 for short);¹⁵

B. those located in one of the 13 countries that have joined the EU since 2000 (NMS13);¹⁶ and

C. those located in non-EU countries (non-EU).¹⁷

We had originally hoped that we would be able to compare the capacity of the environmental CSOs in individual European countries, but we didn't get consistent enough participation in the survey to make this possible. We hope to return to this in future editions.

The differences between the CSOs in the EU15 group (53 organisations), the NMS13 group (34 organisations) and the non-EU group (8 organisations) are very striking, as can be seen in Figure 9.

Health warning

The data in Figure 9 needs to be treated with considerable caution. Firstly, we don't have the same number of organisations in the EU15 and NMS13 groupings. Secondly, we aren't able to say with any confidence what proportion of the largest environmental CSOs are captured by these groupings, as (to our knowledge) there is no definitive list of the largest environmental CSOs in Europe. Figure 9 represents a first attempt to try and shed some light on the disparities between environmental organisations in different parts of Europe. Our hope is that in subsequent editions of this research we will be able to convince more CSOs to take part in the survey, and that will make the data more useful for everyone.

¹⁵ Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom

¹⁶ Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia

¹⁷ Azerbaijan, Belarus, Macedonia, Montenegro, Norway, Switzerland (in terms of respondents to the survey)

Figure 9 – Income, staff and membership numbers for a group of 95 European environmental CSOs

	EU15 53 CSOs	NMS13 34 CSOs	NON-EU 8 CSOs	TOTALS 95 CSOs
Combined income (€)	592,941,842	18,604,599	62,417,953	673,964,394
Average income (€)	11,187,582	547,194	7,802,244	7,094,362
Median income (€)	3,292,277	216,986	2,257,632	875,000
Combined FTE staff	3,981	394	257	4,632
Average FTE staff	75.1	11.6	32.2	48.8
Median FTE staff	29.0	5.0	15.5	14.0
Income / FTE staff (€)	148,934	47,196	242,635	145,480
Combined members / supporters	7,253,567	72,509	382,335	7,708,411
Average members / supporters	136,860	2,133	47,792	81,141
Median members / supporters	7,500	58	20,013	860

With the caveats above, we think Figure 9 does show that environmental CSOs in the EU15 countries and the NMS13 are operating in completely different contexts, in terms of income, staffing, and particularly membership numbers. Among the figures that stand out are:

- Nearly 88% of the income for the 95 organisations was received by those in the EU15 group, and only 2.7% by those in the NMS13 group.
- While CSOs in the EU15 group had a median income of more than €3.2 million, and median FTE staff of 29, those in the NMS13 group had a median income of less than €220,000, and median FTE staff of just 5.
- The disparities are even clearer in terms of members/supporters, where none of the 34 CSOs from the NMS13 group had more than 18,000 members, whereas in the EU15 group 15 CSOs had more than 100,000 members, and the largest organisation had more than a million members.
- If we concentrate on the income, FTE staff, and members/supporters for just the EU15 and NMS13 groups of CSOs (leaving the 8 non-EU CSOs out of the dataset) then we can see that the EU15 groups accounted for

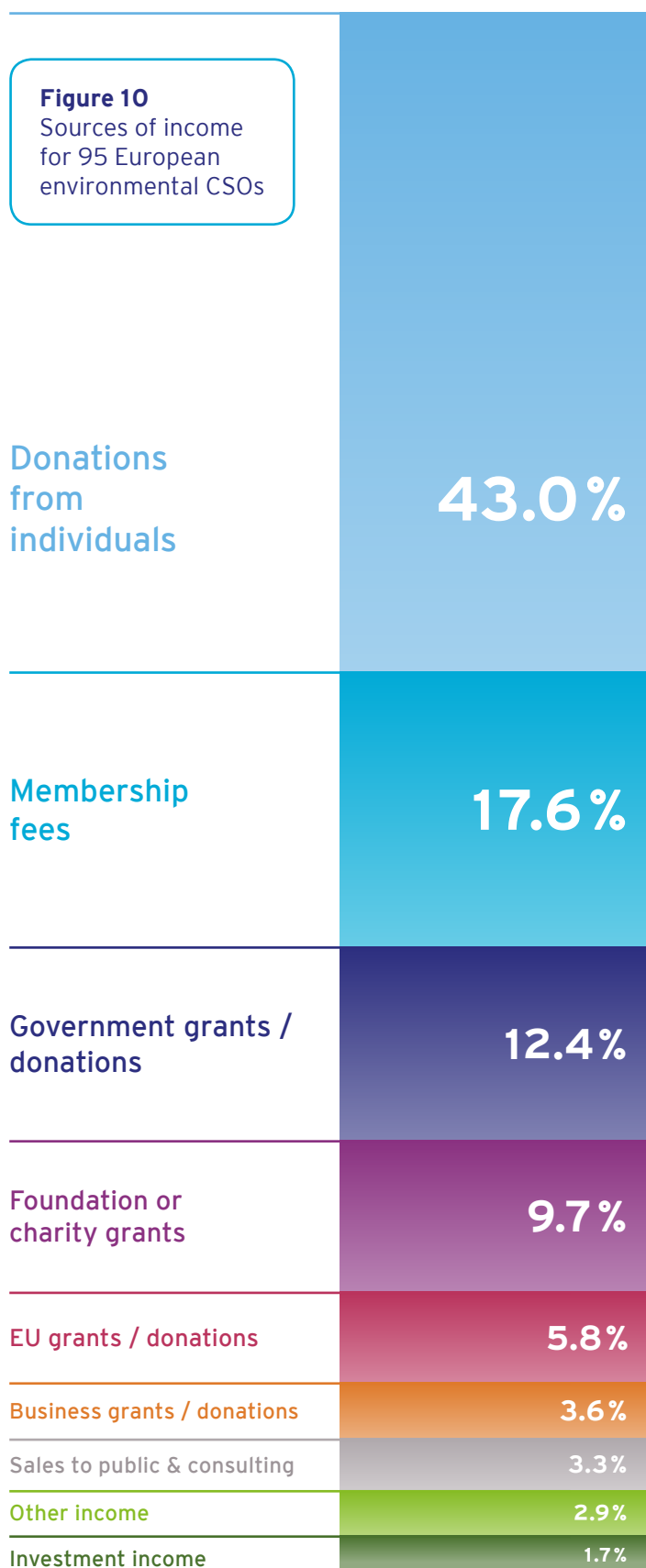
97% of the total income, 91% of the staff, and 99% of the members and supporters, whereas in population terms the EU15 accounts for 79.3% of the EU population, and the NMS13 for 20.7%.

- The 8 CSOs in the non-EU group were very varied, with four large CSOs (based in either Switzerland or Norway), and four relatively small CSOs in the other four countries (see footnote 17). In income terms they are similar to the CSOs in the EU15 group, but they have noticeably higher “costs” in terms of the income/ FTE staff measure, which is €242,635 compared to €148,934 for the EU15 groups.

Figure 8, on page 18 in Section 1, makes it clear that philanthropic funding is much more generous (on a per capita basis) in the countries that have been EU members for longer. The first 8 places in Figure 8 (in terms of philanthropic grants per capita) are taken by countries in the EU15 grouping, and only 3 NMS countries (Slovenia, Poland, and Romania) make it into the top half of the table in terms of philanthropic grants per capita. The role of foundations in supporting a better-resourced environmental CSO sector in the NMS13 countries remains an important topic for discussion.

Sources of income

Figure 10
Sources of income for 95 European environmental CSOs



We asked each organisation completing the survey to break down their income in 2016 into nine categories. The results can be seen in Figure 10 (with more detailed data available in Annex IV).

When the results from the 95 CSOs that responded to the survey are combined, the *donations from individuals* comfortably outweigh all other types of income. When *membership fees* and *donations from individuals* are combined they account for more than 60% of the aggregate income, which reveals the important role that members of the public play in supporting the large membership organisations within the sector.¹⁸ *Government grants & donations* account for a further 12.4%, and grants from *foundations or charities* for just under 10%. Interestingly, this figure is higher than the 7.1% of income from foundation grants received by the UK environmental organisations surveyed in “What the Green Groups Said”.¹⁹

Both in the UK and across Europe foundation grants are one of the most widely received sources of income. Some 68 of the 95 CSOs had received foundation funding in 2016, second only to the 69 that received *donations from individuals*. Some CSOs are highly dependent on foundation support, but in aggregate foundation grants do not provide a very large share of total income. Their importance arguably stems from their capacity to support activities that it is difficult to finance with other forms of income, including start-up costs, and advocacy and campaigning work that both government and corporate funders often avoid. Foundation grants also have particular importance for organisations that are unlikely to be able to develop a membership base, for example those that specialise in providing technical expertise, or which focus on less “public-friendly” aspects of the environmental agenda.

¹⁸ In the UK the National Council for Voluntary Organisations estimates that environmental organisations receive 72% of their income from individuals, the highest proportion for any of the 18 civil society sectors on which they report. National Council for Voluntary Organisations, op.cit.

¹⁹ Florence Miller et al, op.cit.

A Europe of two halves? Reprise

Given the differences in overall income levels, staffing and membership between the EU15, NMS13 and non-EU CSOs we thought it might be interesting to compare their income sources. These are shown in Figure 11 (with more detailed data in Annex IV).

Figure 11 shows how different the operating context is for environmental CSOs in the EU15 group of countries compared to the NMS13. Among the EU15 groups *donations from individuals* and *membership fees* together accounted for more than 60% of the combined income. In the NMS13 groups these two categories of income amounted to just 14% of combined income.

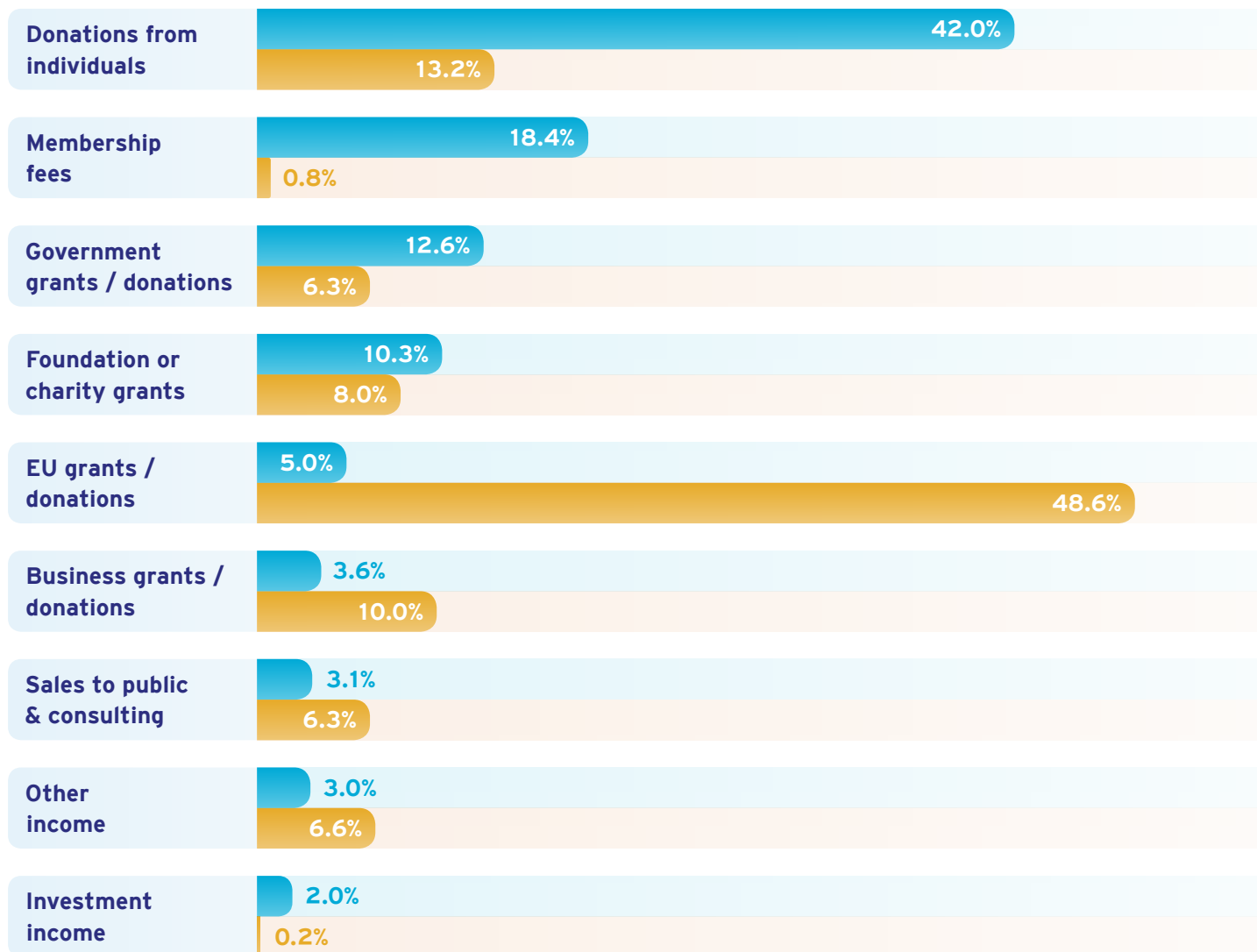
EU grants & donations made up 48% of the income for the NMS13 groups, but just 5% for the EU15. The difference in relative importance of the income sources is clear in Figure 11. It is only really in the *foundation or charity grants* category that the share of income is similar (EU15 = 10.3%, NMS = 8%).

Figure 11
Income sources for environmental CSOs in EU15 and NMS13 compared

EU15

NMS13

For detailed data, see Annex IV



Which thematic issues do European environmental CSOs focus on?

We asked the 95 CSOs taking part in the survey to allocate their expenditure in 2016 to the 13 thematic issue categories used earlier in the report (please see Annex II for details), and 91 CSOs provided such a breakdown. Figure 12 shows how their expenditure broke down across the categories.

The data in Figure 12 suggest a strong focus on *biodiversity & species preservation*, with 54 of the 91 CSOs active in this thematic issue, and nearly one-third of expenditure being directed to it. Both *terrestrial ecosystems* and *agriculture & food* also feature in

Health warning

As above, these figures need to be treated with considerable caution. The 91 CSOs do not comprise a representative sample, and had more organisations responded to the survey the breakdowns would likely be different. Figure 12 represents a first attempt to categorise the expenditure of a group of European environmental CSOs by thematic issue, but more work needs to be done to generate robust figures.

the top 4, and this was also the case for the 92 UK CSOs surveyed for “What the Green Groups Said”.²⁰ Four of the five “Cinderella” issues highlighted in the breakdown of foundation grants also feature at the bottom of the rankings for the CSOs, namely *toxics & pollution*, *trade & finance*, *transport*, and *consumption & waste*. Just 14 of the 91 CSOs were active on *toxics & pollution*, and on *transport*.

Thematic issue	Expenditure (€)	% of total	
Biodiversity & species	168,118,885	32.6	
Multi-issue work	50,249,883	9.7	
Terrestrial ecosystems	46,680,482	9.0	
Agriculture & food	43,993,906	8.5	
Climate & atmosphere	40,322,802	7.8	
Coastal & marine	39,902,392	7.7	
Fresh water	38,003,890	7.4	
Energy	36,100,715	7.0	
Sustainable communities	18,254,536	3.5	
Toxics & pollution	11,393,334	2.2	
Trade & finance	10,591,135	2.1	
Transport	7,566,423	1.5	
Consumption & waste	4,746,250	0.9	
TOTALS	515,924,633	100.0	

Figure 12 – Expenditure of 91 European environmental CSOs by thematic issue

For detailed data, see Annex IV

²⁰ Florence Miller et al, op.cit.

Threats to environmental CSOs of which foundations should be aware

In addition to the survey questions on income, capacity, and thematic focus, we also wanted to gain an understanding of the threats being faced by the sector, so we asked groups taking part in the survey the following question:

“Are there any threats to the work of environmental civil society organisations that you think philanthropic funders ought to be aware of? Please feel free to highlight specific funding gaps if you feel these exist.”

Respondents didn't hold back in terms of setting out their concerns, and we have captured them in Figure 13, and in the quotes in this section. It is important to note that these concerns relate to 2018, when the survey was being completed, rather than to 2016 (the financial year on which the other analysis is based).

The threats and concerns that the CSOs wanted to highlight fall into three main categories: 1) those relating to shrinking civil society space and a deteriorating political context for environmentalism; 2) those relating to under-supported types of work, where more foundation funding would be particularly valuable, and 3) those relating to the way in which funders (both governmental and foundations) operate.

1. Shrinking civil society space

The largest category of concerns raised by the CSOs related to the deteriorating political context for environmental organisations in many countries around the world. The rise of populist and far-right parties is one factor contributing to this, along with challenges to the legitimacy of civil society groups, more visible corporate attacks (including via lawsuits), attempts to discredit overseas donors, reduced opportunities for media coverage, and, very importantly, cuts in public funding. The following quote gives a sense of the dynamics:

Figure 13 – Threats to environmental CSOs of which foundations should be aware



“After the national elections in 2010, the conditions for civil society organisations ... have deteriorated substantially. • Government funding to many CSOs has been substantially reduced, first of all to national NGOs that were capable of seriously commenting [on] government documents. ... There have been many cases of harassment of NGOs by the government. This also frightens off possible private donors. • Civil society representatives were excluded from a number of bodies where they had a seat earlier. The present government either directly denied their representation or substituted it with false representatives. • It has become much more difficult for CSOs to make their voice heard ... This is partly due to the reduced capacity of the CSOs, but mainly to the fact that the overwhelming majority of the press is dominated by the government. • The government’s replies to the CSOs’ questions and comments are generally vague and lacking substantive information. Quite often no reply is given at all.”

2. Under-supported work, where foundation grants would be particularly valuable

The second set of concerns related to types of work that CSOs struggle to get funded, and where they would really appreciate additional support from philanthropic funders. These include: a) core funding (a very familiar refrain in research of this kind); b) support for advocacy and campaigning work (which can take time, and where outcomes are not always easy to evaluate); c) funding for movement-building and also organisational development; d) support for awareness raising work; e) funding to work on systemic issues; f) funding for investigative work; g) for strategic litigation; h) for rapid responses to unexpected situations; and i) for the development of both CSO and business coalitions. These two quotes give a sense of the feedback we received:

“Many threats - very difficult to find core funding • Funding for long-term campaigns (some can take decades) where a measurable success is not yet in sight and where it is technically impossible to set SMART objectives • Funds for organisational development, for recruiting and training members/volunteers • Funds for rapid responses and other campaigns for which you do not have months to write applications and wait for their evaluation and contracting... • Difficult to find funds for lobbying/advocacy since

it does not have by itself public visibility and is hard back-office work that can take years • And hard to find co-funding for projects, so that with every successfully implemented project that has been funded by a grant, if the organisation was dedicated and carefully followed all the rules, in the end the organisation would be more tired and poorer than before the project! • Many organisations were killed by the system of working on project-based grants, others lost their relationship with the community and transformed themselves into a small group of experts in writing and implementing projects whose results are just some reports put on a shelf, and others gave up trying to get grants.”

“NGOs in general and therefore environmental NGOs as well are having to operate in an ever more volatile environment. Previously gained conservation successes are under attack when organisations only receive funding for specific programs and are not able to build their own capacity for real sustainable conservation work. Philanthropic funders can contribute enormously by investing in the organisational capacity of NGOs. This starts to be recognised by funding agencies like, for example, the German government, and hopefully the philanthropic sector will follow.”

3. Problems stemming from the way in which funders operate

The third set of issues related to ways in which funders (both foundations and EU institutions) operate. Respondents highlighted burdensome application processes, problems meeting match-funding requirements, slow decision-making by funders, and the fact that some funders regularly change their priorities. These challenges are captured in the quotes below:

“Certain funders require a great deal of information to make decisions and it can take months/years of project development which can go to waste if it is then rejected. They could help by looking at different ways of operating that would save organisations’ time and resources • More funders being prepared to offer core funding • More funders offering access to fast-track funding opportunities for pieces of work that require a quick turnaround in order to maximise impact.”

“While there is (relatively) significant EU funding, this is difficult to access, especially for smaller groups; it also usually comes with a

heavy administrative burden (up to an estimated 30-40% of project support going to administration); and it is usually inflexible and long-term in nature – i.e. inappropriate for advocacy and campaigns which, by their nature, cannot be planned in great detail for the long term. Most EU funding programmes are appropriate for administering larger-scale infrastructure or service contracts, but not appropriate for advocacy and campaigning that requires greater flexibility. In addition, many though not all of the EU funds require, directly or indirectly, government involvement, which greatly limits accessibility especially in some countries, e.g. Hungary or Bulgaria.”

Issues for foundations to consider

Systemic challenges

It is clear from the four reports in this series that many European foundations continue to avoid grappling with systemic drivers of environmental damage, such as over-consumption, or the preoccupation of policymakers with economic growth. These are difficult issues on which to work, often with uncertain outcomes. We welcome the increasing interest of foundations in the “circular economy” and ways in which the use of resources can be fundamentally changed. And we also welcome the increased focus on climate change mitigation as documented in this report. But our sense is that much more remains to be done to address environmental challenges “upstream”, by tackling root causes, rather than alleviating symptoms. Philanthropic capital has qualities that make it particularly appropriate for challenges of this kind.

Where in the world?

This report has placed a strong emphasis on the geographical distribution of grants from environmental foundations, both within Europe, and internationally. As noted earlier, it is clear that some European foundations are constrained in their ability to fund outside the country in which they are located, and the attractions of funding domestically are

abundantly clear, not least the ability to keep in touch with grantees and see the outcomes of projects first-hand. At the same time, many environmental challenges have no borders, and they require collective responses at an inter-governmental level.

How should European environmental funders respond? How can philanthropic resources (financial, expertise, networks and others) be best deployed to oil the wheels of civil society in the world’s emerging markets and countries that have particularly acute environmental challenges and fewer local resources? Should foundations be making a conscious effort to try and strengthen environmental organisations in the newer Member States of the European Union, for example?

European ambition




The European Union has played an important role in setting global environmental standards, both formally and informally. With more than 500 million inhabitants the EU is an important market for companies around the world. At least 80% of the domestic environmental legislation applied in each EU Member State is framed within the EU institutions. Yet the 87 foundations whose grants are analysed in this report direct less than 5% of their grants towards pan-European work. How can European foundations begin to collaborate more and better coordinate their work (at national or other levels) in the future so as to raise the bar for EU environmental policy, directly benefiting not just Member States but also countries beyond the EU?

Listening to the sector

For the first time in this report we have gathered insights from 95 environmental organisations, working in 31 different European countries. The feedback that they had for environmental funders is clear. They need help in countering the shrinking civil society space in which they are working, they need increased core funding, plus support for particular types of work including advocacy and campaigning, and they would welcome faster and less bureaucratic decision-making processes. Foundations have it within their power to respond to all of these requests, should they chose to do so.

ANNEX I Foundations covered in this report

The 87 foundations whose grants were analysed for Section 1 of this report²¹

 Adessium Foundation (Netherlands)	 Fondation pour une terre humaine (Switzerland)
 Agropolis Fondation (France)	 Fondazione Cariplo (Italy)
 Arcadia Fund (UK)	 Fondazione Cassa dei Risparmi di Forli (Italy)
 Ashden Trust, The (UK)	 Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Bolzano (Italy)
 Biffa Award (UK)	 Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Cuneo (Italy)
 Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (UK branch)	 Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Padova e Rovigo (Italy)
 Children's Investment Fund Foundation (UK)	 Freshfield Foundation (UK)
 City Bridge Trust (UK)	 Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian (Portugal)
 David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation (UK)	 Fundación Biodiversidad (Spain)
 Dr. Mortimer and Theresa Sackler Foundation (UK)	 Fundația pentru Parteneriat / Romanian Environmental Partnership Foundation (Romania)
 Ernest Cook Trust (UK)	 Garfield Weston Foundation (UK)
 Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust (UK)	 Gatsby Charitable Foundation (UK)
 Esmée Fairbairn Foundation (UK)	 Generation Foundation, The (UK)
 European Climate Foundation (Netherlands)	 Grantscape (UK)
 Fondation BNP Paribas (France)	 HDH Wills 1965 Charitable Trust (UK)
 Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer pour le progrès de l'Homme (Switzerland)	 JJ Charitable Trust (UK)
 Fondation de France (France)	 JMG Foundation (Switzerland)
 Fondation Ensemble (France)	

²¹ In a few instances the country shown is that from which the foundation's environment programme is managed, rather than the country where the foundation is legally incorporated.

 John Ellerman Foundation (UK)	 Prince of Wales' Charitable Foundation (UK)
 Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust (UK)	 Realdania (Denmark)
 King Baudouin Foundation (Belgium)	 RH Southern Trust (UK)
 Kirby Laing Foundation (UK)	 Robert Bosch Stiftung (Germany)
 Kone Foundation (Finland)	 Robertson Trust (UK)
 KR Foundation (Denmark)	 Royal Foundation, The (UK)
 "la Caixa" Banking Foundation (Spain)	 Rufford Foundation (UK)
 Lancashire Environmental Fund (UK)	 Shell Foundation (UK)
 Linbury Trust, The (UK)	 Sigrid Rausing Trust (UK)
 Maj & Tor Nessling Foundation (Finland)	 Sophie und Karl Binding Stiftung (Switzerland)
 Mark Leonard Trust (UK)	 Stichting Fonds 1818 (Netherlands)
 MAVA Foundation (Switzerland)	 Stiftung Mercator (Germany)
 Michael Uren Foundation (UK)	 Stiftung Mercator Schweiz (Switzerland)
 Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe & Africa (UK)	 Suez Communities Trust (formerly SITA Trust) (UK)
 Monument Trust (UK)	 Svenska Postkod Lotteriet (Sweden)
 Moondance Foundation (UK)	 Synchronicity Earth (UK)
 Nationale Postcode Loterij (Netherlands)	 Tellus Mater Foundation (UK)
 Network for Social Change, The (UK)	 Tudor Trust (UK)
 Oak Foundation (Switzerland)	 Underwood Trust (UK)
 Ökatar Alapítvány / Hungarian Environmental Partnership Foundation (Hungary)	 Velux Fonden (Denmark)
 Patsy Wood Trust (UK)	 Veolia Environmental Trust (UK)
 People's Trust for Endangered Species (UK)	 Villum Fonden (Denmark)
 Pig Shed Trust (UK)	 Volkswagen Foundation (Germany)
 Polden Puckham Charitable Foundation (UK)	 Waterloo Foundation (UK)
 Prince Bernhard Nature Fund (Netherlands)	 Wellcome Trust, The (UK)
	 Westminster Foundation (UK)
	 Whitley Animal Protection Trust (UK)

ANNEX II Descriptions of thematic issue categories

These “thematic issue” categories were developed in consultation with the Australian, Canadian, UK, and US networks of environmental grantmakers, in order to promote comparability in analyses of environmental funding patterns. Thirteen main thematic categories are featured, each described and further clarified through a list of keywords and concepts. Feedback from readers on these categorisations would be welcome.

Agriculture & food

Includes support for organic and other forms of sustainable farming; training and research to help farmers in developing countries; campaigns relating to the control of the food chain; initiatives opposed to factory farming; horticultural organisations and projects; education on agriculture for children and adults (e.g. city farms); opposition to the use of genetically modified crops and food irradiation; work on food safety and on the genetic diversity of agriculture (including seed banks); and soil conservation.

Biodiversity & species preservation

Covers work that protects particular species, be they plant or animal, vertebrate or invertebrate. Included within this is support for botanic gardens and arboretums; academic research on botany and zoology; the protection of birds and their habitats; funding for marine wildlife such as whales, dolphins and sharks; projects that aim to protect endangered species such as rhinos and elephants; and defence of globally important biodiversity hotspots, including the use of refuges, reserves and other habitat conservation projects; and wildlife trusts.

Climate & atmosphere

Includes support for work targeted mainly towards climate change and some work directed towards the issues of ozone depletion, acid rain, air pollution and local air quality.

Coastal & marine ecosystems

Includes support for work on fisheries; aquaculture; coastal lands and estuaries; marine protected areas; and marine pollution (such as marine dumping and plastic pollution).

Consumption & waste

Includes support for work directed at reducing consumption levels; initiatives that look to redefine economic growth; projects on waste reduction, sustainable design and sustainable production; recycling and composting schemes; and all aspects of waste disposal, including incinerators and landfills.

Energy

Covers work for alternative and renewable energy sources; energy efficiency and conservation; work around fossil fuels; hydroelectric schemes; the oil and gas industries; and nuclear power.

Fresh water

Includes support for all work relating to lakes and rivers; canals and other inland water systems; issues of groundwater contamination and water conservation; and projects relating to wetlands.

Multi-issue work

Covers grants which are hard to allocate to specific categories, generally because the grant takes the form of core funding to an organisation that works on a range of different issues, or because the grant supports environmental media titles or environmental education projects covering a wide range of issues. In addition, some grants provided to generalist re-granting organisations are captured in this category, as it is not possible to tell which issues will be supported when the funds are re-granted.

Sustainable communities

Includes support for urban green spaces and parks; community gardens; built environment projects; and community-based sustainability work.

Terrestrial ecosystems & land use

Includes support for land purchases and stewardship; national or regional parks; landscape restoration and landscape scale conservation efforts; tree planting, forestry, and work directed to stopping de-forestation; and the impacts of mining.

Toxics & pollution

Covers all the main categories of toxics impacting on the environment and human health: hazardous waste; heavy metals; pesticides; herbicides; radioactive waste; persistent organic pollutants; household chemicals; other industrial pollutants; and noise pollution.

Trade & finance




Includes support for work on corporate-led globalisation and international trade policy; efforts to reform public financial institutions (such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and Export Credit Agencies); similar work directed at the lending policies of private banks; initiatives around the reduction of developing country debt; and local economic development projects and economic re-localisation.

Transport

Includes support for work on all aspects of transportation, including public transport systems; transport planning; policy on aviation; freight; road-building; shipping; alternatives to car use plus initiatives like car pools and car clubs; the promotion of cycling and walking; and work on vehicle fuel economy.

See page 11, Figure 1 “Environmental grants broken down by thematic issue category (2016)”

ANNEX III Organisations taking part in the survey of European environmental CSOs

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Amigos de la Tierra / Friends of the Earth Spain (Spain) |  Dansk Ornitologisk Forening / BirdLife Danmark (Denmark) |
|  Asociația Kogayon / Kogayon Association, Vacaresti Natural Park Association (Romania) |  Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V. (Germany) |
|  Associação Natureza Portugal / Association for Nature, Portugal (Portugal) |  Društvo za oblikovanje održivog razvoja (DOOR) / Society for Sustainable Development Design (Croatia) |
|  Association Justice & Environment (Hungary) |  E3G Ltd (UK) |
|  Azerbaijan Ornithological Society (Azerbaijan) |  ECOLISE - European network for community-led initiatives on climate change and sustainability (Belgium) |
|  BirdLife Österreich / BirdLife Austria (Austria) |  Ecologistas en Acción (Spain) |
|  BirdLife Suomi / BirdLife Finland (Finland) |  Ecopolis (The Centre for Sustainable Policies) (Romania) |
|  BirdWatch Ireland (Ireland) |  ECOTECA (Romania) |
|  Bond Beter Leefmilieu Vlaanderen / Association for a Better Life, Flanders (Belgium) |  Eesti Roheline Liikumine (Estonian Green Movement) / Friends of the Earth Estonia (Estonia) |
|  Both ENDS (Netherlands) |  Environmental Management and Law Association (Hungary) |
|  Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland (BUND) / Friends of the Earth Germany (Germany) |  Europe & We Association (Bulgaria) |
|  Carbon Market Watch / Zentrum für Entwicklung & Umwelt (Belgium) |  Focus, društvo za sonaraven razvoj / Focus Association for Sustainable Development (Slovenia) |
|  CEE Bankwatch Network (Czech Republic) |  France Nature Environnement (France) |
|  Centar za zaštitu ptica / Center for Protection and Research of Birds of Montenegro (Montenegro) |  Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland (UK) |
|  Center for Environmental Public Advocacy / Friends of the Earth Slovakia (Slovakia) |  Friends of the Earth Europe (Belgium) |
|  Centrum pro dopravu a energetiku / Centre for Transport and Energy (Czech Republic) |  Fundación Vivo Sano (Spain) |
|  CHEM Trust (UK) |  Fundacja Instytut na rzecz Ekorozwoju / Institute for Sustainable Development Foundation (Poland) |
|  ClientEarth (UK) |  Fundacja "Rozwój TAK - Odkrywki NIE" / Foundation "Development YES - Open-Pit Mines NO" (Poland) |
|  Climate Analytics (Germany) |  Fundația ADEPT Transilvania (Romania) |
|  Compassion in World Farming (UK) |  Germanwatch e.V. (Germany) |
|  Cyclo Cluj "Napoca" / Bicycle Tourism Club (Romania) | |
|  Česká společnost ornitologická / Czech Society for Ornithology (Czech Republic) | |

 GLOBAL 2000 / Friends of the Earth Austria (Austria)	 Orthonologiki / Hellenic Ornithological Society (Greece)
 Green Alliance (UK)	 Polski Klub Ekologiczny w Gliwicach / Polish Ecological Club in Gliwice (Poland)
 Greenpeace Česká republika / Greenpeace Czech Republic (Czech Republic)	 Pravno-informacijski center nevladnih organizacij / Legal-Informational Centre for NGOs (Slovenia)
 Greenpeace Nederland / Greenpeace Netherlands (Netherlands)	 Pro Natura / Friends of the Earth Switzerland (Switzerland)
 Greenpeace Schweiz / Greenpeace Switzerland (Switzerland)	 Powershift Sverige / PUSH Sweden (Sweden)
 Greenpeace UK (UK)	 Ptushki / Birdlife Belarus (Belarus)
 Hnutí DUHA / Friends of the Earth Czech Republic (Czech Republic)	 Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) (UK)
 Institute for European Environmental Policy (Belgium)	 Sociedad Española de Ornitología SEO / Spanish Ornithological Society (Spain)
 Irish Environmental Network (Ireland)	 Sociedade Portuguesa para o Estudo das Aves / Portugese Ornithological Society (Portugal)
 Klima-Allianz Deutschland / Climate Alliance Germany (Germany)	 Stichting het Wereld Natuur Fonds Nederland / WWF The Netherlands (Netherlands)
 Landelijke vereniging tot behoud van de Waddenzee / National Association for the Conservation of the Waddenzee (Netherlands)	 Suomen luonnonsuojeluliitto / Finnish Association for Nature Conservation (Finland)
 Lega Italiana Protezione Uccelli (LIPU) / Birdlife Italy (Italy)	 TERRA Mileniul III (Romania)
 Les Amis de la Terre / Friends of the Earth France (France)	 Transparency International Deutschland e.V. (Germany)
 Levegő Munkacsoport / Clean Air Action Group (Hungary)	 Udruga BIOM / Biom Association (Croatia)
 Ligue pour protection des oiseaux / League for the Protection of Birds (France)	 Umanotera / The Slovenian Foundation for Sustainable Development (Slovenia)
 Lithuanian Ornithological Society (Lithuania)	 Verdens Skove / Forests of the World (Denmark)
 Maan ystävät ry / Friends of the Earth Finland (Finland)	 Vogelbescherming Nederland / Netherlands Bird Protection (Netherlands)
 Македонско еколошко друштво / Macedonian Ecological Society (Macedonia)	 Vogelschutz SVS/BirdLife Schweiz / BirdLife Switzerland (Switzerland)
 Magyar Természetvédők Szövetsége (National Society of Conservationists) / Friends of the Earth Hungary (Hungary)	 WWF Danube-Carpathian programme (Bulgaria)
 Milieudefensie / Friends of the Earth Netherlands (Netherlands)	 WWF España / WWF Spain (Spain)
 Magyar Madártani és Természetvédelmi Egyesület (MME) / BirdLife Hungary (Hungary)	 WWF European Policy Office (Belgium)
 Moviment Għall-Ambjent (Movement for the Environment) / Friends of the Earth Malta (Malta)	 WWF Magyarország / WWF Hungary (Hungary)
 Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V. (NABU) / BirdLife Germany (Germany)	 WWF Belgie / WWF Belgium (Belgium)
 Natagora (Belgium)	 WWF Verdens naturfond / WWF-Norway (Norway)
 ONG Mare Nostrum (Romania)	 WWF-UK (UK)
	 Zaļā brīvība / Green Liberty (Latvia)
	 Zelený Kruh / Green Circle (Czech Republic)
	 ZERO - Associação Sistema Terrestre Sustentável / ZERO - Association for the Sustainability of the Earth System (Portugal)

ANNEX IV Detailed data tables

Data behind Figure 1 – Environmental grants broken down by thematic issue category (2016)

Thematic Issue	Value of grants (€)	% of all grants	No. of grants	Average grant in €	No. of foundations
Climate & atmosphere	86,255,360	14.8	310	278,243	31
Biodiversity & species	85,340,785	14.6	1,070	79,758	54
Energy	73,988,712	12.7	431	171,668	40
Sustainable communities	66,426,980	11.4	579	114,727	40
Agriculture & food	56,015,148	9.6	458	122,304	45
Multi-issue work	52,471,610	9.0	268	195,790	52
Coastal & marine	50,593,300	8.7	218	232,079	35
Terrestrial ecosystems	49,532,532	8.5	296	167,340	45
Fresh water	18,795,098	3.2	107	175,655	33
Consumption & waste	16,360,978	2.8	125	130,888	23
Transport	11,359,980	1.9	95	119,579	24
Trade & finance	10,871,843	1.9	96	113,248	17
Toxics & pollution	5,003,137	0.9	40	125,078	13
TOTALS	583,015,464	100.0	4,093	142,442	n/a

Data behind Figure 6

Geographical distribution of grants at the continental level for 71 foundations

Grants	Value (€)	2014	Value (€)	2016
		% of total		% of total
Europe	318,431,139	66.9	287,459,911	55.6
International	86,254,870	18.1	127,163,912	24.6
Asia	16,988,191	3.6	40,087,043	7.8
Africa	33,637,441	7.1	36,688,589	7.1
Latin America	15,441,339	3.2	15,580,861	3.0
North America	4,789,449	1.0	9,583,326	1.9
Oceania	498,183	0.1	223,733	0.0
TOTALS	476,040,612	100.0	516,787,375	100.0

Data behind Figure 10

Sources of income for 95 European environmental CSOs

	Income (€)	% of total	No. of CSOs receiving this kind of income
Donations from individuals	289,878,118	43.0	69
Membership fees	118,855,931	17.6	57
Government grants/donations	83,792,966	12.4	66
Foundation or charity grants	65,253,349	9.7	68
EU grants/donations	38,845,779	5.8	64
Business grants/donations	24,129,640	3.6	38
Sales to public & consulting	22,155,715	3.3	48
Other income	19,301,163	2.9	34
Investment income	11,751,734	1.7	17
TOTALS	673,964,393	100.0	n/a

Data behind Figure 11 – Income sources for environmental CSOs in EU15 and NMS13 compared

	EU15		NMS13		NON-EU	
	income (€)	% of total	income (€)	% of total	income (€)	% of total
Donations from individuals	249,193,399	42.0	2,451,291	13.2	38,233,427	61.3
Membership fees	109,137,931	18.4	147,763	0.8	9,570,237	15.3
Government grants/donations	74,651,851	12.6	1,173,408	6.3	7,967,707	12.8
Foundation or charity grants	61,004,987	10.3	1,489,953	8.0	2,758,409	4.4
EU grants/donations	29,658,144	5.0	9,052,259	48.6	135,376	0.2
Business grants/donations	21,459,393	3.6	1,851,565	10.0	818,681	1.3
Sales to public & consulting	18,406,052	3.1	1,168,876	6.3	2,580,787	4.1
Other income	17,719,399	3.0	1,228,435	6.6	353,329	0.6
Investment income	11,710,686	2.0	41,048	0.2	0	0.0
TOTALS	592,941,842	100.0	18,604,599	100.0	62,417,953	100.0

Data behind Figure 12 – Expenditure of 91 European environmental CSOs by thematic issue

Thematic issue	Expenditure (€)	% of total	No. of CSOs
Biodiversity & species	168,118,885	32.6	54
Multi-issue work	50,249,883	9.7	46
Terrestrial ecosystems	46,680,482	9.1	29
Agriculture & food	43,993,906	8.5	40
Climate & atmosphere	40,322,802	7.8	49
Coastal & marine	39,902,392	7.7	24
Fresh water	38,003,890	7.4	21
Energy	36,100,715	7.0	47
Sustainable communities	18,254,536	3.5	34
Toxics & pollution	11,393,334	2.2	14
Trade & finance	10,591,135	2.1	18
Transport	7,566,423	1.5	14
Consumption & waste	4,746,250	0.9	24
TOTALS	515,924,633	100.0	n/a

ANNEX V Additional resources and environmental funder networks

Additional resources

This report sits alongside similar research into environmental funding patterns such as:

“Tracking the Field”²² reports, produced by the US Environmental Grantmakers Association (EGA)

“Where the Green Grants Went”²³ reports, produced by the UK Environmental Funders Network (EFN)

“Advancing a Sustainable Future: A Profile of Environmental Philanthropy”²⁴, produced by the Canadian Environmental Grantmakers Network (CEGN).

Environmental funder networks

Associazione di Fondazioni e di Casse di Risparmio Funders Commission on Environment (Italy)
www.acri.it

Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network (Australia)
www.aegn.org.au

Bundesverband Deutscher Stiftungen, Working Group on Environment (Germany)
www.stiftungen.org

Canadian Environmental Grantmakers' Network (Canada)
www.cegn.org

Centre Français des Fonds et Fondations, Working Group on Environment (France)
www.centre-francais-fondations.org

EFC European Environmental Funders Group
www.efc.be/thematic_networks/eefg

Environmental Funders Network (UK)
www.greenfunders.org

Environmental Grantmakers Association (US)
www.ega.org

Latin American and the Caribbean Network of Environmental Funds (RedLAC)
www.redlac.org

SwissFoundations Working Group on Environment (Switzerland)
www.swissfoundations.ch

Vereniging van Fondsen in Nederland, Working Group Sustainable Policy (The Netherlands)
www.verenigingvanfondsen.nl

²² See for instance, Environmental Grantmakers Association, “Tracking the Field, Volume 6: Analyzing Trends in Environmental Grantmaking”, EGA & Foundation Center, New York, 2017.

²³ See for instance, “Where the Green Grants Went, Volume 6: Patterns of UK Funding for Environmental and Conservation Work”, EFN, March 2014.

²⁴ Canadian Environmental Grantmakers Network, “Advancing a Sustainable Future: A Profile of Environmental Philanthropy - 2016 data update”, CEGN, Toronto, May 2018.

About the EFC

As a leading platform for philanthropy in Europe, the EFC works to strengthen the sector and make the case for institutional philanthropy as a formidable means of effecting change.

We believe institutional philanthropy has a unique, crucial and timely role to play in meeting the critical challenges societies face. More people and causes benefit from institutional philanthropy than ever before, from eradicating deadly diseases and making the world's populations healthier to combating climate change and fighting for global human rights and equality.

Working closely with our members, a dynamic network of strategically-minded philanthropic organisations from nearly 40 countries, we:

- **Foster peer-learning** by surfacing the expertise and experience embedded in the sector
- **Enhance collaboration** by connecting people for inspiration and joint action
- **Advocate** for favourable policy and regulatory environments for philanthropy
- **Build a solid evidence base** through knowledge and intelligence
- **Raise the visibility of philanthropy's value** and impact

Read more about our vision in the EFC Strategic Framework 2016-2022.

The European Environmental Funders Group (EEFG) brings together funders active in a broad range of areas touching on environmental issues. Focus areas include environmental sustainability, climate change issues and systemic issues, such as the economy.

The EEFG and this mapping are part of the EFC's ongoing commitment to connecting people for joint action and to building and sharing knowledge.

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