International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change

Progress Report 1



Phile Philanthropy Europe Association

W I N G S

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Executive summary

Philanthropy For Climate is a global call to all foundations – regardless of geographic location, size, thematic focus, or primary mission – to embed climate action across their work, from governance to grantmaking. Through a multi-pillar framework, signatory foundations implement integrated climate action based on their respective capabilities and priorities. These pillars are Pillar 1: Education and Learning, Pillar 2: Commitment of Resources, Pillar 3: Integration, Pillar 4: Endowments and Assets, Pillar 5: Operations, Pillar 6: Influencing and Advocacy, and Pillar 7: Transparency.

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Today, the movement brings together over 895 foundations from more than 20 countries, convened at national and regional levels by philanthropic networks in the Arab Region, Brazil, Canada, France, Italy, Poland, South Africa, Spain, and the United Kingdom (UK). WINGS and Philea lead the International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change (International Commitment).

Transparency is vital to the Philanthropy For Climate movement, enabling accountability, learning, and shared progress. The Transparency pillar requires signatories to report their progress openly, and in doing so, they inspire trust, support learning, and encourage broader participation — all of which strengthen the movement's credibility and advance climate action.

This first progress report of the International Commitment is a cornerstone of that transparency, celebrating notable achievements and identifying key areas for further progress. With 95% of responding signatories reporting progress since signing and 88% suggesting the International Commitment impacted their awareness and action on climate change, its value as a catalyst for action in the field is clear. Achievements include increased climate funding, with 63% of respondents reporting scaling up programmatic or grant spending and 20% allocating funds to climate action for the first time. In addition, 90% of respondents are engaged in climate advocacy, using their influence to amplify the voices of frontline communities to promote a just transition.

Despite these successes, there is room for advancement within and across pillars and a clear need for support with overcoming barriers to implementation. Considering climate in endowments and assets is most challenging, reported as one of the most difficult pillars by two thirds (66%) of respondents. Operations, including reducing emissions from buildings and procurement, is a hurdle for 51% of signatories. Finally, only 23% of signatories saw integration of climate considerations as a primary area for impact, suggesting its potential has not yet been fully recognised. The report highlights a role for signatories at a more advanced stage to share learnings and inspire progress amongst peers, particularly in overcoming these challenges. The recommendations made in this report focus on integration, collaboration, and work to tackle barriers to decarbonisation. Signatories are encouraged to share learnings and strengthen collective action to support this. It is vital that signatories commit to continuous improvement in all areas, including how transparency can better leverage accountability and spur increased climate funding and action globally.

WINGS and Philea, as the International Commitment team, aim to accelerate greater collaboration by providing platforms for this shared learning and continuing to support those establishing new national or regional commitments. That includes recommending enhanced communication and advocacy efforts, along with tools for signatories to promote the Commitment and inspire all foundations whether or not climate is a new area of their work - to join the movement. With less than 2% of global philanthropy directed to climate mitigation and even less to climate adaptation, this report constitutes a call for foundations everywhere to accelerate and harness the collective power of the Philanthropy For Climate movement, build on the progress achieved, and lead the philanthropic sector's response to the climate crisis.





Progress at a glance

Collective achievements

- **95%** of respondents reported progress on overall climate commitments since signing.
- 88% felt the Commitment has impacted their awareness and climate action, while others considered themselves already at an advanced stage.
- **21%** were new to climate funding at the point of signing.
- 77% confirmed they had reviewed existing programmes or designed new programmes to actively support climate action and a just transition.
- **60%** described working to reduce the carbon emissions of their operations.
- **90%** are supporting climate advocacy.

Challenges

- 66% find the Endowments and Assets pillar one of the two hardest pillars to implement.
- **51%** find the Operations pillar one of the two hardest pillars to implement.
- 72% were already climate funders when signing the International Commitment. However, the number of signatories new to climate funding is rising. Work is needed to diversify the signatory

pool and support integration of climate across philanthropy.

• 23% report the Integration pillar to be one of the top two ways to make an impact, which may highlight an underestimation of its potential for impact. Signatories would benefit from sharing their learnings and exploring this further together.

Opportunities

- Build capacity through shared learning programs, expert convenings, and peer forums, with a focus on Integration (Pillar 3) and decarbonisation (Pillars 4 and 5).
- Grow climate philanthropy in collaboration with philanthropy support organisations by supporting formation of new national or regional commitments, encouraging signatories to

deepen pillar engagement, and collaborating to engage non-climate funders through peer-topeer influencing and transparent reporting.

• Strengthen the Philanthropy For Climate ecosystem by sharing learning, unifying progress tracking, and exploring collective influencing power across 800+ signatories.



Collective progress

The diagram below gives an overview of collective progress across the pillars. The circles indicate an estimate of aggregate progress. Within each pillar are examples of activities at every level – there is still room for development, even in areas where signatories are progressing well.



What signatories are saying

ELAS+:

"Implementing the International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change (International Commitment) has been a transformative journey for ELAS+. It has allowed us to deepen our understanding of philanthropy's role in addressing climate change. Despite its challenges, it also offers significant opportunities for growth, innovation, and enhanced impact through collaboration and collective learning, requiring dedication and a willingness to continuously learn and adapt."

IKEA Foundation:

"We are very pleased that there is a movement such as Philanthropy For Climate that gives us the opportunity to publicly endorse the importance of climate funding and, with that, inspire others to follow in our footsteps."

Fundo Casa Socioambiental:

"The International Commitment is a great platform to stand on when trying to explain the importance of engaging in climate change philanthropy. Though we have been doing this for two decades, being part of the Commitment builds a strong foundation on which to rely when trying to convince others this is the focus and topic of our times."

Progress by pillar \rightarrow

- Education and Learning
 Commitment of Resources
 Integration
- Endowments and Assets
 Operations
- Influencing and Advocacy
- Transparency

Sign

Education and Learning \sim

Signatories report advancing well, but should be wary of complacency. The majority (86%) made some progress or self-reported being at an advanced stage. Across the world, especially in countries without a national Philanthropy for Climate Commitment, signatories are building awareness and momentum to increase climate philanthropy and its impact.

Commitment of Resources ~

Signatories are dedicating more resources to climate funding. Almost two thirds (63%) increased the size and/or impact of their own programmatic or grant spending. A further 20% allocated a proportion of their spending to climate for the first time. Climate funding, however, is still low considering the great need for climate action at pace and scale. 3

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PILLAR

Integration ~

Signatories are building momentum on integration, but may be underestimating its potential for impact. Responding signatories report actively exploring how climate links to other societal issues. About half (49%) are actively working alongside partners to explore what resources they need to adapt to climate impact and/or reduce their emissions.

PILLAR P

Endowments and Assets ~

Signatories find decarbonisation of their endowments and assets the most challenging pillar to implement (66% rated it in the top two most challenging pillars). However, whilst 60% have taken no action or are just getting started, 10% report being at an advanced stage and therefore have learnings to share. Not all foundations have endowments. ыцак СЛ

Operations ~

Of the surveyed signatories, 60% are updating their policies to reduce emissions. This is often easier for smaller or very large foundations. Some signatories are making significant progress and have achieved certification and verification against external standards. Second to Pillar 4, this area is seen as the most challenging to implement.

PILLAR 0

Influencing and Advocacy ~

The majority (90%) of signatories are supporting climate advocacy in their area of work and/or region, influencing peers and policymakers, and engaging in national and international climate forums. Approximately half of signatories (49%) are actively promoting the Philanthropy For Climate movement within their networks, encouraging other funders to engage in climate philanthropy. Collective action has the potential to increase impact.

PILLAR

Transparency ~

Signatories are working towards greater transparency. Almost half (47%) have published information on their climate progress since signing the Commitment. Signatories commonly share their progress within their annual reports, and some publish blogs on their experience and learning.

Introduction

The growing climate emergency presents a serious risk to the pursuit of philanthropic aims everywhere. Addressing the immense scale of the climate crisis demands a whole-sector, ecosystemic, and collaborative approach that transcends individual efforts and geographic borders. This requires strategies which are aligned and coordinated locally, nationally, regionally, and globally.

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The amount of philanthropic funding must urgently grow: Less than 2% of global philanthropic funding is directed to climate mitigation and very little data is available on climate adaptation funding. While this figure doesn't capture the entirety of the philanthropic response to the climate crisis, it indicates a clear gap in the scale of resourcing. Key to unlocking more and better climate philanthropy is investing in strengthening the infrastructure and ecosystems that exist to support this work. A well-resourced, well-connected philanthropic ecosystem grows philanthropy at a local level by fostering collaboration; limiting duplication of efforts; connecting domestic, regional, and international donors with local intermediaries; and driving crucial data creation, among other activities. In most parts of

the world, this ecosystem remains fragmented and under-resourced¹.

Whatever their mission and field of expertise, all organisations with philanthropic resources can play a role in addressing this emergency. Philanthropy cannot just fill gaps: As a sector, we need to engage in the transformation of mindsets and practices of philanthropy in abating the climate crisis. This requires being an enabler, engaging in partnerships, aligning all our assets and work with shared values, and raising our collective voice. For this to happen, we need to invest in storytelling to showcase different practices, share data to communicate what is working, create frameworks to structure engagement, and strengthen philanthropy support organisations (PSOs) to mobilise the sector to act.

I The Philanthropy Support Ecosystem (PSE) is the community of interacting organisations and activities that assist and enable philanthropy to realise its potential. They collaborate to create the conditions for a favourable environment for philanthropy, overcome the challenges philanthropy faces, and take advantage of the opportunities within the field. The PSE includes a diverse range of actors such as networks, associations, foundations, research institutions, giving movements, platforms, advocates, and other Philanthropy Support Organisations (PSOs). Read more about building ecosystems here.

About Philanthropy For Climate

Philanthropy For Climate is a global call to all foundations, regardless of geographic location, size, or thematic focus, to integrate climate action across their work, from governance to grantmaking. What started as a public commitment from a handful of UK funders in 2019 is now a global movement of more than 800 foundations in over 20 countries, united in their commitment to integrated climate action. WINGS and Philea lead the global movement and the International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change, while philanthropic networks in the Arab Region, Brazil, Canada, France, Italy, Poland, South Africa, Spain, and the UK lead commitments in their respective geographic contexts.

Philanthropy For Climate takes a unique approach to climate philanthropy by encouraging foundations to think about two key factors: an interconnected lens, exploring how the climate emergency impacts and is impacted by their existing areas of work, and a multi-pillar approach, exploring the various levers for change available to them for more systemic action.



Instead of focusing on big, individual philanthropic contributions to climate, Philanthropy For Climate stresses scaling up and deepening philanthropic engagement for systemic transformation. Collective learning and capacity building through peer exchanges, delegations to events, access to knowledge experts, curated and shared resources, case studies and implementation guides are core elements of the movement's offerings for foundations.

Global coordination and collaboration on climate is central to the movement and harnesses the capacity of philanthropy support organisations — key infrastructure organisations dedicated to supporting and strengthening diverse forms of philanthropy — as powerful catalysts for mobilising philanthropic action. Through locally led but globally coordinated commitments, connections are made horizontally and vertically across the field for more and better climate philanthropy. The movement is strengthening the collective voice of philanthropy in global climate forums and dialogues, crucial stepping stones towards philanthropic contribution to climate policy.

Transparency and progress tracking: Contextualising this report

Accelerating collective philanthropic action on climate is essential to addressing the climate emergency. Understanding what progress is being made and what challenges still need to be overcome is key to strengthening the pace and scale of philanthropy's response. Philanthropy For Climate's Transparency pillar (Pillar 7) incorporates an accountability and ambition-raising mechanism, requiring signatories to reflect on and report the actions they have taken under each pillar. It recognises the urgent need for more data sharing and storytelling that showcases how change can happen, as a way to shift mindsets, inspire greater action, and raise ambition.

This pillar represents the signatories' commitment to fostering the ecosystem's growth. Progress tracking is a cornerstone of the global movement, with Transparency serving as a unifying pillar across national, regional, and international commitments.

The objective of this first progress report for the International Commitment is to articulate the progress made by International Commitment signatories as a whole since signing and share examples of good practice by individual signatories. It also sheds light on challenges and identifies gaps and opportunities for continued collective progress. Through this self-reporting, signatories are contributing to a sector-wide effort to increase climate awareness and action, which strengthens the Philanthropy For Climate movement on various levels, namely:

- Learning: Progress tracking creates learning opportunities for foundations – individually and collectively – to reflect on their progress and enhance their ambition.
- **Programming:** Understanding the signatories' climate journeys enables the International Commitment team to identify and better meet their needs.
- **Growth:** The urgency and scale of the climate crisis requires more foundations to get involved. This data and the examples of foundations' experiences strengthen the case for more ambitious action from the sector, particularly for newcomers to climate action.



• **Credibility:** By demonstrating progress and impact, signatories enhance the collective credibility of the movement.

Transparency is a shared pillar across all commitments that are part of the movement. As part of the movement-wide transparency efforts, the International Commitment team is working with the National Commitment hosts to align key indicators across all progress reports that can be aggregated and consolidated into a Global Movement Report. This is being planned for 2026.

A big thank you from the International Commitment team and the report's authors to all the signatories for their commitment to the Philanthropy For Climate movement.

About International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change 🦂

After seeing the initial momentum of the <u>UK Funder</u> <u>Commitment on Climate Change</u> by the <u>Association</u> <u>of Charitable Foundations (ACF)</u>, nationally-led commitments under Philanthropy For Climate were created in Spain, France, Canada, and Italy. To expand the Commitment and increase its diversity, WINGS and Philea brought together a Climate Task Force (40 foundation networks and philanthropy support organisations from 21 countries around the world, representing about 22,500 funders) to co-create the <u>framework</u> of the International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change.

The International Commitment outlines seven levers foundations can use to make an impact on climate change, going beyond only Commitment of Resources (Pillar 2) to include Education and Learning (Pillar 1), Integration (Pillar 3), Endowments and Assets (Pillar 4), Operations (Pillar 5), Influencing and Advocacy (Pillar 6), and Transparency (Pillar 7). While signatories are encouraged to work on all pillars, they can choose which ones to prioritise and increase engagement across others as they progress. The <u>Implementation Guide</u>, available in seven languages, serves as a tool for signatories to help structure their work and increase ambition over time.

The Commitment recognises and values the fact that each foundation is on a different journey and can share their experiences with others regardless of where they are on their journey. It also leverages the different experiences of philanthropy organisations by creating an inclusive community of peers where everyone has something to offer. Through the three levels of engagement — 'Just Getting Started', 'Building Momentum', and 'Demonstrating Leadership' — non-climate foundations are given an easy entry point, while seasoned climate foundations are recognised as allies, able to support others by sharing their experiences and examples of good practice and continuing to strengthen their engagement and action.

As hosts, WINGS and Philea support implementation by providing shared learning opportunities on different thematic issues, as well as overall signatory progress in their climate response. The International Commitment is open to all foundations from across the world, where there is not already a national commitment to join, as well as to foundations whose work is not defined by geographical borders.

Methodology

This report is the first progress report for the International Commitment and comes four years after its formation.

At the time of sharing the survey on which the findings are based — June 2024 — there were 47 signatories to the International Commitment that were eligible to respond (i.e. having been a signatory for one year or more). All were invited to contribute to this progress report, as well as nine Brazilian organisations who were the first in Brazil to join the International Commitment (although these organisations are now part of the Brazilian Commitment). Of the total of 56 signatories invited to participate, 38 completed the progress survey (68%).

As well as survey responses, data provided by signatories when signing the Commitment (via a 'signatory intake form') was incorporated. Of the 38 respondents to the tracking survey, 32 could be matched to application forms completed on signing the Commitment. The research team used the application surveys to contextualise information on the tracking survey respondent profiles. The team cleaned and analysed quantitative data in Excel, including coding variables. They coded and analysed qualitative data in Excel, using 'matrix mapping' to identify patterns and relationships in the data. Findings were discussed with the International Commitment team before being written up for reporting. As survey questions were not mandatory, the base size (number of respondents who answered each question) varied, and these base sizes are shown in the reporting.

Together, the findings present an overview of respondents' collective journeys to date. Many are trailblazers in their own countries, and others are large international foundations with significant influence. All are leaders and all are important to climate philanthropy's collective learning and impact.

Note that this report relies on self-reporting and self-assessments of progress by International Commitment signatories. While the response rate among signatories was high, the results represent the experiences of a small sample of funders.





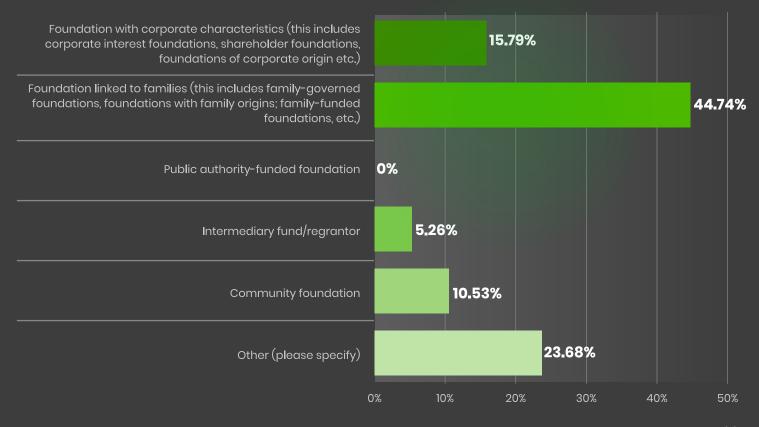
Profiles of respondents

Fifty-six signatories to the International Commitment, including nine Brazilian signatories, were eligible and invited to complete the reporting, having been part of the Commitment for at least a year (<u>appendix 3</u>). A roughly representative proportion (68%) of these responded to the progress tracking survey.

Survey respondents are largely composed of foundations in locations without their own national commitments (as of yet) and international foundations whose work crosses borders. The annual expenditure of respondents ranges in size, where 9% of respondents spend less than \$100,000 annually and 38% spend over \$10 million. Two thirds (66%) were already funding climate as a main area of activity when they signed the Commitment, however, the number of signatories new to climate funding is steadily rising. Focus areas of grantmaking range across the full spectrum of the international Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Further information on the profiles of respondents is summarised below.

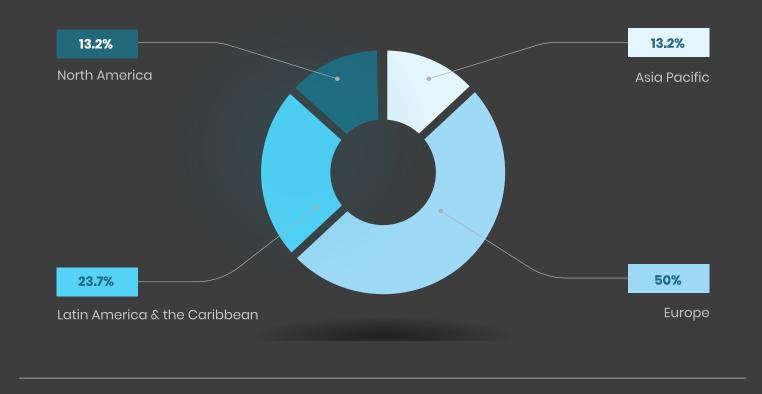
Which category most accurately describes your foundation? —
(38 respondents)



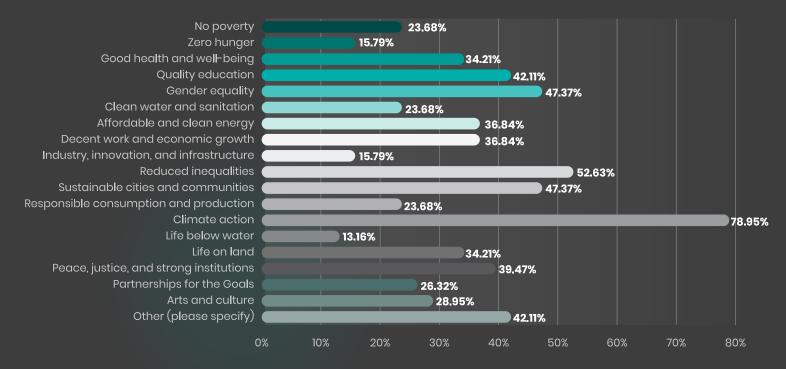


Geographic location of respondents by region

(38 respondents)



What are the main areas of activity of your foundation? Below, we have primarily used the SDG framework to classify the different areas of philanthropic focus. Please select all that apply: (38 respondents)

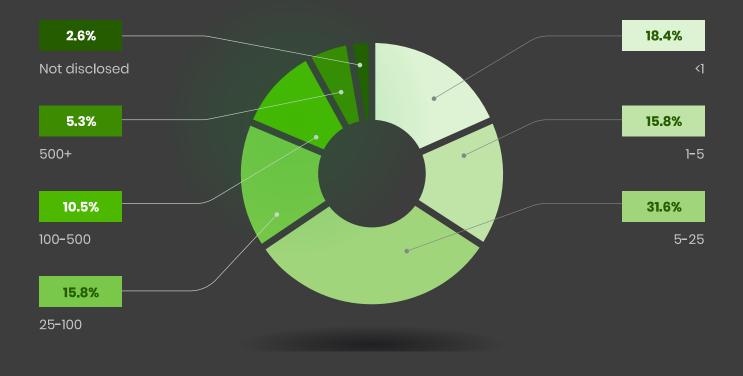


Responses (%)

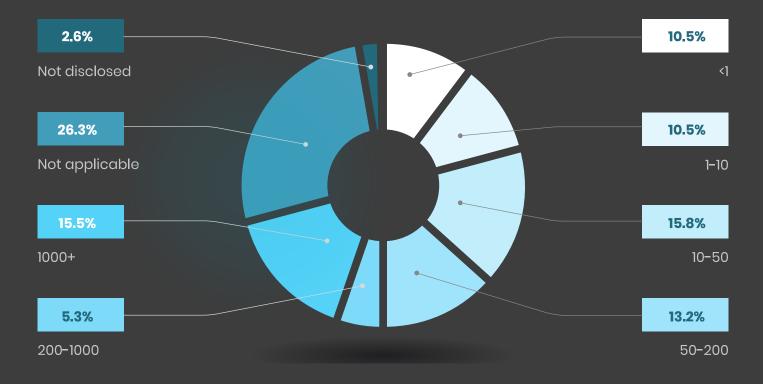
Yearly expenditure of respondents in Million USD as per last financial reporting period (including grantmaking, operations, and programmes)

(37 respondents)

15



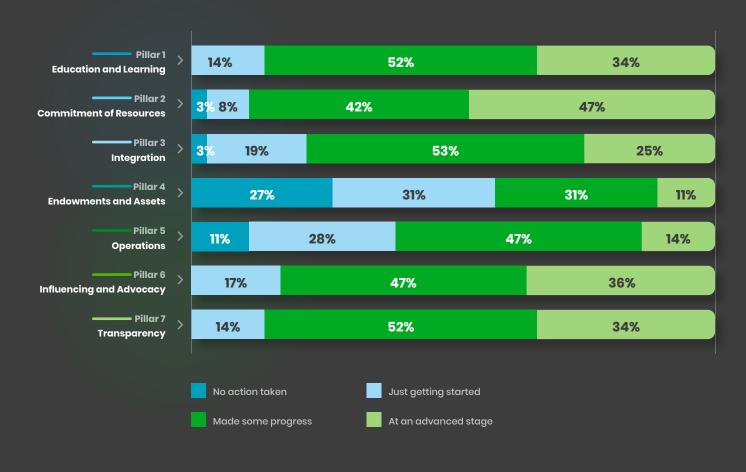
What is the size of your organisation's endowment across all asset classes in Million USD? (37 respondents)



Overall progress

The Commitment has increased awareness and action, with 88% of respondents reporting that signing the Commitment had an impact on their foundation's awareness and action on climate change. Those just getting started on their journey showed the greatest improvement, undertaking activities like seeking specialist support, evolving their strategies, forming advisory/steering groups, and constantly challenging themselves. Within each pillar, between 42% and 89% of respondents reported making some progress or being at an advanced stage, shown below. Findings are explored by pillar in the following discussion.

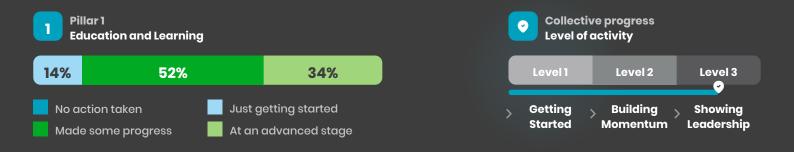
How much have you progressed with the implementation of the pillars?





Pillar 1: Education and Learning

Education and Learning commitment: We will ensure that our boards, investment committees, staff, volunteers, and stakeholders are informed about the systemic causes, impacts, and solutions of climate change and the implications for our work.



Progress on Pillar 1: Education and Learning

Respondents see themselves as advancing well under this pillar, with everyone taking action in some form. The majority (86%) have made some progress or are at an advanced stage. Learning is seen as a collective effort, with most signatories engaging their staff, board, and grantees/partners. Only 17% feel confident enough to engage others and raise awareness beyond their part of the ecosystem. As many foundations are working on climate, some feel they do not need to actively progress their education and learning because their board, staff, and grantees are already deeply knowledgeable about the climate field. However, findings from the other pillars show that even the most advanced of signatories should be cautious of over-confidence, as learning is an ongoing process, and there is much room for improvement on pillars with less progress reported (e.g., Integration, Operations, and Endowments and Assets). Many are conscious of this and report seeking support in areas they are struggling with. Several see their next step in education as board-level learning, and many are also discussing how to improve climate standards in their investment portfolio.

Many respondents are proactively creating learning opportunities for those around them, particularly in countries where there is not yet a Philanthropy For Climate commitment (e.g., Turkey and Indonesia). In these instances, foundations are changemakers, introducing climate concepts to others. Foundations are also learning from grantees/partners, as well as providing opportunities for their grantees/partners to learn.

Snapshots of success on Education and Learning

Rockefeller Brothers Fund collaborated with grantees to upskill foundation trustees and staff:

> "The climate program staff have organized grantee-led 'lunch and learn' sessions for staff to educate them on the causes, impacts, and solutions to climate change."

ELAS+ values the learning opportunity of COP participation for both staff and grantees:

> "The road to COP30 offers a unique platform for capacity building, strategic networking, knowledge exchange, advocacy, resource mobilisation, exposure to innovations, and organisational strengthening. In recent years, ELAS+ has been actively participating in the COPs, including COP28 and COP29, while also seeking ways to strengthen our grantees' capacities for meaningful engagement. By actively participating in these events, ELAS+ and our grantees can enhance effectiveness and ensure projects and initiatives have a lasting and meaningful impact on climate action."

Belantara Foundation has taken an active role in disseminating their learnings across Indonesia:

> "We developed the Belantara Learning Series, in collaboration with universities and other related institutions, to enhance participants' knowledge and skills on actions to reduce the impacts of climate change, as well as improve knowledge about biodiversity conservation and natural resources management in Indonesia. The program also supports forest protection and restoration efforts, research, community empowerment, and climate action. Participants include government, universities/academics, civil society, communities, private sectors, media, and the public from 38 provinces in Indonesia (out of 39). [We] held at least three webinars per year with more than 1,000 participants across Indonesia on each webinar. Through the webinars, we are reducing geographic barriers and they are free for all participants, which enables us to reach people in many provinces and from a variety of backgrounds."

Imago Dei Fund selected climate change as the priority theme for its Frontier Fund, a special grantmaking fund – separate from its general portfolio – that allows its team to engage deeply with timely and complex issues that intersect with the organisation's overall mission, values, and goals:

> "The purpose is to expand our own learning and networks, and most importantly to weave this learning into our future grantmaking and organisational strategy in a meaningful way. Originally intended as a one-year commitment, we opted to extend for a second year our commitment to continued learning on the causes, impacts, and solutions to climate change and ongoing exploration of possible implications for the work of the Imago Dei Fund ... More recently, we have formed a Climate Advisory Group as an offshoot of the Imago Dei Fund's Advisory Board. The purpose of the Climate Advisory Group is to provide an opportunity for shared learning as well as a place to grapple with key questions and solicit independent input and advice as Imago Dei seeks to be held accountable in moving forward with action across the seven pillars. It includes members from our Advisory Board as well as others who collectively offer a range of perspectives and expertise."

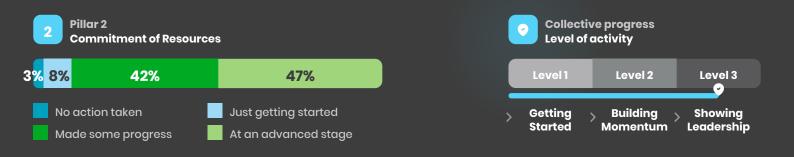
IKEA Foundation involves its partners in its learning and collaboration:

> "At the IKEA Foundation, we support the efforts of our partners to speak up not only about what works, but also about what doesn't work ... No one organisation can tackle the complex root causes of climate change and poverty on its own. It's essential to find new forms of collaboration, share learnings, scale proven solutions and ensure they work for many people."



Pillar 2: Commitment of Resources

Commitment of Resources commitment: Recognising the urgency of the situation, we will commit resources to accelerate work that addresses the root causes of climate change or adaptation to its impacts. If our governing document or other factors make it difficult to directly fund such work, we will find other ways to contribute or consider how such barriers might be overcome.



Progress on Pillar 2: Commitment of Resources

Respondents are scaling up their climate funding, with two thirds (63%) increasing programmatic or grant spending and 20% dedicating funds to climate action for the first time. Signing the Commitment is seen as a catalyst for prioritising climate action.

This growth often stems from dedicated climate funding streams and diversified and/or cross-cutting approaches to climate. The importance of integrating funding themes is noted by many, for example, in linking climate adaptation and mitigation to the pursuit of climate justice. Such integration is an area of ongoing learning (see <u>Pillar 3</u>). Respondents' shared commitment to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion (JEDI), and related climate justice, is evident in multiple survey responses. Some signatories are managing to create dedicated funds for climate action, as well as applying a climate lens across all initiatives and programmes. Signatories are exploring diversification of how they fund work on climate, focusing on more than one area or grantmaking approach, for example by contributing to pooled funds, granting to philanthropy support organisations, adding climate-focused grants to geographic portfolios, and/or giving emergency grants in response to natural disasters.



Respondents seek to increase the amount of climate funding available, for instance, by using funder alliances to unlock resources from funders who are less engaged with climate issues. Alongside increasing climate funding, they hope to deepen the impact of funding by using their networks to encourage other funders to engage in climate philanthropy for the first time, providing peer-topeer inspiration, learning, and practical support (e.g., through pooled funds). This pillar is viewed by respondents as the second most impactful area of action, with almost half (46%) suggesting it as one of the top two ways to make an impact. Most respondents did not find the implementation of this pillar challenging. There are thus significant learnings to share with the minority (five respondents) who considered this one of the two most challenging pillars. These foundations were considerably large — four out of five were granting more than \$10 million annually, and all were committing resources to climate action.

Snapshots of success on Commitment of Resources

Sabanci Foundation has evolved from a modest level of engagement with climate to playing a substantial role in addressing the issue. One of the most significant steps it took as a grantmaking foundation was adding 'fighting against climate change' as a new theme in its grant programme:

> "To date, we have supported three projects under this theme and for the 2024–2025 period, we have already begun supporting two more. Additionally, the foundation established a Disaster and Emergency Fund, allocating this budget to mitigating the impacts of climate change, including addressing forest fires."

Community Foundation Ireland helps to increase climate philanthropy by welcoming other funders to give via its pooled funds:

> "Donors interested in environmental grantmaking are informed about the thematic funds and can choose to add to the pooled thematic funds."



IKEA Foundation is expanding and deepening its actions and role:

> "In 2021, we dedicated an additional €1 billion on climate programmes over the next five years, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with the Paris Agreement. We have a >€100 million annual spend in climate grants. We are a core member of the Funders Table for climate funders, introduced climate as a topic at the Philea Forum, and publicly and actively advocate for climate funding at the big international climate events such as Climate Week COP and UNGA."

working on various climate-related topics - e.g., narrative change, water scarcity, connecting local authorities with local communities. Three inspiring individuals from the Global South were selected as winners of the fourth edition of the €1 million Gulbenkian Prize

its work:

for Humanity."

Porticus is active in forming, leading, and engaging with various funding networks at national and global levels to unlock new funding from previously non-climate funders:

> "Our involvement ... [has] broadened our network and worked to increase funding for our partners."





Pillar 3: Integration

Integration commitment: Within the design and implementation of our programmes, we will seek opportunities to contribute to a fair and lasting transition to a net-zero world, and to support adaptation to climate change impacts, especially in the most affected communities.



Progress on Pillar 3: Integration

Respondents are exploring integration. Nearly three quarters (71%) are reviewing existing programmes and designing new programmes that seek to address the climate crisis and/or support a just transition. Some are reviewing climate-adjacent programmes to enhance their sustainability initiatives. Much of this pillar overlaps with Commitment of Resources (Pillar 2), as foundations shift resources to integrate climate considerations across programmatic work and organisational functions, while also starting to support grantees to do the same. A key focus is reviewing non-climate programmes to identify how climate change links with those areas, bridging the

divide between 'climate' and 'non-climate' work and embedding climate into all analyses and activities.

However, only 23% of respondents saw integration as one of their primary ways to create impact. This suggests that the growing commitment to bringing a climate lens to non-climate philanthropy has not yet translated to perceptions of this pillar's potential for impact. It was rated as the third most challenging area (most challenging for 29% of respondents), implying that more work is needed to break down barriers to action.



Respondents are working alongside grantees/ partners to identify what grantees need to adapt to climate impacts and/or reduce their emissions. Nearly half of the respondents (49%) are active in this area. Interesting examples of this include introducing programmes that expand racial diversity in human resources for the energy and fair industrial transitions, the training of black and Indigenous researchers developing programmes that enable grassroots collective action, and incorporating assessments of the risks climate change poses to programmes and beneficiaries in all sectors.

Almost a third (29%) of signatories report that they find integration to be a challenge. Large funders in particular struggled with the range of programmes that climate needed to be mainstreamed into and the number of grantees with constraints and challenges in applying a climate lens to their work. **Signatories should further explore how to integrate climate and non-climate issues.** With limited funds for the SDGs, there are arguments for concepts such as <u>multisolving</u>, making the case for greater integration. As more non-climate funders join the movement, there are opportunities to explore this area together.

Respondents should examine the role of funding criteria and processes in opportunities for integrating climate action. None of the respondents discussed the role of flexible, unrestricted, and long-term funding. Whilst some signatories are undoubtedly working in this way, there is strong evidence that the lack of flexible and long-term <u>funding is a significant barrier</u> to integrated climate action. Practices of trust-based philanthropy are key enablers of integration opportunities. Similarly, there was limited mention by respondents of building understanding of, and support for, climate integration with non-climate grantees.





Snapshots of success on Integration

European Cultural Foundation is pursuing a 'Just Transition' by making it a specific theme of its Cultural and Solidarity Fund for cultural initiatives:

"This led to... cooperation with four partner foundations, Fondazione Cariplo, Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo, Fondazione CRC, and Fondazione CRT... supporting cultural initiatives that tackle climate challenges in the Alps and the Mediterranean."

Alana Foundation is making connections between its primary cause area and climate. As a Foundation prioritising children's rights, it has recognised that children's rights are greatly affected by climate change:

> "In connection with this theme, the Foundation has supported the production of several projects to highlight children's rights and participation on the world stage of climate change..."

> For example, Alana Foundation has funded projects like "The Important Stuff" film and has partnered with UNICEF and The Children's Environmental Rights Initiative (CERI), media campaigns, and nature-based education initiatives.

Flotilla Foundation has taken a cross-cutting approach:

"In 2021, we went through a strategic review process, after which we decided to transform our focus area from 'Promoting Marine Conservation' to 'Climate Resilience'. The Flotilla board concluded that no marine conservation efforts are effective unless we address the bigger-picture challenge of climate change. We now evaluate every grant request through a climate lens by assessing whether: 1) The project will help protect the marine environment from the effects of climate change or will help it adapt; or 2) Whether the ocean can play a role in the mitigation of climate change as a nature-based solution."



Stiftung Mercator seeks to mainstream climate in all policy fields by supporting decision makers who are not active on environmental issues to understand the links to their fields, especially in the areas of health and finance. It also supports non-environmental civil society actors, for example in the areas of sports, culture, and social welfare, to explore how climate action is relevant to them and to increase the visibility of their activities to support climate action.

"Climate change affects all policy areas such as ... health, foreign and security policy, migration, and the stability of financial markets."

ELAS+ is working to enable grassroots collective action in response to climate emergencies:

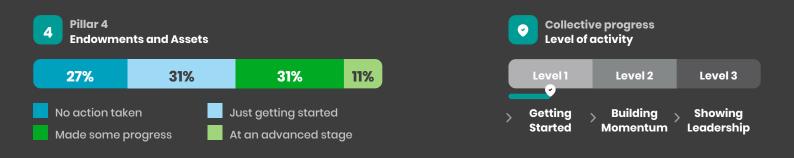
"In partnership with the Bertha Foundation, ELAS+ carried out research into the main threats facing women-led groups in defence of water [including] Indigenous women, Quilombolas, shellfish gatherers, settlers, among others. The Fund was able to see how these groups face challenges from the government and big business, and understand their strategies and how we can support them."

In 2022, this research led to nearly 20% of awarded grants (50 grants) being directed to Indigenous people, with more than a fifth of that number going to Quilombola groups. In 2023, the board approved the creation of a Climate Justice, Territories, and Cities programme, dedicated to supporting women's defence of water.



Pillar 4: Endowments and Assets

Endowments and Assets commitment: We will consider climate change in relation to the source and management of our operational and any endowed funds. We will seek to align our investment strategy and its implementation with a rapid and just transition to a net-zero economy.



Progress on Pillar 4: Endowments and Assets

Respondents are on a learning journey regarding endowments and assets, with the fact that there were fewer responses under this pillar suggesting respondents' lower confidence in this area. Two thirds (66%) ranked it as one of their top two challenges, and nearly 60% have taken little or no action. However, 11% report being at an advanced stage, suggesting transferable learning is available. While 43% have reviewed and adjusted their investment strategy, implementation remains difficult: Only 20% measure impact, 14% work with asset owners to drive corporate action, and 37% have divested from fossil fuels. Just 14% have set a target to reach net zero by 2040 or sooner. Among those taking action, adhering to Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) and Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) policies is the primary focus.

Respondents funded by corporate donations feel they have less agency to decarbonise finances. Where the assets are in the parent company, not capital markets, foundations have limited influence compared to an endowed foundation. Financial assets may consist of a reserve which isn't subject to climate screenings and is controlled by the corporate entity, however the corporate entity may have a wider sustainability strategy. Of the respondents, 17% chose this pillar as one of their two areas of greatest impact. This may reflect the size of foundations' endowments for those that hold them, or a limited sense of agency for those that do not.



It is important to understand what works for the 11% at an advanced stage, as it could influence asset managers' methodologies and drive change within foundations' donating companies where there is no endowment. Other key areas include learning from foundations that are self-managing endowments or collaborating with service providers, measuring portfolio climate impact, balancing practice with values (e.g., flying and offsetting), and tackling barriers to transparency around decarbonising endowments and assets.

Snapshots of success on Endowments and Assets

Imago Dei Fund committed to doubling its impact investments in addition to ensuring all assets are invested in sustainable funds and companies, in keeping with the transition to a net-zero economy:

"New impact investments have been made in funds that are focused on smallholder farmers in the Global South, and especially women entrepreneurs and workers in the agribusiness sector. These investments are patient and willing to accept below-market returns in exchange for measurable positive impacts on women and the environment/ climate (through more sustainable forest/land/soil management and agricultural practices). At the same time, we are actively exploring climate mitigation-related impact investments that can bring market-level returns, in addition to more directly and immediately contributing to the net-zero transition.

While this is a top priority for Imago Dei's leadership, there is a steep learning curve to understand the rapidly evolving landscape of potential climate-focused investments and determine where it makes most sense for Imago Dei to invest. To advance the Imago Dei team's learning, we have joined Confluence Philanthropy and their Climate Solutions community, in addition to building our network of like-minded foundations and philanthropic climate investors."



PeaceNexus Foundation is working on implementing policy commitments:

> "Progress has been made through a new policy commitment to up to 15% of the endowment on impact investment. In 2024, new missionaligned impact investments included a 200,000 CHF investment in burn manufacturing (clean cooking stoves) and a 500,000 CHF investment in an emerging market renewal energy fund managed by Triodos, as they aligned with our geographic priorities and are making progress on measuring social impact."

Fundo Casa Socioambiental does not hold an endowment:

> "Though we could, we do not have and will never have an endowment, because the very essence of it is removing resources that directly benefit society now, when the needs are absolutely urgent, to a future investment we might never be able to use if the urgency of the present is not met now. We don't believe in endowments. But we have a sizable emergency fund that puts the organisation at a comfortable place in the occurrence of any unexpected situation, and all else is directly used for grantmaking."

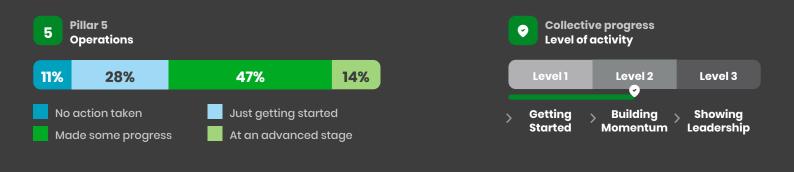
Rockefeller Brothers Fund has aligned endowments and mission:

> "The journey to align our endowment with our mission has been an iterative one, as we have sought to embed our priorities throughout the investment portfolio. These efforts, in partnership with our Investment Committee and Agility, include: divesting from investments in fossil fuels, adopting an ESG lens, impact investing, increasing diversity among investment managers, exercising active ownership, and leveraging RBF's influence to build the field of mission-aligned investing."



Pillar 5: Operations

Operations commitment: We will take ambitious action to minimise the climate impact of our own operations, which may include, for example, travel, buildings, and procurement.



Progress on Pillar 5: Operations

Respondents are, for the most part, measuring their carbon emissions and working to reduce emissions. This is easier for smaller foundations – 60% have developed or updated their policies on emissions reductions, and the same percentage have assessed how their operations contribute to climate change. Carbon footprint measurement is quite common, with some assessing Scope 1 (direct), 2 (indirect), and 3 (supply chain) emissions.

Some respondents are making significant progress and are achieving certification and verification against external standards. These organisations are most likely to be supporting their grantees to decarbonise their own operations. Over a third of respondents (39%) have taken no action or are just getting started, and so, despite significant progress by some foundations, collectively foundations are at an early stage of decarbonising operations. This is the second most challenging pillar for respondents, with 51% selecting it as one of their two most challenging areas. Foundations with small footprints generally see this as a less important pillar than their grantmaking activity. Interestingly, the 9% of respondents that identified their operations to be one of the two areas of greatest impact is composed of only three smaller foundations, all granting less than \$10 million annually on national levels.



The challenges respondents faced include figuring out how to translate broad institutional commitments into fully integrated practices, how to support grantees to evaluate carbon footprints and climate vulnerabilities, and how to influence behaviour change among staff, vendors, and grantees. Respondents highlighted the difficulty of assessing operational risks from climate impacts and the desire to learn from more advanced peers. They noted struggles with systemic integration, scepticism about credibility of carbon offset services, and balancing budget constraints with sustainable investments, such as energy-efficient infrastructure or green procurement. As one respondent stated, "Our approach is integrated, but it is not yet fully systemic."

There was notably little information from signatories on decarbonising financial mechanisms beyond endowments, such as pensions and banking, or on successfully influencing service providers and suppliers.

Snapshots of success on Operations

Fundo Casa Socioambiental has been carbon neutral since set-up. This is achieved by relying on local actors to make its grants, so staff do not need to travel to visit their 4500 projects individually. They travel when grantees are already gathering or for selected capacity strengthening meetings.

> "So in almost 20 years, our footprint has been minimal."

Robert Bosch Stiftung is making progress towards its goal to become net zero by 2050:

> "Since 2019, we have assessed our Corporate Carbon Footprint (CCF) according to the GHG Protocol. In 2019, our greenhouse gas emissions (Scopes 1 to 3) amounted to 998 tons of CO2. The majority was caused by business travel and energy-related emissions. [Emissions were] 690 tons of CO2 in 2022 ... this corresponds to a decrease of around 30%, which is due to reduction measures in Scopes 2 and 3."



Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation's 2023 carbon footprint assessment also included Scope 3 emissions from five categories (purchase of products and services, energy-related activities, waste, business travel, and employee travel):

> "In 2023, we achieved a reduction of 83% in Scope 1 and 2 emissions compared to our 2021 baseline year."

Stiftung Mercator has calculated and reported its carbon footprint over 15 years against the standards of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, and emissions that cannot be avoided are offset with Gold Standard certificates:

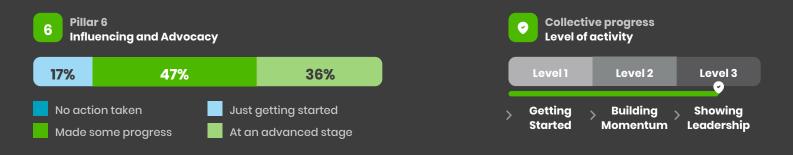
> "The first step in any credible engagement with the climate crisis is to identify one's own climate-relevant emissions, to take planned action to reduce them and to offset any emissions that cannot be avoided."





Pillar 6: Influencing and Advocacy

Influencing and Advocacy commitment: We will seek opportunities to work with others, to amplify the voices of frontline communities, and to encourage and support more ambitious action on climate change by our key stakeholders, partners, and audiences; these may include businesses, local or national governments, multilateral organisations, donors and funders, individuals, or civil society movements.



Progress on Pillar 6: Influencing and Advocacy

Respondents are very active in Influencing and Advocacy. This is the second least challenging pillar for respondents, with only 11% identifying it as one of their two most challenging pillars. This is also the top choice for pillars of greatest impact, with over two thirds (66%) choosing it as one of their two most impactful areas. The vast majority of respondents, nearly nine out of ten (89%), are supporting climate advocacy in their area of work and/or region. Eight out of ten (80%) are seeking opportunities to meet and engage with frontline communities, and others are advocating for climate action. Here, signatories could harness learning from the Integration pillar to inform advocacy work, such as by engaging people affected by climate change in the foundations' advocacy activities.

Respondents are actively promoting Philanthropy For Climate. Approximately half of the respondents are actively promoting the International Commitment to their philanthropic networks. And those who are trailblazers in their own countries are particularly important champions, actively increasing awareness that may support the formation of new national or regional commitments, for example, the Brazilian Commitment.

Respondents commonly sequenced their climate work, with influencing and advocacy activities often commencing after progress under other pillars. 

Respondents deploy a range of tools to support influencing and advocacy efforts, including funding nationwide policy advocacy, legislative campaigns, and action within global networks, such as participation in movements like the Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action (GAGGA) or the United Nations-backed campaign Race To Zero. They support frontline communities, fund thought leadership and media initiatives, host events, position grantees to engage with policymakers, and invest in climate-focused cultural programs, including awards, exhibitions, and cross-country initiatives.

Support with global events is welcomed. Respondents emphasised the value of collective action and would like the International Commitment team to enable more collective engagement with global climate events, with specific mentions of COP. With 72% of respondents already engaged in climate action at the time of signing, these more advanced signatories are well positioned to tackle challenges collaboratively and advance systemic efforts.

Snapshots of success on Influencing and Advocacy

Blühendes Österreich / BILLA Foundation financed the <u>signature campaign</u> of a nationwide initiative to support the approval of the EU Restoration Law in Austria and started an initiative called 'Business for Nature/Nature Restoration Law':

"Nearly 500 companies signed our <u>petition</u>. It was a huge success."

Fundação Francisco Manuel dos Santos takes a comprehensive approach to influencing the general public, reflecting its mission to engage the public on critical issues, to foster more informed debates on these issues, and to contribute to the development of society:

"We have sought to promote content on climate change and a cleaner future through various formats, aiming to reach a diverse audience, deepen understanding, and encourage proactive solutions. Our initiatives range from more traditional and academic routes, including an extensive research partnership with the Brookings Institution, to more innovative formats that engage the general public, including a documentary on alternative energy solutions broadcast on Portuguese national television channels, podcast episodes featuring national celebrities and young researchers, and live and televised events with national and international guest speakers." Sabanci Foundation is trailblazing and influencing philanthropy in Turkey:

> "As the first foundation in the country to sign the International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change, we are committed to revealing our potential in the country as a pioneer. In accordance with this purpose, we actively share our climate journey at every opportunity and engage in knowledge exchange with our grantees, international partners, and other stakeholders."

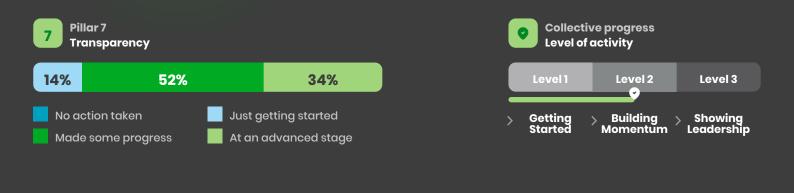
Australia's Minderoo Foundation is "advocating for a global move towards Real Zero - the complete elimination of all greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the extraction, use, and burning of fossil fuels. Further, Minderoo is committed to ending fossil fuel funding of the Australian non-profit sector by 2030. As part of this, we are actively developing strategies to support our partners in transitioning away from fossil fuel funding. Our focus includes strengthening sector-wide engagement, providing quidance and resources for ethical funding alternatives, and collaborating with key stakeholders to drive meaningful change. While this work is ongoing, we are encouraged by the momentum building within the sector and look forward to contributing to broader efforts that align with our commitment."

Alana Foundation works in alliance with UNICEF to support advocacy work in international forums and conferences that advocate for the needs and voices of children. This work included a powerful video produced for COP28, "The Important Stuff", which "brings children's voices to the forefront of the global climate conversation. By capturing and sharing testimonies from children and adolescents around the world. this collaboration emphasises the urgent need for concrete climate action that considers the voices of those most impacted. Through these powerful films, Alana and UNICEF aim to ensure that the perspectives and demands of young people are heard by leaders at COP28, advocating for a future where children's rights and environmental sustainability are prioritised."

Community Foundation Ireland demonstrates leadership on environmental philanthropy in Ireland through their research, including their report "Analysis of Climate and Biodiversity Grantmaking," which "spotlights the growing role of Irish philanthropy in empowering communities, driving research, and strengthening the voices of those who hold policymakers to account."

Pillar 7: Transparency

Transparency commitment: We will collect and publish information annually on the actions we have taken against the six pillars listed above to share our progress and identify areas for improvement. We will continue to develop our practice, to collaborate, and to learn from each other.



Progress on Pillar 7: Transparency

Respondents are working towards greater transparency. Almost half (47%) have published information on their climate progress since signing the commitment. And the response rate to the progress report survey — itself a key contribution to collective transparency — was 70%.

Respondents most commonly use their annual reports as their primary vehicle for transparency. Several respondents use blogs to share general learning, activity, and logic behind strategic decisions. It is likely that respondents' influencing and advocacy work overlaps with their efforts to be transparent on their commitment and actions. This is considered the least challenging pillar for respondents and also the least impactful. Only 6% of respondents chose this pillar as one of their two most challenging pillars. More curiously, none of the respondents listed transparency as one of their top two potential areas for impact. This warrants further exploration, as the greatest barrier to action may be low awareness of how transparency can be leveraged to influence others to increase climate action ambition. Signatories could collectively explore the potential of transparency to leverage greater climate funding.

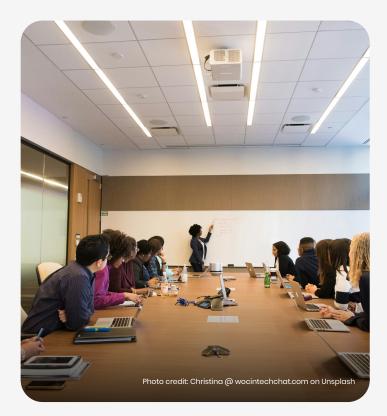
Snapshots of success on Transparency

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation demonstrates transparency on programme learning through its annual report, for example from its Citizen Engagement on Climate work:

> "What we learnt: Climate change mitigation grants still represent less than 2% of total European foundation giving, and only about 5% of this goes to public engagement. There is an ongoing need for sharing learning on what works and where the gaps are. Climate Outreach highlighted that, as the cost-of-living and energy crises deepened in 2022, the public still showed an openness to 'doing their bit' for the climate, but what this means in practice looks different depending on people's capacity to act. The importance of engaging with groups 'beyond the bubble' of climate converts is well recognised. This often demands working in very different ways, with additional resources, skills, and time. Shifting cultural narratives, including on climate, is still an emerging field. Practitioners tell us this requires more flexible funding, a more diverse pool of storytellers and strategists, and wider access to training, resources and learning exchange."

European Cultural Foundation highlights its commitment to increasing transparency and accountability in its annual report:

> "In view of the shifting attitudes towards philanthropy, we want to redefine European philanthropy, not as a mere replication of existing models but as an improved paradigm of what philanthropy can be – a new type of shared philanthropy. Our commitments to climate action also respond to a broader call for philanthropy to enhance transparency and accountability."



Engagement and learning opportunities

There is clear potential for further collective engagement and learning to advance progress across pillars and in the movement as a whole. Nearly half (49%) of respondents reported participating in online Philanthropy For Climate events and webinars, and 29% engaged with Philanthropy For Climate at COPs. However, many more suggested ways that peer support could address barriers and inspire action. In particular, the following areas could be explored:

Further support from the International Commitment team and peers. Respondents suggested that peer-to-peer learning events, such as learning calls, issue-specific discussions, and community practice sessions should take place. To facilitate meaningful discussion, respondents suggested pairing foundations that are like-minded, based on criteria like cultural background, financial capacity, or focus areas. There is enthusiasm for contributing to shared learning opportunities and supporting new signatories to enhance collective growth and collaboration. **Exploration of common challenges, and pushing thinking forward together.** This could take place by addressing how to offset remaining carbon emissions after reduction work has been exhausted, grappling with environmental racism and climate justice, and considering how philanthropy can respond to the intersection of climate and non-climate issues.

Supporting board-level learning and discussion on how to improve environmental standards in investment portfolios. This is seen by many as a key next step. This might include exploring governance structures, investment exclusion policies, stories of tackling systemic challenges, and engagement with grantees/partners through, for example, field trips.

Continuing to offer learning opportunities from philanthropy support organisations. Respondents valued these opportunities from organisations such as the Environmental Funders Network and Active Philanthropy, and international climate governance forums, including the Conference of the Parties (COP) on Climate Change.

Conclusion

Celebrating progress

The first progress report on the International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change demonstrates how it supports foundations to progress their climate action and drive impact through climate philanthropy. The passion and commitment of respondents is evident in the findings. While initially driven by foundations already active in climate philanthropy, the group is becoming more diverse. Each foundation plays to its strengths, resulting in diverse approaches, which creates a community rich with inspiration and transferable learning.

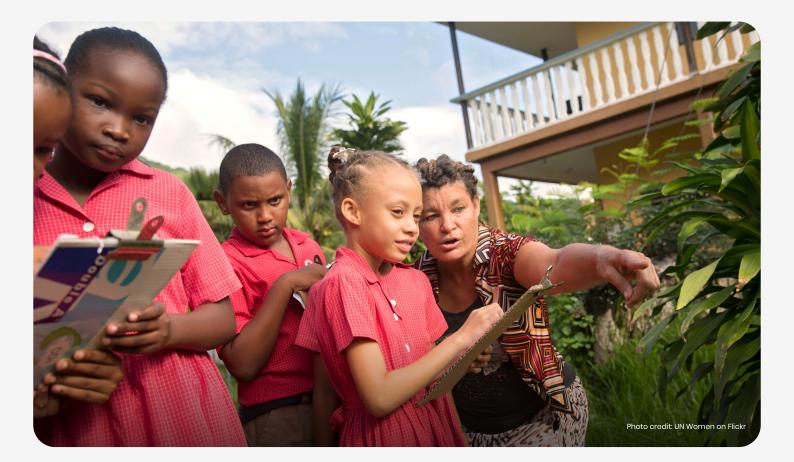
The findings show that the Commitment can be a tool to support climate action for all foundations, regardless of their size, location, thematic priority, approach, or stage in their climate journey. Despite their differences, signatories sought to apply the pillars to their respective contexts, and are united by shared values and the pursuit of continuous improvement.



Fundación Avina: "We signed this commitment because we are convinced that philanthropy has a historic opportunity to move the needle on climate action. We believe that this collaborative effort, spurred by WINGS, can show how philanthropy can galvanise action at the local level to create global impact."

Fundación Socioambiental Semilla: "We are committed to supporting environmental solutions from communities in Bolivia, to help them protect biomes of global importance for climate regulation, such as the Amazon, Pantanal, and the Chaco. This commitment is very important to us because we have little time left for climate action, and we hope other foundations join us."

Stiftung Polytechnische Gesellschaft: "Our commitment to this international initiative allows us to connect with other foundations worldwide in the name of climate protection and to take action against climate change."



Pressing ahead

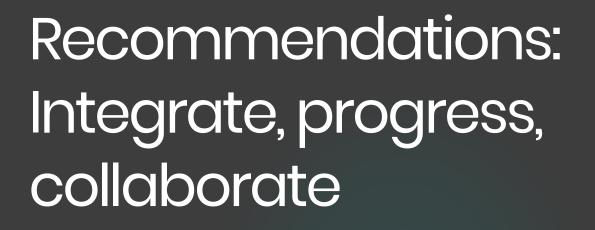
The Commitment represents a bold, united, and action-oriented vision integrated with the ethos of philanthropy's transformation. Maintaining and growing spaces for open and honest discussions to move action forward through collective problemsolving is critical.

The pillars of the Commitment call for significant shifts in mindsets and behaviours. While incremental changes have value, that is not sufficient to address the pace, scale, and root causes of the challenges we are facing. Respondents recognise the need to learn from each other and tackle shared barriers, with advanced signatories inspiring progress, and all exchanging ideas that can assist those who are stalled on their Commitment journey. The goal is to build a coordinated and aligned global hub where collective learning works to overcome shared barriers and inspire progress across the philanthropic sector. Collective advocacy is a powerful but under-utilised tool for influencing global climate action. The positioning of the philanthropic sector as a bridge between stakeholders in national and global discussions on mitigation, adaptation, and a just transition is key.

The International Commitment team are valued by those they support, and the progress report gives clear direction on where further help would be welcome. Growing existing commitments, launching new, locally-led commitments, and uniting them into a cohesive global movement through strategic support and collaboration are necessary pathways to scale and speed up philanthropic action on climate.

The examples within this report showcase the impact of individual signatories and underscore the potential of collective action to drive broad and significant climate action in the future.





In response to the findings from the International Commitment progress report, the following practical actions are suggested to advance the Philanthropy For Climate movement.





All signatories have the opportunity to:

- Interrogate the pillars further and explore 'what next' in short- and long-term time frames. Consider prioritising one or two pillars to action further in the coming two years and explore how the work can evolve in five- and ten-year time frames.
- 2. Explore with their partners/grantees how they can integrate climate (particularly climate justice) into their work.
- 3. Actively encourage climate and non-climate funders to engage with the Philanthropy For Climate movement, through both peer-to-peer influencing and demonstrations of transparency.
- 4. Consider the rapidly changing global context and further challenge themselves and each other on what more they can do, individually and collectively.

In addition, more advanced signatories have the opportunity to:

- 1. Use forums and peer groups, provided by the International Commitment and others, to overcome the obstacles to further progress under specific pillars.
- Benefit from deeper peer-to-peer discussion on ensuring continuous learning (Pillar 1), integration (Pillar 3), decarbonisation of endowments (Pillar 4), and operations (Pillar 5).

Signatories and other foundations aiming to get started on their climate journey have the opportunity to:

- 1. <u>Sign the International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change</u> if a national or regional commitment does not exist in their geography.
- 2. Use learning and insights on <u>where to start one's climate journey</u>, along with, as this report demonstrates, a wealth of learning available from peers.
- Begin their journey by engaging with education and learning opportunities (Pillar 1) and establishing a learning portfolio of climate grantmaking (Pillar 2), a common starting point for newcomer signatories.
- 4. <u>Contact</u> the International Commitment team to get started.



Philanthropy support organisations (PSOs) have the opportunity to:

- 1. Support and help expand Philanthropy For Climate, including encouraging new signatories, engaging with signatories' efforts, and helping them overcome obstacles to progress.
- 2. Embed learnings from the movement into philanthropy support work, including knowledge exchange, and learning and networking opportunities which provide an excellent platform on which to build and, as this report demonstrates, are highly valued by foundations.
- 3. Collaborate with the International Commitment team and support its development and that of new national or regional commitments.

All Philanthropy For Climate Commitment coordinators (national, regional, and international) have the opportunity to grow ecosystem-building work to ensure that the Philanthropy For Climate movement is generating greater value collectively. Recommended areas of focus include:

- 1. Share learnings across national and regional commitment signatory groups.
- 2. Strengthen the global movement by actively contributing to regular Philanthropy For Climate coordinator convenings.
- **3.** Unify progress-tracking processes to amplify the movement's collective progress.
- 4. Collaborate to leverage new funds from organisations that are currently non-climate funders.
- 5. Explore how to leverage the collective influencing power of over 800 signatories for greater impact.



The International Commitment team (i.e. WINGS and Philea) have the opportunity to:

- Use explicit communications to show why the Commitment matters. Demonstrate why transparency is a lever for change, and state how and why each pillar is critical to transformation. The team should state clear ambitions on what the power of the collective can be in building momentum and a stronger shared vision with cross-border, global value.
- 2. Build a programme of shared learning and capacity support for each pillar, with particular focus on Integration (Pillar 3), and Endowments and Assets (Pillar 4).
- 3. Convene expertise around the topic of endowments and assets, through working groups or seminars. Collaborate with national commitment teams and public sector organisations and advance this issue on the agenda in global and national forums.
- 4. Use the network to access new spaces that reach non-climate funders and boost communications support for pioneer funders in their local and regional contexts.
- 5. Support the climate philanthropy sector to speak with 'one voice' by offering more content and 'lines' to align on, showing how they can use the Commitment in their communications and events, and investing in community forums that encourage communication among signatories.
- 6. Support new national commitments to grow and diversify climate philanthropy and show philanthropy support organisations and pioneer signatories how they can help.
- 7. Identify ways to support greater transparency and sharing of learning from signatories in the Global Majority, who were underrepresented in this progress report.



Appendix 1:

Sharing learning between the International and National Commitments 46

The available national commitment progress reports – <u>Canada, UK, Spain, France</u>, and <u>Italy</u> – demonstrate several parallel experiences across borders and a few possible areas of transferable learning. Whilst there are undoubtedly others, some standout shared experiences are listed below.

- **Education and Learning:** All commitments appear to be making good overall progress on education and learning. In parallel to this report, the Canadian Commitment progress report identified this pillar as the top priority for the responding signatories.
- **Commitment of Resources:** All commitments appear to be making good overall progress on committing resources. The French Commitment, with 176 signatories, appears to have expertise on reaching non-climate funders, which could be shared with other countries, reporting that "71% [of responding signatories] are not in the environmental field, and this is the objective that the CffC is aiming for in order to spread to non-specialist foundations."
- 3 Integration: The Canadian Commitment respondents appear to share the International Commitment respondents' challenges around integration. Spain and France may have learnings to share here, but they also experience similar change. For example, the French Commitment progress report notes that "The majority of responding foundations integrate climate issues in less than half of their projects. This figure should be qualified by the fact that some foundations only work on environmental issues and therefore did not answer this question."
- Endowments and Assets: Responding signatories of the national commitment progress reports appear to share challenges around decarbonising endowments and assets, although in parallel to the International Commitment, there is learning available to share from some foundations. Specifically, signatories of the Canadian and the UK Funder Commitment on Climate Change also reported challenges in this area, and UK findings note that time as a signatory appears to have limited impact on self-assessed progress.

Operations: In parallel with the International Commitment, most national commitment progress reports note limited action on decarbonising operations. For many foundations across the movement, this is seen as a lower priority area. In the Canadian Commitment, challenges noted in the progress report include "lack of capacity to make organisation-wide changes, as well as not having established frameworks and targets to reduce overall carbon footprint." In the UK Commitment progress report, this pillar also has the most signatories reporting no action taken, and the fewest self-assessing as advanced in this area. There may be transferable learning from the Spanish Commitment, where respondents' commitment appears high, reporting that "63% of foundations say they are committed to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to net zero as soon as possible, and by 2050 at the latest."

- Influencing and Advocacy: This is an area of mixed progress across the movement, yielding transferable learning from some funders and others who are seeking to build confidence. However, this is a high priority for all.
- **Transparency:** All commitments share the potential for signatories to be more transparent for the purposes of influencing others, ensuring accountability and credibility, and maximising opportunities for continuous improvement. However, as with the International Commitment, transparency was ranked as the lowest priority by Italian and Canadian responding signatories, and over half of Spanish respondents had not published anything about their commitment to environmental sustainability.

Across the Philanthropy For Climate movement, and in parallel to the International Commitment, the national commitment progress reports indicate that the national-level commitments are highly valued in their respective countries. For example, the Italian Commitment reports that "65% of respondents believe that signing the Declaration has had a significant impact on their foundation's awareness and action regarding climate change," and in Canada, this is 96%.

Support requests often overlap with one another: for example, the desire for more shared resources and tools, more peer learning opportunities, and support in areas of collective challenge. The group of commitment hosts convenes bimonthly to exchange and learn from each other, with the goal of strengthening individual commitments and the movement as a whole. This suggests greater potential for ecosystem-building across Philanthropy For Climate's national and international commitments.





Appendix 2:

Survey questions

International Philanthropy Progress Tracking Commitment on Climate Change:

Survey 2024

Section 1: Background

- 1. Who is filling out this report? Please provide your full name.*
- 2. What is your job title?*
- 3. What is your email?*
- 4. What is the name of your foundation?*
- 5. Which category most accurately describes your foundation?*
 - Foundation with corporate characteristics (this includes corporate interest foundations, shareholder foundation,

foundations of corporate origin, corporate origin foundation etc.)

- Foundation linked to families (this includes family governed foundations; foundations with family origins; family funded foundations etc.)
- Public authority-funded foundation
- Intermediary fund/regrantor
- Community foundation
- Other category of philanthropic organisation: Please specify
- 6. If applicable, what is the approximate size of your endowment in USD as per your last financial reporting period?*



- 7. What is your foundation's yearly expenditure in USD as per your last financial reporting period (including grantmaking, operations, and programs)?*
- 8. What are the main areas of activity of your foundation? Below, we have primarily used the SDG framework to classify the different areas of philanthropic focus. Please select all that apply:*
 - No poverty
 - Zero hunger
 - · Good health and well-being
 - Quality education
 - Gender equality
 - Clean water and sanitation
 - Affordable and clean energy
 - Decent work and economic growth
 - Industry, innovation and infrastructure
 - Reduced inequalities
 - Sustainable cities and communities
 - Responsible consumption and production
 - Climate action
 - Life below water
 - Life on land
 - Peace, justice, and strong institutions
 - Arts and culture
 - Other, please specify:
- Please rate your foundation's level of climate engagement before becoming a signatory to the International Commitment.*

Rate: 1-5

- 1. We were not yet engaged on climate.
- 2. We were getting started by exploring the topic and incorporating some light touch climate actions in our work.
- 3. We had included climate actions in a number of our programmes and had taken some measures to reduce our own climate footprint (relating to investments and operations).
- 4. We had systematically integrated climate into most of our programmes and had a clear and time-bound target for minimising our own climate footprint (relating to investments and operations).
- 5. Climate was already at the core of everything we were doing as a foundation.

Section 2: Taking Action under the Pillars

10.Do you have a climate action plan that outlines your organisation's intended implementation plan?

Yes / No

If yes, we would be grateful if you would share it with us!

11. Pillar 1: Education & Learning

We will ensure that our boards, investment committees, staff, volunteers and stakeholders are informed about the systemic causes, impacts and solutions of climate change, and the implications for our work.

- A. How much have you progressed with the implementation of Pillar 1: Education & Learning?*
 - 1. No action taken
 - 2. Just getting started
 - 3. Made some progress
 - 4. At an advanced stage

*If no action taken: drop down box: Please explain what prevented you from taking action on this pillar?

- B. Who, if anyone, have you included in your actions around Pillar 1: Education & Learning?*
 - Foundation staff
 - Foundation board
 - Grantees and/or partners
 - Other. Please expand in the next section.
 - None. We did not take any actions on this pillar.
- **C.** Please share in more detail the actions you have taken and the impact they have had. Where possible, please provide quantitative data that shows your progress.

12. Pillar 2: Commitment of Resources

Recognizing the urgency of the situation, we will commit resources to accelerate work that addresses the root causes of climate change or adaptation to its impacts. If our governing document or other factors make it difficult to directly fund such work, we will find other ways to contribute, or consider how such barriers might be overcome.

- A. How much have you progressed with the implementation of Pillar 2: Commitment of Resources?*
 - 1. No action taken
 - 2. Just getting started
 - 3. Made some progress
 - 4. At an advanced stage
- B. Which, if any, of the below actions from the Implementation Guide have you taken under Pillar 2: Commitment of Resources? (select all that apply)*
 - Climate is a new area of work for us and we allocated a proportion of our programmatic or grant spend towards climate action
 - We were already active on climate but we increased the size and/or impact of our programmatic or grant spending
 - We have a staff member formally responsible for coordinating our climate work
 - We are an active member of a philanthropy network working on climate
 - Other. Please specify in the next question.
 - None. We did not take any actions under this pillar.



C. Please share with us in more detail the actions you have taken under Pillar 2: Commitment of Resources, and the impact they have had. Where possible, please provide quantitative data that shows your progress.

13. Pillar 3: Integration

Within the design and implementation of our programs, we will seek opportunities to contribute to a fair and lasting transition to a net zero world, and to support adaptation to climate change impacts, especially in the most affected communities.

- A. How much have you progressed with the implementation of Pillar 3: Integration?*
 - 1. No action taken
 - 2. Just getting started
 - 3. Made some progress
 - 4. At an advanced stage
- B. Which, if any, of the below actions from the implementation guide have you taken under Pillar 3: Integration? (Select all that apply)*
 - We assessed the risk climate change poses to our mission, programmes and beneficiaries
 - We worked alongside with our grantees or partners to identify what resources they need to help them to adapt to climate impacts and/or reduce emissions
 - We reviewed our existing programmes and/or designed new programmes that actively considered opportunities to address the climate crisis and/or support a just transition
 - We designed our overall strategy to place climate change alongside our other philanthropic goals.
 - Other. Please specify under the next question.
 - None. We did not take any action under this pillar.
- C. Please share in more detail the actions you have taken under Pillar 3: Integration, and the impact they have had. Where possible, please provide quantitative data that shows your progress.

14. Pillar 4: Endowment and Assets

We will consider climate change in relation to the source and management of our operational and any endowed funds. We will seek to align our investment strategy and its implementation with a rapid and just transition to a net zero economy.

- A. How much have you progressed with the implementation of Pillar 4: Endowment and Assets?*
 - 1. No action taken
 - 2. Just getting started
 - 3. Made some progress
 - 4. At an advanced stage

- B. Which, if any, of the below action from the implementation guide have you taken under Pillar 4: Endowment and Assets (select all the apply).
 - We measured our portfolio's climate impact
 - We reviewed and adjusted our investment strategy and guidelines to take into account climate change risk, and opportunities for a just transition
 - We worked with other asset owners to compel companies to act for the climate and a just transition
 - Other. Please specify in the next question.
 - None. We did not take any action under this pillar.
- C. If relevant, do your investment guidelines include any of the following elements?* (select all the apply)
 - Negative climate screening of investments
 - Positive climate screening of investments
 - Divestment from fossil fuels
 - Climate impact investing
 - A net zero target by 2040 (at the latest)
 - Other. Please specify under the next question.
 - None of the above
- D. Please share with us more details on the actions you have taken under Pillar 4: Endowment and Assets, and the impact they have had. Where possible, please provide quantitative data that shows your progress.

15. Pillar 5: Operations

We will take ambitious action to minimise the climate impact of our own operations, which may include for example travel, buildings and procurement.

- A. How much have you progressed with the implementation of Pillar 5: Operations?*
 - 1. No action taken
 - 2. Just getting started
 - 3. Made some progress
 - 4. At an advanced stage
- B. Which, if any, of the below action from the implementation guide have you taken under Pillar 5: Operations?* (select all that apply)
 - We assessed how our operations contribute to climate change.
 - We developed or updated relevant policies to implement emissions reductions – e.g. sustainable travel policy, procurement policy, catering policy.
 - We have set a date by which our operational footprint will reach net zero, and interim targets for reductions.
 - Other. Please specify in the next question.
 - None. We did not take action on this pillar.
- C. Please share with us more details on the actions you have taken under Pillar 5: Operations, and the impact they have had. Where possible, please provide quantitative data that shows your progress.

16. Pillar 6: Influencing and Advocacy

We will seek opportunities to work with others, to amplify the voices of frontline communities, and to encourage and support more ambitious action on climate change by our key stakeholders, partners and audiences; these may include businesses, local or national governments, multilateral organisations, donors and funders, individuals or civil society movements.

- A. How much have you progressed with the implementation of Pillar 6: Influencing and Advocacy?*
 - 1. No action taken
 - 2. Just getting started
 - 3. Made some progress
 - 4. At an advanced stage
- B. Which, if any, of the below action from the implementation guide have you taken under Pillar 6: Influencing and Advocacy?* (select all that apply)
 - We have sought opportunities to meet and engage with frontline communities and other organisations advocating for climate action
 - We have actively promoted Philanthropy For Climate to our philanthropic network
 - We have supported climate advocacy efforts in our area of work and/or region
 - Other. Please specify in the next question.
 - None. We did not take action on this pillar.
- C. Please share with us more details on the actions you have taken under Pillar 6: Influencing and Advocacy, and the impact they have had. Where possible, please provide quantitative data that shows your progress.

17. Pillar 7: Transparency*

We will collect and publish information annually on the actions we have taken against the six pillars listed above to share our progress and identify areas for improvement. We will continue to develop our practice, to collaborate, and to learn from each other.

Have you published any information regarding your climate progress?

Yes / No

If yes, we would be grateful if you would share it with us!

Section 3 - Feedback for programming

 Please rate your foundation's current level of climate engagement overall, based on your perception.*

Rate: 1-5

- 1: We are not yet engaged on climate.
- 2: We are getting started by raising awareness and incorporating some light touch climate actions in our work.
- 3: We have included climate actions in a number of our programmes and are taking some measures to reduce our own climate footprint (relating to investments and operations).
- 4: We have systematically integrated climate into most of our programmes and have a clear and time-bound target for minimising our own climate footprint (relating to investments and operations).
- 5: Climate is at the core of everything we do as a foundation
- 19. Please rate the degree to which signing the International Commitment has impacted your foundation's awareness and action on climate change.*
 - 1. Not at all
 - 2. A little
 - 3. Modestly
 - 4. Quite a lot
 - 5. Tremendously
- **20.**Which pillars have you found the most challenging to implement? Please choose the top 2.
 - Education & Learning
 - Commitment of Resources
 - Integration
 - Endowment & Assets
 - Operations
 - Influence & Advocacy
 - Transparency Please explain why you found these two pillars the most challenging to implement:
- **21.** What are the pillars where you feel that your foundation can have the greatest impact? Please choose the top 2.
 - Education & Learning
 - Commitment of Resources
 - Integration
 - Endowment & Assets
 - Operations
 - Influence & Advocacy
 - Transparency

Please explain why you believe your foundation can have the greatest impact with respect to these two pillars:

- 22. How have you engaged with the Philanthropy For Climate community to date?
 - Participated in online Philanthropy For Climate events and webinars organised by either Philea or WINGS
 - Joined the in person session at WINGS Forum 2023
 - Joined the in person session ahead of 2024 Philea Forum
 - Engaged with Philanthropy For Climate at a COP
 - Been featured in a case study
 - Other (please specify)
- 23.How could the International Commitment team provide better support as you live up to your commitment?
- 24.Please provide any additional comments you might have regarding your experience with implementing the International Commitment thus far.



Appendix 3:

Full list of Signatories of the International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change

- 1. Alana Institute / Foundation*
- 2. Allianz Foundation
- 3. Ars86care Foundation
- 4. Baobá Fund for Racial Equity*
- 5. Belantara Foundation
- 6. Beracha Foundation
- Blühendes Österreich REWE International gemeinnützige Privatstiftung
- 8. Boticário Group Foundation for Nature Protection*
- 9. BürgerStiftung Hamburg
- 10. BürgerStiftung München

- Bürgerstiftung Rheda-Wiedenbrück
- 12. Children's Investment Fund Foundation
- 13. Climate Emergency Fund
- 14. ClimateWorks Foundation
- 15. Co-Impact
- 16. Community Foundation Ireland
- 17. Dompet Dhuafa
- 18. ELAS+ Doar para Transformar*
- 19. European Cultural Foundation
- 20. Fondation de Luxembourg
- 21. Fundação Alentejo



- 22. Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian
- 23. Fundação Francisco Manuel dos Santos
- 24. Fundação Tide Setubal*
- 25. Fundación Avina
- 26. Fundació Socioambiental Semilla
- 27. Fundo Casa Socioambiental*
- 28. Global Nature Fund
- 29. Greeneration Foundation
- 30. Habitat for Humanity Indonesia
- **31. IKEA Foundation**
- 32. Instituto Arapyaú*
- 33. Instituto Clima e Sociedade*
- 34. Instituto Votorantim*
- 35. Imago Dei Fund
- 36. King Khalid Foundation
- **37. KR Foundation**
- **38. Laudes Foundation**
- **39. Lewis Foundation**
- 40. Lifes2good Foundation
- 41. Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation
- 42. Marshfield Area Community Foundation, Inc.
- 43. Minderoo Foundation
- Brazilian foundations who joined the International Commitment before the launch of the Brazilian Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change and were invited to complete the survey
- **Bold:** Signatories who were eligible to participate in the progress survey

- 44. Mizrahi Family Charitable Fund
- 45. Morgan Family Foundation
- 46. One Earth
- 47. OSSEDI Malawi
- 48. PeaceNexus
- 49. Porticus
- 50. Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH
- 51. Rockefeller Brothers Fund
- 52. SABAA.education Bildung für Sub-Sahara Afrika gGmbH
- 53. Sabancı Foundation
- 54. SOS Children's Villages Indonesia
- 55. Stiftung Mercator
- 56. Stiftung Polytechnische Gesellschaft
- 57. Stiftung Wirtschaft Verstehen
- 58. Stiftung Zukunftsfähigkeit
- 59. The African Climate Foundation
- 60. The Flotilla Foundation
- 61. The TAH Foundation
- 62. Visio-Permacultura Stiftung
- 63. William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
- 64. Yayasan Buddha Tzu Chi Indonesia

A full list of the 800+ signatories of all Philanthropy For Climate Commitments around the globe can be found at: **Philanthropy For Climate Signatories**



International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change

Progress Report 1

Phileo Philanthropy Europe Association

