

The **TOP 10** foundations funding development

March 2024

devex
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The year 2023 marks the start of recovery for the global development sector, with many bilateral, multilateral, and private donors not only increasing their overall development spending but also reprioritizing other areas that were eclipsed by pandemic-related expenditures.

Annually, the [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development](#) shares a list of the largest foundations funding the development sector. We took a deep dive into the data and reports to understand what these organizations prioritize, how they partner with implementing organizations, and what resources they have available.

These foundations are also among the biggest players in key areas — from agriculture, climate change, education, and global health, to poverty alleviation.

Devex has aggregated and analyzed data from grant boards, annual and financial reports, and OECD on each foundation's work to offer an overview of its unique strategy. We also used the most recent data available in each case.

By sharing this insight, we hope to give an overview of how these private development partners work and potentially identify future partnership opportunities for your organization. To learn more about these and other foundations we track, become a [Devex Pro Funding member](#).

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In brief:

The top 10 foundations funding development

Each year, OECD shares data on the [sectoral](#) and [geographic](#) spending of some of the major private philanthropic providers in the world.

Overall, those figures show that they spent around [\\$12.1 billion](#) on development in 2022.

In constant prices, this figure is nearly the same as 2021. However, a few organizations have yet to share their latest data, which means that the final figure for 2022 is likely to rise slightly. Comparing only donors who have submitted data, 2022 is up on the previous year by around \$549.3 million, or 4.8%.

In contrast, in 2021 the total development spending of private providers increased by 15% – from \$10.4 billion in 2020 to \$12 billion.

Currently, there are 40 private philanthropic organizations and four lottery groups that report to OECD.

Since the 2022 data has not yet been finalized, we opted to use the figures from the previous year to come up with the list of the largest private donors for this report.

Based on the data, the largest foundations are:

- [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#)
- [Mastercard Foundation](#)
- [The Rockefeller Foundation](#)
- [Children's Investment Fund Foundation](#)
- [Wellcome](#)
- [Ford Foundation](#)
- [Open Society Foundations](#)
- [LEGO Foundation](#)
- [Bezos Earth Fund](#)
- [IKEA Foundation](#)

Three of these organizations were not included in the previous list: The Rockefeller Foundation, LEGO Foundation, and Bezos Earth Fund.

Eight of the organizations have data up to FY 2022, while Wellcome has data up to FY 2023.

The Bezos Earth Fund, which was only established in 2020, has yet to publish its annual report or financial statements. For the Bezos Earth Fund, we used the figures from OECD.

Overall, our analysis shows that seven foundations spent less on grantmaking and program support in their most recent filing compared to the previous year. This includes the Bezos Earth Fund, Ford Foundation, Open Society Foundation, Mastercard Foundation, IKEA Foundation, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and LEGO Foundation.

The overall decrease amounts to \$2.5 billion.

In monetary terms, the Gates Foundation saw the biggest dip — from \$7.5 billion in 2021 to \$6.5 billion in 2022.

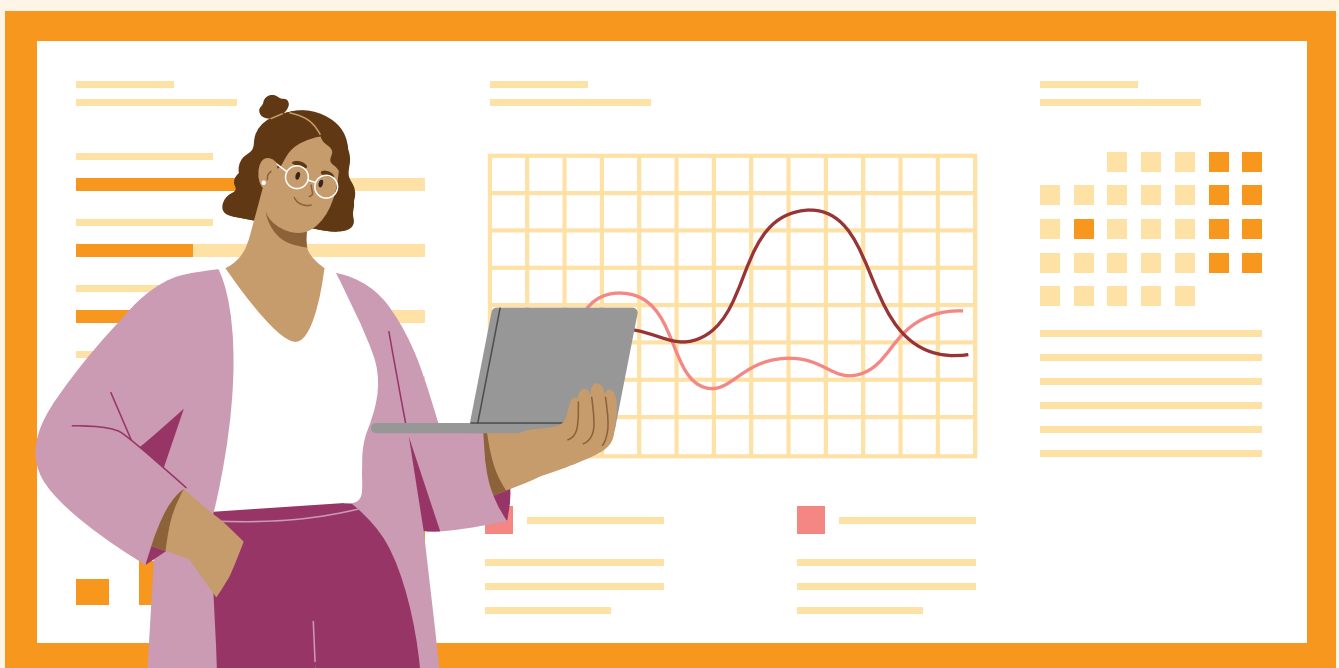
The Bezos Earth Fund recorded the biggest decrease relative to its previous spending — from \$370.4 million in 2021 to \$165.5 million in 2022, or a 55.3% decrease.

Three foundations spent more in their recent filings than the previous year. These are the Children's Investment Fund Foundation, The Rockefeller Foundation, and Wellcome.

CIFF had a 4.9% increase in grant spending, from \$526.3 million in 2021 to \$551.8 million in 2022.

Rockefeller also recorded an increase of 5.5%, or from \$533.5 million in 2021 to \$563 million in 2022.

Wellcome saw the biggest jump, with 20.3% — from \$1.8 billion in 2022 to \$2.1 billion in 2023.



As we have pointed out in previous editions of this report, many of these foundations carry out nondevelopment funding, which is why the figures from their annual reports tend to differ from the figures by OECD. It is also difficult to compare their data with OECD given that the OECD figures for private donors in 2022 are still incomplete.

But if we compare 2022 OECD data with 2021, only two organizations spent less on development in their most recent filing compared to the previous year.

Gates' development spending dipped by 3.1% — from \$4.1 billion to \$4 billion — while Wellcome saw a 10.9% reduction in development spending — from \$572.3 million to \$509.8 million.

Rockefeller had the biggest increase, both in monetary and percentage terms— from \$126.7 million to \$852.1 million, or a 572.5% jump.

Overall, the top 10 private foundations' total aid disbursement to low- and middle-income countries amounted to \$9.4 billion in 2021, 16.7% more than their spending in the previous year.

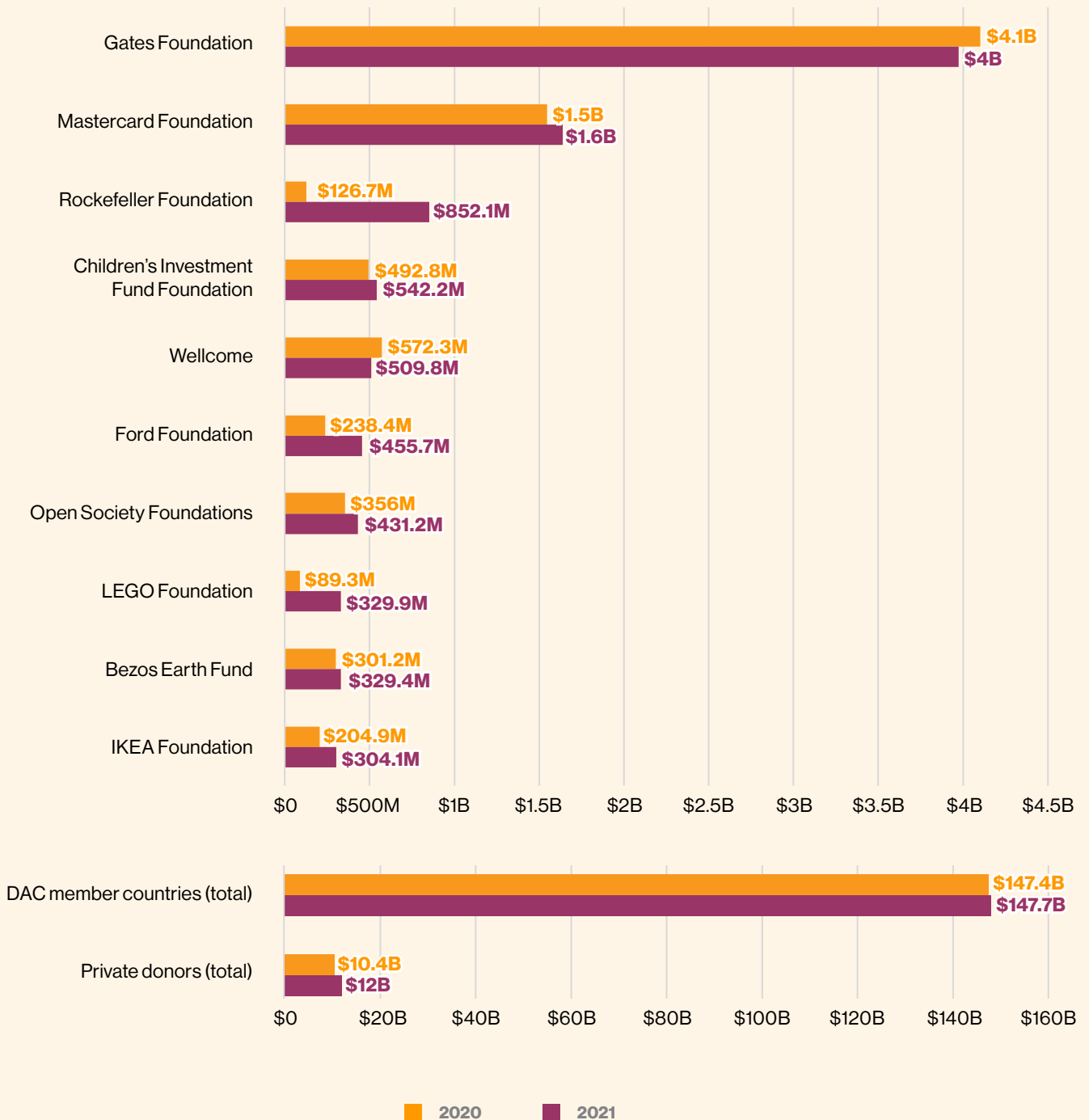
Devex looked into each of the foundations' most recent annual and financial reports to identify their total grant spending up to their most recent filing.

Throughout the report, we converted the total grant spending to 2023 U.S. dollar constant prices, so that we could see trends and compare figures concerning changes in inflation rates. In the case of Wellcome, IKEA Foundation, and LEGO Foundation — which originally used pound sterling, Euro, and Danish kroner, respectively — we converted the amounts using historical rates before getting their 2023 U.S. dollar constant prices equivalent.

Meanwhile, all the figures from OECD are in 2021 U.S. dollar constant prices. OECD converts currencies using its own methodology, which is why we opted to leave its data unchanged.


Unless stated otherwise, the rest of the figures throughout the report are in 2023 U.S. dollar constant prices.

Top 10 foundations' total spending



The top 10 foundations' development spending in 2021 vs 2020, based on [OECD](#). Figures are in 2023 USD constant prices.

BILL & MELINDA GATES *foundation*

 **Founded:** 2002  **Headquarters:** Seattle, United States

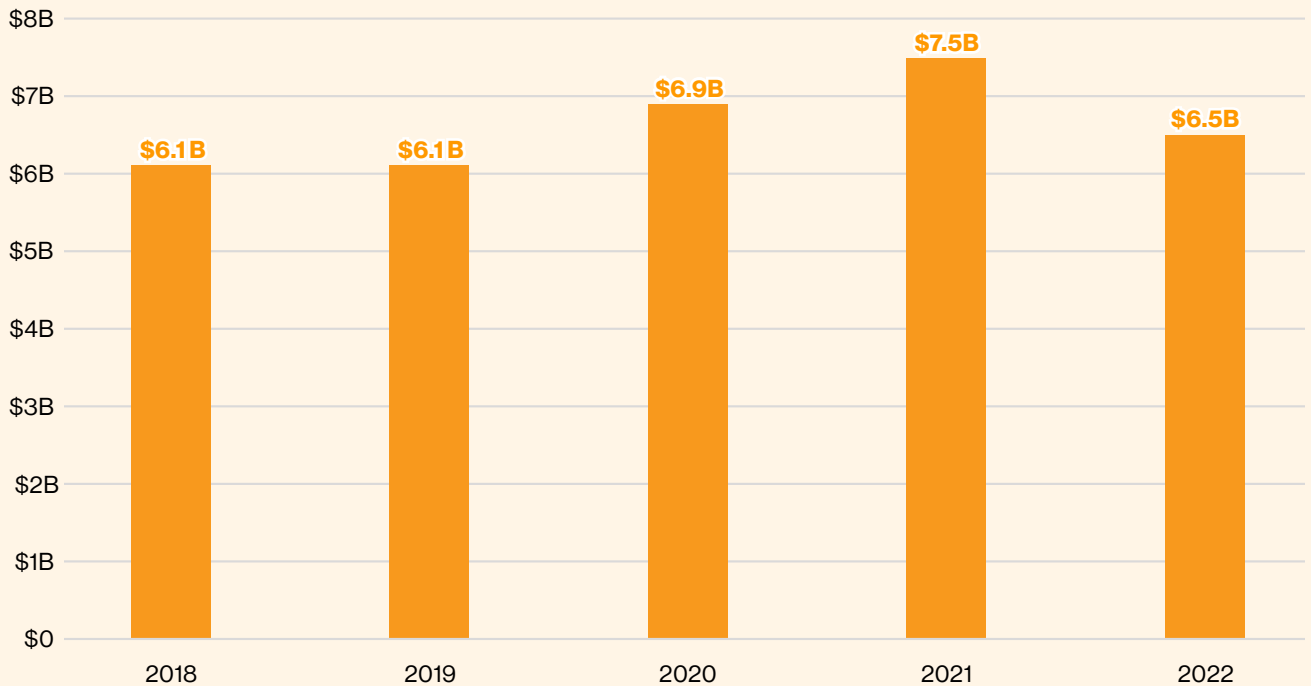
The [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#) has been a leading figure in the global development sector for more than two decades. Its works focus on finding solutions to poverty, inequality, and diseases.

Formed through the merger of the William H. Gates Foundation and the Gates Learning Foundation in 2000, the Gates Foundation has become the largest philanthropic organization in the world. Since 2000, it has [spent over \\$50 billion](#) on development and humanitarian activities.

In 2022, the Gates Foundation [expanded its board of trustees](#) by including the CEO and five independent experts. This was to broaden the foundation's perspectives and hold itself accountable. The independent experts include Ashish Dhawan, CEO and founder of Convergence Foundation; Helene Gayle, current president of [Spelman College](#), a historically Black college; Strive Masiyiwa, founder and executive chairman of Econet Global and Cassava Technologies; Minouche Shafik, current president of [Columbia University](#); and Thomas Tierney, co-founder of [Bridgespan Group](#), a nonprofit providing management consulting to donors and other NGOs.

One of the goals set by the board was [to commit \\$9 billion annually](#) by 2026. Early this year, the board [approved a budget of \\$8.6 billion](#) for 2024 — or just a few hundred million shy of its target annual payout in two years.

Total annual grant spending



The Gates Foundation's total direct grantee support from FY 2018 to FY 2022, based on its [annual reports](#). Figures are in 2023 USD constant prices.

Program areas

The Gates Foundation has [six grantmaking areas](#):



Gender equality



Global development program



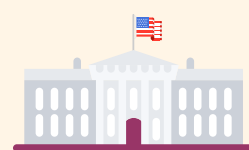
Global growth and opportunity program



Global health program



Global policy and advocacy



U.S. program

Application and partnership process

The Gates Foundation mainly partners with implementing organizations through grants. This accounts for over 90% of its total charitable giving.

Gates' staff generally select potential partners instead of awarding grants through open calls. The identified organizations are then invited to submit their proposals.

Occasionally, the foundation [publishes requests for proposals](#) on its website. It also [releases calls](#) through [Global Grand Challenges](#) — an initiative where donors fund programs, either individually or in partnership with other donors, on specific challenges or issues.

The Gates Foundation also utilizes a portion of its money to [partner with the private sector](#). This is done through its [Strategic Investment Fund](#), which funds entrepreneurs and businesses that are making a social difference and is used when investment is a better tool than grant funding. Gates uses SIF to buy shares in businesses, make low-interest loans, or issue guarantees to allow companies to produce more of critical products such as vaccines, drugs, or contraceptives.

In his annual letter released in January, Gates Foundation CEO Mark Suzman [urged philanthropists to donate more](#) to charitable causes. Citing a Forbes [report](#) that shows that the world's 2,640 billionaires are worth at least \$12.2 trillion, Suzman said that a lot can be done even with just an additional \$1 billion — which represents just a fraction of their total wealth.



Geographic focus

India



\$349.4M

Nigeria



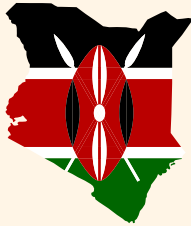
\$215.8M

Pakistan



\$160.9M

Kenya



\$120.7M

Ethiopia



\$113.9M

Gates Foundation's top recipient countries in 2021, based on OECD data on aid commitments to countries and regions (figures are in 2021 USD prices)



Top grantees in 2023



[The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#)



[Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute](#)



[European Investment Bank](#)



[World Health Organization](#)



[AGRA](#)



[UNICEF USA](#)



[PATH](#)



[International Bank for Reconstruction and Development](#)



[JSI](#)



[Partners In Health](#)

Gates Foundation's top grantees in FY 2023, based on its [committed grants data](#).

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mastercard
foundation



Founded:

2006



Headquarters:

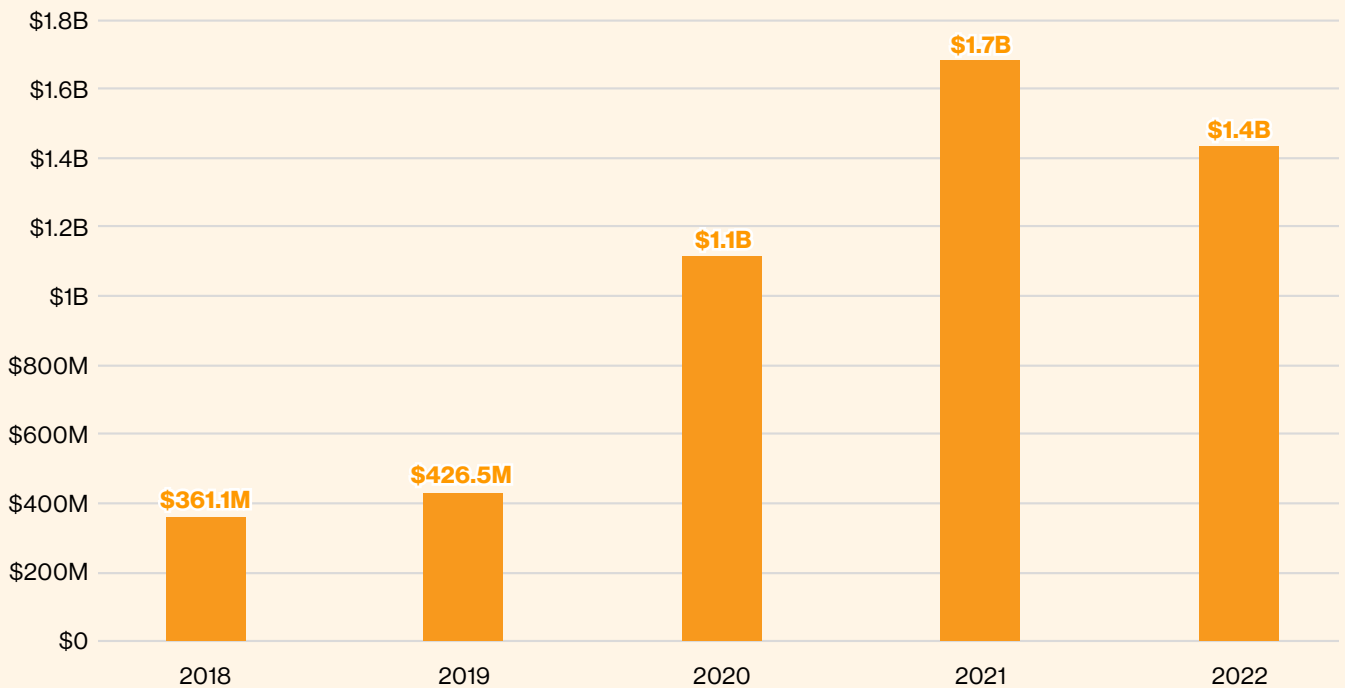
Toronto, Canada

The [Mastercard Foundation](#) focuses on advancing education and financial inclusion, initially in low- and middle-income countries and among the Indigenous youth in Canada. It then [shifted its focus](#) to Africa in 2009. In 2017, the foundation decided to focus specifically on youth employment in the continent and implement country-based programming.

The Mastercard Foundation is guided by its [Young Africa Works](#) strategy, which aims to help 30 million young Africans — especially young women — secure employment by 2030.

The Young Africa Works strategy aims to guide Mastercard Foundation on its goal of helping [30 million young Africans](#) secure employment by 2030. Among the specific actions are: designing country-specific strategies; empowering young women; working with more African organizations; utilizing technology; and sharing evidence-based knowledge and innovation.

Total annual grant spending



Mastercard Foundation's total program expenditures from FY 2018 to FY 2022, based on its [financial statements](#). Figures are in 2023 USD constant prices.

Program areas

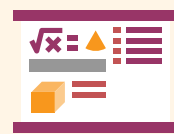
The Mastercard Foundation states that since its establishment, it has improved the lives of over 50 million people. Some of its initiatives are:



Expanding access to financial services in Africa



Innovations in secondary education



Leaders in teaching



Mastercard Foundation scholars program



Next-generation financial services



Rural and agricultural finance

Application and partnership process

In 2018, the Mastercard Foundation decided to change the way it funds development activities: from grant opportunities to partnerships. Instead of releasing open calls, the foundation directly invites selected organizations — which are typically longstanding partners — to submit their proposals.

A potential entry point for nonpartner organizations is by connecting with Mastercard Foundation's current and former grantees, which are [listed and regularly updated](#) on the foundation's website.

Geographic focus

Rwanda



\$118.3M

Uganda



\$101.5M

Ghana



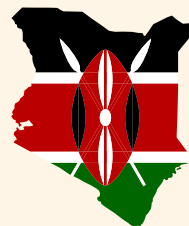
\$90.5M

Burkina Faso



\$58.1M

Kenya



\$46.7M

Mastercard Foundation's top recipient countries in 2021, based on OECD [data on aid commitments to countries and regions](#) (in 2021 USD prices).

Top grantees in 2023



[Campaign for Female Education](#)



[International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology](#)



[Equity Group Foundation](#)



[African Leadership Academy](#)



[KPMG East Africa](#)



[Arizona State University](#)



[United Nations Capital Development Fund](#)



[BRAC USA](#)



[Ashesi University](#)



[African Institute for Mathematical Sciences](#)

Mastercard Foundation's overall top grantees, based on its [partners page](#).


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 **Founded:** 1913

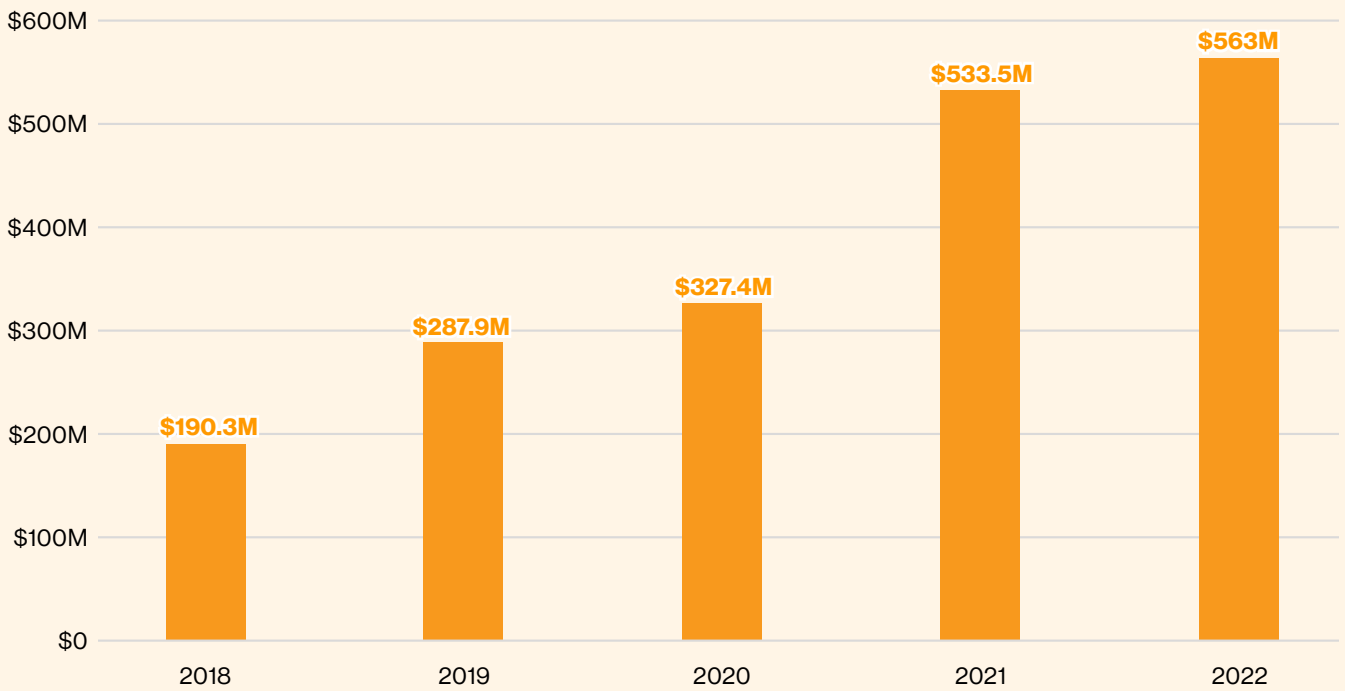
 **Headquarters:** New York, United States

The [Rockefeller Foundation](#) was established by the industrialist and philanthropist John D. Rockefeller, with the goal of improving the lives and well-being of people all around the world. It has offices in Bangkok and Nairobi and a conference center in Bellagio, Italy.

Today, this mission has expanded to also [include](#) efforts to [curve and reverse the effects of climate change](#). The foundation has said it will spend [\\$1 billion over the next five years](#) to tackle climate change.

The Rockefeller Foundation's [first grant was awarded to the American Red Cross](#). More than a century later, the foundation has established itself as one of the biggest philanthropic entities funding development across the globe

Total annual grant spending



The Rockefeller Foundation's total expenses (including operations, program costs, and taxes) from FY 2018 to FY 2022, based on its [financial statements](#). Figures are in 2023 USD constant prices.



Program areas

The Rockefeller Foundation funds activities that contribute to the following goals:



Advancing food systems that are good for people and planet



Channeling private capital for public good



Ensuring healthy futures for people and planet



Eradicating energy poverty and promoting inclusive access in more than 80 nations



Reimagining what is possible to expand human opportunity and solve the world's most urgent challenges



Working toward an equitable and inclusive economy

In 1966, the Rockefeller Foundation founded its regional office in Africa and has fostered relationships with both public and private partners. Its initiatives in the continent focus on three main areas:



Power

which includes supporting renewable energy in sub-Saharan Africa.



Food

which focuses on providing school meals.



Health

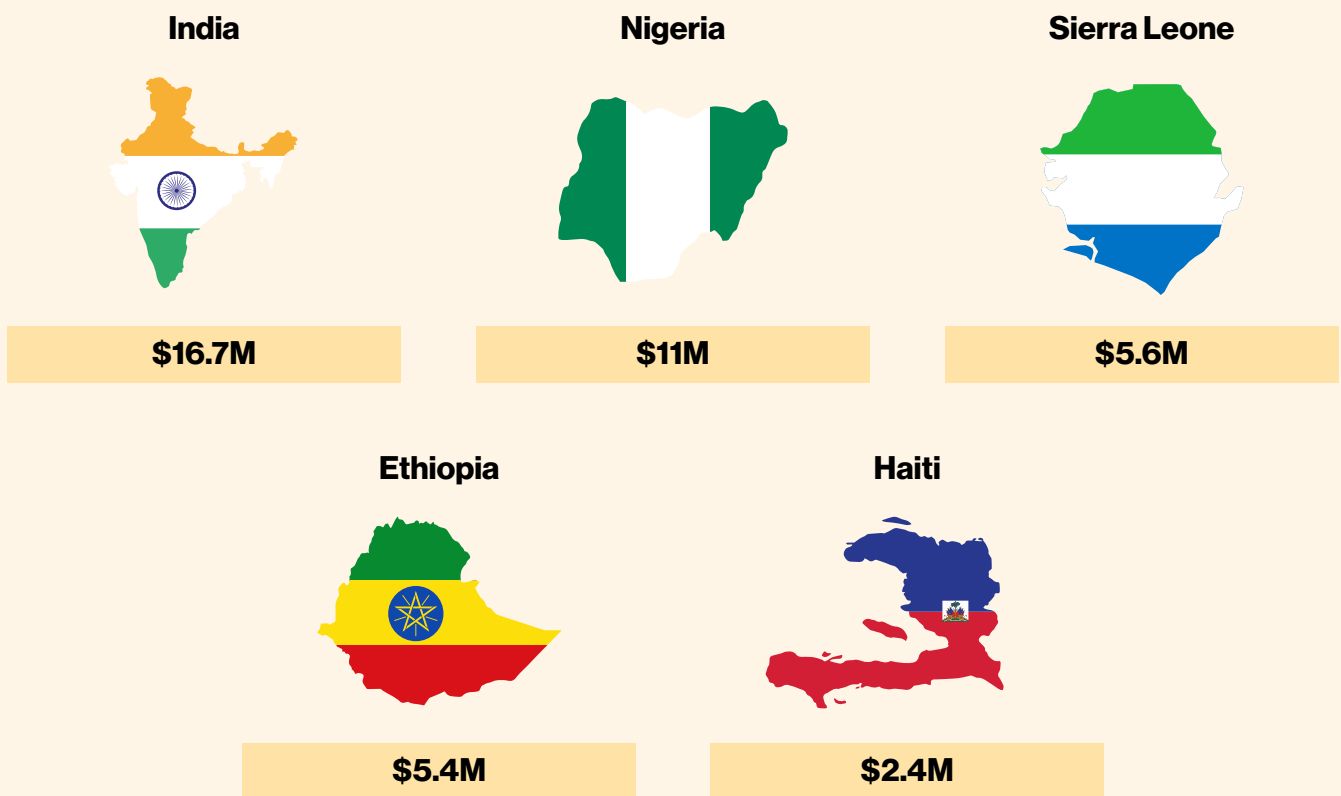
which includes improving the health system in the continent through data-driven actions.

Application and partnership process

The Rockefeller Foundation mainly uses grantmaking for its initiatives. It collaborates with organizations and implementers working within its focus areas. It does not accept unsolicited proposals.

Its Bellagio Center also hosts leaders each year to foster exchanges and networks. It also serves as a hub for the foundation’s residency program, where academics, artists, policymakers, and practitioners are sponsored to spend four weeks in the center so they can focus on their projects. Conventions are also held in the Rockefeller Foundation’s other offices.

Geographic focus



The Rockefeller Foundation’s top recipient countries in 2021, based on OECD [data on aid commitments to countries and regions](#) (in 2021 USD prices).

Based on OECD data, the largest portion of The Rockefeller Foundation’s aid in 2021, worth \$207.1 million, was committed to multiple countries from different regions — which OECD labels as “developing countries, unspecified.”

Top grantees in 2023



[American Heart Association](#)



[RF Catalytic Capital](#)



[The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#)



[New Venture Fund](#)



[NREL Foundation](#)



[Hopewell Fund](#)



[The Global FoodBanking Network](#)



[United Nations Foundation](#)



[Global Citizen](#)



[Sustainable Energy for All](#)

The Rockefeller Foundation's top grantees in 2023, based on its [grants portal](#).

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 CIFF

CHILDREN'S INVESTMENT FUND FOUNDATION



Founded:
2002



Headquarters:
London,
United Kingdom

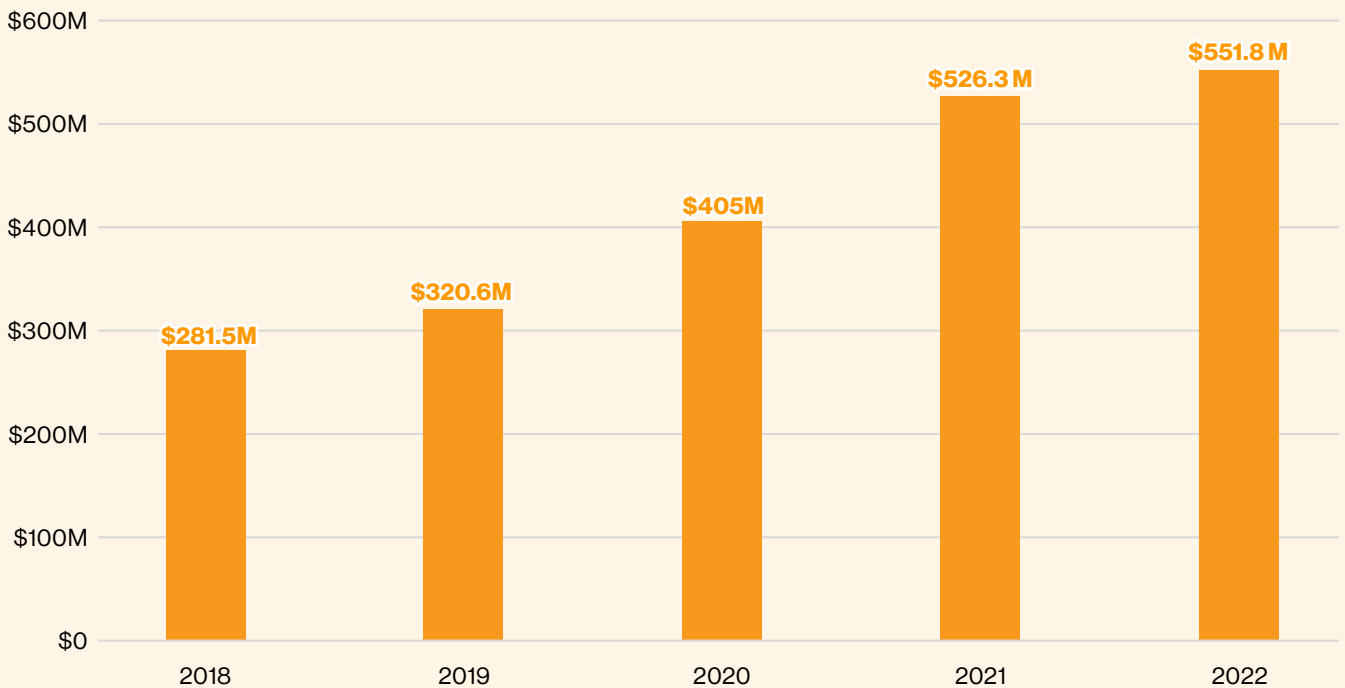
CIFF is the largest foundation that focuses specifically on the welfare of children — from sexual and reproductive health and rights to protection against all forms of violence.

CIFF has offices in Addis Ababa, Beijing, London, Nairobi, and New Delhi.

In 2022, CIFF marked its 20th year of charitable giving. The foundation remains committed to improving the lives of children and it has also broadened its understanding of how to accomplish this goal — by also tackling climate change and promoting girl's empowerment.

Based on its latest annual report, CIFF's new commitment in 2022 amounted to \$400 million, while its endowment was at \$5.1 billion.

Total annual grant spending



CIFF's grant disbursements from FY 2018 to FY 2022, based on its [annual reports](#).
 Figures are in 2023 USD constant prices.

Program areas

All of CIFF's priorities aim to [achieve lasting change for children](#) across the globe. They are:



Child health and development



Child protection



Climate change



Girl capital



Sexual and reproductive health and rights

Application and partnership process

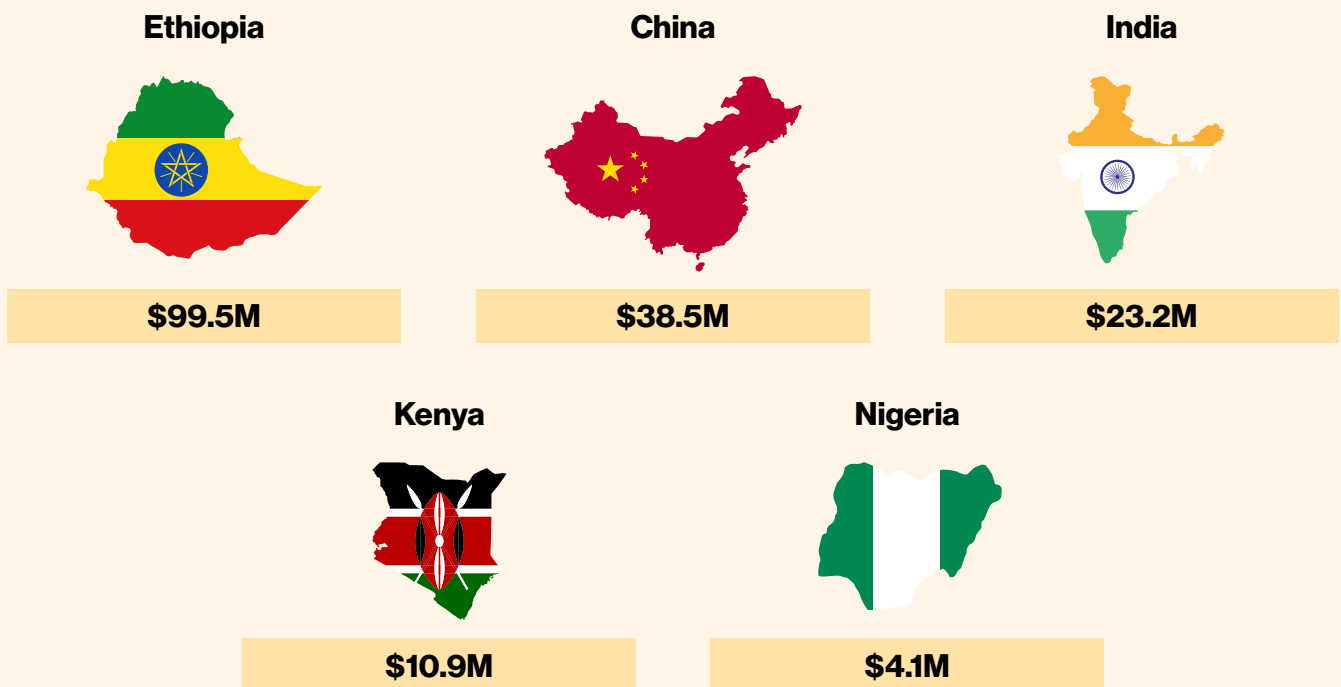
CIFF does not accept unsolicited grant proposals. It actively seeks individuals and organizations working within its thematic areas for partnership. Potential grant recipients are invited to submit their proposals.

The first stage involves the development of a concept note, which is done in collaboration with CIFF. It will then be submitted for the approval of the foundation's executive team. Once approved, the next stage involves developing an investment memo for the board of trustees' approval.

CIFF closely collaborates with these prospective partners throughout the cycle.

The whole process usually lasts 15 to 20 weeks.

Geographic focus



CIFF's top recipient countries in 2021, based on OECD data on aid commitments to countries and regions (in 2021 USD prices).

Based on OECD data, the largest portion of CIFF's aid in 2021, worth \$255.7 million, went to activities in multiple countries from different regions.

Top grantees in 2023



[World Vision Ethiopia](#)



[Ceres](#)



[European Climate Foundation](#)



[Energy Foundation China](#)



[Management Systems International](#)



[Sightsavers](#)



[Population Services International](#)



[Energy Foundation](#)



[C40 Cities](#)



[IPE Global](#)

CIFF's overall top grantees, based on its [grants portal](#).

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**wellcome****Founded:**

1936

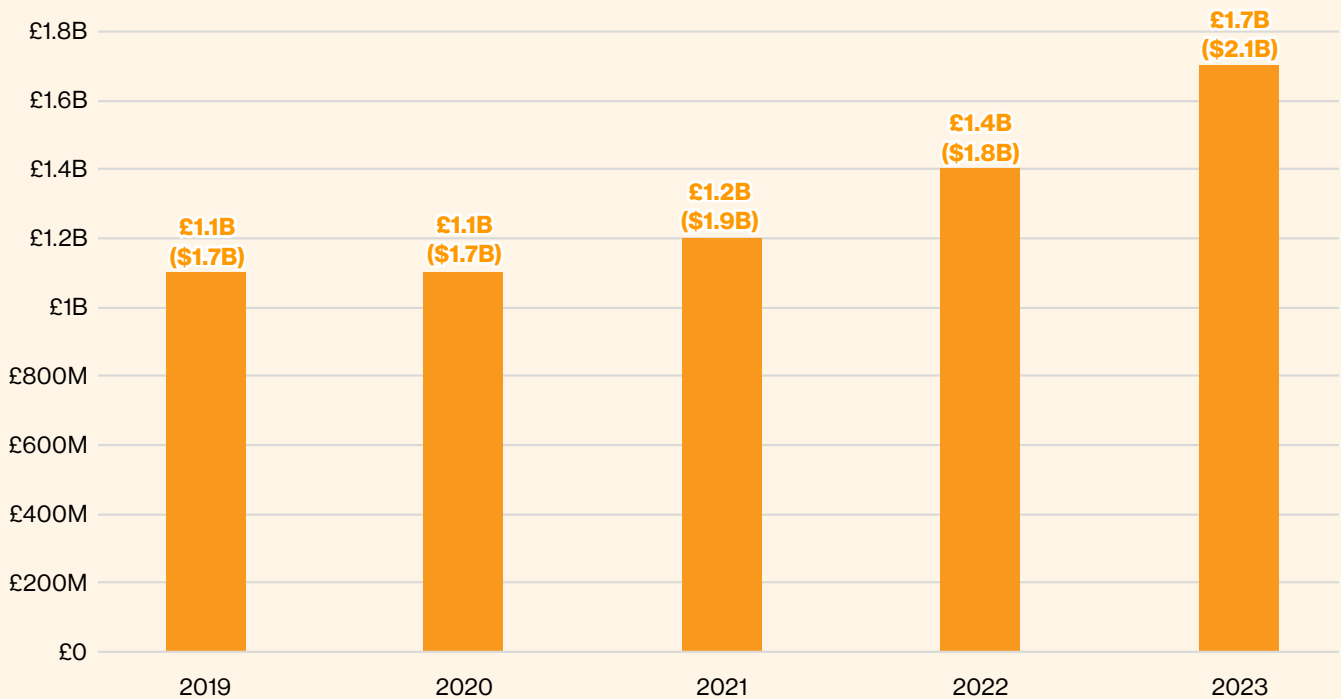
**Headquarters:**London,
United Kingdom

One of the largest health-focused foundations across the globe, [Wellcome](#) primarily supports research and studies that aim to solve what it identifies as humanity's three most pressing health challenges — climate change, infectious diseases, and mental health.

Wellcome was founded by Sir Henry Wellcome, founder of the pharmaceutical company Burroughs Wellcome & Company.

Wellcome's total charitable spending in 2023, worth £1.7 billion, marked the first year in its [plan to spend £16 billion over the next 10 years](#). Currently, its total portfolio [amounts to £36.8 billion](#).

Total annual grant spending



Wellcome's gross spend on charitable activity from FY 2018/19 to FY 2022/23, based on its [annual reports](#). Figures are in 2023 USD constant prices.

Program areas

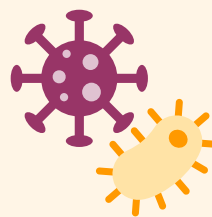
Wellcome's approach to improving health results is through funding research, supporting advocacies, and building partnerships. It has [four main programs](#):



[Climate and health](#)



[Discovery research](#)



[Infectious disease](#)



[Mental health](#)

Last year, Wellcome announced a commitment of up to £126 million to support “a large-scale trial for what could be the [first new tuberculosis vaccine in 100 years.](#)”

Application and partnership process

Wellcome primarily awards grants to researchers and academics working within its focus areas — mental health, infectious disease, discovery research, and climate and health. The opportunities are available to researchers at all stages of their careers.

Wellcome [provides detailed guidelines](#) for each of its opportunities — including how to apply for grants, manage awards, and the [deadline and key dates for each](#) call. There are also [contract opportunities](#) [are also available to organizations](#) working in areas that support the foundation's mission.

Geographic focus

Malawi



\$11M

India



\$10.6M

South Africa



\$6.6M

Democratic Republic of Congo



\$6M

Vietnam



\$5.9M

Wellcome's top recipient countries in 2021, based on OECD [data on aid commitments to countries and regions](#) (in 2021 USD prices).

Based on OECD data, the largest portion of Wellcome's aid in 2021, worth \$381.1 million, went to activities in multiple countries from different regions.

Top grantees in 2023

BILL & MELINDA GATES MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

[Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute](#)



[University College London](#)



[University of Cambridge](#)



[University of Oxford](#)



[University of Edinburgh](#)



[King's College London](#)



[University of Sheffield](#)

Imperial College London

[Imperial College London](#)



[Diamond Light Source](#)



The University of Manchester

[University of Manchester](#)

Wellcome's top recipient organizations, based on its [grants data](#).

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FORD FOUNDATION



Founded:

1936



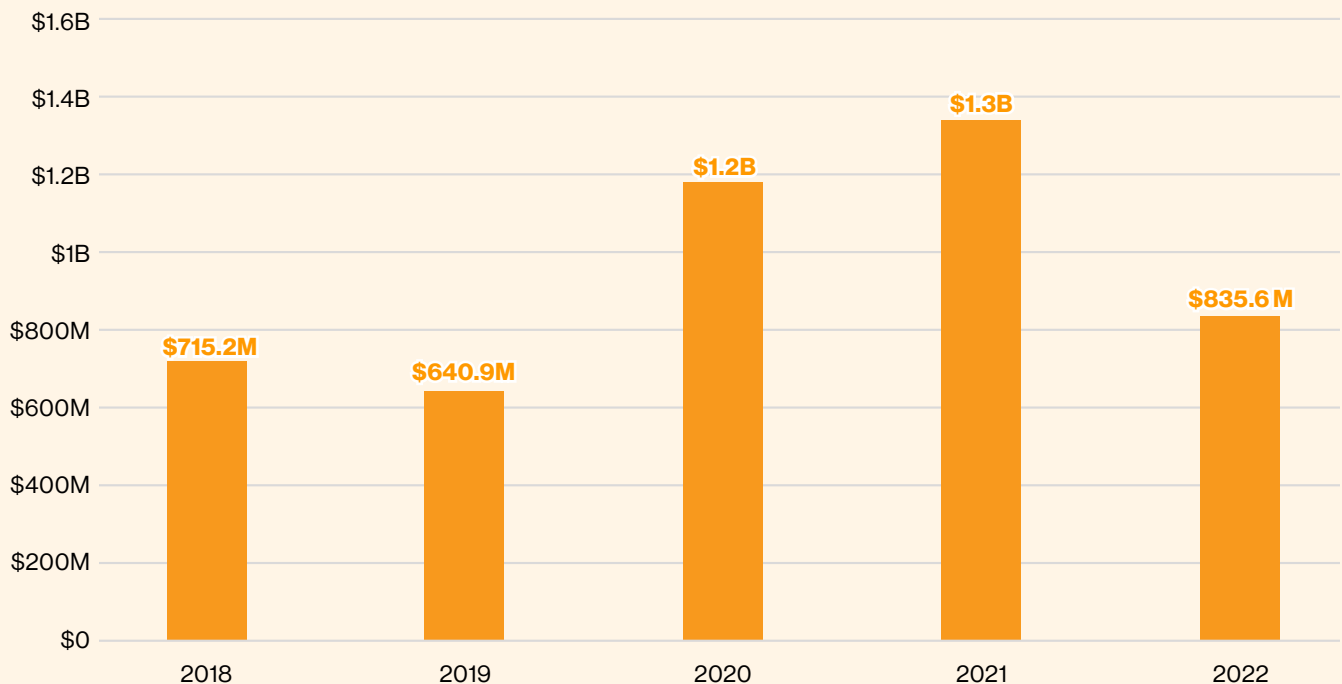
Headquarters:

New York,
United States

The [Ford Foundation](#) was established in 1936 by Edsel Ford — son of Henry Ford, the founder of Ford Motor Company — through an [initial donation of \\$25,000](#).

Nearly nine decades since, the Ford Foundation has remained one of the biggest philanthropic organizations in the world, working in a range of areas — from poverty reduction to gender, racial, and ethnic injustice. It has offices in Brazil, China, Colombia, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, and South Africa.

Total annual grant spending



The Ford Foundation's total program activities from FY 2018 to FY 2022, based on its [financial statements](#). Figures are in 2023 USD constant prices.

The Ford Foundation awarded nearly **1,800 grants, worth \$750 million in total**, to 1,470 grantees in 2022. The median grant size is around **\$250,000**.

Program areas

The Ford Foundation supports organizations and individuals working toward solving inequality. All of the foundation's programs address what it has identified as the root causes of inequality. Grants are awarded under the following interconnected focus areas:



Civic engagement and government



Creativity and free expression



Disability rights



Future of workers



Gender, racial, and ethnic justice



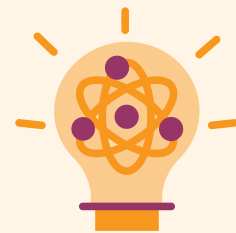
International cooperation



Mission investments



Natural resources and climate change



Technology and society

Application and partnership process

Each of the Ford Foundation's focus areas is overseen by program officers who are experts in their fields. These experts identify prospective grantees and work with them to develop a grant proposal.

Ford also [accepts unsolicited grant proposals](#) submitted through its website, although this only accounts for less than 1% of the foundation's total grantmaking activities.

Aside from grants, Ford also supports a range of causes through initiatives. One is through its [Building Institutions and Networks](#), or BUILD, initiative. BUILD supports social justice organizations by providing them with five years' worth of general operating support.

The Ford Foundation [awarded \\$1 billion in grants to nearly 350 recipients](#) between 2016 and 2021 through its BUILD initiative. The next round of grants is slated for disbursement between 2022 and 2026, with a similar budget of \$1 billion.

Another mechanism is the [Dignity and Justice Fund](#), which is a pooled fund for high-impact grants in the social justice and equity sectors. The fund focuses on several key issues, including technology and society, gender, racial, and ethnic justice, and creativity and free expression.

Ford Foundation also [provides fellowship to individuals](#) through its Ford Global Fellowship and the International Fellowships Program.

In June 2020, the Ford Foundation [issued social bonds](#) to raise funds to support organizations affected by COVID-19. The foundation has also made commitments in other sectors using proceeds from its social bonds.

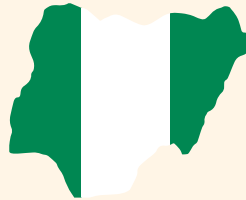
Geographic focus

Brazil



\$25.4M

Nigeria



\$23.6M

Colombia



\$22M

Indonesia



\$20M

Mexico



\$18.3M

The Ford Foundation's top recipient countries in 2021, based on OECD [data on aid commitments to countries and regions](#) (in 2021 USD prices).

Based on OECD data, the largest portion of Ford Foundation's aid in 2021, worth \$161 million, went to activities in multiple countries from different regions.

Top grantees in 2023



[Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors](#)



[New Venture Fund](#)



[NEO Philanthropy](#)



[Business & Human Rights Resource Centre](#)



[Drug Policy Alliance](#)



[Way to Rise](#)



[Make the Road States](#)



[National Domestic Workers Alliance](#)



[Family Values at Work](#)



[National Employment Law Project](#)

Ford Foundation's top grantees in 2023, based on its [grants portal](#).

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OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS



Founded:

1993



Headquarters:

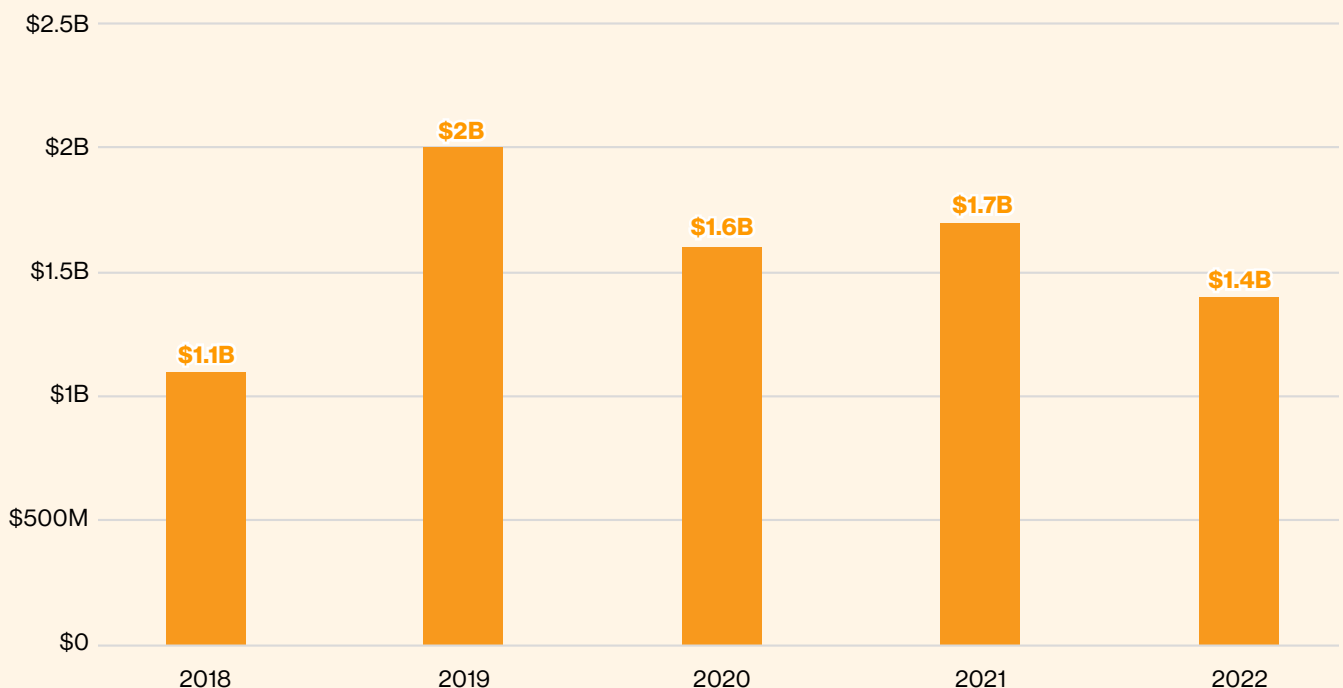
New York,
United States

[OSF](#) was founded by billionaire George Soros, who began his philanthropic giving in 1979 by giving scholarships to Black students in South Africa and dissidents in the then-communist Eastern Europe.

Since OSF's establishment, Soros [has given more than \\$32 billion](#) to support its works in over 120 countries.

According to [OECD](#), OSF is the “largest private funder of independent groups working for justice, democratic governance, and human rights.”

Total annual grant spending



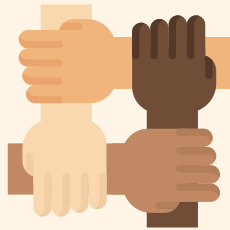
OSF's total expenditures from FY 2018 to FY 2022, based on its [website](#).
Figures are in 2023 USD constant prices.

Program areas

OSF focuses on four areas:



Climate justice



Equity



Expression



Justice

Application and partnership process

The majority of OSF's grants go to organizations it directly selects. Whenever appropriate, it also partners with governments and policymakers. OSF also [releases grant opportunities and fellowship programs](#) on its website.

OSF also engages in impact investing. Since 1997, OSF [has deployed more than \\$400 million](#) through its social impact investment arm, the Soros Economic Development Fund.

OSF also supports [human rights litigation](#).



Geographic focus

Brazil



\$17.6M

Colombia



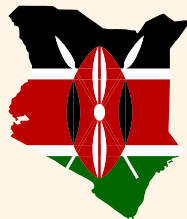
\$12.1M

Mexico



\$7.7M

Kenya



\$6.9M

Afghanistan



\$5.5M

OSF's top recipient countries in 2021, based on OECD [data on aid commitments to countries and regions](#) (in 2021 USD prices).

Based on OECD data, the largest portion of OSF's aid in 2021, worth \$221.7 million, went to activities in multiple countries from different regions.

Top grantees in 2023

Bard College

[Bard College](#)



[International Crisis Group](#)



[Democracy PAC](#)



[Central European University](#)



[EquisLabs](#)

Future Forward USA Action

[Future Forward USA Action](#)

sixteenthirty FUND

[Sixteen Thirty Fund](#)



[American Civil Liberties Union](#)



[Drug Policy Action](#)

newventurefund

[New Venture Fund](#)

OSF's top grantees in 2022, based on its [grants portal](#).

Explore on Devex:

- [Funding opportunities](#)
- [Awarded grants](#)
- [Early intelligence reports](#)
- [Related articles](#)



The LEGO Foundation



Founded:

1986



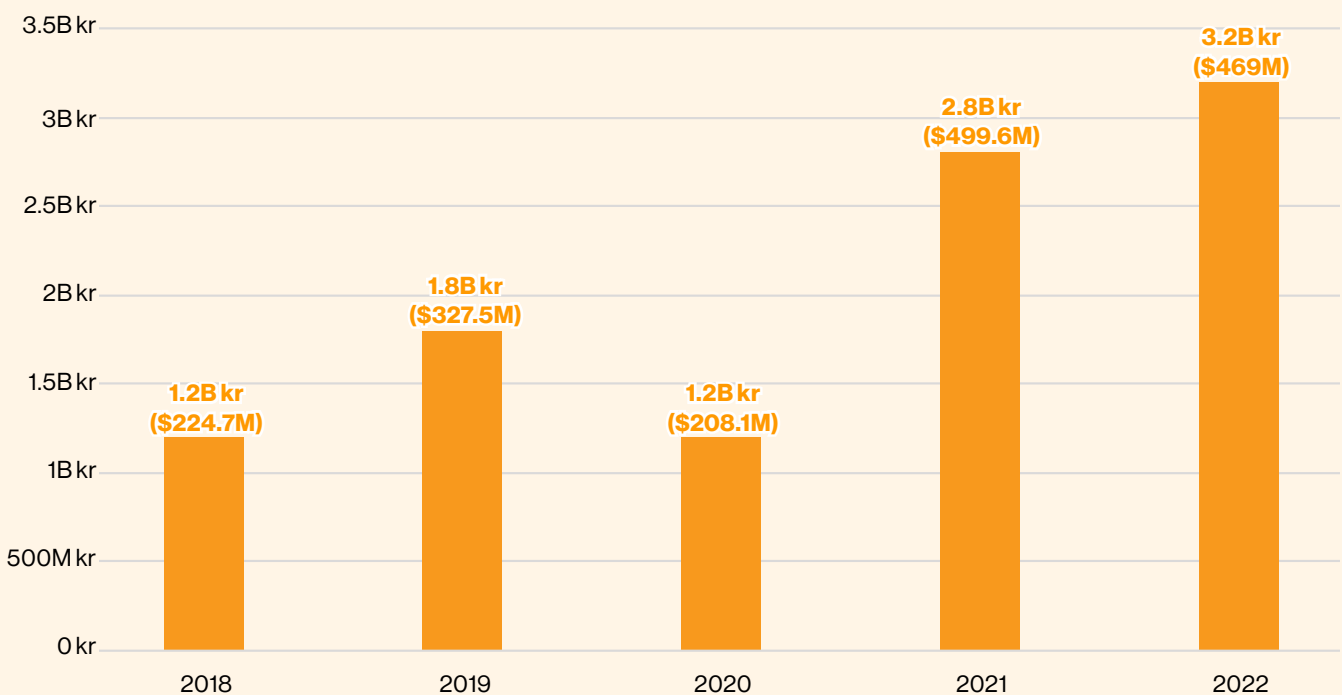
Headquarters:

Billund, Denmark

The [LEGO Foundation](#) supports the growth and development of children across the globe through play — which it believes provides the best environment for creativity and learning. The foundation [aims to reach 75 million children](#) annually by 2032.

The LEGO Foundation [owns around 25%](#) of the toy company LEGO Group.

Total annual grant spending



LEGO Foundation's total grant commitments from FY 2018 to FY 2022, based on its [annual reports](#). Figures are in 2023 USD constant prices.

Program areas

The LEGO Foundation also supports research and activities benefiting children through several initiatives. This includes:



Playful schools



Playful learning in crisis settings



Tech and play



Playful parenting

Application and partnership process

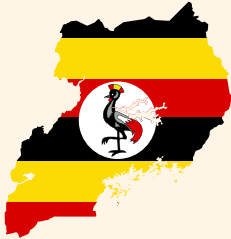
The LEGO Foundation works with individuals, such as educators and policymakers, and organizations to create opportunities focusing on the intersection between learning and playing. It co-designs programs, campaigns, toolkits, and other initiatives that support its missions.

The foundation selects prospective partners that meet its standards. After the vetting process, the LEGO Foundation conducts the following steps with the potential grantee:

- Due diligence, which includes the assessment of legal status, governance, capacity, and financial management.
- Submission of application, with the recommendations from due diligence applied.
- Risk assessment of the project and its intended location.
- Signing of the contract.

Geographic focus

Uganda



\$18.3M

South Africa



\$17.5M

Rwanda



\$14.8M

Colombia



\$8.4M

India



\$7.2M

The LEGO Foundation's top recipient countries in 2021, based on OECD data on aid commitments to countries and regions (in 2021 USD prices).

Based on OECD data, the largest portion of LEGO Foundation's aid in 2021, worth \$182.3 million, went to activities in multiple countries from different regions.

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Top grantees in 2023

OLE KIRK's Fond

[Ole Kirk's Fond](#)

ubongo®

[Ubongo International](#)



[Johns Hopkins Center for Indigenous Health](#)



[IRD Global](#)



[Education Cannot Wait](#)

BROOKINGS

[Brookings Institution](#)



[UNICEF](#)



[Temple University](#)



[International School of Billund](#)



[Save the Children International](#)

LEGO Foundation's top grantees in 2022, based on its [annual reports](#).

The LEGO Group and LEGO Foundation have been corporate partners of UNICEF since 2015, [funding “learning through play” programs](#).

Based on its latest annual report, the LEGO Foundation [partnered with 117 organizations](#) in over 65 countries in 2022. It has a total of 199 active grants, of which [97 grants were newly committed](#) in 2022.



BEZOS
EARTH
FUND



Founded:
2020

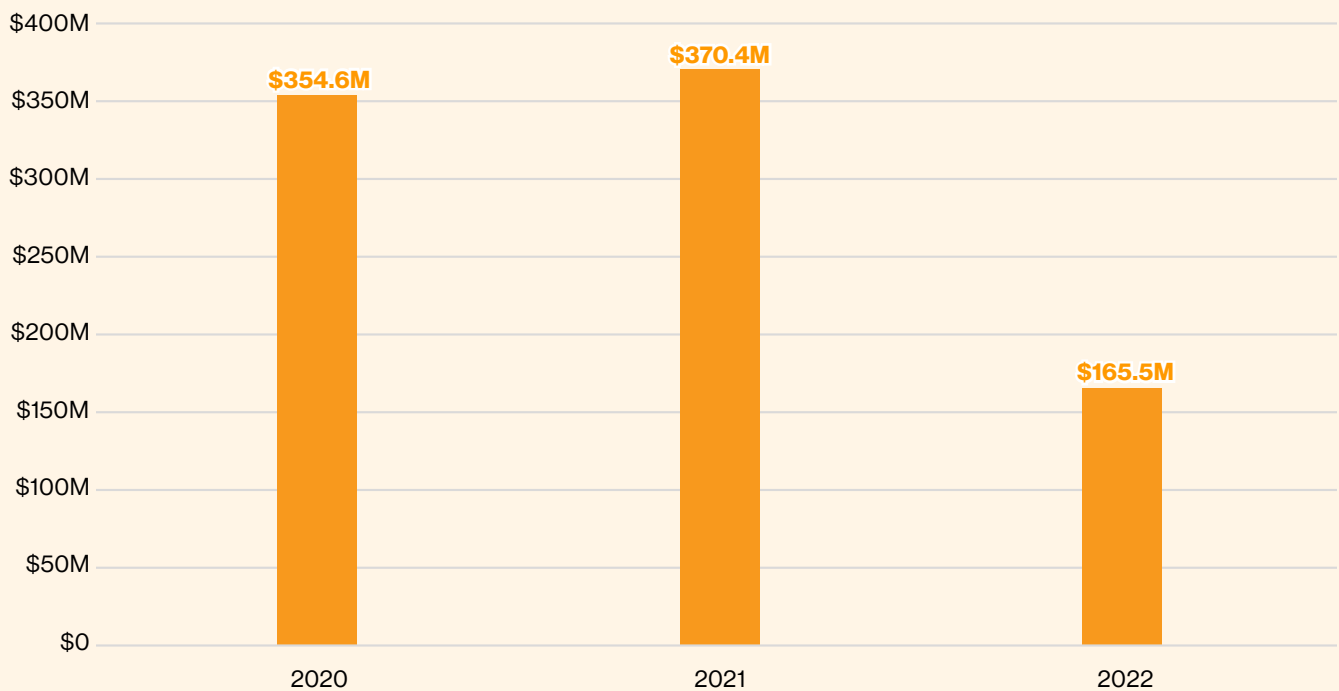


Headquarters:
Washington, D.C.,
United States

The [Bezos Earth Fund](#) was established through a \$10 billion commitment from Jeff Bezos — who was at one point the richest person in the world. The amount is meant to be spent by 2030, on grants that address climate change and other activities for the environment.

Despite being new, the Bezos Earth Fund has provided [a significant amount of development financing](#), worth nearly \$1.9 billion.

Total annual grant spending



The Bezos Earth Fund's total aid disbursements from FY 2020 to FY 2022, based on [OECD data](#). Figures are in 2023 USD constant prices.

Program areas

The Bezos Earth Fund supports activities in seven key areas that support its climate and environmental goals:



Conserving and restoring nature



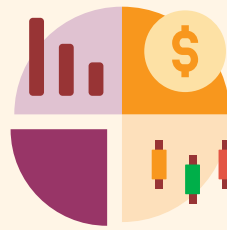
Future of food



Environmental justice



Decarbonizing energy and industry



Economics, finance, and markets



Next technologies



Monitoring, data, and accountability

Application and partnership process

The Bezos Earth Fund says that it believes in data-driven actions and that it funds each grant based on how it will catalyze change — and not how much it’s worth.

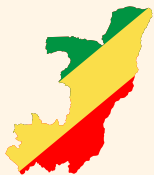
Like other foundations in this report, Bezos Earth Fund relies primarily on partnerships with implementers and other funders for programs and initiatives, rather than releasing an open call for proposals.

The Bezos Earth Fund has a team of experts that identifies areas where an investment would make the most significant impact.

In 2022, Devex published [a profile of the Bezos Earth Fund](#), with insights from a spokesperson from the organization. Among the highlights were the grants and partnerships, as well as future strategies that philanthropic donors will adopt.

Geographic focus

Republic of the Congo



\$11M

Gabon



\$10.6M

Ecuador



\$6.6M

Democratic Republic of Congo



\$6M

Colombia



\$5.9M

Bezos Earth Fund’s top recipient countries in 2021, based on OECD [data on aid commitments to countries and regions](#) (in 2021 USD prices).

Top grantees in 2023



[Breakthrough Energy](#)



Cornell University

[Cornell University](#)



[Carbon Disclosure Project](#)



[Environmental Defense Fund](#)



[GHG Protocol, World Resources Institute, and World Business Council for Sustainable Development](#)



[Rainforest Foundation Norway and Coordenação das Organizações Indígenas da Amazônia Brasileira](#)



[Instituto Clima e Sociedade](#)



[Good Food Institute](#)



[Wildlife Conservation Society](#)



[Re:wild](#)

Bezos Earth Fund's top grantees in 2023, based on its [website](#).

Explore on Devex:

■ [Early intelligence reports](#)

■ [Related articles](#)





IKEA Foundation



Founded:

1982



Headquarters:

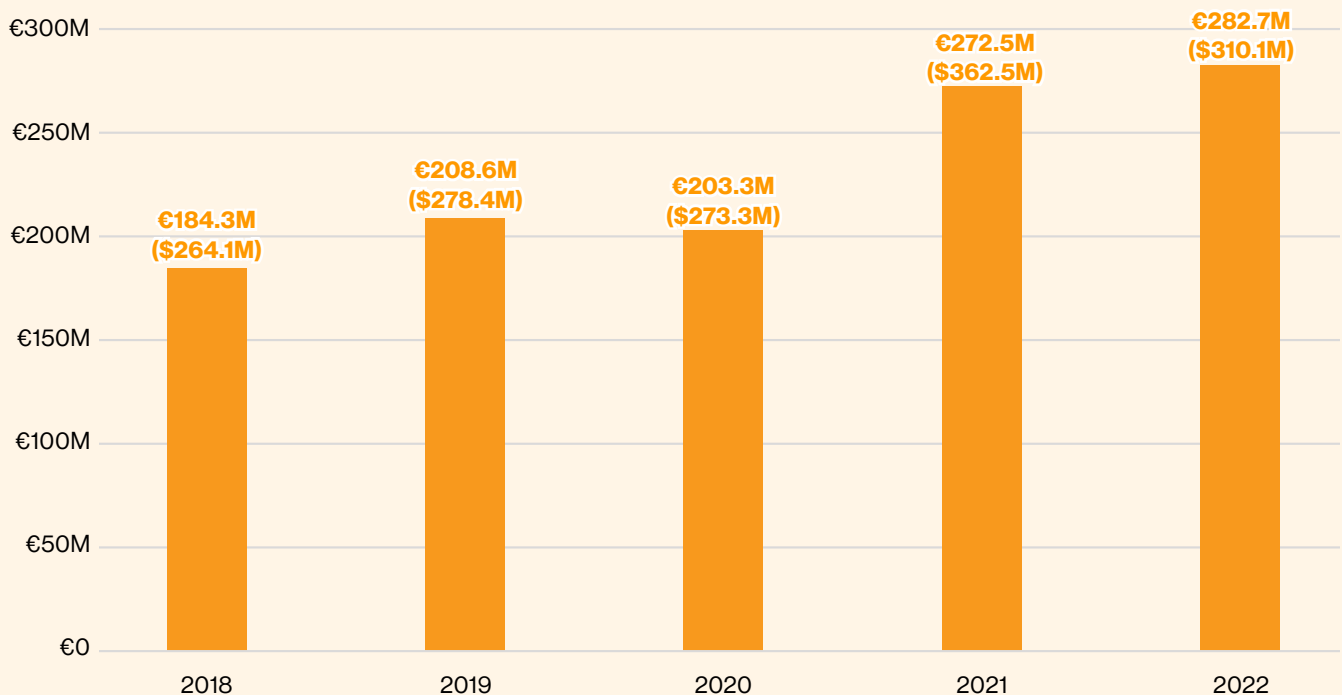
Leiden,
The Netherlands

The [IKEA Foundation](#) is a philanthropic grant-maker funded by the INGKA Foundation – the owner of INGKA Holding, which controls [nearly 500](#) outlets of IKEA. Initially limited to funding innovations in architecture and interior design, in 2009 the IKEA Foundation expanded its charter to focus on improving family incomes and quality of life while protecting the planet from climate change.

The foundation was started by Swedish entrepreneur Ingvar Kamprad, founder of the multinational retail company IKEA.

In 2021, the IKEA Foundation decided to make an additional €1 billion (\$1.07 billion) available over the next five years, aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

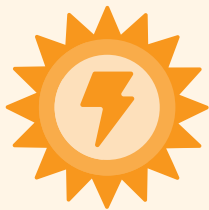
Total annual grant spending



IKEA's total expenditures from FY 2018 to FY 2022, based on its [ANBI Disclosure documents](#). Figures are in 2023 USD constant prices.

Program areas

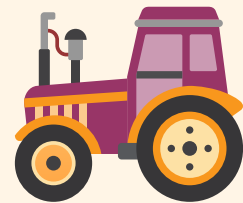
The IKEA Foundation says its focus is on people and the planet. To support its mission, the foundation funds activities under the following thematic areas:



Renewable energy



Employment and entrepreneurship



Agricultural livelihoods



Refugee livelihoods



Emissions reduction



Climate action

Aside from its thematic focus, the IKEA Foundation also supports **special initiatives and emergency response**. This includes **providing shelters** to the victims of the February 2023 earthquakes in Turkey and Syria and giving **humanitarian aid** to Ukraine.

Application and partnership process

The IKEA Foundation does not accept unsolicited grant proposals. It has a team of experts **who actively look for potential partners and grantees** working in areas aligned with the foundation's priorities.

Once a prospective partner is identified, the IKEA Foundation's grant-making team collaborates with them to develop concept notes and proposals. These are approved by the foundation's board or delegated decision-making bodies.

The foundation believes that the best results can be achieved by supporting programs managed by experts in their fields.

Geographic focus

India



\$49.3M

Indonesia



\$14M

Ethiopia



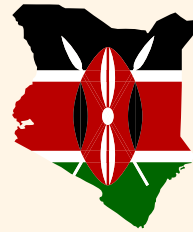
\$9.7M

Jordan



\$6.8M

Kenya



\$6.3M

IKEA Foundation's top recipient countries in 2021, based on OECD [data on aid commitments to countries and regions](#) (in 2021 USD prices).

Based on OECD data, the largest portion of the IKEA Foundation's aid in 2021, worth \$200.5 million, went to activities in multiple countries from different regions.

Partners

According to the IKEA Foundation, a total of 224 grants, worth €289 million, were awarded to 153 grantees in 2023. The foundation also crossed the €2 billion mark in total grant spending in 2023. Its top 10 recipients were:



[ClimateWorks Foundation](#)



[Médecins Sans Frontières](#)



[Housing for All Foundation](#)



[European Climate Foundation](#)



[World Resources Institute](#)



[Acumen](#)



[We Mean Business Coalition](#)



[CLASP](#)



[International Rescue Committee](#)



[Selco Foundation](#)

Explore on Devex:

- [Awarded grants](#)
- [Early intelligence reports](#)
- [Related articles](#)



How do organizations use Devex Pro Funding to advance their funding strategy?

Devex Pro Funding

Pro Funding is the sector standard membership for business development, fundraising, and partnerships teams working in international development.

1. It includes access to our premium news, analysis, and events, as well as the Devex funding platform and the Devex candidate database.
2. Teams can access funding intelligence and early stage sector information, as well as tenders and grants, with over 850 funding sources tracked each day.
3. The platform goes beyond simply monitoring publicly available funding information to connect you with daily news and analysis from traditional development, foundation, emerging-donor, and private sector sources.
4. With the ability to customize information according to your interests and needs, membership suits organizations of any size, from small to large. There is 24-hour support during the workweek and access to our team of analysts for those hard-to-answer questions.



The Devex funding search

We offer the most comprehensive access to funding opportunities in the sector. **Your team can directly receive email alerts for funding opportunities each day.**



Funding activity database

Gain early information on future funding by accessing a database that tracks 600,000 sources for the latest news on funding from local, national, and global media and donor sources daily.



Tenders, grants, and open opportunities

Efficiently identify and track programs, tenders, grants, and open opportunities from over 850 national donors, emerging foundations, and private sector funding sources. [See a sample of sources here.](#)

Contract awards

Discover the right partner organizations, and learn more about your competitors, through the contract awards and shortlist announcements database.

The screenshot shows the Devex website's funding search interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'devex Do Good. Do It Well.™' and various menu items like NEWS, JOBS, FUNDING, RECRUITMENT, EVENTS, and MENU. Below the navigation bar, there's a search bar with the text 'FIND FUNDING' and a 'Visualize search results' button. The search bar includes a text input field for keywords (e.g., agriculture, health), a search button, and dropdown menus for Region or Country, Funder (e.g., World Bank, FCDO), and Topic (e.g., Water & Sanitation). There are also checkboxes for Funding Activity, Programs, Tenders & Grants, and Contract Awards (which is selected). Below the search bar, there are buttons for 'Advanced filters' and 'Clear all'. The main content area displays a 'CONTRACT AWARD' for 'Provision of Canteen and Catering Services at Eurofound', awarded to 'The Q Café Ltd' and funded by 'European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound)'. The location is listed as 'Ireland'. There are also buttons for 'Track Report' and 'Edit'. On the left side, there's a sidebar with 'Create alert', 'Alerts', and 'Tracked reports' buttons. At the bottom, there's a 'Support' button.

What a Devex alert looks like in your inbox

We offer the most comprehensive access to funding opportunities in the sector. Receive email alerts on funding opportunities directly to your team each day.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a Devex Business Alert. The alert is dated July 22, 2022, and is based on criteria set up for 'Niger'. It summarizes the following: 5 Tenders & Grants, 1 Program, 1 Funding Activity, and 1 Contract Award. Below the summary, there are two sections: 'Tenders & Grants' and 'Worldwide'. Each section lists specific funding opportunities with their titles, issuing organizations, locations, and dates, along with an 'OPEN' button.

deveX
Do Good. Do It Well.™

Business Alert
July 22, 2022

These are the latest published reports based on the criteria you set up for:
Niger

5 Tenders & Grants Scroll to see below	1 Program Scroll to see below	1 Funding Activity Scroll to see below	1 Contract Award Scroll to see below
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Tenders & Grants

- Production of a Public Report on Girls' Boarding Schools** (OPEN)
United Nations (UN)
Niger
02 August 2022
- Procurement of Medical and Biomedical Equipment** (OPEN)
Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) - Germany
Niger
06 September 2022

Worldwide

- Study into Strategies for Developing the Traditional Letter-post (Documents) Market** (OPEN)
United Nations (UN)
Worldwide
15 August 2022
- Provision of Hepatitis B (HepB) Vaccines** (OPEN)
United Nations (UN)
Worldwide
10 August 2022
- Promoting Cultural Understanding, Developing Communities, Empowering Women and Enabling Young People** (OPEN)
Other - Private Foundations / Corporations
Worldwide

Visualization view

What is the Devex Pro Funding for Organizations membership?

The sector standard membership for **business development, fundraising, partnerships, advocacy, resource mobilization, strategy, leadership, programmes and communications** teams working in international development.

It provides organizations with access to: Devex Pro - in-depth news, analysis and exclusive events - as well as the Devex Funding Platform, the Devex People Database and collaboration tools designed to share content and knowledge across teams.

Designed for professionals in organizations, the membership enables each user to customize information according to their interests. You'll get 24/5 support as needed and access to our team of analysts for those hard-to-answer questions.

How and why do organizations use the Devex Funding Platform?

- Efficiently track and identify funding opportunities
- Getting in at the right time- donor intelligence
- Build partnerships/competitor analysis
- Know their space
- Save time
- Develop a deeper understanding of funding trends, funder priorities and donor program focus.

Funding database sources:

- 850+ funding sources
- 600,000 sources of early and forecast information
- Journalists and analysts located across the globe