





# 2021 by the Numbers

924 GRANTS AWARDED

103 COUNTRIES

\$9,038,461



# Letter from Laura

We are living in a time of global, environmental, social, and political shifts that call for movements worldwide to create alternatives to the unjust systems that have caused climate change and environmental degradation. Although this task can be daunting, we at Global Greengrants Fund see reasons to have hope every day in the stories and actions of the grassroots movements we support.

Throughout 2021, Global Greengrants remained committed to transforming these systems, and to bringing our values of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion to life. Our participatory grantmaking model is rooted in decentralized decision-making, shifting power to the grassroots, and supporting diverse environmental leadership.

It is this model that allowed us to remain flexible in our grantmaking throughout 2021, a year of uncertainty and adversity, as the COVID-19 pandemic paired with the increasing urgency of the climate crisis. Our global network of advisors and grantees continued their work upholding the rights of both people and planet and pushing for a just and equitable future for Earth and the beings who call it home.

2021 was also a period of significant growth and fruitful transition. Not only did we expand our grantmaking to a new region of the world (the Middle East and Northern Africa), but we also increased our support to challenge fossil fuels and promote a just transition, improved access to resources for persons with disabilities working on environmental issues, continued to protect environmental defenders at risk, and became the fiscal home of The Agroecology Fund.

It is thanks to the continued support of our partners that we were able to make this work possible, implementing an intersectional and inclusive approach to our grantmaking, and growing movements that are catalysts for real change. It is my firm belief that if we continue dreaming up new ways of being in relationship with each other and the Earth, and centering those most impacted by injustice in our solutions, we can shift power and make change.

Together, we are where change takes root.

Warmly,

Laura García | President and CEO, Global Greengrants Fund



# Approaching Climate Solutions with a Justice Lens



## Climate Justice Grantmaking Statistics - 2021

Total Grants Awarded: **493**

Total Countries: **80**

Total: **\$2,574,879**

Climate justice recognizes the global climate crisis as a human rights issue, in which the most powerful actors and countries have affected the rights of all humans to a healthy and livable planet. It recognizes the link between climate shocks, inequality and conflict, and the fundamental injustice that those with the least power are the most affected, while having contributed the least to the problem.

### Grassroots Action for a Just Energy Transition

Carbon emissions continue to grow worldwide, despite commitments from governments and corporations to curb them. Although there is a global need to transition from fossil fuel to renewable energy systems, there is a significant gap in funding for grassroots movements and frontline communities who are not just working to achieve this transition, but addressing the root causes of devastating carbon emissions. **In recognition of this, Global Greengrants is building a new initiative focused on resourcing grassroots groups to challenge the fossil fuel industry and assert their rights and vision for a just energy transition.** This will help communities to own and benefit from energy production, as well as protect their rights.

The goal of this initiative is to build the power of grassroots-led movements to contest current unjust and destructive energy systems and demand a just transition to more equitable, sustainable, and locally beneficial renewable ones. Over the next 5 years, through new partnerships, regions, and ways of working, as well as through additional funding, Greengrants will significantly expand our capacity and support to those movements.



# Closer to Justice in the Niger Delta



Since 2004, Global Greengrants Fund has awarded 126 grants, totaling over \$600,000, to community groups, networks, researchers, and activists across the Niger Delta working to address human rights violations and environmental issues caused by oil contamination.

For over 50 years, Shell Oil has recklessly spilled millions of gallons of oil in the Niger Delta. Global Greengrants Fund, in partnership with many other organizations and activists in the region, has helped provide the resources necessary to create a movement in the Niger Delta to build back after the spills, spread awareness of human rights violations, hold Shell and other polluters accountable for their deadly actions, and demand justice.

**On January 26, 2021, a Dutch Court ruled that a subsidiary of Shell is responsible for spills that occurred in 2006 and 2007, demanding that the company compensate farmers in the region and clean up waterways within weeks. The case was brought against Shell by four Nigerian farmers and Friends of the Earth Netherlands in 2008.**

This victory follows two other notable rulings: one in 2013, in which a Dutch Court held Shell accountable for a series of spills in the Ikat Ada Udo community in 2007. The other ruling in 2015 forced Shell to settle out of court to pay £55 million for two oil spills that devastated the health of communities and ecosystems in the Niger Delta community of Bodo.

Such victories are steps forward in the pursuit of justice and complement the efforts of local communities who have worked to propose solutions to protect and clean up the Niger Delta for over 60 years. Grantees' solutions are gaining global visibility for their effectiveness in restoring their devastated environments and were highlighted in the *New York Times* in 2021.



# Resilience Amidst the Ongoing Pandemic

**In 2021, Global Greengrants Fund continued to extend support to grassroots environmental justice groups affected by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.**

Since the pandemic began, the grassroots groups we support have demonstrated their amazing resilience in responding to the new challenges they face. Numerous groups have developed tactics for digital organizing and virtual outreach, which will remain essential in the coming year, as many countries and people continue to wait for access to vaccines. Others have innovated strategies to address increased injustices arising from the pandemic, such as the rapid expansion of natural resource extraction while governments have suspended regulations and consultations.

For many communities, the impacts of the pandemic also illuminated a path toward long-term resilience, which will become increasingly important as climate-driven disasters grow. These communities found new urgency in building local food systems and developing sustainable livelihoods. They also created opportunities to pass down and preserve traditional knowledge, including ancestral medicinal knowledge, to younger generations that had returned home to wait out pandemic quarantines and economic downturn. Two years after the start of the pandemic, small-scale farms, food forests, and medicinal plant nurseries are flourishing in many of the communities we support.

## **Challenging Extractive Industries in South Africa**

Indigenous communities have lived along the west coast of South Africa for centuries, but huge mining companies are now overrunning these areas. The pandemic has only made this worse, with companies moving forward without consultation under the cover of COVID-19. In response, the Kobush Development Association NPC, a Greengrants grantee, is using a grant to push back against mining companies controlling whether and how people are consulted in towns that will be impacted along the northwestern coastline of South Africa. In particular, they have recently opposed mining for diamonds in coastal zones. The type of training and mobilizing led by the group will reinvigorate community defense of livelihoods and ecosystems at a time when resource extraction is accelerating under a rationale of economic stimulus.

## **Our Organizational Care Initiative**

To support our staff's well-being and work-life balance in the pandemic, we began an Organizational Care Initiative in 2020. Initially an opportunity to understand and meet immediate staff needs, the Initiative has since broadened to strengthen the philosophy of individual and holistic care as we continue to build an organizational culture of trust, empathy, and openness. The work will focus on both putting in place new processes and structures, and starting deeper cultural shifts through conversations, workshops, and reflection spaces with all staff.



# Inclusion and Intersectionality in Environmentalism

Many of the communities we support are those who often find themselves at the margins of decision-making, yet they have some of the most powerful and lasting solutions for addressing climate, environmental, and social injustice. That includes the Indigenous communities, women, youth activists, persons with disabilities, and activists of color who play key roles in ensuring justice and implementing solutions that challenge the intersecting systems of oppression that underpin the climate crisis. Our global advisory network and participatory model allows us to get funds to the far reaches of the globe, placing resources in the hands of those who have never received funding, and supporting them to build movements for change from the ground up.

## Disability Rights and the Environment

In 2021, Global Greengrants Fund's global network of experts expanded our ongoing funding and support to people with disabilities working to promote environmental justice. \$284,000 was awarded through 57 grants to disability-focused projects, with \$66,743 and 13 grants going to disability-led initiatives. For example, in Chile, we supported the disability rights group Inclusiva to create accessible content that educates people with disabilities in their community about environmental justice.

## Incorporating Our Values into the Workplace

Since 2019, a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Working Group made up of representatives throughout our network has been on a journey of honest reflection on DEI values, how we understand and live these values in our organization, where there are opportunities to improve processes and practices to better reflect our overall values, and how we can collectively create space to have difficult conversations and address conflict in a helpful way. We recognize and commit to this work as ongoing and constant practice.

## Building a Diverse Movement

The Endorois community is an Indigenous pastoralist community originally from Lake Bogoria and the Mochongoi forest of Kenya, which is home to unique flora and fauna. The Endorois community was evicted from their ancestral land in 1973 to create room for Lake Bogoria National Reserve, a tourist destination. Some of the community has resettled in the neighboring counties of Nakuru and Laikipia. Endorois women and girls and people with disabilities are often systematically excluded from decision-making on issues that affect them.

The Endorois Indigenous Women Empowerment Network is using a grant from Global Greengrants Fund to conduct programs and activities for women to break the current gender barriers. The funds will support education for women on women's rights, political participation, the Kenyan election processes, how to step into leadership, and the country's national budget-making procedures. In addition, the funds will allow the Network to host a radio talk show on two radio stations within the region to reach more women about women's roles, women's rights, and how women can get politically active.



# Women's Environmental Action



## Women on the Frontlines

Global Greengrants is proud to be the world's leading funder in number of grants to grassroots women's environmental action. In line with our organizational values of justice and equity, one of the primary goals of our Women and Environment program is to support grassroots women's organizations as they pursue environmental justice by shifting the unjust systems governing access to their environments, achieving justice in environmental harms that have disproportionately affected women and girls, and reclaiming their rights to natural resources and decision-making power in community resource management.

## Collaborating for Greater Effectiveness in Philanthropy

As of 2017, less than 0.1% of all foundation funding focused explicitly on women and the environment. In response to the lack of funding, Global Greengrants Fund and Prospera partnered with the Ford and MacArthur Foundations to bring together a group of 25 funding allies, including 4 of the top 5 top environmental funders, interested in learning about ways in which environmental and gender justice intersect. In the last three years the Funders Learning Community for Women and Environment has become a place to foster shared learning and to serve as a resource hub for participants. It is a unique group of funders from diverse sectors of philanthropy with large and small budgets alike, that share ideas and strategies, grapple with questions, and support each other through the inevitable challenges posed by imagining and implementing new forms of philanthropic practice.

## Our \$100 Million Commitment

Because of our trajectory as a top funder in women-led environmental action, Global Greengrants Fund was invited by UN Women to be a philanthropic lead for Generation Equality's Feminist Action for Climate Justice Coalition, one of six action coalitions focused on global gender justice whose blueprints were launched at the Generation Equality Forums in Mexico and France last year. As our commitment to our action coalition, Global Greengrants developed a \$100 million campaign for Feminist Action for Climate Justice with our long-term partner, Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action (GAGGA). This 5-year campaign aims to generate more and equitable funding to gender-just climate action, prioritizing women and girl-led grassroots organizations in the Global South with flexible, multi-year core support. Our main priority is not to become the recipients of this funding but instead to advocate for a philanthropic ecosystem that, collectively, is capable of resourcing women and girl-led climate justice work.



# A Year of Expansion and Growth

## Expanding Our Grantmaking into the Middle East and Northern Africa

In February 2021, Global Greengrants Fund launched a new regional program, expanding our grantmaking capacity in the Middle East and Northern Africa. Throughout the year, 25 grants totaling \$118,900 were awarded in Lebanon, Egypt, Tunisia, Yemen, Jordan, and Morocco, building the capacity of local grassroots movements to address rising environmental impacts, such as climate change, scarcity of water resources, and increasing dust and sandstorms. The new program has been a catalyst for the growth of grassroots movements in the region, bringing much needed funds to fuel environmental action specific to the local climate and social justice contexts of some of the most climate-impacted areas of the globe.

## Addressing Water Access in Yemen

The problem of freshwater shortages and scarcity has become a key discussion in many countries, especially due to the obvious effects of climate change on water sources. 85% of the total population of Yemen is rural, and the agricultural industry consumes 75% of the total fresh water available in the country. The Yemeni Observatory for Human Rights received a grant to raise community awareness about water depletion in the area and advocate for improved water management in local agriculture in order to combat water scarcity issues.

## Support for Sustainable Food Systems

Agroecology is the practice, science, and movement for agriculture, land, and marine management that is regenerative, locally adaptive, preserves traditional knowledge, and is ecologically sustainable. In October 2021, Global Greengrants Fund became the fiscal home of The Agroecology Fund, streamlining their ability to make grants, while creating more opportunities for interaction and exchange across our global networks. That means more resources and collaboration for viable food systems, protecting the human rights of small farmers and their communities, and more climate change mitigation and adaptation through low input agriculture and locally resilient food systems.

## Environmental Defenders At Risk

Worldwide, environmental defenders continue to face threats and risks associated with their activism, including murders, arrests, and kidnappings. The Environmental Defenders Collaborative, housed at Global Greengrants Fund, made 30 grants in 2021 to support environmental activists at risk worldwide. These grants included support for activists in several dozen countries, including first grants for efforts in Namibia and Zimbabwe. The support is divided between a few key categories—regranting partnerships for emergency support to defenders, support for legal action, and support for community-based campaigns, organizing, and documentation.

Over the past year, Greengrants also deepened our learning and grantmaking related specifically to women environmental defenders through a partnership with the Ford Foundation, the Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action (GAGGA), and the Sage Fund. Using an analysis of structural violence, interviews with hundreds of women environmental defenders, and a mapping of the funding landscape for feminist defenders, we intend to integrate these learnings into our own grantmaking and raise awareness throughout the global funder community about the risks women worldwide face for their environmental activism.

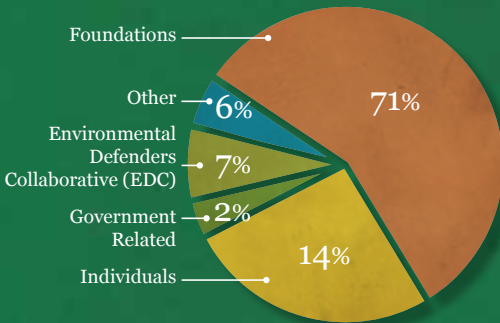


# Financials

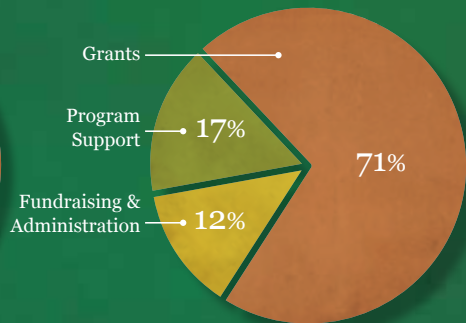
For U.S. and European-based operations in fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. For financials from prior years, visit [greengrants.org/financials](http://greengrants.org/financials).

	FY2020 <small>(audited 6/30/2020)</small>	FY2021 <small>(audited 6/30/2021)</small>
<b>Assets</b>		
• Cash and cash equivalents	\$6,131,245	\$9,443,504
• Accounts receivable	\$2,624,822	\$7,141,197
• Investments	\$2,410,673	\$2,135,283
• Equipment, furniture & fixtures	\$37,051	\$40,479
• Prepaid expenses and other	\$33,258	\$26,743
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$11,237,049</b>	<b>\$18,787,206</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
• Accounts payable	\$58,181	\$158,063
• Other current liabilities	\$254,187	\$252,922
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$312,368</b>	<b>\$410,985</b>
<b>Total Long-term Debt</b>	<b>\$335,743</b>	<b>\$377,150</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
• Without donor restrictions	\$5,684,338	\$7,024,856
• With donor restrictions	\$4,904,600	\$10,974,215
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$10,588,938</b>	<b>\$17,999,071</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>\$11,237,049</b>	<b>\$18,787,206</b>
<b>Revenue &amp; Support</b>		
	<b>\$12,871,076</b>	<b>\$20,163,896</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
• Grants	\$8,968,695	\$9,038,461
• Program support & services	\$2,258,928	\$2,212,563
• Administration and development	\$1,640,974	\$1,568,016
• Total program	\$11,227,623	\$11,251,024
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$12,868,597</b>	<b>\$12,819,040</b>

## Sources of Support\*\*



## Expenses



\*\*Global Greengrants Fund has a vibrant Donor Advised Fund (DAF) program, and the funds are included in these numbers. A DAF at Global Greengrants is an ideal and unique way for donors to direct funds to hard-to-access and vetted grantees while maintaining independence in decisions.

We are grateful for the generous commitment of our donors. Please visit [Greengrants.org](http://Greengrants.org) for a list of individuals, foundations, and corporations who supported our work in 2021.



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