



Environmental
Funders Network

Acting on the Climate Crisis: Why, How and the Role of Philanthropy

A resource pack for funders

Updated November 2022



Foreword

Climate change is an existential threat to humanity and the planet we call home. Its economic, social and health impacts will dwarf those of the COVID-19 pandemic – unless we step up our response, and fast.

Encouragingly, many solutions for the transition to a ‘net zero’ carbon emissions economy are known and these are attracting increased attention from funders, including those not traditionally supporting environmental causes. More and more of us recognise the threat that the climate emergency poses to achieving virtually every other charitable aim. The [Funder Commitment on Climate Change](#), launched in November 2019, invites UK charitable foundations – whatever their mission – to commit to six broad actions to integrate climate factors into their investments, operations, and grantmaking as far as possible. Signatories now number 96 foundations and counting, and equivalent funder commitments for foundations are in place or in development around the world, as well as a new commitment for individuals ([Donors for Climate](#)).

Nonetheless, the level of climate action – and, crucially, funding to support it – still falls woefully short of what is needed.

We believe a key reason for inaction by potential funders is the difficulty both in understanding this complex issue and in navigating the wide range of initiatives underway around the world to drive change. This resource pack was developed to help funders overcome these challenges, and join the broad community of funders already supporting climate action in the UK and around the world.

It provides a range of useful and accessible sources of information on climate change: why it is so urgent, how it impacts other charitable causes, what the solutions are, and how funders – whether through their grantmaking, operations or investments – can make a difference.

We hope you enjoy browsing this pack and find the contents useful.

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Acknowledgements

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Introduction: what causes climate change and how to start taking action

Funders have been integral to almost every aspect of climate action that has succeeded to date, from policy developments to increasing levels of public concern and engagement. Funders from every sector – poverty, education, health, development and more – have realised that they need to support climate action if they are going to succeed in their goals. Increasingly, funders recognise that it is our shared responsibility to our fellow citizens and to future generations to act now on climate, while we can still make a significant difference.

What causes climate change?

- Since the industrial revolution, we have been burning fossil fuels – coal, oil and gas – for energy, transport and industrial processes, like making steel and concrete. The rate of our consumption of those fuels has gone up starkly during this period, with consumption of all three fuels reaching an all-time high at the time of writing in 2022 – we can only imagine how high consumption would be without philanthropically supported climate action.
- When we burn fossil fuels, we emit greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, but also others like methane and nitrous oxide) which blanket the earth and trap the sun's heat. We have also been destroying ecosystems that store carbon (forests, grasslands, mangroves and others) for agriculture, timber, mining and development. Our fossil fuel consumption accounts for about 82 per cent of human-caused carbon dioxide; the other 18 per cent comes from this ecosystem destruction.
- Though the climate has changed over geological time due to a range of different factors, for the length of human history it has been relatively stable, thanks to carbon cycles that balanced greenhouse gases being emitted from natural sources (such as volcanic eruptions and forest fires) with natural sinks (oceans, forests, soils). We have significantly disrupted those cycles, and our emission sources are now considerably larger than our natural sinks.
- As a result, the world is warming faster now than at any recorded point in history; the last decade was the warmest on record. These warming temperatures are changing weather patterns and disrupting the balance of nature, bringing significant risks to humans, and to all life on earth.
- We are now at about 1.2 degrees above pre-industrial temperature levels, and we are already witnessing catastrophic impacts of climate change, from super-charged typhoons and hurricanes to deadly wildfires, floods, droughts and heat waves – with knock-on effects in terms of food prices, conflict, social unrest and health impacts. Global governments have agreed that we need to keep below 1.5 degrees of warming: this is the point at which scientists project we'll likely see many natural systems begin to cross dangerous points of no return, triggering lasting changes and transforming life as we know it.
- To keep below 1.5 degrees, we need to reach 'net zero' globally by 2050 (and some scientists think this needs to be much earlier) – which means achieving a balance between the carbon emitted into the atmosphere, and the carbon removed from it, with the net effect being zero. This will require halving current emissions by 2030 and continuing to halve them each decade thereafter. Depending on the pace of emissions cuts, the amount of carbon that is removed from the atmosphere will also need to be significantly boosted.

How climate change affects other social causes

The climate crisis directly affects us all, but it is also a stress multiplier, meaning it exacerbates existing inequalities by affecting people differently: those most at risk are those on low incomes, ethnic and other minority groups, people living with disabilities, and those with long term health problems. The people who are hit hardest are generally those who have contributed the least to greenhouse gas emissions, so climate change is also a justice issue.

For example, increased temperatures are making some places hard or impossible to live in, because of rising sea levels, extreme weather and reduced food production. Millions are leaving their homes and struggling to access food, water, healthcare, safety and education. Young people, the elderly, women and girls, LGBTQI+ and disabled people are most at risk from these upheavals.

Because of this, climate change intersects with virtually every other social cause. More and more funders are recognising the threat it poses to virtually every charitable aim, and that inequalities will only be further widened if we don't take action now.

How funders can begin to take action

1. Start funding at the place where climate change affects the causes you're passionate about: for examples, see Active Philanthropy's [Climate Philanthropy Guide](#).
2. There's no need to act alone or reinvent wheels – speak to other funders operating at that intersection. Networks like the [Environmental Funders Network](#) (EFN) can connect you to others, and provide resources and advice.
3. Consider joining one of the funder commitments on climate change (there are [international](#) and [national](#) commitments for foundations, and a [UK commitment for individual donors](#)). They are designed to be motivating and to give you frameworks to progress your giving, investments and operations with a climate lens.
4. Most importantly, don't delay – this is the decade when we must act. There is still time to keep warming below 1.5 degrees, but the window of opportunity is closing. Funding spent today is worth significantly more than funding spent in ten years' time, when the effects of climate change will be so much more widespread, and the chances of mitigating their dangerous consequences so much lower.

Funding climate change mitigation, adaptation and/or loss and damage

If you are going to directly fund climate programmes, one important distinction is to decide if you want to fund climate change mitigation, adaptation or (relatedly) loss and damage.

Mitigation: Action that will reduce human-caused climate change. This includes action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or absorb greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. The priorities for funding are to:

1. Stop burning fossil fuels
2. Restore nature
3. Extract carbon dioxide from the air through other means.

Adaptation: Action that helps people and nature to cope with the effects of climate change – for example, changes in agricultural techniques to adapt to prolonged periods of drought, construction of barriers to protect against rising sea levels, or insulating homes and buildings against weather extremes. The priorities for funding are to build the power of communities affected most by climate change, by:

1. Supporting them to have a voice and influence
2. Supporting their efforts to adapt to the effects of climate change

Loss and damage: This refers to the consequences of climate change that go beyond what people can adapt to, including where adaptation options exist but a community doesn't have the resources to access or utilise them. Loss and damage harms vulnerable communities the most, which makes addressing the issue a matter of justice. Estimates for damages from climate impacts are already around \$1.2 trillion, with these damages being disproportionately inflicted on developing nations. Funding for this area is directed at ensuring that money flows from developed countries to those most affected by loss and damage, and in some cases supports efforts to ensure that developing countries' debts are written off, since servicing those debts prevents countries from adapting to climate impacts.

Deciding what to fund

There are four main lenses that funders can use when developing a focus for their environmental giving:

- Thematic issue, e.g. specialising in renewable energy, or organic food, or protecting tropical forests.
- Geography, e.g. ranging from supporting global work to supporting work in one country, or even one city or region.
- Approach, e.g. prioritising scientific research, or grassroots activism, or environmental education, or practical conservation work.
- Values (or “discourses”), in terms of defining what a “win” is considered to be. This ranges from very direct, practical outcomes like “conservation”, through to the “revolutionary” discourse at the other end of the spectrum, where the challenges to the status quo are more profound, and concerns about democratic reform, equality, justice and rights are more visible.

(For more information on discourses, see [Environmental Funding by European Foundations Vol 5](#), pages 10 and 11.)

How to use this guide

There is a vast range of resources available on the subject of climate change and how to take action, with new resources being published all the time. We recognise that this abundance of information can be overwhelming, and may even be one of the barriers to potential funders getting involved. This guide is therefore not intended to be an exhaustive list of climate-related resources, but provides a selection of resources we have found particularly valuable for any funder looking to start or continue their climate learning journey.

The guide is also not intended to be read in its entirety, but can be used as a reference for resources of interest under particular topic areas. Some resources are aimed at those with little existing knowledge, while others provide more in-depth information about particular topics for those looking to deepen their knowledge or specialise in particular areas. Use the [Index](#) to navigate to the sections most relevant to you.

If you're not sure where to begin, we'd recommend the following resources as a useful starting point:

- [Funding the Future: How the climate crisis intersects with your giving](#) (Active Philanthropy, 2020)
- [Environmental Philanthropy: Why social issue funders need to get involved – and where to begin](#) (New Philanthropy Capital)
- [Climate + Philanthropy – A Compact Learning Journey](#) (Active Philanthropy)
- [Webinars on a range of environmental issues and solutions](#) (EFN, 2020–2022), for example on [fast climate mitigation](#), [carbon removal](#) and [nature-based solutions](#)
- [Funder Commitment on Climate Change](#) (for UK foundations), [International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change](#) (for non-UK foundations), or [Donors for Climate](#) (for individual donors).

It is also worth noting that this guide does not recommend specific organisations for funding – there are many doing excellent work, and funder preferences for which to support will likely depend on many differing factors, as outlined in the [Introduction](#). (For an idea of the range of organisations involved, see this fascinating piece of [research](#) which aims to ‘map’ UK climate actors based on different variables.) Do get in touch with the [Environmental Funders Network](#), or other organisations listed in the [Support](#) section, if you would like further guidance.

We hope you enjoy browsing this pack and find the contents useful. We would welcome any feedback at info@greenfunders.org.

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1. Learning about climate change and introducing it to others in your organisation

i. What is climate change, why it matters and possible solutions

To read

(* = easy read; *** = more technical read)

<p><u>Climate change: What do all the terms mean?</u> (BBC, 2019)</p>	<p>Glossary of words and phrases commonly used to discuss concepts relating to climate change. (*)</p>
<p><u>In-depth Q&A: What is ‘climate justice’?</u> (Carbon Brief, 2021)</p>	<p>Detailed exploration of the concept of ‘climate justice’, and actions being called for by the climate justice movement. (*)</p>
<p><u>Understanding Climate Change</u> (Jo Haigh on behalf of the Global Returns Project)</p>	<p>Overview of the causes and consequences of climate change by Jo Haigh, former Co-Director of the Grantham Institute. (*)</p>
<p><u>How big a deal is 1.5°C vs. 2°C of global warming? Significant — here’s why</u> (Bruce Lieberman, 2021)</p>	<p>Summary of likely global impacts at 1.5C versus 2C of warming based on scientific evidence. (*)</p>
<p><u>UN global climate poll: ‘The people’s voice is clear – they want action’</u> (The Guardian, 2021)</p>	<p>Article presenting the results of the biggest ever opinion poll on climate, conducted by the UN in 50 countries, revealing that two thirds of the 1.2 million people surveyed (and 81% of those in the UK) view climate change as a global emergency. (*)</p>
<p><u>Letter from UK philanthropists to the UK’s wealthiest families and largest foundations</u> (2021)</p>	<p>Letter to the UK’s wealthiest families and largest foundations, signed by 14 environmental philanthropists, asking recipients to direct their philanthropy and investments urgently towards the climate and nature crises. (*)</p>

<p><u>Letter from climate scientists to the UK's largest foundations</u> (2019)</p>	<p>Letter to the Chairs and CEOs of the UK's largest foundations, signed by 11 prominent UK climate scientists, calling for significant investment in action to address the climate and ecological crises whether through endowments or grant-giving. (*)</p>
<p><u>On Thin Ice: A guide for philanthropists and changemakers to address climate change</u> (UBS, 2022)</p>	<p>Guide providing an overview of climate change impacts and opportunities for philanthropists to take action, with tips from experts and philanthropists already taking these steps. (*)</p>
<p><u>Time to Act: How Philanthropy Must Address the Climate Crisis</u> (FSG, 2021)</p>	<p>Guide providing practical recommendations for how philanthropic funders can further their existing missions by supporting effective climate action through grantmaking and investments. (*)</p>
<p><u>The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 6th Assessment Report</u> (IPCC, 2021-2022)</p>	<p>Expert analysis of the current state of knowledge on climate change from the IPCC, the UN body for assessing climate change science. (***)</p>
<p><u>In-depth Q&A: The IPCC's sixth assessment on how to tackle climate change</u> (Carbon Brief, 2022)</p>	<p>Overview of the key conclusions of the IPCC's 2022 report on how the emissions cuts required to keep global warming below 1.5C could be achieved. (**)</p>
<p><u>The science community says carbon dioxide removal is now essential to limit warming to 1.5° C along with deep decarbonization</u> (Climateworks Foundation, 2021)</p>	<p>Overview of the IPCC's findings in its 2021 report that removing excess carbon dioxide from the atmosphere will be essential to prevent global warming from exceeding 1.5C, and how such approaches could be implemented. (*)</p>
<p><u>Drawdown Solutions</u> (Project Drawdown, updated 2022)</p>	<p>Assessments of over 90 specific solutions to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, ranging from technological to nature-based and behaviour-change solutions, indicating an estimate of the likely impact of each one. (**)</p>

<p>Soil to Sky: Climate solutions that work (California Environmental Associates on behalf of CLIMA Fund, 2019)</p>	<p>Compilation of evidence that makes the case for funding grassroots solutions to climate change: those led by communities local to the problems, rather than those led by international policy or corporate actors. (**)</p>
<p>Nature-based solutions for climate change mitigation (IUCN and UNEP, 2021)</p>	<p>Report analysing evidence for the potential role of natural solutions in addressing climate change, and carbon offsets as a source of finance. (***)</p>

To watch

<p>Climate Change: the Facts (BBC, 2019)</p>	<p>Documentary about climate change presented by Sir David Attenborough. (1 hour or 4 minute summary)</p>
<p>10 Years to Transform the Future of Humanity – or Destabilize the Planet (Johan Rockström, 2020)</p>	<p>TED talk summarising research showing that nine out of the 15 large-scale biophysical systems that regulate the global climate are at risk of reaching tipping points. (8 minutes)</p>
<p>Climate Emergency: Feedback Loops (Moving Still Productions, 2021)</p>	<p>Series of 5 short films featuring 12 world-renowned climate scientists, narrated by Richard Gere. (10 - 15 minutes each)</p>
<p>Greta Thunberg and George Monbiot on natural solutions to the climate crisis (Gripping Films, 2019)</p>	<p>Short film highlighting the need to protect, restore and use nature to tackle the climate crisis. (4 minutes)</p>
<p>Webinars on a range of environmental issues and solutions (EFN, 2020 - 2022)</p>	<p>Recorded webinars aimed at funders hosted by EFN, featuring international experts. (1 - 1.5 hours each)</p>
<p>Climate Learning for Philanthropists webinar series (Climate Leadership Initiative, 2020)</p>	<p>Recorded webinars aimed at funders hosted by the Climate Leadership Initiative on various climate-related topics. (1 - 1.5 hours each)</p>

Learning programmes

<p><u>Active Philanthropy: Climate + Philanthropy – A Compact Learning Journey</u></p>	<p>Eight online modules of 1.5 hours each, specifically aimed at supporting philanthropy professionals to take climate action (€1,498).</p>
<p><u>Impatience Earth workshops</u></p>	<p>Tailored workshops on climate change for donors, trustees and philanthropy advisors, for those wanting to make significant commitments to climate change (free).</p>
<p><u>AimHi: Climate & Nature Course</u></p>	<p>Four interactive, online lessons of around 1 hour each; courses run regularly with timings to suit different time zones (voluntary fee of £25).</p>
<p><u>Project Drawdown: Climate Solutions 101</u></p>	<p>Six online modules focused on solutions to climate change, including lectures and conversations with international experts (free).</p>
<p><u>UN Climate Change Learning Partnership: Climate Change – From Learning to Action</u></p>	<p>Six online modules of around 2 hours each featuring talks, activities and quizzes (free). Other courses on specific climate topics are also available.</p>
<p><u>University of Edinburgh: Climate Solutions</u></p>	<p>Five online modules of 1 – 2 hours each taught by climate experts and focused on the role of individuals, businesses and governments in climate solutions (free or £41 to certify).</p>
<p><u>WWF and Deutsches Klima Konsortium: Climate Change, Risks and Challenges</u></p>	<p>Six online modules featuring 5 hours of lectures by climate scientists alongside assignments and quizzes; a condensed 3 – 4 hour version and 30 minute version are also available (free).</p>

<p><u>The Carbon Literacy Project</u></p>	<p>Courses on climate change for organisations and individuals, with the option of developing your own in-house training or using a list of accredited trainers (various options with differing costs).</p>
<p><u>Institute of Environmental Management</u></p>	<p>Accredited courses on environmental sustainability in the workplace, most relevant to operational roles (offered by various providers with differing costs).</p>



ii. Learnings on the links between climate change and other social issues

Health and disability	
Healthy Planet, Healthy People (New Philanthropy Capital on behalf of EFN, 2022)	Briefing for funders on the links between environmental and human health issues, and how to take action to create positive benefits for both.
Philanthropy Briefings on COVID-19 and Conservation, a Green Recovery and Human Health and the Environment (Liz Gadd on behalf of EFN, 2020)	Briefings for funders on the intersection of environmental issues with the COVID-19 pandemic and human health more broadly.
Disability and Climate Justice (Dr Maria Kett, Gaya Sriskanthan and Ellie Cole on behalf of Open Society Foundations, 2021)	Report analysing current work at the intersection between disability and climate justice, and providing recommendations for funders to move this agenda forwards.
Climate change and health (World Health Organization, 2021)	Brief overview of the different ways in which climate change impacts human health.
Lancet Countdown 2022 Report	Annual report tracking the relationship between health and climate change from the Lancet Countdown, a collaboration of over 120 international experts.
Why climate change is still the greatest threat to human health (National Geographic, 2021)	Article exploring the human health threat posed by climate change, drawing from a joint editorial published by more than 200 medical journals.
The connections between climate and our health (Health and Climate Network, 2021)	Four briefings looking at the evidence on how current food, energy, transport and health systems are contributing to the climate crisis and impacting peoples' health, and how they can also be part of the solution.
Healthy environment, healthy lives (European Environment Agency, 2020)	Report on the impacts of the quality of the environment on human health and wellbeing in Europe.
The invisible threat: how we can protect people from air pollution and create a fairer, healthier society (Asthma UK and the British Lung Foundation, 2021)	Report on the health impacts of particulate matter pollution in the UK.

Conflict and migration	
<u>Ecological Threat Report 2021</u> (Institute for Economics and Peace)	Assessment of the projected risk of conflict relating to ecological threats across different countries.
<u>When Rain Turns to Dust</u> and <u>short summary</u> (International Committee of the Red Cross, 2020)	Report exploring how climate change can increase the risk of conflict, while those experiencing conflict are less able to cope with the impacts of climate change.
<u>The great climate migration has already begun</u> (New York Times, 2020)	Interactive article exploring the growing link between climate change and migration.
<u>Action on climate-linked migration and displacement</u> (Climate Outreach, 2021)	Report exploring how funders can strategically and inclusively empower refugee and migrant led organisations working on climate-linked mobility.
Poverty and education	
<u>How climate change increases hunger - and why we're all at risk</u> (Concern, 2022)	Article summarising the various ways in which climate change increases hunger.
<u>Solving the climate and education crises together</u> (Global Partnership for Education, 2022)	Blog explaining how climate change impacts education, and how supporting education contributes towards addressing climate change and building climate resilience.
<u>Climate–Poverty Connections: Opportunities for synergistic solutions at the intersection of planetary and human well-being</u> (Project Drawdown, 2022)	Report presenting evidence for the socioeconomic co-benefits of climate solutions for rural communities in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.
<u>The Economic Benefits of Local Climate Action</u> (Place-based Climate Action Network and Queen's University Belfast on behalf of UK100, 2021)	Report synthesising evidence for the economic benefits of investing in local climate action in the UK.

Children’s rights	
<u>The Climate Crisis is a Child Rights Crisis</u> (UNICEF, 2021)	Report presenting the Children’s Climate Risk Index, which uses data to generate new global evidence on how many children are currently exposed to climate and environmental hazards, shocks and stresses.
<u>Born into the Climate Crisis: Why we must act now to secure children’s rights</u> (Save the Children, 2021)	Report analysing the extent to which children will experience extreme weather events under climate change, the disparities between generations, and the widening inequality between high-income and low- and middle-income countries.
Women’s and LGBTQI+ rights	
<u>Explainer: How gender inequality and climate change are interconnected</u> (UN Women, 2022)	Summary of climate change impacts on women and girls, why gender equality is key to climate action, and how to support solutions for women, by women.
<u>Gender, climate and security: Sustaining inclusive peace on the frontlines of climate change</u> (UN, 2020)	Report on the interlinkages between advancing climate action, peace and gender equality.
<u>How climate change could drive an increase in gender-based violence</u> (Nature, 2022)	Article presenting evidence that gender-based violence increases following extreme weather events, and incidences are projected to rise as such events occur more frequently due to climate change.
<u>Philanthropy Briefing: Women & the Environment</u> (Carolyn E. Kossow on behalf of EFN, 2020)	Briefing for funders on the links between gender equality and the environment, and the role that philanthropy can play in supporting both causes, drawing on case studies from around the globe.
<u>How Environmental and Climate Injustice Affects the LGBTQI+ Community</u> (Center for American Progress, 2022)	Article summarising how climate change and other environmental issues can have disproportionate impacts on LGBTQI+ populations.

Racial justice	
<u>Climate justice can't happen without racial justice</u> (David Lammy MP, 2020)	Short TED talk on the interlinkages between climate and racial justice. (10 minutes)
<u>Climate justice is racial justice</u> (Keya Chatterjee, 2020)	Article setting out how the climate crisis stemmed from racism, with polluting and extractive facilities placed in Black, Brown and Indigenous communities around the world, who are suffering the consequences.
<u>From Africa to the US to Haiti, climate change is a race issue</u> (Patrisse Cullors and Nyeusi Nguvu, 2017)	Article explaining how the climate crisis is a racist crisis, with Black and poor people being those most affected.
<u>Why climate change is inherently racist</u> (Jeremy Williams, 2022)	Article presenting how climate change and racism are strongly intertwined, and how tackling climate change could help address longstanding racial injustices.
<u>Racism and Climate (In)Justice</u> (Olumide Abimbola, Joshua Kwesi Aikins, Tselane Makhesi-Wilkinson and Erin Roberts on behalf of Heinrich Böll-Stiftung, 2021)	Framing paper exploring how colonialism and racism have enabled climate change, how it impacts racialized communities disproportionately, and how to decolonise movements and institutions.
Modern slavery	
<u>Blood and Earth: Modern Slavery, Ecocide, and the Secret to Saving the World</u> (Kevin Bales, 2016)	Book exploring the links between modern slavery and environmental destruction, including climate change.



iii. Speakers who can help organisations understand the issue

Florence Miller or Jane Cabutti at the Environmental Funders Network (florence@greenfunders.org, jane@greenfunders.org) and Will Dawson or Yasmin Ahammad at Impatience Earth (will@impatience.earth, yasmin@impatience.earth) would be happy to speak informally to anyone interested in funding work on climate change.

The [Climate Reframe](#) project aims to amplify BAME voices in climate conversations and can help make connections with a number of Black, Brown, Asian, People of Colour and UK-based Indigenous Peoples who are climate experts, campaigners and advocates living and working in the UK, some of whom may be available for speaking engagements.

See also the [Global South Climate Database](#), a searchable database of scientists and experts in climate science and policy from Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Pacific.

UK climate change scientists

Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock	Space scientist, science educator and founder of Science Innovation Ltd
Professor Joanna Haigh	Former Co-Director of the Grantham Institute, Imperial College London
Charise Johnson	Policy and Advocacy Lead at Julie's Bicycle, co-founder of Solidaritree, and committee member of Science London
Professor Sir David King	Founder and Chair of the Centre for Climate Repair, University of Cambridge, and former UK Government Chief Scientific Advisor
Dr Tim Kruger	Programme Manager of the Geoengineering Programme, University of Oxford
Dr Jaise Kuriakose	Teaching and Research Associate at the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Manchester
Jocelyn Longdon	Founder of Climate in Colour and PhD student at University of Cambridge
Dr Carly McLachlan	Director of Tyndall Manchester, University of Manchester
Dr Emily Shuckburgh	Director of Cambridge Zero, University of Cambridge

<u>Professor Julia K. Steinberger</u>	Professor of Societal Challenges of Climate Change, University of Lausanne
<u>Ayesha Tandon</u>	Science journalist at Carbon Brief
<u>Angela Terry</u>	Environmental scientist and founder of One Home
<u>Dr Gabrielle Walker</u>	Founder and Director of Valence Solutions and former Climate Change editor at Nature
<u>Professor Lorraine Whitmarsh</u>	Director of the Centre for Climate Change and Social Transformations, University of Bath

Examples of UK and international climate research initiatives that may be able to offer expert speakers

<u>The Earth League</u>	Voluntary international alliance of institutional and individual members who work together to respond to pressing environmental issues including climate change.
<u>Grantham Institute</u>	Institute of Imperial College London undertaking research, training and communications on climate change and the environment.
<u>Lancet Countdown</u>	Collaboration of over 120 international experts from academic institutions and UN agencies that tracks the connections between public health and climate change.
<u>Met Office</u>	Conducts research aimed at quantifying and reducing uncertainty in climate change.
<u>Tyndall Centre</u>	Partnership of universities bringing together researchers from the social and natural sciences and engineering to develop sustainable responses to climate change.

iv. Communicating about climate change with stakeholders

<p><u>Climate Outreach</u></p>	<p>UK charity providing free resources to guide climate communications as well as training and consultancy services.</p>
<p><u>Climate Visuals</u></p>	<p>Compilation of evidence-based, impact-focused climate photography from Climate Outreach.</p>
<p><u>Public Engagement for Climate Change: A literature review</u> (Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation – UK Branch and Centre for Public Impact, 2021)</p>	<p>Review of the literature on public engagement for climate action to improve understanding of effective ways to engage the public on meaningful behaviour change, accompanied by a series of eight case studies which document interesting and innovative approaches to engaging the public on climate change from around the world.</p>
<p><u>Six ways to change hearts and minds about climate change</u> and <u>How to talk about climate for change</u> (On Road Media, 2020/2022)</p>	<p>Report presenting research into what frames and stories work when talking about climate, and short films setting out key recommendations.</p>
<p><u>Communicating and framing environmental issues webinar series</u> (EFN, 2019–2020)</p>	<p>Video recordings of a series of webinars from experts on communicating and framing environmental issues.</p>
<p><u>Communicating the climate crisis</u> (Climate XChange, 2020)</p>	<p>Report summarising key challenges and lessons in climate communication.</p>
<p><u>Communicating climate change: A practitioner’s guide</u> (Climate & Development Knowledge Network, 2019)</p>	<p>Tips for communicating climate change effectively, aimed in particular at those working in developing countries.</p>

2. Taking action

i. Funding climate change initiatives

Research on climate grantmaking and potential gaps

<p><u>Much Alarm, Less Action – Foundations & Climate Change</u> (Center for Effective Philanthropy, 2022)</p>	<p>Findings from a 2022 survey of how US-based funders and organisations, both climate- and non-climate-focused, perceive climate change and how it will affect their work.</p>
<p><u>What the Green Groups Said 2021</u> (EFN, 2022)</p>	<p>Findings from a 2021 survey of 116 UK-based environmental organisations on their priorities, strategies and funding needs.</p>
<p><u>Funding trends 2022: Climate change mitigation philanthropy</u> (ClimateWorks Foundation, 2022)</p>	<p>Analysis of worldwide philanthropic funding for climate change mitigation from 2015 to 2021.</p>
<p><u>Foundation funding for climate change mitigation: Europe spotlight</u> (ClimateWorks Foundation, European Foundation Centre and The Hour is Late, 2021)</p>	<p>Analysis of funding for climate change mitigation from European philanthropic foundations in 2016, 2018 and 2020.</p>
<p><u>Where the Green Grants Went 8</u> (EFN, 2021)</p>	<p>The most recent in a series of publications analysing data on environmental grants from UK-based trusts and foundations, Landfill Communities Fund distributors and lottery sources, covering the three-year period from 2016/17 to 2018/19.</p>
<p><u>Environmental Funding by European Foundations 5</u> (European Foundation Centre, 2021)</p>	<p>The most recent in a series of publications analysing data on environmental grants from larger European foundations and lottery sources, covering the 2018 financial year.</p>
<p><u>Where the climate grants went in 2020</u> (EFN, 2021)</p>	<p>Blog summarising key findings from an EFN analysis of climate grants disbursed in 2020 by 27 funders that are members of EFN's Climate Funders Group.</p>
<p><u>Grant funding versus the climate crisis</u> (Lucent Consultancy, 2021)</p>	<p>Blog sharing findings and reflections from an analysis of publicly-available environmental grants data conducted by Lucent Consultancy for Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation.</p>

Opinion pieces on the role of philanthropy in addressing climate change

- [What Does it Take to Win on Environmental Issues and How Can Funders Help?](#) (p9-10; Harriet Williams and Hugh Mehta, 2022)
- [To Meet the Climate Challenge, Philanthropy Must Challenge Itself](#) (Laurence Tubiana and Christie Ulman, 2022)
- [It's Time for Philanthropy to Step Up the Fight Against Climate Change](#) (McKinsey Sustainability, 2021)
- [Avoiding A Code-Red Climate Future: The Window to Avoid a Catastrophe is Still Open, for Now](#) (Surabi Menon, 2021)
- [How Funders Worried By the UN Climate Report Can Address the Climate Crisis](#) (Liz Gadd, 2021)
- [What Can Philanthropy Do for the Climate? Strategic Pathways for Climate Giving](#) (Eléonore Delanoë, Arthur Gautier and Anne-Claire Pache, 2021)
- [Philanthropic action on climate has been too slow – is the rise of green intermediaries the answer?](#) (Isabelle Gerretsen, 2021)
- [Environmental Funders: The Problem Isn't Just Diversity. It's Access to Money](#) (Lois DeBacker and Jacqueline Patterson, 2021)
- [At the Nexus of Women and Climate: The Case for an Underexplored Funding Paradigm](#) (Gabriela Buentello, 2021)
- [How Can a Small Generalist Funder Tackle Climate Change?](#) (Nick Perks, 2020)
- [What I Would Spend Jeff Bezos's \\$10bn Climate Pledge On — It's Not What You Think](#) (Dominic Hofstetter, 2020)
- [Philanthropy is Shortchanging Climate Change: Here Are Three Ways It Can Boost Its Impact](#) (Nicole Systrom, 2020)
- [Philanthropy Must Stop Fiddling While the World Burns](#) (Larry Kramer, 2020)

Re-granting bodies/pooled funds addressing climate change

The number of climate-focused re-granters and pooled funds is expanding rapidly. The list below includes a selection of these.

<u>African Climate Foundation</u>	African-led strategic grantmaker focusing on activities devised and led by Africans and exploring the relationship between climate change work and development in particular.
<u>Ashden Awards</u>	The Ashden Awards are globally recognised as a mark of excellence in the field of green energy; a number of the categories are sponsored by foundations.
<u>Clean Air Fund</u>	Assists funders and provides grants and other support to organisations for work to tackle air pollution in India, the UK, and East and South East Europe.
<u>CLIMA Fund</u>	A collaboration between Global Greengrants Fund, Grassroots International, Thousand Currents, and Urgent Action Fund for Women’s Human Rights, supporting grassroots solutions to the climate crisis.
<u>Climate Activist Speaker Fund</u>	A pilot fund to test a new mechanism of support for young climate activists to deliver effective messaging, run by EFN, Climate 2025, On Road Media and Global Strategic Communications Network.
<u>Climate Justice Resilience Fund</u>	Supports the communities hit first by climate change to create their own solutions to adapt and thrive in a warming climate.
<u>European Climate Foundation</u>	Established by foundations as a vehicle for strategic European philanthropy to foster the development of a net zero emissions society.
<u>Foundation for International Law for the Environment</u>	Aims to accelerate legal action globally to address the climate and nature crises through grantmaking and in-house legal expertise.

<u>Global Greengrants Fund</u>	Supports grassroots, locally-led climate and environmental solutions around the world.
<u>Youth Climate Justice Fund</u>	Youth-led pooled fund providing global youth climate justice movements with support, advice and funding.

ii. Integrating climate change into existing programmes

Case studies of funders supporting climate work

<u>Gower Street case study</u>	Why Gower Street shifted its focus to fund climate action.
<u>Savitri Waney Charitable Trust case study</u>	Why the Savitri Waney Charitable Trust turned its attention to environmental causes.
<u>Wellcome Trust case study</u>	About Wellcome Trust's Our Planet, Our Health programme.
<u>From Coal to Clean Energy</u> (Climate Leadership Initiative)	Case study on the Beyond Coal Campaign, a collaborative philanthropic effort to accelerate the transition from coal in the US.
<u>How can funders help tackle the climate emergency?</u> (p19-20; Nick Perks and Mercedes Green, 2022)	Article introducing the various funder commitments on climate change, including a case study on how Foundation Scotland is implementing its climate commitment.
<u>Funder Commitment on Climate Change Year 2 report</u> (Association of Charitable Foundations, 2022)	Report on progress made by the signatories of the Funder Commitment on Climate Change in the initiative's second year.
<u>Time to Act: How Philanthropy Must Address the Climate Crisis</u> (FSG, 2021)	Includes case studies of US funders that are supporting climate action through their grantmaking and investments.
<u>Funding the Future: How the climate crisis intersects with your giving</u> (Active Philanthropy, 2020)	Includes case studies of European funders that have incorporated climate change into their funding programmes.
<u>Environmental Philanthropy: Stories to Inspire</u> (EFN, 2020)	Collection of stories from funders on environmental grants they feel have been particularly impactful.

<p><u>Forces for Nature</u> (EFN, 2017)</p>	<p>Collection of 14 interviews with environmental funders on their motivations and how they are taking action.</p>
<p><u>A Splendid Torch</u> (EFN, 2014)</p>	<p>Collection of 10 interviews with funders on what motivates them to give to environmental causes and how they ensure that their giving is as effective as it can be.</p>

The links between funding climate work and meeting other charitable goals

<p><u>Environmental Philanthropy: Why social issue funders need to get involved – and where to begin</u> (New Philanthropy Capital, 2022)</p>	<p>Briefing for funders, in particular those focusing on social issues, providing an introduction to environmental philanthropy and explaining how environmental issues intersect with social issues.</p>
<p><u>Centering equity and justice in climate philanthropy</u> (Seema Shah on behalf of Candid and Ariadne, 2022)</p>	<p>Guide for funders on climate justice and how to apply a climate justice lens to funding, including case studies of funders that have shifted to a justice-centred portfolio.</p>
<p><u>Beyond 2%: From climate philanthropy to climate justice philanthropy</u> (EDGE Funders Alliance and UNRISD, 2022)</p>	<p>Report making the case for grounding climate philanthropy in climate justice and just transition principles, and providing recommendations and examples.</p>
<p><u>Intersectional environmentalism: How foundations simultaneously address race and climate</u> (Jake Safane, 2022)</p>	<p>Blog exploring how many funders are recognising that environmental and racial issues are intertwined, and taking this into account in their grantmaking.</p>
<p><u>Achieving a Just and Sustainable Economic Recovery: Philanthropic opportunities at the intersection of racial and social justice and climate action</u> (ClimateWorks Foundation, 2021)</p>	<p>Report setting out why a holistic, integrated perspective is required to solve the most pressing societal issues we face, and presenting examples of initiatives around the world that philanthropy could support, focusing on the intersection of social and racial justice, climate and economic recovery.</p>
<p><u>Funding the Future: How the climate crisis intersects with your giving</u> (Active Philanthropy, 2020)</p>	<p>Guide illustrating how the climate crisis impacts funding portfolios in a range of different areas and highlighting where there are co-benefits from taking climate action.</p>

<p><u>Climate Change and Social Change: How funders can act on both</u> (Ten Years Time, 2019)</p>	<p>Interviews with funders on how and why they are responding to the climate emergency, and practical ideas for how funders can use their grant giving, investments and convening power to simultaneously address climate change and social change goals.</p>
<p><u>Investing at the Frontlines of Climate Change: A funder toolkit on climate, health and equity</u> (from a partnership of various US-based philanthropy networks)</p>	<p>Toolkit that includes links to resources, organisations and networks (primarily US-based) aimed at helping funders understand the interconnected opportunities to improve the environment, protect health and eliminate inequities.</p>

Examples of funding programmes that connect climate change and other issues

<p><u>Arts Council England: Environmental Programme</u> (delivered in partnership with <u>Julie's Bicycle</u>)</p>	<p>Initiative to support Arts Council England grantees to monitor and reduce their carbon footprint.</p>
<p><u>JAC Trust: Climate Change and Displacement</u></p>	<p>Trust whose funding focuses on improving the lives of displaced people and protecting and restoring their local environments, recognising that climate change and displacement are inextricably linked.</p>
<p><u>Children's Investment Fund Foundation: Climate Change Programme</u></p>	<p>Grants programme focused on accelerating solutions for climate change mitigation, recognising that climate change poses the single biggest threat to the future of today's children.</p>
<p><u>City Bridge Trust: Eco-audits</u></p>	<p>Grants programme to provide eco-audits for third sector organisations in London to improve their sustainability.</p>
<p><u>Guy's & St Thomas' Foundation: Impact on Urban Health</u></p>	<p>Initiative to improve urban health and health equity, focusing on various health issues including air pollution.</p>
<p><u>Wellcome Trust: Climate and Health</u></p>	<p>Funding programme that supports research on the health impacts of climate change, food systems and urbanisation.</p>

iii. Investments

Research and guidance on investing more sustainably

<p><u>UN Principles for Responsible Investment</u></p>	<p>Six high-level principles for responsible investment supported by the UN; signatories pay a membership fee and report annually.</p>
<p><u>Six steps towards greener investments</u> (Nando van Kleeff, 2021)</p>	<p>Article setting out various ways in which funders can use their investing power to drive climate action by companies, with links to recommended resources.</p>
<p><u>ShareAction resources</u></p>	<p>Free general guides on matters such as responsible investment strategy and engaging with fund managers.</p>
<p><u>How to DivestInvest</u> (DivestInvest)</p>	<p>Divestment guidance for organisations and individuals.</p>
<p><u>Divest Invest Philanthropy: Five years after launch</u> (Croatan Institute on behalf of DivestInvest, 2019)</p>	<p>Review of progress made in the five years following the launch of Divest Invest Philanthropy in 2014, including the impact on investment performance (which was overwhelmingly positive or neutral).</p>
<p><u>The Climate Crisis and Church Investors: Possible Policy Responses</u> (Church Investors Group, 2019)</p>	<p>Guidance for church investors to integrate climate concerns into investment strategies.</p>
<p><u>Banking on Climate Chaos 2022</u> (Rainforest Action Network and partners)</p>	<p>Analysis of fossil fuel financing from the world's 60 largest banks.</p>
<p><u>Forest500 2022 annual report</u> (Global Canopy)</p>	<p>Report analysing the policies and performance of the 350 most influential companies and 150 financial institutions linked to deforestation in their supply chains and investments.</p>
<p><u>InfluenceMap</u> and <u>FinanceMap</u> resources</p>	<p>Analysis on how business and finance are driving the climate crisis.</p>

iv. Buildings and operations

Technical advice and certification to improve the sustainability of buildings and operations

<u>Bioregional: One Planet Living</u>	Organisational sustainability framework and resources, training and consultancy support to guide its implementation.
<u>Carbon Trust</u>	Global environmental sustainability consultancy providing some free tools and resources as well as paid advice and certification.
<u>Centre for Sustainable Energy</u>	UK charity that promotes sustainable energy by providing advice and training, managing innovative energy projects and undertaking research and policy analysis.
<u>PlanetMark</u>	UK consultancy offering sustainability advice, training and certification.

Sustainable behaviour incentive schemes for employees

<u>Climate Perks</u> (run by <u>Possible</u>)	A leave scheme that incentivises land rather than air travel.
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3. Support

i. Philanthropy advisory bodies offering climate change expertise

<u>Impatience Earth</u>	Climate and philanthropy experts providing pro bono advice to donors looking to commit £1 million to £10 million to address the climate crisis.
<u>Active Philanthropy</u>	Organises expeditions to Greenland to learn about the climate crisis and potential solutions, and supports philanthropists, donor families, and philanthropic organisations with strategy building and grant management services.
<u>Climate Leadership Initiative</u>	Advisory service connecting climate change philanthropists to high-impact solutions.

ii. Networks for peer learning and support on climate change

Funders	<u>Environmental Funders Network</u>	UK-based network of foundations, family offices and individual donors supporting environmental causes.
	<u>European Environmental Funders Group</u>	European network of funders supporting environmental causes.
	<u>European Philanthropy Coalition for Climate</u>	European network of funders and philanthropy support organisations aiming to promote bolder climate philanthropy.
	<u>Funder Commitment on Climate Change</u>	Pledge of six climate change commitments aimed at UK foundations, hosted by the Association of Charitable Foundations with regular meetings and support for signatories.
	<u>International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change</u>	Equivalent of the above aimed at foundations based in any country, hosted by WINGS.
	<u>Donors for Climate</u>	Equivalent of the above aimed at individual donors, developed by EFN and the Beacon Collaborative.

Asset owners active on climate change	<u>Charities Responsible Investment Network</u>	UK network of funders and other charity asset holders, providing peer networking and learning opportunities and supporting joint campaigns.
	<u>Church Investors Group</u>	Network of institutional investors from many mainstream Church denominations and church-related charities, predominantly based in the UK and Ireland, which aims to encourage the formulation of investment policies based on Christian ethical principles.
Organisations aiming to improve operational sustainability	<u>Fit for the Future</u>	UK network of over 100 (mainly large) charities, heritage organisations, cultural venues and other groups, providing peer learning on issues such as sustainable procurement, building and energy management.
	<u>Chapter Zero</u>	UK network to support implementation of net-zero ambitions, aimed at commercial non-executive directors but welcomes senior members from large charity boards.

iii. Keeping up to date

<u>Environmental Funders Network newsletter</u>	Monthly newsletter for funders and philanthropy advisors compiling the latest resources about environmental philanthropy and invitations to relevant meetings and events.
<u>European Philanthropy Coalition for Climate newsletter</u>	Weekly newsletter for European funders and philanthropy support organisations compiling resources, events and news stories relevant to climate philanthropy.
<u>The Guardian: Down to Earth digest</u>	Weekly digest of climate and environment stories published in <i>The Guardian</i> .



EFN's mission is to increase financial support for environmental causes and to help environmental philanthropy to be as effective as it can be. Our members are funders, mainly based in the United Kingdom, who pursue these aims at home and overseas. Funders interested in joining EFN or finding out more about the network should contact us using the contact form at www.greenfunders.org. Publications and resources relevant to environmental philanthropy are available on the Resources page of our website: www.greenfunders.org/resources.

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