



Moving Power,
Money and Minds:

2021 Impact Report



**WE
DO**

2021 at a glance

350+

delegates and advocates from at least 100 countries reached by WEDO and WGC trainings.

7,500+

visits to the Gender Climate Tracker web platform and over 800 downloads of the GCT app

1

landmark report on care and climate

30+

media articles featuring members of the Women & Gender Constituency during COP26

1

feminist bloc of marchers at the largest global climate march in Glasgow, Scotland

11

new publications & resources produced

17

organizational endorsements of the newly launched Gender and Environment Data Alliance (GEDA)

6

WEDO commitments pledged at the Generation Equality Forum

11

interventions delivered by the Women's Major Group at the High Level Permanent Forum

2

U.S. congressional briefings organized

10

feminist stories from the pandemic captured from 10 different countries

1

new feminist financing mechanism: Gender Just Climate Solutions Scale Fund

Moving POWER

Advancing feminist climate justice across global policy spaces

One of WEDO's core values—a throughline in our advocacy and movement building work across programming—is a belief that being in collective is a political act. 2021 proved to be a crucial and exciting year for deepening this commitment, including through new and innovative forms of organizing amid the landscape of reduced in-person gatherings.

Toward Feminist Climate Justice in the UNFCCC »

As advocates for people and planet seek to be heard in a process increasingly co-opted by business interests, WEDO focused in 2021 on strengthening the profile and reach of the Women and Gender Constituency (WGC)—one of the nine official UNFCCC constituency groups—that WEDO co-convenes.

In the lead-up to the climate negotiations in Scotland, WEDO and the WGC hosted trainings with feminist activists who planned to engage in COP26 in-person and virtually. These trainings provided technical overviews of the negotiating processes and highlighted methods to shape policy outcomes and strategically pose communications and media interventions. Coordinated by WEDO, the WGC developed [Key Demands for COP26](#) and a set of issue briefs sourced from the wide range of experiences and focus areas within the WGC. These materials—which explored critical topics such as [Article 6](#), [Oceans](#), [Climate Induced Migration](#), and [Loss and Damage](#)—guided our collective action.

During COP26, WEDO led robust messaging and color campaigns and daily caucus meetings (held both in person and virtually)—positioning the WGC as a powerful and highly visible presence in the UNFCCC space. With over three dozen media hits across five global regions in outlets like [The Guardian](#), [BBC](#), and [VICE](#), and features of our eye-catching “Feminist Climate Justice” masks in [The Economist](#), [NowThis Media](#) and more, WGC voices resonated loud and clear. With more media coverage and coordination among advocates for direct actions and spoken interventions in the negotiations than ever before, WEDO is proud to support the growing and collaborative work and impact of the WGC.

Promoting women's participation and leadership through the Women Delegates Fund

WEDO's longstanding commitment to advancing and supporting women's leadership and participation in climate change decision-making through the Women Delegates Fund (WDF) continued during 2021. In advance of the UNFCCC intersessional meetings in June, WEDO hosted three multi-week virtual training courses with over 140 negotiators from all over the world earning certificates. WEDO then provided support for an incredible cohort of 35 women delegates from Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States to attend the 26th UNFCCC Conference of Parties in November as negotiators for their Parties. As part of this support, we hosted our traditional WDF "Night School"—a preparatory session that includes a simulated negotiations session—to strengthen delegates' skills in drafting text, coordinating positions and building consensus.

"The most amazing thing about me ascending to this position [of national climate and gender focal point] is that we now have more women on the Liberian delegation than ever before. At first we started with one, then two—and now we have more than 15 women representing our country's delegation at COP26. How did I get to my first COP originally, in 2018? I was sponsored by WEDO through the Women Delegates Fund. I arrived without knowing anything, and WEDO provided the foundation for how to engage in the meetings, how to speak in the meetings. I can tell you—I may not know it all, but I do know what I'm here for."

—**Josephine Doles**, Federal Ministry of Environment, Nigeria

Increasing a human rights approach within UN sustainable development spaces >>

In 2021 the [Women's Major Group](#) (WMG) continued to bring feminist voices and rights-based analyses to UN sustainable development spaces. In January, the WMG released a [position paper](#) on the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) process to review the 2030 Agenda, which set the stage for organizing around two priority calls to action: (1) meaningful civil society inclusion, and (2) sustainable development efforts that are grounded in a human rights approach.

The WMG also produced a member meeting series titled, "[Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\) and UN Human Rights Mechanisms from a Feminist Perspective](#)" to explore the opportunities and methods for feminist civil society advocacy within UN processes. The lessons learned were summarized in infographics, serving as important collective learning tools for members and civil society allies to increase the bridges between the human rights institutions and sustainable development fora within the UN.

“The position paper, infographics and our advocacy leading up to the 2021 HLPF led to the increased inclusion of human rights and gender equality as core elements of Agenda 2030, and an increased emphasis on intersectionality,” said WEDO Project Associate Andrea Vega Troncoso, whose work supports the Women’s Major Group. *“Specifically, we saw our asks backed by more Member States, and mentioned more frequently in the Ministerial Declaration.”*

During the HLPF in July, the WMG delivered 11 official interventions across the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) and thematic segments. The coalition ran a strong digital advocacy campaign, hosted five official side events and an SDGs learning session, and held virtual bilateral meetings with government representatives.

Creating synergies between the Generation Equality Forum and the global climate movement >>

From March through July 2021, the Generation Equality Forum (GEF) brought together stakeholders to revisit the commitments outlined in the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and catalyze transformative action toward gender equality. The Forum resulted in diverse pledges from governments, donors, civil society, and the private sector—as well as blueprints for six key issue areas organized into “Action Coalitions.”

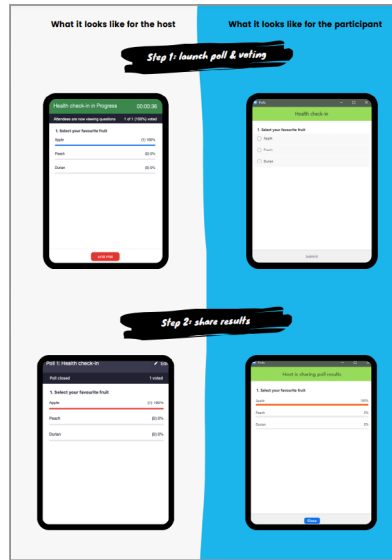
WEDO was chosen to co-lead one of these key areas—the [“Feminist Action for Climate Justice \(FACJ\)”](#) Action Coalition—playing a key role in defining the coalition space and ensuring that a feminist structural analysis guided its framing. Moving forward, WEDO will continue to help guide FACJ’s work and ensure inclusion of perspectives and voices from members from across our coalitions.

As part of our advocacy efforts, WEDO also articulated and laid the groundwork for the [six collective commitments we made](#) during Generation Equality Forum, which will continue to shape our actions in advocacy for years to come:

- ➔ 17 organizations signed on to collectively shape the first alliance dedicated to gender and environment data.
- ➔ WEDO and partners launched a new Feminist Action Nexus for Economic and Climate Justice to drive progress at the intersection of these two GEF Action Coalitions.
- ➔ WEDO and partners launched a new re-grant collective, [The Gender Just Climate Solutions Scale Fund](#), and awarded its first six pilot round winners.
- ➔ WEDO and partners built the foundation for the [SRHR & Climate Justice Coalition](#).
- ➔ WEDO continued to support collective efforts to advance Feminist Foreign Policy, and collective land rights.

Connecting and Convening Across Languages

WEDO's [leadership in virtual organizing spaces](#) allowed us to spearhead and share strategies and best practices for online collaboration, as well as further our commitment to language justice in our global collective spaces. In our virtual organizing with the WMG and WGC, for example, simultaneous interpretation and closed captioning in English, French, and Spanish increased the ability for global and diverse participation. Additionally, we offered internet access stipends for all virtual trainings, acknowledging the barriers that rural partners in particular face accessing the internet. More than a quarter of those who completed the March and April 2021 virtual courses on the UNFCCC negotiations process followed primarily in French or Spanish.



Moving MONEY

Advancing new mechanisms for funding Gender Just Climate Solutions

The Gender Just Climate Solutions Scale Fund >>

Founded in July 2021 as one of WEDO's core commitments during the Generation Equality Forum, the Gender Just Climate Solutions Scale Fund is a new re-grant collective that pools resources from women's rights organizations and members of the Women and Gender Constituency (WGC) network—of which WEDO is a coordinating member. In November, WEDO selected the first six pilot round awardees from an applicant pool of already recognized gender and climate solutions, providing them with small grants of US\$10,000 each to amplify and scale their work.

"We believe that the GJCS Scale Fund will strengthen our organizational capacity and accelerate our movement on climate justice," said Naznine Nahar of BINDU, a youth feminist organization in Bangladesh and one of the pilot round awardees. *"This funding opportunity will increase women's participation in disaster risk reduction and contribute to building a climate-resilient coastal community."*

The GJCS Scale Fund builds on decades of ongoing feminist mobilizing for climate solutions, including the WGC's annual [Gender Just Climate Solutions Awards](#), for which WEDO provides technical and financial support, and the [WORTH Initiative](#), focused on sexual and reproductive health and rights and climate justice. This initiative recognizes the need for streamlined access to flexible funding to address issues, such as internal capacity-strengthening, that prevent these solutions from reaching a greater scale or sharing their ideas for locally-led replication elsewhere.

Gender Just Climate Solutions Awards >>

At COP26, the GJCS Award ceremony honored three key climate solutions that center gender equality, with more than 20 additional projects and programs featured in the annual publication and directory. These current and past GJCS awardees were featured in several official events.

Gender Just Climate Solutions Support Facility >>

Throughout the year, WEDO also continued the work of supporting past and current awardees and applicants via a webinar training series, as well as other targeted outreach about funding opportunities.

Together, WEDO and the Women and Gender Constituency organized a three-part webinar series available with English, Spanish, and French interpretation. The second round of webinars focused on

“Funding Gender Just Climate Solutions,” in which hundreds of registrants from nearly 100 countries showed interest.

“Taken together, our expanding GJCS work strives toward an ecosystem of mechanisms that provide direct funding access to grassroots organizations through accessible processes and flexible funding—including core support,” said Tara Daniel, a senior program manager at WEDO who helps oversee this work.

Strengthening the capacity of feminists to engage with the Green Climate Fund >>

WEDO continues to address existing climate finance mechanisms to ensure adequate and additional climate finance flows and promote gender-responsiveness, including engagement with women’s organizations.

As the largest multilateral climate fund and one serving the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) remains a key priority for our advocacy. In 2021, the GCF Board approved 32 projects and programmes to receive nearly \$3 billion USD in funding, and each submitted a gender assessment and gender action plan as part of their approval process. As the majority of the fund’s portfolio comes under implementation, strengthening feminist civil society capacity to engage is vital to ensuring that the potential of the GCF, the first climate fund to integrate gender in its founding instrument, translates into participatory, inclusive, gender-responsive climate action.

- ➔ **Supporting the coordination of the GCF observer network of civil society, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities:** We contributed to the network’s participation in three virtual GCF Board meetings in 2021, ensuring collective input and positioning on GCF projects, policies, operations, and strategic direction, as well as coordinating responses to other opportunities for input into GCF processes outside of the Board meeting cycle.
- ➔ **Strengthening the capacity of feminists to engage with the GCF in Latin America and the Caribbean:** While WEDO has supported regional groups over the years, we deepened our work in the LAC region during 2021. The regional gender group met biweekly to deepen knowledge on the GCF, review and analyze gender action plans of LAC projects being implemented under the GCF.

Providing new guidance on how to better integrate gender in climate finance projects >>

At “Finance Day” at COP26, the Climate Development and Knowledge Network, SouthSouthNorth, and WEDO [launched a new guide](#) to help ensure that climate finance projects benefit women, men and people of all genders.

The guide’s set of recommendations provides a simple framework for leveraging the inflection points that lead to greater success in advancing gender equality across climate finance projects. Stemming from interviews with key project development stakeholders and gender and climate change experts, these recommendations highlight approaches that should be more standardized and supported—regardless of the project or funding entity.

“This is the first comprehensive gender guide that I’ve come across, which is applicable to a broad range of sectors, geographies, financiers and stages in the project preparation process,” said Caroline Solik, Engagement Manager at Pegasys. *“I will personally find it hugely helpful in my own work, both from a technical perspective and when it comes to advocating to colleagues the importance of adequately resourcing gender positions on projects.”*

WEDO remains an active member of the GenderSmart Gender and Climate Investment Working Group, aiming to unlock the potential of applying a gender lens to climate finance and vice versa. The investing group’s commitment to contributing to planning how to best strengthen capacity and funding for grassroots and civil society initiatives—including recognizing that civil society must be funded in complementarity with the overarching goals of advancing gender equality and climate action—is strongly influenced by WEDO’s presence and advocacy as a civil society organization.

In August 2021, WEDO Director Bridget Burns was invited to join the newly-formed [Women in Finance Climate Action Group](#) alongside prominent private sector and government officials. This collective of “women leaders from around the world” is uncovering how “private finance can and must support both climate action and gender equality,” through dedicated research and advocacy and launched its first report at COP26. WEDO once again brings the feminist civil society perspective into this space, encouraging the development of action frameworks that prioritize grassroots, informal solutions.



Moving MINDS

Centralizing data through the Gender Climate Tracker >>

WEDO's [Gender Climate Tracker](#) (GCT) continues to be the critical platform for centralizing data, resources and analysis around gender and climate in the UNFCCC negotiations. First launched in 2016 as an app, a now multilingual website and app highlight key gender disparities to hold countries accountable and facilitate policy implementation. A [new video](#) provides guidance for how users can engage with the GCT to access and contribute to a range of resources on gender just climate action.

WEDO carried out further analysis in 2021, updating the women's participation statistics for the virtual negotiation session and COP26, adding the gender references from the COP26 decisions, and examining countries' new or updated Nationally Determined Contributions (climate action plans) to reveal opportunities and gaps in integrating gender in national planning processes. New [guidance in English, Spanish and French](#) published by the WGC provides a complementary resource for advocacy and accountability when it comes to Parties' implementation of the Paris Agreement and its recognition of gender equality as essential to effective climate action.

On the GCT website, the WEDO team added hundreds of new resources that are accessible in a searchable central library as well as on each country profile webpage to help advocates better navigate the wealth of information emerging at this intersection. The GCT also links to the latest news so advocates can track announcements and analysis at a global, regional, and country level.

Toward a New Alliance on Gender + Environment Data >>

As part of the Generation Equality Forum, [WEDO](#) and the [International Union for Conservation of Nature \(IUCN\)](#)—together with a group of multi-stakeholder partners—began the “Gender-Environment Data Alliance (GEDA).” With an initial group of 17 organizations and institutions joining as founding members, and 50+ more interested in participating in its activities, GEDA will serve as a co-created initiative to curate and communicate data, knowledge, and information needed to ensure gender just climate action.

“In so many global policy spaces we constantly hear of the need for better data, disaggregated by gender/sex, as well as by markers that help identify baselines and impact according to intersectional identities,” said WEDO Sr. Program Manager Katie Tobin. *“Everyone knows that data is a huge challenge in terms of collation and uptake in policy, and so far in the environment/climate arena there hasn't been a shared space that brings both people and resources together to address it.”*

As a membership Alliance, GEDA will serve as a hub for diverse organizations working on the intersection of gender and environment through a data lens, and with a special focus on climate resilience. By leveraging the networks of its membership, the Alliance will have vast access to diverse stakeholders who can participate in mobilizing, curating, communicating, applying, and learning from gender and environment data. As the work of the Alliance continues, members plan to engage in capacity and skills building at multiple levels, from grassroots practice to national implementation.

As we enter the initial phases of ideation of GEDA, we're excited to shape the alliance and its activities with feminist partners and allies.

Putting care at the core of climate action with landmark reports >>

As a core member of the [Feminist Green New Deal Coalition \(FemGND\)](#), WEDO focused in 2021 on developing the narrative that care work is climate work—and which underpins advocacy efforts to advance inclusive policies at this critical intersection.

On April 15th, the FemGND—which WEDO is a proud Steering Committee member of—launched a new brief: “[Care & Climate: Understanding the Policy Intersections.](#)” The publication built on the growing momentum in the U.S. around expanding and investing in national care infrastructure, connecting this policy goal directly to the discourse on the climate crisis. The brief makes the case for investment in high-quality care jobs as part of a strong climate and infrastructure package, and provides suggestions for strengthening the Biden-Harris Administration’s proposals around both climate and care.

Building on this momentum, in September, The Feminist Green New Deal Coalition and [Data for Progress](#) released new polling that found a strong majority of respondents believed care should be central to climate, workforce, and infrastructure policies. 69% of all respondents agreed that “green jobs” are any jobs related to the well-being of people and the planet.

“Green jobs are not just jobs in hard hats retrofitting buildings and constructing solar and wind energy,” said WEDO Program Manager Mara Dolan, who contributed to the report(s). “They are also jobs of caring for each other, teaching, home health care, child care, elder care and more. This time of crisis is demanding we move from investments in extraction to investments in care, in all its forms.”

Crafting an equity-based framework for US climate commitments >>

As WEDO laid the foundation for strengthening and building out its U.S. advocacy program, we deepened our engagement with U.S. climate movements and advanced efforts to connect global justice advocacy to U.S. climate responsibility.

Ahead of the 2021 Leaders' Summit on Climate hosted by President Biden, WEDO was proud to join allied organizations in collectively writing and releasing the United States "[Fair Shares Nationally Determined Contribution](#)" report. The model document lays out the measures the U.S. should commit to in order to do its "fair share" of the global effort to curb climate change, calling on the U.S. to commit to a 70 percent cut domestically by 2030 and contribute the equivalent of a further 125 percent by financing developing countries' emissions reductions. The Fair Shares report helped to establish new framing of expectations against which the US NDC would be judged, focusing on the idea that climate finance should be based on the scope of the need, rather than judged in comparison to previous inadequate commitments.

"The Fair Shares NDC provides a critical roadmap for effective U.S. climate action that delivers climate justice," said WEDO Director Bridget Burns. *"The imperative to recognize historical and ongoing injustices must be matched by the commitment to redress them, by embedding human rights, gender equality and environmental justice into all action, centering the leadership of the most marginalized, and ensuring the right of all people to live on a healthy and peaceful planet."*

The report was covered widely in the media, and featured in:



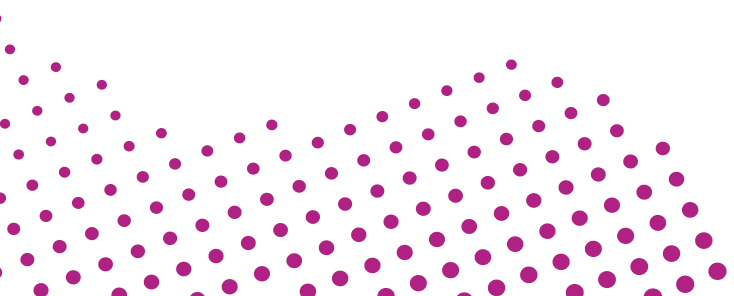
[What a fair climate target looks like for the US, the largest historical carbon emitter](#)



[Biden Pledges to Cut U.S. Carbon Emissions 50% by 2030](#)



[The U.S. Has a New Climate Goal. How Does It Stack Up Globally?](#)



Media and Communications Highlights

During 2021, WEDO significantly deepened its strategic communication efforts across all of our programmatic and advocacy work. In the lead-up to COP26, for example, WEDO led the coordination of the WGC's strategic communications efforts, which included 1) a visual movement building initiative involving outfitting allies and influencers in #FeministClimateJustice face masks; 2) a coordinated social media and color campaign with specific colors and demands for each day of the climate summit; 3) traditional media outreach that resulted in three dozen media hits in five regions; and 4) direct actions to call attention to key messages and drive media coverage. Over the year, WEDO also laid the groundwork for a new strategic communications program—contracting a consultant to complete a thorough communications audit, hiring a senior communications manager, and creating the initial outline of an organizational communications plan.



A [Washington post article](#) covered Gender Day at the UN climate talks, interviewing WEDO Director Bridget Burns.



A [news article in Vox](#) covered the U.S. Fair Shares NDC report, produced by a collaborative effort of allied organizations including WEDO and partners.



[The Guardian](#) covered [flagship research](#) by The Feminist Green New Deal on care and climate.



[NowThis Earth](#) featured the [three awardees](#) from the Women and Gender Constituency's annual Gender Just Climate Solutions program.

Team Highlights

WEDO welcomed four new staff members, and two new members to its Board of Directors.



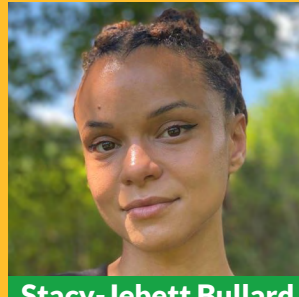
Alex Gordon

Program Manager



Lindsay Bigda

Senior Comms Manager



Stacy-Jebett Bullard

Senior Operations Manager



Katie Tobin

Senior Program Manager



Barbara Phillips

Board Member



Anabella Rosemberg

Board Member



[WEDO Director Bridget Burns was named one of Apolitical's 100 most influential people in gender policy for 2021.](#)



WEDO's Andrea Vega Troncoso spoke on what a feminist framework for climate action means to her on the [Raíces Verdes podcast](#).



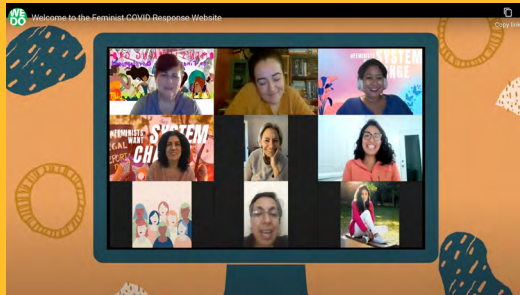
WEDO's Mara Dolan [wrote a feature for Dazed](#) profiling the young activists fighting to make the climate negotiations more feminist.

Community and Coalition Highlights



Creating spaces for collective learning

In addition to its external advocacy, the Women's Major Group prioritized internal learning and movement building through its webinar series, "[Until All of Us Are Free: Intersectional Feminist Fishbowl Series](#)." The events created a dedicated space for WMG members to learn from and heed leadership of marginalized groups—via facilitated discussions on the rights of LGBTQIA+ communities, Indigenous women, Black and Afro-descendant women, and sex workers.



Sharing stories for collective healing

The Feminist COVID Response [interactive website](#) has acted as home for feminist organizing and resources for COVID-19, with a page dedicated to rapid-response funding opportunities for grassroots organizations, a '[Storytelling Initiative](#)' for submissions, the feminist COVID response principles, and the [advocacy toolkit](#).



Celebrating visions for radical futures

As a celebration of our intersectional movements for climate justice, gender justice, and beyond, WEDO released a new video: [Young Climate Feminists Building Radical Futures](#). Animated by Erik Ruin from Justseeds and featuring the voices of young feminists from around the world, the video paints a collective vision for the future built on care for people and the planet.



Finding moments of collective joy

As in-person gatherings began to return in 2021, WEDO was able to gather and organize with partners and movement allies at COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland (Photo by Annabelle Avril).

2021 Financial Summary

INCOME

Grants and Contributions: \$3,029,332

Program service fees: \$104,000

Other income: \$5,421

Interest/Investment Income: \$48

Currency Exchange: (\$2,246)

Total public support and revenue: \$3,136,555

2021 DONOR LIST

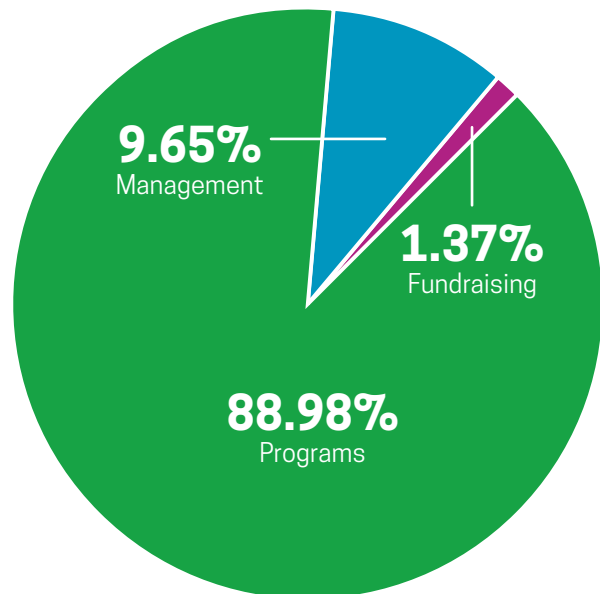
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia
 Energy and Climate Change Directorate, Scotland
 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
 Foundation for a Just Society (FJS)
 Irish Aid
 Mama Cash
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands
 Pinkerton Foundation
 Swedish International Development Agency (Sida)
 Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
 UK Cabinet Office
 Wallace Global Fund
 Wellspring
 Woka Foundation

USE OF FUNDS

Programs: 88.98%

Management: 9.65%

Fundraising: 1.37%




**Detailed financial information
is available at:**

wedo.org/legalfinancial.




[WEDO.org](https://www.wedo.org)


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Tanzania, India, South Africa

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