

The State of Global Giving by U.S. Foundations

2022 EDITION

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Key Findings on Global Giving by U.S. Foundations

For 25 years the Council on Foundations and Candid have partnered on studies of globally focused giving by U.S. foundations. The new edition of *The State of Global Giving by U.S. Foundations* provides the latest perspective on how the nation's foundations are supporting critical efforts to improve health outcomes, address climate change, offer access to education, ensure human rights, and engage with a wide array of other global priorities. Through interviews with a selection of global funders, *Global Giving* also offers insights on how foundations are addressing the critical challenges of our time and where they see signs of optimism and opportunity going forward.

Global Giving Priorities 2020 to 2022 and Beyond

How has the community of globally focused U.S. foundations been responding to evolving challenges ranging from the COVID-19 pandemic to climate change to growing restrictions on civil society?

Global Giving shares the insights of nine representatives of private and public foundations, along with one philanthropy-serving organization leader, on how their priorities are and are not being impacted by these and other factors. Taken together their comments describe a sector that has been responsive in a crisis while continuing to emphasize long-term priorities and evolutionary change. Key learnings include:

The COVID-19 pandemic accelerates changes already underway for globally focused U.S. foundations.

The holistic impact of the pandemic heightened the need for resources across the priority areas in which global funders were already engaged. And many of the interviewees explicitly spoke about how the pandemic had accelerated changes already taking place within their institutions. From advancing racial justice and equity to localizing decisionmaking to ensuring the role of partners in agenda setting, multiple interviewees credited the pandemic with reinforcing the importance of these transitions.

Technology enables and enhances aspects of global U.S. foundation engagement in ways unimaginable prior to the pandemic.

For globally focused U.S. foundations, especially those that historically relied on extensive travel to explore new funding opportunities, build and maintain relationships, and track progress, the COVID-19 pandemic represented an unfathomable challenge. Yet, funders and most of the nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and individuals they support pivoted rapidly to virtual communications. This change yielded a number of unanticipated benefits, such as far more regular communications and deeper understanding of grantee perspectives.

U.S. foundations increase emphasis on localization through direct global giving but continue to see value in the role of intermediaries.

Several interviewees spoke about how their foundations transitioned over several decades from primarily funding U.S.-based intermediary organizations to directing much larger shares of their funding to NGOs headquartered in the countries they prioritize. But for some foundations, structural and other constraints make direct funding of local organizations challenging, such as not having a local presence through which to identify partners and manage risks. For others, foundation strategy guides whether to fund organizations directly or through intermediaries based on which approach is most likely to achieve impact.

Restrictions on foundations and NGOs remain a growing challenge but also benefit from perspective.

In considering external factors that have had the greatest impact on global giving by U.S. foundations, interviewees overwhelmingly cited growing restrictions on civil society sectors in various countries and on the donors that support these sectors. At the same time, one interviewee sought to place this trend in a broader historical context noting that, while funding has become more challenging in recent years, it is not necessarily more challenging than 50 years ago.

SDGs provide U.S. foundations with a common “language” for sharing priorities.

Based on perspectives shared by interviewees, it appears that very few globally focused U.S. foundations have intentionally reoriented their grantmaking priorities to align with the SDGs. Nonetheless, many of the interviewees do find utility in the SDG framework, particularly for demonstrating how their work aligns with the priorities of other funders.

Youth movements, technology, and an increasing emphasis on human rights are among areas of optimism.

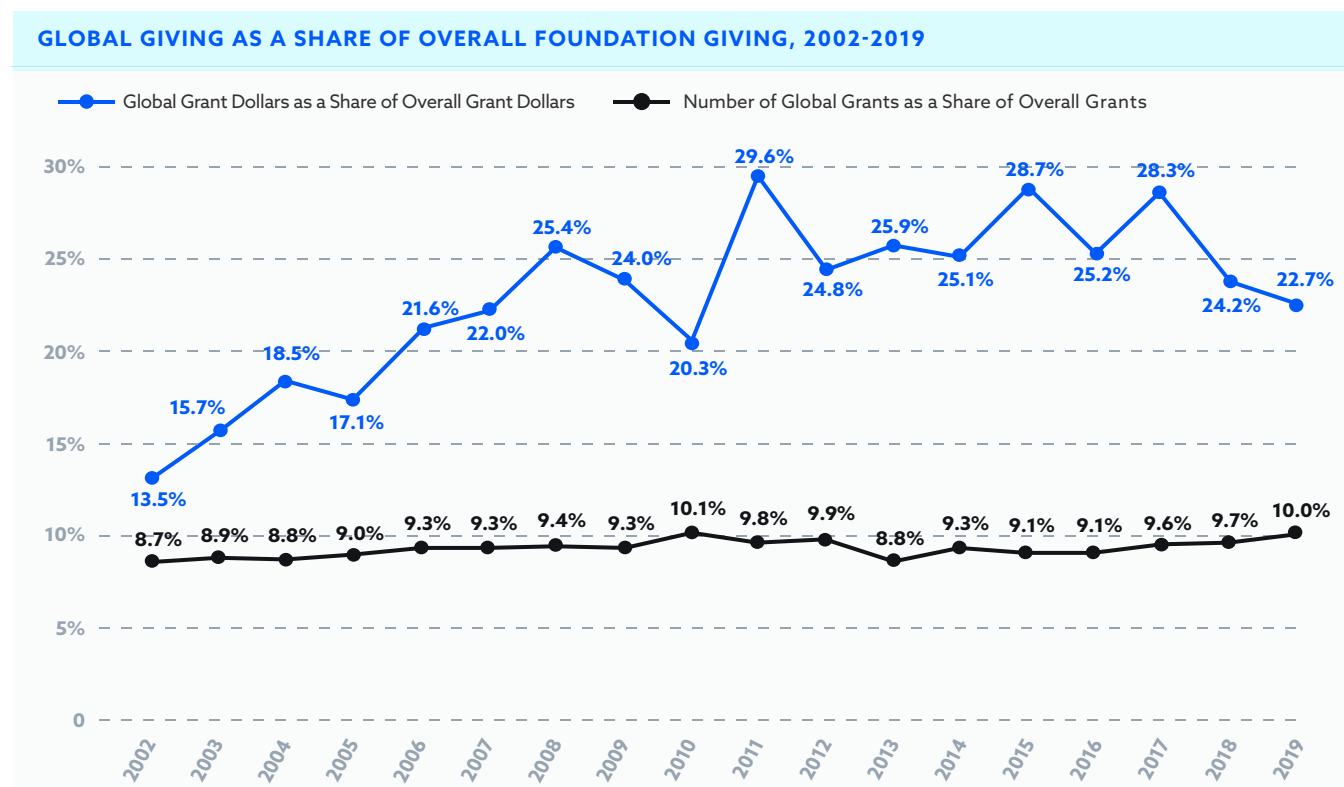
The ten foundation and PSO representatives interviewed for *Global Giving* identified several areas of optimism and potential investment for globally focused U.S. foundations. Multiple interviewees spoke about the potential of growing youth movements and leaders. Others discussed the role of technology in accelerating problem solving and democratizing engagement. Several interviewees spoke about the benefits of broadening conceptions of human rights and how this can be leveraged around priorities such as countering pollution.

Trends in Global Giving Through 2019

U.S. foundations continued to provide strong support for global efforts in the latter half of the 2010s. Through U.S.-based organizations, intermediaries located in other countries, and direct giving to organizations doing work in the countries in which they are headquartered, U.S. private and community foundations included in Candid's "Foundation 1000" dataset awarded globally focused grants totaling \$8 billion in 2019—close to four times the approximately \$2.2 billion awarded in 2002. An analysis of global support by these foundations during the period 2016-2019 reveals:

Global giving holds steady as a share of overall U.S. foundation grantmaking.

Global giving has represented a fairly consistent roughly one-quarter share of foundation support since 2008 and around 9-10 percent of overall number of grants since the early 2000s. This suggests that global giving continues to be an important priority for U.S. foundations but has not increased in importance relative to domestic giving since the late 2000s.



U.S. foundations' global giving focuses on every major region and 188 specific countries.

In the 2016-2019 period, the largest shares of global giving focused on specific regions prioritized the Sub-Saharan Africa (25 percent) and Asia & Pacific (18 percent) regions. This includes grants directly to organizations headquartered in those regions, as well as grants focused on those regions going to organizations headquartered in other regions. India, Israel, Nigeria, and China ranked as the top four countries by geographic focus based on U.S. foundation grant dollars.

A majority of global giving by U.S. foundations funds organizations and intermediaries headquartered in the United States.

Just over three out of five globally focused foundation grant dollars (61 percent) supported institutions headquartered in the United States in the 2016-2019 period. Most of this support targeted organizations that provide direct services in other countries, as well as regranting organizations that fund groups globally and programs that engage in globally focused activities primarily within the United States. Another roughly one-quarter (27 percent) of giving funds intermediaries based in other countries. The remaining approximately 13 percent of U.S. foundations' global grant dollars funded organizations headquartered in the countries where the work being supported will take place.

Nearly half of global giving by U.S. foundations targets health.

In the period 2016-2019, health accounted for 49 percent of global grant dollars. If the Gates Foundation were excluded from the latest period, health's share of global giving would drop to 20 percent—although it would continue to rank as the top priority.

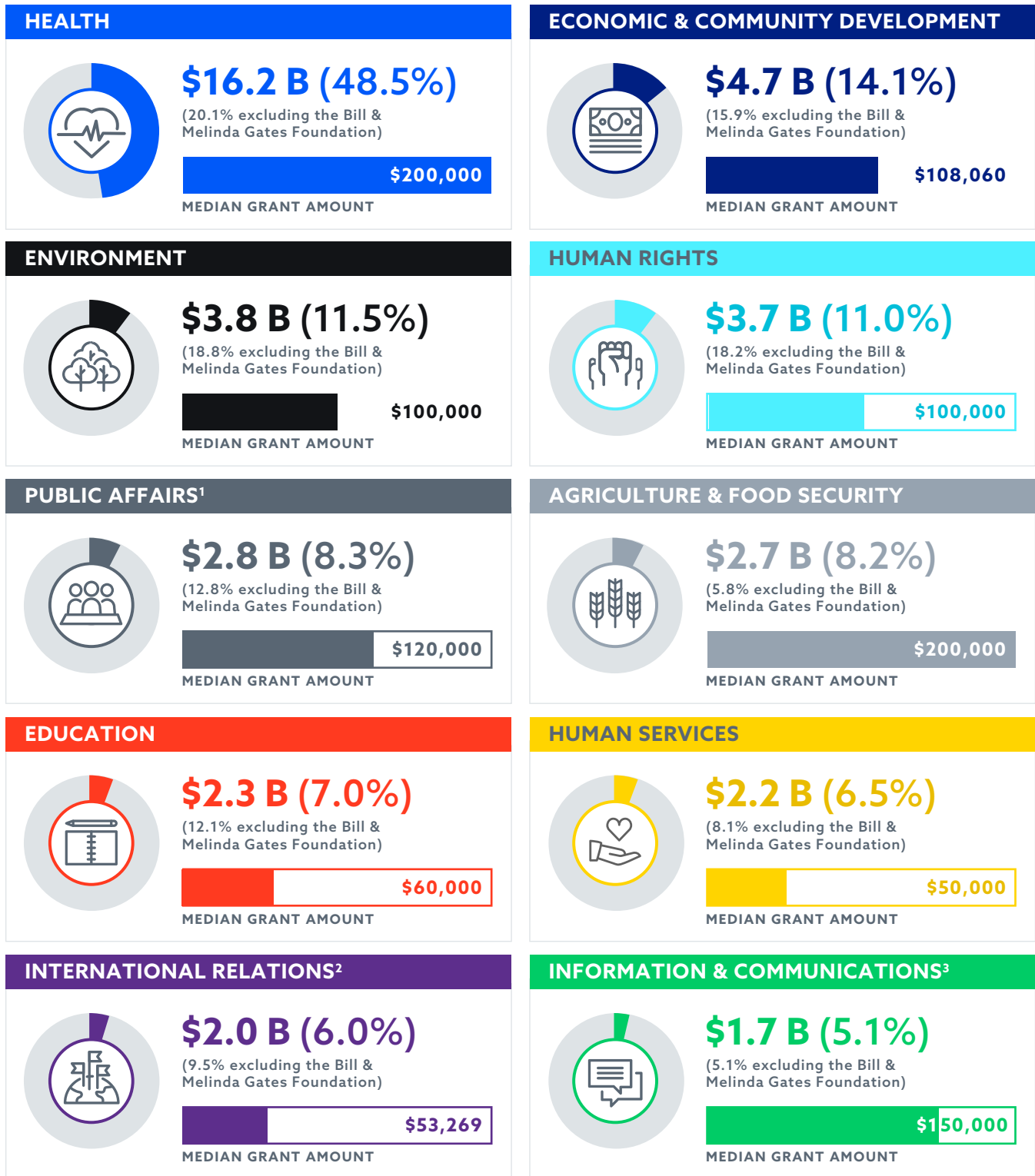
Human rights becomes a top priority of globally focused U.S. foundations.

Among the many issue areas supported by foundations, human rights has realized the fastest growth in global support in recent years. In the 2016-2019 period, human rights reached 11 percent of global foundation grant dollars, up from less than 7 percent in the 2011-2015 period. Moreover, 22 percent of the number of global foundation grants now include a focus on priorities ranging from reproductive rights to environmental justice to freedom of expression. *(see figure on next page)*

Most globally focused U.S. foundation giving aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Eighty-four percent of global giving by U.S. foundations in the 2016-2019 period aligned with the SDGs. Among the 17 specific goals, foundation support was far more likely than Official Development Assistance to align with "Good Health and Well-Being" (Goal 3) and "Gender Equality" (Goal 5). While few U.S. foundations explicitly seek to define their grantmaking based on the SDGs, in pursuing their organizations' priorities they are contributing to the advancement of these important global goals.

GLOBAL GIVING BY ISSUE FOCUS, 2016-2019



Note: Includes issue areas accounting for at least 5 percent of global giving. Grants may support multiple issue areas. Therefore, percentages exceed 100%.

¹ Includes National Security, Democracy, and Public Administration.

² Includes Peace and Security, International Exchange, Goodwill Promotion, International Economics and Trade, Multilateral Cooperation, and Foreign Policy.

³ Includes Media Access and Technology, Journalism, Communication Media, and Libraries.

PART I

Global Giving Priorities 2020 to 2022 and Beyond

From the vantage point of the United States, challenges facing other parts of the world can often feel far removed. The political and social upheavals, natural disasters, and humanitarian crises that pop up on our screens can be swiped away with little apparent consequence – until a global pandemic takes hold and forces us to acknowledge just how closely our lives are connected.

Yet, the story of the past three years goes well beyond a once-in-a-hundred-year pandemic. The impacts of climate change, with increasingly extreme storms and floods and droughts, are now unignorably touching lives in both the most impoverished and privileged communities. The murder of George Floyd by those charged with protecting their fellow citizens has stoked a racial reckoning in the United States and reinforced calls for equity in other countries. More recently, Russia's invasion of Ukraine has awakened Americans to the threats of authoritarian regimes in a way that similar forays in other regions have not.

How has the community of globally focused U.S. foundations been responding to these and other evolving challenges? To offer perspective, this report shares the insights of nine representatives of private and public foundations, along with one philanthropy-serving organization leader (see "Global Giving Interviewees"), on how their priorities are and are not being impacted by these and other factors. While each of these informants pursues unique priorities, taken together their comments describe a sector that has been responsive in a crisis while continuing to emphasize long-term priorities and evolutionary change.

The following sections feature key takeaways from interviewees organized around topics ranging from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to an increasing focus on localization to perspectives on the Sustainable Development Goals. They also include preliminary data on the distribution of 2020 global giving by U.S. foundations. The final section highlights areas of optimism identified by interviewees for other globally focused U.S. funders to consider in this time of obvious peril and great potential.

Global Giving Interviewees

Martin Abregu

Vice President, International Programs
Ford Foundation

Donna Callejon

Interim Chief Executive Officer
Global Giving

Harvey Fineberg, M.D., Ph.D.

President
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

Julie Gehrki

Vice President of Philanthropy
Walmart

Kézha Hatier-Riess

Vice President of External Relations
Global Greengrants Fund

John Hecklinger

President and CEO
Global Fund for Children

Lourdes Inga

Executive Director
International Funders for
Indigenous Peoples

Shaheen Kassim-Lakha, DrPH

Director, Strategic Partnerships
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

Shannon Lawder

Program Director, Civil Society
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

Florencia Spangaro

Chief Operating Officer
Citi Foundation

The COVID-19 Pandemic

Few events have illuminated global inequities and systemic failures as plainly as the COVID-19 pandemic that took hold across the world in early 2020. As one interviewee put it, “It’s not simply a health crisis. It’s a social crisis. It’s an economic crisis. It’s a political crisis.”

Across regions, health systems struggled to respond, economic well-being declined and food insecurity rose, intimate partner and family violence skyrocketed, and authoritarian regimes seized upon the opportunity to tighten controls as societies struggled to respond to an overwhelming catastrophe.

But none of these trials were unprecedented. “The pandemic didn’t bring about new challenges,” said an interviewee. “It brought a deepening and worsening of existing pre-pandemic challenges.” What was new was the universality of the experience. Similarly, the response of globally focused U.S. foundations has mirrored the response of funders to earlier crises—but at a much larger scale and faster rate.

At the same time, every crisis has long-term impacts on policies and practices, and some potentially lasting changes for global funders already seem apparent. Following are insights on how some U.S. global givers have responded to immediate pandemic needs, as well as potential implications for how they will approach their work going forward.

Global U.S. foundation giving becomes more flexible in immediate response to the pandemic.

The response of global givers to the COVID-19 pandemic has in many ways reflected the approaches of foundations responding to previous natural and humanmade crises: funders provided exceptional giving to support immediate relief and recovery efforts; they sought to shore up long-time grantees to ensure they would remain viable throughout the crisis; they streamlined reporting requirements; and they did so while continuing to focus on their existing priorities. They also engaged in some novel strategies, such as providing matching funds to unlock government support and floating a social justice bond to increase resources available to address the crisis. As one interviewee described their experience, “It led us to adopt increased levels of flexibility and widen the aperture of things we were able and willing to support.”

Yet, what was truly exceptional was that the pandemic directly affected the grantees of every foundation, resulting in a foundation response far more extensive than had ever been seen before. For a number of funders, this was “the first time they were forced to think more globally,” said one interviewee. “I think the momentum changed rapidly from funder-driven mandates to what I’m going to call ‘empathy.’” Another interviewee framed it succinctly as, “Funders went from ‘This is what we want’ to ‘How can we support you?’”

Whether this increased responsiveness to grantee priorities will persist remains unclear. As one interviewee described the current situation, “We’re still learning and figuring out which changes will be short-term and which will persist and the total impact of the pandemic.” Another interviewee characterized this time as a “WWII kind of situation. If it goes on long enough and is communal enough, norms may fundamentally shift by the end of that period. We don’t know exactly what those norms are in philanthropy. I’m hoping that it is a desire to be more responsive to communities and to really examine the way philanthropy has been operating.” However, one interviewee was less optimistic noting that across the sector, “It’s looking more and more like it’s back to business as usual.”

The pandemic accelerates changes already underway for globally focused U.S. foundations.

What has been true of previous crisis response efforts appears to remain overwhelmingly true in the response of global givers to the COVID-19 pandemic: crises rarely change funder priorities. This does not mean that the pandemic has not had an immediate or lasting impact on how they think about their work. Rather, the holistic impact of the pandemic heightened the need for resources across the priority areas in which global funders were already engaged. As one interviewee stated, “We became even more intentional around those things we had been doing on a global level.” Another described “doubling-down on what we’ve always done” and cited “a strength of the Foundation is that it doesn’t change just based on the moment.”

At the same time, many of the interviewees explicitly spoke about how the pandemic had accelerated changes already taking place within their institutions. From advancing racial justice and equity

to localizing decision-making to ensuring the role of partners in agenda setting, multiple interviewees credited the pandemic with reinforcing the importance of these transitions. “Those things were in process already but accelerated by the realities of the pandemic,” summarized one interviewee.

Technology enables and enhances aspects of global U.S. foundation engagement in ways unimaginable prior to the pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic has required coming to terms with the benefits and limitations of technology. For globally focused U.S. foundations, especially those that historically relied on extensive travel to explore new funding opportunities, build and maintain relationships, and track progress, this represented an unfathomable challenge. “Had you told me before COVID that we would have been working remotely and our staff wouldn’t be able to travel, I would have said ‘Forget it,’” observed one interviewee. But funders and most of the nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and individuals they support were able to pivot rapidly to virtual communications that enabled them to maintain connections and continue their shared work.

The move to virtual relationships also yielded a number of unanticipated benefits. For example, one interviewee referenced how “with our global network and global community, technology enables much more equity in voices that we can bring in from all over the world to share.” Another spoke about “a silver lining [being] that, since you’re not traveling, you miss the value of the site visit but you’re on WhatsApp all the time. So the cadence of contact and support and being able to make connections and be responsive in the virtual environment has its benefits.” This interviewee also spoke about how their virtual convenings had become reflective of their partners’ priorities in a way that was not true when they met in person.

A third interviewee spoke about how, “We’re all having to build social capital on these technology tools. That means now I’m almost more connected and able to understand the perspectives of nonprofit leaders and advocates in a different way. Before I had to travel somewhere to be able to do that.”

This does not mean that globally focused funders see technology as a perfect substitute for in-person engagement. While this interviewee

marveled at how well their foundation was able to implement new programmatic priorities in a virtual environment, they remarked, “I think we were negatively impacted by staff not being able to travel. There’s just no way around actually being in the field, especially when you’re beginning new grantmaking in new geographies. You need to spend time in a context.”

Closing Space for Civil Society

In considering external factors that have had the greatest impact on global giving by U.S. foundations prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, interviewees overwhelmingly cited growing restrictions on civil society sectors in various countries and on the donors that support these sectors. There appears to have been no positive change in this trend since the onset of the pandemic. (See “The Enabling Environment for Cross-Border Giving” and “Part II. Trends in Global Giving Through 2019” for more details.)

Restrictions on foundations and NGOs remain a growing challenge but also benefit from perspective.

“It’s harder to get into spaces, and that’s becoming more and more of an issue,” noted one interviewee, reflecting the perspective of most of the other interviewees. Through the first years of the 2020s, repressive regimes have continued to seek ways to limit the ability of their populations to challenge governmental authority. At the same time, another interviewee sought to place this trend in a broader historical context noting that, while funding is “more challenging than it was 20 years ago, it’s

not necessarily more difficult than 50 years ago to be honest. So, to some extent this has to do with going back to some of our old practices in terms of how to navigate challenging contexts.” The interviewee added that, “I think the idea that you should do work that is appreciated locally is not a bad thing. If we don’t want to comply with local laws, we shouldn’t be there. We understand that we may not always get to do what we want.”

Climate Change

How humans address the warming of their planet arguably represents the most pressing challenge facing the global community now and in coming decades. A number of globally focused U.S. foundations have long been engaged in funding for the environment, with a growing number focusing on the climate crisis.

The implications of climate change are increasingly embedded in foundation and NGO perspectives.

Several interviewees directly referenced the impact of climate change on their funding priorities and the heightened focus on this issue in recent years. “I do see climate change as being the most urgent issue facing all of us right now,” said one interviewee. “And I think there are glimmers of hope. I was in South Africa recently, and in every conversation climate change came up and how it connects to work people were doing. Three years ago, they wouldn’t have been talking about climate change.”

“I do see climate change as being the most urgent issue facing all of us right now,” said one interviewee. “And I think there are glimmers of hope.”

At the same time, not all foundation support to address climate change necessarily reaches the most affected communities. As one interviewee commented, there are “massive funds going to climate-related issues but most do not reach the indigenous people-led movements that need them and have the most critical solutions to the climate crisis.” Another interviewee pointed out how climate change mitigation—e.g., moving to renewable sources of energy—can result in as much destruction to indigenous communities as extractive activities. “But doing it with a rights-based approach will mean that communities are not displaced in the name of having solar energy or a wind farm.”

Localization

The movement in the donor community to transition resources and decision-making authority to the communities being served has gained substantial momentum in recent years. From the Grand Bargain in the official development assistance context to a focus on localization and approaches such as participatory grantmaking and trust-based philanthropy in the foundation sphere, growing numbers of donors are considering how to evolve their practices in ways that more effectively support both equity and lasting change.

U.S. foundations increase emphasis on direct global giving but continue to see value in the role of intermediaries.

Several interviewees spoke about how their foundations transitioned over several decades from primarily funding U.S.-based intermediary organizations to directing much larger shares of their funding to NGOs headquartered in the countries they prioritize. Illustrative of this experience was an interviewee who described how “in the early days of the foundation, a lot of what we did was passed through U.S.-headquartered organizations that worked internationally. Fast forward and we changed and our capacity changed and we started to fund a lot more locally based organizations and regionally based organizations.” Now over 80 percent of the foundation’s funding supports local organizations.

“There is now more awareness and recognition that for funders to really bring an equity lens they need to be supporting those on the frontlines that know best what the solutions are, as opposed to funding intermediaries,” observed one interviewee. But for some foundations, structural and other constraints made direct funding of local organizations challenging. “Because of our size, it would be impossible for us to work with local community organizations,” commented an interviewee. “So we do use intermediaries where it would be impossible for us to work with small groups directly.” Another interviewee noted, “It’s

not always about ideology or mission. It’s about resources. Some funders do not have a local footprint. How do you manage risk if you have no one there? You might outsource to intermediaries.” A third interviewee that provides support both directly and through intermediaries commented, “It wasn’t as if we began our grantmaking saying, ‘What fraction should we give to intermediaries and what fraction should we apply directly in the field?’ It’s a consequence of our strategy and not a driver of it.”

Beyond institutional approaches and challenges to expanding direct giving, there may be more fundamental structural challenges impeding globally focused U.S. foundations. “We’ve been talking about localization for 30 years,” remarked one interviewee. “This is not a new concept. But if we’re working in an ecosystem that doesn’t know how to make change based on those principles, it’s really hard to execute. How do we move away from ‘Papa knows best’ to centering dignity, respect, and equity? That means we have to unlearn how we think about others.” Engaging local communities will also be essential for addressing the shortcomings of globalization. As another interviewee remarked, “We are not going to reimagine globalization with a bunch of globalists. We are going to reimagine globalization by bringing the voice of the people on the ground. Because we need globalization that works for them.”

Impact Investing

Since 1968, U.S. foundations have had the ability to use their assets to make below-market-rate investments that advance their charitable priorities. Known as program-related investments (PRIs), these investments have historically represented only a tiny fraction of foundations' charitable distributions. In more recent years, advocates in the sector have been promoting "impact investing," which includes PRIs but also encompasses market-rate investments that create positive social impact and advance foundations' programmatic goals.

U.S. foundations rarely engage in impact investing as part of their global strategy.

With one exception, interviewees have rarely or never engaged in impact investing to advance their global priorities. For those that have engaged in some type of impact investing, the emphasis has been on how to achieve a goal, rather than a commitment to the concept. "We are agnostic about the best way to achieve our outcomes," indicated one interviewee that has done a limited amount of impact investing. Another interviewee expressed a similar sentiment in remarking that, "We are constantly thinking about which tool will

"I think most things that require your grantees to jump through a lot of hoops and understand complex structures are not necessarily community led or trust based."

maximize the impact we want. And so there's no loyalty to the tool; there's loyalty to the outcome. Particularly with something like a PRI, you better be pretty confident it's the right tool. Because it's a lot harder to do and you're going to spend a lot more hours doing it." An interviewee that does not engage in impact investing expressed a more pointed critique, commenting that, "I think most things that require your grantees to jump through a lot of hoops and understand complex structures are not necessarily community led or trust based."

Sustainable Development Goals

Adopted in 2015, the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) serve as a call-to-action to "end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity." While globally focused U.S. foundations had little to no engagement with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that preceded the SDGs, there has been far more effort to involve the philanthropic community with these newer and more extensive global priorities. (See "Part IV. Global Giving Aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals" for details on U.S. foundation funding and official development assistance aligned with this priorities.)

SDGs provide U.S. foundations with a common "language" for sharing priorities

Based on perspectives shared by interviewees, it appears that very few globally focused U.S. foundations have intentionally reoriented their grantmaking priorities to align with the SDGs. As one interviewee remarked, "I can't say that they influence us at all."

Nonetheless, many of the interviewees do find utility in the SDG framework, particularly for demonstrating how their work aligns with priorities of other funders. One interviewee spoke about how the SDGs serve as a "guide that has helped build common language that is easily understood by multiple stakeholders across the world." Another noted that, "I do find that internationally based foundations use them more frequently. So, it is helpful to have that kind of shared framework when you're talking to these funders." A third characterized the SDGs as "a useful, if a bit

reductive, construct for philanthropy and global development to line up what they are doing. It's a good framework to contextualize our work and translate it for someone who is not immersed in the kind of work we do."

One interviewee whose foundation early on embraced the role of the SDGs commented that, "The fact that foreign entities can helicopter into a capital and decide what the priorities are going to be and take meetings and say, 'This is what you should be doing' is a little strange. And the SDGs provide a moment to say to foundations that the SDGs can at least help them frame their work so when you do helicopter in you can say, 'This is how we would like to contribute to the development initiative.'" Another interviewee observed that, "The SDGs have opened up a new opportunity for collaborative grantmaking around shared themes across the public and private sector. I don't think this would have happened as readily without the map provided by the SDGs."

Opportunities for Optimism

A focus on challenges understandably occurs in a global context experiencing pandemic, climate crisis, racial and ethnic injustice, regional conflicts, and rising authoritarianism. Yet, the ten foundation and PSO representatives interviewed for this report also identified several factors offering areas optimism and potential investment for globally focused U.S. foundations.

Growing youth movements.

Multiple interviewees spoke about “a mobilizing around youth,” that “the youth movement has been amazing and is growing,” and how “young people’s voices and ingenuity are coming to the forefront.” One interviewee already immersed in this funding described how, “we’re supporting more youth-led groups and figuring out how to support more youth leaders as individuals or in informal movements. There’s so much potential there. It’s a huge opportunity because it’s an extremely young world.” At the same time, this interviewee cautioned that, because youth are going to be disrupting societies dramatically, especially authoritarian societies, “It’s simultaneously an exciting and also really risky time.”

Leveraging technology.

The earlier discussion of the role of technology in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the unexpected benefits of a greater reliance on technology by globally focused U.S. foundations. More broadly, several interviewees provided examples of how technology is being leveraged in intentional ways to advance the objectives of funders and NGOs. One interviewee spoke about how “NGOs are becoming much more sophisticated in how they use technology to accelerate problem-solving. The real promise of technology is its being used in ways that solve structural problems that have been failures of

the commons and bring transparency in interesting ways. It gives us new tools in our toolkit that are powerful and solve problems many people have been working on for ages.” Another interviewee referenced how technology democratizes engagement at global conferences. “Even if you give a couple of scholarships or fellowships for people to attend,” the interviewee noted, “it’s not the same.” At the most basic level, an interviewee described how “some of these really tiny groups that before would only have a Xerox sheet now can have global presence on the Internet and can make more people aware of their work.”

Addressing power dynamics.

Several interviewees referenced intentional efforts they are seeing to confront power inequities directly across sectors. One interviewee believes that “the official development ecosystem is at a tipping point of realizing it’s ‘not about us without us.’” Another spoke about “seeing particularly global NGOs grapple with power dynamics internally in interesting ways that have the potential to be really positive and transformational.” A third interviewee commented on their own role in advancing this work, noting that, “The thing I most want to be able to do is continue the trend of balancing out the power dynamic between funder and grantee.”

Emphasizing human rights.

Several interviewees spoke about how their organizations are seeking to advance human rights across a range of issue areas. One interviewee explicitly highlighted the value of a broadening definition of human rights. “There are human rights issues that weren’t necessarily identified as human rights issues in the past,” said this interviewee. “A report came out recently on how pollution was a human rights issue, because the corporations and the causes of pollution are essentially taking away the livelihoods and healthy existences of people living in affected communities.” Moreover, “the right to just exist has become a bit more visible, which is really critical.” Another interviewee pointed out that, “Most of the ways in which people’s rights are being taken advantage of are related to the environment and to land and land use.”

Beyond 2022

The forces impacting globally focused U.S. foundations in 2022 will undoubtedly influence their priorities in the future. But the specific effects of those forces will be largely determined by how foundations choose to approach their role. “The pandemic and racial reckoning have opened up a whole new series of ideas for potential innovation, which is where in my opinion philanthropy should be,” commented one interviewee. “It’s an opportunity for us to rethink our sector. Do we really engage with those who are working on these issues daily? Otherwise, funders are staying in a bubble within a bubble within a bubble trying to resolve global issues.”

Modern U.S. foundation philanthropy originated in the early 20th century employing a model that approaches social change from a largely top-down perspective. More and more funders have been considering ways to move beyond that approach to engage communities as true partners in advancing their own wellbeing. The experience of recent years makes this especially critical. As one interviewee concluded, “We can’t

exist the way we’ve been existing. This Northern view on how the world needs to run is obviously deeply flawed. In the United States and Europe and so many other places, it’s all about individual gain and individual power and individual ambition. I think it’s essential to get back to thinking about community as a whole.”

The Enabling Environment for Cross- Border Giving

Across a number of countries and regions, governments have issued new restrictions limiting the ability of outside donors to support civil society organizations. For an update of the enabling environment for cross-border giving in each of the major regions, see "Part III: Global Giving by Region."

A Preview of 2020 Global Giving Priorities

Candid's "Foundation 1000" data¹ on U.S. foundation global giving in 2020 will not be complete until late 2022. However, given that many of the largest global funders already have 2020 data available, Candid has constructed a preliminary 2020 data set to offer a first look at potential funding priorities in this pivotal year.

Compared to the 2016-2019 period, globally focused foundations appear to be placing an increased emphasis on human rights. Preliminary data on giving by issue focus shows human rights accounting for 12 percent of overall support, up from less than 7 percent in the earlier period, and for the first time ranking second overall among giving priorities.

Primarily in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, U.S. foundation giving for Disasters and Emergency Management jumped from 1 percent of total global support in the 2016-2019 period to over 6 percent based on the preliminary 2020 data. As a result, Public Safety, which includes disaster-response support, accounted for nearly 10 percent of global grant dollars in 2020, up from less than 4 percent in the prior period.

Conversely, preliminary 2020 data on giving by population focus indicates 15 percent of grant dollars included a focus on children and youth, down by almost half from the 29 percent share recorded in the 2016-2019 period. Nonetheless, children and youth continue to rank first based on funding focused on specified populations.

Of course, comparing preliminary data for a single year with complete data based on a four-year period may result in some ambiguous findings. Candid will continue to update its 2020 data and will in the future prepare a comparative 2020-2023 data set, which will allow for the most precise comparison of changes in the funding priorities of globally focused U.S. foundations.

¹ See "Methodology" for additional details.

GLOBAL GIVING BY ISSUE FOCUS, PRELIMINARY 2020

HEALTH



HUMAN RIGHTS



ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



ENVIRONMENT



PUBLIC SAFETY¹



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS²



EDUCATION



PUBLIC AFFAIRS³



AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY



SCIENCE & ENGINEERING



Note: Includes issue areas accounting for at least 5 percent of global giving. Grants may support multiple issue areas. Therefore, percentages exceed 100%.

¹ Includes Disasters and Emergency Management, Courts and Legal Services, Crime Prevention, and Abuse Prevention.

² Includes Peace and Security, International Exchange, Goodwill Promotion, International Economics and Trade, Multilateral Cooperation, and Foreign Policy

³ Includes National Security, Democracy, and Public Administration.

GLOBAL GIVING BY POPULATION FOCUS, PRELIMINARY 2020

CHILDREN & YOUTH



WOMEN & GIRLS



PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES



MIGRANTS & REFUGEES



PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



LGBTQ PEOPLE



Note: Grants may support multiple populations. Therefore, percentages exceed 100%.

GLOBAL GIVING BY SUPPORT STRATEGY, PRELIMINARY 2020

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT



GENERAL SUPPORT



RESEARCH & EVALUATION



CAPACITY-BUILDING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

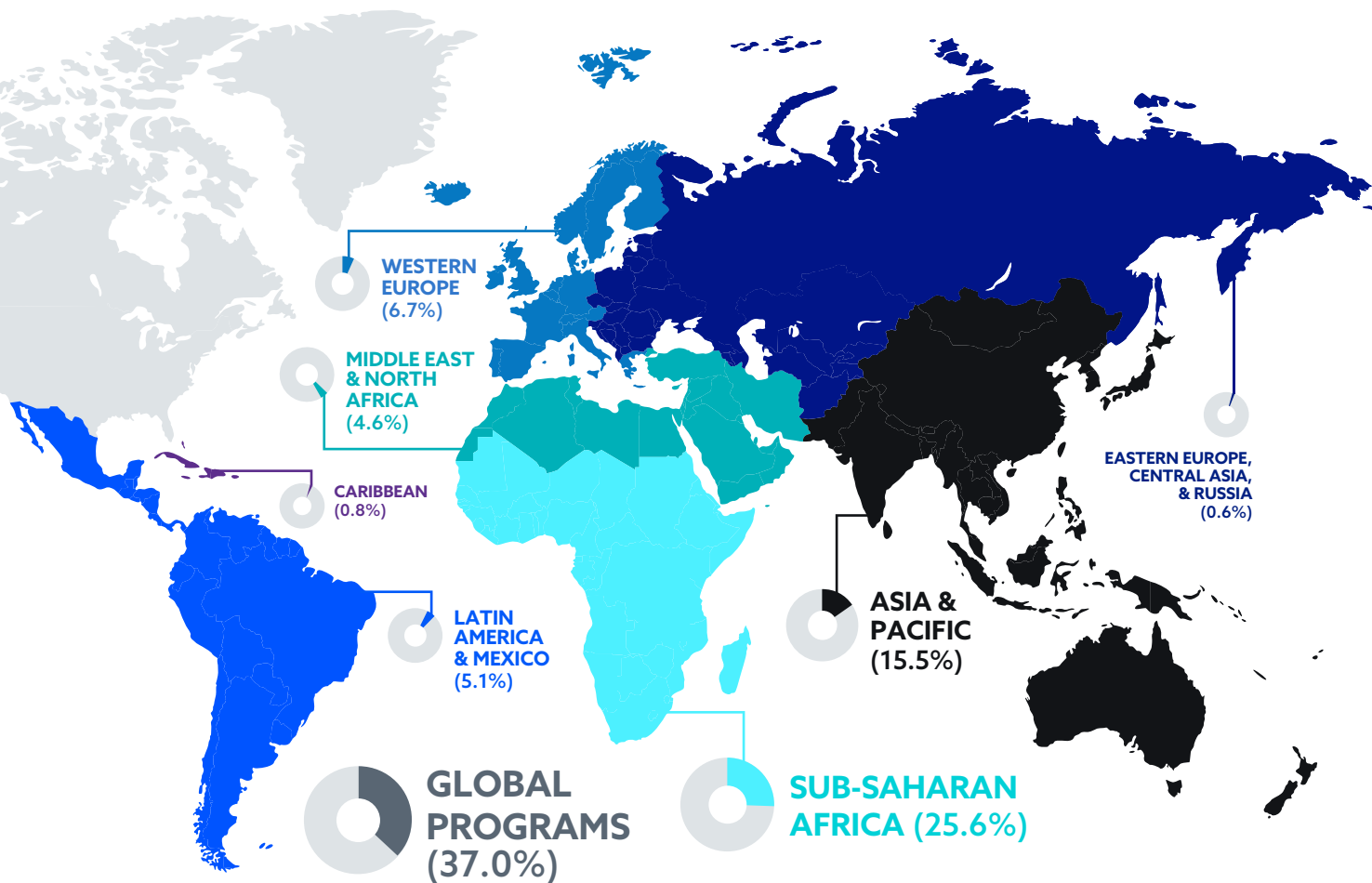


POLICY, ADVOCACY, & SYSTEMS REFORM



Note: Grants may support multiple populations. Therefore, percentages exceed 100%.

GLOBAL GIVING BY REGIONAL FOCUS, PRELIMINARY 2020



Note: Grants may support multiple regions. "Global Programs" includes global giving by U.S. foundations that either specifies a global focus or does not specify a country-level or regional focus.

Not represented is giving focused on "Developing Countries," which accounted for 17.8% of global grant dollars in the preliminary 2020 data set.

PART II

Trends in Global Giving Through 2019

Overview of Global Giving by U.S. Foundations

U.S. foundations continued to provide strong support for global efforts in the latter half of the 2010s. Through U.S.-based organizations, intermediaries located in other countries, and direct giving to organizations doing work in the countries in which they are headquartered, globally focused foundations funded critical efforts to improve health outcomes, address climate change, offer access to education, ensure human rights, and engage with a wide array of other priorities. During this period they also continued to adapt to an ever-evolving context for global philanthropy, including many new opportunities and, in some cases, direct challenges to their ability to provide support.

By the 2016-2019 period, U.S. foundations engaged in global philanthropy could not ignore the many, often interconnected forces seeking to limit their ability to support human rights, economic equality and well-being, and even basic services in a growing number of countries. Laws imposed by increasingly authoritarian leaders limited the ability of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to engage in organizing or action that might challenge governmental authority. These efforts to close space for civil society and limit dissent were widely copied and successfully implemented in many regions.

Consistent with this larger trend, cross-border funders faced increasing limitations on where and how they could provide support. Following regulatory models pioneered by Russia and China earlier in the decade, more countries explored ways to limit the ability of foreign funders to support local groups and introduced restrictions on the ability of organizations to accept this support. As one funder observed of this time, “We used to work in regions where we were either welcomed or protected. Suddenly, we started working in places where we were neither. And the fact that we were an American foundation was really not helping us.” Another global funder concurred, noting a growing “skepticism of philanthropy, particularly philanthropy coming from the United States.”

One clear outcome of these trends was increased difficulty in supporting activists seeking to protect their rights and the integrity of their communities. This was especially true for environmental activists, who often face cross-sector efforts that prioritize “profits over rights.” One interviewee explicitly referenced the “increased level of criminalization of activists because they’re defending biodiversity and their territories” from extractive activities and other land grabs.

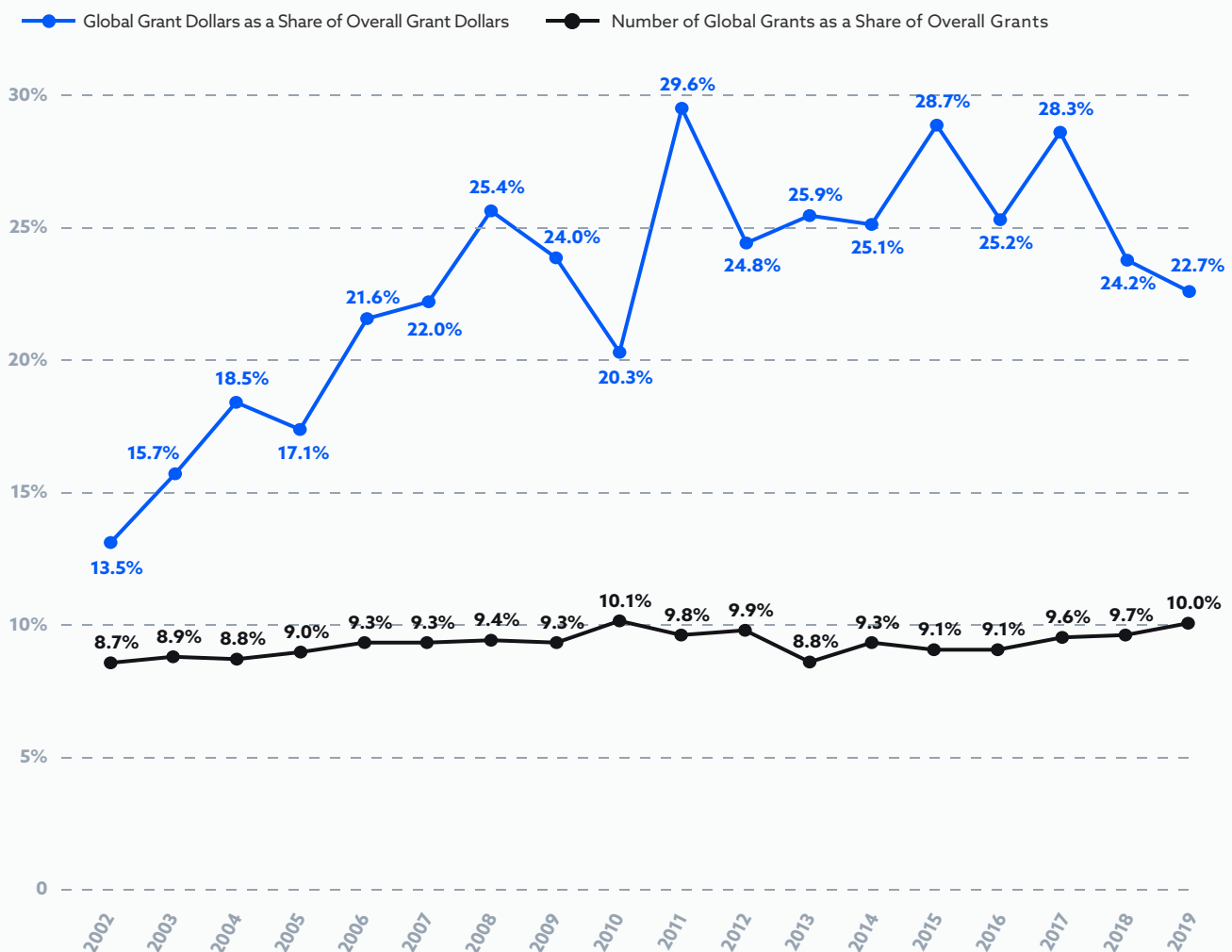
How did U.S. foundations respond to these challenges, as well as the many new opportunities? The following analysis of their global giving through 2019—including support for U.S.-based international programs and organizations headquartered in other countries—examines funding based on issue, population, and geographic focus, type of support strategy, and channels of giving. It finds that, while global grantmaking by U.S. foundations held steady overall, the shares of grant dollars focused on human rights, climate change, women, and LGBTQ people all increased markedly. Conversely, grant dollars focused on countries with more restrictive regulations, such as China, India, and Russia, showed substantial decreases. Taken together, these findings suggest a foundation community adapting to a global context far different from prior decades.

Global giving holds steady as a share of overall foundation grantmaking.

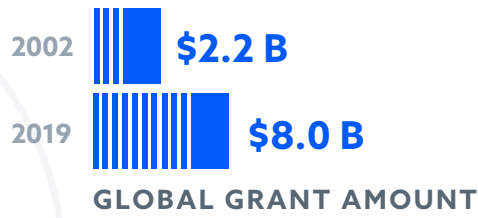
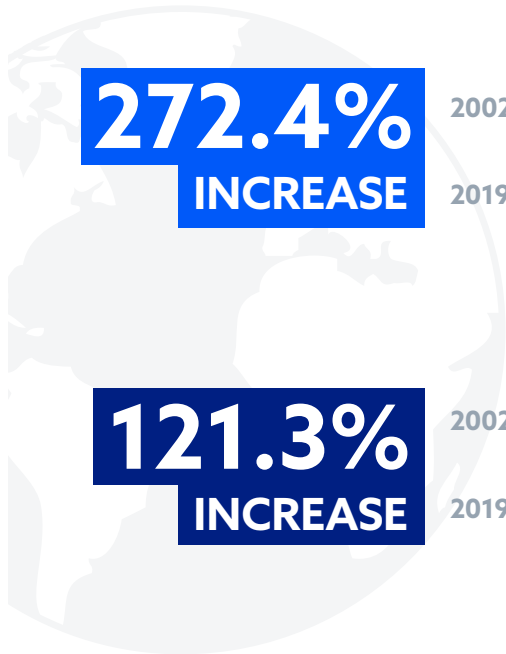
U.S. private and community foundations included in Candid’s Foundation 1000 dataset awarded globally focused grants totaling \$8 billion in 2019—close to four times the approximately \$2.2 billion awarded in 2002. This increase reflects the tremendous growth in resources of the largest U.S. foundations over the past two decades, including the ramp up in global giving by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in the mid-to-late 2000s.

Yet, while grant dollars have risen, global giving has represented a fairly consistent roughly one-quarter share of foundation support since 2008. In fact, between 2009 and 2019 global grant dollars rose at a slightly slower pace than overall foundation giving (53 percent versus 62 percent). And the share of number of global grants has held steady at around 9-10 percent of overall funding since the early 2000s. Together these findings suggest global giving continues to be an important priority for the more than two-thirds of Foundation 1000 foundations that make globally focused grants each year but has not increased in importance relative to their domestic giving since the late 2000s.

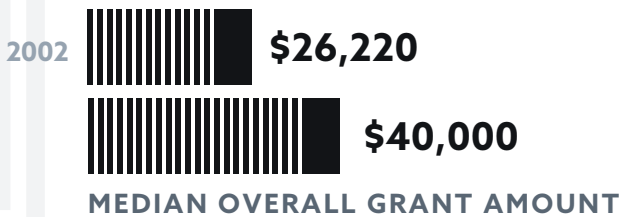
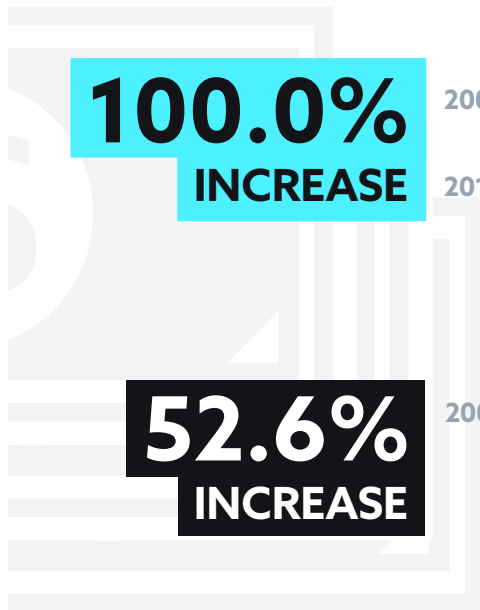
GLOBAL GIVING AS A SHARE OF OVERALL FOUNDATION GIVING, 2002-2019



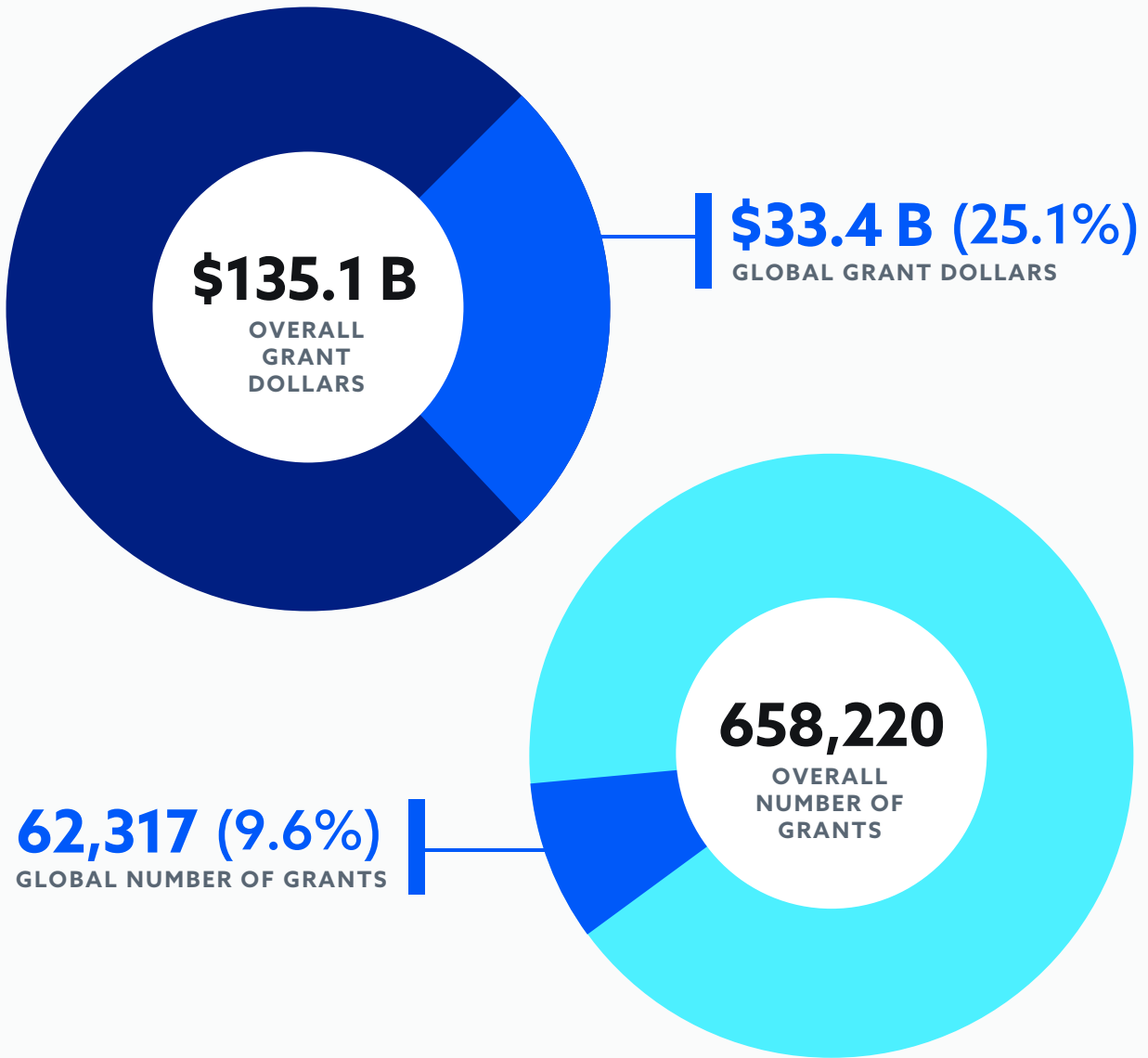
CHANGE IN GLOBAL GIVING, 2002-2019



MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT, 2002-2019



Note: The "median" represents the value midway between the largest and smallest values recorded. Figures not adjusted for inflation.



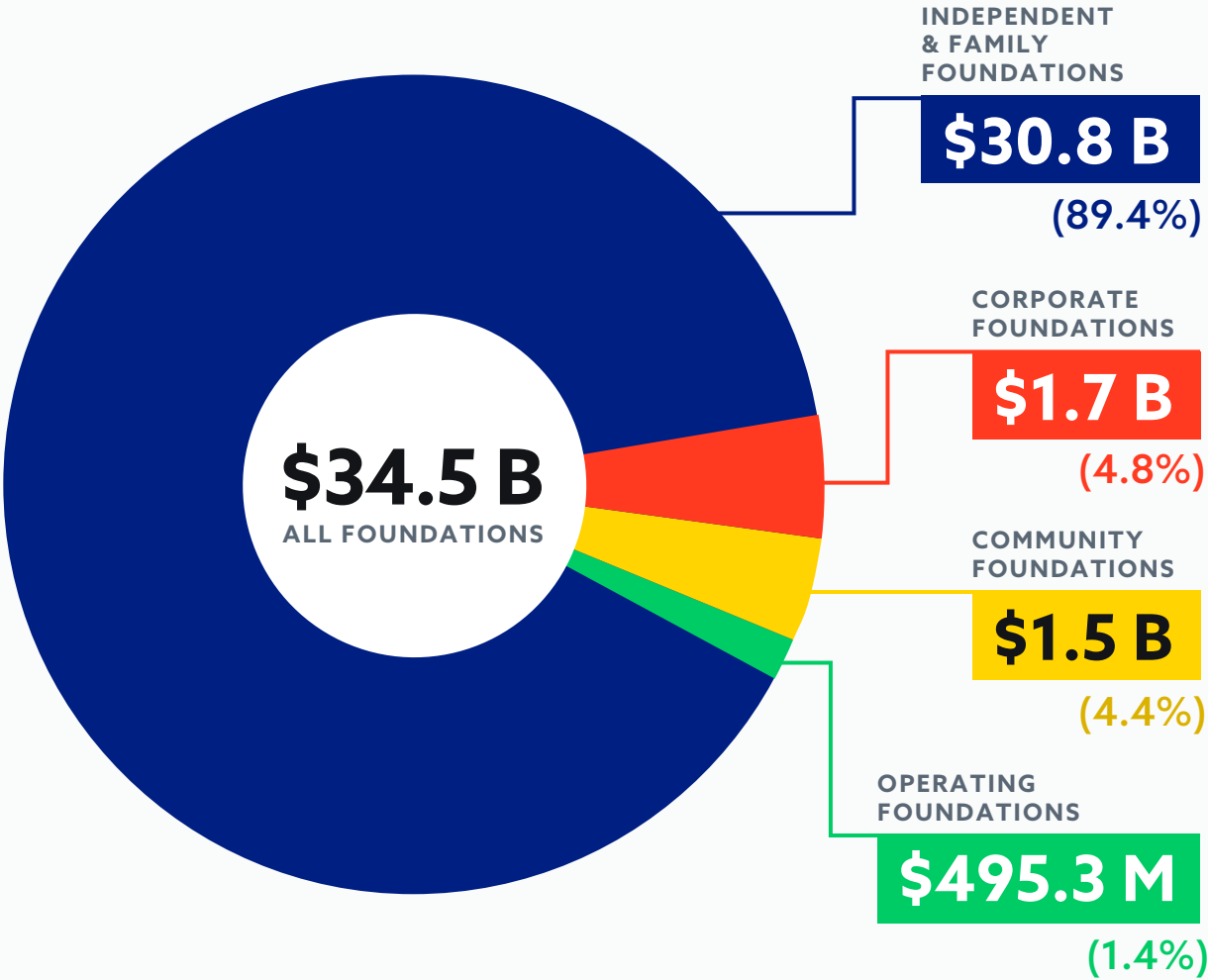
Independent and family foundations continue to account for the vast majority of global giving.

Led by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, independent and family foundations provided almost nine out of ten globally focused grant dollars (89 percent) in the period 2016-2019. This share was nearly unchanged from the preceding 2011-2015 period. Even if funding by the Gates Foundation were excluded, the remaining independent and family funders would still account for the vast majority (80 percent) of global foundation giving.

Global giving by community foundations now nearly matches corporate foundations.

For several decades, community foundations have posted rapid growth in their globally focused giving. Led by the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, which accounted for over half (53 percent) of global giving by community foundations in 2016-2019, more and more donors are providing globally focused support via these community-based grantmaking institutions. Illustrative of this trend is how community foundations accounted for less than half the share of global giving reported by corporate foundations in the 2011-2015 period (2.6 percent versus 6.3 percent) and nearly matched their share in the most recent period (4.4 percent versus 4.8 percent).¹ Assuming the current trajectory continues, community foundations will surpass corporate foundations based on global grant dollars in the near future.

GLOBAL GIVING BY FOUNDATION TYPE, 2016-2019



¹ If the Gates Foundation were excluded, community foundations would represent over 8 percent of global giving in the period 2016-2019.

Almost two-thirds of globally focused giving comes from 10 foundations.

The top 10 U.S. foundations ranked by global giving accounted for 64 percent of grant dollars awarded for the period 2016-2019. This share rose to 75 percent for the top 25 funders. Nearly all of the top 25 global funders were independent or family foundations, with the exceptions of the Silicon Valley Community Foundation (ranked 5th), Open Society Institute (ranked 15th), an operating foundation, and Coca-Cola Foundation (ranked 23rd), a corporate foundation.

Three community foundations rank among top 10 global funders based on number of grants awarded.

Community foundations in the United States have been increasingly offering the means for their donors to support globally focused activities. In fact, three community foundations (Silicon Valley Community Foundation, Seattle Foundation, and Boston Foundation) ranked among the top ten globally focused foundations by number of grants in the 2016-2019 period. At the same time, reflecting the smaller donors that are providing this funding, the median grant amounts reported by community foundations represent a fraction of the median grant amounts reported by the largest globally focused independent foundations.

TOP 10 FOUNDATIONS BY GLOBAL GRANT DOLLARS, 2016-2019

	AMOUNT	SHARE OF TOTAL GLOBAL GIVING	MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
1. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	\$ 15,186,930,637	45.4%	\$ 716,517
2. Susan Thompson Buffet Foundation	\$ 1,198,530,362	3.6%	\$ 1,919,750
3. Foundation to Promote Open Society	\$ 1,082,354,343	3.2%	\$ 100,000
4. Ford Foundation	\$ 926,842,083	2.8%	\$ 200,000
5. Silicon Valley Community Foundation	\$ 801,749,037	2.4%	\$ 40,000
6. William and Flora Hewlett Foundation	\$ 783,136,636	2.3%	\$ 400,000
7. Bloomberg Philanthropies	\$ 647,759,138	1.9%	\$ 1,264,500
8. John D. and Catherine T. McArthur Foundation	\$ 571,329,238	1.7%	\$ 300,000
9. David and Lucile Packard Foundation	\$ 500,409,539	1.5%	\$ 190,478
10. Howard G. Buffet Foundation	\$ 420,234,230	1.3%	\$ 1,001,562

TOP 10 FOUNDATIONS BY NUMBER OF GLOBAL GRANTS, 2016-2019

	NUMBER OF GRANTS	SHARE OF TOTAL GLOBAL GIVING	MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
1. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	5,400	8.7%	\$ 716,517
2. Silicon Valley Community Foundation	3,437	5.5%	\$ 40,000
3. Foundation to Promote Open Society	2,750	4.4%	\$ 100,000
4. Ford Foundation	2,445	3.9%	\$ 200,000
5. David and Lucile Packard Foundation	1,228	2.0%	\$ 190,478
6. Wellspring Philanthropic Fund	1,120	1.8%	\$ 160,000
7. William and Flora Hewlett Foundation	1,011	1.6%	\$ 400,000
8. John D. and Catherine T. McArthur Foundation	843	1.4%	\$ 300,000
9. Seattle Foundation	823	1.3%	\$ 25,000
10. Boston Foundation	702	1.1%	\$ 15,190

TOP 10 INDEPENDENT & FAMILY FOUNDATIONS BY GLOBAL GRANT DOLLARS, 2016-2019

	AMOUNT	SHARE OF INDEPENDENT & FAMILY FOUNDATION GLOBAL GIVING	MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
1. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	\$ 15,186,930,637	49.3%	\$ 716,517
2. Susan Thompson Buffet Foundation	\$ 1,198,530,362	3.9%	\$ 1,919,750
3. Foundation to Promote Open Society	\$ 1,082,354,343	3.5%	\$ 100,000
4. Ford Foundation	\$ 926,842,083	3.0%	\$ 200,000
5. William and Flora Hewlett Foundation	\$ 783,136,636	2.5%	\$ 400,000
6. Bloomberg Philanthropies	\$ 647,759,138	2.1%	\$ 1,264,500
7. John D. and Catherine T. McArthur Foundation	\$ 571,329,238	1.9%	\$ 300,000
8. David and Lucile Packard Foundation	\$ 500,409,539	1.6%	\$ 190,478
9. Howard G. Buffet Foundation	\$ 420,234,230	1.4%	\$ 1,001,562
10. Rockefeller Foundation	\$ 401,682,951	1.3%	\$ 282,290

TOP 10 CORPORATE FOUNDATIONS BY GLOBAL GRANT DOLLARS, 2016-2019

	AMOUNT	SHARE OF CORPORATE FOUNDATION GLOBAL GIVING	MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
1. Coca-Cola Foundation	\$ 181,136,898	11.0%	\$ 156,197
2. Citi Foundation	\$ 135,851,000	8.2%	\$ 180,000
3. Google Foundation	\$ 119,231,692	7.2%	\$ 584,000
4. JPMorgan Chase Foundation	\$ 117,129,848	7.1%	\$ 186,258
5. NIKE Foundation	\$ 81,020,910	4.9%	\$ 197,086
6. The Wal-Mart Foundation	\$ 76,332,578	4.6%	\$ 699,991
7. MetLife Foundation	\$ 70,474,533	4.3%	\$ 175,000
8. PepsiCo Foundation	\$ 57,661,371	3.5%	\$ 298,000
9. Ford Motor Company Fund	\$ 51,723,327	3.1%	\$ 25,000
10. United Health Foundation	\$ 50,590,433	3.1%	\$ 140,000

TOP 10 COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS BY GLOBAL GRANT DOLLARS, 2016-2019

	AMOUNT	SHARE OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GLOBAL GIVING	MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
1. Silicon Valley Community Foundation	\$ 801,749,037	52.9%	\$ 40,000
2. Foundation for The Carolinas	\$ 102,806,016	6.8%	\$ 35,640
3. California Community Foundation	\$ 77,559,325	5.1%	\$ 50,000
4. Chicago Community Trust	\$ 57,356,479	3.8%	\$ 25,000
5. Greater Cincinnati Foundation	\$ 43,923,984	2.9%	\$ 45,000
6. Seattle Foundation	\$ 38,175,856	2.5%	\$ 25,000
7. Orange County Community Foundation	\$ 36,256,351	2.4%	\$ 35,000
8. Boston Foundation	\$ 33,089,507	2.2%	\$ 15,190
9. New York Community Trust	\$ 32,014,538	2.1%	\$ 20,000
10. San Francisco Foundation	\$ 27,697,360	1.8%	\$ 22,000

TOP 10 OPERATING FOUNDATIONS BY GLOBAL GRANT DOLLARS, 2016-2019

	AMOUNT	SHARE OF OPERATING FOUNDATION GLOBAL GIVING	MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
1. Open Society Institute	\$ 296,211,681	59.8%	\$ 150,000
2. Open Doors International	\$ 89,628,154	18.1%	\$ 1,450,694
3. Larry Ellison Foundation	\$ 35,765,000	7.2%	\$ 5,750,000
4. J. Paul Getty Trust	\$ 23,360,385	4.7%	\$ 31,000
5. World Children's Fund	\$ 13,630,246	2.8%	\$ 41,685
6. Packard Humanities Institute	\$ 13,041,800	2.6%	\$ 285,000
7. Conservation Land Trust	\$ 10,350,791	2.1%	\$ 2,920,784
8. New Mighty Foundation	\$ 3,266,784	0.7%	\$ 84,000
9. Western Union Foundation	\$ 3,182,258	0.6%	\$ 25,000
10. Draper Richards Foundation	\$ 2,550,000	0.5%	\$ 100,000

Impact of the Gates Foundation on Global Giving

A single U.S. foundation—the Seattle, WA-based Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation—has accounted for at least two-fifths of global giving by U.S. foundations in most years since the mid-2000s. In the most recent 2016-2019 period, it represented 44 percent of global grant dollars.

Given the scale of its support, major fluctuations in overall global giving during the past two decades have generally resulted from changes in the Gates Foundation's annual allocations. Its giving has also driven long-term trends in funding by issue area. For example, the Foundation provided over three-quarters of global foundation giving focused on health in the 2016-2019 period. By comparison, funding by other globally focused U.S. foundations in the Foundation 1000 set has been far more consistent overall. Since 2008, global giving has represented roughly 14 to 17 percent of overall grant dollars awarded by funders other than Gates and about 9 percent of the number of grants.

Global Giving by Issue Focus

Global giving by U.S. foundations encompasses all of the same areas of activity that receive support domestically—from the performing arts to higher education to the environment. Nonetheless, funders emphasize different priorities in their global giving, with issue areas such as public health and economic and agricultural development accounting for far larger shares of funding than they do domestically. The following analysis highlights key trends in global foundation giving by issue focus.

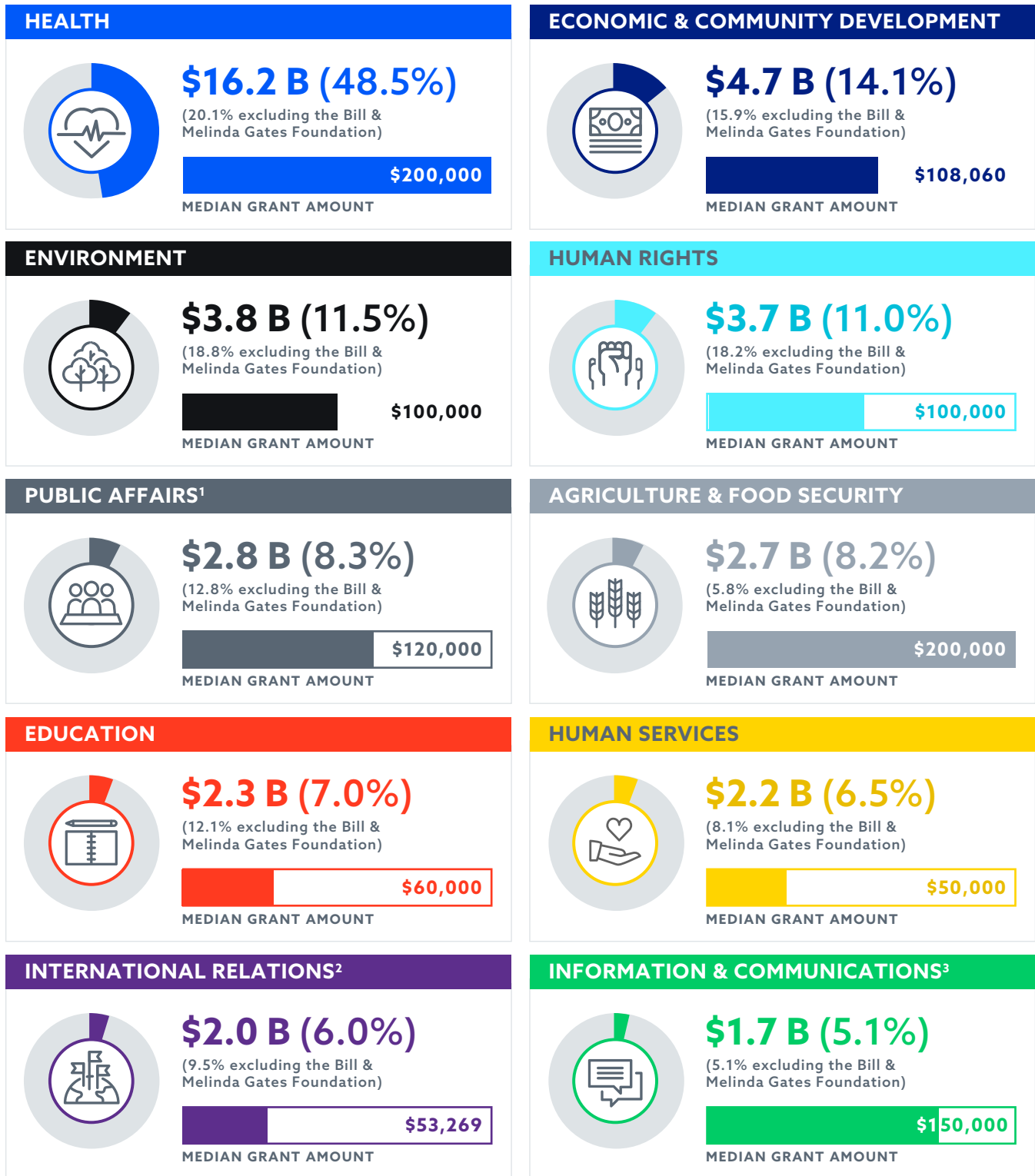
Nearly half of global giving by U.S. foundations funds health.

Prior to the rapid growth of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in the late 1990s, economic development and international affairs typically accounted for the largest shares of global giving by foundations. But in the decades since, health has consistently ranked as by far the top priority. In the period 2016-2019, health accounted for 49 percent of global grant dollars, down slightly from 53 percent in the 2011-2015 period. However, if the Gates Foundation were excluded from the latest period, health's share of global giving would drop to 20 percent—although it would continue to rank as the top priority. Following closely would be support for the environment with 19 percent of global foundation giving.

Human rights becomes a top priority of globally focused U.S. foundations.

Among the many issue areas supported by foundations for global purposes, human rights has realized the fastest growth in support in recent years. In the 2016-2019 period, human rights reached 11 percent of global foundation giving, up from less than 7 percent in the 2011-2015 period. Moreover, 22 percent of the number of global foundation grants now include a focus on priorities ranging from reproductive rights to environmental justice to freedom of expression.

GLOBAL GIVING BY ISSUE FOCUS, 2016-2019



Note: Includes issue areas accounting for at least 5 percent of global giving. Grants may support multiple issue areas. Therefore, percentages exceed 100%.

¹ Includes National Security, Democracy, and Public Administration.

² Includes Peace and Security, International Exchange, Goodwill Promotion, International Economics and Trade, Multilateral Cooperation, and Foreign Policy.

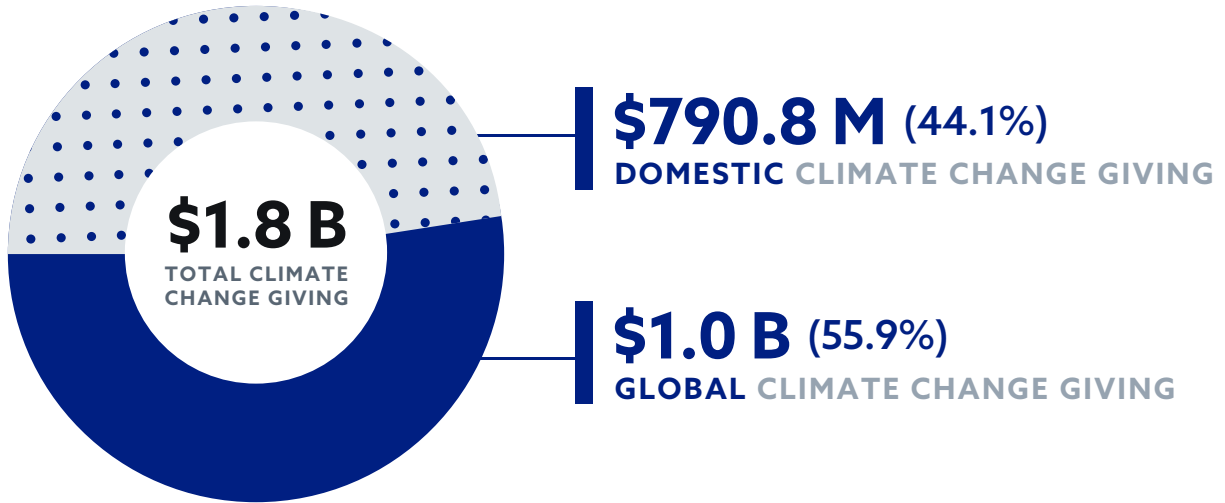
³ Includes Media Access and Technology, Journalism, Communication Media, and Libraries.

U.S. Foundations Increase Global Giving to Address Climate Change

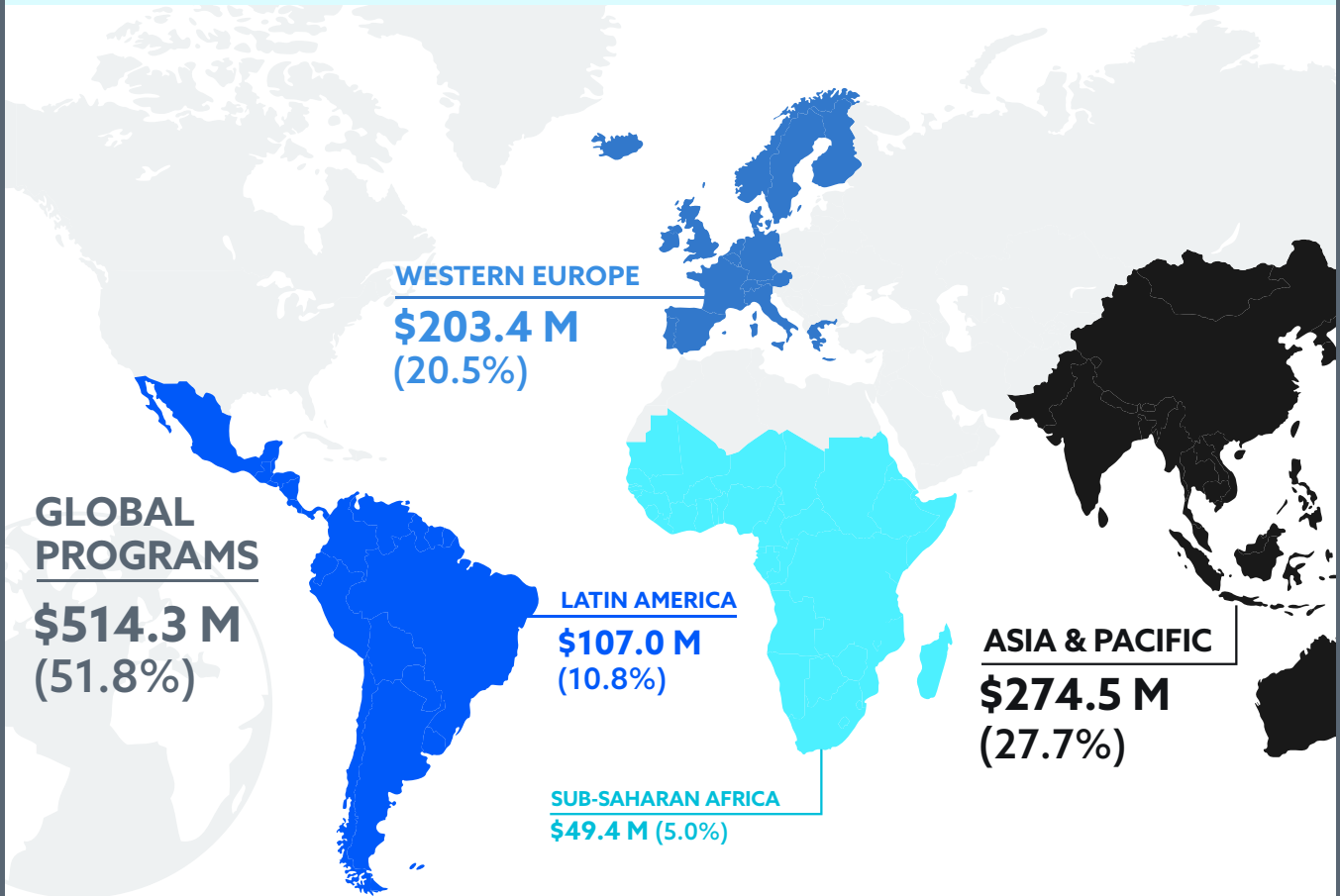
Funding by Foundation 1000 foundations for efforts to counter or mitigate the impact of climate change in the United States and globally totaled nearly \$1.8 billion in the 2016-2019 period, up from \$1.3 billion in the 2011-2015 period. This represented almost 17 percent of overall environmental giving during the most recent period.

Within the \$1.8 billion in overall funding focused on climate change, more than half (56 percent) specifically targeted global climate change priorities. As a share of overall global giving, climate change increased from 2.4 percent in the 2011-2015 period to 3.0 percent in the 2016-2019 period. Top funders addressing global climate change in the most recent period included the William and Flora Hewlett, David and Lucile Packard, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur, Bill & Melinda Gates, and Sea Change foundations.

CLIMATE CHANGE GIVING BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS, 2016-2019



CLIMATE CHANGE GIVING BY SELECTED REGIONS, 2016-2019



Note: Grants may support multiple regions. Therefore, percentages exceed 100%.

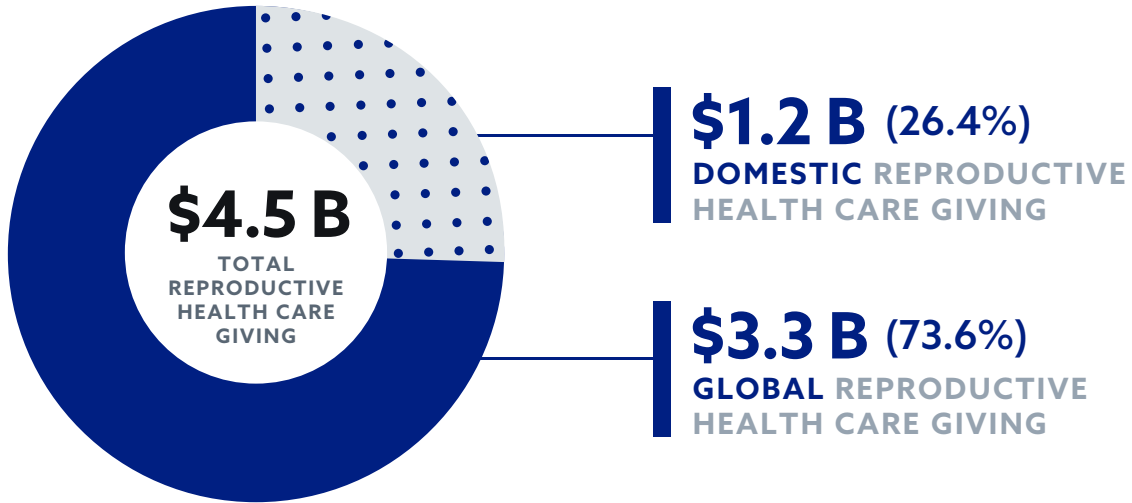
Reproductive Health Care Represents Larger Share of Global Giving

In the period 2016-2019, about 10 percent of global giving by U.S. foundations included a focus on sexual and reproductive health care. This share was up modestly from just under 9 percent in the 2011-2015 period.

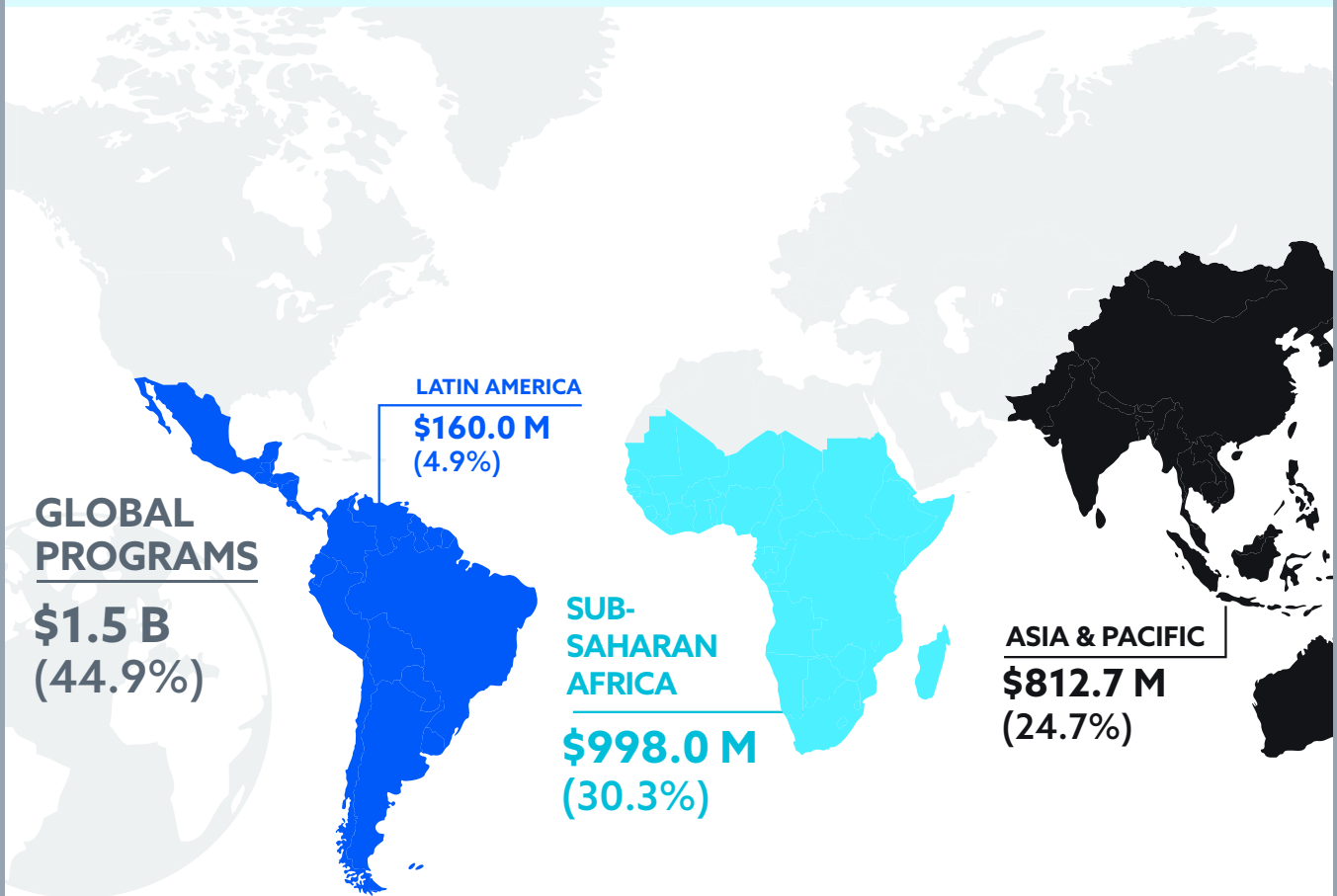
At the beginning of 2017, the Trump Administration reinstated and then expanded the [Global Gag Rule](#), which prevented organizations that received U.S. government global health assistance from using their own non-U.S. funds to provide abortion-related services or advocate for the expansion of abortion access. While it is not possible to draw a direct connection between the reinstatement of this rule and changes in foundation funding, this policy development undoubtedly shaped the context in which funders of reproductive health care made decisions about their giving during this time.

Grantmaking by two foundations accounted for most of the funding for sexual and reproductive health care in the 2016-2019 period—the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Susan Thompson Buffet Foundation. Together, these funders accounted for the vast majority (86 percent) of global grant dollars awarded. If they were excluded from the analysis, reproductive health care would represent less than 3 percent of global giving during this period.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE GIVING BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS, 2016-2019



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE GIVING BY SELECTED REGIONS, 2016-2019



Note: Grants may support multiple regions. Therefore, percentages exceed 100%.

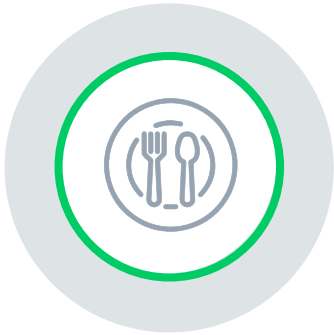
Global Grantmakers Support **Priorities Highlighted by the Pandemic**

In the four-year period preceding the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, U.S. foundations included in the Foundation 1000 set provided just over \$1 billion in global giving focused on priorities that became especially acute with the onset of the COVID-19 crisis: food security, mental health, family and intimate partner violence, and distance learning and education technology.

This represented 3 percent of global grantmaking in the 2016-2019 period. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation provided the majority of this funding (62 percent) and primarily for activities related to food security. If the Gates Foundation is excluded from the analysis, the total amount of global giving for these priorities in the 2016-2019 period was roughly \$400 million.

GLOBAL GIVING FOR PANDEMIC-RELATED PRIORITIES, 2016-2019

FOOD SECURITY



\$803.8 M (2.3%)



MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT

DISTANCE LEARNING & EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY



\$146.6 M (0.4%)



MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT

FAMILY & INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE



\$55.0 M (0.2%)



MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT

MENTAL HEALTH



\$49.5 M (0.1%)



MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT

Note: Percentages based on the shares of overall global giving during this period.

Global Giving by Population Focus

Over the past two decades, global giving by U.S. foundations has shown an increasing focus on specific populations. In the early 2000s, a little over one-in-three globally focused grants prioritized a specific population. By the 2016-2019 period, this share had doubled. Whether funding women's environmental action, LGBTQ rights, or the deinstitutionalization of people with physical, intellectual, or psychosocial disabilities, funders have been moving toward more explicitly targeting their global support to benefit specific populations. The following analysis highlights key trends in global foundation giving by population focus.

The vast majority of global giving by U.S. foundations includes a focus on one or more specific populations.

Overall, almost four out of five globally focused grant dollars (79 percent) and close to three-quarters of the number of grants (73 percent) awarded in the 2016-2019 period focused on one or more specific populations.

Children and youth are the focus of a substantial but declining share of foundation giving.

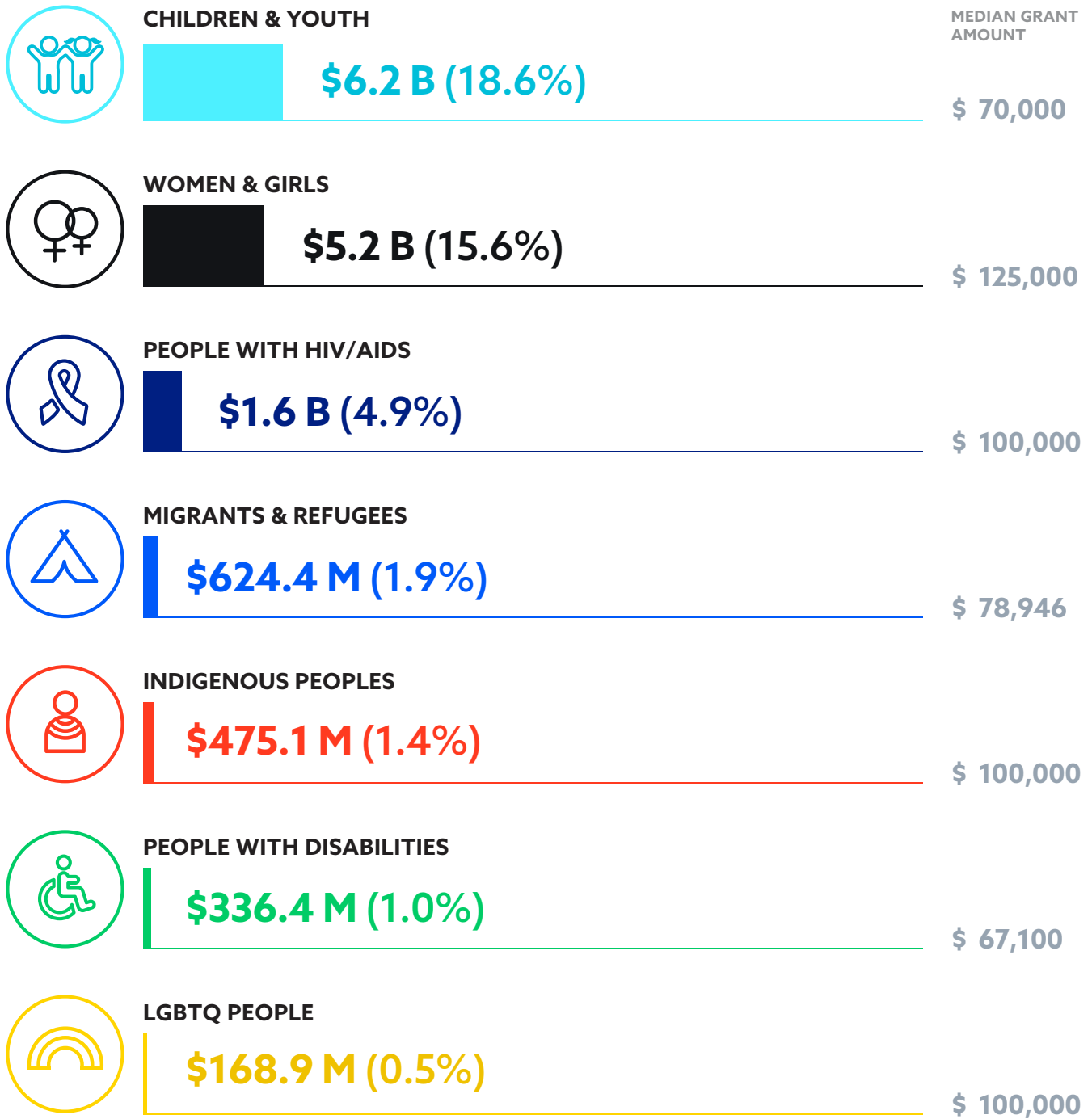
Among specific populations tracked by Candid, children and youth accounted for the largest shares of grant dollars (19 percent) and number of grants (15 percent) in the 2016-2019 period. Nonetheless, this represented a decline from 29 percent of grant dollars and close to 20 percent of grants recorded

for the 2011-2015 period. While fluctuations in grant dollars can sometimes reflect the impact of changes made by a single funder or small number of grantmakers, the notable decrease in share of number of grants suggests that more than a few foundations have reduced their global focus on children and youth.

Women and girls and LGBTQ people benefit from growing shares of globally focused foundation giving.

Support for women and girls reached close to 16 percent of global giving by U.S. foundations in the 2016-2019 period, up from less than 14 percent in the 2011-2015 period. In the most recent period, the share of globally focused foundation giving focused on LGBTQ people reached 0.5 percent of grant dollars. While this share remained extremely modest, it represented a more than doubling of the 0.2 percent share reported in the 2011-2015 period.

GLOBAL GIVING BY POPULATION FOCUS, 2016-2019



Note: Grants may support multiple population. Therefore, percentages exceed 100%.

Global Giving by **Support Strategy**

The types of support strategies foundations choose to employ often reflect explicit goals. Grantmakers hoping to achieve far-reaching social change may choose to direct their funding for community organizing or policy and advocacy.

Those seeking to address immediate needs may choose to provide programmatic support for specific initiatives. Funders who believe the organizations they support are best positioned to know how to allocate their resources to achieve shared aims may choose to offer unrestricted or general support. And any single foundation may choose to employ multiple types of support strategies to advance its mission. The following analysis highlights key trends in global foundation giving by type of support strategy.

U.S. foundations award a majority of their global giving for specific programs and projects.

In the period 2016-2019, well over half of globally focused grant dollars (59 percent) were given as program support. Funding for research and evaluation followed, with 31 percent of global grant dollars. Interestingly, when giving by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is excluded, program support continues to rank first by type of support strategy, while funding for research and evaluation drops to fifth place after policy, advocacy, and systems reform, general support, and capacity building and technical assistance.

Unrestricted support accounts for a modest share of global giving

U.S. foundations allocated 14 percent of their globally focused grant dollars as general or unrestricted support in the 2016-2019 period. Excluding the Gates Foundation, this share increased to just over one-fifth of global grant dollars (21 percent).

The U.S. Department of the Treasury is rare among countries in its detailed articulation of how U.S. foundations may make grants to organizations headquartered outside of the United States, including general support grants. Foundations must either exercise:

- **Expenditure responsibility**, whereby a foundation takes on the obligation of ensuring that its grant is spent only on the charitable purpose for which it was made and for reporting on the expenditure to the IRS; or establish
- **Equivalency determination**, which entails documenting that a foreign nonprofit would meet the requirements of being a U.S.-based 501(c)(3) public charity. Only equivalency determination allows for foundations to provide general or unrestricted support to organizations headquartered in other countries.

Equivalency determination can be a significant barrier for foundations seeking to make unrestricted grants to foreign nonprofits, given the standards of U.S. nonprofit law. Many countries do not require nonprofits to meet standards consistent with those in the United States, such as showing broad public financial support. In countries where local giving levels are low and/or giving happens informally, achieving the U.S. definition of public support can present a significant barrier.

Nonetheless, as more funders seek ways to support the localization of community change movements by shifting decisionmaking power to organizations headquartered in the communities they serve, the shares of U.S. foundation funding allocated as unrestricted support may increase further. For example, foundations may choose to make unrestricted grants through established local intermediaries, which can then re-grant those unrestricted funds to grassroots organizations that might not themselves qualify under equivalency determination rules. (See “How Increased Trust Could Influence Global Giving” for additional perspective.)



PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

To support specific projects or programs.



CAPACITY BUILDING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

To increase organizational effectiveness and sustainability.



RESEARCH & EVALUATION

To discover, collect, analyze, interpret, and disseminate data, information, and knowledge.



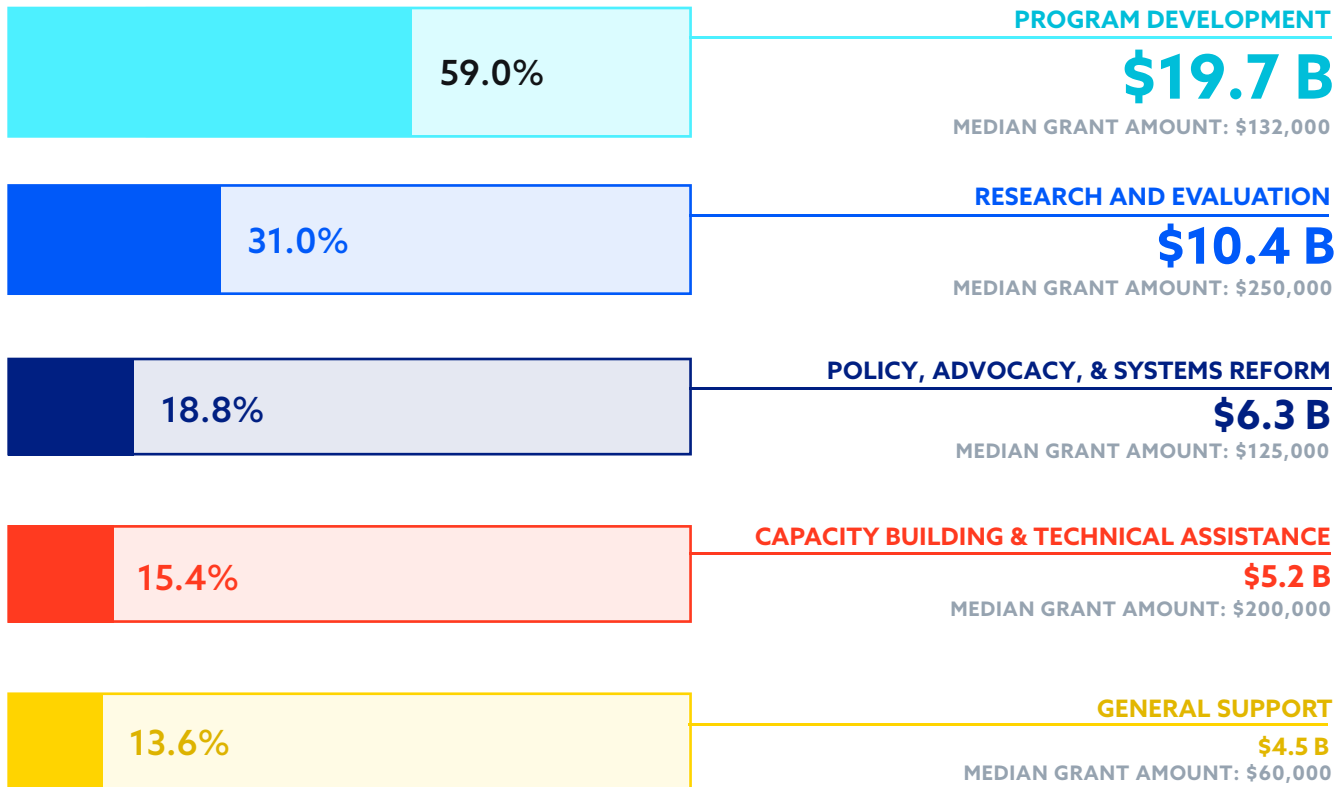
GENERAL SUPPORT

To provide unrestricted support for an organization.



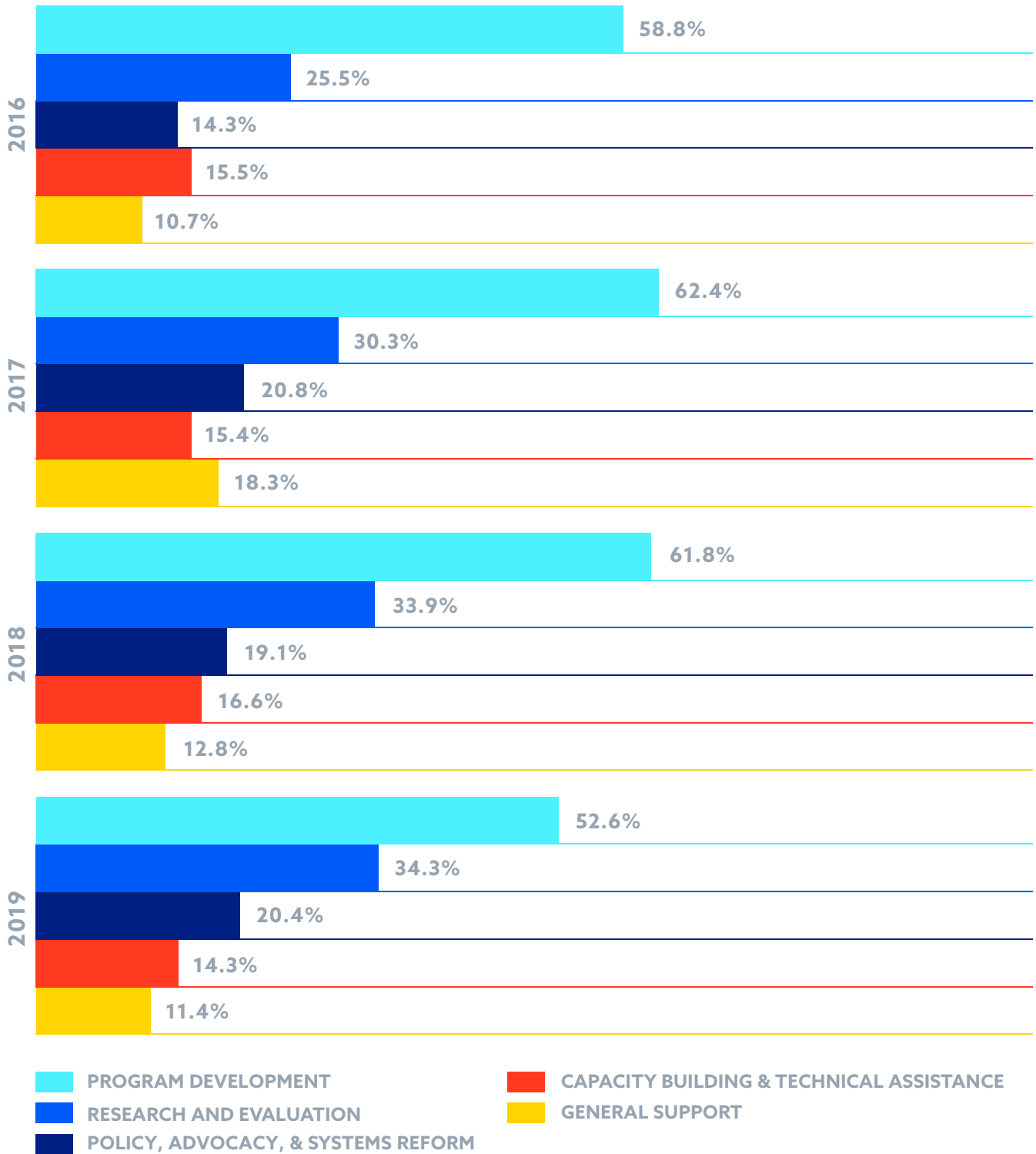
POLICY, ADVOCACY, & SYSTEMS REFORM

To develop, promote, and transform public policies in any issue area.



Note: Grants may support multiple types of support strategies. Therefore, percentages exceed 100%.

GLOBAL GIVING BY SUPPORT STRATEGY BY YEAR, 2016-2019



Note: Grants may support multiple types of support strategies. Therefore, percentages exceed 100%.

Global Giving by Channel

The channel of global giving chosen by U.S. foundations may reflect their perspective on the importance of engaging local capacity versus leveraging the economies of scale of multilateral nongovernmental organizations (NGOs).

These decisions may also be influenced by the degree to which funders have a direct presence in the countries and communities they seek to support. At the same time, global communities—and a growing number of funders—have been emphasizing the value of letting communities lead in developing and implementing their own solutions. Within this context, the following analysis highlights the distribution of global foundation giving by channel of giving.

A majority of global giving by U.S. foundations funds organizations and intermediaries headquartered in the United States.

Just over three out of five globally focused foundation grant dollars (61 percent) supported institutions headquartered in the United States in the 2016-2019 period, up from 58 percent in the 2011-2015 period. These organizations and intermediaries also benefited from a nearly unchanged two-thirds share of number of grants in both periods. Most of this support targeted organizations that provide direct services in other countries (e.g., Care, International Red Cross, World Vision), as well as organizations and academic programs that engage in globally focused activities primarily within the United States (e.g., Asia Society, Princeton School of International and Public Affairs).

In addition, this giving supported U.S.-headquartered organizations engaged in regranteeing funds to organizations and individuals based in other countries (e.g., Astraea Foundation, Global Greengrants Fund). Funders may choose to support these types of organizations to benefit from their understanding of and connections to local contexts—especially when a funder does not have a physical presence in these locales—and/or to benefit from the networks and grantmaking and evaluation processes that these “intermediary” funders already have in place.

Intermediaries based in other countries account for just over one-quarter of global giving by U.S. foundations.

In the 2016-2019 period, close to 27 percent of globally focused foundation grant dollars funded organizations located outside of the United States for work taking place in other countries. This share was down from just over 30 percent in the 2011-2015 period. Examples of organizations receiving this support include global entities based in specific countries (e.g., International Center for Tropical Agriculture) and foundations and other regranteeing organizations serving specific regions (e.g., Fundacion Fondo De Mujeres Del Sur, TrustAfrica).

Globally focused U.S. foundations slightly increase direct giving to organizations working in the countries where they are headquartered.

In the 2016-2019 period, roughly 13 percent of U.S. foundations' global grant dollars funded organizations headquartered in the countries where the work being support will take place, up marginally from approximately 12 percent in the 2011-2015 period. At the same time, the share of number of "direct" grants remained unchanged at 23 percent. Direct giving includes support for locally led organizations, such as the Egyptian Center for Culture and Art, Universidad Rafael Landivar, and the British Museum).

CHANNELS OF GLOBAL GIVING, 2016-2019

CHANNEL OF GIVING¹

U.S. Organizations and Intermediaries

Organizations headquartered in the United States that are engaged in work focused on another country, region, or globally and/or directly implementing work in another country or region.



CHANNEL OF GIVING¹

Non-U.S. Intermediaries

Organizations headquartered outside of the United States that are engaged in work focused on another country, region, or globally and/or directly implementing work in another country or region.



CHANNEL OF GIVING¹

Direct

Organizations headquartered in the same country where the work is taking place.



¹ Channel of giving could not be determined for 28 grants.

How Increased Trust Could Influence Global Giving

In recent years a growing number of foundations globally have been exploring approaches such as "[trust-based philanthropy](#)," which seeks to address power imbalances between foundations and NGOs, and "[participatory grantmaking](#)," which engages non-grantmakers in helping to make funding decisions, that seek to move away from traditional, hierarchical models of philanthropy by locating decisionmaking power either partially or fully within the communities being served.

This shift reflects increasing recognition that communities themselves are generally best positioned to understand their needs and determine priorities for action. They are also critical partners in developing and implementing solutions that will last beyond the duration of a grant.

Some global funders have been engaging in these types of practices for years, building up networks of empowered local advisors, creating grantmaking panels with real decisionmaking authority, and employing other mechanisms to ensure that communities have a meaningful voice in how funding priorities are established and supported. Assuming more funders embrace this approach, there will likely be greater global giving for general or unrestricted support, more resources being targeted directly to organizations headquartered in the Global South, and increased levels of support for regranteeing organizations and funder collaboratives that employ trust-based and/or participatory grantmaking approaches.

Finally, foundations are not alone in adopting approaches that build community power. In 2016, the world's major humanitarian donors and aid organizations established the [Grand Bargain](#) to "improve the way humanitarian aid is delivered by making it more effective and more efficient." This includes increasing the proportion of bilateral and multilateral aid structured as multiyear, unrestricted support. In 2021, the [Grand Bargain 2.0](#) was devised to enhance the potential of the original Grand Bargain. Consistent with this framework, USAID recently announced a 25 percent target for local funding.

PART III

Global Giving By Region 2016-2019

Key Facts

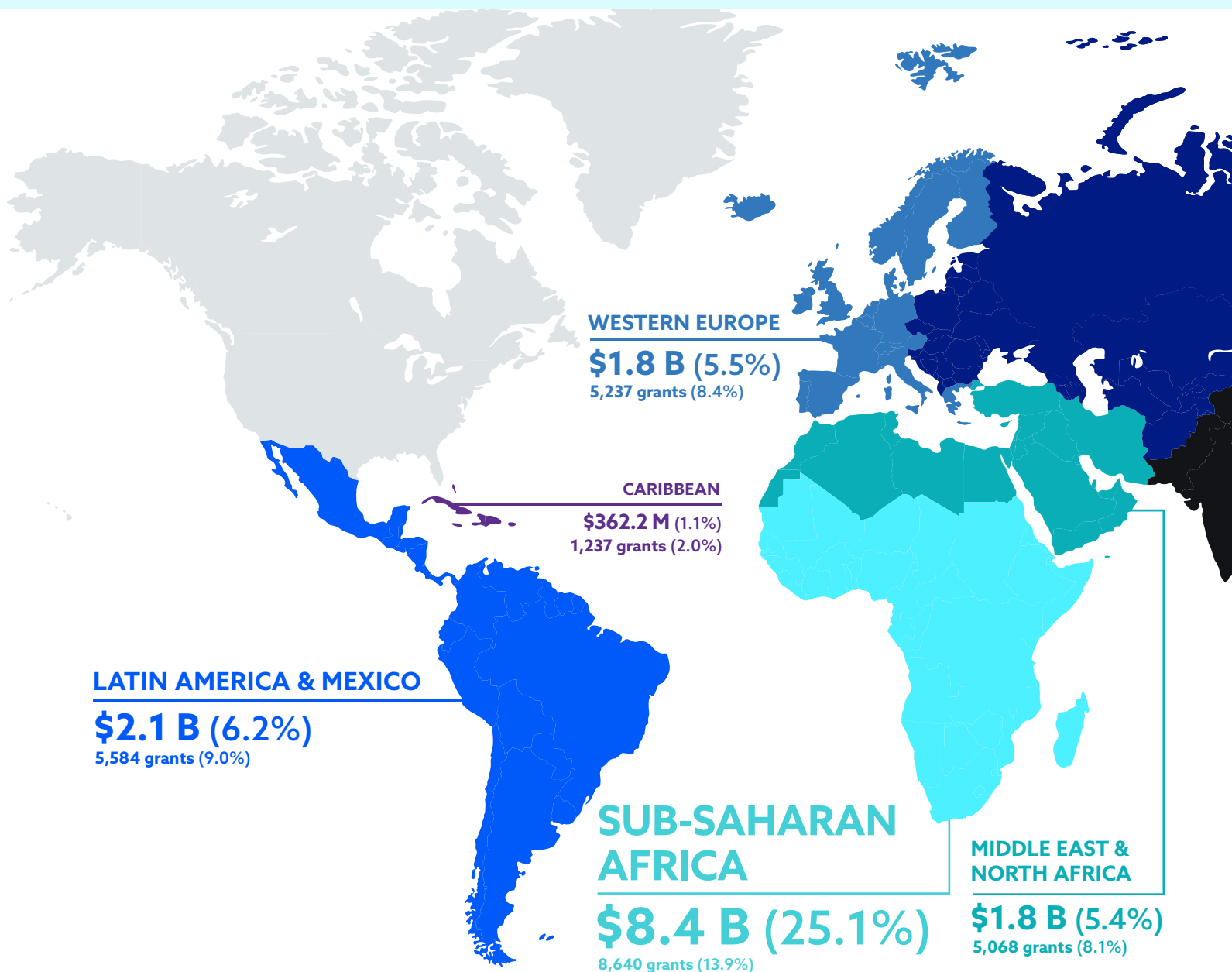
Global giving by U.S. foundations in the 2016-2019 period focused on every major region and 188 specific countries.

The largest shares of funding focused on the Sub-Saharan Africa (25.1%) and Asia & Pacific (17.7%) regions. Even if giving by the biggest global funder during this period--the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation--were excluded, these regions would continue to account for the largest shares of support. But the shares focused on the Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia & Pacific regions would be notably smaller (13.5% and 10.2%, respectively).

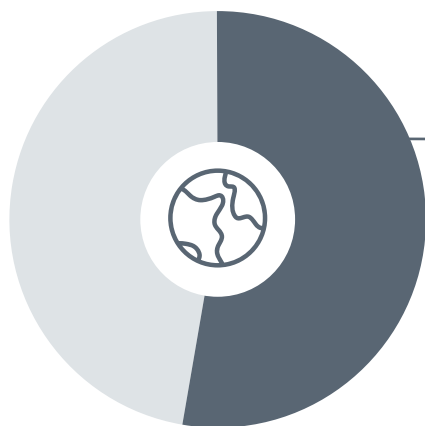
By country, India, Israel, Nigeria, and China ranked as the top four countries by geographic focus in both the 2011-2015 and 2016-2019 periods. Pakistan joined the top 10 list in the most recent period, while the United Kingdom moved off the list. At the same time, China dropped off the list of top 10 countries by recipient location, reflecting the impact of new restrictions on philanthropy and NGOs giving directly to the country. (See the following section on Asia & Pacific for additional details.)

Finally, regardless of geographic focus, the majority of global giving by U.S. foundations (60.9%) is provided to organizations headquartered in the United States. A substantial share of this funding supports organizations undertaking work directly in other countries, as well as intermediary organizations that will regrant funds to in-country organizations. Among other top 10 countries by recipient location, Switzerland and the Netherlands are also home to a number of intermediary organizations supporting work in a variety of countries.

REGIONAL FOCUS



GLOBAL PROGRAMS

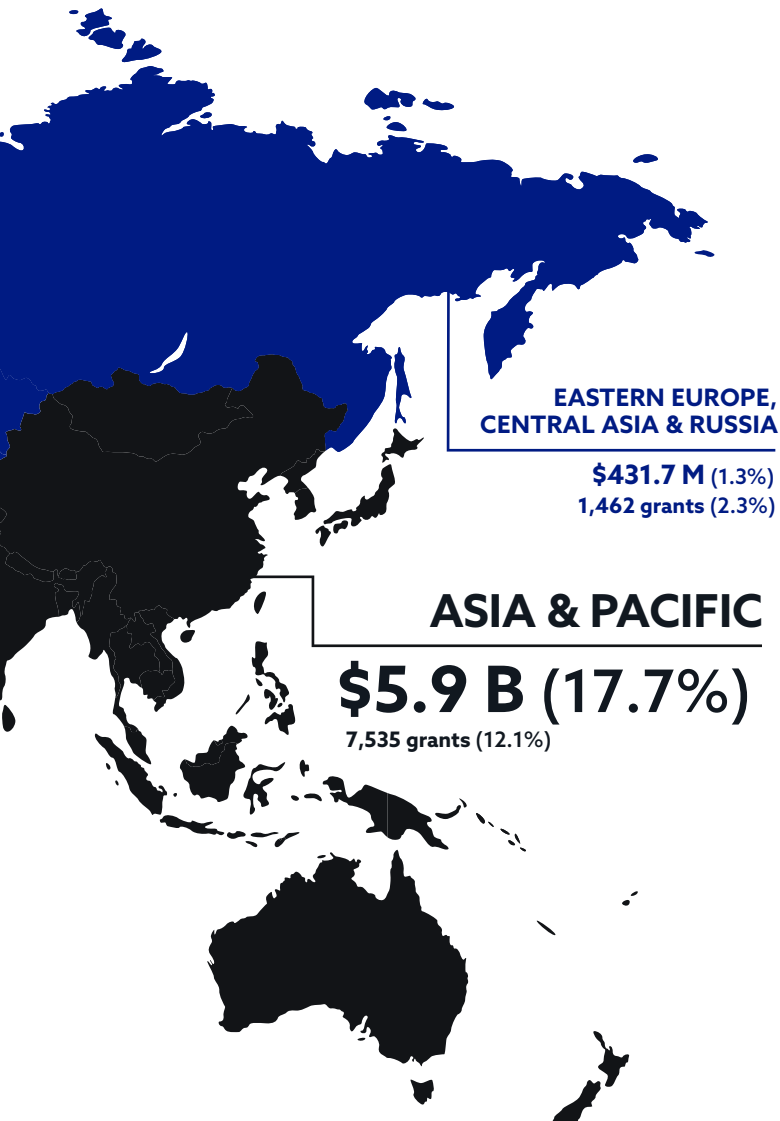


GLOBAL PROGRAMS

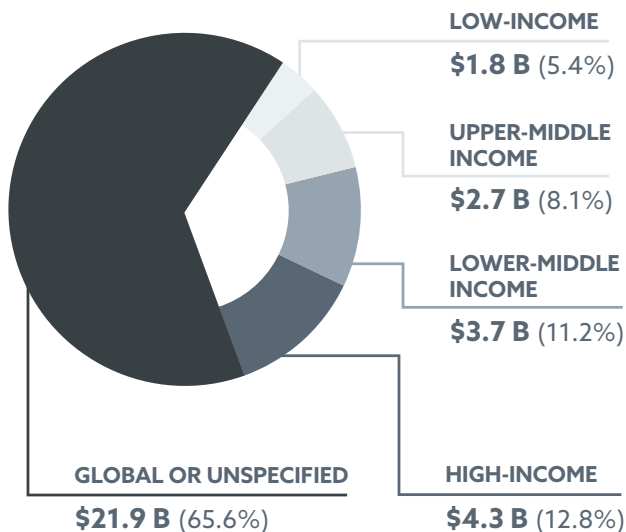
\$14.2 B (42.6%)

21,817 grants (35.0%)

Note: Grants may support multiple regions. "Global Programs" includes global giving by U.S. foundations that either specifies a global focus or does not specify a country-level or regional focus. Not represented is giving focused on "Developing Countries," which accounted for 16.3% of global grant dollars and 8.4% of the number of grants in the 2016-2019 period.



GLOBAL GIVING BY INCOME LEVEL OF BENEFICIARY COUNTRY



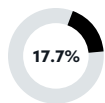
TOP 10 COUNTRIES BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS

1. India	\$ 1.1 B (3.2%)
2. Israel	\$ 1.1 B (3.2%)
3. Nigeria	\$ 674.9 M (2.0%)
4. China	\$ 563.8 M (1.7%)
5. Pakistan	\$ 439.4 M (1.3%)
6. Mexico	\$ 390.5 M (1.2%)
7. Ethiopia	\$ 369.3 M (1.1%)
8. Kenya	\$ 353.6 M (1.1%)
9. Canada	\$ 324.4 M (1.0%)
10. South Africa	\$ 288.1 M (0.9%)

TOP 10 COUNTRIES BY RECIPIENT LOCATION

1. United States	\$ 20.3 B (60.9%)
2. United Kingdom	\$ 2.2 B (6.7%)
3. Switzerland	\$ 2.2 B (6.5%)
4. India	\$ 706.2 M (2.1%)
5. South Africa	\$ 590.5 M (1.8%)
6. Kenya	\$ 587.9 M (1.8%)
7. Nigeria	\$ 490.8 M (1.5%)
8. Canada	\$ 449.6 M (1.4%)
9. Israel	\$ 395.0 M (1.2%)
10. Netherlands	\$ 386.2 M (1.2%)

KEY FACTS



In the period 2016-2019, **17.7%** of global giving by U.S. foundations (**\$5.9 B**) focused on the **Asia & Pacific** region.



The median grant amount overall was **\$125,000**.



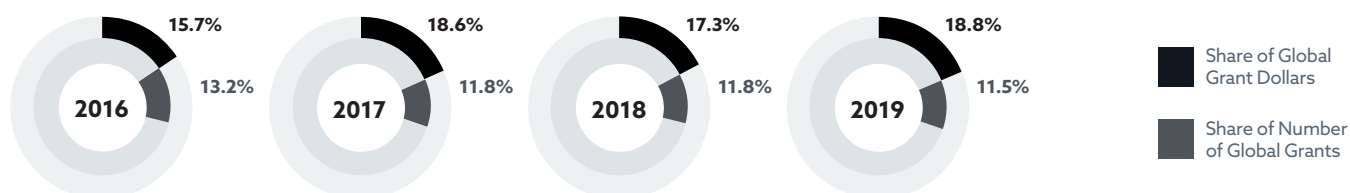
The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation provided the largest share of funding (**68.4%**).

Asia was a locus of regulatory restrictions on NGOs and philanthropic flows during the 2016-2019 period. China's Foreign NGO Law arguably represented the most extreme example. The Law took effect in 2017 and severely limited how foreign nonprofits could operate in the country, primarily by requiring them to establish representative offices with domestic Chinese partner organizations. In India the 2010 Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), which regulates in-flows of foreign grants, continued to be used to prevent tens of thousands of Indian NGOs from accessing foreign funding. (Further restrictions on foreign funding were introduced in a 2020 overhaul of the Act.) In this context, U.S. foundation giving for both China and India declined significantly in 2016-2019 period compared to the 2011-2015 period. Funding for China dropped by approximately \$330 million and for India by approximately \$300 million. While other factors may have also contributed to these reductions, it appears likely that restrictive regulations were the key drivers influencing the decisionmaking of U.S. foundations.

COUNTRIES & REGIONS

For the purpose of this analysis, Asia & Pacific includes Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Cook Islands, Fiji, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar/Burma, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, North Korea, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Tibet (autonomous region), Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Vietnam.

FOUNDATION GRANT DOLLARS AND NUMBER OF GRANTS, 2016-2019



TOP FUNDERS 2016-2019

BY DOLLAR AMOUNT

1. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	\$ 4.0 B (68.4%)
2. The David and Lucile Packard Foundation	\$ 208.9 M (3.5%)
3. Ford Foundation	\$ 199.9 M (3.4%)
4. The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation	\$ 172.8 M (2.9%)
5. John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation	\$ 109.5 M (1.9%)

BY NUMBER OF GRANTS

1. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	1,199 grants (15.9%)
2. Silicon Valley Community Foundation	534 grants (7.1%)
3. Ford Foundation	487 grants (6.5%)
4. The David and Lucile Packard Foundation	460 grants (6.1%)
5. Foundation to Promote Open Society	447 grants (5.9%)

GLOBAL GIVING BY ISSUE FOCUS, 2016-2019

ISSUE FOCUS	AMOUNT	MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
HEALTH	\$ 3.6 B (61.0%)	\$ 403,548
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$ 1.2 B (20.5%)	\$ 200,000
ENVIRONMENT	\$ 759.5 M (12.9%)	\$ 249,916
AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY	\$ 472.2 M (8.0%)	\$ 270,000
HUMAN RIGHTS	\$ 391.6 M (6.6%)	\$ 105,000
EDUCATION	\$ 323.0 M (5.5%)	\$ 50,000
PUBLIC AFFAIRS	\$ 325.6 M (5.5%)	\$ 200,000
HUMAN SERVICES	\$ 279.8 M (4.7%)	\$ 50,000
INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 267.8 M (4.5%)	\$ 150,000
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	\$ 226.0 M (3.8%)	\$ 134,000

Note: Grants may support multiple issue areas.

GLOBAL GIVING BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS AND RECIPIENT LOCATION, 2016-2019



GLOBAL GIVING BY POPULATION FOCUS, 2016-2019

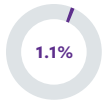
POPULATION FOCUS	AMOUNT	MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
CHILDREN & YOUTH	\$ 1.5 B (26.1%)	\$ 100,000
WOMEN & GIRLS	\$ 1.1 B (19.0%)	\$ 200,000
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES	\$ 74.5 M (1.3%)	\$ 150,000
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES	\$ 60.5 M (1.0%)	\$ 50,000
MIGRANTS & REFUGEES	\$ 52.7 M (0.9%)	\$ 129,158
LGBTQ PEOPLE	\$ 26.9 M (0.5%)	\$ 140,000
PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS	\$ 23.5 M (0.4%)	\$ 100,000

Note: Grants may support multiple populations.

TOP COUNTRIES IN REGION BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS, 2016-2019

1. India	\$ 1.1 B (18.3%)
2. China	\$ 563.8 M (9.5%)
3. Pakistan	\$ 439.4 M (7.4%)
4. Indonesia	\$ 181.6 M (3.1%)
5. Afghanistan	\$ 132.0 M (2.2%)
6. Bangladesh	\$ 114.4 M (1.9%)
7. Myanmar	\$ 97.7 M (1.7%)
8. Cambodia	\$ 45.8 M (0.8%)
9. Nepal	\$ 43.8 M (0.7%)
10. Vietnam	\$ 43.4 M (0.7%)

KEY FACTS



In the period 2016-2019, **1.1%** of global giving by U.S. foundations (**\$362.2 M**) focused on the **Caribbean** region.



The median grant amount overall was **\$63,000**.



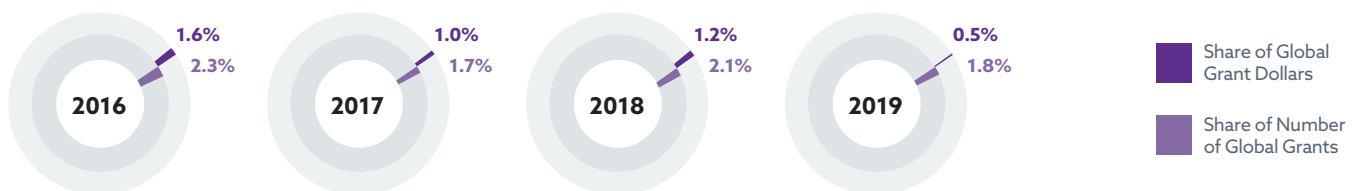
The **W.K. Kellogg Foundation** provided the largest share of funding (**26.9%**).

Compared to other regions, foundation support was least likely to fund organizations headquartered in the Caribbean. Nonetheless, the Caribbean represented a largely open environment for philanthropy during the 2016-2019 period. However, Cuba remained an exception as the Trump administration introduced new sanctions aimed at reversing the reset of relations pursued by the Obama administration. While the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) maintained a general license for humanitarian projects and private foundation activities benefiting Cuba, it limited the scope of direct U.S. foundation funding of Cuban organizations.

COUNTRIES & REGIONS

For the purpose of this analysis, Caribbean includes Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahama Islands, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Greater Antilles, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Jamaica, Leeward Antilles, Leeward Islands, Lesser Antilles, Martinique, Montserrat, Northern Saint-Martin, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint-Barthelemy, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, and Windward Islands.

FOUNDATION GRANT DOLLARS AND NUMBER OF GRANTS, 2016-2019



TOP FUNDERS 2016-2019

BY DOLLAR AMOUNT

1. W.K. Kellogg Foundation	\$ 97.5 M (26.9%)
2. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	\$ 61.6 M (17.0%)
3. Ford Foundation	\$ 32.5 M (9.0%)
4. Foundation to Promote Open Society	\$ 16.6 M (4.6%)
5. The Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation	\$ 11.8 M (3.3%)

BY NUMBER OF GRANTS

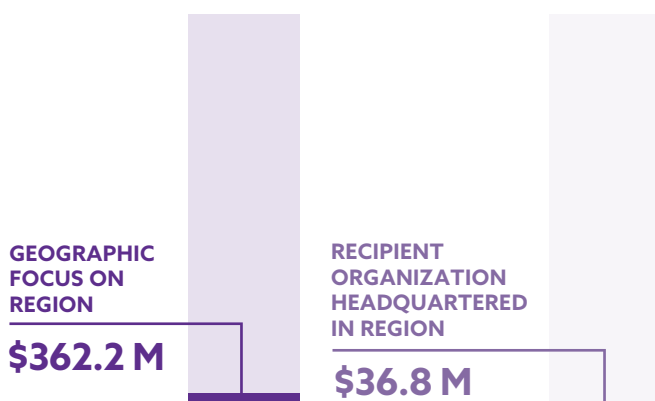
1. W.K. Kellogg Foundation	83 grants (6.7%)
2. Ford Foundation	82 grants (6.6%)
3. The Boston Foundation	55 grants (4.4%)
4. Foundation to Promote Open Society	37 grants (3.0%)
5. Koch Foundation, Inc.	33 grants (2.7%)

GLOBAL GIVING BY ISSUE FOCUS, 2016-2019

ISSUE FOCUS	AMOUNT	MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
HEALTH	\$ 138.1 M (38.1%)	\$ 92,456
EDUCATION	\$ 98.0 M (27.1%)	\$ 50,000
AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY	\$ 63.0 M (17.4%)	\$ 150,000
HUMAN RIGHTS	\$ 41.8 M (11.5%)	\$ 80,000
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$ 38.3 M (10.6%)	\$ 100,000
ENVIRONMENT	\$ 27.4 M (7.6%)	\$ 92,000
HUMAN SERVICES	\$ 24.7 M (6.8%)	\$ 33,125
DISASTERS & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	\$ 19.7 M (5.4%)	\$ 50,000
SCIENCE & ENGINEERING	\$ 14.6 M (4.0%)	\$ 100,000
PUBLIC AFFAIRS	\$ 13.3 M (3.7%)	\$ 100,000

Note: Grants may support multiple issue areas.

GLOBAL GIVING BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS AND RECIPIENT LOCATION, 2016-2019



GLOBAL GIVING BY POPULATION FOCUS, 2016-2019

POPULATION FOCUS	AMOUNT	MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
CHILDREN & YOUTH	\$ 112.4 M (31.0%)	\$ 68,254
WOMEN & GIRLS	\$ 55.2 M (15.2%)	\$ 100,000
LGBTQ PEOPLE	\$ 7.1 M (1.9%)	\$ 100,000
PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS	\$ 4.1 M (1.1%)	\$ 50,000
MIGRANTS & REFUGEES	\$ 3.2 M (0.9%)	\$ 72,500
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES	\$ 1.2 M (0.3%)	\$ 40,000
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES	\$ 0.6 M (0.2%)	\$ 65,000

Note: Grants may support multiple populations.

TOP COUNTRIES IN REGION BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS, 2016-2019

1. Haiti	\$ 113.0 M (31.2%)
2. Cuba	\$ 35.2 M (9.7%)
3. Dominican Republic	\$ 18.0 M (5.0%)
4. Jamaica	\$ 2.4 M (0.7%)
5. Trinidad and Tobago	\$ 1.8 M (0.5%)
6. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	\$ 1.0 M (0.3%)
7. Bermuda	\$ 0.8 M (0.2%)
8. Barbados	\$ 0.6 M (0.2%)
9. Antigua and Barbuda	\$ 0.3 M (0.1%)
10. Dominica	\$ 0.1 M (0.0%)

EASTERN EUROPE, CENTRAL ASIA & RUSSIA

KEY FACTS



In the period 2016-2019, **1.3%** of global giving by U.S. foundations (**\$431.7 M**) focused on the **Eastern Europe, Central Asia, & Russia** region.



The median grant amount overall was **\$78,050**.

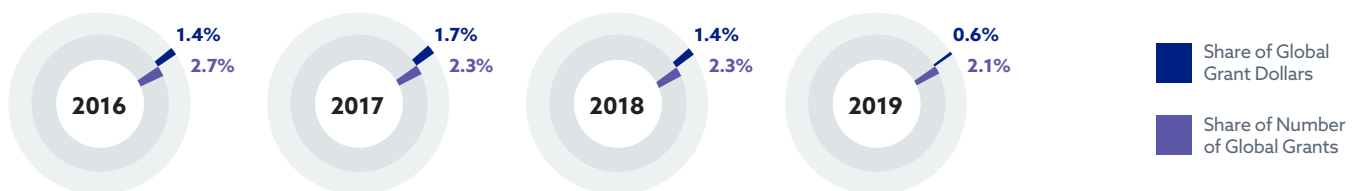


The Foundation to Promote Open Society provided the largest share of funding (**37.8%**).

Eastern Europe experienced tremendous upheaval resulting from how several countries regulated philanthropy and nonprofits during the 2016-2019 period. In 2016, Poland passed sweeping legislation that constrained funding of domestic nonprofits by empowering the Prime Minister to control where funds were disbursed. Other Eastern European countries passed similar laws restricting NGOs, with many reflecting language from Russia's notorious 2012 "foreign agent" law. Also during this period, the treatment of the Open Society Foundations by the government of President Orban led directly to its exiting Hungary in 2018.

COUNTRIES & REGIONS

For the purpose of this analysis, Eastern Europe, Central Asia & Russia includes Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro. Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.



TOP FUNDERS 2016-2019

BY DOLLAR AMOUNT

1. Foundation to Promote Open Society	\$ 163.1 M (37.8%)
2. The Wyss Foundation	\$ 38.5 M (8.9%)
3. Carnegie Corporation of New York	\$ 35.0 M (8.1%)
4. Sergey Brin Family Foundation	\$ 31.9 M (7.4%)
5. Open Society Institute	\$ 18.5 M (4.3%)

BY NUMBER OF GRANTS

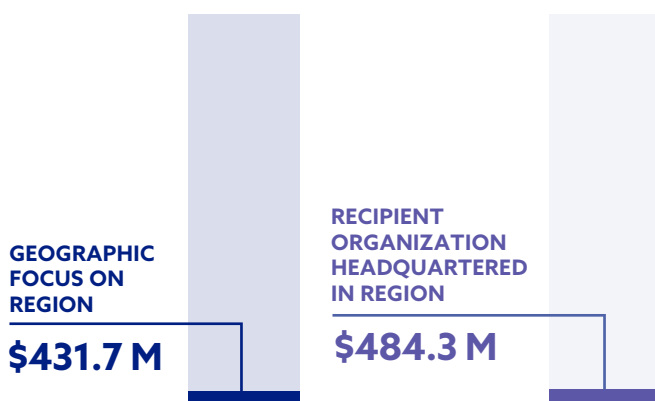
1. Foundation to Promote Open Society	174 grants (11.9%)
2. Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Inc.	118 grants (8.1%)
3. Charles Stewart Mott Foundation	105 grants (7.2%)
4. The Coca-Cola Foundation, Inc.	104 grants (7.1%)
5. Silicon Valley Community Foundation	99 grants (6.8%)

GLOBAL GIVING BY ISSUE FOCUS, 2016-2019

ISSUE FOCUS	AMOUNT	MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
PUBLIC AFFAIRS	\$ 67.1 M (15.6%)	\$ 122,500
HUMAN RIGHTS	\$ 62.0 M (14.4%)	\$ 100,000
ENVIRONMENT	\$ 53.5 M (12.4%)	\$ 100,000
HUMAN SERVICES	\$ 50.8 M (11.8%)	\$ 50,000
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	\$ 50.9 M (11.8%)	\$ 200,000
EDUCATION	\$ 49.6 M (11.5%)	\$ 35,111
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$ 43.7 M (10.1%)	\$ 100,000
HEALTH	\$ 24.5 M (5.7%)	\$ 65,000
SOCIAL SCIENCES	\$ 22.2 M (5.1%)	\$ 150,000
ARTS & CULTURE	\$ 18.9 M (4.4%)	\$ 53,000

Note: Grants may support multiple issue areas.

GLOBAL GIVING BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS AND RECIPIENT LOCATION, 2016-2019



GLOBAL GIVING BY POPULATION FOCUS, 2016-2019

POPULATION FOCUS	AMOUNT	MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
CHILDREN & YOUTH	\$ 61.2 M (14.2%)	\$ 50,000
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES	\$ 12.8 M (3.0%)	\$ 100,000
WOMEN & GIRLS	\$ 9.4 M (2.2%)	\$ 77,500
LGBTQ PEOPLE	\$ 5.2 M (1.2%)	\$ 50,000
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES	\$ 4.1 M (0.9%)	\$ 77,500
MIGRANTS & REFUGEES	\$ 2.3 M (0.5%)	\$ 75,881
PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS	\$ 0.2 M (0.1%)	\$ 25,000

Note: Grants may support multiple populations.

TOP COUNTRIES IN REGION BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS, 2016-2019

1. Russia	\$ 83.3 M (19.3%)
2. Armenia	\$ 15.1 M (3.5%)
3. Serbia	\$ 13.9 M (3.2%)
4. Ukraine	\$ 12.3 M (2.9%)
5. Poland	\$ 10.2 M (2.4%)
6. Georgia	\$ 9.6 M (2.2%)
7. Moldova	\$ 9.2 M (2.1%)
8. Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$ 8.3 M (1.9%)
9. Kosovo	\$ 8.1 M (1.9%)
10. Romania	\$ 7.4 M (1.7%)

LATIN AMERICA & MEXICO

KEY FACTS



In the period 2016-2019, **6.2%** of global giving by U.S. foundations (**\$2.1 B**) focused on the **Latin America & Mexico** region.



The median grant amount overall was **\$100,000**.



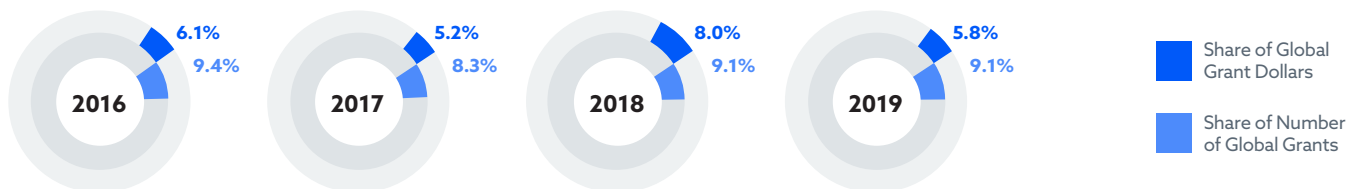
The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation provided the largest share of funding (**18.0%**).

Many countries within Latin America did not have specific regulations restricting the inflow of foreign philanthropic support during the 2016-2019 period. Although, international donations may be taxed, and transaction costs can be high. Several countries also maintain substantial barriers for establishing NGOs. Mexico's 2012 Anti-Money Laundering law represents a prominent example of the burden placed on nonprofits and their foreign donors. Moreover, since 2020 Latin America has seen a wave of new anti-NGO and philanthropy laws.

COUNTRIES & REGIONS

For the purpose of this analysis, Latin America & Mexico includes Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

FOUNDATION GRANT DOLLARS AND NUMBER OF GRANTS, 2016-2019



BY DOLLAR AMOUNT

1. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	\$ 374.8 M (18.0%)
2. Ford Foundation	\$ 252.0 M (12.1%)
3. Howard G. Buffett Foundation	\$ 183.1 M (8.8%)
4. W.K. Kellogg Foundation	\$ 127.6 M (6.1%)
5. Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation	\$ 107.5 M (5.2%)

BY NUMBER OF GRANTS

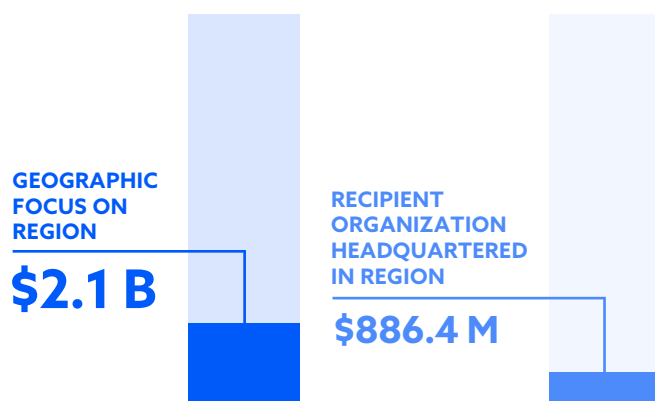
1. Ford Foundation	637 grants (11.4%)
2. Foundation to Promote Open Society	565 grants (10.1%)
3. Seattle Foundation	218 grants (3.9%)
4. W.K. Kellogg Foundation	213 grants (3.8%)
5. The David and Lucile Packard Foundation	194 grants (3.5%)

GLOBAL GIVING BY ISSUE FOCUS, 2016-2019

Issue Focus	Amount	Percentage	Median Grant Amount
HEALTH	\$ 574.4 M	(27.6%)	\$ 100,000
HUMAN RIGHTS	\$ 551.9 M	(26.5%)	\$ 120,000
ENVIRONMENT	\$ 446.2 M	(21.4%)	\$ 150,000
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$ 374.2 M	(18.0%)	\$ 150,000
AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY	\$ 260.1 M	(12.5%)	\$ 188,976
PUBLIC AFFAIRS	\$ 197.0 M	(9.5%)	\$ 150,000
EDUCATION	\$ 159.1 M	(7.6%)	\$ 50,000
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	\$ 82.8 M	(4.0%)	\$ 84,000
HUMAN SERVICES	\$ 79.5 M	(3.8%)	\$ 50,000
INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 78.7 M	(3.8%)	\$ 100,000

Note: Grants may support multiple issue areas.

GLOBAL GIVING BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS AND RECIPIENT LOCATION, 2016-2019



GLOBAL GIVING BY POPULATION FOCUS, 2016-2019

Population Focus	Amount	Percentage	Median Grant Amount
WOMEN & GIRLS	\$ 348.5 M	(16.7%)	\$ 100,000
CHILDREN & YOUTH	\$ 248.2 M	(11.9%)	\$ 50,000
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES	\$ 195.8 M	(9.4%)	\$ 140,000
LGBTQ PEOPLE	\$ 49.9 M	(2.4%)	\$ 125,000
MIGRANTS & REFUGEES	\$ 47.6 M	(2.3%)	\$ 124,000
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES	\$ 19.3 M	(0.9%)	\$ 100,000
PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS	\$ 5.4 M	(0.3%)	\$ 50,000

Note: Grants may support multiple populations.

TOP COUNTRIES IN REGION BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS, 2016-2019

1. Mexico	\$ 390.5 M (18.7%)
2. Brazil	\$ 208.5 M (10.0%)
3. Colombia	\$ 191.0 M (9.2%)
4. El Salvador	\$ 138.2 M (6.6%)
5. Peru	\$ 104.1 M (5.0%)
6. Guatemala	\$ 96.2 M (4.6%)
7. Honduras	\$ 63.9 M (3.1%)
8. Costa Rica	\$ 60.8 M (2.9%)
9. Bolivia	\$ 46.0 M (2.2%)
10. Ecuador	\$ 45.0 M (2.2%)

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

KEY FACTS



In the period 2016-2019, **5.4%** of global giving by U.S. foundations (**\$1.8 B**) focused on the **Middle East & North Africa** region.



The median grant amount overall was **\$77,802**.

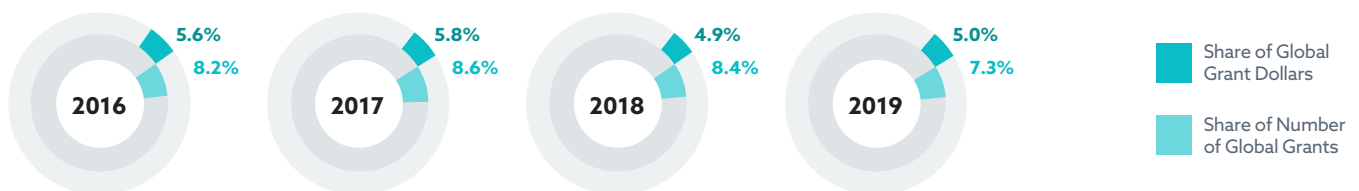


The **Adelson Family Foundation** provided the largest share of funding (**12.3%**).

In the Middle East and North Africa region, the ongoing wars in Syria and Yemen posed unprecedented challenges for NGOs trying to operate in those countries during the 2016-2019 period. From a legal perspective, Egypt remained the leader on anti-NGOs initiatives in the region. Its 2019 law regulating civil society organizations adopted restrictions seen in other countries, such as Russia, India, and China that require NGOs to conduct only activities sanctioned by the government. It also provides the government with sweeping authority to deny registrations to human rights groups and dissolve nonprofits on vague grounds.

COUNTRIES & REGIONS

For the purpose of this analysis, Middle East & North Africa includes Algeria, Bahrain, Cyprus, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, West Bank/Gaza Strip (Palestinian Territories), and Yemen.



TOP FUNDERS 2016-2019

BY DOLLAR AMOUNT

1. Adelson Family Foundation	\$ 220.2 M (12.3%)
2. The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust	\$ 128.4 M (7.2%)
3. John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation	\$ 110.5 M (6.2%)
4. Ford Foundation	\$ 89.7 M (5.0%)
5. Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies	\$ 82.7 M (4.6%)

BY NUMBER OF GRANTS

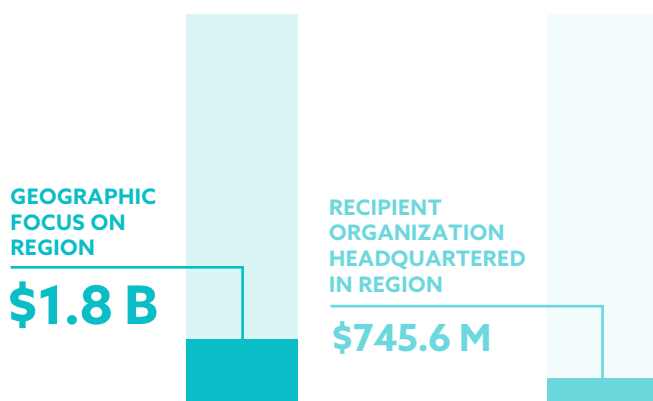
1. Foundation to Promote Open Society	261 grants (5.1%)
2. The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust	187 grants (3.7%)
3. Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Inc.	182 grants (3.6%)
4. Bader Philanthropies, Inc.	154 grants (3.0%)
5. The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Inc.	145 grants (2.0%)

GLOBAL GIVING BY ISSUE FOCUS, 2016-2019

ISSUE FOCUS	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE	MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
RELIGION	\$ 489.6 M	(27.3%)	\$ 80,000
EDUCATION	\$ 486.3 M	(27.1%)	\$ 100,000
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	\$ 452.2 M	(25.2%)	\$ 55,055
HEALTH	\$ 211.7 M	(11.8%)	\$ 126,129
PUBLIC AFFAIRS	\$ 212.5 M	(11.8%)	\$ 100,000
HUMAN SERVICES	\$ 203.9 M	(11.4%)	\$ 50,000
HUMAN RIGHTS	\$ 166.0 M	(9.2%)	\$ 75,000
SOCIAL SCIENCES	\$ 146.4 M	(8.2%)	\$ 100,000
ARTS & CULTURE	\$ 134.1 M	(7.5%)	\$ 80,000
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$ 132.5 M	(7.4%)	\$ 121,000

Note: Grants may support multiple issue areas.

GLOBAL GIVING BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS AND RECIPIENT LOCATION, 2016-2019



GLOBAL GIVING BY POPULATION FOCUS, 2016-2019

POPULATION FOCUS	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE	MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
CHILDREN & YOUTH	\$ 394.9 M	(22.0%)	\$ 75,000
MIGRANTS & REFUGEES	\$ 163.8 M	(9.1%)	\$ 110,000
WOMEN & GIRLS	\$ 81.4 M	(4.5%)	\$ 100,000
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES	\$ 35.1 M	(2.0%)	\$ 50,000
MILITARY PERSONNEL & VETERANS	\$ 32.2 M	(1.8%)	\$ 62,500
OLDER ADULTS/SENIORS	\$ 26.0 M	(1.4%)	\$ 50,000
LGBTQ PEOPLE	\$ 11.9 M	(0.7%)	\$ 150,000

Note: Grants may support multiple populations.

TOP COUNTRIES IN REGION BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS, 2016-2019

1. Israel	\$ 1.1 B (60.1%)
2. Jordan	\$ 126.7 M (7.1%)
3. Lebanon	\$ 122.5 M (6.8%)
4. Syria	\$ 117.7 M (6.6%)
5. Iraq	\$ 110.2 M (6.1%)
6. Egypt	\$ 28.4 M (1.6%)
7. West Bank/Gaza (Palestinian Territories)	\$ 23.5 M (1.3%)
8. Iran	\$ 19.4 M (1.1%)
9. Tunisia	\$ 14.2 M (0.8%)
10. Turkey	\$ 12.2 M (0.7%)

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

KEY FACTS



In the period 2016-2019, **25.1%** of global giving by U.S. foundations (**\$8.4 B**) focused on the **Sub-Saharan Africa** region.



The median grant amount overall was **\$150,000**.



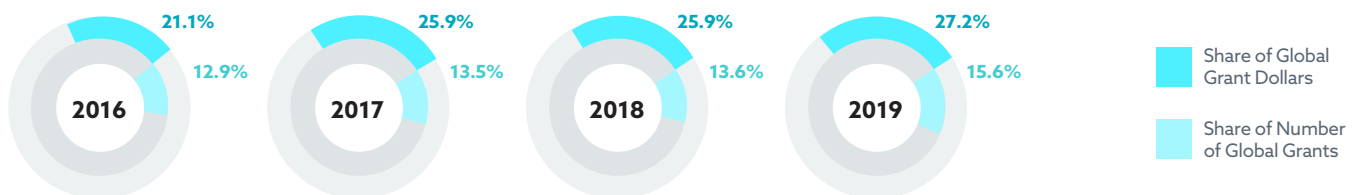
The **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** provided the largest share of funding (**70.6%**).

Sub-Saharan Africa was not immune to efforts by governments to curtail the rights of nonprofits. In the 2016-2019 period, Uganda, Burundi, South Sudan, Sierra Leone, and Rwanda all passed legislation that had chilling effects on NGOs in their countries. Burundi's 2017 law, for example, allows the government to determine the beneficiaries of nonprofits' work. Many foreign nonprofits closed their offices in the country due to the law's intensive reporting requirements and government oversight.

COUNTRIES & REGIONS

For the purpose of this analysis, Sub-Saharan Africa includes Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Republic of Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

FOUNDATION GRANT DOLLARS AND NUMBER OF GRANTS, 2016-2019



TOP FUNDERS 2016-2019

BY DOLLAR AMOUNT

1. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	\$ 5.9 B (70.6%)
2. Ford Foundation	\$ 235.0 M (2.8%)
3. Howard G. Buffett Foundation	\$ 195.3 M (2.3%)
4. Foundation to Promote Open Society	\$ 184.7 M (2.2%)
5. The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation	\$ 153.6 M (1.8%)

BY NUMBER OF GRANTS

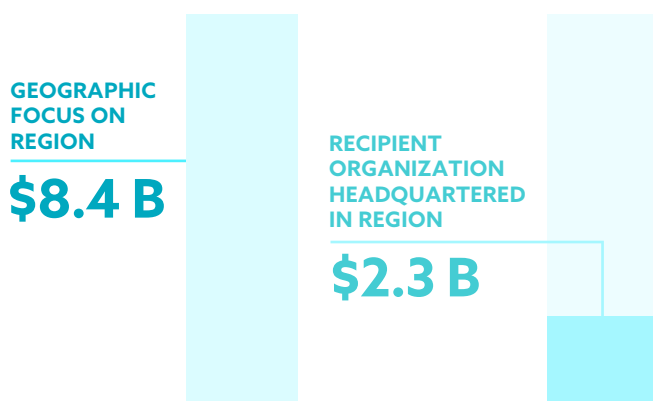
1. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	1,756 grants (20.3%)
2. Segal Family Foundation Inc	636 grants (7.4%)
3. Ford Foundation	624 grants (7.2%)
4. Wellspring Philanthropic Fund, Inc.	383 grants (4.4%)
5. Silicon Valley Community Foundation	329 grants (3.8%)

GLOBAL GIVING BY ISSUE FOCUS, 2016-2019

Issue Focus	Amount	Percentage	Median Grant Amount
HEALTH	\$ 5.0 B	60.0%	\$ 348,617
AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY	\$ 1.6 B	19.0%	\$ 400,000
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$ 1.6 B	18.5%	\$ 184,801
PUBLIC AFFAIRS	\$ 810.2 M	9.7%	\$ 250,000
HUMAN RIGHTS	\$ 637.3 M	7.6%	\$ 150,000
ENVIRONMENT	\$ 534.9 M	6.4%	\$ 160,000
INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 446.1 M	5.3%	\$ 299,000
HUMAN SERVICES	\$ 381.6 M	4.6%	\$ 76,500
EDUCATION	\$ 365.1 M	4.4%	\$ 64,000
SCIENCE & ENGINEERING	\$ 290.7 M	3.5%	\$ 250,000

Note: Grants may support multiple issue areas.

GLOBAL GIVING BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS AND RECIPIENT LOCATION, 2016-2019



GLOBAL GIVING BY POPULATION FOCUS, 2016-2019

Population Focus	Amount	Percentage	Median Grant Amount
CHILDREN & YOUTH	\$ 1.8 B	20.9%	\$ 100,000
WOMEN & GIRLS	\$ 1.7 B	19.7%	\$ 150,000
PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS	\$ 353.5 M	4.2%	\$ 99,700
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES	\$ 94.8 M	1.1%	\$ 111,451
LGBTQ PEOPLE	\$ 65.8 M	0.8%	\$ 150,000
MIGRANTS & REFUGEES	\$ 38.8 M	0.5%	\$ 125,000
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES	\$ 28.9 M	0.3%	\$ 77,450

Note: Grants may support multiple populations.

TOP COUNTRIES IN REGION BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS, 2016-2019

1. Nigeria	\$ 674.9 M (8.1%)
2. Ethiopia	\$ 369.3 M (4.4%)
3. Kenya	\$ 353.6 M (4.2%)
4. South Africa	\$ 287.8 M (3.4%)
5. Tanzania	\$ 232.1 M (2.8%)
6. Rwanda	\$ 214.4 M (2.6%)
7. Uganda	\$ 208.5 M (2.5%)
8. Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$ 188.8 M (2.3%)
9. Niger	\$ 112.9 M (1.3%)
10. Malawi	\$ 105.9 M (1.3%)

KEY FACTS



In the period 2016-2019, **5.5%** of global giving by U.S. foundations (**\$1.8 B**) focused on the **Western Europe** region.



The median grant amount overall was **\$100,000**.



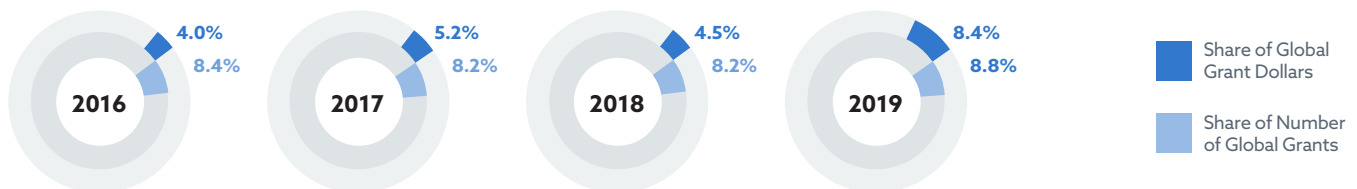
The **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** provided the largest share of funding (**19.6%**).

Western Europe did not experience substantial changes in its enabling environment during the 2016-2019 period. Nonetheless, in the wake of the 2015 refugee crisis resulting from the Syrian war, NGOs at times faced significant political and public criticism for assisting refugees. In some countries, including Greece and Italy, NGOs were sued. Separately, many NGO experts maintain that the European Union countries over-enforce their money laundering rules, penalizing NGOs. In response, foundations in the region have pushed back against what they see as overreach and a lack of awareness about the functioning and needs of nonprofits.

COUNTRIES & REGIONS

For the purpose of this analysis, Western Europe includes Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and United Kingdom.

FOUNDATION GRANT DOLLARS AND NUMBER OF GRANTS, 2016-2019



TOP FUNDERS 2016-2019

BY DOLLAR AMOUNT

1. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	\$ 361.6 M (19.6%)
2. Foundation to Promote Open Society	\$ 105.3 M (5.7%)
3. Silicon Valley Community Foundation	\$ 104.6 M (5.7%)
4. The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation	\$ 92.0 M (5.0%)
5. The JPMorgan Chase Foundation	\$ 61.6 M (3.3%)

BY NUMBER OF GRANTS

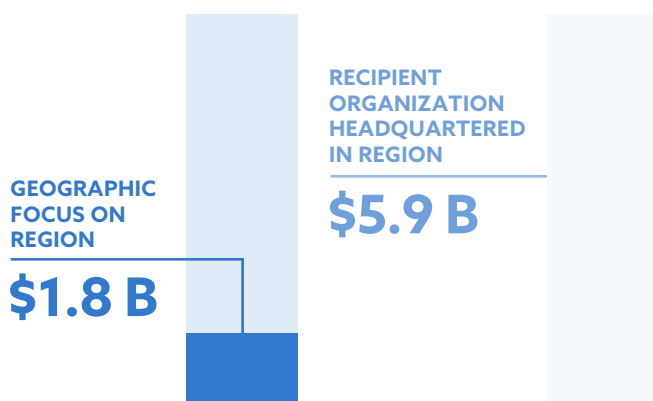
1. Silicon Valley Community Foundation	514 grants (9.8%)
2. Foundation to Promote Open Society	314 grants (6.0%)
3. Simons Foundation	310 grants (5.9%)
4. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	272 grants (5.2%)
5. The JPMorgan Chase Foundation	227 grants (4.3%)

GLOBAL GIVING BY ISSUE FOCUS, 2016-2019

Issue Focus	Total Giving	Percentage	Median Grant Amount
HEALTH	\$ 443.5 M	(24.0%)	\$ 150,000
EDUCATION	\$ 364.8 M	(19.8%)	\$ 68,000
ENVIRONMENT	\$ 327.9 M	(17.8%)	\$ 182,550
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	\$ 221.3 M	(12.0%)	\$ 116,224
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$ 206.4 M	(11.2%)	\$ 122,750
ARTS & CULTURE	\$ 149.1 M	(8.1%)	\$ 50,000
HUMAN RIGHTS	\$ 126.1 M	(6.8%)	\$ 100,000
PUBLIC AFFAIRS	\$ 117.7 M	(6.4%)	\$ 149,682
INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 108.0 M	(5.9%)	\$ 150,000
SOCIAL SCIENCES	\$ 87.5 M	(4.7%)	\$ 212,750

Note: Grants may support multiple issue areas.

GLOBAL GIVING BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS AND RECIPIENT LOCATION, 2016-2019



GLOBAL GIVING BY POPULATION FOCUS, 2016-2019

Population Focus	Total Giving	Percentage	Median Grant Amount
CHILDREN & YOUTH	\$ 136.2 M	(7.4%)	\$ 50,000
WOMEN & GIRLS	\$ 82.6 M	(4.5%)	\$ 102,621
MIGRANTS & REFUGEES	\$ 43.2 M	(2.3%)	\$ 104,857
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES	\$ 23.6 M	(1.3%)	\$ 80,777
PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS	\$ 16.6 M	(0.9%)	\$ 92,000
LGBTQ PEOPLE	\$ 7.6 M	(0.4%)	\$ 100,000
OLDER ADULTS/SENIORS	\$ 6.3 M	(0.3%)	\$ 155,993

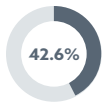
Note: Grants may support multiple populations.

TOP COUNTRIES IN REGION BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS, 2016-2019

1. United Kingdom	\$ 260.6 M (14.1%)
2. France	\$ 51.9 M (2.8%)
3. Italy	\$ 36.5 M (2.0%)
4. Germany	\$ 36.5 M (2.0%)
5. Austria	\$ 21.6 M (1.2%)
6. Spain	\$ 19.9 M (1.1%)
7. Greece	\$ 11.7 M (0.6%)
8. Netherlands	\$ 7.7 M (0.4%)
9. Ireland	\$ 7.3 M (0.4%)
10. Switzerland	\$ 7.2 M (0.4%)

GLOBAL PROGRAMS

KEY FACTS



In the period 2016-2019, **42.6%** of global giving by U.S. foundations (**\$14.2 B**) focused on **Global Programs**.



The median grant amount overall was **\$100,000**.



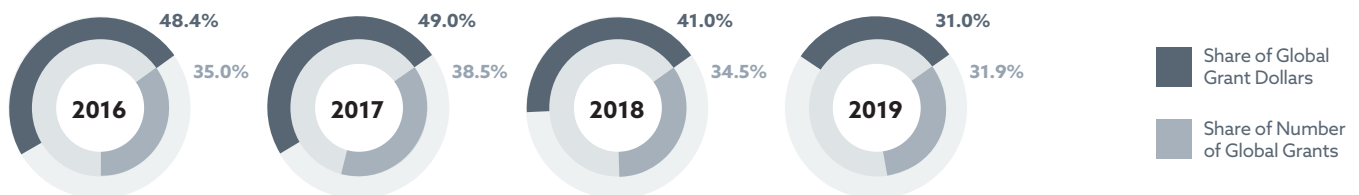
The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation provided the largest share of funding (**47.6%**).

“Global programs” encompasses U.S. foundation grantmaking intended to provide a universal benefit (e.g., funding to address climate change that anticipates positive outcomes for all regions) or that did not specify a country or region of focus. If grants for global programs were directed to any of the UN-associated entities, such as the World Health Organization or UNICEF, U.S. law allows for foundations to treat these entities as the equivalent of a U.S. 501(c)(3) public charity, essentially removing any extra due diligence burden.

COUNTRIES & REGIONS

For the purpose of this analysis, Global Programs includes global giving by U.S. foundations that either specifies a global focus or does not specify a country-level or regional focus.

FOUNDATION GRANT DOLLARS AND NUMBER OF GRANTS, 2016-2019



TOP FUNDERS 2016-2019











BY DOLLAR AMOUNT

1. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	\$ 6.8 B (47.6%)
2. The Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation	\$ 728.4 M (5.1%)
3. Bloomberg Philanthropies, Inc.	\$ 474.2 M (3.3%)
4. Foundation to Promote Open Society	\$ 418.0 M (2.9%)
5. Ford Foundation	\$ 361.9 M (2.5%)

BY NUMBER OF GRANTS






1. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	2,103 grants (9.6%)
2. Silicon Valley Community Foundation	1,220 grants (5.6%)
3. Foundation to Promote Open Society	742 grants (3.4%)
4. Ford Foundation	622 grants (2.9%)
5. Wells Fargo Foundation	462 grants (2.1%)

GLOBAL GIVING BY ISSUE FOCUS, 2016-2019

		MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
HEALTH		
 \$ 7.7 B (54.0%)		\$ 250,000
ENVIRONMENT		
 \$ 1.8 B (12.6%)		\$ 100,000
HUMAN RIGHTS		
 \$ 1.7 B (11.7%)		\$ 100,000
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT		
 \$ 1.4 B (9.9%)		\$ 100,000
PUBLIC AFFAIRS		
 \$ 1.0 B (7.1%)		\$ 100,000
HUMAN SERVICES		
 \$ 998.2 M (7.0%)		\$ 50,000
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS		
 \$ 764.9 M (5.4%)		\$ 75,000
INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS		
 \$ 761.4 M (5.3%)		\$ 150,000
SCIENCE & ENGINEERING		
 \$ 691.7 M (4.9%)		\$ 170,000
AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY		
 \$ 557.1 M (3.9%)		\$ 150,000

Note: Grants may support multiple issue areas.

GLOBAL GIVING BY POPULATION FOCUS, 2016-2019

		MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT
CHILDREN & YOUTH		
 \$ 2.7 B (19.2%)		\$ 79,594
WOMEN & GIRLS		
 \$ 2.3 B (15.8%)		\$ 150,000
PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS		
 \$ 1.2 B (8.7%)		\$ 300,000
MIGRANTS & REFUGEES		
 \$ 288.8 M (2.0%)		\$ 50,000
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES		
 \$ 150.2 M (1.1%)		\$ 75,000
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES		
 \$ 72.1 M (0.5%)		\$ 100,000
LGBTQ PEOPLE		
 \$ 60.6 M (0.4%)		\$ 100,000

Note: Grants may support multiple populations.

PART IV

Global Giving Aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals

Key Facts

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were created by the United Nations as a call-to-action to “end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.”

The SDGs were formally adopted in 2015, and \$431.8 billion in Official Development Assistance (ODA) from all countries aligned with these 17 priorities in the period 2016-2019. Among Foundation 1000 foundations engaged in global giving, \$28.4 billion (84.0% of their \$33.8 billion in total global support) also aligned with the SDGs during this period. While U.S. foundations give substantially less than ODA countries, they can nonetheless make critical contributions to advancing the SDGs through their broad array of funding strategies and ability to pivot quickly toward promising solutions.

Among the 17 specific SDG goals, U.S. foundation global giving was far more likely than ODA to align with “Good Health and Well-Being” (Goal 3) and “Gender Equality” (Goal 5) during the 2016-2019 period. By comparison, ODA was far more likely to include a focus on “Sustainable Cities and Communities” (Goal 11).

Important to note is that these findings should not be interpreted as suggesting that U.S. foundations have made an intentional decision to adjust their grantmaking priorities to align with the SDGs. While the SDGs contribute to the context in which foundations establish their focus areas and strategies, few have indicated that they explicitly seek to define any part of their grantmaking based on the SDGs. Nonetheless, in pursuing their own priorities, U.S. foundations are contributing to the advancement of these important global goals.

**ALIGNMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS) WITH U.S. FOUNDATION
GLOBAL GIVING AND OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (ODA), 2016-2019**

	U.S. FOUNDATIONS	ODA
1. NO POVERTY	2.6%	7.9%
2. ZERO HUNGER	9.5%	8.4%
3. GOOD HEALTH & WELL-BEING	44.1%	18.8%
4. QUALITY EDUCATION	6.6%	10.3%
5. GENDER EQUALITY	15.7%	0.4%
6. CLEAN WATER & SANITATION	2.2%	2.8%
7. AFFORDABLE & CLEAN ENERGY	2.6%	3.0%
8. DECENT WORK & ECONOMIC GROWTH	7.5%	6.3%
9. INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, & INFRASTRUCTURE	3.9%	2.2%
10. REDUCED INEQUALITIES	1.3%	0.5%
11. SUSTAINABLE CITIES & COMMUNITIES	2.9%	27.6%
12. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION & PRODUCTION	2.9%	0.7%
13. CLIMATE ACTION	3.1%	1.6%
14. LIFE BELOW WATER	1.4%	1.3%
15. LIFE ON LAND	4.4%	3.3%
16. PEACE, JUSTICE, & STRONG INSTITUTIONS	11.7%	15.1%
17. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	1.4%	2.2%



Methodology

Methodology

The State of Global Giving by U.S. Foundations analyzes trends in foundation grantmaking based on data included in Candid's "Foundation 1000" research set. This set includes all of the grants of \$10,000 or more awarded by 1,000 of the largest U.S. foundations. While this represents a fraction of the approximately 100,000 private and community foundations in the country, these large foundations account for the vast majority of global giving.

To create the Foundation 1000 dataset each year, Candid relies on three primary sources for data on grantmaking by U.S. foundations:

- **Internal Revenue Service (IRS) 990PF information returns.** These forms contain basic information on foundation grantees (recipient organization name, location, and grant amount) and must be filed annually by all U.S. foundations.
- **Candid's eReporting program.** The roughly 500 U.S. foundations enrolled in this program, including several of the largest U.S. foundations, provide their grant-level data directly to Candid. This enables the most timely reporting of grants data by Candid.
- **Other Public Sources.** Candid also collects grant-level data from publicly available sources such as open databases, foundation websites, and news sources.

Grants data collected by Candid are processed through an automated machine learning system that assigns coding using the organization's [Philanthropy Classification System](#) (PCS). This coding encompasses characteristics of recipient organizations and grants such as geographic, issue, and population focus. Candid staff manually review coding for all grants of \$250,000 and over.

In exploring findings presented in the latest edition of *Global Giving*, readers should note that:

- A single grant may focus on multiple issue areas (e.g., arts and culture and human rights), geographic areas (e.g., Bolivia, Peru), populations (e.g., women, indigenous people), and type of support strategies (e.g., general support, policy and advocacy). Candid counts the full value of a grant toward each applicable category.
- Data on community foundations includes all discretionary grants. Donor-advised grants are also included when provided by community foundations.
- Grants to individuals are not included.

Finally, data on bilateral and multilateral aid mapped to the Sustainable Development Goals were sourced from the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). These data can be accessed from <https://stats.oecd.org/>.



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