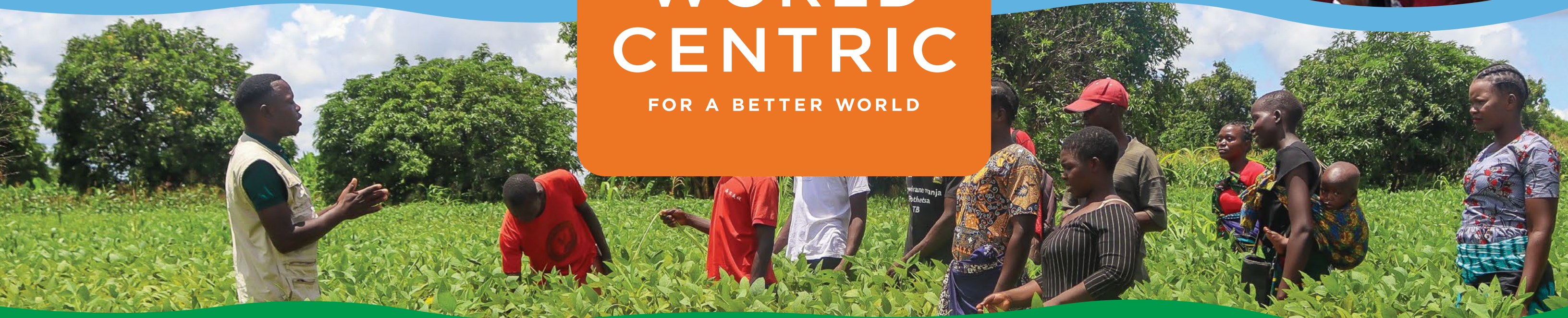




**WORLD[®]
CENTRIC**
FOR A BETTER WORLD



GIVING REPORT 2022

CONTENTS



Photo of Spark Microgrants beneficiaries, World Centric

1 ABOUT WORLD CENTRIC

3 INTRODUCTION

5 GIVING PROGRAM

7 WHERE OUR PARTNERS WORK

9 IMPACT GRANTS: WHAT WE FUND

11 IMPACT GRANTS: NEW PARTNERS

13 IMPACT GRANTS: CONTINUING PARTNERS

21 STAFF GIVING

22 REGIONAL GIVING

23 EMPLOYEE DONATION MATCHING

24 IN-KIND PRODUCT DONATIONS

25 PRIORITIES 2023

ABOUT WORLD CENTRIC

World Centric was created in 2004 as a nonprofit organization to elevate awareness of global social and environmental injustices. Today, as a California Benefit Corporation and certified B Corp, we continue to uphold the same mission and values: To be of service to people and the planet in all that we do.



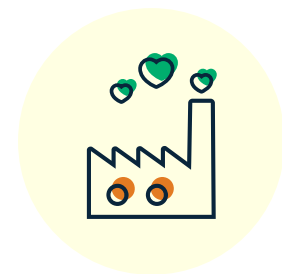
Alleviating Social and Environmental Inequality

Each year, we give at least 25% of our profits to grassroots organizations around the world. See [pages 5-10](#) to learn more about how we work and where we work. We focus our giving on programs that support positive social and environmental change – whether this starts from basic needs, or contributes to broader systems-level changes.



Reducing Waste

At World Centric, we make plant-based compostable foodservice and packaging products to replace petroleum-derived plastics and expanded polystyrene. See [our catalog](#) to learn more about our compostable product line. Ideally, we would like to see a world where reusables are the standard. However, within the current paradigm, where trillions of single-use service products are used every year, we see compostable products as a sustainable alternative and necessary bridge to a more sustainable future.



Fair Labor Practices

We regularly audit our suppliers under Fair Labor Association guidelines to ensure fair wages and working conditions. Each year, we give a small percentage of our profits back to our extended supply chain, providing bonuses to our suppliers and factory workers. See [our Sustainability Report](#) to learn more about our initiatives, innovations, and future ESG goals, which demonstrate our continued commitment to minimize our impact on the environment and ensure fair labor practices.

Memberships and Certifications

- 1% for the Planet
- Association of Compost Producers (CA)
- B Corporation
- Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI)
- California Compost Coalition
- California Green Business Network
- California Resource Recovery Association
- Compost Manufacturing Alliance
- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)
- Gluten Testing
- Good Business Colorado Association
- Green America
- Green Blue Institute
- International Food Service Editorial Council
- National Minority Supplier Development Council
- Several state composting councils and US Composting Council
- TÜV Austria
- USDA BioPreferred Products



INTRODUCTION

It's been 13 years since World Centric provided its first \$40,000 in grants to five nonprofits. Over the years the amount we give has grown and how we fund has changed, but why we give has stayed the same. Our planet faces extreme challenges from over-consumption and over-extraction. COVID-19 has been the [biggest setback in poverty reduction efforts](#) since World War II. In 2022, as many as 685 million people (or approximately 1 in 12 people) lived on less than \$2.15 per day. Meanwhile, climate change - a persistent and growing threat to global progress - has been attributed to another year of record-setting events and unprecedented natural disasters. These two challenges, among many others, have sent the goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030 irreparably off course.

In the United States, and in other high-income countries, corporations continue to grow a capitalist economic system that puts the wealth of a few over the health of many. [The top 10% of the world's population owns 76% of the world's wealth](#), and accounts for 48% of global carbon emissions. Those with the fewest resources are contributing the least to the climate crisis and yet are impacted the most. We hope that by operating a different kind of company we can improve how business impacts people and the environment. At World Centric, we believe that we must redistribute wealth to support the communities that are most impacted by social and environmental injustice. Funding frontline, community-based organizations is our approach to supporting positive social and environmental change.

With profits from our 2022 fiscal year, which we dispersed between November 2022 to June 2023, the Giving Program at World Centric supported our largest number of nonprofits and programs to date. We funded a total of 45 organizations through our Giving initiatives and an additional 33 through employee matching. For impact grants, the largest of our Giving initiatives, we are excited to partner with six new organizations and continue our support for 14 others ([see page 13](#)). Our partner organizations are the real changemakers in this world, working directly with communities to reduce extreme poverty and environmental degradation. We are excited to showcase and present their work in this report.

Aseem Das
CEO & Founder

Janae Lloyd
Director of Impact



Photo: Society of Providence United for the Economic Development of Pétion-Ville (SOPUDEP)

GIVING PROGRAM

Our Giving Program is central to what we do and why we do it. Each year, we give a minimum of 25% of our net profits to organizations around the world addressing social and environmental issues. Since 2009, we have been able to donate to fund more than 260 projects and programs through the following initiatives:

1. **Impact Giving:** The largest of our initiatives, impact grants support grassroots organizations around the world working at the intersection of extreme poverty and environmental degradation. Our funding prioritizes locally-led organizations and community-driven projects that support sustainable development.
2. **Staff Giving:** Once a year, World Centric sets aside \$2,000 per employee to donate to nonprofits recommended by a voluntary committee of staff (the Giving Team). Each staff member can donate to one or more of the organizations from the recommended list, which is compiled annually based on priorities determined by the Giving Team.
3. **Regional Giving:** In collaboration with our regional sales managers, each sales region at World Centric is provided an annual fund of \$10,000 to donate to US-based grassroots organizations. Our regional giving supports organizations that focus on composting advocacy and initiatives, reducing food waste, supporting a more equitable foodservice industry, eliminating single-use plastics, supporting environmental conservation, and/or other regionally-specific issues.
4. **In-kind product donations:** World Centric is committed to supporting community events that align with our mission of positive social and environmental change. We offer in-kind product donations for such events hosted by nonprofits, social enterprises, and schools. If this is you, [apply here](#) for your next event.
5. **Employee donation matching:** World Centric matches employee donations each year up to a maximum of \$5,000 per employee for donations made throughout the year to organizations aligning with World Centric's priorities.

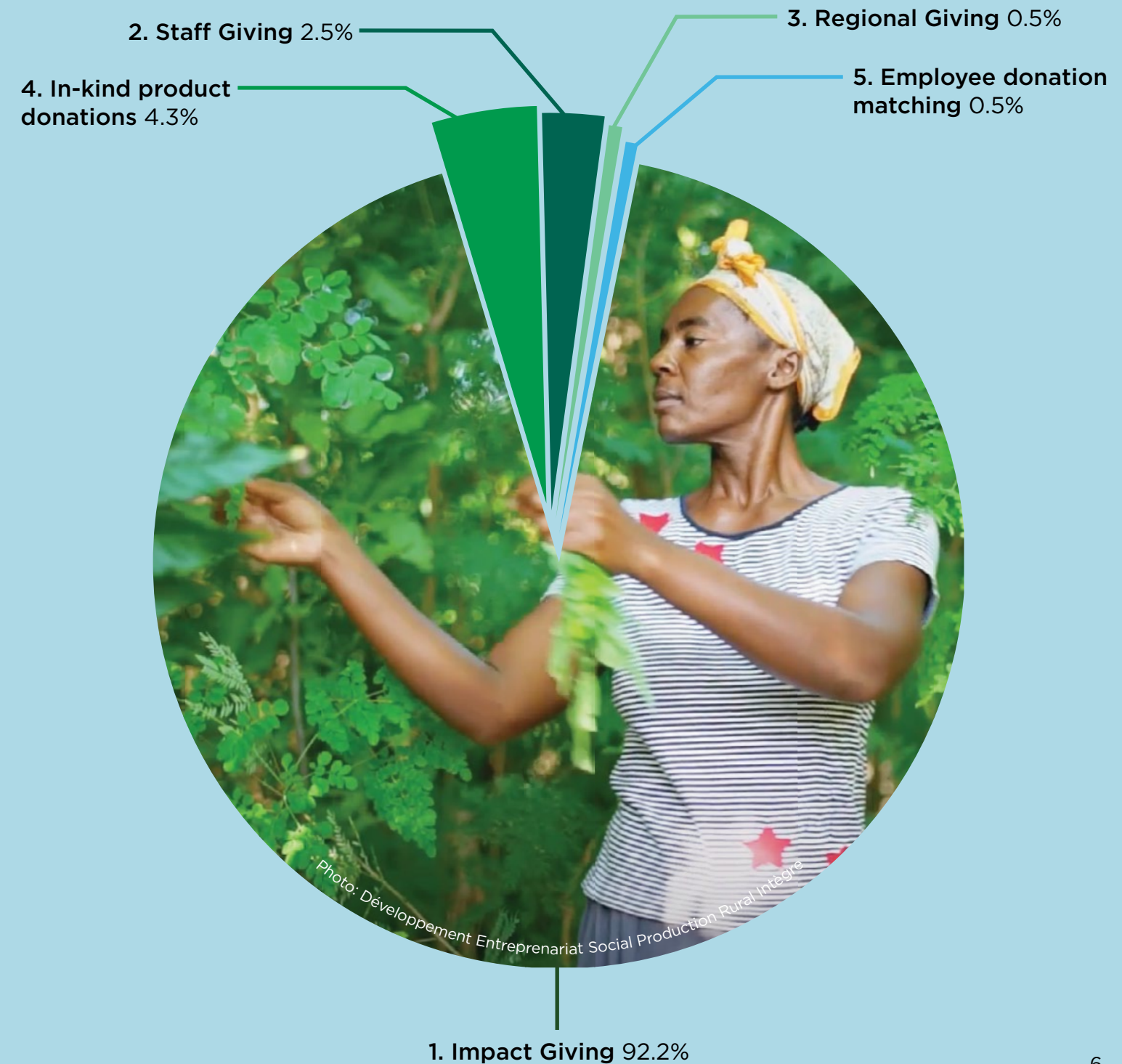
How We Fund

Through our Impact, Regional, and Staff Giving, the organizations we support are initially screened based on two due diligence criteria: annual budget at or below US\$6 million, and administrative overhead under 20%. Following initial screening, we evaluate the following criteria: impact areas, intervention level (e.g., basic needs versus systems approach), community participation and ownership, team composition (contextual and technical expertise), and board composition (representation on the board from the communities served). For our impact grants, we also prioritize: activities involving communities experiencing extreme poverty (<\$2.15/person/day), clear organizational strategy, and data-driven monitoring and evaluation.

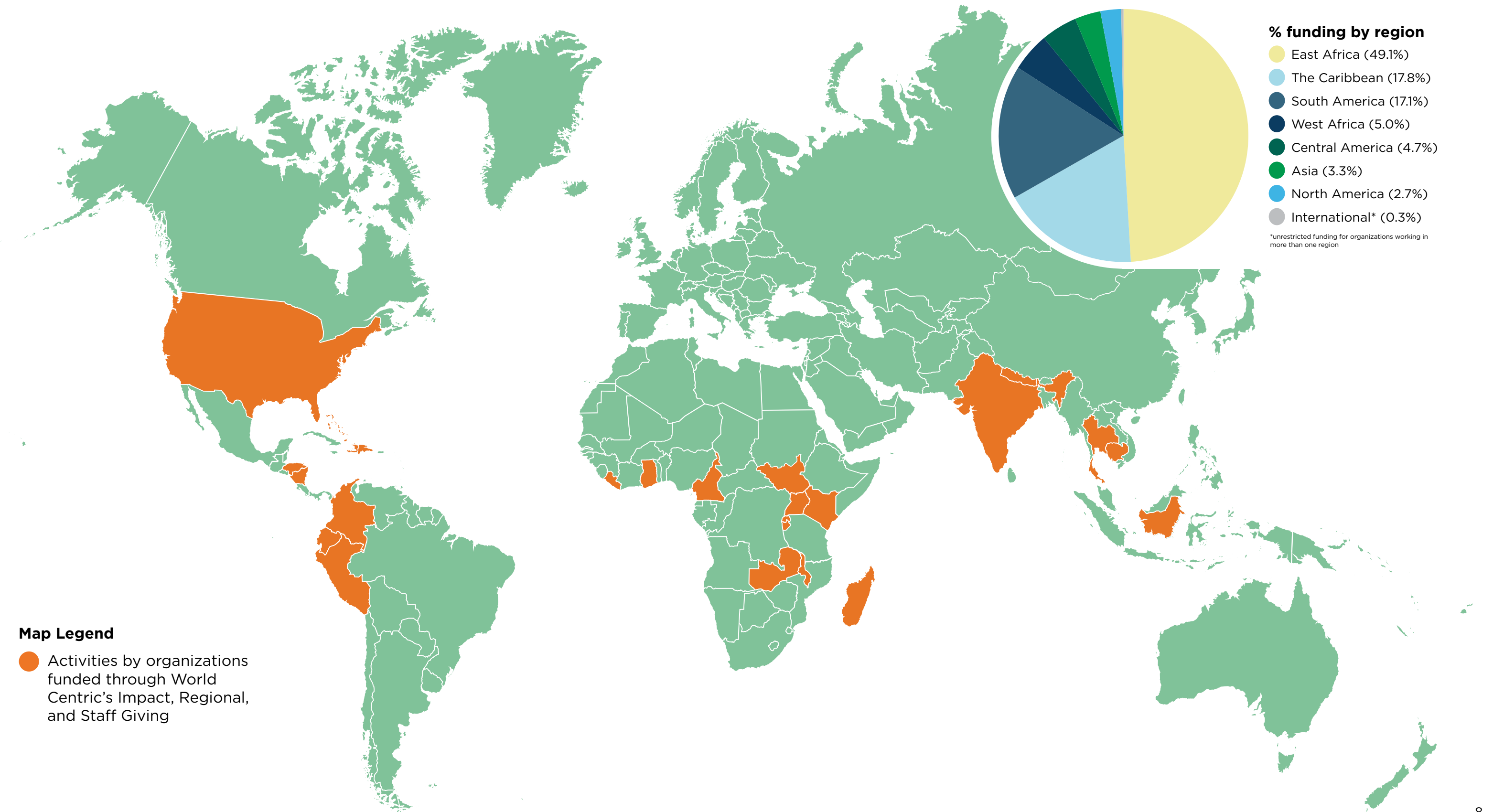
\$13,685,142

donated since 2009

2022 Giving At a Glance



WHERE OUR PARTNERS WORK



Map Legend

- Activities by organizations funded through World Centric's Impact, Regional, and Staff Giving

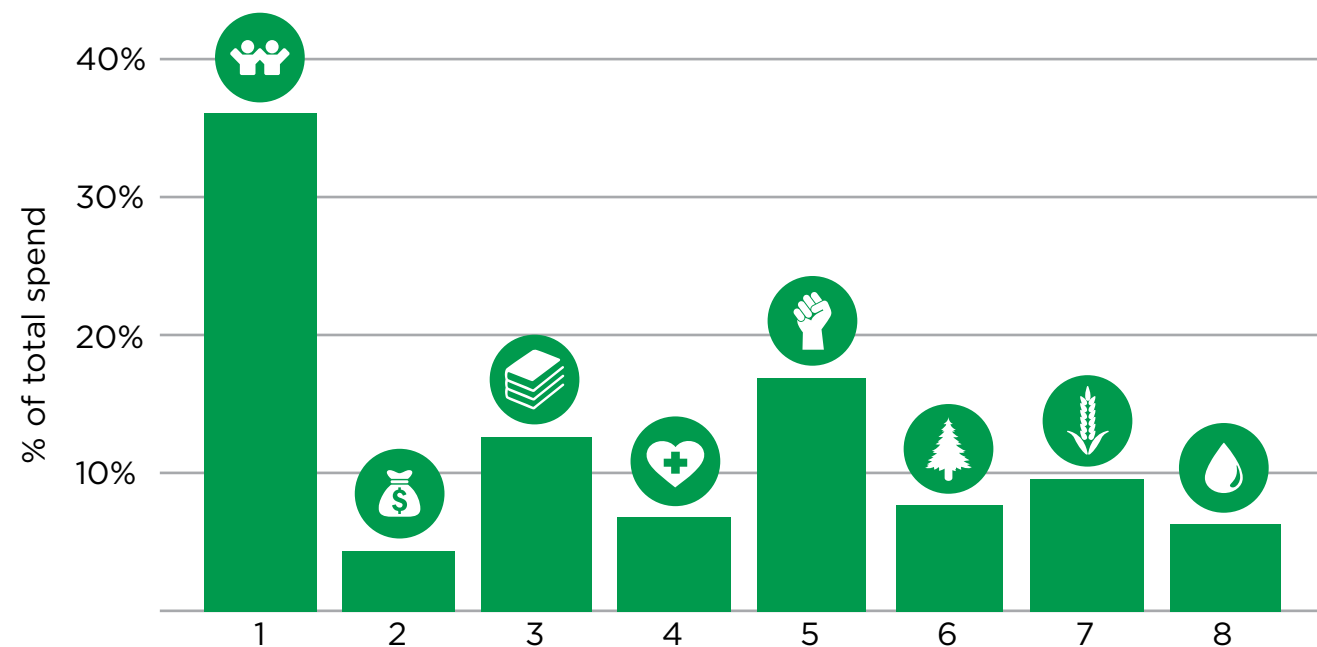
IMPACT GRANTS: WHAT WE FUND

Our impact grants support communities facing extreme poverty and environmental degradation. We believe that you cannot sustainably address poverty reduction without utilizing a multi-dimensional approach; removing immediate barriers to improve livelihoods while building local capacity for communities to thrive. We partner with organizations that have designed, developed, and verified evidence-based interventions. Our profits from fiscal year 2022 supported a diverse range of programs (see chart below), reached 99,357 people, and planted 693,448 trees.

"We hope to create lasting change, for people and the planet, by partnering with nonprofits that are committed to community-based development; providing basic needs while addressing the system flaws that created those barriers to begin with."

- Aseem Das, World Centric Founder and CEO

Impact grants by focus area as % of total spend



Focus areas by alphabetical order

1. Community-driven development (36.1%)
2. Financial inclusion (4.2%)
3. Education (K-12) (12.5%)
4. Health (7.0%)
5. Indigenous land rights (16.6%)
6. Reforestation (7.5%)
7. Sustainable agriculture (9.7%)
8. Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) (6.4%)



99,357
people reached

Outputs with
profits from fiscal
year 2022

693,448
trees planted

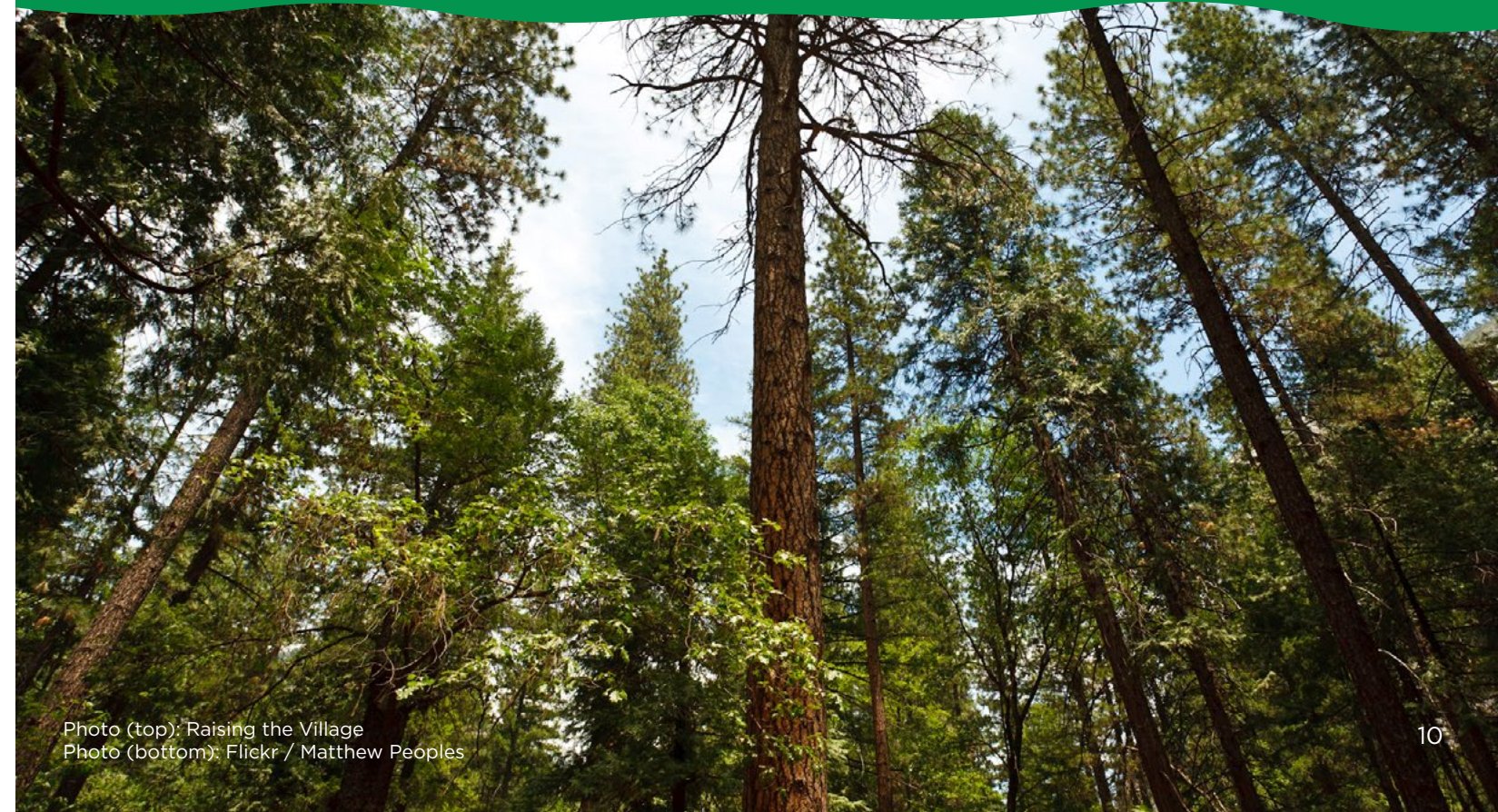


Photo (top): Raising the Village
Photo (bottom): Flickr / Matthew Peoples

IMPACT GRANTS: NEW PARTNERS



ACADES

ACADES invests in small-scale farmers in rural Malawi to create economic opportunities and sustainable livelihoods. Despite the critical role of small-scale farming in feeding the African continent, less than 1% of formal lending goes to farmers. ACADES aims to address this investment gap by providing tailor-made training, input loans, and access to ethical markets for last-mile communities. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

Initial funding: \$30,000

Photo: ACADES



Coastal and Marine Resource Development (COMRED)

COMRED is a Kenyan-based organization aiming to create practical solutions to problems faced by coastal and marine environments and their communities. Programs center on conservation and research of coastal and marine resources, sustainable urban development, and community capacity-building. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

Initial funding: \$5,077

Photo: COMRED



El Porvenir

El Porvenir supports rural Nicaraguans to achieve better health through comprehensive clean water projects. Rather than initiating projects directly, staff members respond to requests for assistance from rural villages. From there, El Porvenir works with communities to implement tailored programs around clean water access, sanitation, watershed restoration, and health education. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

Initial funding: \$17,070

Photo: El Porvenir



Gravity Water

Gravity Water provides schools in rural and peri-urban communities in Nepal with resilient water infrastructure using innovative rainwater harvesting and filtration technology. This technology allows schools to produce safe drinking water on-site without the need for additional energy inputs. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

Initial funding: \$27,600

Photo: Gravity Water



Ofrenda A'bunna

Ofrenda A'bunna is an indigenous-led organization recovering Arhuaco ancestral land in Colombia's Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. Following each purchase, families move back onto their ancestral lands to restore and protect the environment. Over 70% of purchased land is dedicated to natural regeneration of native forests, while the remainder is used for growing communal food, fibers, and medicine. They have purchased and restored 8,000 acres to date, with a goal of purchasing 5,000 more by 2028. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

Initial funding: \$72,500

Photo: COMRED



Shared Action Africa

Shared Action Africa supports women and girls to attain sustainable livelihoods, lead healthy lives, and become agents of climate justice in rural and refugee areas in Uganda. Programs center on women's savings groups as an entry point to address financial inclusion, advocacy, climate justice, and sexual and reproductive health. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

Initial funding: \$49,717

Photo: Shared Action Africa

IMPACT GRANTS: CONTINUING PARTNERS

Advocates for Community Alternatives

Funded since: 2020

Cumulative funding: \$249,577

About: Advocates for Community Alternatives works with West African communities that are threatened by the destructive impacts of extractive industries, like deforestation and mining. They collectively organize, advocate and ensure the recognition and protection of community land rights while launching development projects to further the sustainability of the community. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

What World Centric funded this year: Support for three communities in Ghana and six in Liberia. In Ghana, the communities built two health centers and a black soap manufacturing plant. In Liberia, the communities launched a rice farming and rice milling business, along with improved road infrastructure.

Aliados

Funded since: 2022

Cumulative funding: \$131,241

About: Aliados connects smallholder farmers from rural Ecuador to global markets through regenerative agriculture. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

What World Centric funded this year: Regenerative cocoa farming and processing program with the Chachi Central in the Chocó Forest (this was our second year funding this initiative), territorial management planning, and a new indigenous entrepreneurship training pilot.

Amazon Frontlines

Funded since: 2021

Cumulative funding: \$320,000

About: Amazon Frontlines builds power with the Siona, Secoya, Kofan, and Waorani Indigenous nations in Ecuador to defend their way of life, the Amazon Rainforest, and their climate futures. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

What World Centric funded this year: The Ceibo Alliance and Waorani Organization of Pastaza (OWAP) to thrive in and protect their climate-critical territories.

Développement Entreprenariat Social Production Rural Intègre (DESPRI)

Funded since: 2017

Cumulative funding: \$444,888

About: DESPRI supports resilience and innovation through building participatory Self-Help Groups, with a focus on promoting women entrepreneurship, modernization of productive value-chains, sustainable agriculture, and environmental regeneration. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

What World Centric funded this year: We supported 3 of DESPRI's core programs in the Northwest Artibonite: reforestation and regeneration of degraded mountainsides, financial inclusion through micro-credits for women's self-help groups, and coastal ecosystem protection focusing on mangroves.



Green Again Madagascar

Funded since: 2022

Cumulative funding: \$45,707

About: Green Again Madagascar collaborates with the people of Madagascar to develop and share robust scientific strategies for rainforest restoration and protection. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

What World Centric funded this year: Planting 8,448 trees in rural Madagascar.

People for Progress in India (PPI)

Funded since: 2009

Cumulative funding: \$274,568

About: PPI supports positive socio-economic change to the underprivileged, marginalized, and exploited sectors of India. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

What World Centric funded this year: General funding.

Power of Love

Funded since: 2013

Cumulative funding: \$916,134

About: Power of Love focuses on developing innovative and cost-effective solutions to the HIV and AIDS epidemic in Zambia through a community-focused model that focuses on the wellbeing of women and children. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

What World Centric funded this year: Microloans for women accompanied by business training and mentorship, malaria bed nets, and nutritional support for HIV+ children.

Rainforest Action Network (RAN)

Funded since: 2010

Cumulative funding: \$359,459

About: RAN preserves forests, protects the climate and upholds human rights by challenging corporate power and systemic injustice through frontline partnerships and strategic campaigns. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

What World Centric funded this year: Community Action Grants, which provide crucial, rapid funding for communities fighting to keep forests standing.

Carbon Giving

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing humanity. It's largely impacted by carbon emissions linked to consumerism in the Global North. At World Centric, we measure our corporate carbon footprint, work to lower the carbon emissions that come from our operations, and invest in long-term solutions to reduce and sequester carbon, known as our Carbon Giving. Carbon Giving provides funding to organizations on the frontlines of climate change who are working on carbon reduction and sequestration while also improving community resilience. [Learn more about how World Centric mitigates its carbon footprint in our 2022 Carbon Accounting Report.](#)

Raising the Village (RTV)

Funded since: 2020

Cumulative funding: \$526,294

About: Raising the Village partners with last-mile farming communities in Sub-Saharan Africa to address extreme poverty through a 24-month graduation program that focuses on driving income, enabling participation, and ensuring sustainability through building local capacity and structures. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

What World Centric funded this year: Eight communities in Kibaale District and 10 communities in Mitooma District, Uganda.

Society of Providence United for the Economic Development of Pétiön-Ville (SOPUDEP)

Funded since: 2010

Cumulative funding: \$597,912

About: SOPUDEP is a Haitian-run grassroots organization providing free and accessible education to adults and children. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

What World Centric funded this year: Teacher and staff salaries for 67 employees serving 700+ students.

Spark MicroGrants

Funded since: 2016

Cumulative funding: \$1,251,304

About: Spark MicroGrants works with communities, governments, and local organizations to catalyze sustained collective action in villages facing poverty by providing resources and skills for villages to design and implement a development project of their choosing. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

What World Centric funded this year: 18 new villages in Malawi and 11 new villages in Burundi.

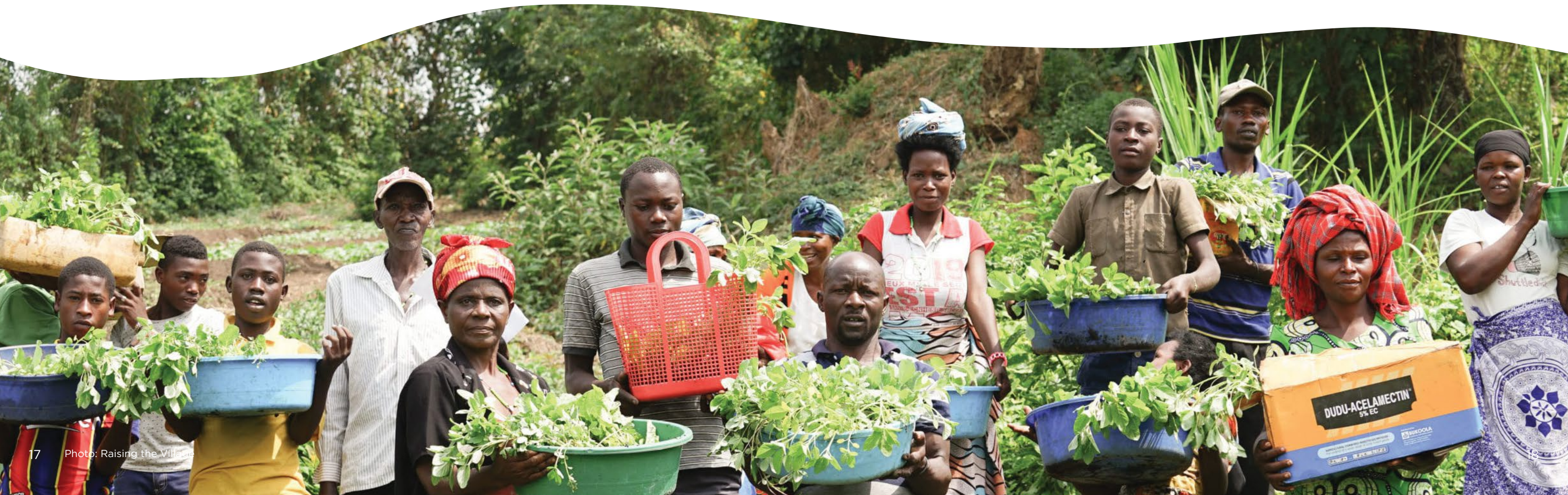
Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods (SOIL)

Funded since: 2016

Cumulative funding: \$361,134

About: SOIL provides safe, affordable sanitation access to people living in vulnerable urban communities in Haiti. By providing toilets and removing waste from communities, SOIL is preventing the spread of waterborne disease, increasing families' safety and security, and protecting vulnerable aquatic ecosystems. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

What World Centric funded this year: Waste treatment operations for over 2,000 households.



Women's Global Education Project (WGEP)

Funded since: 2018

Cumulative funding: \$395,972

About: WGEP empowers women and girls in rural areas of East and West Africa through education, to build better lives and foster more equitable communities. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

What World Centric funded this year: 332 scholarships for adolescent girls from two counties in Kenya and reproductive health workshops for 300 girls.

Women's International Network for Guatemalan Solutions (WINGS)

Funded since: 2019

Cumulative funding: \$155,275

About: WINGS provides quality reproductive health education and services to underserved Guatemalan youth, women, and men. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

What World Centric funded this year: WINGS' Volunteer Promoter Network and Community Advisory Board.



Partner Highlight: Aliados Indigenous Entrepreneurial Leadership Pilot

This year, World Centric is excited to fund an indigenous entrepreneurship pilot by our partner Aliados. The pilot will test an entrepreneurship leadership training program for indigenous and rural leaders in Ecuador. This is a first-of-its-kind program in the region, presenting an exciting opportunity to harness indigenous leadership capacity to solve local problems. The initial cohort will include 15 indigenous leaders from the Andes and Amazon. The program will provide this first cohort with tailored training for transformational leadership, access to peer-to-peer support networks, and coaching for personal leadership development. Women participating in the program can also access a microgrant to pay for childcare, alleviating caregiving responsibilities to encourage participation.



STAFF GIVING

Staff Giving is made possible each year by an internal volunteer committee, the Staff Giving Team. The Staff Giving Team determines priority impact areas for the year and nominates a list of non-profit organizations. Each World Centric staff member then allocates their annual Staff Giving fund (\$2,000) to organizations of their choice from the nominated list. With profits from fiscal year 2022, our staff donated to 20 organizations across four continents, supporting a diversity of activities ranging from domestic migrant rights, to rainforest protection, to mental health. See the full list below and click on each organization to learn more or to donate.

Africa

- Cameroon: [Megwah](#)
- East Africa: [Huru](#)
- South Sudan: [Water for South Sudan](#)
- Uganda: [FINEMIND](#), [WomenSave](#)

Asia

- Cambodia: [Sustainable Cambodia](#)
- Nepal/Vietnam: [Gravity Water](#)
- Thailand: [Warm Heart Worldwide Inc](#)

International

- Uganda/Ecuador: [The Chain Collaborative](#)

Latin America and the Caribbean

- Bahamas: [Hope Town Zero Waste](#)
- Dominican Republic: [Développement Entreprenariat Social Production Rural Intègre \(DESPRI\)](#)
- Guatemala: [Contour Lines Corp](#), [MAIA Impact](#), [Natün Guatemala](#)
- Haiti: [SAKALA](#)

South America

- Peru/Ecuador: [Rainforest Partnership](#)

United States

- North Carolina: [Composting Council Research & Education Foundation](#)
- Maine: [In Her Presence](#)
- Vermont: [Migrant Justice](#)
- California: [Oakland Bloom](#)

"I participated in Staff Giving because I believe in the power of collective impact. It's not just about giving back; it's about coming together as a team to make a difference in our community. What I enjoyed most was knowing that our small contributions, when combined, can create meaningful change that extends far beyond what any of us could achieve individually."



Kevin Kimbrough,
Regional Sales
Manager

REGIONAL GIVING

Regional Giving supports domestic, USA-based organizations working in the areas of waste recovery, equitable food systems, and plastic pollution reduction. Regional Giving is completed each year in collaboration with World Centric's Regional Sales Managers, who maintain a pulse on how our customers and consumers feel about the intersection of World Centric's core business—food and waste prevention. This year, we are excited to partner with six regional organizations. Click on each organization to learn more or donate.

Southeast Region

- [Alabama Coastal Foundation](#)
- [Greenspaces](#)
- [Alabama Environmental Council](#)

Florida Region

- [Sunshine Community Compost](#)
- [Miami Waterkeeper](#)
- [Seaworthy Collective](#)

"Hearing the concern from my customers here in Florida about the future of our local ecosystems, I knew my regional giving funds should be directed to coastal conservation. It's a privilege to support the work of Miami Waterkeepers and Seaworthy Collective"



Terry Rentzepis,
Regional Sales Manager

EMPLOYEE DONATION MATCHING

World Centric matches employee donations up to \$5,000 per employee each year. Here is the list of 2022 beneficiary organizations from employee donation matching:

- African Visionary Fund
- Amazon Frontlines (x4)
- Angels for Animals Corporation
- Ayiti Community Trust
- California State Parks Foundation
- Center for Biological Diversity (x2)
- Ceres Community Project (x3)
- Click
- Daily Acts
- Ewo
- ExtraFood.org
- Food Shift
- Fort Street Presbyterian Church
- In Her Presence
- India's Hope
- International Justice Mission
- KQED Public Media
- Lancaster Farm Sanctuary
- Native Conservancy
- Neverthirst
- Norcal Bernese Mountain Dog Rescue
- Native Songbird Care and Conservation
- Oakland Bloom
- Protect Our Winters
- Rainforest Action Network (x3)
- Redwood Empire Food Bank (x2)
- Seeding Justice
- Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods (SOIL)
- Solar Sister
- Sonoma County Parks Foundation
- Sonoma Mountain PTA
- Society of Providence United for the Economic Development of Pétiion-Ville (SOPUDEP)
- Spark Microgrants
- TASH, Inc.
- The Gentle Barn Foundation
- West County Mandarin School PTA
- Women's International Network for Guatemalan Solutions (WINGS)
- Women Forward International
- World Central Kitchen (x2)
- World Concern
- ZOE International

IN-KIND PRODUCT DONATIONS

This year, World Centric supported over 150 events and programs with in-kind product donations. We work with preK-12 schools, community groups, and nonprofits working on social, environmental, and human rights issues.

Partner highlight: Acta Non Verba

Location: Oakland, California

Supported since: 2018

Acta Non Verba (ANV) challenges oppression through urban farming and by increasing accessibility of the natural environment. Founded and led mainly by women and People of Color, ANV engages youth and families in safe and creative outdoor spaces in Oakland and the East Bay area. ANV builds young people's understanding of nutrition, food production, healthy living, and the natural environment, while strengthening their ties to their communities. Since 2018, World Centric has provided products for ANV's summer camp, making a healthy, safe, and fun summer accessible to all. [Learn more or donate here.](#)

Partner highlight: Sonoma Family Meal

Location: Sonoma County, California

Supported since: 2020

Sonoma Family Meal converts locally sourced ingredients and rescued perishables into meals for families and seniors experiencing food insecurity, while providing culinary career training and food-business support. Since 2017, SFM has provided more than 750,000 meals to disaster survivors and food-insecure families in Sonoma County, California. [Learn more or donate here.](#)



23 Photo: World Centric employees attending the 2023 Sales Summit



Photo: Acta Non Verba

At World Centric, we are committed to being a learning organization. As we grow and evolve as a company, so too does our giving. We are grateful for the insights, lessons and feedback we've received from our nonprofit partners, educators, and funding peers. Traditional philanthropy all too often perpetuates inequities. The inherent power imbalances between funders and nonprofits are the same social, political, and economic inequalities that need to change in the world. Just as we want to be a different kind of company - rethinking business as usual and challenging the status quo - we want to be a different kind of funder, working with humility, transparency and in collaboration with our partners. This upcoming year, we are exploring the following questions:

- How can we support capacity strengthening in our partner organizations?
- How can we be more strategic in our selection of impact areas?
- How do we select the scale of the projects we fund to maximize impact?
- As we deepen relationships with long-term partners, how can we change our funding approach to better support their goals?

We would like to continue doing more of the following:

- Finding and funding partners doing impactful work, with an emphasis on locally-led organizations;
- Strengthening relationships with existing partners by inviting discussion for where we can improve as funders;
- Expanding networks in the regions where we currently fund, including East and West Africa, Latin America and South America.

This year, we were grateful for the opportunity to build new partnerships with locally-led organizations, which lead the way in transforming development and creating more inclusive systems of change. We were also grateful to our existing partners for their persisting efforts in critical community-based work to alleviate extreme poverty and combat environmental degradation. We look forward to continuing this journey of learning, growth, and change with our nonprofit partners and funding peers as we collectively strive for a better world. Thank you for supporting World Centric this year.



Photo: Ofrenda A'bunna