

IMPACT REPORT 2024





Photo: Oakland Bloom

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INTRODUCTION

Photo: World Centric



For over 20 years, World Centric has been a leader in sustainable innovation within foodservice packaging. As a mission-driven for-profit company, we operate with the heart and values of a nonprofit, making every decision through the lens of environmental and social responsibility. Our commitment to creating a better world is reflected not only in our products but also in our actions. By prioritizing purpose, we give 25% of our profits to grassroots initiatives that empower communities and drive meaningful change. Learn more about our giving on [pages 4-7](#).

Our work supports a dual mission: reducing waste and fostering systemic transformation. We produce plant-based, compostable alternatives to conventional plastics and polystyrene, offering a more sustainable option in a world still reliant on single-use products. While we ultimately envision a future built around reusable solutions, our compostable products serve as an essential bridge toward that goal. See our [Catalog](#) to explore our full line of compostable offerings.

This report highlights how we give back, the impact of our partnerships, and the progress we are making toward a more just and sustainable future.

Thank you for being a part of this journey.

The World Centric Team

Note: This report covers carbon emissions and grants disbursed during fiscal year 2024 (FY24), from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024.



GIVING

World Centric's giving is rooted in a simple yet urgent purpose: to address the interconnected crises of extreme poverty and environmental degradation. These challenges disproportionately impact vulnerable communities and threaten the health of our planet. In FY2024, World Centric supported its highest number of nonprofits yet, funding 60 organizations through our three main Giving initiatives, matching employee donations to 35 organizations, and sending in-kind product donations to 132 US-based nonprofits. We are proud to partner with the organizations featured in this section, which are taking bold actions to reduce inequality and protect the environment.

\$19,852,983
given since 2009

Total amount given from fiscal years 2009-2024

GIVING PROGRAM



IMPACT GRANTS (79.3%)

Partnering with grassroots organizations that address extreme poverty and environmental change by meeting basic needs, restoring ecosystems, and promoting sustainable development.



IN-KIND PRODUCT DONATIONS (7.3%)

Providing World Centric products to nonprofits in the USA advancing social and environmental justice.



STAFF GIVING (6.2%)

Empowering employees to engage in our giving by selecting nonprofits for funding.



MISCELLANEOUS (3.8%)

Supporting our community and our partners beyond the check, like through matching Giving Tuesday campaigns.



REGIONAL GIVING (2.4%)

Partnering with U.S. nonprofits to reduce food waste, combat plastic pollution, promote composting, and advance equity in foodservice.



EMPLOYEE DONATION MATCHING (1.0%)

Matching employees' personal donations to amplify their impact and foster a deeper connection to the causes they care about.



Photo: Raising the Village

WHERE OUR PARTNERS WORK

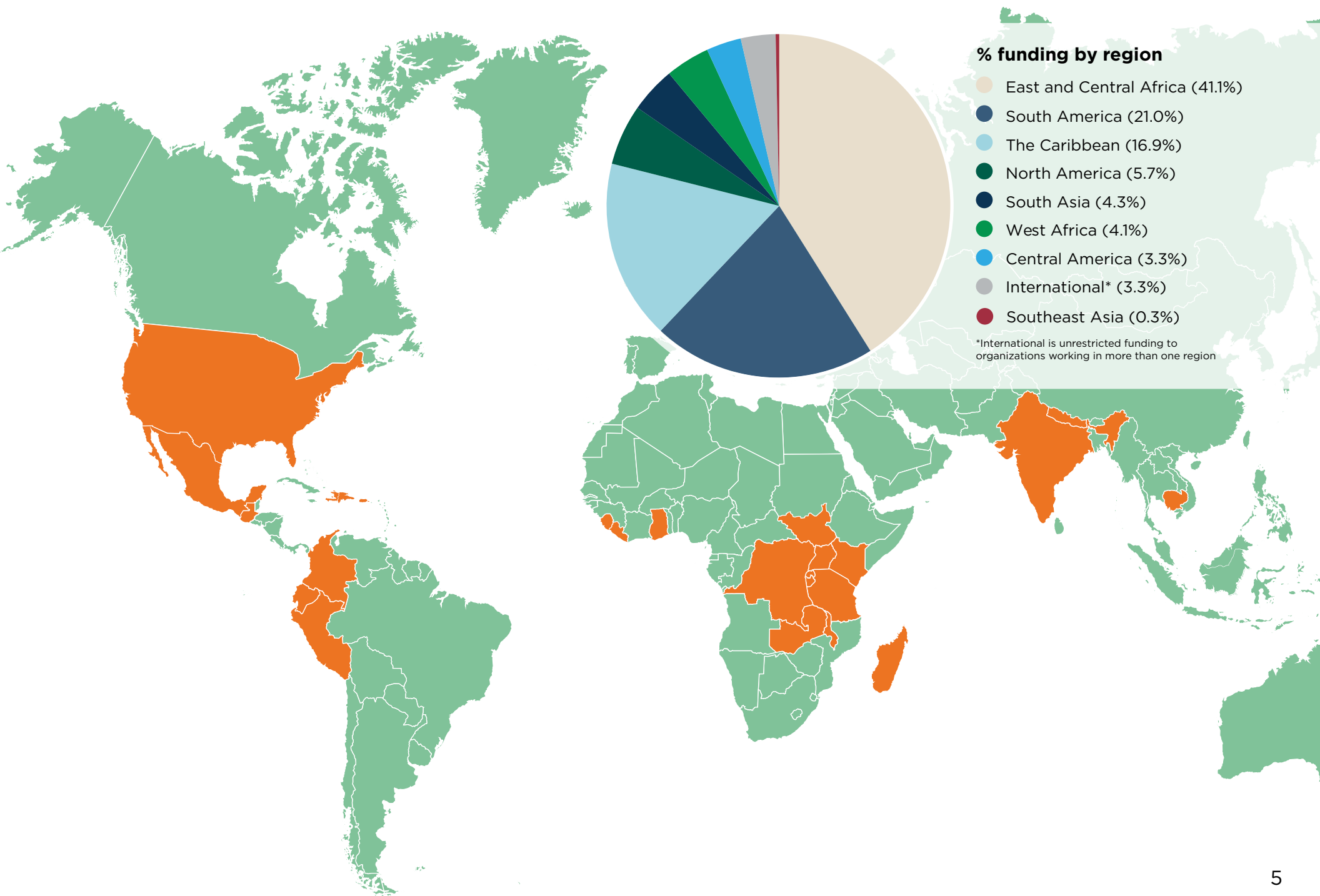


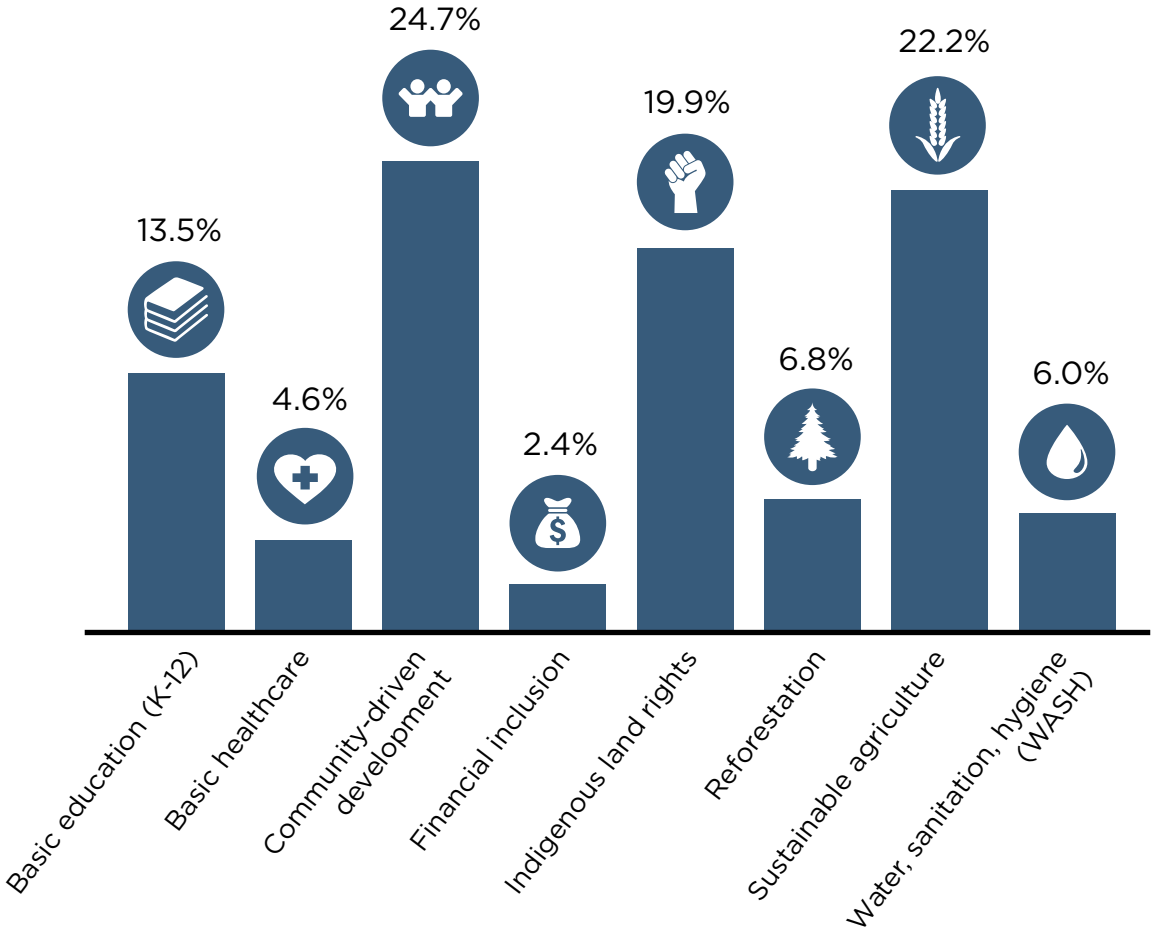


Photo: ALIADOS

IMPACT GRANTS

Our impact grants support communities facing extreme poverty and environmental degradation. We believe that poverty reduction cannot be addressed sustainably without utilizing a multi-dimensional approach; removing immediate barriers to improve livelihoods while building local capacity for communities to thrive. We partner with organizations implementing data-driven interventions. Our funding supports a diverse range of programs across eight focus areas.

Proportion of funds distributed across each focus area



OUR IMPACT GRANTS BY THE NUMBERS

160,750
PEOPLE
SUPPORTED



Photo: Spark Microgrants

268,726
TREES
PLANTED



Photo: Green Again Madagascar

195,179
ACRES
PROTECTED



Photo: Amazon Frontlines

OUR IMPACT GRANT PARTNERS



ACADES

Improving livelihoods for smallholder farmers in rural Malawi



ADVOCATES FOR COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES

Community-driven development and legal advocacy in West Africa



ALIADOS

Regenerative agriculture and livelihoods for smallholder farmers in Ecuador



AMAZON FRONTLINES

Protecting climate-critical territories with the Ceibo Alliance and OWAP

PARTNER HIGHLIGHT: DESPRI

DESPRI supports bottom-up participatory Self-Help Groups (SHGs), which empower women to develop self-sufficiency and solidarity. Over the course of 6 years, a total of 3,000 women members of 150 SHGs in the upper Artibonite of Haiti are managing more than 280,000 USD in self-generated loans.



2023 RESULTS:

↑ 262

Self-Help Groups representing 5,200 women received capacity-building

↑ 30%

increase in number of women starting micro and small enterprises

↑ 15%

increase in savings and loan amounts of Self-Help Groups



FVS-AMIE DES ENFANTS

The Facilitated Collective Action Process (FCAP) in Burundi



GRAVITY WATER

Clean water for schools in rural Nepal



GREEN AGAIN MADAGASCAR

Rainforest restoration and reforestation in Madagascar



OFRENDA A'BUNNA

Recovering and restoring Arhuaco ancestral land in Colombia



PEOPLE FOR PROGRESS IN INDIA

Positive socio-economic and environmental change in India



RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK

Rapid, grassroots funding to communities fighting injustice



RAISING THE VILLAGE

Bringing communities in Uganda out of ultra poverty



SOPUDEP

Free and accessible education for Haitian children

PARTNER HIGHLIGHT: SHARED ACTION AFRICA

SAA highlights the leadership role of women in displaced communities, helping women attain sustainable livelihoods in rural and refugee settlements in Uganda. World Centric funds SAA's sustainable agriculture program, which supports women's climate resilience and food production.



2023 RESULTS

- ↑ **242%** increase in number of women with access to community gardens
- ↑ **38%** increase in access to cleaner cookstoves
- ↓ **31%** decrease in women's reliance on financial loans to secure food



SPARK MICROGRANTS

A "Green FCAP" in partnership with the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund in Rwanda



SOIL

Transforming waste into compost through dignified sanitation in Haiti



WINGS

Reproductive health education and services in Guatemala



WOMEN'S GLOBAL EDUCATION PROJECT

Girls' empowerment and education in rural Kenya



Photo: Sustainable Cambodia

STAFF GIVING

Staff Giving empowers employees to engage in our giving by selecting nonprofits for funding. The Staff Giving Team, an internal volunteer committee, 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 per employee) to organizations of their choice from the nominated list. In March of 2024, our staff donated to **20 organizations** across four continents, supporting a diversity of programs.

Africa	Action for Environmental Sustainability (Malawi) Afyaplus Organization (Tanzania) Aqua-Farms Organization (Tanzania) Hope Land Congo (Democratic Republic of Congo) Our Sisters' Opportunity (Rwanda) Water for South Sudan (South Sudan) Zamkanda Initiatives Limited (Zambia)
Asia	Sustainable Cambodia (Cambodia)
Latin America and the Caribbean	DESPRI (Dominican Republic) Contour Lines Corp. (Guatemala) MAIA Impact (Guatemala) Olive Tree Project (Haiti)
United States	Alaska Wildlife Alliance (Alaska) BLINC (Florida) Green Forests Work (Appalachia) Migrant Justice (Vermont) Oakland Bloom (California) Reef Guardians (Hawaii, California) Refugee Women's Network (Georgia) You Can Vote (North Carolina)



Photo: Make Food Not Waste

REGIONAL GIVING

Regional Giving partners primarily with U.S. nonprofits to reduce food waste, combat plastic pollution, promote composting, and advance equity in foodservice. This program is carried out in collaboration with World Centric’s Regional Sales Managers, who stay attuned to customer and consumer perspectives on issues intersecting with World Centric’s mission and products: food and resource recovery.

This year, we are excited to partner with **19 organizations**:

Bay Area	Californians Against Waste Plastic Free Restaurants
Carolinas	North Carolina Composting Council Plastic Ocean Project (North Carolina)
Florida	360 Eats Clean Miami Beach Debris Free Oceans
International	Monte Azul (Puerto Rico) Sikanda (Mexico)
Mid-Atlantic	Go Green OC Inc (Maryland) Grow Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania)
New York/New Jersey	Street Vendor Project (New York) Urban Agriculture Cooperative (New Jersey)
Ohio Valley	Detroit Food Academy (Michigan) Kentucky Waterways Alliance (Kentucky) Let’s Grow Akron (Ohio) Make Food Not Waste (Michigan)
Southwest	Compost Cats (University of Arizona) Every Day Action (California)



Gerry Neimer, Regional Sales Manager, Ohio Valley

“When I learned that Michigan landfills two billion pounds of food waste every year I wanted to work with a nonprofit tackling this problem. Make Food Not Waste’s holistic approach to food waste is making a big impact in Michigan. It has been a privilege to work with their team.”



IN-KIND PRODUCT DONATIONS

World Centric supported over **216 events and programs** with in-kind product donations. We worked with **132 organizations**, including preK-12 schools, community groups, and nonprofits working on social, environmental, and human rights issues. Here are two organizations and events that we supported this year:

STREET VENDOR PROJECT (NEW YORK)

Street Vendor Project (SVP) is a membership-based organization of over 3,000 entrepreneurs. Through direct legal representation, small business training, organizing support, and strategic legislative advocacy, SVP builds power and community among vendors.

Event: We provided product for SVP's annual Scavenger Hunt, where New Yorkers and tourists sign up to complete fun challenges while trying new foods from New York's unique street vendors. With 41 teams and 283 individual donors, SVP raised \$17,573 for a language justice fund to translate their meetings into 5+ languages. World Centric also supported SVP this year through Regional Giving.

CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION (MARYLAND)

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation fights for effective, science-based solutions to the pollution degrading the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers and streams. They advocate for pollution reduction throughout the Chesapeake's six-state, 64,000-square-mile watershed, which is home to more than 18 million people and 3,000 species of plants and animals.

Event: World Centric provided product for Bands in the Sand, which was headlined by Jimmy Buffet's Coral Reef band. In just one night of great music and delicious food, the event raised nearly half-a-million dollars towards saving Chesapeake Bay.



SUSTAINABILITY





OUR CLIMATE COMMITMENT

At World Centric, we are committed to being of service to both people and the planet. To us, sustainability isn't just about recycling bins in the office; it's about designing products and systems that reduce harm, conserve resources, and support the well-being of all people. That's why we source plant-based, renewable materials instead of fossil fuel-based ones. We measure our environmental footprint to stay accountable and improve. We center ethical practices in how we operate, treat workers, and make decisions. And we invest directly in climate action and solutions, especially those led by communities on the front lines of the crisis.

SUSTAINABLE BY DESIGN

Sustainable materials are at the heart of [our product design](#). By selecting plant-based, compostable, and low-impact inputs, we work to reduce waste, lower emissions, and protect natural resources. Learn more about [our certifications](#).

Plant Fiber



Our molded fiber items are primarily made from sugarcane bagasse, the fibrous material that remains after the juice is extracted from sugarcane stalks. For each ton of sugarcane, a little more than 25% is bagasse. While some bagasse may be burned to generate electricity, compostable packaging gives this surplus agricultural byproduct a new use, contributing to a circular economy.

FSC® Certified Bamboo



NoTree® products are made from FSC® certified bamboo fiber. Using bamboo fibers, not wood fiber, helps protect our fast-dwindling forests and supports wildlife and Indigenous communities whose lives are dependent on forests.

FSC® Certified Paper



For FY24, 95% of our eligible paper products come from Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) certified sources. FSC sets the standards in environmental protection with criteria including protecting water quality, prohibiting harvest of old growth forests, and the use of hazardous chemicals during the growing process, while protecting wildlife and local communities.

PCW Recycled Paper



Post consumer waste (PCW) recycled paper reduces the need for virgin wood fibers, thereby protecting old growth forests and increases demand for recycled inputs, contributing to a more circular economy.

Bioplastic



Poly-lactic Acid (PLA) is a type of bioplastic made by turning plant sugars into lactic acid through fermentation, then converted into a polymer and finally shaped into pellets. On average, PLA production produces 75% fewer greenhouse gases compared to conventional plastics made from petroleum.

LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (LCA)

A Life Cycle Assessments (LCA) measures the environmental impact of a product, stage by stage. We use LCAs to gain a deeper understanding of our products and make informed decisions about sustainability throughout the entire lifecycle of our foodservice packaging.

Raw materials are the starting point of any product's footprint because they play a major role in overall emissions. We use only renewable, plant-based inputs—not fossil fuels—which leads to our most significant environmental benefit compared to traditional plastics.

The results shown here focus on the impact of making one pound of raw materials. Since plants like bamboo and sugarcane absorb carbon dioxide as they grow, that carbon stays stored in the plant. This helps cancel out some emissions, which is why you'll see negative numbers for those materials.

While raw materials are an important part of the picture, they are only one stage of a product's life cycle. Manufacturing, transportation, use, and end-of-life disposal also contribute to environmental impact.

Transparency is part of our commitment to sustainability. [Get in touch](#) for full LCA data or to compare our products to conventional options.

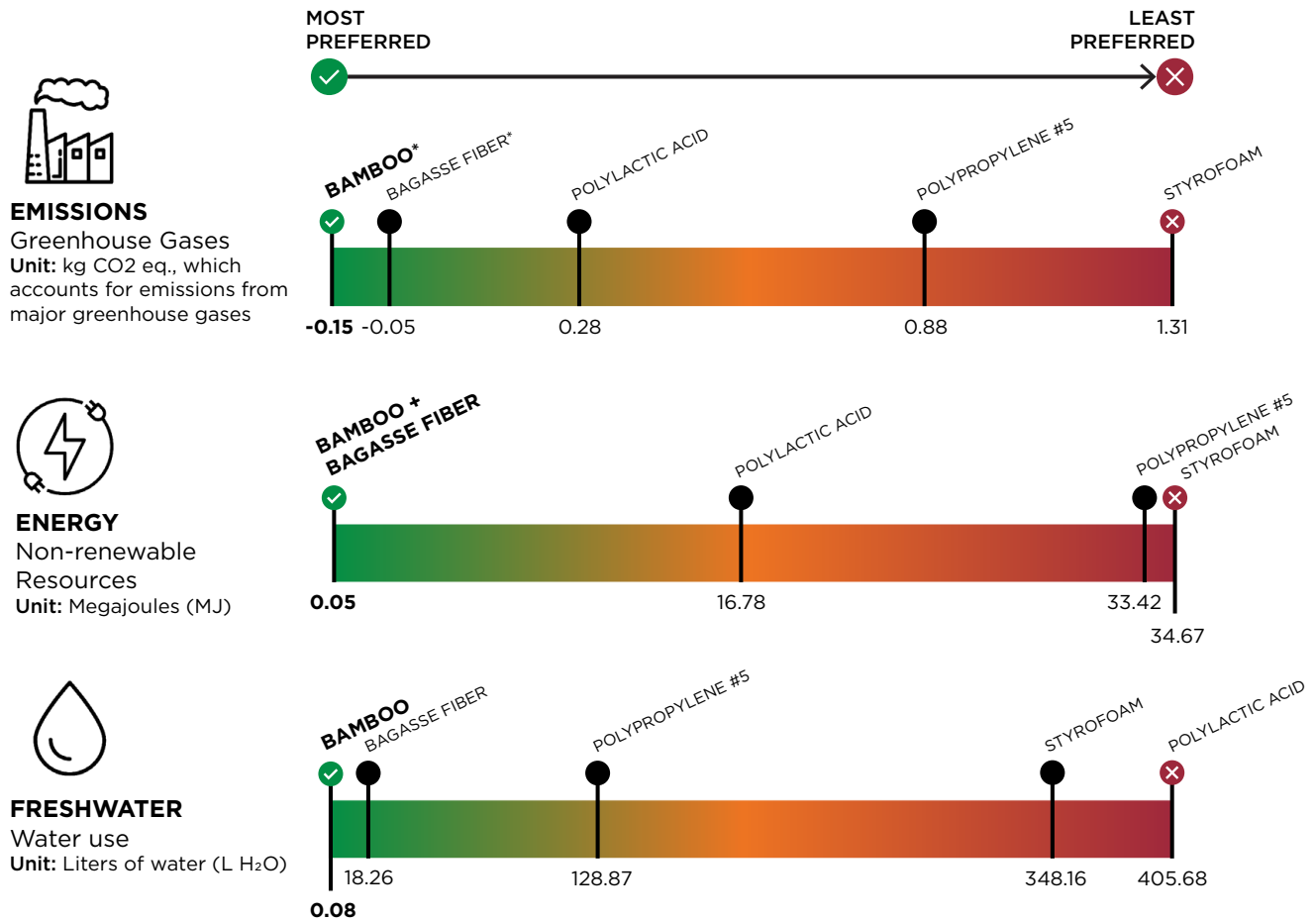
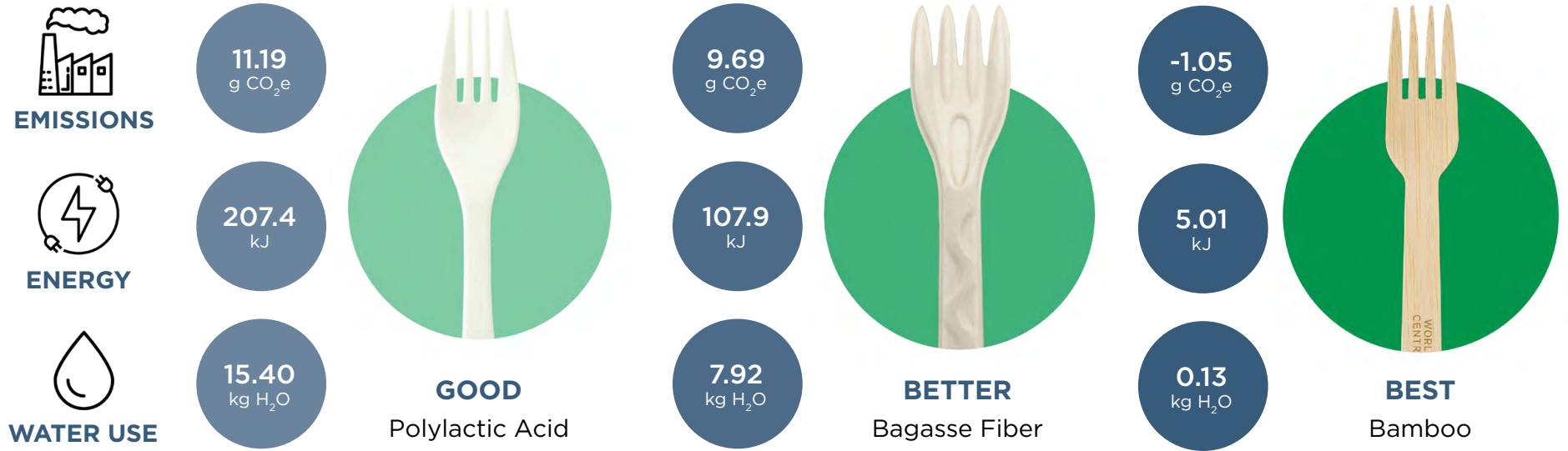


Figure: Comparison of emissions, energy, and freshwater use for packaging materials using LCA data from the production of one pound of raw materials. The most preferred materials appear on the left.

Notes: For bagasse production, environmental impact categories are calculated by allocating a portion of sugarcane production inputs to bagasse based on its yield percentage. The TRACI impact assessment methodology was used for calculating LCA results.

OUR PRODUCTS

At World Centric, we transform these raw materials into numerous foodservice and retail items with different designs and performance metrics to best suit our customers' needs. Our good-better-best fork comparison highlights our range of plant-based options while providing the customer with sustainability data to make an informed product choice based on their priorities. In the example below comparing LCA figures for a single fork, the bamboo fork is the best choice since it is a carbon negative product that also uses less water and energy to produce.



MEASURING & MITIGATING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

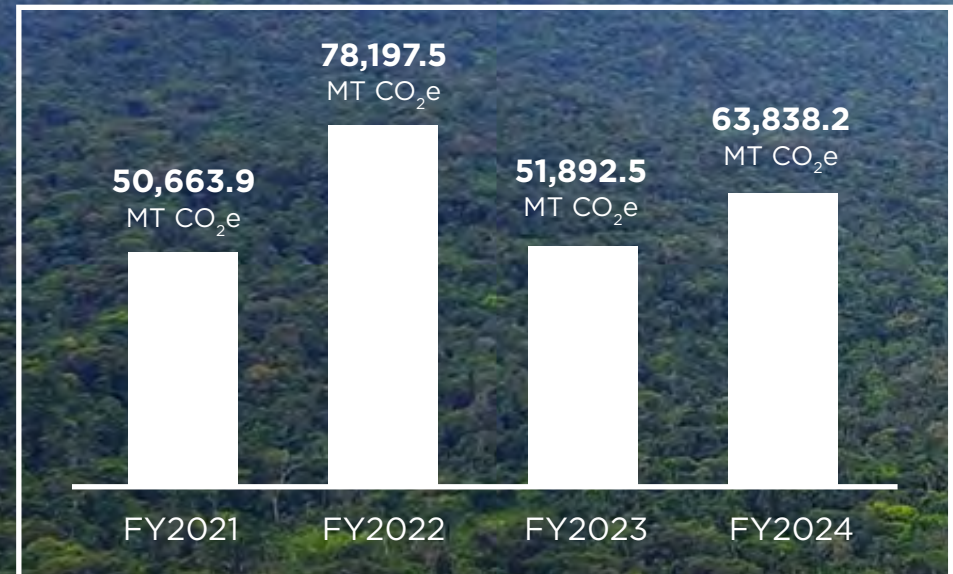
CARBON ACCOUNTING

At World Centric, we believe that measuring our impact is key to driving meaningful change. Each year, we publish an annual carbon accounting report tabulating greenhouse gas emissions from World Centric's operations. Carbon accounting enables us to identify and reduce emission hotspots, informs our carbon giving program to mitigate those unavoidable emissions and to exercise transparency about our environmental performance. By grounding our decisions in data, we stay accountable to our mission and continuously push for improvement.

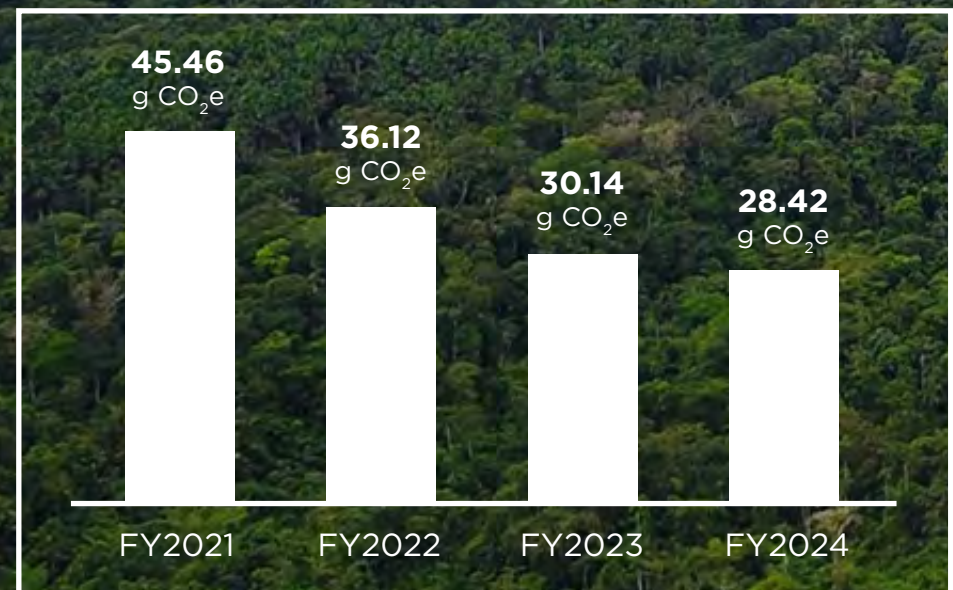
Since establishing our baseline in FY2021, we've been proud to see a decrease in emissions per unit of product produced. In the two years following, we saw significant reductions, largely thanks to our contract manufacturing suppliers adopting renewable energy at their facilities. This past year, the downward trend continued, though more modestly. This doesn't reflect a shift in focus, but rather the reality that further reductions require continued collaboration and investment with our suppliers. We remain committed to finding effective ways to lower emissions while balancing feasibility and cost.

Learn more: [Carbon Accounting Report](#)

Total emissions



Emissions per unit produced



INVESTING IN CLIMATE ACTION

Reducing World Centric's carbon footprint is a key component of our commitment to minimizing the environmental impact of our products. In areas where emissions are unavoidable, we turn to mitigation efforts through our "Carbon Giving" program. Mitigation refers to taking proactive steps to offset negative environmental impacts.

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 through our Carbon Giving. Carbon Giving is not an individual program, but rather cuts across all of our giving, inclusive of all funding to projects and programs focused on carbon reduction and sequestration. Learn more about how World Centric mitigates its carbon footprint in our FY24 Carbon Accounting Report.

Indigenous Land Rights
(44.0%)

Sustainable Agriculture
(23.4%)



Clean Energy
(3.3%)

Composting
(10.5%)

Agroforestry and Reforestation
(18.8%)



ADVOCACY

Erin Levine, Resource Recovery Manager



Elly Ventura, Resource Recovery Manager



Our Resource Recovery team, Erin Levine and Elly Ventura, stays ahead of evolving regulations by actively tracking policy changes and advocating for legislation that supports sustainability, waste reduction, and responsible business practices. They ensure our customers can rely on us for clear guidance and informed support. By monitoring state and federal laws around foodservice packaging, single-use plastics, foam bans, and waste diversion, we help businesses navigate changing foodware legislation across the U.S., simplifying compliance.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

US Composting Council (USCC) and branches

Participation in the following State Compost Council Chapters to craft and influence policy at the state level while enhancing the World Centric brand.

- Florida Composting Council
- Georgia Composting Council
- Maryland-DC Composting Council
- Minnesota Composting Council

At the national level, Erin serves on the USCC's Legislation and Advocacy Committee, advancing policies that support composting, certified compostables, and improved access to composting infrastructure.

Elly serves on the U.S. Composting Council's Membership Committee, helping recruit new members, support composters, and expand acceptance of compostable products nationwide. She also mentors emerging leaders through the USCC Young Professionals Mentorship Program.



Gaines Willoughby,
Regional Sales
Manager, Southeast

"I'm so thankful we joined the Georgia Composting Council! It's great to have such passionate environmental partners moving the same direction! I'm excited to align with the GCC and I look forward to helping increase composting infrastructure in the Southeast."



Photo: World Centric

Georgia Composting Council

Formed in 2024, the Georgia Composting Council is a state chapter of the U.S. Composting Council dedicated to advancing composting in Georgia. The organization advocates for statewide composting infrastructure, supportive legislation, and public education. We're proud to be a member in their inaugural year.

Active with California's Plastic Pollution Prevention and Producer Responsibility law (SB 54)

SB 54 is California's packaging Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) law, designed to reduce waste and improve recycling and composting systems. Erin served on its Advisory Board as the representative for third-party certified compostable product manufacturers, advising CalRecycle and the Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO). She advocated for solutions like regional compatibility mapping, standardized labeling, and field testing to address barriers and support scalable compostable packaging.

Testified at USDA National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) meeting

At the Spring 2024 NOSB Meeting in Milwaukee, the National Organic Program began considering certified compostable products for its list of allowed materials. Erin gave testimony in support, highlighting compostables' role in closing the loop on organics and improving compost quality.

SPC Compostable Packaging Collaborative

This work provided input and decision-making to create a campaign to explain the value proposition of compostable packaging, with municipalities as a key audience.

Stay up to date on current legislation

Our [Legislative Looks page](#) tracks the implementation of state and federal laws on foodservice packaging, organics bans, single-use plastics, foam bans, and sustainable waste diversion efforts.



PURPOSE BEYOND PROFIT





**WORLD
CENTRIC**
FOR A BETTER WORLD

Photo: World Centric Retreat 2024

20 YEARS OF IMPACT

In 2024, we celebrated 20 years of impact at World Centric. Founded in 2004 as a nonprofit focused on global humanitarian and environmental issues, we began selling Fair Trade goods and compostables to support our mission.

By 2009, compostables became our core focus, and we transitioned to a for-profit social enterprise, committing at least 25% of profits to grassroots social and environmental causes. We became a certified B Corp in 2010 and a California Benefit Corporation in 2013.

Since then, we've donated over \$19 million to nonprofit projects around the world. With a growing line of plant-based compostable products and long-term nonprofit partners, we remain committed to reducing our footprint and creating a better world.



2004

Film night at World Centric, then a nonprofit



Aseem, CEO, in front of a growing product line



2013

Formalized our commitment to people and planet as a California Benefit Corporation



Surpassed \$6M in total giving

2019



Photo: SOPUDEP, an early nonprofit partner



2024

Celebrated our 20th anniversary!





Photo: World Centric

ETHICAL BUSINESS PRACTICES

During FY2024, World Centric reinforced its commitment to quality, safety, and ethical practices across its operations. Our manufacturing partners continued to meet ISO 9001 and food safety standards, supported by HACCP protocols and regular quality inspections. We conducted third-party audits using the Fair Labor Association Code of Conduct to ensure safe, fair working conditions and uphold labor rights.

Our supply chain policies addressed key areas including labor practices, health and safety, environmental responsibility, and business integrity. We also maintained food safety certifications aligned with GFSI, such as BRCGS, FSSC 22000, and SQF.

- ISO 9001 compliance and HACCP quality controls
- Third-party labor audits and Fair Labor Code adherence
- Focus on labor rights, safety, and environmental standards
- GFSI-aligned food safety certifications

SHARED VALUE AND SUPPLIER SUPPORT

Each year, World Centric shares a portion of its profits with our extended supply chain, providing bonuses to our contract manufacturing supplies and factory workers as part of our commitment to equitable business practices. This initiative recognizes the essential role our partners play in delivering sustainable products and supports their well-being. Our participation in various sustainability and social impact certifications further reflects our dedication to reducing environmental impact and upholding fair labor standards. For details, visit our [certifications page](#).

BUSINESS CERTIFICATION

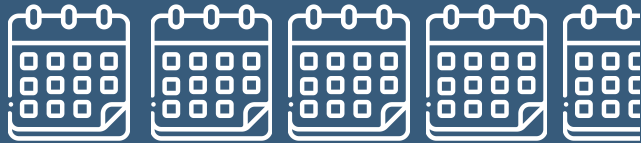
In 2024, World Centric remained dedicated to sustainability by maintaining our [business and product certifications](#), along with key memberships that reflect our ongoing commitment to responsible practices and positive environmental impact.

PEOPLE AND CULTURE

Our people and culture are the heart of our mission and operations. We foster a workplace rooted in compassion, collaboration, and purpose, where every team member feels valued, empowered, and connected to the impact we're making. By nurturing a culture that prioritizes well-being, service, equity, and shared growth, we bring our values to life in how we work together every day.

AVERAGE TENURE

4.7
YEARS

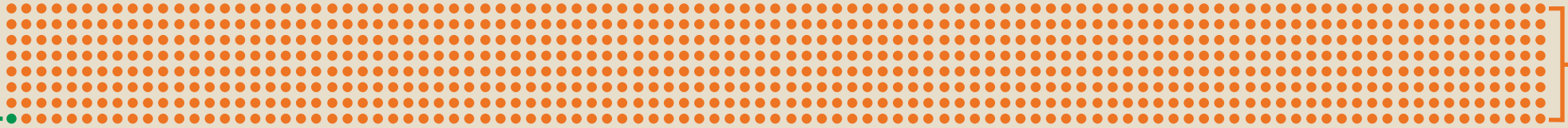


TURNOVER RATE

8.7%



What brings people to World Centric and what makes them stay? We asked our shortest and longest tenured employees.



1 WEEK AT WORLD CENTRIC

“A sense of purpose drew me to World Centric. My first week was at our company retreat where I met the entire World Centric team and saw the mission and passion in action. I am honored to be part of this inspiring team and to know my efforts will have environmental and social impact.”

Jim Clark, Director Retail Sales

15.5 YEARS AT WORLD CENTRIC

“Over the past fifteen years, I’ve seen tremendous growth and adaptation at World Centric. It’s the alignment with our mission and values that has consistently kept me engaged and eager to contribute each day.”

Ann Chau, Director of Foodservice Sales West





Photo: SiKanda



"I chose to support MAIA and SiKanda because their work in Guatemala and Mexico uplifts women and marginalized communities in powerful, lasting ways. Knowing my donation is doubled means even more lives can be reached, and that makes giving feel incredibly meaningful."

Sandra Chavez,
International Sales Manager

EMPLOYEE DONATION MATCHING

Matching employees' personal donations amplifies their impact and fosters a deeper connection to the causes they care about.

This year, **32 employees gave \$27,271.96 to 43 organizations,** matched by World Centric for a total of **\$54,543.92**

- Amazon Frontlines
- Arkansas Abortion Support Network
- Asian Pacific Environmental Network
- Ayiti Trust
- Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation
- Center for Biological Diversity
- Ceres Community Project
- EWO
- ExtraFood.Org
- Friends of Reggio
- Gravity Water
- India's Hope
- International Justice Mission
- KQED
- Lancaster Farm Sanctuary
- Lily's Legacy
- Luther Burbank Center for the Arts
- MAIA
- Middle East Children's Alliance
- NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund
- Native Conservancy
- Native Songbird Care and Conservation
- Natun Guatemala
- People for Progress in India
- Petaluma COTS
- Petaluma River Park Foundation
- Petaluma Wildlife Museum
- Protect Our Winters
- Shared Action Africa
- San Elijo Elementary PTO
- Seeding Justice
- Sikanda (Solidaridad Internacional Kanda AC)
- SOIL - Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods
- SoMo PTA
- The Sloth Conservation Foundation
- Southern Poverty Law Center
- Triangle Beagle Rescue Of NC
- UNICEF
- Urban Justice Center - Street Vendor Project
- Valley Vista PTA
- White Coat Waste Project
- World Central Kitchen



Adrienne Bragg,
Sales Process Manager

“A few of us got together to promote the usage of VTO hours, and the **GoVTO program** was born. We created a company-wide annual goal for volunteer hours and help to organize and highlight events attended by employees in our monthly newsletter. The feedback for GoVTO has been really encouraging, with greater participation across the company. We exceeded our goal last year.”

VOLUNTEER TIME OFF (VTO)

At World Centric, every employee receives 40 paid hours each year to volunteer with a nonprofit they personally care about. It’s one way we encourage our team to stay connected to the causes that matter most to them. At the start of FY2024, World Centric set up the GoVTO initiative to increase employee participation in VTO. The GoVTO goal for FY2024 was 680 hours, which was set by multiplying one full day (or 8 hours) by the number of staff. We far surpassed this goal, logging a staggering **899 hours of VTO** in the past year, or **132% of our goal!** That comes out to 10 hours of VTO per staff member!



Photo: World Centric

After GoVTO began, employees more than doubled their VTO hours from FY23 to FY24



FY2023

424 Hours



FY2024

899 Hours

AWARDS AND ENGAGEMENT

Through podcasts, webinars, conferences, and awards, World Centric remained actively engaged in 2024, continuing a legacy of recognition for product excellence and leadership in sustainability.

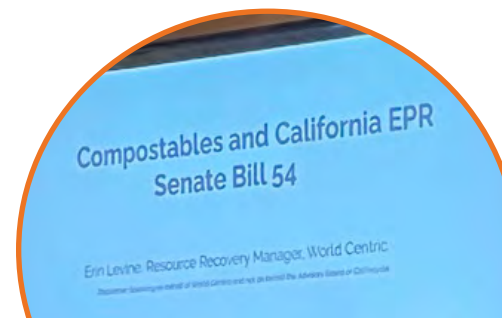
FEATURES THIS YEAR

- [More than a Fork Podcast](#) launched
- INFRA - Sustainability Stewardship Award
- Real Leaders Top Impact Company (7th year in a row)
- Finalist for Expo West Nexty Award for ZeroWare bowls in the Planet Forward category

Speaker Appearances Highlights:

- North Carolina Compost Council ICAW Event: *Closing the Loop on Compostable Packaging*
- Waste Expo, Las Vegas, NV. Panel Discussion: *Packaging Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and its Impact on Composting*
- Florida Composting Council Conference: *Compostable Packaging as a Climate Solution: From Sourcing to Soil*
- US Composting Council Workshop: *Improving the Circularity of Compostables & Compost Future Search*
- California Resource Recovery Association (CRRRA) Annual Conference: *What is SB54? What is Compostable, What is Recyclable?*
- USDA National Organic Standard Board Meeting: *Testified on compostable products*

Find us at [upcoming events](#).





ORGANIZATIONAL LEARNING





Photo: Raising the Village



GIVING

REFLECTIONS ON 2024 <

“Accelerating Impact: Pioneering Data-Informed Development” Workshop: In September, we partnered with Raising the Village (RTV) to host a webinar on leveraging data to inform development and accelerate impact. The event was attended by 27 people from 16 organizations.

Measuring Success: World Centric prioritizes funding data-driven programs and organizations, which learn, grow, and measure impact through robust, quantitative methods. Acknowledging that quantitative data alone doesn’t tell the full story, we launched a research project to better understand how our nonprofit partners define and share impact and success.

> PRIORITIES FOR 2025

- **Capacity strengthening:** Identifying and addressing the non-monetary needs of our partners to build organizational resilience and capacity.
- **Strategic geographies:** Evaluating the intersection of extreme poverty and environmental degradation to determine if we should prioritize specific countries and regions for new funding.
- **Evolving funding practices:** Refining our funding strategies to better support the long-term goals of our partners.



Photo: World Centric



SUSTAINABILITY

REFLECTIONS ON 2024 <

Internal climate education: We believe our team is strengthened by a shared passion for people and the planet. To build a common understanding of climate issues across the company, the Impact team developed and launched Climate Action at Work—a four-week educational series that explores the current state of the climate and how each department can contribute to climate solutions through their daily work.

> PRIORITIES FOR 2025

- **Expanding product certifications:** Evaluating and expanding our portfolio of product certifications to increase consumer identification of our products as compostable to maximize waste diversion.
- **Measuring carbon mitigation:** Incorporating peer-reviewed research to enhance how we measure and communicate the environmental outcomes of our Carbon Giving program.



Photo: World Centric



ADVOCACY

REFLECTIONS ON 2024 <

Our engagement in state and national policy conversations reinforced that meaningful inclusion of compostables requires strong data, clear standards, and collaboration across sectors.

State highlight: California's SB 54 Producer Responsibility Advisory Board to advocate for fair treatment of compostables within EPR.

Federal highlight: We engaged in the USDA's review of compostable materials in compost approved for organic agriculture and supported efforts to quantify compostables' role in reducing plastic waste.

> PRIORITIES FOR 2025

- **Policy alignment:** Advocating for compostables as a recognized recovery pathway alongside recycling and reuse.
- **Infrastructure readiness:** Partnering with composters and certifiers to expand acceptance through clear standards.
- **Education and outreach:** Bridging stakeholder knowledge gaps to support circular systems.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING WORLD CENTRIC IN 2024

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Photo: Oakland Bloom

We exist to be of service to people and the planet.

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