Trends in Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems Funding

2003-2006

prepared by:

THE HEADWATERS GROUP
Philanthropic Services®

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS FUNDERS
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Making strategic and effective grantmaking decisions is not easy. It requires thoughtful analysis. To bring new information and wisdom to philanthropy supporting sustainable agriculture and food system reform, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (Kellogg) and the funder collaborative Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems Funders (SAFSF) commissioned Headwaters Group Philanthropic Services (Headwaters) to collect and synthesize funding and trends data. The goal in tracking funding trends is to understand who is giving within the community, to what issues, and at what levels. This comprehensive overview is intended to help funders understand gaps and ways to fill them, opportunities for leveraging resources, and ways to build successful strategic alliances with public and private partners. Headwaters worked in collaboration with Virginia Clarke, SAFSF’s coordinator, to create this report. It builds on and compares information created in a 2003 funding analysis undertaken by Headwaters while at the same time creating a new baseline of information and a streamlined process that will allow for easier tracking and more in-depth analysis.
What We Did: Methodology

The process for collecting data for the 2007 report included three steps:

1. **Selecting funders.** Funders were drawn primarily from the SAFSF network, and other public and private donors known to be funding in the field. A total of 153 foundations and government agencies were sent the survey (see Appendix A).

2. **Beta-testing the questionnaire.** A draft web-based survey was beta-tested with the nine member SAFSF steering committee in June 2007. Based on feedback, the survey was revised. Major changes focused on the topics to be researched.

3. **Conducting the survey and analyzing data.** The revised 18-question survey was sent from SAFSF to 153 funders in August 2007 (see Appendix C for the survey and participants). Administered through Survey Monkey, the survey was accessible to the invitees until the end of November 2007. To gather adequate information, SAFSF sent reminders to invitees and the response deadline was extended.

Three important differences in the 2007 report compared to the 2003 report, were:

1. **Using self-reported survey data rather than relying solely on third-party analysis and data generation.** This approach was taken to more actively engage funders and help create a streamlined process that will be easier for SAFSF to maintain and institutionalize in the future. (The challenges were ensuring that information was reported consistently among funders and that there was adequate validating of information. Unlike the 2003 report, in which Headwaters obtained information from funders' annual reports and through interviews, there was no fact checking in the survey.)

2. **Tapping government data.** Government funding is recognized as a critical resource in supporting sustainable agriculture and food system reform. Leveraging government funding is an important strategy used by several private funders to broaden public resources. This new data will provide a baseline to show how private and public resources can be leveraged to expand total resources available.

3. **Collecting Program-Related Investments (PRI) information.** This is also a growing area for private funders and offers baseline information for future studies (see Table 5).

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**2003 Report Data**

The 2003 report presented data on sustainable agriculture funding over the 15-year period from 1988 to 2002. Data were collected by phone interviews and annual reports from 24 private foundations (as opposed to a web-based survey for the 2007 report). No government funders were included. The report collected broad information from the field, including trends on the funder side and trends among NGOs working in sustainable agriculture and food systems. The 2003 report highlighted a significant decrease in the number of funders, which resulted in a loss of some organizations but also indicated that new funders were entering the field. The report analyzed grantmaking by year, topic, strategy, region of funding, and recipient type. Public policy changes, shifting opinion about agriculture and toxins, and changes in research priorities all affected funding for sustainable agriculture. A summary of the report appears in Appendix B.
Respondent Summary

Of the 153 survey recipients, approximately 46 percent or 71 funders provided partial information and 27 percent or 42 respondents provided complete information (see Table 1).

Table 1. Funders Reporting Funds Awarded from 2003-2006, by Total Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundation or Government Agency</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USDA - Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service</td>
<td>$62,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.K. Kellogg Foundation</td>
<td>$53,616,474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA - Risk Management Agency</td>
<td>$15,330,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joyce Foundation</td>
<td>$9,721,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA - Agricultural Marketing Service</td>
<td>$7,068,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christensen Fund</td>
<td>$5,950,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marisla Foundation</td>
<td>$4,961,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture</td>
<td>$4,722,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McKnight Foundation</td>
<td>$4,279,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Tree Foundation</td>
<td>$4,259,733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarence E. Heller Charitable Foundation</td>
<td>$4,074,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Penn Foundation</td>
<td>$4,069,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxfam America</td>
<td>$4,048,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia Foundation</td>
<td>$3,067,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claneil Foundation</td>
<td>$2,930,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation</td>
<td>$2,628,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Aid</td>
<td>$2,061,889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lumpkin Family Foundation</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver Foundation</td>
<td>$1,800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger</td>
<td>$1,700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agua Fund</td>
<td>$1,575,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDHHS - Office of Refugee Resettlement</td>
<td>$1,425,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawson Valentine Foundation</td>
<td>$1,204,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grassroots International</td>
<td>$1,075,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee Preservation Foundation</td>
<td>$1,070,152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Fish and Wildlife Foundation</td>
<td>$1,065,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>$890,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presbyterian Hunger Program</td>
<td>$624,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americana Foundation</td>
<td>$610,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation</td>
<td>$585,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garfield Foundation</td>
<td>$575,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Community Trust</td>
<td>$520,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compton Foundation</td>
<td>$450,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic Farming Research Foundation</td>
<td>$449,997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben &amp; Jerry’s Foundation</td>
<td>$353,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aveda Corporation</td>
<td>$265,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven and Michele Kirsch Foundation</td>
<td>$211,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berks County Community Foundation</td>
<td>$121,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flintridge Foundation</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Moon Fund</td>
<td>$85,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JoAnne and Michael Bander Fund</td>
<td>$16,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TerraFocus</td>
<td>$13,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$213,593,500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To avoid double counting private foundation contributions, two respondents were not included in Table 1 or in the funding totals – Roots of Change in California and the Henry A. Wallace Center at Winrock International. Both are intermediaries that re-grant funds provided to them by private foundations already included in the survey.

**Funding Summary**

The 42 respondents that provided complete information on their sustainable agriculture funding awarded an estimated $213.6 million from 2003-2006. Beyond the gross amount of funds awarded, some of the key macro-level data that emerge from the survey include:

- **Government funding is significant.** Of the 42 respondents, five are federal agencies or state public-funded efforts. These five respondents account for 42 percent of all sustainable agriculture funds awarded (see Table 2) and four of the five are in the top ten overall funders.

- **Overall funding, including private funding, has increased.** The $213.6 million is a significant increase in overall amount of funds reported in this survey over the previous survey. The government agency data accounts for a substantial amount of this increase, but there is also a dramatic increase in foundation and other non-government funding. For the 2003 report the leading 24 sustainable agriculture funders were interviewed; they represented the majority of the field and funded $55 million. For this report, the 37 foundation and other non-governmental funders surveyed funded $124.8 million in sustainable agriculture, more than double the amount from the previous report. (This coincides with an increase in funders participating in SAFSF. Since 2003 the number of funders engaged in the collaborative has increased from 16 in 2003 to 36 in 2007.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>2003 - 2006</th>
<th>1999-2002</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>$213,593,500</td>
<td>$55,282,079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation and Non-Government</td>
<td>$124,813,900</td>
<td>$31,203,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>$88,779,600</td>
<td>$22,194,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation and Non-Government</td>
<td>$55,282,079</td>
<td>$13,820,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Average</td>
<td>$53,398,375</td>
<td>$13,820,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$31,203,475</td>
<td>$22,194,900</td>
<td>$13,820,520</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There are more funders supporting sustainable agriculture and food system reform. As Table 3 shows, the total funding by the current top ten funders is double the amount of funding by the top ten funders in the 2003 survey. However, the current top ten funders account for 79 percent of private funding compared with over 90 percent in the previous survey. This demonstrates that the sustainable agriculture funding pool has expanded to include additional funders, making it less concentrated on the largest funders.

Table 3. Top Ten Private Foundations and Other Non-Government Funders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W.K. Kellogg Foundation</td>
<td>$24,719,711</td>
<td>$53,616,474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joyce Foundation</td>
<td>$8,868,678</td>
<td>$9,721,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christensen Fund</td>
<td>ns*</td>
<td>$5,950,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxfam America</td>
<td>ns*</td>
<td>$5,235,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marisla Foundation</td>
<td>ns*</td>
<td>$4,961,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pew Charitable Trust</td>
<td>$4,801,000</td>
<td>ns*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McKnight Foundation</td>
<td>responded but not in top 10</td>
<td>$4,279,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Tree Foundation</td>
<td>ns*</td>
<td>$4,259,733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarence E. Heller Charitable Foundation</td>
<td>responded but not in top 10</td>
<td>$4,074,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia Foundation</td>
<td>$1,267,000</td>
<td>$4,048,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claneil Foundation</td>
<td>ns*</td>
<td>$2,930,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse Smith Noyes Foundation</td>
<td>$2,731,830</td>
<td>responded but not in top 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Aid</td>
<td>$2,271,949</td>
<td>responded but not in top 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Foundation of America</td>
<td>$2,211,750</td>
<td>nr**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turner Foundation</td>
<td>$1,490,000</td>
<td>nr**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beldon Fund</td>
<td>$1,390,000</td>
<td>nr**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bullitt Foundation</td>
<td>$1,220,000</td>
<td>nr**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$50,971,918</strong></td>
<td><strong>$99,076,606</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*ns = not surveyed  *nr = surveyed but did not respond
The survey asked recipients about their projected sustainable agriculture grantmaking from 2007 through 2012. Thirty of the 42 funders projected a total of $206.8 million to be awarded over the next five years. Two issues to note about the future funding:

- **Four of the five government funders provided future funding amounts.** Given the vagaries of annual appropriations, the degree of uncertainty with such projections is higher than with private foundations and others.

- **Of the 12 that did not respond to questions regarding future funding, four were in the top ten in the current survey.** This suggests that the projections may be significantly under-reported.

The top ten private foundations supporting sustainable agriculture and food systems has changed. As Table 3 shows, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation remains the most significant private funder (43 percent of all private funding; 25 percent of total funding). The Joyce Foundation, McKnight Foundation, Clarence E. Heller Charitable Foundation, and Columbia Foundation also remain on the list of top ten funders. (The Pew Charitable Trusts was not included in the survey as they no longer are funding sustainable agriculture.) Two significant changes to this list include:

- **There are five foundations on the top ten list that represent new or previously unreported funding in sustainable agriculture.** These include Christensen Fund, Oxfam America, Marisla Foundation, Cedar Tree Foundation, and Cloneil Foundation.

- **Four of the top ten foundations from the 2003 report did not respond to the current survey.** (Had they responded, it might actually have driven up the overall numbers.)
The current survey provides specific information by funder type – private, community, corporate, government, individual, and other. Private foundations (including family foundations) represent half of all funding entities and slightly more than half of funds awarded (see Table 4). As noted above, though fewer in number, government agencies awarded more than 42 percent of all funds (see Table 4 and Chart A). The “other” category of funders is the third largest source of funding, however, it is approximately six percent of overall funding. Public charities, such as Farm Aid, compose much of this category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Funder</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Funds Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Foundation</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>$108,512,441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$88,779,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$12,768,313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Foundation</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$2,669,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Foundation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$850,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$13,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>42</td>
<td><strong>$213,593,500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The survey sought information on six topics identified as most significant during the beta-test. Funders could select more than one topic. The six topics were:

- Public policy
- Environment and conservation
- Labor and social justice
- Community markets
- Nutrition and health
- Other including:
  - Agricultural biodiversity and ecosystems
  - Energy and climate
  - Farmland and seed protection
  - Food sovereignty
  - Leadership development
  - Livestock
  - Organics
  - Politics and political candidates
  - Support for producers
  - Youth engagement

**Number of funders.** Thirty-three of the 42 respondents provided funding data by topic. The most common funding topic was environment and conservation followed by public policy (see Chart A).

**Amount of funding by topic.** The amount of funding by topic does not easily match the number of funders by topic. The topic with the greatest number of funders—environment and conservation—received 14 percent of total funding, and public policy and other both received more than 25 percent of total funding.
Respondents were asked to identify the geographic focus of their sustainable agriculture funding in the US – National, Northeast, Southeast, Midwest, Southwest, and West – and whether they gave internationally (see Chart B). (For a list of states in each US region, see Appendix D.) Based on results from the beta-test, the amount of funds awarded in each region was not requested because most funders do not track grant data by region. Forty-seven of the 71 respondents reported on the geographic regions where they fund. Of these 47 respondents:

- Thirty respondents fund in only one region, ten respondents fund in two regions, and seven respondents fund in three or more regions.
- The West has the most funders, with the Midwest and Northeast following close behind. The Southeast and Southwest have significantly fewer funders.
- Forty-nine percent of the respondents fund national programs while 17 percent fund international programs.

**Chart B. Number of Sustainable Agriculture Funders by Region**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Number of Funders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Funders were also asked to describe their involvement in Program-Related Investments (PRI). A small but growing strategy in philanthropy, PRIs are a way for foundations to contribute capital, such as loans, to an organization or nonprofit and receive a return on their investment, when income has been generated\(^1\). Although ten respondents reported using Program-Related Investments, three respondents did not report the amount of their PRI portfolio (see Table 5).

### Table 5. Funders Using PRIs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Funder</th>
<th>PRI Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Penn Foundation</td>
<td>$6,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Moon Fund</td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presbyterian Hunger Program</td>
<td>$2,600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>$700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garfield Foundation</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia Foundation</td>
<td>$350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawson Valentine Foundation</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annenberg Foundation</td>
<td>amount not reported</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berks County Community Foundation</td>
<td>amount not reported</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Lakes Protection Fund</td>
<td>amount not reported</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$15,180,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) From PRI Makers Network, [http://www.primakers.net/about/faq](http://www.primakers.net/about/faq)
The 2007 survey data indicate a significant increase both in the number of funders and the amount of funding invested in sustainable agriculture and food systems over the four-year period of 2003-2006 compared to the previous four-year period 1999-2002. (Again, this mirrors the increase in funder involvement in SAFSF.) This expansion is important as it indicates that food system reform is a growing interest for funders and for society, and is growing to the point of being a movement. Food system reform is not a marginal or one-off issue. It is an issue of survival, community assets, and equity.

Collecting targeted funding data allows philanthropists to strategically understand gaps in funding; and opportunities for collaboration to expand this growing movement in the field. The data also helps determine new types of funders joining the ranks and the topics that motivate engagement.

Future funding and trends analysis will be critical as sustainable agriculture and food system reform faces new dramatic global and local challenges. These issues and impacts that will require significant knowledge and wisdom in addition to financial resources include:

- Skyrocketing food costs impact equal access to healthy food, especially for the world’s poor.
- Climate change.
- Health implications of current food system particularly around obesity and diabetes.
- New economic opportunities associated with social enterprise and immigrant and new farmers.
- Expanding youth engagement.
- Increasing mission-related investments in food system reform.
- Fostering new strategic partnerships among health, community development, and social justice funders.

This combination of issues demonstrates the growing linkages of sustainable agriculture and food system reforms to a full suite of interconnected community issues. The next step is for food system funders to find ways to use the data to help them make more strategic and effective grantmaking decisions.
Appendix A

List of Survey Recipients

- Americana Foundation
- Annenberg Foundation
- Aqua Fund
- Aveda Corporation
- Baha’i International Community
- Beldon Fund
- Ben & Jerry’s Foundation
- Berks County Community Foundation
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Bill Healy Foundation
- Blue Moon Fund
- Bremer Foundation
- Building Bridges to the Future
- Bullitt Foundation
- Bush Foundation
- California Endowment
- California Wellness Foundation
- Cedar Tree
- Center for Ecoliteracy
- Cherokee Presentation Foundation
- Chesapeake Bay Trust
- Chez Panisse Foundation
- Christensen Fund
- Claneil Foundation
- Clarence E. Heller Charitable Foundation
- Cleveland Foundation
- Columbia Foundation
- Compton Foundation
- CornerStone Campaign
- CS Fund
- Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
- David and Lucile Packard Foundation
- Deere & Company
- East Bay Community Foundation
- Eddy Foundation
- Educational Foundation of America
- Elizabeth Ordway Dunn Foundation
- Farm Aid
- First Nations Development Institute
- Flintridge
- Ford Foundation
- Fred Gellert Family Foundation
- Garfield Foundation
- George Gund Foundation
- Gifford Foundation
- Glaser Progress Foundation
- Global Greengrants Fund
- Grassroots International
- Great Lakes Protection Fund
- Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation
- Heifer International
- Heinz Endowments
- HRK Group
- Individual donor (3)
- International Community Foundation
- Investors’ Circle
- Island Foundation
- Island Press
- J.W. McConnell Family Foundation
- Jenifer Altman Foundation
- Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation
- JMG Foundation
- John Merck Fund
List of Survey Recipients

Johnson Family Foundation
Joyce Foundation
Jubilirer Family Fund
Keith Campbell Foundation
Kohlberg Foundation
Laidlaw Foundation
Lambi Fund of Haiti
Lawson Valentine Foundation
Lemmon Foundation
Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture
Lillian Goldman Charitable Trust
Lumpkin Family Foundation
Magnolia Charitable Trust
Maine Community Foundation
Maine Initiatives
Marisla Foundation
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger McConnell Foundation
McKnight Foundation
Meyer Memorial Trust
JoAnne and Michael Bander Fund
Minneapolis Foundation
Missouri Foundation
M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust
Moore Charitable Foundation
Nathan Cummings Foundation
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
National Rural Funders Collaborative
New England Biolabs Foundation
New England Grassroots Environment Fund
New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
New World Foundation
New York Community Trust
Newman’s Own Foundation
North Star Fund
Northwest Health Foundation
Organic Farming Research Foundation
Oxfam America
Panta Rhea Foundation
Park Foundation
Patagonia, Inc.
Pegasus Foundation
Penney Family Fund
Presbyterian Hunger Program
Public Welfare Foundation
Rasmuson Foundation
Raynier Institute & Foundation
Rockefeller Brothers Fund
Rockefeller Family Fund
Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors
Roots of Change Fund
Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation
Roswell Family Foundation
Roy A. Hunt Foundation
Ruth Mott Foundation
San Francisco Foundation
Sandy River Charitable Foundation
Scherman Foundation
Seattle Foundation
Solidago Foundation
Steven and Michele Kirsch Foundation
Surdna Foundation
Tamarind Foundation
TCC Group
Tides
Town Creek Foundation
True North Foundation
UPS Foundation
USDA - Farm Service Agency
USDA - Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
USDA - Farmers Market Promotion Program
USDA - Federal State Market Improvement
USDA - Risk Management Agency’s Civil Rights and Community Outreach
USDHHS - Office of Refugee Settlement’s Rural Refugee Initiative Program
Vancouver Foundation
US Environmental Protection Agency-Region 9
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Wallace Genetic Foundation
Wallace Global Fund
Whole Foods Market, Inc.
Wilburforce Foundation
William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
William Penn Foundation
William Zimmerman Foundation
Winrock – Henry A. Wallace Center
Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation
Presented at the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems Funders Reception at the Environmental Grantmakers Association’s Annual Retreat September 23, 2003

Sustainable agriculture, as a major funding area, emerged out of the farm crisis in the 1980s. In the subsequent two decades, many foundations have invested significant resources to advance a diverse sustainable agriculture agenda.

The information provides a snapshot of research data collected on behalf of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF) in preparation for a chapter in a book regarding private foundation investment in sustainable agriculture. The book is to be published by the University of Nebraska Press. A more detailed report, including a summary of contributions from 1988 to 2002, an impact analysis of these investments, and lessons learned, will be released in December 2003.

Overall Funding and Trends
- The majority of the funding came from ten foundations, which accounted for 86 percent of all funding ($190 million), while five foundations accounted for 69 percent of all funding ($151 million). WKKF has been responsible for 35 percent of all funding ($77 million).
- The foundations awarding the greatest number of grants included: Jesse Smith Noyes, Wallace Genetic Foundation, WKKF, Organic Farming Research Foundation, and The Joyce Foundation. These five foundations awarded 64 percent of all grants (1,198 grants total).
- Over 15 years, annual funding for sustainable agriculture fluctuated from a low of $5.2 million in 1989 to a high of $20.6 million in 1994 and down again to $13.1 million in 2002. Average annual giving was $13.8 million.
Impacts (Six Areas)

1. Major impacts of 267 grants totaling $43.6 million invested in public policy development and education include:
   - Conservation Security Program.
   - Expanded support for local marketing options, including farmers markets and community supported agriculture, establishing national organic food standards.
   - Establishing and supporting research and education on sustainable agriculture.

2. Major impacts of 128 market development grants totaling $16.7 million include:
   - Buy local campaigns, farmers markets, and community supported agriculture.
   - Expanded use of USDA’s value-added marketing program.
   - Partnerships between farmers and universities, schools, and restaurants.

3. Major impacts of 190 grants totaling $27 million to establish and support sustainable agriculture programs at land grant universities include:
   - Increased legitimization of sustainable agriculture research at universities.
   - Underwriting and endowment of professorships in sustainable agriculture.

4. Major impacts of 207 grants totaling $26.9 million to encourage adoption of integrated and resource efficient farming methods include:
   - Adoption of new agronomic practices.
   - Adoption of alternative crops.
   - Adoption of whole farm planning.

5. Major impacts of $25.1 million in building the capacity of individual organizations and networks of organizations include:
   - Increased capacity of sustainable agriculture organizations and leaders.
   - Enhanced media relations and communications capacity.

6. Major impacts of funding targeted to disadvantaged or minority communities include:
   - USDA paying greater attention to decline of African-American-owned farms and farmland.
   - USDA and HHS paying greater attention and initiating funding to meet the needs of immigrant and refugee farmers.
   - A focus in Native American communities in reclaiming traditional and sustainable food systems.
   - Inclusion of issues faced by farm workers as part of the focus on sustainable agriculture.
Thank you for participating in this survey. The survey information provides our members with useful information on the trends in sustainable agriculture (sustainable ag) funding, which in turn can help them better determine where they may want to direct their future funding. The survey should take about 10-30 minutes to complete.

**Please complete by September 21.** We will remind you!

**Please tell us who you are:**
If you wish not to share personal information you may put anonymous in this section.

Foundation or Government Agency _________________________________

Contact Person _________________________________

Contact Phone _________________________________

Contact Email _________________________________

If you have a website, please enter the URL: _____________________________

Is your Annual Report available online?
□ Yes  □ No  URL _________________________________

**Please tell us what kind of funder you are:** _________________________________

Do you fund sustainable ag issues in any of the following ways?

- **Informing public policy**  
  (Local, state, or federal; legislative, regulatory, or legal)  
  □ Yes  □ No

- **Environment and conservation**  
  (Environmental protection; biological diversity, habitat protection; farmland preservation and conservation; pesticides)  
  □ Yes  □ No

- **Labor and social justice**  
  (Access to healthy, locally grown food; farm workers and laborers in food production, processing, distribution, and sales)  
  □ Yes  □ No
2007 Sustainable Ag Funder Survey

Appendix C

2007 Sustainable Ag Funder Survey

Community markets
(Community food security - urban and rural; community or local food system development and support [e.g. farmers markets, farm-to-institution/school, retail, processing, etc.]; family farms; Native American food systems; rural development)

Nutrition and health

Organics

Livestock health and welfare

General

Funding Questions
The following questions focus on your funding of sustainable agriculture from 2003-2006. Question 7 asks for your total amount of sustainable agriculture funding in each of the years 2003-2006. Questions 8-13 seek more specific data on the issues within sustainable ag you identified as funding in Question 6. We understand that you may not track your grant funding this way; thus, we ask you to give us your best estimates of each issue by relative percentage of total sustainable ag funding. If you are unable to do so, please skip Questions 8-13. We hope, however, that you can provide some fairly accurate percentages.

How much did you award in sustainable agriculture funding for years 2003 through 2006? Please include total dollar amount by year, numeric value only (i.e 5436 NOT $5,436):

2003 ___________________________
2004 ___________________________
2005 ___________________________
2006 ___________________________

How much of your annual funding went to informing public policy? Please include total dollar amount by year, numeric value only (i.e 5436 NOT $5,436):

2003 ___________________________
2004 ___________________________
2005 ___________________________
2006 ___________________________
Appendix C

How much of your annual funding went to environment and conservation efforts? Please include total dollar amount by year, numeric value only (i.e. 5436 NOT $5,436):

2003 ___________________________
2004 ___________________________
2005 ___________________________
2006 ___________________________
2007 ___________________________

How much of your annual funding went to labor and social justice issues? Please include total dollar amount by year, numeric value only (i.e. 5436 NOT $5,436):

2003 ___________________________
2004 ___________________________
2005 ___________________________
2006 ___________________________

How much of your annual funding went to community markets? Please include total dollar amount by year, numeric value only (i.e. 5436 NOT $5,436):

2003 ___________________________
2004 ___________________________
2005 ___________________________
2006 ___________________________

How much of your annual funding went to nutrition and health? Please include total dollar amount by year, numeric value only (i.e. 5436 NOT $5,436):

2003 ___________________________
2004 ___________________________
2005 ___________________________
2006 ___________________________

If you chose 'other' when selecting ways in which you fund sustainable ag, how much of your annual funding went to other efforts? Please include total dollar amount by year, numeric value only (i.e. 5436 NOT $5,436):

2003 ___________________________
2004 ___________________________
2005 ___________________________
2006 ___________________________
Where was the focus of your funding? National, regional (US) or international? Check all that apply:

- National
- Northeast (CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI and VT)
- Southeast (AR, AL, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, and WV)
- Midwest (IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, ND, NE, OH, SD, and WI)
- Southwest (AZ, NM, OK, and TX)
- West (AK, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, and WY)
- International

Please tell us why your foundation funds sustainable agriculture, briefly:

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Does your foundation use program related investing?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No

Program Investing
About how much total, in dollars for years 2003-2006? _________________

Future Funding
What is your foundation's or agency's projected sustainable agriculture funding, in dollars, over next 5 years (through 2012)? ___________________________

Estimated total funding _______________________
## U.S. Regions and Associated States

### West
- Alaska
- California
- Colorado
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Montana
- Nevada
- Oregon
- Utah
- Washington
- Wyoming

### Midwest
- Iowa
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Kansas
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- North Dakota
- Nebraska
- Ohio
- South Dakota
- Wisconsin

### Northeast
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Massachusetts
- Maryland
- Maine
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New York
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- Vermont

### Southeast
- Arkansas
- Alabama
- Florida
- Georgia
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Mississippi
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Virginia
- West Virginia

### Southwest
- Arizona
- New Mexico
- Oklahoma
- Texas