

effect

Volume 9 / Issue 2 — autumn 2015

efc.be/effect

— *Effective Philanthropy*

TOWARDS PARIS 2015

THE CLIMATE DEAL WE NEED

Why a new international agreement on climate could be key to fighting inequality, ensuring food security and tackling the migration emergency





EFC call for data collection: Environmental funding by European foundations

We need your data!

The EFC European Environmental Funders Group is preparing its third edition of the mapping of environmental funding by European foundations.

Share your data on grants authorised in 2014 in order to:

- Create a better understanding of how European philanthropic funding spreads across themes on the environmental agenda (from conservation and climate change to trade and finance) and across countries within and outside Europe
- Identify areas in which funding can make a positive difference
- Highlight trends and gaps
- Help foundations to design strategies for philanthropic actions

Help to ensure that this research is relevant, up-to-date, and comprehensive.

Please submit your data before **30 November 2015**

For more info visit www.efc.be



About the EFC European Environmental Funders Group (EEFG):

The network identifies needs, gaps, and overlaps where philanthropy can make a difference. It aggregates intelligence and catalyses collaboration amongst funders across Europe active in the fields of environment, sustainable development and climate change.

If you have any questions or remarks, please feel free to contact the EFC secretariat at mvrana@efc.be



The climate is right for change

“The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits.” Albert Einstein

—by Gerry Salole, Chief Executive, EFC

In 2009, when the eyes of the world focused on COP15 in Copenhagen hopes were high - hope that it would prove to be a game changing conference which in years to come would be remembered as a convention to remember rather than one to forget. Sadly, consensus falls on the latter. Six years later and the issue remains the same, the venue (Paris) has changed and so, we desperately hope, will the outcome. In the run up to the United Nations Climate Change Conference later this year, this issue of *Effect* looks at what kind of deal we can (reasonably) expect, and why climate change is so inextricably linked to so many of the other issues we are concerned with from migration to food security. Failure to get it right this time around and learn from the mistakes of Copenhagen would really be pushing the limits of stupidity.

In the last issue, we covered 10 remarkable young people whose stunningly innovative ideas were making quantum leaps in a diverse array of fields. The 10 of them, and hopefully many of you, will surely appreciate this issue's reportage on the Maker Movement. Einstein himself, a man who had more than his fair share of good ideas in his time, would doubtless find the story of how a vacuum cleaner could revolutionise education in Ethiopia to be truly inspirational. Like the 10 young people in the last issue, many of these DIY changemakers are putting their skills to use in tackling social issues, for example the adaptation of 3D printing to create prosthetic limbs for people with disabilities. Perhaps genius is limitless after all.

This being the autumn edition, it is an ideal time to point you in the direction of a very busy series of EFC events taking place this autumn/winter the first of which is the Grantmakers East Forum taking place at the end of September in Istanbul. You can see the full list of what's in store on page 37, but of particular note is our annual EuroPhilantopics event which will take place on 10 November in Brussels. The focus this year is on trust and the vital role it can play in building a fairer, more equitable society. I trust that I will see many of you there, if not before, and until then I wish you happy reading.



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— cover art by Marco Goran Romano

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EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Joshua Massarenti

MANAGING EDITOR
Ottavia Spaggiari

COPY EDITOR
Clare Pedrick

ART DIRECTOR
Matteo Riva

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
Evelina Urgolo

COMMENT
Marjolein Cremer
João de Almeida Pedro

Mara De Monte
Elizabeth Franchini
Jenny Hodgson
Gavin Lonergan
Luc Luyten
Cristina Perillo
Pieter Stermerding
Beth Thompson
Rien Van Gendt
Darren Walker

CONTRIBUTORS
Sam Burne James
Paul T. Cox
Candice Keller
Vita Sgardello

CONTACTS
EUROPEAN FOUNDATION
CENTRE - AISBL
> Philanthropy House,
Rue Royale 94
1000 Brussels, Belgium

VITA S.p.a
> Via Marco D'Agate 43,

20139 Milan, Italy
> Rue de l'Industrie 10
1000 Brussels, Belgium

ADVERTISING
effectads@vita.it

GENERAL
effect@vita.it

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GOOD NEWS

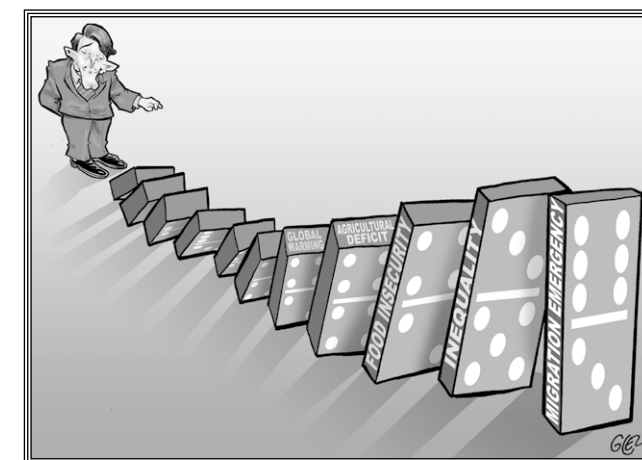
Eighteen Italian foundations join together to make the cultural industry thrive, while unlocking the potential of youth entrepreneurship

Promoting youth entrepreneurship and bringing new life to the Italian cultural industry – that is the aim of Funder35, a programme launched by 18 Italian foundations, which have allocated a total of €2,650,000 to the initiative. The programme is open to non-profit organisations and social enterprises working in the artistic and cultural sector and mostly involves people under 35.

Financial grants and strategic consulting support will be awarded to the most innovative cultural and artistic initiatives, offering them the chance to scale up and helping them to achieve financial stability. Among the main challenges facing the cultural sector in Italy is the difficulty in defining a sustainable business model. As a result, cultural businesses and organisations are often forced to work on sporadic projects, since they are dependent on donations. Funder35 aims to change this trend, helping the cultural and artistic Italian sector to share best practices, find feasible business models and thrive as a result.

funder35.it

GLEZ'S WORLD :)



1 — BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION

Investing in nutrition to invest in our future

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has announced that it will more than double its investments in nutrition to \$776 million over the next six years as part of a new commitment to nutrition. Melinda Gates, co-chair of the Foundation made the announcement last June, at the European Development Days (EDD), Europe's leading forum on development and international cooperation organised by the European Commission. The announcement unlocks \$180 million in additional matched funding from the UK's Department for International Development that had committed to match 1:2 any pledge additional to those made at the Nutrition for Growth summit in 2013.

www.gatesfoundation.org

2 — CARLSBERG FOUNDATION

Copenhagen is the new capital of Bubble Studies

The Carlsberg Foundation has awarded Professor Vincent F. Hendricks €1.92 million to establish the Centre for Information and Bubble Studies (CIBS) which is to be located at The Faculty of Humanities, University of Copenhagen. CIBS will seek to uncover the structure and dynamics of bubble emergence across disciplines, domains and institutions. Bringing together philosophy, economics, mathematics, logic, information theory, social psychology and behavioural studies, CIBS aims to develop intervention strategies for malignant bubbles, such as unjustified Twitter storms, while at the same time formulating recommendations to stimulate benign bubbles that promote intercultural understanding, improved public health and similar values.

www.carlsbergfoundation.dk

3 — FONDAZIONE CASSA DI RISPARMIO DI PISTOIA E PESCIA

Pistoia is a Social Business City

Pistoia Social Business City is a comprehensive programme to promote the creation of successful and sustainable enterprises aimed at resolving local social or environmental problems, through the involvement of students and young people, citizens, local entrepreneurs and administrators. It is run by the Yunus Social Business Centre, University of Florence, Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Pistoia e Pescia and the Fondazione Un Raggio di Luce Onlus.

www.fondazionecript.it

4 — FUNDAÇÃO CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN, FUNDAÇÃO LUSO-AMERICANA AND FUNDAÇÃO ORIENTE

A web platform to open up the Portuguese economy

To provide free, relevant information about the Portuguese economy and financial system – that is the aim of Portugal Economy Probe, a web platform supported by Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Fundação Luso-Americana and Fundação Oriente. Using more than 200 world renowned official and private institution sources, Probe provides comprehensive, transparent and accurate information about the Portuguese economy, making it accessible to citizens and to decision-makers: business managers, analysts, economists, academics and the media.

www.peprobe.com

5 — KING BAUDOIN FOUNDATION

Promoting civil society transparency

A reliable database and showcase for non-profit associations and foundations. This is *Goede doelen/Bonnes causes* (Good causes), a new tool launched by the King Baudouin Foundation to promote organisations' visibility and transparency. The website provides answers to a large number of questions that may be asked by potential donors, volunteers and associations, making information available to citizens, volunteers, organisations and donors. More than 3,000 organisations have already registered on the new website.

www.kbs-frb.be

6 — ROBERT BOSCH STIFTUNG

Building bridges across Europe

With the support of the German Federal Foreign Office and Robert Bosch Stiftung, the Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility and Future (EVZ) is providing funding for a special programme of German-Ukrainian youth encounters. The aim of the programme is to intensify German relations with Ukraine and to strengthen the active commitment of young people from Germany and Ukraine to fundamental democratic values and understanding between peoples. Existing German-Ukrainian youth partnerships and new initiatives will be eligible for support. Russian participants may also be included.

www.bosch-stiftung.de



When grocery shopping is a matter of equality

The Make Fruit Fair raises awareness about labour conditions, for a fairer tropical fruit supply chain

—by Candice Keller



Above: women washing bananas, Cameroon.

Tropical bananas and pineapples are sweet to taste, but production and trade practices have turned sour in some parts of the world.

That is why the Make Fruit Fair campaign has been launched, uniting up to 20 organisations from around Europe in a bid to make supply chains fair. One of them is Portugal's IMVF – Instituto Marquês de Valle Flôr – which is enthusiastic about the multinational approach. The goal is simple: improve living and working conditions for the hundreds of thousands of people who grow, pick and pack the trop-

ical fruit that Europeans buy in shops every day. The Make Fruit Fair aims to raise awareness among 23 million European consumers about fruit production and supply conditions. It hopes to mobilise 200,000 citizens to take action and support calls to corporate and political decision-makers to change the status quo. IMVF Make Fruit Fair project co-ordinator Ana Castanheira says 60 per cent of fruit imported to Portugal is made up of bananas, apples, pineapples and oranges.

“Bringing the reality of unfair labour conditions and unsustainable

tropical food production closer to European consumers, citizens and decision-makers is a core objective of the campaign,” she says. “The campaign promotes fair trade consumption and mobilises EU citizens to take action for fair conditions in the tropical fruit sector.” Education via online and social media, media briefings, film clips and public speaking engagements will form a large part of the campaign’s strategy. A centralised online petition calls on supporters to sign their name and publicly back the cause. “As opinion polls reflect, people who state that helping developing countries is important are more likely to believe they can play a role in tackling poverty in those countries,” explains Castanheira. “Thus, educated citizens and consumers will exert public pressure and claim changes in the trading practices of EU supermarkets and fruit companies.” The response to this effort is expected to be particularly strong as this is the European Year for Development. Significant pressure is already being exerted on the European Union to develop coherent and sustainable policies around growth, especially in developing countries.

The focus of IMVF’s efforts will be on producers and associations in Madeira Island and the Azores – the main producers of bananas and pineapples in Europe. It has earmarked just over €250,000 for the project. Fair fruit has many implications for the industry, including improving sustainability and equality in the supply chain, defending social and environmental rights in producer countries, linking producer countries to consumer countries by campaigning together and encouraging new forms of international trade policies and practices. ♦

imvf.org

Empowering women entrepreneurs in Poland

The Business in Women’s Hands programme is fighting youth unemployment by turning young women into successful entrepreneurs

—by Vita Sgardello

Forty-three successful new business ventures were launched in Poland in just six months, in sectors as diverse as health, design, fashion, technology, accounting and education. All of them were run by women. The result was achieved not by a business incubator or a start-up boot camp, but by the joint efforts of the Kronenberg Foundation at Citi Handlowy, the Foundation for Women’s Entrepreneurship, the Warsaw Municipal Office and the Warsaw Labour Office.

With a budget of some US\$150,000, the project, called Business in Women’s Hands, supported 50 promising female entrepreneurs in 2014, helping them to transform their ideas into viable enterprises. In a country where youth unemployment (under 26) is close to 20 per cent, and where young women face special

200 women

applied to the programme. One year after the launch of the first edition 43 out of the 50 selected ideas are real businesses

Below: participants during a gathering.



challenges in entering the workplace, self-employment is increasingly being seen as an option in Poland. Warsaw’s 2020 growth strategy has an explicit focus on micro-entrepreneurship, female entrepreneurship and start-ups. However, self-run businesses have a patchy survival rate. “Even we did not expect such a positive outcome,” explains Grzegorz Wach, programme specialist at the Kronenberg Foundation at Citi Handlowy. “We expected a success rate of around 60 per cent. Fortunately, one year after the launch of the first edition, 43 out of the 50 selected ideas are now up and running businesses.” Key to this success is the careful selection process that determined which of the 200 applicants would be chosen. “There were many great ideas that didn’t make it, but we had to be strict and select the most motivated entrepreneurs and the ideas providing the best solutions to market needs,” says Wach. Another crucial aspect was the provision of high quality, skills-based support to entrepreneurs through mentoring sessions on critical aspects, such as creating a business plan or product marketing plans. Most important, however, is the project’s emphasis on collaboration and the peer-to-peer network established among the entrepreneurs. In one case, three businesses with a design and fashion focus have taken a further step and created a consortium to jointly seek customers and exhibit their products together at industry events.

“This is exactly the kind of collaboration that leads to the continued success of ventures,” says Wach. ♦

kronenberg.org.pl

Who's who *People in our network*



1 — Steve Campbell is the new Campaigns Leader at The Oak Foundation. With nearly 20 years' experience in social justice and environmental campaigning, Mr Campbell has been Head of Campaigns at Greenpeace Australia Pacific and Campaign Director at the Antarctic Ocean Alliance.

2 — René Dinesen is the Executive Director of the newly established KR Foundation, focusing on international environmental issues. Mr Dinesen has 17 years' of diplomatic experience, including as Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York. Prior to joining the Foundation, he was Ambassador for Denmark to South Africa.



3 — Uta-Micaela Dürig is the new Chief Executive Officer at Robert Bosch Stiftung. Ms Dürig has been responsible for the Bosch Group's global corporate communications, brand management and sustainability department since 2004. She has taught international communication management and public relations at various universities.

4 — Franco Ferraris is the new President of Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Biella. He succeeds Luigi Squillario, who guided the Foundation for 23 years. Mr Ferraris is also Chief Executive Officer of the Ermenegildo Zegna Group.



5 — Giusella Finocchiaro is the new President at Fondazione del Monte di Bologna e Ravenna, for the 2015-2020 mandate. Ms Finocchiaro is a lawyer and Full Professor of Internet Law and Private Law at the University of Bologna.

6 — Markus Piduhn has been appointed Executive Director at Stiftung Mercator. He was previously Area Vice President Business Industries at the TecDAX-listed CompuGroup Medical. During the course of his career he has acquired international management and wide-ranging other experience in areas such as controlling, finance and accounting.



✓ AGENDA

10 NOVEMBER

— BRUSSELS, BELGIUM
The 2015 edition of EFC's annual **EuroPhilantopics** event is entitled "Trust Matters – A lever to deliver better social justice outcomes." The event aims to shine a light on how to develop better and more lasting social change and impact. This includes exploring trust's role in catalysing social justice, its impact on young people and Islamic radicalisation, and the potential of new financial instruments as a means to increase trust between investors, civil society and government.

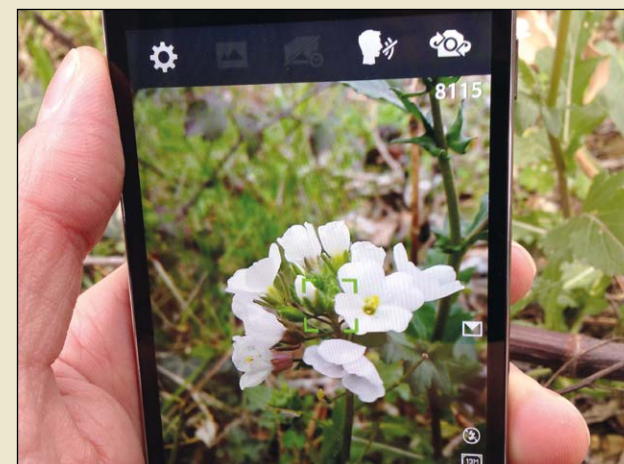
26-28 MAY 2016

— AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
Coinciding with the Netherlands Presidency of the EU, the **27th EFC Annual General Assembly and Conference** will take place from 26-28 May 2016 at the Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ, located on the water beside Central Station in the heart of Amsterdam. The waterways of Amsterdam reflect centuries of history and innovation in business, commerce, transport, culture, urban and social planning. Against this apt and magnificent setting, and within the overall theme of 'Imagining and Investing in our Future', the 2016 conference will address the most urgent social issues of today and tomorrow, explore the opportunities that new models, actors and technologies offer and clarify where foundations can act and how they can prepare for the future.

The agricultural revolution starts with an app

Using visual identification, Pl@ntNet is building an interactive encyclopedia of plants

—by Candice Keller



Citizen scientists are helping one French research foundation to build a world leading visual encyclopedia of plants – Pl@ntNet. While botanists provide the expert knowledge about plants listed in the database, computer scientists have developed and refined the technical content and the public plays a crucial role as researchers, supplying raw materials to the botanists via web and mobile applications. "The thing about public engagement with Pl@ntNet is that people are not only using it as a resource. They're contributing to it and enriching the information for the greater public," says Agropolis Foundation senior officer Oliver Oliveros. The seeds of Pl@ntNet were sown in 2007, when French agriculture research organisation, the Agropolis Foundation, asked scientists for their most revolutionary ideas to address agriculture and sustainable development, including biodiversity conservation. From there, the idea of an online catalogue of the world's 300,000 plant

300,000

the number of plant species in the world

800,000

downloads of the Pl@ntNet app have been registered

species that uses photo search and recognition was born. "Fewer and fewer people are studying this particular field of botany," says project co-ordinator Pierre Bonnet. "With the increased use of mobile technology, we thought this platform could be one way to protect and conserve biodiversity, as more information is available to everyone." The photo identification element is critical to allow people with minimal technical knowledge to understand which plants are in their surrounding environment. "One application of Pl@ntNet is for farmers to have the capacity to quickly identify an unknown species in their field and then understand the least destructive methodology to remove or control it," explains Bonnet. "This is important because weeds or invasive species can reduce a lot of the productivity of cultivated plants or natural ecosystems." The project has already grown exponentially. It started as a trial with 20-30 users; today Pl@ntNet is available as a web, Apple and Android app and has been downloaded more than 800,000 times across Europe, the United States, Canada and as far afield as Australia and New Zealand. The database has grown from just 800 species listed for the Western European region to almost 6,000 species, catalogued using 200,000 images. The initial investment by the Agropolis Foundation was €40,000 for a proof-of-concept study. The initiative was then developed as a flagship Foundation project, with funding of €3 million for 2009-2015. This scaled approach was a "calculated risk", says Oliveros, allowing the resource to develop organically in line with the growing user base. "We have the capacity for the application to switch automatically to whatever region you are in, so you have the most relevant information," he says. "We then hope to develop this approach to interact with our environment, in all regions where it will be useful and appropriate." ♦

✦ m.plantnet-project.org



In the past issue of effect, we introduced you to the new policy matters section and how our work is guided by three key questions: What is the role of foundations in building trust in society? How do foundations contribute to improving policy solutions and their implementation? How do we work together to advance the well-being of sector? To address these, we are focusing on three policy areas which underpin the development of the sector and guide its actions in society, namely: digitalisation, asset management, and transparency. Each of these issues can be interdependent, whilst at the same time provide challenge and dilemma respectively as well as have implications for each other. In this issue we have worked with contributors to address these themes and their implications for foundations and the communities they serve.

EU Data Regulation: protecting the new oil

Many Europeans have expressed concerns about not having control over the personal data they provide online. An EU reform is working to improve citizens' security, but a one size-fits-all approach does not make everybody happy

Data is the new oil, someone said, and in a globalised digital economy, protecting our privacy has never been so important. However, according to the Special Eurobarometer on Data Protection published last June, European citizens do not feel safe. Two-thirds of the respondents said they are concerned about not having complete control over the information they provide online and, in the aftermath of the Snowden scandal, half of all Europeans are well aware of the revelations concerning mass data collection by governments and 46 per cent said that these revelations undermined the trust they had in how their online personal data is used. The concerns of European citizens do not seem to be unfounded, as Marju Lauristin, Vice-Chair of the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats and Shadow Rapporteur on Data Regulation noted in an article published in Parliament Magazine, in March 2015. "The reason we urgently need a new legal framework is clear when you consider that 20 years ago, when the 1995 data protection directive was adopted, we lived in a world of balance sheets, big heavy computers and the first mobile phones," she observed.

Shadow Rapporteur Data Regulation and EPP MEP Axel Voss told *Effect* that the new Regulation is precisely aimed at catching up with the digital world. "We are trying to allow citizens to have a better control over their data, while strengthening the rights of the individuals but, at the same time trying to leave the companies' business models intact," said Voss. "The Regulation in fact will establish a single, pan-European law for data protection, replacing the current inconsistent patchwork of national laws." There will be one single supervisory authority, which should make it easier for companies to do business in the EU and for citizens to get their personal data protected. However, this one-size-fits-all approach does not make everybody happy. Among the most criticised aspects of the reform are restrictions on the use of health data. "On the one hand, pharmaceutical companies collect personal data for commercial purposes, but on the other hand, this information could be used to further valuable research. Of course, sometimes even a fully commercial purpose, such as the sale of a new drug to treat cancer pain, may serve the public interest," noted Lauristin. Voss agrees that more could have been done. "We could be more ambitious regarding the future of data and data processing, but politically this is the best we can do right now," he said. ♦

Data protection & research: a difficult balance

While trying to protect citizens' privacy, the new Data Protection Regulation would tightly restrict the way personal data concerning health could be used in research, putting the future of public health research at serious risk

—by Beth Thompson, Policy Adviser, Wellcome Trust

Individuals' health data is a vital resource for research. Over decades, researchers have developed approaches to using this data safely and securely, to understand more about the factors underpinning health and disease. Without it, we wouldn't have made major advances in public health, such as understanding the link between smoking and lung cancer, and finding out that people with high blood pressure have a greater chance of having heart disease or a stroke.

Policymakers in the EU are currently working on a new Data Protection Regulation that will update rules on how data that can identify individuals can be used, including in research. One of the issues they will be seeking to resolve when negotiations continue after the summer is how to ensure that health data can be used in life-saving research, while making sure that individuals and their data are protected. While all the European institutions seem to share this high-level ambition, progress so far has been challenging and a positive outcome for research still cannot be guaranteed.

The initial draft Regulation proposed by the European Commission

set out a mechanism to protect privacy, while enabling health and scientific research to continue. However, over the summer of 2013, Edward Snowden's leaks about the use of personal data by the US National Security Agency increased concerns about how technology companies and governments use data. In response, the Civil Liberties and Home Affairs (LIBE) Committee of the European Parliament proposed a package of amendments to the Regulation, intended to strengthen protection for data across all sectors. Research has become an unfortunate victim of this reaction.

The European Parliament's amendments would tightly restrict the way personal data concerning health could be used in research. Of greatest concern, the amendments have all but removed a vital exemption from a requirement for specific consent. Consent is an important principle in health research, but the exemption in the current law and Commission's proposal is really important because there are instances

where the requirement to seek individual consent would undermine the study. What's more, where individual consent is not sought, law and international guidelines require safeguards to be put in place, such as the review of the research proposal by an independent ethics committee, to ensure that personal data is used appropriately. Parliament had good intentions – and we all agree that protecting individuals' data is crucial – but requiring specific consent in almost all cases would make much research involving personal data at worst illegal, and at best unworkable, and doesn't recognise these important safeguards.

Foundations and other research funders across Europe have made large investments in infrastructure and studies based on individuals' data, to improve health outcomes and cement Europe's strong position in public health research. Parliament's amendments

put the potential benefit of these investments to the health of European citizens at serious risk. We've therefore been working hard to make sure that the potential impacts of the amendments are understood

and that we find an appropriate solution for research. A key part of this advocacy work has involved bringing together organisations across Europe – including other EFC members – to speak with one voice. A good example is the European Health Data in Research Alliance campaign that brings together academic, patient and research organisations from across Europe, with a shared goal of ensuring that the Data Protection Regulation ►

CAMPAIGN

The European Health Data in Research Alliance campaign brings together academic, patient and research organisations to ensure that seminal research can continue datasaveslives.eu

◀ allows the seminal research that has taken place for many years to continue. This campaign was established by three research funding charities – Cancer Research UK, the Wellcome Trust and the British Heart Foundation – alongside the Medical Sciences Committee of Science Europe, the European Public Health Alliance, the European Patients’ Forum and the Federation of European Academies of Medicine. This broad base of support for the campaign is vital to show that concerns about appropriate regulation of health data in research are Europe-wide, and to give both patients and researchers a voice in the discussions. The campaign website provides a platform from which to share our key messages and resources on the Regulation. It’s updated regularly with blogs from the campaign and from guests, together with engaging examples of the research at stake, to make sure that visitors have a reason to return. Social media is an integral part of this campaign and we use Twitter to raise the profile of our concerns and to deliver our message directly to our key audience: the policymakers. This route has helped us get the attention of some of the critical individuals involved.

We were very pleased that the position agreed by the EU Member States in June was much more positive for research than Parliament’s text. Discussions now continue and the European Parliament, Council of Ministers and the European Commission are working on a compromise position with the aim of concluding their negotiations by the end of this year. The coming months are therefore a critical time to find a solution that ensures that personal data can continue to make a vital contribution to improving health, without compromising on the safety of our precious personal data.◊

→ Supporting investigative journalism to support democracy

—by **Pieter Stemerding**,
Managing Director at Adessium Foundation

Quality journalism is a cornerstone of transparency and democracy. This is the idea behind the Adessium Foundation’s Public Interest Programme, through which the Foundation promotes independent, fact-based information to safeguard integrity and the public interest. But the initiative does not stop here. Our Programme also encourages the activity of watchdogs and lobby groups which can really address the issues raised by journalistic investigations, putting pressure on governments and public sector players. Despite the importance of investigative journalism, it is not easy to find support for it, as it is often seen as an abstract area. However, if we look at some of the journalism projects that Adessium Foundation has supported, we see a clear connection with some of the most pressing challenges in our society. The Migrants Files, for example, is a data driven project developed by a European consortium of journalists that aims to assess the number of men, women and children who died as a result of EU member states’ migration policies. Another example is the Bureau of Investigative Journalism in London that undertook an investigation about the spending of European structural funds. These kinds of initiatives promote transparency, raise citizens’ awareness, help spark debate and ultimately strengthen democratic principles. Supporting investigative journalism can be challenging. Quality journalism is going through turbulent times. Digital technologies are revolutionising news consumption and challenging traditional business models. This requires an extra effort from us as a funder: how to determine which journalistic initiatives are best equipped for the future, when nobody knows what the future of journalism will look like. As a funder, we seek inputs from experts such as journalists, media analysts and academics. Besides supporting specific journalistic projects, we work on strengthening the sharing of expertise and the creation of solid collaborations, often across borders. One of the best examples is the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, a network of 200 journalists from over 65 countries who work together on stories of global relevance. In 2014, they published breaking news on how the Luxembourg government offered tax deals to large corporations resulting in disproportionate levels of tax avoidance. This type of work shows how society benefits when professionals dig deeper, enhance transparency and encourage citizens to develop critical thinking. At Adessium Foundation we are committed to supporting that.◊

→ Transparency & finance: an impossible challenge?

An interview with **Danielle Walker Palmour**,
Director of Friends Provident Foundation

Since the Rockefeller Brothers Fund’s announcement last year to divest from fossil fuels, there has been growing attention on how the philanthropic world is investing its money. But when it comes to finance, transparency can be the toughest challenge. *Effect* meets Danielle Walker Palmour, Director of Friends Provident Foundation (FPF), a UK grantmaking charity focused on exploring the role of money and financial systems as a force for social good. FPF is a member of the Charities Responsible Investment Network – for foundations concerned with responsible investment, supported by the charity ShareAction. In an interview, she discusses the need for foundations to adopt a transparent approach to investment.

How do you think a transparent approach to investment can help strengthen an organisation’s credibility?

The decision to develop a responsible investment strategy is not just a matter of transparency, but also a matter of coherence. Inconsistency between investments and mission can undermine a foundation’s reasons for being. We need to make sure what we do is transparent and clear to everybody. In the UK, and in many other countries, philanthropic institutions have tax advantages for being charities and, as foundations, we need to make sure that the money we do not pay taxes on is employed appropriately. We owe this to the public interest.

What are the biggest challenges you have encountered while trying to adopt a transparent approach to your investments?

Some foundations have in-house investment managers who can enable them to be very transparent about their investment portfolio. Very often however, smaller foundations do not have sufficient capacity in the staff, which makes it very challenging to understand what our investment

managers are investing in. This makes transparency very limited. At the same time, the investment world is not very transparent itself. It is really difficult to get a hold of deeper information beyond what companies have decided to disclose and this is an additional challenge. Finding out what is going on can be very difficult, even if you have the capacity. By engaging with our investment managers, we have found that access to corporate information varies from country to country. For instance, it is much easier for investment managers to have access to board members and ask them questions in the UK, if you hold a lot of shares in a company, than it is in some other European countries and in the United States. The underlying challenge to all asset owners is a lack of transparency throughout the chain.

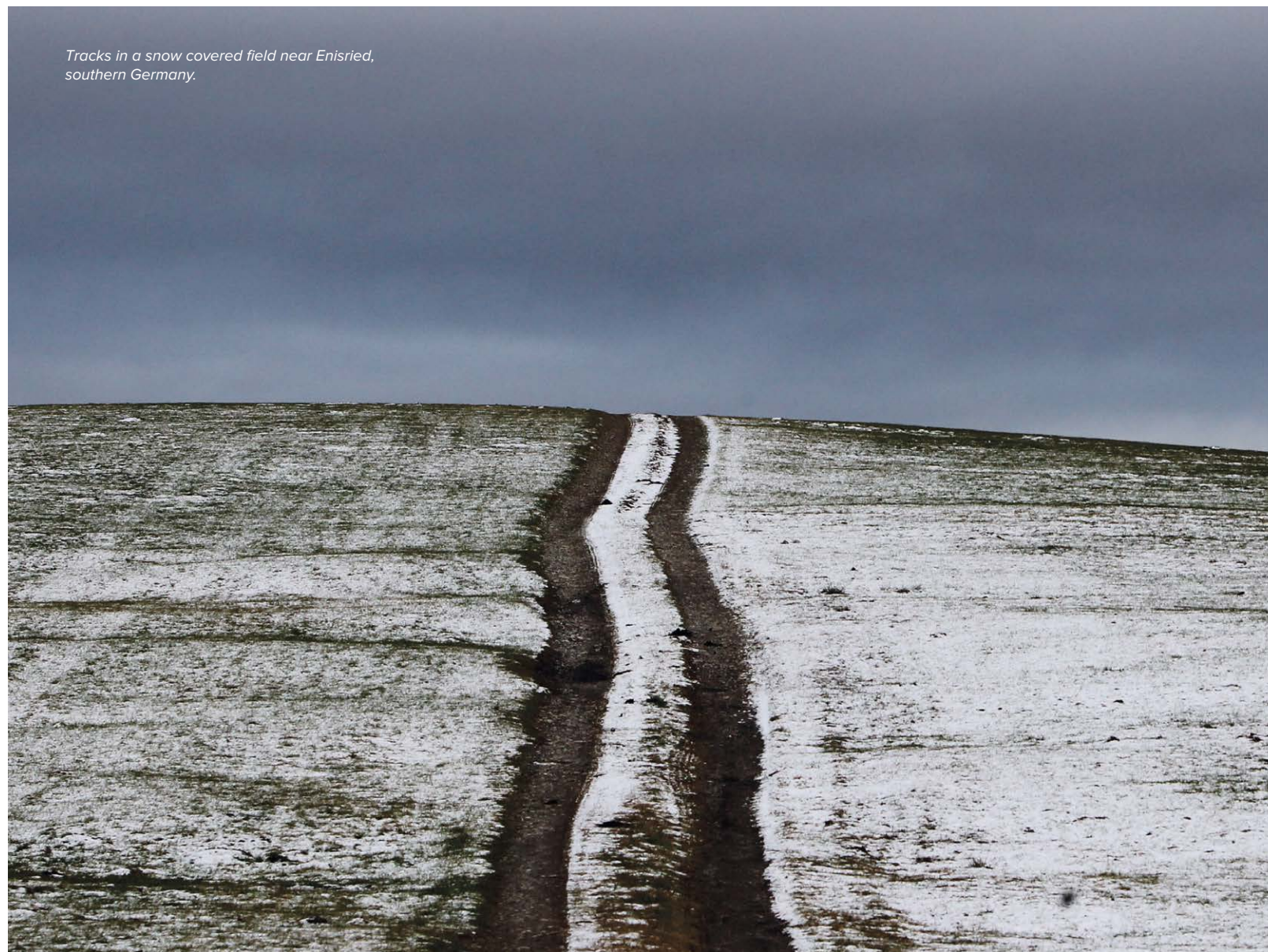
What suggestions would you give to other foundations trying to adopt a transparent approach to their investment strategy?

It is much easier when you work together. Originally, in the Charities Responsible Investment Network (CRIN) created by ShareAction there were eight foundations. The great thing about it was the possibility to hear what others were doing. This gave us the insight into what we, as individual organisations, could do and what we couldn’t do and what we could do together, with the right support. The first thing I would suggest is to create a place where foundations can regularly share information. Secondly, having an organisation like ShareAction is helpful. They do research and they feed it back to us, enabling us to take action, giving us more power within the investment process. After all, when philanthropic institutions have money, they also have power. It’s an important tool they can use. The problem is that they often do not have the staff or ways to exercise that power. An organisation like ShareAction can provide a network and targeted research support. Finally, it is important to be very clear about your mission, because the investment process sends you back to it. The question is: “What is it that we are here to do? And therefore what should our investment be doing?” In the end, it is about being consistent.◊

TOWARDS PARIS 2015: THE CLIMATE DEAL WE NEED

Getty Images (5)

Tracks in a snow covered field near Enisried,
southern Germany.



World leaders will gather in Paris this December for the United Nations Climate Change Conference, which could mark the make or break for international efforts to curb global warming. But what is really at stake in Paris? Here is why a new international agreement on climate could be key to fighting inequality, bridging the gap between food insecurity and food waste and tackling the migration emergency.

—by Paul T. Cox

An anthropologist and journalist specialising in agricultural development, he has written for several newspapers, publications and magazines, including The New Inquiry, Al Jazeera and Spore, the magazine for agricultural and rural development in ACP countries.

When delegates from nearly 200 countries gather in Paris this December for COP21, the 21st Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, people around the world will be watching for a deal to be struck to stem the flow of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. It has been a long time since so many groups placed so much emphasis on a single meeting. Will there really be some kind of global showdown in Paris?

If there is, it will be about more than just reducing emissions of greenhouse gases and plug-

ging in renewable energy. At stake are issues of equity and inequality, the future of food, and the trajectory of livelihoods everywhere in the century ahead. A potential climate deal is no less than an agreement over “the essentials of life on this planet,” in the words of Camilla Toulmin, outgoing Director of the International Institute for Environment and Development.

Toulmin was one of many voices at the EFC Annual Conference in Milan in May arguing that the ties between climate and life itself are no longer theoretical, but are pulling hard at the edges of global society. She was joined by ▶



A woman carries a bag on her head by a tea plantation at the Makandi Tea Estate in Thyolo, Malawi (above).

◀ Greenpeace Director Kumi Naidoo, who promised that a rising chorus “will push our political leaders and our business leaders to actually break the cognitive dissonance they’re suffering from, where they are in denial about how close we are to the cliff.”

The basic challenge in December will be to agree on a new climate deal that can keep temperature increases by the end of this century to below 2°C, hopefully averting more catastrophic effects. The figure of 2°C is a loose target of convenience that dates back decades, but for most commentators it represents the cliff of which Naidoo warns. (The world currently sits at around 0.8°C of warming.)

In 2009, countries tried to reach such an agreement in Copenhagen. Those negotiations ended in failure, recrimination and six years of hard work to rebuild the foundations of an effective convention. It is fervently hoped that the Paris conference will be the culmination of that fresh start and proof that a truly global solution is possible.

Events leading up to Paris have not made the task look easy. Countries’ promised national climate plans have trickled in slowly so far, and lead-up meetings to refine the negotiating text have not been able to trim it down below 80 pages. But there is one significant difference

from 2009: the near universal urgency of the feeling that something must be done.

The collapse of the Copenhagen conference came down to a deep split between developed and developing countries over the equity of responsibilities that each was asked to take on. Conventional wisdom held that developed countries pump out most of the greenhouse gases, while developing countries soak up most of the impacts. But as economies such as India,

Climate negotiations have been shaped by a logic of rich countries and poor countries, but climate change is actually about people

Brazil and China – now the world’s largest emitter – have taken off, that distinction has failed to hold. Many negotiators will arrive in Paris with the demand that all countries do their share.

However, a promise of US\$100 billion a year from the international community to fund actions by poor countries has only produced \$5.8 billion so far. This so-called Green Climate Fund could get off to a real start in Paris, or it could cede to yet another plan. For Naidoo, this is more than a side deal.

“Without significant increases in support for the people and nations most vulnerable to catastrophic climate change there will be no climate agreement in Paris,” he says. “At a minimum, the roadmap to achieving the \$100 billion in support that was promised six years ago needs to be guaranteed.”

For decades, the politics of climate negotiation have been shaped and constrained by a logic of rich countries and poor countries, but the real story of climate change is about people, today and tomorrow.

“Fairness is an issue which covers all time spans and geographies and peoples,” says Liz Gallagher, who leads the Climate Diplomacy Programme at Third Generation Environmentalism. And residents of rich countries are becoming less confident that they will ride out ▶

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

—by Ottavia Spaggiari

Naomi Klein: “Funders need to take responsibility”

Effect meets Naomi Klein, journalist, activist and bestselling author of No Logo, The Shock Doctrine and her latest book, This Changes Everything, in which she explores why the climate crisis is challenging us to restructure the global economy and reshape our political systems.

At the beginning of July you were invited to the Vatican for a two-day conference on Pope Francis’ “green” encyclical ‘Laudato Si’, where the Pope launched a strong critique of the uncontrolled consumerism and irresponsible development that are damaging the environment. Is the encyclical having the impact you expected?

It is too early to tell. I think there are different spheres of impact and influence. Despite having read various speeches of Pope Francis on climate change and inequality, I was still quite amazed by the document itself, by the depth and the willingness to really get at the heart of the climate crisis in a moral way. It is a more radical and transformative document than anything that has come out of many green NGOs and environmental groups. I think its most lasting and greatest impact is that it is going to push the climate movement to go further and dig deeper, because a lot of the groups have played a little bit too safe. This document has been heavily influenced by social movements in the global South. There has been a series of meetings in the year leading up to the encyclical

publication with coalitions of social movements, like, for example, the workers’ movement in Argentina, and this is why the encyclical has such a strong synthesis in terms of criticising an economic system that produces inequality, and also the ecological crisis.

I think there has already been a huge influence on the social movements, in terms of encouragement. What I heard when I was in Rome from Latin American social movement representatives is that at a time when social movements are finding themselves in conflict with left-wing governments who they thought were their friends, it is enormously significant and empowering to feel that they have the Pope on their side. However, I do not see it having a similar impact in Europe, for instance, and I hope that this will change.

One of the great frustrations of the times we are in is that there’s still a huge amount of compartmentalisation around issues. You have a vigorous anti-austerity movement that almost never talks about climate change, and it’s amazing that the whole Greek crisis could be unfolding and we almost never see the connection made between the brutal austerity policies and the fact that Greece is being pushed to drill for oil and gas in the Ionian and Aegean seas, and the fact that Italy is doing the same, and so are other southern European countries.

This should be a moment of deep convergence between all of the social movements, and this is happening in Latin America.

In North America and Europe, the model of social change separates the economy from the environment, and that is at the heart of the problem.

What role can foundations play in changing this model?

From what I have seen in North America, a lot of this compartmentalisation is a direct reflection of the political agendas of the foundations, who expressively want to fund projects and campaigns they can easily measure, and they are often reticent to fund the cultural work that is needed for change to take place. Foundations need to take some responsibilities for this tendency to compartmentalise issues and movements.

This is holding us back, because many civil society groups got the message that they needed to just be focused on campaigning on their specific issues, and do not have to work on ideas and on shifting values, which is a longer process.

Economics are the tool, but the goal is to change hearts and minds, we have to remember this.

We are not going to get the kind of political change we need unless there is an accompanied cultural and value shift, and today we cannot be ashamed of talking about values.



The Rockefeller Brothers Fund's announcement last year to divest from fossil fuels sparked a great debate on climate change and responsible investment in the philanthropic world. Others have followed but, especially in continental Europe, many foundations still struggle to understand the importance of the divestment movement. Why is there still such reticence?

The argument I hear most often is that various foundations are telling themselves different stories about why their work is so important, that it is legitimate for them to do whatever it takes to raise the money. But I believe that would change if there was a clear sense of how divestment creates a political context for the policy changes that we want and need.

The most important thing we are doing with divestment is not bankrupting the fossil fuels companies, but making a moral argument about those profits. If it is immoral to destroy the planet, it is immoral to profit from it, but I would also add that it is moral for the public to have a much larger share of those profits to pay for the transition away from fossil fuels, to clean up the mess, which was the argument that was made about the tobacco companies. What we need to do a lot better in the divestment movement is to clearly map the trajectory.

The plan is to go from divestment to national and international policies that capture a much larger percentage of the profits from fossil fuels to pay for the transition off the fossil fuels. I think that if that was clearer, it might be something that the foundation world could get behind more. We have to remember that this is not

just about the portfolio.

This is about legitimising profits, and as institutions that have a mandate to act in a way that is in the public good, it is natural for the foundations world to be leaders in tackling climate change.

Divestment is the tool to get to these national and international policies. But we are not going to win this through divestment alone. If you think about the anti-apartheid struggle, divestment was a tool, and sometimes there is more comfort in these actions coming from the private sphere and not engaging with national policies. But we need to do both. We need to do all of it. We need to go on with divestment and work on the policy framework.

What do you expect from the Paris summit? Should we be optimistic?

We need to be very realistic. If we think about where we were at this point before Copenhagen – there were better signs in terms of the willingness of governments in the global South to really fight at the negotiating table.

We had the African bloc pledging that they would walk out of negotiations if they weren't happy with the deal. We had Ecuador and Bolivia both championing the idea of ecological debt. We had really strong negotiators from the G77, strong delegations from the Philippines, but the truth is that what we have seen since Copenhagen is a really concerted effort to pressure governments in the global South to weaken their negotiating decisions.

My hope was that one of the impacts of the encyclical would be that it would strengthen the hand of governments in the global South to

bring back some of those intentions that seem to have weakened. I'm not seeing that yet. To me, the most important part of the Paris summit is that it should be a convergence for social movements. I believe it should be seen as a giant megaphone, a platform for social movements to get out of their boxes and come together to put forward a coherent vision for an economy that tackles inequality, austerity and the ecological crisis at the same time. Moreover there has to be a commitment not to go along with the momentum to present a totally inadequate deal as a victory, because I think there is always that momentum at these events, where everybody comes under a huge amount of pressure to act as if they have had an influence. This is something that funders need to take responsibility for as well.

Funders want to fund success. That is the message that groups get and that creates a false and dangerous incentive for NGOs to claim victory when we do not have victory. We do not have time for that right now.

Funders need to send a very clear message to the groups that they fund, that they do not want a failure packed as a victory, just so that groups can come back and tell foundations that they had an influence.

If this deal results in a huge gap regarding what scientists are telling us that we need to do to keep the increase in temperature below 2°C, we will have to be honest. We all know 2°C isn't safe, and the latest research underlines that we are headed towards 3.5°C with the commitment we have right now. A failure packed as a victory would be a disaster.◊



Rapeseed seen from the air begins to bloom around the trees at Tormarton, near Tetbury, England (above).

◀ the storm. Last year's report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) advised that "climate change impacts are expected to exacerbate poverty in most developing countries and create new poverty pockets in countries with increasing inequality, in both developed and developing countries."

This was a warning that even rich countries could not ignore. "People are starting to understand that climate change is an impact on future growth, not just an issue for the poorest in socie-

In coastal and island regions, rising seas are snatching away agricultural land

ty now," says Gallagher. "This doesn't take focus away from the poorest, but helps amplify what's happening to them in a new lens." This lens of inequality is growing in power. In 2015, the Ford Foundation became the largest donor yet to re-

orient its activities wholly towards the problem of inequality and its prime movers. But how does climate change make the unequal more unequal? In a great many ways, as it turns out.

Extreme weather and drought batter poor households, which are often based in vulnerable places such as floodplains and make a living off the land or water. Facing these risks, poor households invest in safe assets, with little potential for a better future. Diseases such as malaria and diarrhoea proliferate, impairing the cognitive and physical development of the next generation. Increasing food prices, and an influx of new arrivals from the countryside, trap urban wage labourers in poverty. While higher income households can lobby authorities for better policies to protect them, the poor can seldom draw such attention. All the while, discrimination pushes certain groups – such as women, the young and old, ethnic minorities and the disabled – into even more exposed positions.

It is these many individual vulnerabilities that will keep the distinction between rich countries and poor countries alive, says econ- ▶

12
million

migrants are expected to leave their homes every year due to climate change, according to economist Ingmar Schumacher

onomist Ingmar Schumacher. “There is evidence showing that most rich countries have been growing, poor countries have been either getting poorer or stayed at a similar income level, while middle income countries have either converged into the rich or the poor group of countries,” he says. “Climate change, as it most strongly affects poorer countries, has the potential to make middle income countries converge into the poverty trap.” His research has also shown evidence that climate-related inequality is leading to migration, and he predicts roughly 12 million environmental migrants will leave their homes in sub-Saharan Africa every year by the end of this century.

The arena in which these socio-economic disasters play out, more than in any other, will be in the fields of the world’s farmers. Here, the effects of a changing climate will make themselves felt from all directions. In coastal and island regions, rising sea levels are snatching away agricultural land. Everywhere else, drought, heat, disappearing groundwater, floods, storms, insect attacks and disease outbreaks can all result from climate chaos.

Warming temperatures will make some colder regions more suitable for farming, but for the planet as a whole there is not much good news, and researchers predict declines in yield for nearly every major crop. The effects are already being recorded in major farming regions, such as Russia, where wheat yields have fallen 14 per cent, and China, where maize production has dropped by 7 per cent.

A source of early optimism in climate science was the CO2 fertilisation effect: more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere makes many plants grow faster. Yet the hoped for world of supersized plants and lush harvests is fading as other climate impacts take their toll. Worryingly, recent studies are showing that crops grown in a high CO2 atmosphere build up diminished stores of protein, iron and zinc, even when fertiliser is applied, raising the possibility that tomorrow’s food could be less nutritious than today’s. Malnutrition, hunger and food insecurity are what climate change feels like for many of

the world’s people. Along with these comes the pain of spending more money on less food. In countries like Malawi, where the poor spend nearly 78 per cent of their income on food, price shocks are as devastating as a flash flood.

Global agricultural production grew 2.1 per cent per year in the last decade, but is expected to slow to 1.5 per cent in the next one. This will not feed the world. The solution could be to farm more land – but ploughing up more forests and grasslands will only diminish carbon stores and accelerate climate change even more. Real solutions must allow farmers to grow more food, sustainably, on the same land. This strategy, known as yield improvement, has pre-

As the connections between climate, equity and food security grow clearer, foundations are teaming up to address all three

vailed since the 1960s, and without it total human carbon emissions would have been 34 per cent higher. It has to be sustained.

It is not enough to ask whether farmers can adapt: they already are.

Farmers are growing different kinds of crops, changing planting dates, adopting more conservative water and soil management practices, sharing resources and accessing new information networks. The tools exist to keep food on the table. But all farmers need the resources to adopt and perfect these tools. For example, in developing countries only 10–20 per cent of landholders are women, even though more and more agricultural work is being done by women on other people’s land. If women had the same resource access as men, estimates suggest that they could increase their yields by 20–30 per cent and reduce the number of hungry people in the world by 12–17 per cent.

As the connections between climate, equity

and food security grow clearer, foundations are teaming up to address all three together. Foundation Charles Leopold Mayer is targeting this nexus while preparing to welcome partners to its native Paris in December. On food security, says Director Matthieu Calame: “We are supporting policy advocacy at the European level in order to obtain a sustainable food policy and not only an agricultural policy, sustainable local food systems implemented by municipalities and participatory breeding as the best way to maintain and improve the resilience of agriculture.” Meanwhile, the foundation is pushing directly for an equitable climate deal in Paris. It co-founded the COP21 Funders Initiative to support civil society activities surrounding the event, and is planning a conference on food and climate change alongside the negotiations.

Another partnership making a difference at COP21 will be the International Politics and Policies Initiative (IPPI), created by the European Climate Foundation and other partners in 2013.

“IPPI is focused on using the ‘Paris moment’ to increase the scale and pace of change,” says Jennifer Morgan of the World Resource Institute. “We have focused particularly on ensuring that Southern voices are well represented.”

After the conference, “there will be an immediate need to maintain the momentum to keep governments and non-state actors engaged and ensure that they honour and follow up on their commitments,” says Morgan. “Civil society has a very important role to play here.”

Commitment, more than hope, is the favoured outlook for the coming talks.

“Of course, everybody in Paris has in mind the 2009 Copenhagen failure,” says Calame. “Hence it might be wiser not to put all our hopes, energies – and money – in the intergovernmental negotiations. Other stakeholders are worth watching and supporting.” Calame has more faith in networks of local authorities and civil society groups, which are gaining huge momentum. “COP21 could be a tipping point for a climate justice trans-local movement,” he predicts.

Paris, then, is not going to be the end of the search for equitable answers to climate change,



Aerial view taken of French Guiana's Amazonia, one of the world's natural treasures.

but it might be a real beginning. Kumi Naidoo stresses that non-government actors have led every step of the way.

“Civil society and foundations have played a central role in opposing dirty energy and building momentum for the shift to clean energy. Likewise in the fight against deforestation,” he says. “European foundations, I believe, have a particular moral responsibility to show moral courage at this moment and recognise that what is needed now is not simply the question of system maintenance, system protection and system recovery... what is needed is system innovation, system redesign and system transformation.”

This will be true long after 2015 goes into the history books. In Camilla Toulmin’s words to the EFC Annual Conference: “When we wake up on January 1, 2016, there will be plenty to keep us busy, including dealing with all the climate impacts already built into the atmosphere.” Success in Paris will be by degrees – but for climate impacts, every degree matters. “I am confident that we can achieve a deal on climate in Paris in December,” said Toulmin. “It won’t be as good as it needs to be ... but we need that deal.”

2°C

the target limit of global temperature increase

2.1%

the growth of global agricultural production registered in the last decade, but it is expected to slow down to 1.5%

only 10-20%

of landholders are women in developing countries

MAKERS OF SOCIAL GOOD

How the high-tech DIY community is fostering a new wave of socially good artisans

—by Sam Burne James

A journalist based in London, he has worked for Third Sector, specialising in social impact journalism. He now works as an editor at PR Week News.

In garages, classrooms and community spaces across the world, a quiet revolution is taking place: the Maker Movement. From individuals working on hobbies to entrepreneurs with growing businesses, Makers are a tech-influenced DIY community who create, hack and tinker. The movement is already sizeable; in 2014, 131 Maker Faires – the bulk in North America and Western Europe – were organised by the US company Maker Media, with the largest held near San Francisco over two days, attracting more than 130,000 visitors.

‘Quiet revolution’ is now rather a misnomer, and not just because the soundtrack to Makers’ work is the hammering of tools and whirring of machines.

The Maker Movement is increasingly global and high-profile, and many Makers are turning to social problems – and more importantly, solutions. One of them is Karsten Fuhst, who attended his first Maker Faire in Hanover, Germany, in 2013, and came across a presentation on

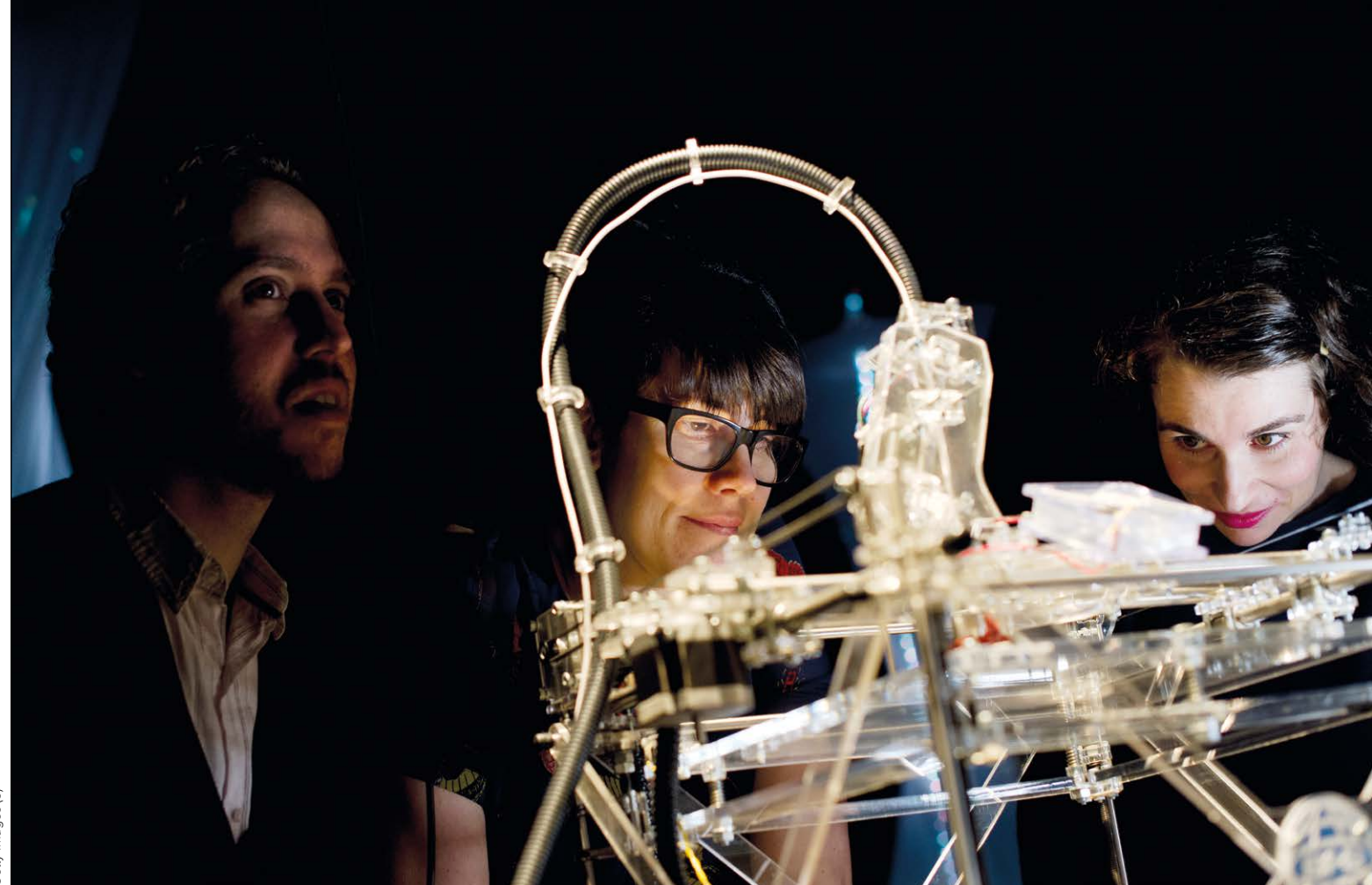
‘How to change the world with vacuum cleaners’.

“That sounded so strange, that I had to listen,” Fuhst says. What he heard was Professor Wolfgang Pittroff, of Mekelle University in Ethiopia, describe his institution’s struggle to afford books. If they could digitise textbooks and provide them to students on tablets, this would be much cheaper, the professor said. Pittroff told the audience about the Linear Book Scanner, an open source design by Dany Qumsiyeh, an American Maker, which used a vacuum cleaner to pull pages through one by one – hence the talk’s title – and he asked for help in creating something similar.

Fuhst decided he wanted to help, and mobilised colleagues at the oilfield services firm where he works. Together, they formed the non-profit organisation *Mäqadat*, which means ‘to copy’ in Ethiopia’s Amharic language.

Fuhst and his team have now adapted Qumsiyeh’s design.

“The scanners should be possible to build in



Getty Images (3)

Designers look at a 3D printer during a photocall for Insects au Gratin at The Wellcome Collection in London (above).

Ethiopia with as few machines as possible, by personnel who are not Makers, and be easy to maintain,” Fuhst says. The team will showcase its latest prototype at October’s Maker Faire Berlin. “Hopefully that will be almost the final version for Ethiopia,” says Fuhst.

Alongside Faires, another key breeding ground for Maker ideas is universities. Fabio D’Agnano, who is responsible for the educational projects section of the Rome Maker Faire, is a professor at Venice’s IUAV University. In 2012, he was supervising the thesis of Serena Ruffato.

“She was working on 3D scanning and printing of architectural designs to make tactile models for the blind, and at the point of adding information to the models, D’Agnano suggested she put digital, touch and audio technologies all together,” explains Gilda Lombardi, who together with D’Agnano and Ruffato, is the third member of staff at Tooteko, the company named after the technology they invented that resulted from the thesis. What the trio created was a sys-

tem that involves three elements: a 3D-printed tactile surface tagged with near field communication (NFC) sensors, a high-tech ring that detects and reads those sensors and an app for tablet or smartphone that interprets and explains them. The Italian designers are currently work-

Makers are a tech-influenced Do It Yourself community who create, hack and tinker

ing with Antenna International, the world’s largest provider of museum audio guides, to apply the Tooteko system to the Ara Pacis, an ancient Roman altar in Italy’s capital.

“Our goal is to make art venues accessible to blind people. Visitors will be able to touch the Ara Pacis figures on the frieze and hear them ▶



A professor of the University of Tokyo, displays an artificial ear, made using a 3D printer (left).

A student of Industrial Design 3D printed prosthesis (right).



and shared for free to continue the cause,” he says. In the meantime, Angeles has also been making contact with other organisations, and plans to start a charity to support people with amniotic band syndrome, which causes many of the limb defects that e-NABLE treats.

With the growth in 3D printing, one Indian Maker spotted an opportunity to both provide the filament – the raw material that is put into the machine – and help the needy. Sidhant Pai graduated from the famous Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2014 with a degree in environmental engineering. In 2012, he and his father Jayant, who had recently become interested in 3D printing as a hobby, founded Proto-print. Across India, there are well over 1 million ‘waste pickers’ – sometimes referred to as ‘rag pickers’, a term Pai dislikes. These are people who grind out a living finding what they can in rubbish dumps. “I feel that a lot of people know about the waste picker community but very few people really understand their lives,” says Pai. “I was really interested in how we could find some way with low-cost technology to improve their lives.” The Pais created a machine to produce filament for 3D printers, made using recycled plastics collected by around 40 local pickers. “The whole first 15 months of this project were reasonably bad. We moved relatively slowly, the machines we got did the job, but the result was

Many of the makers tackling social issues are in the area of disability and adaptive technology

relatively poor,” Pai says, though he adds that the product has since improved significantly – good news both for clients and for Protoprint’s impoverished suppliers. “Our real goal is to empower the waste pickers,” he says.

Many of the Makers whose work tackles social issues are in the area of disability and adaptive technology. There is also the US-based Open Wheelchair Foundation, which is developing open source designs for 3D-printed elec-

◀ tell their stories,” says Lombardi. The company will next look at how Tooteko can be applied in the areas of pharmaceuticals, ‘edutainment’ and board games, she adds.

A key technology for Makers, 3D printing is also at the heart of e-Nable, a web-based project that has been mobilising volunteers across the world. In 2013, Jon Schull, a research scientist at New York state’s Rochester Institute of Technology, saw a YouTube video describing how a South African carpenter and a US film prop maker had collaborated to make a 3D-printed prosthetic hand for the carpenter, who had lost his fingers in a recent accident. Schull saw the potential, and started the online network e-NABLE to bring other potential designers and fabricators of prostheses together, and match them with the people needing them. The result is often cheaper and quicker than mainstream prosthetics, and many users report preferring the Maker-produced versions.

Raymundo Angeles, one of two founders of 3D printing company Tridinauta in Monterrey, Mexico’s third largest city, put the company on e-NABLE’s map last year.

“We loved the fact they used their knowledge in design, engineering and 3D printing to such a great cause,” Angeles says. After first signing up last year, Tridinauta recently printed its first hand for a local nine-year-old boy – one of more than 1,500 created via e-Nable. Angeles is working on an improved design as part of a Master’s degree.

“After this work is completed, in around December this year, the model will be uploaded

tric wheelchairs that should cost a fraction of the cost the chairs would command on the open market. In the UK, a wheelchair-dependent Maker called Philip Case, also known by the alias Cap, is creating a very special wheelchair, one powered by brainwaves, using cutting-edge Arduino technology.

While many Maker projects are very high-tech, others focus much more on traditional skills that have been forgotten in recent years, or indeed simply on participation and involvement. Knowing that the movement develops skills as well as products, governments are tracking its progress; as early as 2013 it was reported by the *Wall Street Journal* that the Chinese government had announced it would emulate the Makerspaces – communal workspaces used by Makers now spreading across the globe – by creating “100 government-supported innovation houses”.

While some Makers identify with labels such as ‘Makers for good’, this represents a misunderstanding of the movement, according to one

influential figure.

He is Dale Dougherty, the founder of Maker Media, which as well as organising Maker Faires, publishes *Make Magazine*, which has been described by the BBC as “the *Das Kapital* of the Maker Movement”. Dougherty says: “I hear the phrase ‘Makers for good, but it sort of irritates me that people try to frame it and say that you’ve got to actually go out to do good. If Makers are doing something that they are interested in and that improves their lives, then it probably is good.”

As a young and dynamic community, it is easy to see why the Maker Movement would reject such labels and classifications, although it is clear that there is a lot of social value in the movement. Dougherty believes that for Makers, doing good is the norm, not the exception.

“There’s nothing wrong with doing something not for a specific assigned social reason,” he says. “Good things come out of people doing things that matter to them.” ♦

BEST PRACTICES



-Who-

The **Green Alliance for Gender Action (GAGA)** is a coalition between the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, international women's fund Mama Cash, the Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres and Dutch NGO Both ENDS. (mamacash.org) (fcmujeres.org) (bothends.org)

-What-

GAGA aims to unite and strengthen the capabilities of grassroots organisations and use the momentum generated by collective power to lobby and advocate for women's rights to water, food security and a clean, healthy and safe environment.

-When-

The Dialogue and Dissent **2016-2020** strategic partnership framework has awarded GAGA an annual €6.4 million for **5 years**.



Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres

—Joining forces for women's rights

Bringing together environmental justice and gender equality, the Green Alliance for Gender Action advocates for women's rights to water, food security and a clean, healthy and safe environment

by *Vita Sgardello*

A member of one of FCAM's grantees in Guatemala (above). Nicky McIntyre, Mama Cash's Executive Director (bottom right).

Collaboration of a patient, purpose driven kind lies at the heart of an ambitious partnership that aims to unite and strengthen the capabilities of grassroots organisations and use the momentum generated by collective power to lobby and advocate for women's rights to water, food security and a clean, healthy and safe environment.

The Green Alliance for Gender Action (GAGA) is a coalition between the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, international women's fund Mama Cash, the Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres and Dutch NGO Both ENDS.

"This partnership came about for a combination of reasons, starting with the opportunity provided by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs," explains Nicky McIntyre, Mama Cash's inspiring executive director.

The Dialogue and Dissent 2016-2020 strategic partnership framework provides support to civil society organisations in developing countries to build their lobbying and advocacy capacities and has awarded GAGA an annual €6.4 million for five years. All three organisations have a longstanding track record of excellence and a focus on grassroots advocacy. Mama Cash is the oldest international women's fund supporting women's rights initiatives around the globe, while the Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres is a feminist foundation dedicated to mobilising resources to strengthen and defend women's human rights in Central America and Both ENDS works to strengthen grassroots environmental and poverty-related organisations in developing countries.

"We realised that the environmental justice movement and the women's rights movement were often coming at the same issues with similar goals, but were not working together, so we decided to join forces," says McIntyre.

After all, it is women who often bear the brunt of environmental change.

"Religious and cultural norms can have very



Daan Stringer



Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mama Cash Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres
Both ENDS



GAGA



IMPACT

Support, Capacity building, Access to funding to women in developing countries

"The environmental justice movement and the women's rights movement were often coming at the same issues with similar goals, but were not working together"

practical implications that make women more vulnerable to natural disasters – for example they may not be able to move freely in their clothes, or know how to swim. Deforestation means women have to walk farther to find fuel and big energy projects are displacing hundreds of thousands of people across the world," says McIntyre.

At the local, grassroots level it is often women who are leading the battle to bring these issues under the spotlight, even when it means going against cultural or social norms and putting themselves at risk of physical or sexual abuse and violence.

When it comes to policymaking, however, their voices seldom emerge. Which is where GAGA will step in, providing support, capacity building and, crucially, access to funding.

"It is really about honouring the leadership of women and bridging local spaces with national and global ones. It means enabling them to speak for themselves and articulate their own solutions. Once they are in these spaces, their voices can be heard without need for intermediaries, which makes it easier to get policy wins, to mobilise a constituency and make policy changes that stick," explains McIntyre.

A special feature of GAGA is the fact that the lead partner for the project, the Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres, is an organisation from the global South.

"An important statement and something we are immensely happy and proud of," says McIntyre. Working together, however, even with the same goals in mind, is not always easy.

"Partnership is a slow process of building a shared vocabulary and knowledge," she says. "We have learned not to be impatient, to spend time and money on bringing people together face to face and in the end it is a very rewarding process." ♦

BEST PRACTICES



-Who-

The MED Confederation was created by **eight founding members**: “la Caixa” Foundation, the World Savings and Retail Banking Institute, the European Institute of the Mediterranean, the Institut de Prospective Économique du Monde Méditerranéen, the Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations, the Caisse de Dépôt et de Gestion, the Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey (TEPAV) and Al Barid Bank.

-What-

The **MED Confederation** is a group committed to identifying and building on the strengths and common goals of Mediterranean countries. (medconfederation.org)

-When-

Since **2013**, the MED Confederation has been working to develop networks, projects and exchanges of best practices in the socio-economic arena.

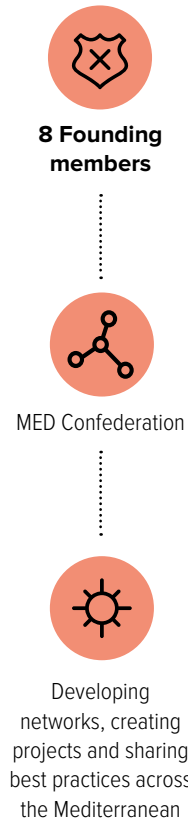
— Boosting the Mediterranean

Launched by eight founding members, the MED Confederation develops networks, projects and exchanges of best practices between northern and southern shores of the Mediterranean, to tackle the region’s social and economic challenges

by Candice Keller

Throughout the Mediterranean, one alliance is taking major steps to strengthen socio-economic practices of private institutions and drive discussion around public policy reform. This is the MED Confederation, a group committed to identifying and building on the strengths and common goals of Mediterranean countries. Since 2013, the MED Confederation has been working to create networks, projects and exchanges of best practices in the socio-economic arena. This has involved developing cooperation and shared resources, social progress and cultural exchange, all in the name of sustainability. MED Confederation president Jaloul Ayed believes that now is the perfect time for the alliance to grow and lead by example.

“The need has never been greater for a common organisation that unites the wide variety of associations in the Mediterranean region and helps them to work better by working together,” he says. “We believe that the Mediterranean region has not yet reached its full potential in bridging the gap that exists between northern and southern shores. Filling such a gap will best be carried out by the active involvement of the leading institutions on both shores of the Mediterranean.” The MED Confederation was created by eight founding members: “la Caixa” Foundation, the World Savings and Retail Banking Institute, the European Institute of the Mediterranean (Spain), the Institut de Prospective Économique du Monde Méditerranéen (France), the Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations (Tuni-



Board members of the founding institutions of the MED Confederation at the launch conference at CaixaForum in Barcelona.



sia), the Caisse de Dépôt et de Gestion (Morocco), the Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey (TEPAV) and Al Barid Bank (Morocco).

“The more members we can attract, the greater will be the shared benefits,” says Ayed. “On-

“The need has never been greater for a common organisation that unites the wide variety of associations in the Mediterranean”

ly then can we hope to expand the knowledge base, share experiences, and draw best practices, approaches and methodologies characterising such organisations.” Examples of projects implemented by the MED Confederation include the Social and Labour Integration plan, founded by the “la Caixa” Foundation. This facilitates employment opportunities among the disabled, youth, abused women, ex-convicts, over-45s and the long-term unemployed. Through the programme, the “la Caixa” Foundation works with local companies, associations and social organisations to create new sustainable jobs and documents this practice to share with other Mediterranean organisations. Another project is the Young Professionals Exchange which builds

gateways for skilled youth to transfer knowledge from the north to the southern Mediterranean through work placements. The alliance strategy is to first identify best practices within the founding members and strategic partners, and then draw on research and experiences from further afield.

“We are working out ways to help young graduates from both shores of the Mediterranean to identify on-the-job training opportunities with organisations and corporations in the region,” says Ayed. “The ultimate objective of the MED Confederation is to provide value added exposure, pertinent knowledge and successfully transfer this to its members, so that it can be useful for their own operations, and to support them in contributing to policy formulation in their respective countries.”

The exchange takes place in various formats: via roundtables and conferences, online hookups and through sharing documentation. The focus is more on education and empowerment than on financial backing. All endeavours initiated or carried out by the confederation include a high level of research at the outset. This will help the group to build a potent and useful body of work that will benefit members moving forward, says its president. ♦



Cultural accessibility: when sharing is power

Elizabeth Franchini — Programme Officer, Fondazione Banca del Monte di Lucca

The EFC's League of Accessible and Historical Cities has been key in promoting accessibility in Europe, but foundations can still make a valuable contribution

The League of Accessible and Historical Cities (LHAC) was launched in 2010 as a network of 11 foundations working with six cities in Europe. Today, it offers solid proof that improving the accessibility of historical cities and protecting historical heritage is possible. Matching the rights of people with the rights of bricks and mortar is no easy task. The League started as a pilot project with the modest and concrete idea of creating 1 km of accessible routes around selected historical cities. Four years later, a total of almost 12.6 km of accessible routes had been created. As a result of the LHAC project, an accessible trip around Europe is now

possible, but much more still needs to be done. The journey towards full accessibility is still in progress.

That is why, inspired by article 30 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) – which states that culture and historic heritage should be made accessible to everyone – some foundations participating in the first pilot project of LHAC decided to take a step further towards cultural accessibility. In Europe and beyond, most new museums financed by public and private funding pay little attention to accessibility beyond physical access. Nevertheless, independent of their funding priorities, a number of foundations have already set up specific programmes to promote access to cultural heritage. That is because foundations often own or run one or more museums. However, cultural accessibility remains a matter of deep discrimination for the 80 million people with disabilities. The situation is even worse regarding access

to exhibitions for people with sensory or learning disabilities. Participation in the museum experience, as well as encountering the collection, are the main reason that most people enter a museum. This is also the reason why museums and other cultural attractions, whether small or large, should pay more attention to the accessibility of their collections, programmes and services, besides the physical accessibility of the building. In this context, staff training plays a pivotal role, since it should teach museum staff how to deal with visitors with different types of needs. For the foundation sector, communicating about existing innovative solutions implemented in different countries, and tackling different aspects of museums accessibility, sharing knowledge and showcasing good practices which are cost-effective and replicable, are key to highlighting what works, advocating for change and promoting sustainable and lasting solutions. The potential of the philanthropic sector to improve cultural accessibility is huge, and many foundations have already started to work on it. But it is only by working together, and sharing knowledge and experiences, that significant and effective changes can come about. Increasing accessibility for people with disabilities is an act of equality for everyone. ♦

CALL FOR INTEREST

Are you working in the field of culture and museums?
Are you interested in sharing experience and knowledge amongst peers on culture and museum accessibility? Please get in touch with Silvia Balmas, Disability Thematic Network Coordinator at sbalmas@efc.be



Community philanthropy responds to an emergency

Jenny Hodgson — Executive Director of the Global Fund for Community Foundations

In the aftermath of an earthquake, Tewa, the Nepal Women's Fund responded to the emergency, proving that community philanthropy can be a precious resource for disaster relief

The Global Fund for Community Foundations (GFCF) has had a partnership with Tewa, the Nepal Women's Fund, since 2011, when we co-hosted our first meeting on community philanthropy in Asia at their centre overlooking rice fields on the edges of Kathmandu. Tewa itself is a model of community philanthropy that subverts the “norms” of decades of international development aid and the kinds of dependency that it can often produce. Since it was established almost 20 years ago, Tewa has built up a network of over 3,000 individual Nepali donors, who give regular amounts to support its work with grassroots women's organisations across the country. When an earthquake hit Nepal on April 25, 2015, Tewa found itself at the epicentre of the crisis. Only 5 months before, we had convened a group of community philanthropy organisations from all over the world to explore their work on the environment and climate change. Staff from Tewa had described their work with women's groups who were learning to adapt their systems for growing food due to changes in the seasons. Disaster response was not part of Tewa's experience or expertise. And yet when the disaster struck, Tewa's staff and board

were quick to respond, mobilising their networks, delivering much needed supplies and reaching out to partners in different parts of the country which were badly affected. They also focused on getting help to pregnant and post-natal women and their babies. At the GFCF, our initial feelings of horror and helplessness were quickly displaced by the realisation that we had a role to play in ensuring that Tewa had the resources it needed to respond quickly. A donation platform was established on Just-Giving.com and shared through EFC's networks. This resulted in more than 120 people donating some US\$20,000. Other foundation partners approached us promptly too, to ask if we had partners in Nepal who had the capacity to receive and disburse larger amounts. In a recent message, Tewa's founder, Rita Thapa, announced that it had received over \$600,000 for its relief efforts. It has been, perhaps, the ultimate, unwanted test for Tewa. But as local disasters and emergencies become more and more frequent because of climate change, local philanthropic institutions like Tewa, that build assets, capacities and trust, will be called upon more than ever. Let's help to strengthen them sooner rather than later! ♦

3,000

Nepali donors are part of the network developed by Tewa in its 20 years of activity

\$ 600,000

the amount received by Tewa for its relief effort, as announced by its founder, Rita Thapa

ID CARD

Foundation website	tewa.org.np
Network of donors	3,000
Partnership between GFCF and Tewa	Since 2011

Q&A

Debating the latest philanthropy issues with the sector's experts



How can a foundation promote European citizenship?

Luc Luyten

Chairman, Evens Foundation

The importance of a united Europe, and the idea of European citizenship, are deeply rooted in the identity of the Evens Foundation. Our mission is to develop and support projects to encourage people, and ultimately nations, to live together harmoniously in Europe. This mission is, of course, extremely broad, but we are a small foundation and we try to focus on feasible things, investing in initiatives that can have a real, visible impact. We have identified two main areas of work: peace education and the media programme. As a matter of fact, because conflicts arise all the time, peace really depends on people's ability to manage them. For this reason, this programme helps children, young people and adults to think critically and become agents in a culture of peace within their families, schools,

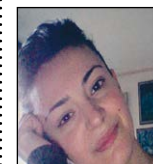
MEDIA LITERACY

should help citizens to recognise how the media filter their perceptions and beliefs, shape popular culture and influence personal choices

social networks and communities. The second area revolves around media literacy, as this is of crucial importance for our democracy. According to the European Commission, media literacy "should help citizens to recognise how the media filter their perceptions and beliefs, shape popular culture and influence personal choices." The Evens Foundation supports projects that develop critical understanding of the media and promote active participation in it. We have also created a third programme, which is called the European Citizenship Programme, and includes other initiatives. For example, we have an Arts Prize, which supports art projects that help us rethink contemporary European realities and encourage reflection on European values. A great challenge in working to promote European

citizenship today is the fact that much discussion in the political arena and the media is about financial issues, while Europe is really about the people who live here. Our foundation was founded by the late Irène Evens-Radzyńska and Georges Evens, philanthropists and European enthusiasts. Mr Evens, who was Jewish and born in Poland, was forced to leave his country during the Second World War, to flee Nazi persecution. He then resettled in Antwerp, where he started what became a successful diamond business, but he never forgot the war. Too often today, we tend to see only the technicalities and the bureaucratic burdens of the Union, taking for granted what Europe has given us: peace. This, after all, was the aim of the European project.

As a foundation, we have the chance to support and encourage this project: we are not dependent on governments; we have the freedom to focus on European citizenship, working on the values on which Europe was created.◊



On the Bride's Side: can foundations support crowdfunding as a funding method?

Cristina Perillo

Programme Manager, lettera27

On the Bride's Side is a documentary born of a political idea shared by an independent journalist, an Italian film director and a Palestinian poet and journalist. They left Milan in the autumn of 2013 on a journey that took them across Europe. Their mission: to help five Palestinian and Syrian refugees reach Sweden, faking a wedding party to avoid detention and arrest.

When Gabriele Del Grande, a journalist, a longstanding friend of lettera27 and one of the three authors of *On the Bride's Side*, told us about his film project we immediately realised the potential. As we watched the rough cut of the documentary, which was still without soundtrack, despite some lingering doubts over the script and the narrative tone, the strong political, collective and social identity of the project was very clear to us.

At that time, the possibility of a crowdfunding campaign was already being considered by the three authors. So without hesitation, we suggested supporting the campaign, rather than the production of the documentary by covering the campaign's implementation costs and selecting the professional figures who were missing in order to ensure a successful crowdfunding effort. At that point, a direct financial contribution to the documentary production seemed like a missed opportunity to us, more than an opportunity to give our support. Why? With *On the Bride's*

Side, we have experimented with an innovative funding method for the Foundation. This has allowed us to multiply our funding capacity, which would have never been able to cover the entire costs of the production process and marketing campaign. Crowdfunding, on the other hand, gave us the opportunity to sustain all the costs of promotion for the documentary. We should add that, in line with *On the Bride's Side's* philosophy – which meant having no sponsors or media support – the campaign managed to create a wide network of bottom-up producers, who decided to take an active part in supporting the project.

Indeed, the documentary was created, grew and took shape thanks to the spontaneous action of ordinary citizens, a large number of individuals, united by political and social ideals.

In terms of dissemination and the capacity to build awareness and create a critical debate around the topic of national borders and freedom of movement, the campaign enabled the documentary to become a viral tool, even before it was completed and distributed.

The message of *On the Bride's Side* was so strong that it managed to go beyond the existing community, that had been built up over the previous years thanks to the work of Gabriele Del Grande and his blog Fortress Europe which presents the stories of migrants crossing the Mediterranean, and that currently has more

than 15,000 followers.

The organic nature of the project and of the campaign immediately captured the audience, promoting active participation. Within just one month, the crowdfunding campaign *On the Bride's Side* and #onthebridesside campaign were working jointly within the scope of a much more ambitious project that people could spontaneously join through hashtags and selfies, as well as through the creation of fund-raising events throughout the whole of Italy.

The initial objective of the crowdfunding campaign was to cover the costs the three filmmakers had sustained in financing the project: €75,000.

The campaign raised €98,150, reaching 131 per cent of the initial target, thanks to 2,617 donors and not just to lettera27 and a couple of other producers and sponsors. This could never have happened if we had not chosen to fund the campaign costs.

On the Bride's Side also participated in the 71st edition of the International Venice Film Festival in the Horizons section; the participation of 2,617 bottom-up producers went beyond the limits of social media, physically manifesting itself in a wedding party staged on the red carpet laid out to honour the film's screening, that was greeted by a 17-minute standing ovation.

In addition, almost 40,000 single visits to the website were generated from 13,000 links spread across the Web, creating a reach that otherwise would have been impossible.

On the Bride's Side is the first Italian crowdfunding campaign in the world to have exceeded its original goal, and is the first case of a foundation funding aimed specifically at audience engagement through the crowdfunding mechanism, thereby creating a precedent that we hope will be useful as a model for future projects.◊



How can we address inequality?

Darren Walker
President of the Ford Foundation

Inequality is the greatest threat to justice. Around the world we see the by-product of systems and structures – intentional policies and ingrained prejudices – that have tilted the scales in favour of some, while limiting opportunity for many others. And it is a crisis that extends far beyond the wealth gap alone. At the Ford Foundation, we are committing our resources and grantmaking to addressing inequality that is political, social and cultural in nature. We know all too well how inequality contributes to deficits in democracy and discrimination along racial, ethnic and gender lines. We see it reflected in rising extremism, acute poverty, and even in the consequences of climate change. While inequality manifests itself in these various forms, the underlying forces that increase it are remarkably constant. We have identified five such drivers of inequality. First is the pervasiveness of short-term thinking in markets, which has huge

long-term costs for our environment, health and the potential for shared prosperity. Second, in nearly every country, a small number of individuals and groups wield disproportionate power to shape public policies, while most people have far more limited access to influence. This imbalance undermines the promise of democracy and leads to a breakdown in social cohesion, as people grow more distrustful of government. These first two factors contribute to a third: broken social contracts among workers and businesses, citizens and governments. We lack investment in public goods and infrastructure, while key natural resources are auctioned off for private benefit. Fourth: discrimination. Women, indigenous people, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer or questioning (LGBTQ), the poor, and racial and ethnic minorities lack equal status and full rights. This discrimination is embedded

in our cultures and institutions, and it perpetuates biased policies. And, finally, we see dominant cultural narratives that undermine fairness, tolerance and inclusion, while reinforcing stereotypes and normalising discrimination. In the light of all this, we – collectively – need to think and act more holistically and systematically. We cannot focus solely on the economic piece of the puzzle, or look at racial or educational inequality in isolation. Doing so treats symptoms while ignoring the disease. For our part, the Ford Foundation is re-organising itself so that every one of our efforts will be mutually reinforcing, and focused at the intersection of these five issues. But we also know that we cannot, and will not, dismantle inequality alone. Ultimately, it will take all of us, working together – across boundaries of geography, expertise, differences and belief – to uproot inequality and plant new seeds of justice, once and for all. ♦



What role can foundations play in shaping policies?

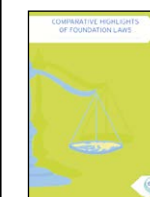
Rien Van Gendt
Director at Van Gendt Philanthropy Services

Foundations' desire to be more involved in policymaking is an interesting subject that can be translated into two different approaches: a will to cooperate with governments on the one hand, and forcing governments to take a certain direction on the other. An example of the first approach is the work that has been done with the Weekend School in the Netherlands, a private initiative that offers supplementary education to children aged 12 to 15 from underprivileged neighbourhoods. Thanks to the Weekend School, these children meet professionals from different fields, who introduce them to various disciplines, from science to arts to cultural studies. The programme has proved extremely successful. Children who attended the Weekend School did much better academically than the control group who did not. Given the excellent results, we asked the government to apply the Weekend School approach to the public school system, lifting regulations which acted as a barrier to experimentation of this model. At a certain point, even the Minister of Education became a teacher in the Weekend School and he saw the advantages of this partnership first-hand, making it easier to open a fruitful collaboration with the government. However, there are cases where the relationship with the government is much more confrontational. A good example of this is the initiative launched by the Start Foundation to allow access to internships to asylum seekers' children. According to the Dutch government, the children of asylum seekers had the right to education but because they are not legally allowed to work, they could not have access to an internship in a company. The result was serious incoherence in terms of government policy. For this reason, the Start Foundation created a special fund to pay the legal fees of those companies that decided to accept the children of asylum seekers as interns. This raised a great deal of debate at the political level; the case was brought to court and was won by the foundation. The government had to change its regulations and now children of asylum seekers have access to internships. This was a clear case of a foundation forcing the government to overcome its inconsistencies and ultimately tackle inequality. Being policy-relevant is a matter of wanting to work together, but as legitimate as it is to work together, it is for the foundations to refuse collaboration when they feel it is inappropriate and to use their power to force governments to do their job properly. After all, the most precious asset that foundations have is their independence. ♦

✓GOOD READS



Philanthropic Support to Address HIV/AIDS in 2013
– *Funders Concerned About AIDS (FCAA)*
FCAA has been monitoring the field of HIV/AIDS philanthropy for more than a decade. This report aims to inform stakeholders about the overall distribution and trends of global AIDS philanthropy.



Comparative Highlights of Foundation Laws : The Operating Environment for Foundations in Europe
– *European Foundation Centre*
This publication provides a comparative overview of the diverse legal and fiscal environments of foundations in 40 countries across wider Europe.



A Fair Deal on Talent – Fostering Just Migration Governance
– *Bertelsmann Stiftung (ed.)*
An overview of the key challenges and opportunities associated with fair migration, outlining the good practices of a variety of countries and institutions.



Palgrave Handbook of Global Philanthropy
– *Pamala Wiepking, Femida Handy*
Drawing on insights from sociology, economics, political science and psychology, this publication provides a global overview of the non-profit sector that covers 26 nations and regions.

Alliance
September 2015
Special feature
– **A changing landscape: philanthropy the world over**



This bumper special feature attempts to conduct a stocktake of the wealth of philanthropic traditions around the world. The first group of articles looks at how different types of philanthropy are developing in different regions, while the second group focuses on the changing regulatory and policy environment for philanthropy – particularly timely in view of what seems to be a closing space for civil society in so many countries. However, positive changes are occurring alongside negative ones. For example, in Egypt and Russia it is becoming easier to form endowments, while barriers to foreign funding are increasingly draconian. Also in this issue: Doug Miller, founder of EVPA and AVPN, assesses the progress of venture philanthropy in Asia, and Manuka Henare looks at Maori gift exchange traditions.

Philanthropy open to the next generation

The Next Generation programme has brought together experienced and newer foundation staff members to discuss how youth can drive change

—by Gavin Lonergan (Adsum Foundation), João de Almeida Pedro (Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian), Mara De Monte (Fondation Lombard Odier), Marjolein Cremer (European Cultural Foundation)



Participants during a group exercise (above).

The Next Generation programme, part of EFC's professional development activities, is an exciting initiative aimed at easing the next generation of foundation professionals into the world of philanthropy. Fully integrated in its Annual General Assembly and Conference (AGA) each year, Milan 2015 was, as always, a precious opportunity for all its participants. This network of newcomers to the philanthropy sector discussed their roles inside organisations, the future of the sector and potential collaboration, alongside at-

tending seminars and plenaries with delegates from across the foundation world. Building on a tradition that began three years ago in Copenhagen, Next Gen alumni organised and moderated an interactive session that gave experienced and not so experienced members the opportunity to discuss issues of the day. The general consensus was that both sides gained a great deal from the session. This year's topic centred on the observation that many foundations identify young people as agents of change and key players who can open the door to engage and

bring about systemic change. Yet there are many questions that remain unanswered as to how this can best be done. Focusing on the role of Youth Driving Change, a theme of the conference, participants were first invited to reflect on the years of experience they have had in this sector. As part of a fun approach, participants were asked to name the song that was playing on the radio when they first started working in philanthropy. This helped people to reflect on today's integration of new members into what is often seen as a closed world, before moving on to discuss whether philanthropy professionals are doing enough to access youth as agents of change in society.

The session mirrored general lessons learned at the conference, including the importance of partnerships, proactivity and the sharing of mistakes made. It showed how important it is to approach problems in an inter-generational way, both internally and externally. Discussion groups at the session combined the experience of those who have been in the sector for a number of years, with the enthusiasm of youth and those entering the field for the first time. The conclusion was that everyone shares collective responsibility, and by approaching issues together, the solutions reached will have covered all angles. Many participants expressed the opinion that EFC is an excellent platform for this purpose, and it was hoped that future AGAs would include more interactive sessions, and cross-generational panels. A key message was that today's youth will soon be the next generation's experienced participants, as was the case for the generation before. So finding a way to listen and work together is crucial in a fast developing world. ♦

→EFC Network Meetings

— Grantmakers East Forum 2015: **Creating Equal Opportunities: Overcoming Divides**
30 September - 2 October
Istanbul, Turkey

— EFC European Foundations for **Sustainable Agriculture and Food Conference**
13-14 October
Milan, Italy

— **Diversity, Migration and Integration Thematic Network Meeting**
20-21 October
London, UK

— EFC Research Forum and **Science|Business: the Brussels Insiders' Guide – What can Brussels do for you?**
27 October
Brussels, Belgium

— **Funders Forum on Sustainable Cities Annual Conference**
17-18 November
New York City, United States

— **European Environmental Funders Group 5th Annual meeting**
17-18 November
Brussels, Belgium

— **Annual Conference on Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2015: Focus on Employment**
10-11 December
Trier, Germany

BEYOND THE COMMUNITY

The Center for Global Prosperity has carried out the Index of Philanthropic Freedom

Sixty-four countries were selected to represent all regions of the world as part of the Index of Philanthropic Freedom 2015. Carried out by the Center for Global Prosperity (CGP), the Index analysed the legal barriers and incentives necessary for philanthropy to flourish and strengthen civil societies. In many of the countries surveyed, philanthropic freedom has been impeded by the increasing prevalence of foreign exchange regulations and capital controls. For the most part, these regulations are designed to help nations manage their currency and prevent capital flight. However, they can interfere with the transmission of funds between donors and recipients. According to the Index, for example, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Egypt, Georgia, India, Myanmar, Pakistan, Russia, South Africa and Venezuela all have currency control systems affecting philanthropic activity. Among the most common policies impeding philanthropic freedom is Illicit Financial Flows (IFF) legislation. Although IFF has generally been adopted to prevent illegal actors from accessing financing, it has also prevented philanthropic actors in less developed countries from using the full range of available resources.

Research has identified an increasingly sceptical treatment of foreign donations made to local civil society organisations, which seems principally motivated by a desire to minimise the influence of the human rights community and political reformers. For example, Russia's recent enforcement of the "Foreign Agent Law" states that non-commercial organisations that receive funds or other assets from foreign entities must register as foreign agents, a status that can effectively compromise their ability to act in the public sphere. According to the Index, this law has been used to impede election monitors, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer or questioning (LGBTQ) groups, other human rights organisations and anti-corruption initiatives. Russia is not the only country to adopt such measures, and comparable laws have been passed, or are being actively considered, in Azerbaijan, the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan. Finally, the report suggests that the link between economic development and philanthropic freedom is not as strong as might be expected. While the developed states of Western Europe and North America and the Pacific perform exceptionally well, of countries with per capita incomes of less than US\$25,000, 36 per cent had philanthropic freedom scores in the top half of the study.

The Index suggests that philanthropic freedom is largely influenced by deliberate choices made by policymakers – choices that are not necessarily dependent on a country's level of development.



Euro Philantopics

2015

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What is trust’s role in catalysing social justice, its impact on young people and Islamic radicalisation, and the potential of new financial instruments as a means to increase trust between investors, civil society and government?

10 November 2015

BOZAR Centre for Fine Arts, Brussels, Belgium

For more information visit:

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A dialogue between philanthropy actors and EU policymakers on potential synergies and collaborations to develop better and more lasting social change and impact

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