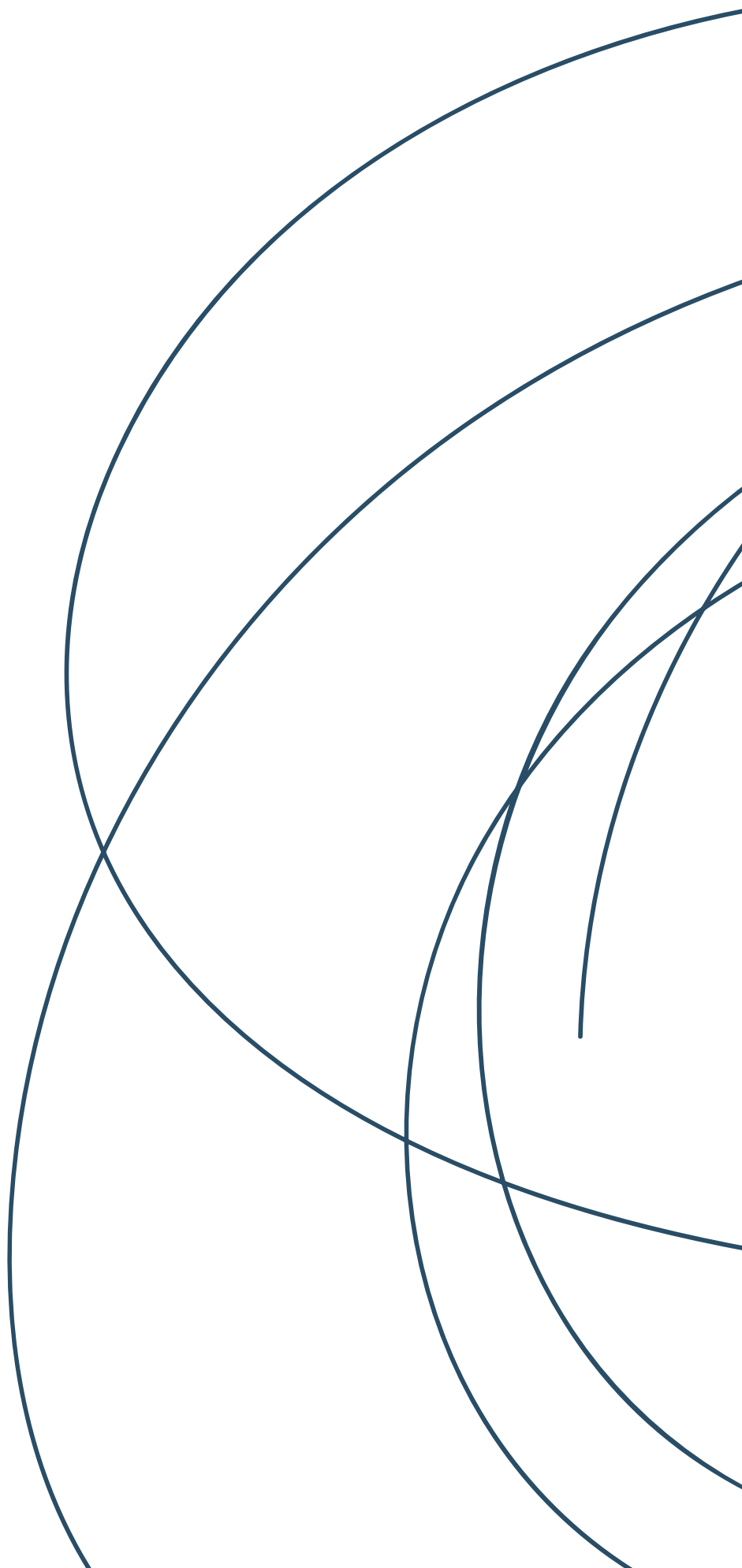


**COMUÁ FOR CLIMATE:
FINANCING LOCAL
CLIMATE SOLUTIONS
AND PHILANTHROPY
SCENARIOS**



September 2024



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Introduction

The Comuá Network, which currently consists of 18 members, is made up of independent philanthropy organizations that donate resources through diversified grantmaking strategies to CSOs, civil society groups and movements, with a primary focus on access to rights. The Network's members have played a crucial role in mobilizing resources to support projects in the fields of socio-environmental justice, human rights, and community development. The impact of these donations contributes to the fights for gender, racial and ethnic equality, and to the construction of relevant political agendas, with civil society as the protagonist, specifically grassroots groups and political minorities. From this perspective, better understanding the relationships between social, community, human rights and climate change agendas provides opportunities to achieve better results and greater impacts on Brazilian society.

The purpose of this study is to present a comprehensive analysis of the climate actions of the Comuá Network's members, highlighting how the supported initiatives contribute to the implementation of Local Climate Solutions (LCSs). This document begins by describing the methodology used to collect and analyze the data to assess the members' performance, as well as the mapping of supported and implemented solutions, followed by a brief presentation of the key concepts supporting those analyses.

We then detail the process of building the Comuá for Climate advocacy initiative, explaining the steps and strategies established for its implementation. The discussion of the results, including a diagnosis of the profile of the members' performance and the mapped LCSs, is based on the answers provided by members to a survey with quantitative and qualitative questions, in addition to an extensive search of the documents available on our members'

websites and communication channels. These results were presented at an internal meeting of the Network, held in May 2024, to serve as a process of actively listening and validating the data collected.

Throughout the document, some of the challenges faced by the Network's members in navigating the current climate finance ecosystem, philanthropy scenarios, and the position taken by the Network towards them, are outlined, presenting a critical view on potential strategies to be implemented by the Comuá for Climate Initiative in establishing advocacy and grantmaking strategies. To support the Initiative's next steps, we present a brief mapping of the main sources of financing and spaces for climate advocacy, which can serve as starting points for the work to be done by the Network's members and the Initiative. In closing, the final considerations summarize the most important messages noted throughout the preparation of this study, of engagement with the members and analysis of the existing scenarios in the philanthropy and climate finance sectors.

Through the process of diagnosing the Network's performance, mapping Local Climate Solutions (LCSs), and engaging members to build the Comuá for Climate Initiative, this work is part of a broader context of collaborative contribution to a "Transforming Philanthropy." The findings reported the aim to support the implementation of a strategic and inclusive climate agenda in the Global South, as it identified ways to boost financial support so that communities become more resilient and their impact becomes more lasting and effective.

1.

The Comuá for Climate Initiative

Comuá for Climate is an advocacy action that seeks to strengthen the political positioning, collective and coordinated work of the organizations that make up the Comuá Network to construct strategies, narratives, and produce knowledge in the field of climate philanthropy, driving these agendas. The initiative's purpose is to give visibility to the work of the independent and community philanthropy organizations that have been engaging in grantmaking for socio-environmental justice for decades and have a consolidated track record in supporting civil society initiatives focused on grassroots and traditional communities, with financial resources, as well as expertise in resource management and project monitoring and assessment.

The Comuá for Climate Initiative consolidates the leading role of the Network's members in the climate financing ecosystem. Steered by the principle of climate justice, focused on inclusion, justice, and the defense of rights, this collective advocacy action seeks to reinforce the strategic and necessary role in financing Local Climate Solutions (LCSs) developed by, for and with the communities, respecting the specificities of the territories and the needs of the groups involved.

The need to deliver a greater volume of resources, faster and more strategically, to the communities and territories most impacted by climate change has been increasingly debated. One of the biggest challenges to achieving this goal is to ensure that funding effectively reaches grassroots groups and movements, with minimal bureaucracy and in a way that contributes to community and institutional strengthening.

The obstacles to achieving this change are constantly the subjects of international debates on climate change and the economy, both within the scope of the Conferences of the

Parties (COPs) to the UN Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) and of a growing number of international, Brazilian and local forums, which have increasingly set the stage for mobilizations in favor of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, repairing structural socioeconomic inequalities, and searching for fairer, more sustainable conditions of life on earth.

In Brazil, communities, associations and civil society organizations have created local solutions to mitigate the effects of climate change, which mostly affect political minorities, such as indigenous communities, black communities, quilombola communities, LGBTQIAPN+ communities, women, family farmers, and peripheral urban populations. The work of socio-environmental justice and community philanthropy organizations has been crucial in this context, as they facilitate access to resources in a reliable, unbureaucratic manner, supporting climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation initiatives.

The starting point of this advocacy initiative is to present material information on the climate actions of the Network's members, that is to say, their profiles, actions, and initiatives developed and financed in the field of philanthropy and climate. We believe that Comuá for Climate has the potential to become a benchmark in the field of philanthropy, contributing to the construction of agendas and the development of financing strategies for civil society organizations and groups working on the frontlines.

1.1 The process of constructing the Comuá for Climate Initiative

The process of building the Comuá for Climate Initiative was progressive and participatory, involving the member organizations in the planning of actions, and representing a milestone that reflects the commitment of its members to promote Local Climate Solutions and positively influence the philanthropy practices in Brazil and on a regional and global levels (with a focus on the Global South). The coordination among various actors of community and independent philanthropy seeks not only to enable effective and sustainable actions in the territories, but also to foster a culture of giving that is focused on social transformation and climate resilience.

Considering the importance of democratizing the access to resources by those who need them the most, the Comuá for Climate Initiative¹ was launched during the F20 Climate Solutions Forum, held in the

City of Rio de Janeiro in June 2024, as an alternative for the building of new paths for climate philanthropy in Brazil². With an innovative, strategic approach, the Initiative seeks to strengthen the political coordination among the actors of community and independent philanthropy, highlighting locally-led climate finance solutions, designed and developed by the territories and communities. At the same time, it proposes to influence the field of philanthropy to rethink its donation practices with a view to strengthening civil society, social transformation, and effectively addressing the impacts of climate change.

The following flowchart shows the main steps and activities involved in the construction of the Comuá for Climate Initiative.

Graph 1. Main stages and activities of the Comuá for Climate Initiative



Stage 1. Surveying the initiatives developed in the field of philanthropy and climate, and coordination meeting with Comuá Network members.

Stage 2. Production of a diagnostic matrix of the members' actions and mapping the Local Climate Solutions implemented.

Stage 3. Launch of the Comuá for Climate Initiative at the F20 Climate Solutions Forum.

Stage 4. Development of a Technical Note presenting the main results of the study and climate financing and philanthropy scenarios.

Stage 5. Transforming Philanthropy Month and publication of the study.

Stage 6. Positioning the Comuá for Climate Initiative to appear at international forums such as Climate Week and COPs 29 and 30.

Source: Survey conducted with member organizations, April/May 2024.

¹ Initially called Comuá Network Climate Front, it was renamed as the Comuá for Climate Initiative after an internal meeting held with the Network's members on May 28, 2024: Comuá Network launches Comuá for Climate Initiative

² Promoted by the F20 Platform in partnership with the Institute for Climate and Society (a member of the Comuá Network), the Avina Foundation and GIFE, the event assembled philanthropy actors, public managers, researchers, and civil society entities from G20 countries with the aim of setting the stage for the formation of new alliances, knowledge sharing, and the raising of the voices of philanthropy from the Global South at the G20 discussions. Comuá Network participates in the F20 Climate Solutions Forum.

As established during the survey and diagnosis process, the Network's members already work in the field of donations in a differentiated manner, democratizing access through flexible processes that are accessible to community-based groups. These donor organizations that are part of Comuá play a strategic role in tackling climate change, as they enable the implementation of Local Climate Solutions (LCSs), supporting mitigation and adaptation actions within the territories. Considering that traditional Brazilian philanthropy is not predominantly a donor to civil society and sets limitations to its response to the specific demands of the territories³, the Comuá for Climate Initiative proposes to strengthen not only the work of the organizations that are members of the Network, but to inspire and foster more synergistic, collaborative work with other donor and civil society organizations and actors interested in achieving climate justice and strengthening the resilience of local communities.

2. Methodology to diagnose the climate actions of the Comuá Network's members

This study was developed based on a methodological approach involving both quantitative and qualitative techniques. Information on the members' actions was collected through a quantitative survey, based on the completion of a form. The information was then analyzed through data classification and the categorization of the answers provided.

The qualitative aspect of this study was developed through the research and review of documents and information collected through the websites and social media of the member organizations, which were presented, analyzed and adjusted based on a facilitated meeting with the members to collect feedback on the preliminary data.

³ The 2022-2023 GIFE Census notes that, while organizations with a majorly executive profile are still the majority (55%), the majorly financing organizations are growing in number (43%): 2022-2023 GIFE Census

Graph 2. Methodology stages



The purpose of the diagnosis was to examine how the initiatives and projects supported by the Comuá Network's members contribute to LCSs developed by grassroots groups and organizations, mapping and highlighting the main climate finance strategies and concrete solutions to address the climate crisis.

So, the purpose of the diagnosis is to assist in the construction of a strategic climate agenda, providing a comprehensive view of the activities developed by the Network's members, in addition to identifying trends, challenges and opportunities in the field of philanthropy, pointing to the definition of the next steps in the journey of building a narrative aligned with its values.

The process involved the following stages

Stage 1: Getting to know the Network. Preparing a assessment of the work of the Comuá Network's members in the field of climate, based on quantitative and qualitative surveys, in order to systematize and analyze the information and data on the work of the Network and its members, in view of better understanding their advocacy profiles and their level of engagement with the climate agenda.

In this stage, a number of documents were reviewed, based on information collected on the websites and main communication pages of the member organizations – including annual reports, news pieces, case studies, articles and other sources – which resulted in a mapping of the **Locally-led Climate Solutions implemented and/or supported by the members of the Network**. The mapped LCSs were organized in a broad database, designed as a living document, which can be updated periodically, and categorized based on the following information:

- Name of the organization;
- Summary of the organization;
- Name of the LCS mapped;
- Description of the LCS;
- Whether the solution was supported through a separate call for proposals or is tied to a specific program;
- LCS launch year;
- Line of action of the LCS;
- Target audience of the LCS;
- Executing organization;
- Strategy;
- Type of product/output.

Additionally, a questionnaire (survey) was administered to the member organizations, entitled “Locally-led Climate Solutions – Mapping of initiatives financed and developed by Comuá Network members.” Based on the responses⁴, we outlined the climate action profile of the Network's members and mapped the actions and initiatives developed and financed in the field of philanthropy and climate, complementing and validating the document research from the previous stage. The questionnaire included questions on the following guiding themes:

- Level of the organization's engagement in the climate agenda;
- Geographic area of action;
- Biomes in which they operate;
- Central focus of the places where the organization operates;
- Fields of action (sectors or themes);
- Actions financed by the organization in the field of climate;
- Target audience;
- Financial resources invested by the organizations in the field of climate/climate justice in 2022 and 2023;
- Sources of financing and impact of the actions.

⁴ The studies and analyses were executed in May 2024, when the Comuá Network had 17 members. However, one organization became a member after the analyses were completed.

Stage 2: Validation with the members. After collecting and systematizing the data based on documentary research and the questionnaire, an online meeting was held with all Comuá Network members, mediated by a team of facilitators, to validate the information collected with the surveys. Additionally, the meeting started the process of planning the agenda and constructing the narrative of the Comuá for Climate Initiative, based on the development of action strategies and key messages. These narratives have been incorporated into this document, mapping the strengths of the member organizations' actions on the climate philanthropy agenda.

Stage 3: Analysis of philanthropy scenarios and the Comuá Network's work. Bibliographic review and analysis of the philanthropy scenarios at the national and international levels, with the purpose of mapping opportunities and obstacles for advocacy based on the main findings on the work being done by the Network's members. To this end, a documentary research was conducted based on information collected from reports, articles and publications prepared by the organizations and institutions that operate both nationally and internationally. This study resulted in a brief analysis of the existing climate philanthropy scenarios, to identify trends in the work and in the allocation of resources.

Then, a summarized description of the strengths, opportunities and challenges faced by the Comuá Network is presented, offering a comprehensive view of the capacity of the Network and its members to achieve their strategic goals on the climate agenda, within the context of the Comuá for Climate Initiative. Finally, we present a mapping of the main opportunities for climate finance and advocacy spaces capable of strengthening the Initiative and the access to resources.



3.

Key Concepts

The process of diagnosing the Network members' climate efforts was built on key concepts that permeate the creation and implementation of the Comuá for Climate Initiative. Climate change is an undeniable reality that affects everyone on the planet. However, not everyone is impacted in the same way. Social, economic and structural inequalities are compounded by the impacts of climate change, and the groups that are already marginalized and vulnerable are becoming increasingly susceptible to the adverse effects of climate change. So, by looking at the interactions between socioeconomic relations and climate change, we find that the way in which people are affected is entirely dependent on their social contexts.

Groups who are historically invisible have less access to financial resources, services and infrastructure, and suffer these consequences more intensely. These groups – traditional communities, indigenous peoples, quilombolas, women, black people, LGBTQIAPN+ people, communities in urban peripheries, ethnic and political minorities – repeatedly face the denial and violation of their human rights, which directly affects their way of life and wellbeing.

So, it is crucial to emphasize the need to think about climate change from a human rights-based approach⁵. This approach ensures the inclusion of people in the most vulnerable situations and promotes justice, resulting in more coherent, legitimate and sustainable policies. This means that all climate finance, mitigation and adaptation strategies must focus on reducing poverty, reinforcing rights, and improving health and wellbeing.⁶

In this context, the vision, approaches and practices of community philanthropy⁷ play a strategic role, by providing financial and non-financial support to strengthen the groups most affected by climate change, as well as

those on the frontlines of the fight against it. This form of philanthropy, in contrast to traditional philanthropy, recognizes the leading role of civil society organizations and collectives, their transformative power and their ability to pursue solutions to the problems they face. It is a philanthropy made with and for grassroots movements and community groups, present in all Brazilian biomes, playing a crucial role in the planet's climate regulation.

The path taken by climate finance to reach the communities is marked by several challenges. These include the complexity of bureaucratic processes, political difficulties to access strategic information, language barriers, among others. On the other hand, the practices steered by the principles of community philanthropy seek to create spaces for direct dialogue with people and groups within the territories and on the many frontlines of the fight, democratizing the direct access to resources by those who, although not primarily responsible for it, are ultimately the most impacted by the climate crisis.

Community climate philanthropy strengthens the financing ecosystem by instituting a people-centered perspective⁸. This means that making decisions in the field of climate finance based on this vision allocates benefits to promote equity, ensures a fair, low-carbon transition for all communities and, finally, through inclusive processes, understands the needs of the communities and supports their expansion of social and economic rights.

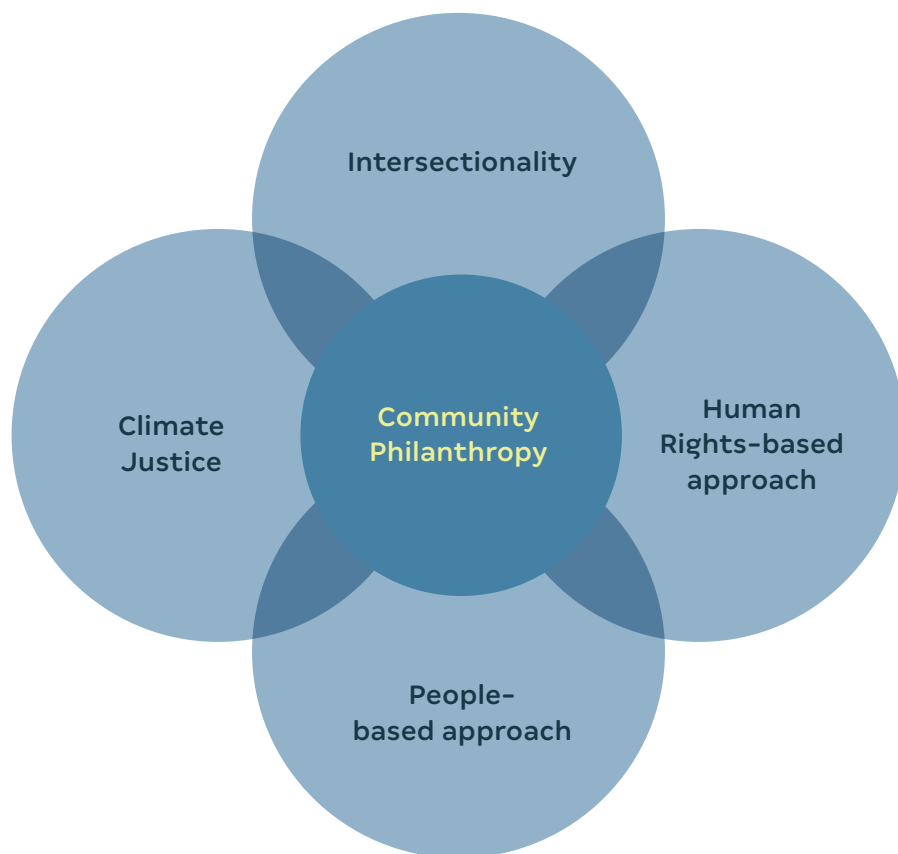
⁵ [Applying a Human Rights-Based Approach to Climate Change Negotiations, Policies and Measures](#)

⁶ [Applying a Human Rights-Based Approach to Climate Change Negotiations, Policies and Measures](#)

⁷ [Financiamento climático, sociedade civil e a agenda de direitos - Comuá](#)

⁸ [Putting People at the Center of Climate Action](#)

Graph 3. Key concepts grid



Source: Survey with member organizations, April/May 2024

So, when they are at the center of the debate and supported by philanthropic organizations that believe in the transformative power of grassroots groups, communities rely on more financial resources to improve their quality of life and protect biodiversity. They can expand the application of advocacy strategies to their decision-making to ensure their rights and implement local solutions that effectively make them more resilient to climate change. In indigenous territories in Brazil, for example, there are more species of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians than in all other protected areas outside those territories⁹. Therefore, when they get support from

philanthropy, those peoples can actually have the resources they need to keep their way of life associated with nature conservation, which contributes to the fight against climate change.

Community philanthropy practices promote transformative dynamics, including the democratization of the access to resources by indigenous peoples, traditional and local communities, directly supporting those who are on the frontlines of climate impacts.

Based on the understanding of these key concepts and how they interact with climate change, the Comuá Network and its members are capable of broadening their perspective on how they already interact or can improve

⁹ [Indigenous and tribal peoples and forest governance. An opportunity for climate action in Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

their performance on the climate agenda through climate justice - a term that defines the Network's work and puts equity and human rights at the center of the decision-making and actions on climate change¹⁰. Additionally, based on these concepts, this technical note will focus on how community philanthropy can drive local action by the communities on the climate agenda - Local Climate Solutions (LCSs).

These solutions can include a variety of approaches, such as:

Adaptation: Developing strategies to address the impacts of climate change, such as floods, droughts or rising sea levels, through adapted agricultural practices, resilient infrastructure, and sustainable urban planning.

Mitigation: Implementing actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at the local level, like adopting renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Conservation and Restoration: Protecting and restoring local ecosystems, such as forests, mangroves and wetlands, which play a crucial role in absorbing carbon and protecting against natural disasters.

Education and Awareness-Raising: Promoting awareness of climate change and sustainable actions within the community, empowering individuals to address climate change.

Technological Innovation: Developing and implementing technologies adapted to local needs, such as rainwater harvesting systems, energy-efficient stoves, and low-carbon transportation solutions.

Community Reinforcement: Building the communities' capacity to actively participate in the decision-making concerning the environment and adaptation to climate change, ensuring an inclusive, equitable approach.

Generally speaking, the role of community philanthropy – specifically the Comuá Network's members – is material in supporting the LCSs aiming to encourage the participation and strengthening of local communities, address climate challenges specific to each territory, and contribute to an more agile, coordinated, efficient, and inclusive global response to climate change.

¹⁰ [Climate change is a matter of justice – here's why](#)

Box 1. Summarizing the main concepts

Climate justice: Climate justice is a term that puts equity and human rights at the center of decision-making and actions on climate change (UNDP, 2023).

Intersectionality: An intersectional analysis highlights how different subjects and groups relate differently to climate change, due to their position in the existing power structures¹¹. In other words, intersectionality helps us understand how the impacts of and responses to climate change affect different groups unequally, and that their consequences vary depending on a range of interconnected factors, including but not limited to race, gender, social class, age, geographic location, and immigration status.

People-centered approach: People-based climate decision-making allocates benefits to promote equity, ensures a fair, low-carbon transition for all communities and, ultimately, through inclusive processes, understands the needs of the communities and supports their expansion of social and economic rights.¹²

Human rights-based approach: This approach ensures the inclusion of those most vulnerable groups and promotes justice, resulting in more coherent, legitimate, sustainable policies. This means that all climate finance, mitigation, and adaptation strategies should focus on reducing poverty, strengthening human rights, and improving human health and wellbeing.¹³

Local Climate Solutions (LCSs): These are solutions created by, for and with communities – from the ground up – considering the specificities and the vulnerability of the groups involved. So, there is better potential to impact the local communities' mobilization to implement them, and to strengthen collective action to better defend their rights and territories.¹⁴

¹¹ Full article: [Climate change through the lens of intersectionality](#).

¹² WRI, 2019. [Putting People at the Center of Climate Action](#).

¹³ [Applying a Human Rights-Based Approach to Climate Change Negotiations, Policies and Measures](#).

¹⁴ Concept developed by the members of the Comuá Network jointly.

4.

The work done by the members of the Comuá Network

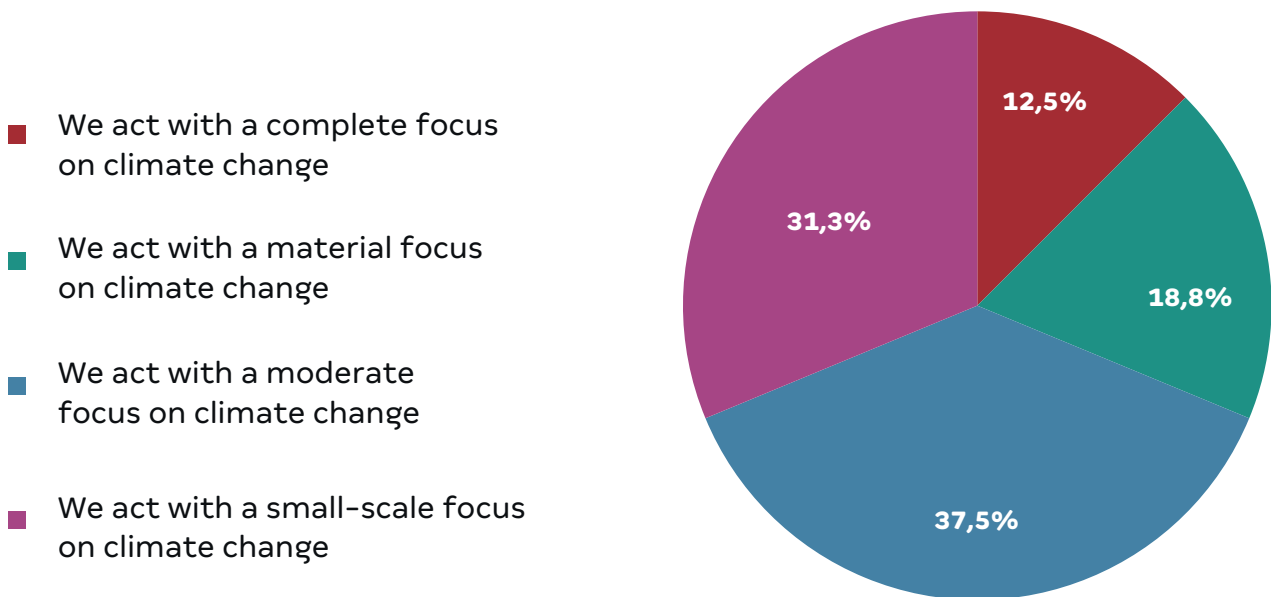
At the time when the quantitative survey was conducted, 16 organizations that are part of the Comuá Network answered the questionnaire, representing 94% of the Network. The main findings of the survey are presented and reviewed below.

4.1 Level of climate engagement of the Comuá Network’s organizations

To understand the level of engagement of each organization with the climate agenda, the Comuá Network’s members rated their work on a scale of five levels, ranging from not focused on climate change (0%) to working with a complete focus on climate change (100%). The majority of the members responded that they are committed to fighting climate change, with

varying focus levels: 70% of the organizations claim to act on a small or medium scale; while 30% claim to put a material or complete focus on this line of action (75 to 100%). The following graph shows the distribution of the members’ actions at each level.

Graph 4. Organization’s engagement level with the climate agenda



Source: Survey with member organizations, April/May 2024.

The majority of the answers indicate moderate engagement, with nearly 40% of the members dedicating part of their efforts to supporting initiatives to tackle the climate crisis. So, it can be said that the members of the Comuá

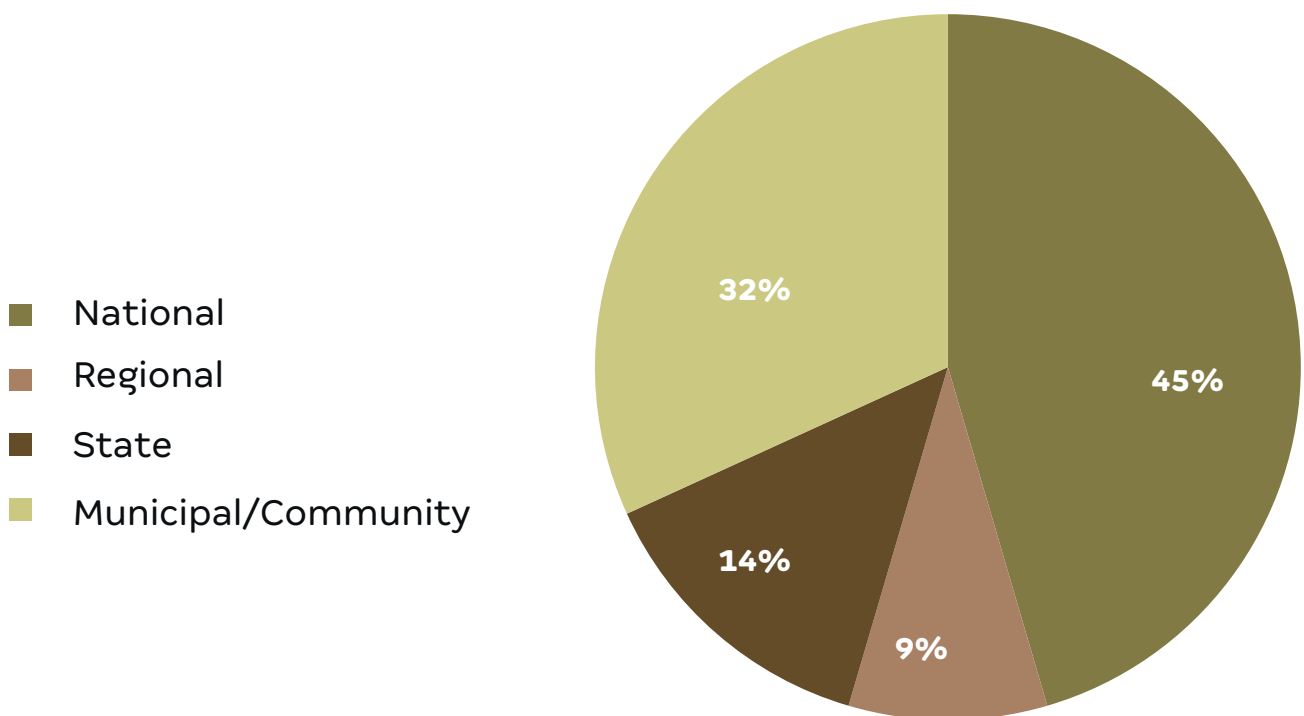
Network are committed to the climate agenda, as all members are already engaging with the issue at some level.

4.2 Geographic area and priority locations for climate actions

The Network's member organizations operate throughout Brazil, with 45% of all members operating at a national level. This demonstrates a high potential to branch out and reach different regions and strengthen the climate agenda in all geographic areas. Then,

the second largest scale of action is at the municipal or community level, which confirms the commitment to the implementation of Local Climate Solutions. The following graph shows the distribution of members' activities by geographic area.¹⁵

Graph 5. Geographic distribution of climate activities among the Comuá Network's mem



Source: Survey with member organizations, April/May 2024.

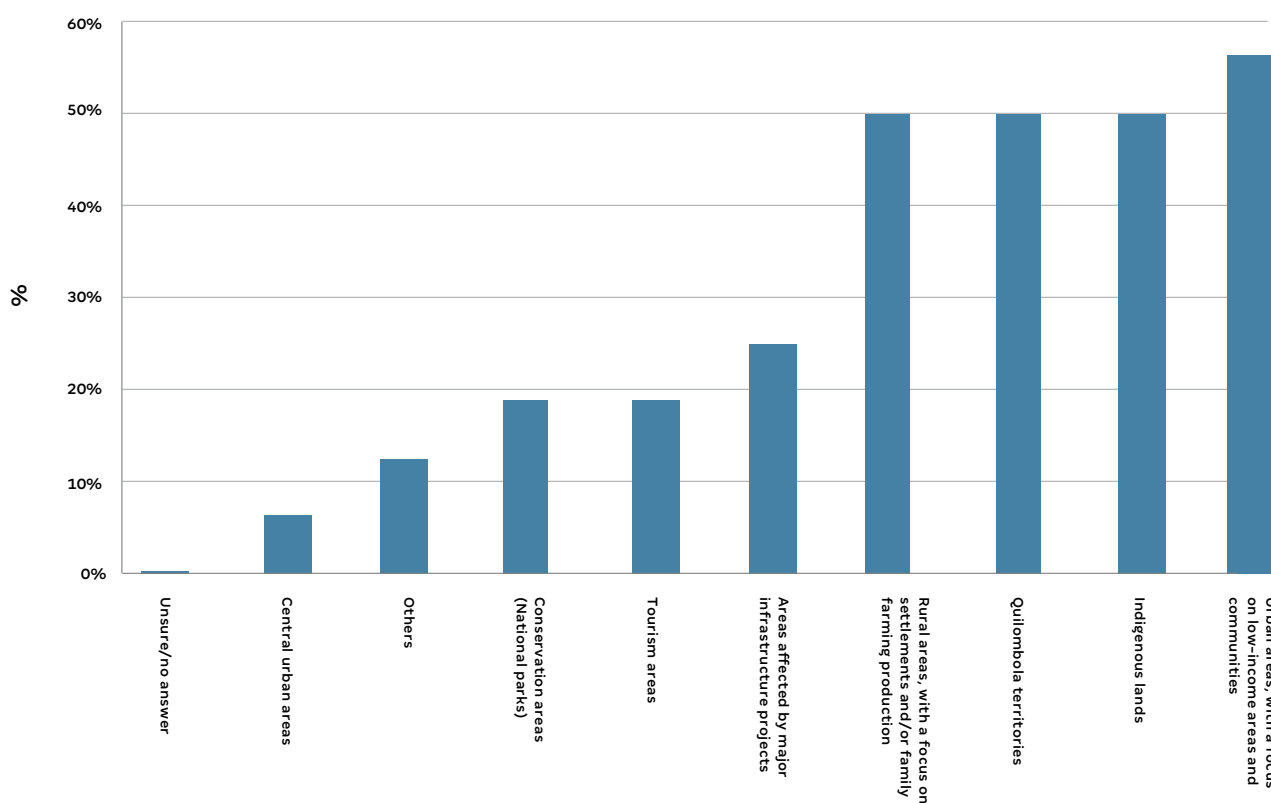
¹⁵ "Regional" refers to the 5 regions of Brazil: North, South, Southeast, Northeast, and Midwest.

In addition to the geographic area, mapping the organizations' priority operating locations is crucial to understanding which territories are being given the most resources to support climate actions. In light of this, the members indicated as their priority operating locations:

1. Central urban areas;
2. Urban areas, with a focus on low-income areas and communities;
3. Rural areas, with a focus on settlements and/or family farming production;
4. Conservation areas (national parks);
5. Areas affected by major infrastructure projects;
6. Tourism areas;
7. Indigenous lands and Quilombola territories.

The following graph shows the distribution of climate action locations of the Comuá Network members.

Graph 6. Distribution of climate action locations of the Comuá Network members



Source: Survey with member organizations, April/May 2024.

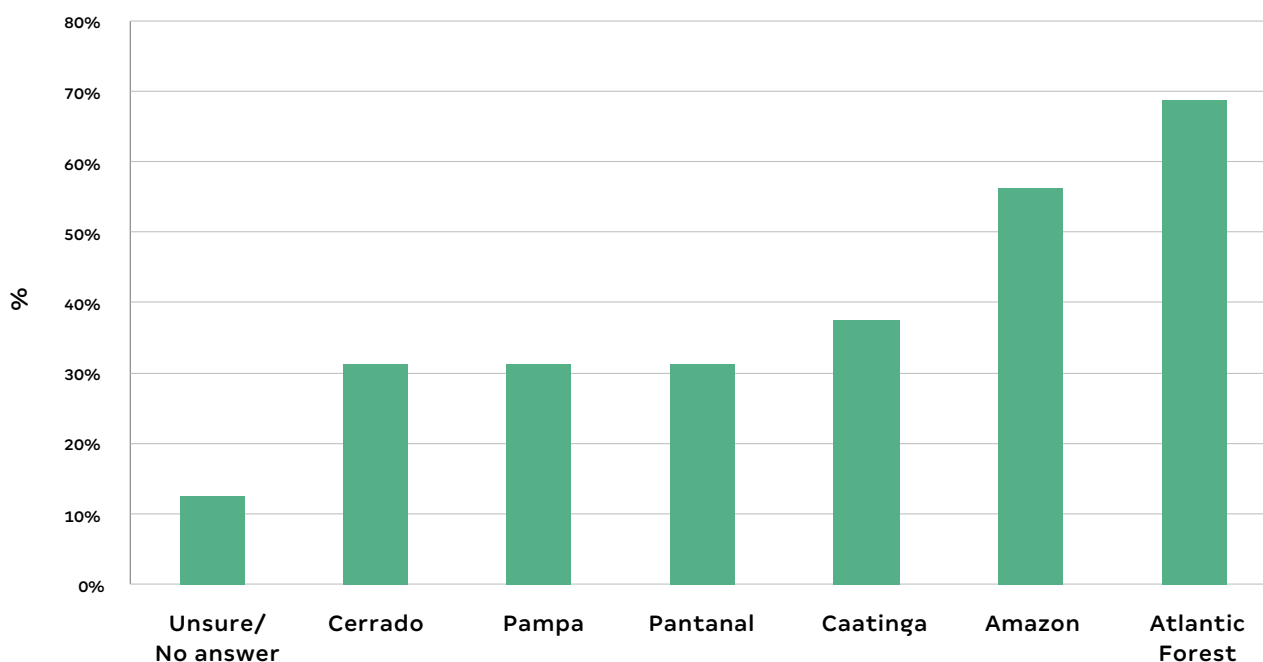
From the data collected, we find that the climate actions of the Comuá Network members are widespread, reaching numerous territories. Nonetheless, there is a greater concentration of efforts in peripheral urban areas, rural areas, indigenous lands, and quilombola territories. The emphasis on these operating locations shows that the members' actions are mostly directed

to priority areas, where the environmental impacts resulting from the climate crisis and social inequalities are more severe. So, we see a common effort by independent philanthropy organizations to **boost the resilience of the territories most vulnerable to climate change.**

4.3 Operating biomes

The Network's members operate in all national biomes, which indicates their commitment to the preservation of biodiversity and local communities. The following graph provides more details on the biomes in which the organizations operate.

Graph 7. Comuá Network organizations' operations distributed by biome



Source: Survey with member organizations, April/May 2024.

The diversity of the biomes and territories of operation reflects the organizations' adaptability to different environmental and sociodemographic contexts. Despite the greater focus on the Atlantic Forest and the Amazon, the Network's members support or implement actions in all biomes, considering the interdependence between them and the opportunity to associate the conservation of rich biodiversity and carbon sequestration with the maintenance of vital ecosystem services and the support of traditional and local communities.

It is worth noting that the focus on the Atlantic Forest can be explained by the fact that Brazil's major urban centers are located in this biome. At the same time, the Amazon

is the biome with the greatest biodiversity, as it is inhabited by traditional communities that are a philanthropic priority. On the other hand, the Cerrado, Pampa, Pantanal and Caatinga biomes, despite their characteristics and relevance in terms of biodiversity conservation, are constantly left out of the major international and national debates and funding when it comes to climate change. So, the work of the Network's organizations emerges as a **strategy of resistance in the conservation of all Brazilian biomes.**

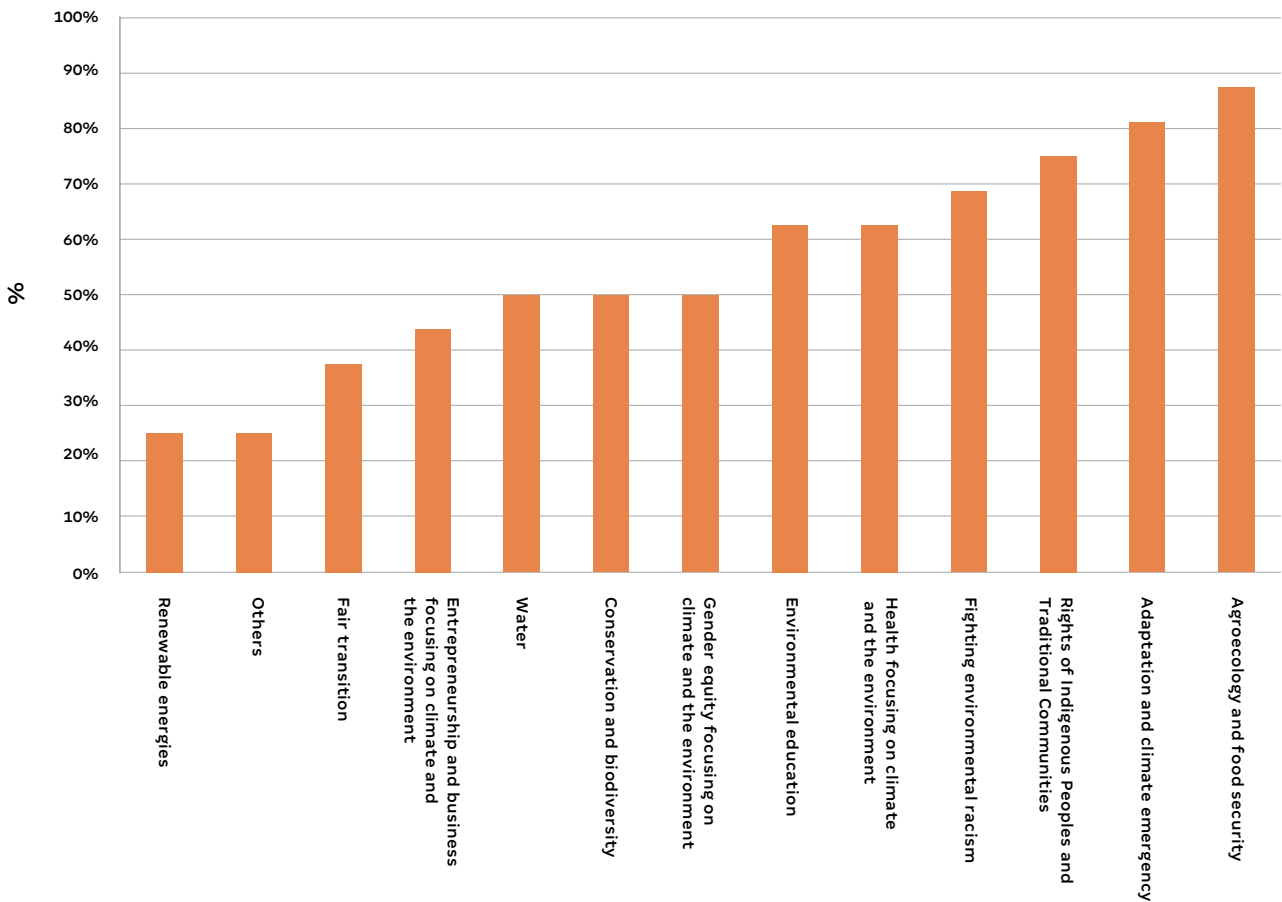
4.4 Working areas

Listing the working areas is important in order to identify the sectors and themes that are priorities for the Comuá Network's members. In this sense, projects are supported and/or developed focusing on any of those sectors or themes, namely:

- Water;
- Conservation and biodiversity;
- Entrepreneurship and business focusing on climate and the environment;
- Environmental education;
- Renewable energies;
- Agroecology and food security;
- Health focusing on climate and the environment;
- Fighting environmental racism;
- Climate emergency and adaptation;
- Fair transition;
- Gender equity focusing on climate and the environment;
- Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Traditional Communities.

The following graph shows the distribution of the Comuá Network's members' working areas.

Graph 8. Distribution of working areas



Source: Survey with member organizations, April/May 2024.

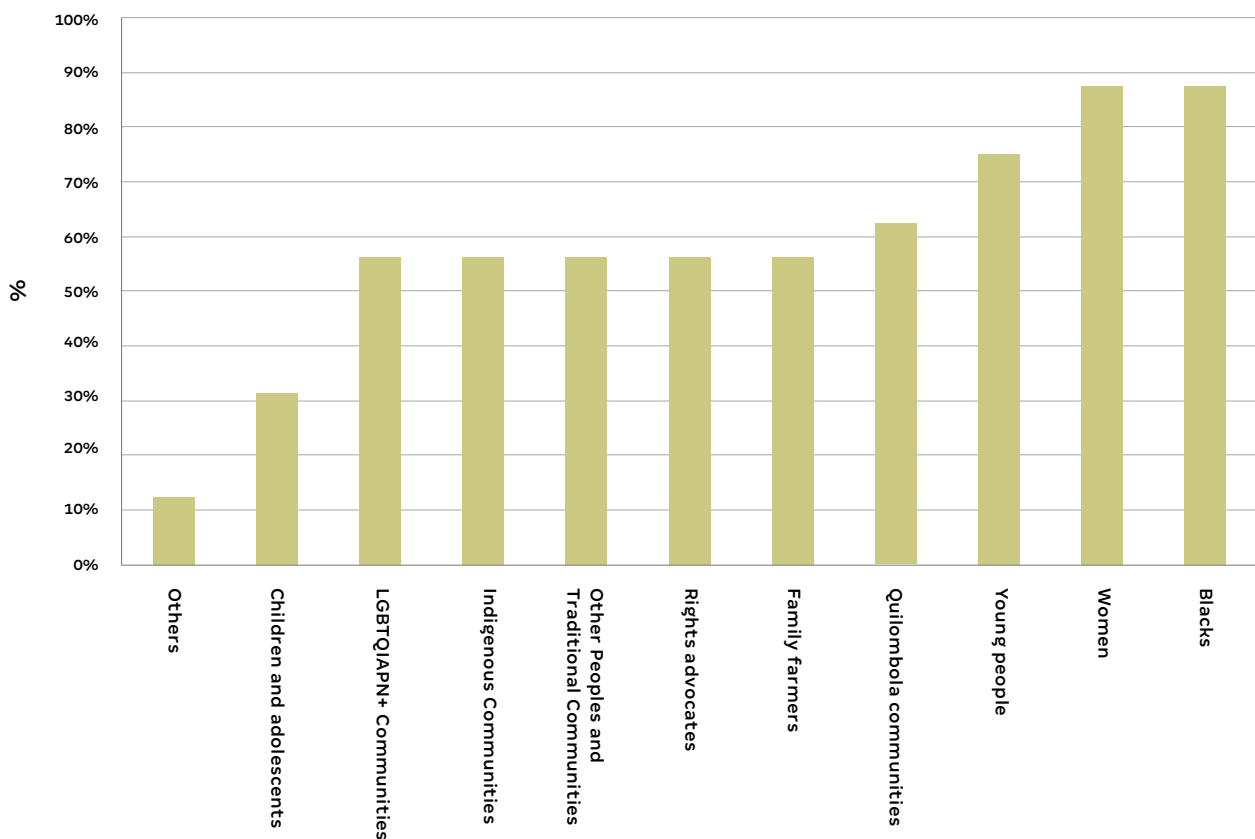
Based on the data presented, we find that the Comuá Network's member organizations prioritize agroecology and food security, helping to minimize the impacts of hunger on local communities. Supporting adaptation strategies and climate emergencies is also key to mitigating the impacts and facing extreme events within the territories. In turn, defending the rights of indigenous peoples and traditional communities is crucial due to the understanding that these groups are extremely vulnerable to climate change and social inequalities, while at the same time they are on the frontlines in defending the territories and biodiversity. 70% or more of the members work directly on these issues.

Additionally, 50% to 70% of the members work with water and water resource management, conservation and biodiversity, environmental education, health focusing on climate and the environment, fighting environmental racism, and promoting gender equity. Moreover, other topics were mentioned by the organizations, such as: structural policies (such as the Growth Acceleration Program (PAC), the Ecological Transformation Plan (ETP) and the National Policy on Climate Change - PNCC); the oil and gas and industry segment; livestock; climate diplomacy; and the institutional strengthening of local collectives, movements and organizations. So, the multi-thematic work of the member organizations stands out, with a strong potential to impact and engagement in different topics, territories and sectors.

4.5 Target audience

Climate Justice is a key concept to understanding the work done by the member organizations, especially considering the diverse profiles of their target audiences. Counting the organizations that primarily support actions focused on women, blacks and young people, more than 70% of the respondents work with these groups. That shows that the approach that steers the work of the Network's organizations is **intersectional by nature**, as issues of gender, race, and age group are taken into account in the work developed.

Graph 9. Distribution of the target audiences of the Comuá Network's climate agenda



Fonte: Pesquisa com organizações membro, abril/maio 2024.

In addition, 50% or more of the members prioritize other groups that are disproportionately affected by climate change, such as the LGBTQIAPN+ communities, traditional peoples and communities, rights advocates, and family farmers. Finally, other groups were listed as priorities, such as community leaders, collectives, movements, and local organizations.

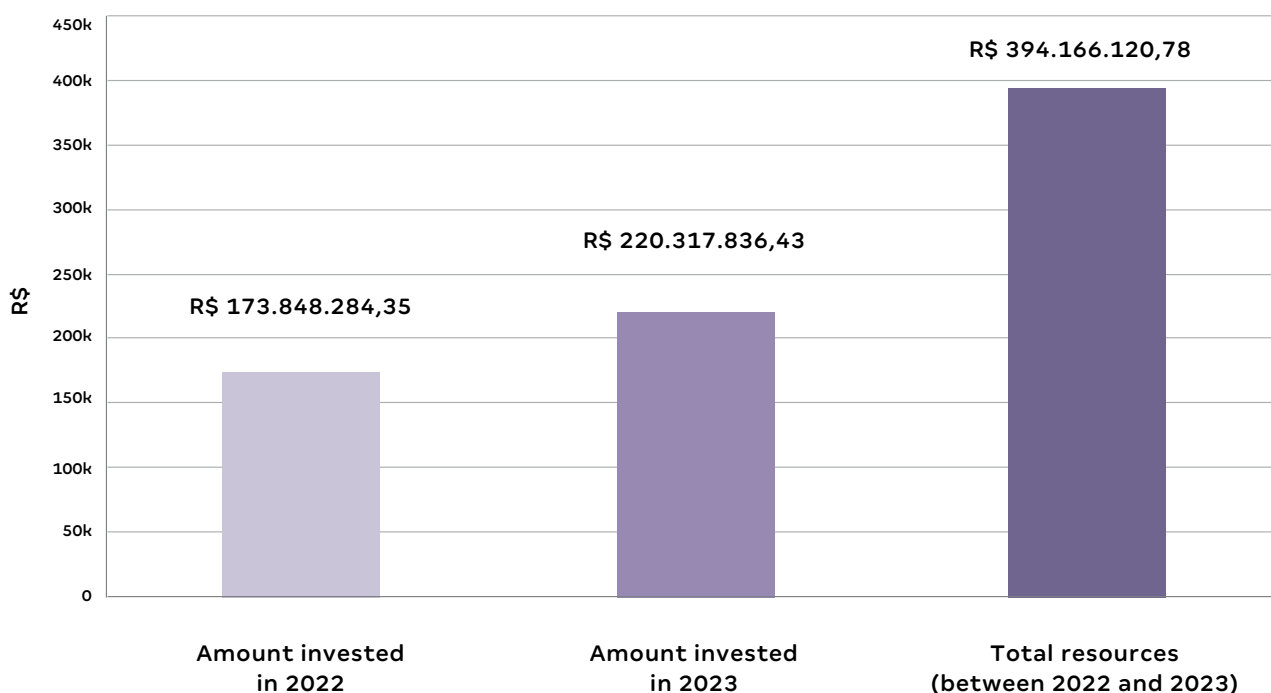
4.6 Financing: sources and resources invested

For grassroots communities to be strengthened in the midst of climate change, funding must land in the territories and reach the priority groups. The resources invested by the member organizations are a key element to increasing the resilience of these groups and their ability to adapt to social, economic and climate vulnerabilities. When asked about the amounts invested in climate actions/climate justice, **81% of the members said they had increased their level of investment.**

Some organizations have seen a substantial increase in the resources invested in the climate agenda, while others have seen a moderate increase. However, even with differing efforts, the organizations express a commitment to achieving climate justice: **more than R\$300 million were invested in climate justice actions**, considering the amount of resources allocated in 2022 and 2023.

Graph 10 shows the resources invested in 2022 and 2023 by the 16 organizations responding to the survey, reflecting an increase of approximately 27% from one year to the other.

Graph 10. Resources invested by Comuá Network organizations in the climate and/or climate justice agenda in 2022 and 2023



Source: Survey with member organizations, April/May 2024.

In order to increase the amount allocated to the local communities, the Comuá Network's organizations must access different sources of funding so that they will be able to strengthen community philanthropy practices with a focus on climate. **For more than 60% of the members, the main sources of funding come from international and national philanthropy.**

Although the majority of the funding comes from philanthropy, we see an effort by the member organizations to reinforce the access to international cooperation sources, companies, and donations from crowdfunding campaigns as strategies to diversify fundraising.

4.7 Impact and actions financed by the organizations in the climate sector

The expansion of the investments in climate justice suggests a positive trend towards strengthening socio-environmental actions and recognizing the climate emergency by the Comuá Network's member organizations. The increase in funding has driven a considerable number of actions focusing on climate, ranging from the direct support of organizations and projects to climate litigation or advocacy actions. The following table highlights some of the climate-focused actions mentioned by the Network's members.

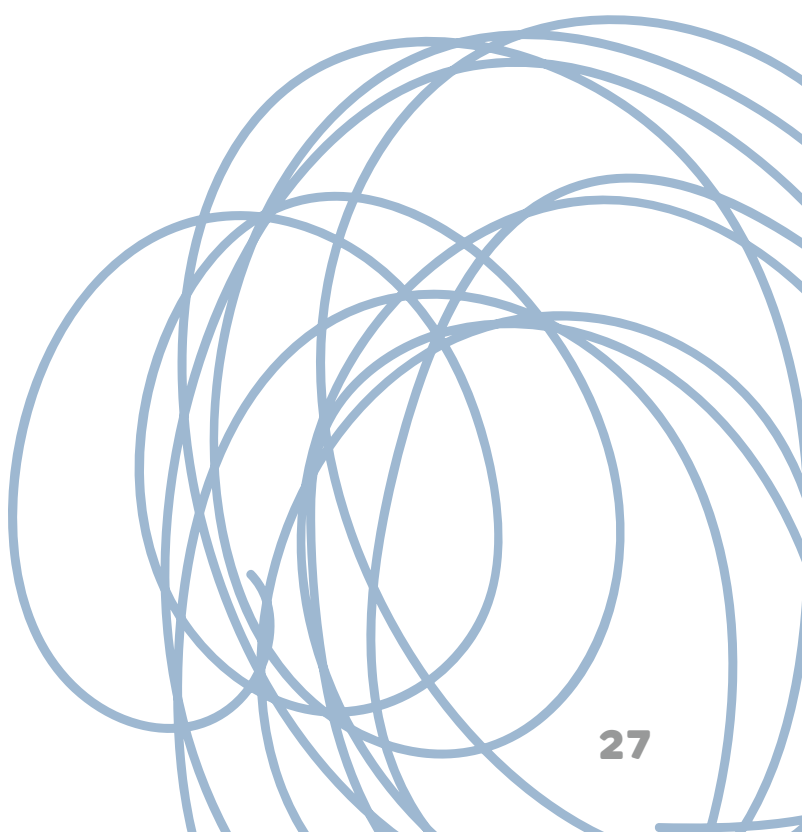




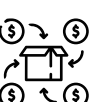

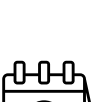








Table 1. Name and description of the types of climate actions supported or implemented by Comuá Network members

Action supported/developed	Description
	<p>Institutional and project support</p> <p>Donation of financial, technical or logistical resources for the implementation of initiatives aimed at specific solutions.</p>
	<p>Production of knowledge</p> <p>Development of research, studies, analyses and documentation to generate relevant information and support future actions.</p>
	<p>Development of social technologies</p> <p>Creation, adaptation or application of technologies and innovations aimed at solving social and environmental problems.</p>
	<p>Advocacy with public authorities</p> <p>Activities proposing to influence public policies, legislation and government decisions in favor of positive changes.</p>
	<p>Advocacy within the financing ecosystem</p> <p>Actions to influence the actions of financial institutions, investors and financiers to prioritize sustainable and social projects.</p>
	<p>Advocacy directed to civil society</p> <p>Activities to mobilize and strengthen civil society, promoting collective actions in favor of social changes.</p>
	<p>Participation in events</p> <p>Active participation in conferences, seminars and events to promote debates, share knowledge and strengthen coordination (networking).</p>
	<p>Communication campaigns</p> <p>Communication strategies and campaigns to raise public awareness, drive social mobilization and engagement around specific issues.</p>
	<p>Engaging actors</p> <p>Partnerships and alliances with different actors, including companies, NGOs, governments and communities, in view of collaboration and expanded impact.</p>
	<p>Team participation in specific training efforts</p> <p>Capacity building for teams on specific topics.</p>
	<p>Training activities</p> <p>Workshops, courses and other initiatives to strengthen the capabilities of different audiences on relevant topics.</p>
	<p>Organizing meetings for debates</p> <p>Supporting and creating spaces for discussion, dialogue and exchange of ideas between different actors on relevant issues.</p>
	<p>Supporting litigation actions</p> <p>Providing legal assistance and support for legal processes and litigation in defense of rights and specific causes.</p>

Source: Mapping of LCSs, April/May 2024

More than 70% of the members answered that training activities and direct support (donations) to projects/organizations are the actions to which they have allocated the most resources. Through the support of those actions in the field of climate justice, **more than 900 groups and more than one million people have been directly benefited**¹⁶.

In this way, the Comuá Network's organizations engage as strategic actors in the field of climate philanthropy in Brazil, to the extent that they contribute to the democratization of the access to financial resources in view of strengthening the resilience capacity of countless grassroots groups.

5.

Mapping of Local Climate Solutions implemented by Comuá Network members

The mapping of LCSs was the second stage developed to assess the climate actions of the Comuá Network's members. The information was collected through the examination of documents and helped broaden the understanding of the initiatives that are being supported and/or developed by the Network's members in the climate agenda. In total, **106 Local Climate Solutions were mapped through May 2024**¹⁷. These solutions have already in place or supported by members of the Comuá Network¹⁸.

The mapping and dissemination process seeks to expand the knowledge of the work being done in the field of climate justice and the understanding of different opportunities to support communities and territories. This mapping is a strategic reference for the field of philanthropy, and aims to influence the construction of agendas and the development of financing strategies for civil society organizations and groups.

So, the diagnosis identifies solutions associated with the dissemination of knowledge and good practices that have already been implemented by members of the Network against climate change, demonstrating a strategic

positioning in the field of climate philanthropy.

By highlighting the solutions supported and/or implemented by the Network's members, we hope to inspire additional actions and drive further collaboration between civil society organizations, communities, donors, and the public and private sectors in pursuit of a more sustainable future.

For the presentation in this section, only 42 examples of LCSs were selected, chosen in a non-exhaustive capacity, as they do not reflect all of the members' focal points of engagement nor their most emblematic experiences. The cases were selected as examples since, as noted before, more than 100 LCSs supported and/or developed by the members have been identified and will be presented later on, when the Comuá Network intends to gather and consolidate a database.

¹⁶ Estimated number, since not all organizations indicated the number of groups and people directly supported

¹⁷ As a methodological note, it is reported that, of the 106 LCSs, four solutions had their information offline at the time of the analysis. So, they were excluded from the analyses and the percentage calculations were made based on 102 local climate solutions.

¹⁸ All the information collected and presented was available on the organizations' websites, blogs and social media platforms at the time when this material was prepared, and is readily accessible.

5.1 Working Areas of the Local Climate Solutions

According to the survey, we find that the Comuá Network’s organizations respond to current climate challenges through both advocacy actions and financial support to civil society organizations and groups, with a focus on the defense and encouragement of Conservation and Biodiversity (20.6%) and Climate Resilience and Adaptation (19.6%). The third most frequent line of solutions refers to the support of projects focusing on good living (18%), tied primarily to gender, to advocating for the rights of traditional peoples and communities and the LGBTQIAPN+ community. Initiatives focusing on the strengthening of these groups, their protagonism and quality of life also hold a prominent position among the mapped solutions, as well as those that permeate the relationship between health, environment, and climate.

Additionally, solutions directly related to environmental and climate education were mapped; as well as solutions encouraging the sustainable use and management of natural resources, such as water resource management and incentives for energy efficiency (3.9%). Table 2 below shows some examples.

Table 2. Examples of LCSs classified by working areas

Working Area	Organization Name	Examples
Conservation and Biodiversity	BrazilFoundation	Luz Alliance Fund: Supports socio-environmental actions aimed at the regeneration of Brazilian biomes. The projects supported aim to conserve biodiversity and protect natural ecosystems, species and water springs, promoting more sustainable ways of life.
	Institute for Society, Population and Nature (ISPN)	Fund for the Promotion of Eco Social Productive Landscapes (PPP- ECOS): Supports initiatives focused on environmental conservation and balanced climate combined with the sustainable use of biodiversity, strengthening food security, income generation and a dignified life working the field, through dialogues and actions that ensure community protagonism and the tackling of social inequalities.
	Casa Socio-Environmental Fund	Casa Rivers and Oceans: Supports organizations that work to preserve coastal biomes, strengthening local communities and artisanal fishermen’s associations to ensure the conservation of natural resources and sustainable development.

Working Area	Organization Name	Examples
Environmental Education	Brazilian Environmental Education Fund (FunBEA)	<p>Climate Program: Through territorial campaigns, environmental and climate education, and the development of environmental safeguards, the program supports municipalities and civil society groups in the development of strategies and actions that strengthen communities to face climate change.</p> <p>MonitoraEA – Brazilian System for the Monitoring and Assessment of Public Policies for Environmental Education: MonitoraEA is a project by the National Coordination of Public Policies for Environmental Education (ANPPEA), supported by FunBEA, which also a member of the executive secretariat service. The scientific coordination of the initiative is done by the Laboratory for Advanced Studies in Sustainable Development and Innovation (LADIS), in a partnership with OCA – Environmental Education and Policy Laboratory at ESALQ/USP.</p>
	Redes da Maré	<p>Redes da Maré Climão Campaign - we need to talk about climate change in the favelas: Booklet produced to raise awareness within the community of the effects of climate change in the territory and to better inform the population of the Maré community.</p>
Sustainable Management of Natural Resources	FunBEA	<p>Water Program: It draws communities, local organizations and Brazilian public managers into a broad reflection in view of the enhanced management of their water resources. In addition to preserving water springs and rivers, the program focuses heavily on basic sanitation, which is one of the major health and public policy issues in Brazil. Environmental education is an integral part of the water protection routine.</p>
	iCS - Institute for Climate and Society	<p>Working area focusing on the energy, industrial and transportation transition: This working area encompasses the fair energy transition, with the electrification of public transportation and the “decarbonization” of the power sector and the industry, in view of a low-carbon economy. In this sense, the focus is on advocacy and on the support of projects in the fields of Renewable Energy; Fair Transition in the oil and gas segment and on the industry segment.</p>
	Casa Socio-Environmental Fund	<p>Call for proposals to ensure the fair energy transition and the strengthening of artisanal fishing (2024): Through financial support, it strengthens grassroots community organizations to better defend their rights and territories in light of the implementation of energy projects (oil, gas, hydroelectric plants, transmission lines, wind, solar, nuclear power).</p>

Working Area	Organization Name	Examples
Gender and LGBTQIAPN+	ELAS+ Giving for Change Fund	Call for Proposals: Building Movements - For Democracy, Gender and Climate Justice (2024): Again with the aim of strengthening initiatives by cis, trans and other transidentities, ELAS+ launched this call for proposals in a partnership with UN Women, reinforcing democratic and social justice assumptions and engaging in the fight against the many forms of violence against women.
	Agbara Fund	Atunlo Ife – Socio-environmental program directed to waste-collecting black women (2022): It offers technical and civic training to black women working in the recycling and waste handling sector, whether or not organized in collectives/cooperatives, and whether or not formalized, in the city of Campinas and the Metropolitan Area of São Paulo.
	Casa Socio-Environmental Fund	Call for Proposals: Women Leading Climate Action (2023): The purpose of this call for proposals was to support the development and strengthening of the capacities of grassroots groups and movements led by women, trans, intersex and non-binary people to influence key decision-making spaces that defend critical ecosystems, take urgent action to divest from fossil fuel industries, and support inclusive, sustainable, gender-equitable climate solutions.
Rights of Traditional Peoples and Communities	Baoba - Fund for Racial Equity	Call for Proposals: Quilombolas in the Defense - Lives, Rights and Justice (2021): It supported initiatives by quilombola organizations for economic recovery and sustainability; promotion of food sovereignty and security; community resilience and defense of the rights of quilombola communities. This call for proposals was part of the Alliance between Funds, which includes the Casa Socio-Environmental Fund, the Baoba Fund for Racial Equity, and the Brazil Fund.
	Brazil Fund	Call for Proposals: Traditional Communities Fighting for Climate Justice (2023): Tied to the “Roots – Fund for Climate Justice for Traditional Peoples and Communities” Program, it aimed to support the strengthening of the ways of life of traditional communities from every region of the country, focusing on the right to land and territory, alternative forms of production, training, and advocacy. SOS Amazonas Drought Campaign (2023): It mobilized resources to protect the human rights of indigenous peoples during the historic drought in the Amazon region (2023), and relied on the support of the Articulation of Indigenous Organizations and Peoples of Amazonas (APIAM).

Working Area	Organization Name	Examples
Climate Resilience and Adaptation	ICOM	Community Reconstruction Fund (since 2018): Fund that responds to natural disasters and public calamities by supporting community leadership and networking. In 2018, the Fund focused on supporting communities affected by the rainfall in Santa Catarina, and has also been working to support the reconstruction of Florianópolis after Heavy storms and wind events affected the city of Florianópolis, particularly in May 2018, and Rio Grande do Sul after the floods.
	Casa Socio-Environmental Fund	Call for Proposals: Women Leading Climate Action (2023): The purpose of this call for proposals was to support the development and strengthening of the capacities of grassroots groups and movements led by women, trans, intersex and non-binary individuals, to influence key decision-making spaces that defend critical ecosystems, take urgent action to divest from fossil fuel industries, and support inclusive, sustainable and gender-equitable climate solutions.
	Our City Association	Brumadinho Regenerative Fund (2019): It facilitates regeneration efforts in the municipalities of Brumadinho and Paraopeba, in the medium and long terms, in a simple, unbureaucratic manner and in line with the needs of the local community.
Health, environment and climate	FunBEA	Environmental Health Program: It discusses the issue of health based on urgent environmental issues, such as climate change, the use of pesticides, and air and water pollution, which cause, among other countless impacts, hospitalizations and deaths caused by respiratory and heart diseases. Through the “sanitation now” and “Boiçucanga compost” initiatives, it works to conserve coastal ecosystems and resist the silent impacts of human occupation of the coastal areas, seas and oceans of the Brazilian Atlantic Forest, and disseminate composting, preventing organic waste (food leftovers) from being sent to landfills, respectively.
	Redes da Maré	Respira Maré: Producing a number of diagnostics on air quality, identifying heat islands and observing the impacts on the health of the residents of the Maré Community. The idea is that, after the data is analyzed, an environmental pedagogical intervention will be carried out in the public space.

Source: Mapping of LCSs, April/May 2024

5.2 Target Audiences of the Local Climate Solutions

In addition to working on key issues within the climate agenda, the LCSs supported and/or implemented by our member organizations prioritize groups that are in a situation of socio-environmental and climate vulnerability, namely: grassroots communities¹⁹ (29.4%); traditional peoples and communities (27.5%), including indigenous peoples, quilombolas and other traditional communities; women and LBTQIAPN+ people (6.9%); and children, adolescents and young people up to the age of 29 (4.9%).

In this sense, we find that the LCSs developed and/or supported tend to prioritize approaches based on human rights from an intersectional perspective, considering gender and racial equity as cross-cutting elements in the lines of action supported. This perspective ensures that climate initiatives promote justice and equality, meeting the specific needs of the most vulnerable communities.

Table 3 below lists some examples.

Table 3. Examples of LCSs by target audience

Target audience	Organization Name	Examples
Children, adolescents and young people	Casa Socio-Environmental Fund	Call for Proposals: Strengthening Youth in the Fight Against Environmental Racism (2024): Supporting initiatives and projects led by young people from peripheral areas and traditional communities.
	ICOM	Guide to Protecting Children in Emergency Situations (2023): Provides the information needed to work with children in emergency situations. Guardians of the Future Project: Series of online training sessions directed to leaders and professionals from civil society organizations that work with children and adolescents, in view of promoting solutions to local problems tied to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

¹⁹ Groups of people who reside in a specific geographic area and share common interests, values, needs or challenges.

Target audience	Organization Name	Examples
Women and LGBTQIAPN+	Fundo Positivo	Climate Justice Program for Transgender Women and Transvestites (2023): Expands the institutional strengthening of CSOs and supports projects aimed at mitigating the impacts of climate change on the trans and transvestite populations. In this way, projects focusing on fighting food insecurity are implemented, and initiatives for access to government housing programs, production of knowledge on climate justice, and other related activities are supported.
	Tabôa Community Reinforcement	Community Gender Working Area: Proposes to foster more collaborative community relations and enhance their capabilities, promoting training, exchanges, experiences, and the strengthening of the Women's Network of the Southern Coastal Territory of Bahia.
	Casa Socio-Environmental Fund	Call for Proposals: Strengthening Communities in the Pursuit of Socio-Environmental Rights – Climate and Gender Justice (2023): Supporting projects that expand the autonomy of community organizations, enabling the community to be the protagonist of their socio-environmental initiatives.
Povos e Comunidades Tradicionais	BrazilFoundation	Call for Proposals: Environment and Climate Change Fund (2023): Supporting Brazilian socio-environmental CSOs that work to strengthen indigenous peoples and traditional and local populations in the pursuit of sustainable livelihoods. It encourages the development of new regenerative and/or circular economy practices by establishing traditional and/or community groups as protagonists in the six Brazilian biomes.
	Brazil Fund	Call for Proposals: Strengthening the Knowledge and Practices of Quilombola Agriculture (2023): Supports the strengthening of quilombola family farming, promoting sustainable production systems that value socio-biodiversity and agro-extractivism. The focus is on preserving the Brazilian biomes and increasing the economic autonomy of quilombola territories, integrating environmental conservation with socioeconomic development.
	Institute for Society, Population and Nature (ISPN)	Indigenous Peoples Program: It works with indigenous peoples to build collaborative strategies for the socioenvironmental sustainability of their communities, in addition to strengthening their sociopolitical organizations. It is based on the construction of a coordination agenda aiming to approach civil society, defend indigenous rights and influence public policies, especially those tied to territorial and environmental management, with an emphasis on the implementation of the National Policy for Territorial and Environmental Management of Indigenous Lands (PNGATI). The Program operates with a variable scope and on several scales, with emphasis on the State of Maranhão.

Target audience	Organization Name	Examples
Grassroots Communities	Baixada Maranhense Community Institute	Call for Proposals: Strengthening Family Farming (2021): The purpose of this call for proposals is to support the strengthening of agroecological and cultural production in the municipality of Olinda Nova, in the State of Maranhão.
	Tabôa Community Reinforcement	Development Program for Organizations, Collectives and Leaderships: Develops institutional capacities to enable the autonomy of associations and collectives. Regarding leaderships, the goal is to promote the development of their interpersonal skills so they can constructively act and position themselves within a group, with good knowledge of citizenship and rights, in addition to technical skills that support their work.
	Procomum Institute	Community Network for Climate (2024): Made up of people and community organizations committed to the climate agenda in the greater Santos area (Baixada Santista). The goal is to mobilize local leaders, members of other institutions and collectives, as well as professionals, students, artists and activists to identify urgent problems, identify good practices and the main actors involved in the local agenda. The expectation with this is to strengthen the work done within the climate agenda.

Source: Mapping of LCSs, April/May 2024

In addition to the LCSs implemented by members of the Comuá Network themselves, they are also part of other collectives and strategic alliances. The Casa Socio-Environmental Fund and the Elas+ Giving for Change Fund are part of the Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action²⁰, highlighting the commitment to women's organizations that work on gender issues in the socio-environmental field.

Box 2. Engagement and collaboration with intersectional and Global South alliances

The Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action (GAGGA Alliance) is an international network committed to promoting climate and gender justice by strengthening local movements and supporting integrated climate and social solutions. With an approach that combines financing, capacity building and advocacy, it seeks to produce a positive, sustainable impact in the fight against the climate crisis and gender inequalities.

²⁰ [Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action.](#)

5.3 Strategies for Local Climate Solutions

The strategies considered for the development of LCSs are multiple, including **financial support (grantmaking), production of knowledge and advocacy** – whether implemented with governments, civil society or in the form of public policies, as well as the development of campaigns aiming to mobilize these groups.

Grassroots communities produce local knowledge and hold valuable ancestral knowledge that is crucial to the development of effective, sustainable, adaptable solutions in the territory. At the same time, producing knowledge – in the form of guides, reports, analyses, and

publications – is critical to the dissemination of information and practices, strengthening the capacities of communities, governments, the private sector, and organizations in the decision-making process. Advocacy strategies developed with different actors allow for the construction of strategic alliances and the combination of efforts from different sectors, increasing the effectiveness and scope of climate actions. The following table presents some of the mapped strategies.

Table 4. Examples of LCSs based on the strategies employed

Target audience	Organization Name	Examples
Financial support (grantmaking)	Brazil Fund	Support Route on the Right to Fair and Sustainable Cities (since 2011): The purpose of this route was to support organizations, groups and collectives working to defend the right to the city, particularly the right to decent housing, mobility and access to infrastructure, in addition to strengthening the social and collective function of public spaces.
	ICOM	Usina Fund (2018): Supports projects tied to the environmental cause, with a focus on waste recycling and reuse.
	Casa Fluminense	Casa Fluminense Fund (2016): Encourages the work of movements, collectives and community organizations in view of community mobilization, citizens' tracking of processes, rights advocacy, and the promotion of local solutions to the structural challenges experienced by the population in low-income areas of the Metropolitan Region of Rio de Janeiro.

Target audience	Organization Name	Examples
Production of Knowledge	ICOM	Guide to the Development of Contingency Plans for the Protection of Children and Adolescents in Emergency Situations (2023): Provides the information needed to work with children and adolescents in emergency situations.
	Casa Fluminense	Climate Justice Guide (2023): Systematizes experiences with practices, solutions, and social and ancestral technologies developed in neighborhoods, favela communities, and working-class neighborhoods. Additionally, it helps movements to engage in socio-environmental and climate action and in the monitoring of management instruments, which are crucial to tackling environmental racism in the 22 municipalities of the Metropolitan Region of Rio de Janeiro.
	Redes da Maré	Analyzing Climate Risks and Vulnerabilities of the Maré Favela Complex (2023): Compilation of studies describing the risks in the territory considering three climate phenomena: heat waves, river floods, and rising sea levels.
	Brazil Fund, Casa Socio-Environmental Fund, Institute for Society, Population and Nature (ISPN), iCS - Institute for Climate and Society	<p>Publications: These organizations produce guides, reports, news materials and articles on topics related to the climate agenda, as well as the defense of human and socio-environmental rights.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Casa Socio-Environmental Fund, in a partnership with the French Embassy in Brazil, released the publication “Human rights and environmental protection: gender relations, compliance with the Escazú Agreement, and opportunities for philanthropy.” • iCS established a dialogue and prepared a report to assess the progress of climate finance and discuss challenges and innovative solutions for its improvement in Brazil, from the G20 to COP30. • ISPN released the booklet “School meals and traditional peoples and communities” to highlight the importance of adapting health standards to the realities of indigenous peoples, quilombolas, and other traditional communities.

Target audience	Organization Name	Examples
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Advocacy	Institute for Society, Population and Nature (ISPN)	Public Policy: Strengthens political action with civil society and government bodies in favor of the conservation of biodiversity, inclusion of rural communities in the production process and protection of their territories, in addition to fighting deforestation.
	ICOM	ESG Strategy: Based on the principle that companies are at different evolutionary stages and maturity levels in regards to sustainability, it proposes a framework with a list of the possible positions they can adopt concerning the issue of sustainability.
	Casa Fluminense	Legislative Panel (2015-2017): This is a platform that compiles the legislative work by the Legislative Assembly of Rio de Janeiro (ALERJ), from 2015 to 2017, and classifies the projects according to the pillars of the Rio Agenda (a document that systematizes proposals for fair public policies for the city) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

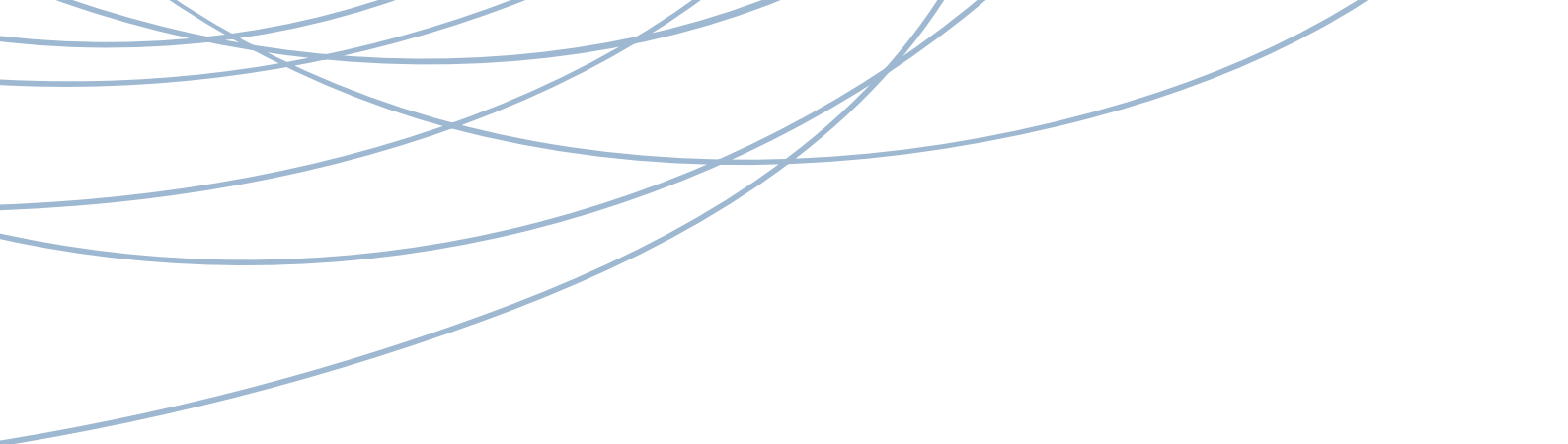
Source: Mapping of LCSs, April/May 2024

6.

Main highlights of the work by the members of the Comuá Network in the climate agenda

Considering the main results of the analysis of the work done by the members of the Comuá Network and the mapping of Local Climate Solutions, the following trends stand out:

- 1. The work of the Comuá Network's members is variegated and diverse, but a common effort is made to develop and support initiatives in the climate agenda.** Although each member has different missions and goals, the diagnosis shows that the organizations comprising the Network have played an active role in the climate justice agenda, valuing initiatives led by the local communities themselves.
- 2. The members of Comuá act on different levels** in the climate agenda and, in this scenario, the development of an advocacy strategy aimed at promoting the sharing of experiences and strategies, learnings and integrated collective actions in favor of climate justice becomes a priority.
- 3. The members of the Network understand the need to mobilize more resources for the climate agenda.** The resources invested in climate justice between 2022 and 2023 increased, which has consequently contributed to the implementation of a greater number of LCSs, which could be improved and supported on a larger scale, and replicated in other territories, taking into account their specificities and relying on the active participation of communities.
- 4. The Network's members are recognized for financing local initiatives and organizations and supporting the production of knowledge about climate change and its impacts on the territories.** This demonstrates their commitment to democratizing access to resources and information, as well as driving strategies to raise awareness about climate justice among groups in vulnerable situations.
- 5. The Local Climate Solutions supported and/or implemented by the members are steered by principles of transversality and intersectionality** among multiple themes and actors, indicating that the support and/or implementation of a single solution can simultaneously address two or more social and environmental challenges. Furthermore, issues of gender, race and class indicate an intersectional approach and, therefore, a broader scope of action when tackling complex issues in an integrated and holistic manner.
- 6. The LCSs prioritize grassroots communities, peripheral communities and traditional communities,** which reinforces the member organizations' commitment to the inclusion of minority political groups, in situations of social and climate vulnerability, which are less capable of adapting to extreme phenomena. This certainly helps increase the resilience capacity of these groups.

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7. **The Network's members play a crucial role in advocating climate issues with other actors**, acting as influencers in favor of the development of guidelines and practices that address climate challenges in an inclusive, from the ground up, while at the same time engaging with other members of civil society, philanthropy, and the private sector, among others, strengthening the mobilization of multiple actors carrying out distinct and complementary roles and responsibilities in addressing climate change.
 8. **Comuá member organizations work at the intersection between climate and human rights**, taking into account the involvement of a diverse set of people, actors, geographic contexts, and biomes, thereby creating an environment where diverse voices are heard and demands are considered, resulting in more inclusive, legitimate, long-lasting solutions.
 9. **The Network's members play an important role in capacity building and advocacy**. This involves participating in and influencing social control mechanisms (such as assemblies, public hearings, etc.), thereby contributing to greater diversity and inclusion in the planning and implementation of climate policies aligned with the goal of reducing inequalities.
 10. **The members can contribute towards the restructuring of existing climate funds** and the structuring of new climate finance initiatives. The organizations comprising the Network have a great deal of experience and knowledge of how the local funds and the field of socio-environmental justice philanthropy work, effectively contributing to the expansion and application of the resources allocated to the mitigation of and adaptation to the effects of climate change, and to the compensation of losses and damages caused by the impacts of these extreme events and changes.
 11. **The work of the members of the Comuá for Climate Initiative has the potential to strengthen organizations led by indigenous peoples, traditional and local communities, and low-income urban areas**, so that these groups can be better represented in political debates and decision-making processes on climate finance, especially in terms of the defense of their rights and territories.

7.

Challenges facing global Climate Finance

Climate finance needs to change its course quickly and sharply. Today, foundations from the Global North control 99% of the global funding for human rights, allocating 88% of this funding to organizations that are also based in the Global North. Only 12% of the resources are allocated to groups in the Global South and East²¹, which shows two concerning trends: i) organizations in the Global South and East have reduced access to funding; and ii) a significant portion of the funding allocated to the Global South and East is indirect, provided through organizations predominantly based in the Global North.

Despite the concentration of funding in rich countries, approximately 70% of the resources mobilized by local and independent philanthropy organizations in Brazil come from international foundations²². The low-intensity giving culture of Brazilian national philanthropy causes the organizations to be more dependent on foreign funding. This is aggravated by certain limitations, such as complex bureaucratic processes, difficulties to access information, and language barriers, constituting obstacles to direct and flexible funding.

Democratizing access to resources is a core issue for the members of the Comuá Network within the context of the Comuá for Climate Initiative. That is because the fight for a more equitable financing system, which facilitates the access of civil society actors to resources is, above all, a matter of socio-environmental and climate justice as well as reparation of historical damage. A new

model of philanthropy, connected to people and territories and based on the inclusion of

local actors, must entail a review of the giving practices, steered by the democratization of the access to resources, the establishment of relationships of trust, the simplification of accountability processes, and the recognition of civil society organizations and movements as protagonists of social transformations²³.

The decolonization of philanthropy²⁴ is an key principle to enable a radical transformation in the views and practices of philanthropy, which must be supported by approaches that overcome regional inequalities, strengthening new alliances among territories, communities and multiple actors. One way to decentralize climate philanthropy is to increase the engagement of countries and regions beyond the Global North. In Brazil, the organizations in the sector have expressed their commitment to this change. The launch of the Brazilian Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change in 2023²⁵ (signed by a number of Comuá Network members), as well as the holding of the first Brazilian Climate Finance Forum in 2024²⁶, are recent, emblematic examples of the growing engagement in the sector, and serve as platforms for joint action, learning, and coordination of efforts by Brazilian philanthropy on the climate agenda.

Mobilizing partners in the Global South is also important to diversify the sources of funding and increase the resilience of local organizations, considering their common demands and the sharing of knowledge, strategies, practices and experiences. This reinforces the position of the Global South as a protagonist in the negotiations on climate finance, enabling the establishment of a united front capable of pressing for more

²¹ [The Trust Gap Report, 2023.](#)

²² [Comuá Network: Transforming philanthropy, 2023. Mapping of independent donor organizations for civil society in the fields of socio-environmental justice and community development in Brazil](#)

²³ [The scarcity of direct and flexible funding for human rights in the global South and East: reflections on the Brazilian scenario - Comuá](#)

²⁴ [For a more in-depth look at the decolonization of philanthropy, refer to: The decolonization of philanthropy is advancing.](#)

equitable policies.

Alianza Fondos Del Sur²⁷ is an emblematic example, as it is a network of socio-environmental funds from the Global South seeking to raise voices and coordinate efforts on local causes with global impact, such as the protection of the Amazon, food sovereignty, and the role of women in climate action. The Alliance works to influence global philanthropy by promoting socio-environmental justice and a new model of action, strengthening the funding agenda for regional issues. It consists of 14 members, including funds from several countries in the Global South, some of which are also members of the Comuá Network.

The Comuá for Climate Initiative aims to promote a philanthropy based on trust²⁸. A model of philanthropy aiming to reduce bureaucracy and provide flexibility so that local organizations can solve problems more quickly, directly involving the communities in the decision-making processes about actions and resource allocation. Through collaborative grantmaking strategies, the initiative ensures that local needs are met in a just and sustainable way, building respectful partnership relationships with people within their territories²⁹, strengthening the funds' role of providing fast, flexible support to social movements and activists, and increasing the capacity for action and the resilience of grassroots groups in the Global South.

²⁵ [Brazilian Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change - GIFE](#)

²⁶ [Brazilian Climate Change Forum](#)

²⁷ [Alianza Fondos del Sur](#)

²⁸ [Trust-Based Philanthropy](#)

²⁹ [Rethinking non-competitive funding within a context of community collaboration](#)



8.

Climate funding and how the members of the Comuá Network are positioned on this agenda

The support from international and national climate finance and philanthropy actors covers a wide range of topics, reflecting the complexity of current socio-environmental and climate challenges. Despite the obstacles faced in mobilizing and transferring resources, some topics have been widely debated and/or prioritized in terms of funding. The following table presents some of the topics highlighted as major financing trends - whether private or public. The topics include: i) promotion of renewable energies, ii) support of traditional peoples and communities, iii) adaptation, loss and damage, and mitigation of risks and disasters, iv) funding and resource mobilization strategies, v) conservation and biodiversity.

Table 5. Analyzing climate finance trends and how the Network’s members are positioned on the issue

Topic	Context	Positioning of the Comuá Network member organizations on this agenda
<p>Renewable Energies</p>	<p>Investment in renewable energy is a core issue in the climate agenda. However, this agenda has different nuances for the Global North and South. This is because in developed countries, most greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions come from the energy and transportation sectors. As a result, a large share of the funding is earmarked for this sector.³⁰</p> <p>However, this is a trend that does not fully apply to the Brazilian reality, given that the sectors with the highest GHG emissions are forestry and land use changes, and agriculture and cattle-raising³¹, and that a much of the energy generated comes from renewable sources.³²</p> <p>In this sense, the discussion on energy within a context of climate change in Brazil should be much more associated with the opportunity to ensure a fair and inclusive energy transition, mitigating the dependence on fossil fuels, but also on the model of large hydroelectric plants, considering their socio-environmental impacts and the risk of water scarcity and contamination. Furthermore, the increase in decentralized wind and solar power generation must also ensure the protection of the affected communities and ecosystems, based on risk mitigation strategies and the establishment of socio-environmental safeguards.³³</p> <p>So, climate philanthropy has an important role to play in supporting the communities to secure their rights, so that social and environmental impacts are reduced during the installation and expansion of energy projects in Brazil, and so that the communities can also benefit from these projects, in terms of the access to energy security, as well as the generation of jobs and income.</p>	<p>Some members of the Network are already directly engaged in this issue, seeking to support and implement initiatives to promote a fair and sustainable energy transition, in view of building a low-carbon economy, in addition to focusing on the defense of the rights of local and traditional communities in the face of large-scale projects.</p> <p>Comuá member organizations develop and support projects that encourage the adoption of clean technologies and the reduced dependence on fossil fuels, in addition to strengthening the communities and encouraging the decentralization of energy production. Finally, they have also produced reports, guides and articles on a wide range of topics associated with climate and energy policies, with the aim of informing, engaging and influencing public policies and society in general concerning issues such as energy efficiency, sustainable transport, and the low-carbon economy.</p>

Topic	Context	Positioning of the Comuá Network member organizations on this agenda
<p>Indigenous Peoples, Local and Traditional Communities and Afro-descendants</p>	<p>Global climate finance for Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities and Afro-descendants for forest tenure and stewardship averaged US\$517 million per year between 2020 and 2023, which represented an increase of 36% as compared to the previous four years.³⁴ This figure falls far short of the contribution to climate conservation and maintenance led by Indigenous Peoples, Local and Traditional Communities and Afro-descendants.</p> <p>In terms of the access to financing, the resources are channeled mainly through multilateral institutions, major international and Brazilian NGOs and UN agencies. Less than 1% of the funding actually reaches these groups to secure tenure rights and manage forests in tropical countries. Out of the total funds allocated over the past 10 years to support these rights, only 17% included at least one local organization, representing 0.13% of all climate finance.³⁵</p> <p>Some initiatives have attempted to move towards less bureaucratic partnership models to ensure that the resources reach the communities. One example is the Forest Tenure Funders Group (FTFG)³⁶, created in 2020 to strengthen global climate finance for the territorial rights of Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities and Afro-descendants. Support for this issue averaged US\$517 million per year between 2020 and 2023, an increase of 36% compared to the previous four years. Around 72% of the increase was driven by the FTFG. The proportion of the total funding coming from private foundations climbed from 8% to 17%, although the majority of the funding for Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities and Afro-descendants is still driven by bilateral and multilateral sources.</p> <p>Despite an overall increase in funding, there is no evidence to suggest a systemic shift in the existing funding modalities or more direct donor funding to organizations led by these groups. Furthermore, the initiative is led exclusively by actors from the Global North. A comprehensive process of engagement with actors from the Global South is crucial to gain scale and ensure a greater legitimacy and effectiveness of the interventions.</p>	<p>The Network's members have a history of supporting and valuing the culture, ways of life, and socio-environmental projects led by indigenous peoples, traditional communities, Afro-descendants, and local peoples. Their actions include strengthening conservation strategies and defending the territories of those peoples, promoting the preservation of their ancestral knowledge, and providing institutional support to grassroots groups. In addition, the Comuá Network members are experienced with the implementation of accessible financing mechanisms aligned with local priorities, to ensure that the investments are effective and fair, as well as a legacy of supporting the community and the organizational strengthening of institutions led by those groups.</p>

Topic	Context	Positioning of the Comuá Network member organizations on this agenda
<p>Adaptation, Loss & Damage, Mitigation of Risks and Disasters</p>	<p>The IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report (focused on Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability) predicts that countries will suffer irreversible losses and damages, especially in regard to ecosystems and people in more vulnerable situations.³⁷ So, it is important to prevent, adapt to and mitigate the risks associated with climate change. The actions to address these issues involve financing, formulation of public policy and disaster response capabilities. Adaptation costs in developing countries range around US\$215 billion per year. However, current financial flows cover only 10% of those costs, creating a major financing gap that jeopardizes the ability of developing countries and the Global South to adapt and respond to disasters.³⁸ In this regard, 21 major philanthropic funders have signed a call to action establishing stronger commitments to finance climate resilience and adaptation.³⁹ Together, the organizations committed to increase shared learning and develop coordinated strategies to reduce climate vulnerability, including: increasing learning, coordination, investment and overall impact on adaptation; develop coordinated strategies to scale and improve philanthropic action, prioritizing the most heavily impacted groups; interact with other actors beyond philanthropy, such as governments, financial institutions, etc., to create scalable actions with greater impact.</p> <p>In addition to financial mobilization, we must also increase the coordination and collaboration between the actors working in humanitarian aid, disaster response, and climate change adaptation. This will help maximize potential synergies, minimize duplicated actions, and use limited funding efficiently and effectively.⁴⁰</p>	<p>The Network's members have been committed to creating and strengthening strategies that increase community resilience in the face of climate change. Their initiatives include strengthening the capacities of the organizations on the frontlines of the fight against climate change, supporting projects that address critical issues such as environmental racism, the right to the city, and ways by which the most heavily impacted groups can adapt to the new climate reality. Furthermore, the members stand out for their ability to respond quickly to disasters, through the creation of funds and mobilization campaigns to raise funds for the communities affected by disasters, such as the Fund to support people affected by the environmental crime in Brumadinho, and the support to the victims of the floods in Rio Grande do Sul. The purpose of these actions is not only to expand immediate humanitarian aid, but also to support the reconstruction of the affected territories, promoting recovery and building greater resilience for the future.</p> <p>Considering that 93% of the country's municipalities have already dealt with extreme events in the past decade, and since 1991, 203 million people have been directly or indirectly affected by climate change⁴¹, the Comuá Network's members are strategically positioned to contribute adaptation strategies to the communities, reducing economic and non-economic losses and damages, and mitigating risks and disasters, with a focus on individuals in situations of greater socio-environmental and climate vulnerability.</p>

Topic	Context	Positioning of the Comuá Network member organizations on this agenda
<p>Collective funding and resource mobilization strategies</p>	<p>Research shows that climate finance is growing. However, this growth is neither sufficient nor consistent across sectors and regions, as there is inequality in the way that money is distributed among countries.⁴² The Global South is at a disadvantage in accessing finance and faces barriers to increase fundraising, as the funds are mostly concentrated in the Global North. So, innovating in funding and resource mobilization strategies is vital to the effectiveness of philanthropy. Many organizations have come together to work through local funds, national networks and international movements, in view of optimizing their fundraising efforts and increasing the impact of the allocated resources.</p> <p>Examples of collective strategies include regional fund networks, such as the Amazon Community Fund Network⁴³ (comprising Fundo Dema, Podáali, Fundo Indígena do Rio Negro - FIRN, Fundo Luzia Dorothy do Espírito Santo, Fundo Mizzi Dudu, Fundo Puxirum and Fundo Babaçu), global initiatives, such as the Philanthropy for Climate⁴⁴ and #ShiftThePower⁴⁵ movements, and Alianza Fondos Del Sur⁴⁶, which consists of local funds and socio-environmental justice activists working together to support initiatives by community organizations in the Global South. These networks, alliances, and movements intend to collaborate not only on strategies to mobilize resources, but also on the sharing of knowledge and the transformation of philanthropy and development practices. However, these networks must leverage their strategic coordination with organizations in the Global North in order to achieve their goals to enhance their advocacy capacity and access to resources.</p>	<p>The Comuá Network's members are key players in climate-focused community philanthropy, whose main goal is the allocation of resources to local organizations. This helps to reduce bureaucracy and make the use of the investments more flexible so that these organizations can respond more effectively to their own specific needs and contexts.</p> <p>Additionally, they are engaged in a broader movement to decolonialize climate finance, collaborating with partners across Brazil to rethink and reformulate financing practices that are fairer and more inclusive. The members of the Comuá Network are part of many of the initiatives mentioned, but their engagement can be expanded, not only with initiatives from the Global South, but mainly by expanding their coordination and influence in global philanthropy forums, thereby contributing to the transformation of the existing narratives and practices.</p>

³⁰ [Global Landscape of Climate Finance 2023](#)

³¹ [SEEG Platform](#)

³² [Brazilian electrical grid reaches 200 GW](#)

³³ https://climainfo.org.br/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Salvuardas_FEV02_CLIMAINFO.pdf

³⁴ [State of Funding for Tenure Rights and Forest Guardianship](#)

³⁵ [Far from the target: Funding for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in the fight to secure land and management rights over their territories in tropical countries \(2011–2020\)](#)

³⁶ [State of Funding for Tenure Rights and Forest Guardianship](#)

³⁷ [AR6 Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability — IPCC](#)

³⁸ [Adaptation Gap Report 2023 | UNEP - UN Environment Programme](#)

³⁹ [Coalition of twenty-one leading funders release Call to Action to accelerate action on climate adaptation at COP28 and beyond - ClimateWorks Foundation](#)

⁴⁰ [State and Trends in Climate Adaptation Finance 2023 - CPI](#)

⁴¹ [Institute for Climate and Society, 2024. Country Snapshot: Brazil and Adaptation](#)

Topic	Context	Positioning of the Comuá Network member organizations on this agenda
<p>Conservation and biodiversity</p>	<p>Conservation and biodiversity strategies are ever-present in the climate debate around the world. A notable recent global effort on the topic is the creation of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF)⁴⁷, established in response to the decisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15).</p> <p>In 2024, the GBFF approved a new round of funding for the preparation of projects and earmarked more than US\$ 70 million for 18 new projects in 21 countries, including 13 less developed countries and small developing island states. Despite the focus on strategic themes for Brazil, only one Brazilian organization was awarded resources⁴⁸.</p> <p>The support for projects on Nature-Based Solutions, bioeconomy, and agroforestry systems can encourage a change in the management and use of natural resources, helping to reduce emissions and make societies more resilient to climate change. There is a great opportunity to strengthen an approach centered on the people responsible for caring for these territories, focusing on socio-environmental and climate co-benefits.</p>	<p>Conservation and biodiversity are central themes in the work of the Comuá Network's members. This is potentialized by the fact that the funds operate in all biomes in Brazil and have massive expertise in areas such as restoration, agroforestry systems, bioeconomy, and environmental education.</p> <p>The members are well-positioned in their strategies to support grassroots communities through family farming and agroecology, using these practices as tools to promote sustainable land use, generate income for those involved, and ensure food security for the communities.</p>

⁴² [Global Landscape of Climate Finance 2023](#)

⁴³ [Amazon Community Fund Network holds 4th meeting in Manaus – Podáali](#)

⁴⁴ [About Us - The International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change](#)

⁴⁵ [Shift the Power](#)

⁴⁶ [Alianza Fondos del Sur](#)

⁴⁷ [Global Biodiversity Framework Fund | GEF 46 Alianza Fondos del Sur](#)

⁴⁸ [Biodiversity fund approves 18 new project preparation grants | GEF](#)

9.

Strengths, Opportunities and challenges of the Comuá for Climate Initiative

According to the mapping and contributions from the Comuá Network’s members⁴⁹, the **strengths**, opportunities, and challenges of the **Comuá for Climate Initiative** were identified. This analysis provides a holistic view of the factors that influence the of Network’s and its members’ capacity to achieve their strategic goals in the climate agenda.

Table 6. Strengths, opportunities, and challenges of the Comuá for Climate Initiative

Strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. The Comuá Network:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Has a comprehensive view of the field of philanthropy, the maturity level and climate engagement of each member organization, as well as the possibilities for collective action.b. Has the capacity to engage in climate advocacy aligned with the agenda of mitigating inequalities and defending access to rights.c. Is a political actor holding a strategic position in Brazilian philanthropy and in the Global South, which can be expanded through the strategic engagement of its members and partners.2. The members of the Network:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Work on common issues that strengthen the Network’s sense of unity.b. Operate in different biomes and territories, which affords high capillarity and allows them to reach various communities and ecosystems.c. Develop and support initiatives from an intersectional and transversal perspective, involving different target audiences, multisectoral approaches, which take into account gender, race, class, territory, age, etc.d. Have increased donations and mobilized resources for the climate agenda.e. Play an important role in the production of knowledge and dissemination of information on the climate agenda and social issues.f. Address topics that are already trending in the climate debate and in the field of philanthropy.g. Have the ability to respond to the urgent challenges posed by climate change, such as rapid and efficient response to disasters.
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⁴⁹ On May 28, 2024, members of the Comuá Network participated in an online meeting, during which they were able to contribute to this work.

Challenges

1. Bureaucracy in accessing major sources of funding.
2. The risk that philanthropy will continue to be guided by the agendas and priorities of major foundations in the Global North, perpetuating structural inequalities in the access to and distribution of resources between countries and regions.
3. Changes in funders' strategies and priorities that might affect the availability of resources for priority agendas of the Comuá Network's members.
4. Climate events and additional and unpredictable challenges imposed by climate change.
5. Fierce competition for limited philanthropic resources.
6. Political and economic instability in Brazil, including the risk of increased climate denialism and the dismantling of socio-environmental and climate policies, which could increase the vulnerability of grassroots communities.
7. Difficulty to include actors from the Global South as strategic partners due to exclusionary global policies.
8. Advancement of conservative agendas, creating regressive dynamics in the rights agenda
9. A local philanthropy that scarcely gives to civil society, specifically to socio-environmental justice and human rights agendas.

Opportunities

1. To strengthen and develop skills to expand knowledge and possibilities for action on the climate agenda.
2. To communicate and disseminate information about the work of the members and the Comuá for Climate Initiative.
3. To search for collaboration and partnerships to join forces with other networks and organizations from civil society, academia, and the private sector.
4. To strengthen strategic advocacy actions in relevant events and forums.
5. Joint/collective development of communication and resource mobilization strategies for the Comuá for Climate Initiative.
6. Development of a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning system, with impact indicators, which is capable of contributing to the production of evidence that strengthens the legitimacy to influence debates from the local to the international level.
7. To consolidate the thematic and work agenda of the Comuá for Climate Initiative.
8. To engage with funders from Brazil and the Global South, and mobilize strategic and relevant actors to support the initiative and the global climate philanthropy agenda, raising the voices and the influence of those actors.
9. To strengthen the support of Indigenous Peoples, Traditional Communities, and people in vulnerable situations prioritized in the Local Climate Solutions.
10. To strengthen the members' capacities so that they can expand their actions, in line with the goals of the Comuá for Climate Initiative.

10.

Mapping climate finance opportunities and advocacy spaces

Considering the performance of the member organizations and the strength of the **Comuá for Climate Initiative**, we assume that there are great opportunities to expand our partners and funders, especially among those seeking to strengthen a more inclusive climate agenda. The following table presents a mapping of some of the main funds and funders that support the implementation of the climate agenda, in Brazil and globally. This list is not meant to be exhaustive⁵⁰, but proposes to present a comprehensive overview of the funding opportunities available to assist in the identification of potential partners and in the development of effective advocacy and fundraising strategies.

Table 7. Mapping of climate finance funds

Name	Description
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	Multilateral organization of funds dedicated to addressing biodiversity loss, climate change and pollution, and supporting the health of land and oceans. Its financing enables developing countries to address complex challenges and work towards international environmental goals.
Green Climate Fund – GCF	Unique global initiative created in 2010 by member countries of the United Nations Framework Convention to respond to climate change by investing in low-carbon development and climate resilience.
Adaptation Fund	International Fund that finances projects and programs to help developing countries adapt to the harmful effects of climate change. Currently, there is no Brazilian organization accredited with the Adaptation Fund.
National Fund for the Environment (FNMA)	The activities related to this fund are under the responsibility of the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment (MMA) and its mission is to contribute as a funding agent to the implementation of the National Environmental Policy (PNMA).
National Fund on Climate Change (Climate Fund)	The Fund is one of the instruments of the National Policy on Climate Change. Tied to the Ministry of the Environment, its purpose is to secure resources for projects, studies or ventures aiming to mitigate and adapt to climate change.
Amazon Fund	Brazil's main climate financing mechanism. It consists of non-reimbursable funding for actions to prevent, monitor and fight deforestation, and to promote the conservation and sustainable use of forests in the Legal Amazon. The Fund has a portfolio of 102 supported projects, benefiting states, municipalities, third sector organizations, universities, the Brazilian Federal Government, and the international community.
Loss and Damage Fund	In 2023, at COP28, a specific Loss and Damage Fund was approved. In July 2024, the Fund's Board met in South Korea and chose the Philippines as the host country, naming the mechanism the "Loss and Damage Response Fund" (LDF), and the World Bank as the manager. So far, around US\$ 700 million have been pledged, with contributions from several countries, including Italy, Germany and the United States, but this amount is still far from what is needed to meet the needs of the communities impacted by extreme weather events. ⁵¹

⁵⁰ Other financing mechanisms can be consulted here: [Legislação e mudanças climáticas \(Legislation and climate change\)](#), ClimalInfo.

⁵¹ [Board of new loss and damage fund chooses name and host country | Finanças \(Finances\) | Um só Planeta](#)

In addition to the funding mechanisms, knowing the spaces in which to advocate on the climate agenda allows the Comuá Network's members to participate in important debates and decision-making processes. Given the challenges of climate finance, working in these spaces strengthens the Network and its members, increasing their visibility and credibility, and enabling the construction of strategic alliances with other actors who share common goals.

In the context of philanthropy, an important advocacy movement for the Network and its members has been the "Transforming Philanthropy Month," which is dedicated to debating, giving visibility to and promoting Community Philanthropy and Socio-Environmental Justice practices, and demonstrating their contribution to social transformation, access to rights, and the strengthening of civil society and democracy.

The Comuá for Climate Initiative has the potential to expand the Network's capacity to build alliances and partnerships with other actors, including actors from the Global North, to occupy other spaces and break down silos. In this sense, an influence-expanding strategy should include the occupation of new spaces to discuss climate change from the perspective of community philanthropy.

For each space, the goals, target audience, and potential for action should be established. In this sense, the Comuá for Climate Initiative can work towards being present in material, strategic forums, in order to achieve pragmatic goals by engaging in other political spaces and high-level decision-making spaces. In the following table, we list a number of events that can be considered for expanded action.

Table 8. Mapping of material events for the climate agenda

Name	Goal	Target audience	Dates for 2024 and 2025	Potential action
NYC Climate Week	The NYC Climate Week focuses on discussions to mitigate climate change. In view of strengthening climate ambitions, it inspires, amplifies and provides a global platform for connection and discussion through dedicated events, opportunities for engagement with partners.	It attracts the most influential leaders in climate action from business, government, and the climate community, alongside the United Nations General Assembly in New York City.	September 22-29, 2024. Held annually, always in September.	Organize side events with strategic partners, in partnerships with grassroots community-led organizations.
UN Biodiversity Conference (CBD)	Increasingly important in the context of climate change and biodiversity protection. It is strategic, considering the relationship of indigenous peoples, traditional peoples and communities, and local communities with biodiversity.	It mobilizes actors and stakeholders from around the world to arrive at a new set of goals for nature for the next decade.	October 21 to November 1, 2024, in Cali, Colombia.	Opportunity to press for more ambitious goals for biodiversity protection. Strengthen advocacy with the Brazilian government to expand Brazil's role in protecting forests and protecting land and marine areas, as well as the populations that protect them.

Name	Goal	Target audience	Dates for 2024 and 2025	Potential action
G20 Summit Meetings	In 2024, Brazil will chair the annual meeting of the presidents and prime ministers of the G20, a group of the 20 largest economies on the planet.	Besides the heads of states and governments, the G20 high-level meetings also include the top authorities of multilateral organizations, such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and the World Bank, for example.	November 18 and 19, 2024, in Rio de Janeiro.	<p>Influence the Brazilian presidency to steer the debate to focus on the climate and social agenda. Opportunity to press for climate finance mechanisms directed to developing countries and the most vulnerable populations.</p> <p>Participate in several C20 (civil society) work groups to debate and draft the proposal document.</p> <p>Expand engagement with the F20.</p>
Conference of the Parties (COP)	Annual meeting of representatives of the countries and territories that are signatories to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It is the main deliberative body of the UNFCCC, and its goals are to implement, monitor and update measures aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, in the attempt to contain global warming and climate change.	Countries, organizations, companies and civil society movements.	November 11 to 24, in Baku, Azerbaijan.	<p>Opportunity to press for more ambitious goals for the protection of biodiversity.</p>
World Economic Forum Annual Meeting	The purpose of the meeting is to assemble the leaders to work together to rebuild trust and shape the principles, policies, and partnerships needed to face today's challenges. These challenges revolve around international conflicts, poverty, and environmental problems.	The week-long event brings together heads of state and government, company CEOs, civil society representatives, media outlets and youth leaders from Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Latin America, and North America.	January 20–24, 2025, in Davos, Switzerland.	<p>Opportunity to lobby for financing mechanisms directed to developing countries;</p> <p>Conduct a campaign to pressure investors to contribute to a fair transition and the decarbonization of the economies of developing countries.</p>

Name	Goal	Target audience	Dates for 2024 and 2025	Potential action
UN Climate Convention (UNFCCC) Subsidiary Bodies (SB)	<p>The two subsidiary bodies of the UN Climate Change Convention are the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI). These are reference groups created to address specific technical issues related to climate change. Although the SB meetings are traditionally discussions with a technical emphasis, advocacy by NGOs and social movements has been growing.</p>	<p>Participation in the June Climate Change Conference is restricted to the Parties to the UNFCCC, observer States, admitted observer organizations, the UN, and media representatives registered by their respective focal points in the Official Registration System and invited to participate in specific meetings.</p>	<p>June 2025.</p>	<p>Promote an advocacy campaign to mobilize the public opinion and press for more inclusive climate finance mechanisms.</p>

11.

Final considerations

The analysis of the work being done by the Comuá Network's members and the mapping of the Local Climate Solutions (LCSs) supported and/or implemented shows a significant effort at the intersection between the climate and human rights agendas. Although the members have different missions and goals, they are all committed to the climate justice agenda. This commitment is evidenced by the support of community initiatives that value local and ancestral knowledge and by the engagement of vulnerable groups.

The diversity of approaches to climate action is an asset to be considered, even to promote the exchange of experiences and the sharing of strategies, which can further strengthen the cohesion, impact and synergy of the actions implemented by the Network's member organizations. Furthermore, the increase in the investments made in climate justice in recent years indicates a growing potential for the implementation of LCSs, which are co-constructed with the communities, based on their priorities and demands. The solutions mapped are characterized by their transversality and intersectionality, addressing multiple socio-environmental challenges in an integrated manner, considering issues of gender, race, class and territory. In light of the capillarity of the actions implemented by the Network's members, we can say that there is excellent potential for the scalability of these solutions in all biomes on the Brazilian territory.

The Comuá for Climate Initiative represents the consolidation of a vocation that has already been established, and that has been reinforced over the years. It has the potential to strengthen organizations led by indigenous peoples, traditional communities, and urban and peripheral populations, ensuring greater representation in political debates and decisions on climate finance, with a focus on the defense of rights and territories and on ensuring their involvement in decision-making processes.

Comuá for climate: financing local climate solutions and philanthropy scenarios

The Comuá for Climate Initiative can play a crucial role in climate philanthropy with a decolonialized approach that seeks to ensure the protagonism of actors that were historically excluded from the decision-making processes, aiming to democratize the access to resources and ensure that funding reaches the grassroots. The implementation of a new equitable philanthropy model must connect people and territories, and include local actors, review donation practices, simplify accountability processes, and recognize civil society organizations and movements as protagonists of the socio-environmental and political changes necessary to achieve climate justice.

Ensuring that local needs are met in a fair and sustainable manner is a goal that will only be achieved through the construction of strategic partnerships. To that end, the barriers standing in the way of collaboration must be overcome and efforts must be made to strengthen locally-based funds that support social movements, communities, activists, and political actors who develop solutions from the territories, increasing the capacity for action and resilience of grassroots groups in the Global South. In this sense, the Comuá for Climate Initiative emerges at an opportune moment, when the engagement and commitment of relevant actors of the philanthropy in the Global South and North are on the rise.

The need to align efforts in order to coordinate transformative action, steered by climate justice, is urgent. The lessons learned throughout the course of the Network members' histories indicate promising paths that should guide the next steps of the Comuá for Climate Initiative in its mission to contribute to a fairer, more inclusive and impactful philanthropic and financing ecosystem, ensuring the resilience and prosperity of the communities that can contribute greatly to the implementation of effective solutions for society, the environment, and the climate.

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