Overview

Snapshot of Sierra Club’s International Work Focus Areas

Shifting and Influencing Philanthropy

Looking ahead

Advocate for:
- Shift of energy investments to clean energy
- Expansion of clean energy access by investing in distributed clean energy
Just 100 companies responsible for 71% of global emissions, study says

A relatively small number of fossil fuel producers and their investors could hold the key to tackling climate change.

Just 100 companies have been the source of more than 70% of the world’s greenhouse gas emissions since 1988, according to a new report.

The Carbon Majors Report (pdf) "pinpoints how a relatively small set of fossil fuel producers may hold the key to systemic change on carbon emissions," says Pedro Faria, technical director at environmental non-profit CDP, which published the report in collaboration with the Climate Accountability Institute.

Traditionally, large scale greenhouse gas emissions data is collected at a national level but this report focuses on fossil fuel producers. Compiled from a database of publicly available emissions figures, it is intended as the first in a series of publications to highlight the role companies and their investors could play in tackling climate change.

The report found that more than half of global industrial emissions since 1988 - the year the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change was established - can be traced to just 25 corporate and state-owned entities. The scale of historical emissions associated with these fossil fuel producers is large enough to have contributed significantly to climate change, according to the report.

ExxonMobil, Shell, BP and Chevron are identified as among the highest emitting investor-owned companies since 1988. If fossil fuels continue to be extracted at the same rate over the next 25 years as they were between 1988
Climate Policy Advocacy

- Ensuring the implementation of the Paris Agreement is as robust as possible - America’s Pledge on Climate Initiative
- Defense of the Clean Power Plan, which helps puts the world on a trajectory to reduce emissions
- Push the U.S. government to support developing country renewable energy deployment
Grassroots Support

- Share and assist with strategy development
- Provide technical analysis
- Facilitate partnerships to grow networks
- Coordinate media outreach to build international pressure
- Connect grassroots groups to resources/funding opportunities
- Organize events in the US to share knowledge and build solidarity

Two important pieces that drive this work:

- Relationship building - establishing strong partnerships with groups on-the-ground
- Behind-the-scenes support - Groups on-the-ground, along with directly affected communities, initiate and lead campaigns
Staying Mission Driven –
Environmental Justice and Community Partnerships

*Our Mission:* To discuss and explore the linkages between environmental quality and social justice, and to promote dialogue, increased understanding, and appropriate action.
Jemez Principles

1. Be Inclusive
2. Emphasis on Bottom-Up Organizing
3. Let People Speak for Themselves
4. Work Together In Solidarity and Mutuality
5. Build Just Relationships Among Ourselves
6. Commitment to Self-Transformation
Our work with Sierra Club Foundation

- Working with the Foundation to
  - Address locally determined conservation efforts
  - Local to global campaigning
- Collaborating to plan for long term, general support for grassroots organizations – connections to other domestic/local funds and philanthropic partnerships
- Building and growing a partnership rather than a grantor & grantee relationship – solidarity and mutuality
Looking ahead

• When accessing grants/funds, it’s Important to look for opportunities that decentralize and redistribute power and decision making: Building Equity and Alignment (BEA) Fund, Working World, the Climate Justice Alliance Just Transition Loan Fund, the Buen Vivir Fund, and other peer loan funds that collectively make up a structure known as the Financial Cooperative

• Elevate bottom-up organizing that’s driven by communities

• Holding funds and donors accountable (working with groups like Sierra Club to do this)

From Shake the Foundations