

Six major impact areas of sustainable agriculture funding

1. In the area of public policy development and education, 285 grants totaling more than \$44 million impacted:

- o Federal farm policy
- o Pesticide related policy
- o Water quality and conservation policy

2. \$17 million invested in 135 market development grants impacted:

- o Marketing locally-grown products
- o Expanded use of USDA's value-added marketing program
- o Partnerships among farmers and universities, schools and restaurants

3. Land grant universities received \$27.2 million through 195 grants. Impacts include:

- o Increased the legitimacy of sustainable agriculture research
- o Underwriting and endowing of professorships
- o New academic programs and positions

4. 220 grants invested \$27.5 million into farming method grants. Impacts include the adoption of:

- o New agronomic practices
- o Alternative crops
- o Whole farm planning

5. \$27.8 million was invested in organization capacity-building. This funding yielded:

- o Public policy successes
- o Partnership development
- o Evaluations that contributed to more effective program implementation

6. A small number of grants funded disadvantaged communities. These investments resulted in more attention being paid to:

- o The decline of African-American owned farms and farmland
- o The needs of immigrant and refugee farmers and farm workers
- o Native American traditional and sustainable food systems

This brochure captures highlights of the landscape of sustainable agriculture funding from 1988-2002. The data were obtained by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, which contracted the Headwaters Group Philanthropic Services to work with Virginia Clarke-Laskin, coordinator of the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems Funders, a working group of the Environmental Grantmakers Association. A third consultant, JoAnne Berkenkamp, also worked on the project and provided specific insights on the impacts and lessons of the Kellogg Foundation grantmaking in sustainable agriculture. The full report is available online at www.safsf.org/index.asp and for more information, contact:

Virginia Clarke-Laskin
SAFSF Coordinator
911 W. Pedregosa Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Tel 805.687.0551
Fax 805.569.2686
e-mail: vclarke@ega.org
Web: <http://www.safsf.org/index.asp>

**SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE &
FOOD SYSTEMS FUNDERS**



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Overview of Sustainable Agriculture Funding 1988-2002

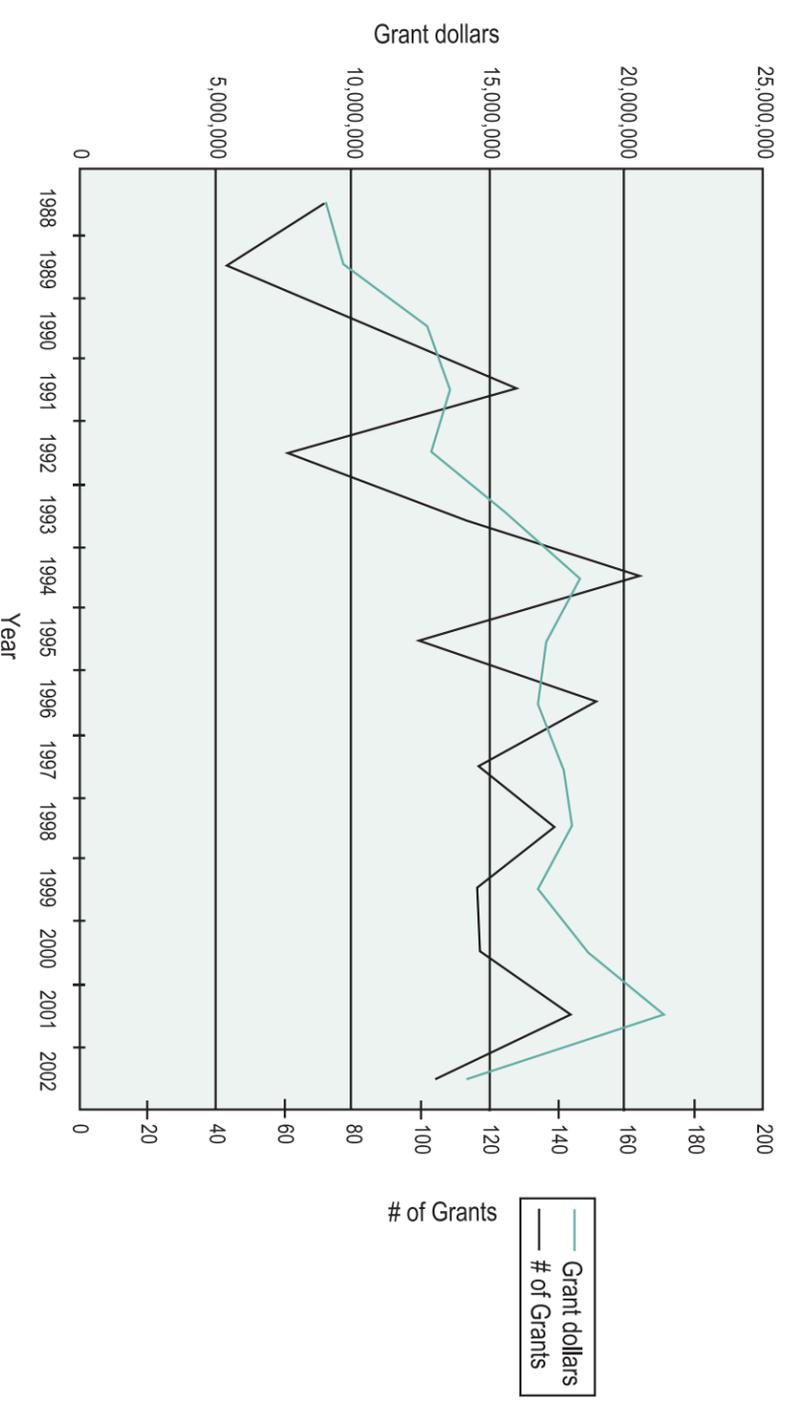


As a major funding area, sustainable agriculture emerged from the 1980s farm crisis. Since then, several organizations have invested significant resources to advance a diverse sustainable agriculture agenda. And over the last 15 years, significant funding trends and impacts have emerged. Following are highlights of these findings:

Overall Funding and Trends

- o From 1988-2002, 25 organizations invested nearly \$220 million through 1,868 sustainable agriculture grants.
- o 86 percent of all funding, \$190 million, came from 10 foundations. Five foundations were responsible for 69 percent of all funding (\$151 million). The Kellogg Foundation alone is responsible for 35 percent of all funding (\$77 million).
- o The foundations awarding the greatest number of grants included: Jesse Smith Noyes, Wallace Genetic Foundation, the Kellogg Foundation, Organic Farming Research Foundation, and the Joyce Foundation. These five foundations awarded 64 percent of all grants (1,198 grants total).
- o Over 15 years, annual funding for sustainable agriculture fluctuated from a low of \$5.2 million in 1989 to a high of \$20.6 million in 1994 and down again to \$13.1 million in 2002. Average annual giving was \$13.8 million +/- \$4.3 million.

Sustainable Agriculture Funding, 1988-2002



25 Most Active Foundations

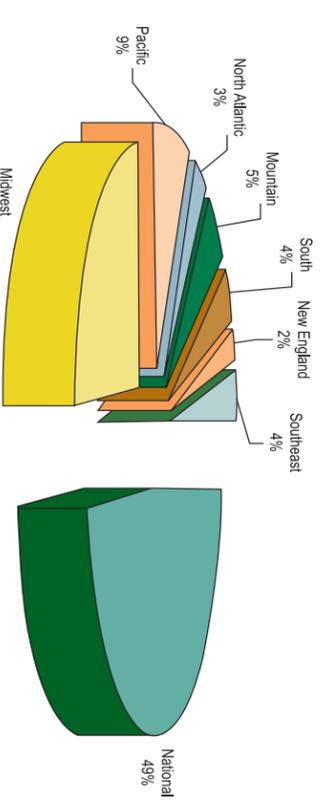
Beldon Fund
Bullitt Foundation
CS Fund
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
Clarence E. Heller Charitable Foundation
Columbia Foundation
Education Foundation of America
Farm Aid
Ford Foundation
Foundation for Deep Ecology
George Gund Foundation
Great Lakes Protection Fund
Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation
Joyce Foundation
Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation
McKnight Foundation
Nathan Cummings Foundation
Northwest Area Foundation
Organic Farming Research Foundation
Pew Charitable Trusts
Turner Foundation
W. Alton Jones Foundation
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Wallace Genetic Foundation
The Veatch Program of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock

Two Explanations for Fluctuations in Funding

Although it is common for grantmaking to fluctuate based on the amount of available funds and program interests, two issues explain most of the change in sustainable agriculture funding. They are:

1. In 1998, there was a shift in funding priorities among several of the 10 funders responsible for the majority of grant making. This resulted in a stoppage or significant decrease in sustainable agriculture support. For example:
 - o Northwest Area stopped funding sustainable agriculture after 1997.
 - o Pew Charitable Trusts' funding declined to \$200,000 in 2001.
 - o Mott stopped its funding in 1999.
 - o Other, funders also reduced or halted their sustainable agriculture funding after 1998, including Alton Jones, GLPF, Ford, and Turner.
2. Significant spending increases by Kellogg resulted in several spending spikes. For example:
 - o In 1994, Kellogg awarded almost \$5 million more than its overall 15-year average (\$10.3 in 1994 vs. a 15 year average of \$5.1 million).
 - o When other major funders were reducing their funding in 2001 and 2002, the Kellogg Foundation awarded significantly larger amounts than its overall 15 year average, totaling approximately \$8.3 million in 2001 and \$8.2 million in 2002.

Funding By Region



- o Approximately half of all funds (\$89.7 million) were for national benefit. Many of the projects supported related to policy development or sustainable agriculture research.
- o The Midwest received 24 percent of funds (\$44.4 million)
- o The Pacific region received 9 percent (\$16.4 million), and the Mountain region received 5 percent (\$9.2 million).
- o The South, Southeast, North Atlantic, and New England each received 4 percent or less (\$6.4 million or less).

Funding by Grantee Type

- o The majority of all sustainable agriculture funding from 1988 to 2002 - 85 percent or \$157.3 million - was awarded to non-governmental organizations.
- o Secondary institutions (the majority of which are land grant institutions) received 14 percent (or \$27.2 million) of funding; other foundations received 1.3 percent.
- o Government institutions (mainly soil and water conservation districts) received less than 1 percent.

Trends

- o Funding for non-government organizations increased from 74 percent in the early 1990s to 93 percent by the early 2000s.
- o From 1990 to 1994, universities/colleges experienced a notable increase in funding.

Funding by grantee type, 1988-2002

