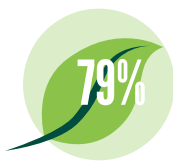


GREENING INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT &  
HUMANITARIAN CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

KEY FINDINGS FROM A SECTOR SURVEY

	Objective	Identify and document CSOs experiences and challenges to integrating environmental considerations into their daily operations and programming	
	Number of respondents	52	
	Cooperation Canada Members	71% of respondents	
	Organization size	Large (30+ employees): 45% Medium (11-29 employees): 26% Small (10- employees): 29%	
	Budget	Large (\$5M+): 50% Small (\$5M-): 50%	
	Regions of operation	Canada: 64% Sub-Saharan Africa: 90% Latin America & the Caribbean: 71% Asia: 57%	Middle East & North Africa: 50% Europe: 31% United States & Mexico: 26% Pacific: 26%



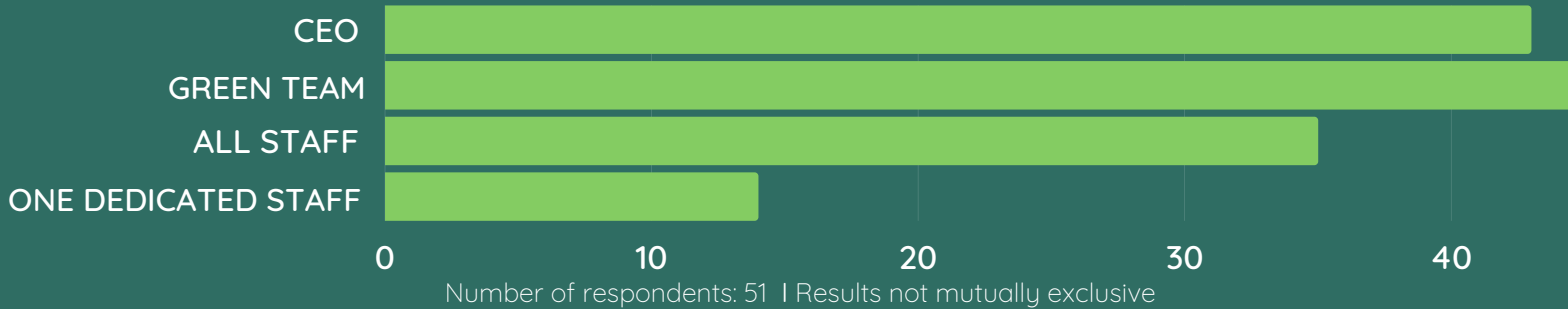
HAVE, OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING  
AN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY



HAVE A GREEN TEAM OR COMMITTEE

HOWEVER, THE EXISTENCE OF A GREEN TEAM DOES NOT  
NECESSARILY LEAD TO ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE.  
SENIOR LEADERSHIP MATTERS!

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR IDENTIFYING AND PRIORITIZING ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES WITHIN  
ORGANIZATIONS?



A FEW LEADERS WITHIN ORGANIZATIONS ARE USUALLY KEY TO  
THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF GREEN INITIATIVES



52%

OF RESPONDENTS SEEK ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERTS AS PARTNERS

RESPONDENTS ALSO EMPHASIZED RELYING ON AND SUPPORTING LOCAL  
EXPERTISE, SOUTHERN PARTNERS, INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND  
VOLUNTEERS TO IMPLEMENT ACTION AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE



GREENING IS AN  
INCREASING PRIORITY  
FOR THE SECTOR!

- 80% of organizations recognized minimizing negative impacts on the environment as important or very important
- 69% of organizations monitor and evaluate their greening efforts, 43% use internal M&E tools and resources to do so

M&E TOOLS  
CITED:

CO2, ELECTRICITY & WATER  
USAGE TRACKING

FOOTPRINT BASELINE  
ASSESSMENT THROUGH  
CONSULTANCY

ENVIRONMENTAL  
TOOLKIT

ORGANIZATIONAL  
INDICATORS &  
PROGRAM-SPECIFIC  
GOALS

[CLICK HERE TO CHECK SOME OF THESE TOOLS IN OUR ONLINE  
REPOSITORY OF GREENING RESOURCES!](#)



**ACCELERATE  
CLIMATE  
ACTION  
FOR ALL SDGs**

## KEY MOTIVATING FACTORS OF GREEN EFFORTS

Number of respondents: 51 | Results not mutually exclusive

- Reducing negative impacts on the environment (86%)
- The global climate crisis (80%)
- Reducing carbon footprint (78%)
- Fulfilling the organization's mandate, vision and/or mission (66%)
- Sustainable Development Goals and a need for a more holistic approach (64%)
- Demonstrating leadership within the sector (60%)



Mitigating climate change and environmental impacts reduces risks and can be cost-saving, particularly when new regulations are introduced



Green operations and programming are generally not part of funder requirements (16%)



## MOST RELEVANT CHALLENGES LINKED TO ORGANIZATIONS' ABILITY TO GREEN THEIR OPERATIONS

- 1 Limited funding to invest in greener operations
- 2 Other priorities are more pressing
- 3 Limited human resources capacity and/or capability

## OPERATIONS



### ORGANIZATIONS RESPONDED THAT STAFF CONTRIBUTE TO INDIVIDUAL GREENING EFFORTS THROUGH:

Recycling, composting, reduced paper usage, greener events, reduced staff travel, and reduced commutes to and from work

Survey responses suggest bottom-up efforts are the trend, rather than top-down approaches or efforts integrated into strategic priorities

### MOST ORGANIZATIONS REPORTED TRAVELLING AS HIGHEST CARBON FOOTPRINT CONTRIBUTION

Covid-19 has forced most to work from home, significantly reducing emissions, and eliminating commutes - one of the most noted pollution causing activities locally

Several respondents reported that the pandemic raised discussions on the necessity of a full return to office once the pandemic ends, with opportunities presented by the digitization of work and meetings



## PROGRAMMING



**33% OF RESPONDENTS INTEGRATE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CLIMATE ACTION INTO PROGRAMMING PORTFOLIOS**

**40% CONSIDER PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY AGAINST FUTURE PROJECTIONS IN TERMS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT IMPACTS**

**59% OF RESPONDENTS INVEST IN CAPACITY BUILDING AND AWARENESS RAISING PROGRAMS RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE**



## CHALLENGES FACED BY ORGANIZATIONS TO INTEGRATE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE INTO PROGRAMMING

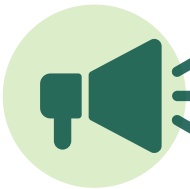
### TOP 3 FACTORS LISTED AS CHALLENGES

- LIMITED FINANCIAL RESOURCES
- LACK OF HUMAN RESOURCES
- ENSURING PARTNERS AND/OR MEMBERS COMPLY WITH ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE PROTOCOLS, GUIDELINES, POLICIES, ETC.

### FACTORS LEAST LIKELY TO BE LISTED AS CHALLENGES

- GREEN IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS
- SUSTAINING PARTNERSHIPS WITH ORGANIZATIONS ABROAD ON GREEN ISSUES
- LACK OF INTERNAL KNOWLEDGE

GREENING IN POLICY AND ADVOCACY EFFORTS



67% OF ORGANIZATIONS' ADVOCACY AND POLICY WORK FREQUENTLY RELATES TO ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

52% OF ORGANIZATIONS ARE NOT PART OF AN ENVIRONMENT OR CLIMATE CHANGE FOCUSED SECTOR ASSOCIATION



UNDERSTANDING INTERSECTIONALITY



ORGANIZATIONS REPORTED THAT ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS ARE HIGHLY INTEGRATED IN THE FOLLOWING SECTORS:

- Equality & human rights
- Agriculture
- Education
- Natural ressource management
- Health



IN CONTRAST, LOW INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE WAS REPORTED FOR:

- Child protection
- Peace & Justice



TOP 3 PRIORITIES INTERSECTING WITH ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WITHIN ORGANIZATIONS:

- 1 Gender equality and women’s rights
- 2 Indigenous people’s rights
- 3 Solidarity with vulnerable populations

FUNDING RELATIONSHIPS

TOP 3 FUNDERS REPORTED AS RECEPTIVE TO GREEN INITIATIVES:

- 1.Global Affairs Canada (45%)
- 2.Individual donors (36%)
- 3.Private Canadian foundations (31%)

Number of respondents: 44 | Results not mutually exclusive

MOST FUNDERS DO NOT REQUIRE GREEN CERTIFICATIONS OR STANDARDS RELATED TO GREENING FOR PROJECT FUNDING, PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION (64%)

TOP 3 CSO ASKS FOR GREENER EFFORTS

- 1 GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES
- 2 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
- 3 PEER-LEARNING FROM OTHER SECTOR MEMBERS

CSOs ALSO MENTIONED:

- Greater priority from directors and executive boards
- More recognition (from the organization) of the positive impacts of small-scale grassroots efforts - beyond local communities
- More programming funds



- Better data sets to articulate environmental impacts, communicate successes and identify where more investment is needed
- Extended project timelines in order to include green practices