
MIGHTY WOMEN:

FINANCING GENDER AND LEADERSHIP IN CLIMATE ACTION



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PRESENTATION

VANESSA OURIQUE PURPER

Program Manager –
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It was 2016, and many conversations, desires, dreams, and aspirations had already taken shape in the hearts and minds of diverse women before the first concrete step was taken toward launching this Alliance.



With a name as long as its ambition, the Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action, or GAGGA, was established to give visibility to, listen to, empower, and place at the center of socio-environmental solutions the Global South's women and people who dissent from the sex-gender system, dedicated to defending life and a clean, safe, and healthy environment. To do this, GAGGA designed an innovative methodology that combined the knowledge and experience of various actors in the environmental field and feminisms: women's funds, environmental funds, activist and knowledge-producing organizations, in addition to the main reason for GAGGA's existence — community-based organizations led by women, trans, intersex, and non-binary people.

Ten years of this joint effort have passed, and Casa Socio-Environmental Fund has been present every step of the way. I used to say that GAGGA was a kind of "Starship Enterprise", the spacecraft in the Star Trek science fiction franchise, and therefore, keeping this phenomenon orbiting has never been an easy task. But together we succeeded and built a rich history to share. The Casa Fund supported 196 initiatives led by women and gender-dissident people, not only in Brazil, but also in Argentina, Bolivia, and Paraguay. We held three in-person integration and mutual collaboration meetings dedicated to the leaders of the projects

we support. We participated in three activities related to the "Linking & Learning" initiative, offered by GAGGA, to reinforce the performance and knowledge of its participants on key themes at the intersection of gender and environmental justice, namely: a training meeting on gender in the context of the Green Climate Fund; we took groups supported by Casa Fund and ELAS+ Fund to the Women in Movement Dialogue event; and direct participation in the publication "[Small Investments with Big Impacts – Territorial gender-just climate solutions](#)". Casa Fund was present at several meetings, both in person and online, helping to influence other donors to look at the intersection between these two themes that are central to our time: gender justice and socio-environmental justice.

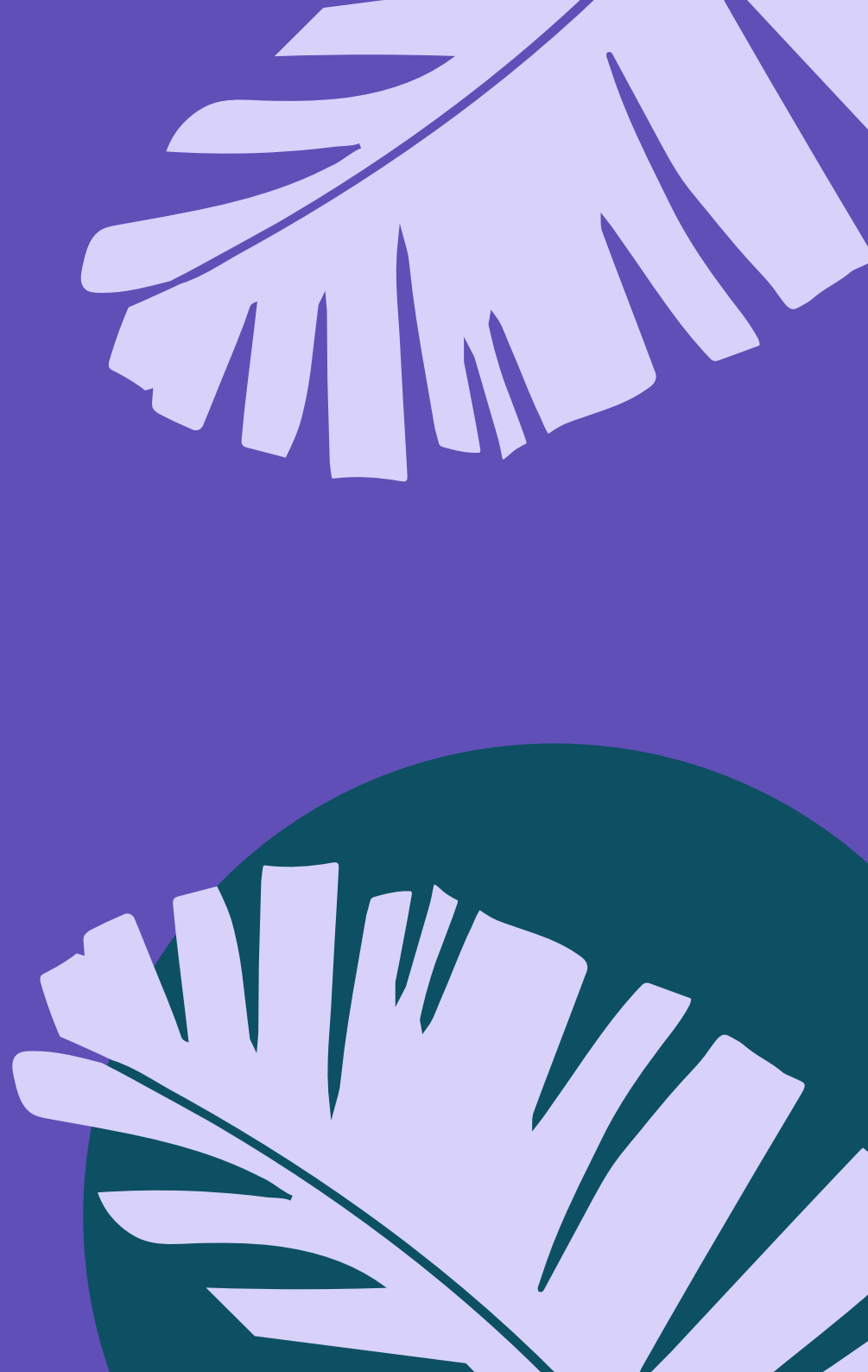
Historically, women have played a crucial role in issues related to defending environmental human rights, collective well-being, maintaining justice, and social balance. When we take a closer look at efforts to defend the biomes and ecosystems that guarantee the survival of all forms of life on Planet Earth, this presence becomes even more pronounced. Conversely, women and gender-dissident people are the ones most threatened, murdered, and silenced by an exclusionary, patriarchal, and destructive system.

The effects of climate change operate differently on these bodies. And that is why supporting women and gender-dissident people in the fight for environmental and climate justice is becoming increasingly necessary.

The ability to work in alliance is a feminine trait, and GAGGA, in addition to funding more than 4,000 projects led by women and gender-dissident people between 2016 and 2025, has contributed immensely to building and strengthening networks of women defenders of human and environmental rights, fostering collaboration among Global South social justice philanthropic funds, and expanding knowledge and awareness about the (often perverse) relationship between race, gender, and class in the environmental contexts.

And so, as we have been doing for the past ten years, we will continue to attentively and carefully monitor the blossoming of so many seeds planted together.

It is imperative that everyone stop, look, and listen to women and gender-dissident people in their demands for justice and access to a healthy, clean, and safe environment. Today, our garden is blooming and diverse, and we will remain attentive and active so that this work of care and affection for life continues and expands.





INTRODUCTION

GRACIELA HOPSTEIN

Author

This publication analyzes the trajectory and role of Casa Socio-Environmental Fund within the GAGGA Alliance, starting with an assessment of the Program's implementation at its local and regional levels—Brazil, Paraguay, and Bolivia. The Program's main focus is strengthening community-based organizations and collectives, especially those led by women and/or individuals who dissent from the sex-gender system¹ working in the fields of socio-environmental and climate justice.

Thus, the evaluation conducted between January and June 2025 focused on analyzing **Casa Fund's role within the Alliance and its implementation at both local and regional levels.** It is important to note that throughout this publication, we use the term GAGGA Alliance to refer to the global movement, while the idea of the Program refers to the implementation of actions and the Casa Fund's participation in the Alliance.

This publication is the **third volume in the *Mighty Women series*** and aims to deepen the debates and lessons learned in previous editions on the decisive role of women, transgender, intersex, and non-binary people in defending their territories, as well as on the impacts of climate change on historically marginalized populations. Previous volumes emphasized that strengthening community and territorial networks is an essential step in consolidating socio-environmental justice practices in their different contexts. Taking these reflections as a starting point, this volume deepens the analyses already conducted and seeks, at the same time, to value and give visibility to the support methodologies that have concretely contributed to catalyzing transformations at the local and community levels. Between continuities and new developments, the analyses presented in this volume reinforce the centrality of territorial dynamics, feminist advocacy, LGBTIA+ communities, and community philanthropy as structuring axes of the Program.

¹ The expression "people who dissent from the sex-gender system" refers to individuals whose existence, identity, or gender expression challenge the binary and heteronormative norms that structure society. It includes transgender, travesti ("a transgender identity with regional and contextual particularities throughout Brazil and Latin America" [ANTRA, 2018]), non-binary, intersex, and other identities that question the naturalization of the categories "man" and "woman" as unique and fixed.



At the same time, the systematization conducted in this publication responds to a strategic objective: **to produce knowledge grounded in practice**. Documenting trajectories, methodologies, and results allows us to value experiences, highlight achievements, identify persistent challenges, and guide future paths of community strengthening. Thus, by bringing together quantitative evidence, qualitative narratives, and the perspectives from multiple actors, this publication seeks to contribute to the field of gender-focused climate justice, offering input for social organizations, researchers, funders, and decision-makers.

Furthermore, by adopting a “**bottom-up**” perspective on knowledge production, this publication seeks to value the learning and knowledge that emerge from the territories and daily practices of community-based organizations. Disseminating this knowledge in accessible formats enhances transparency, broadens the sharing of experiences, and enables other initiatives to adapt it to their own contexts or learn from it. In this way, access to information is democratized, references are multiplied, and an ecosystem of local solutions connected by common challenges is fostered.

The structure of this publication is organized into **six parts**. Following the presentations and introduction, the first part outlines the methodological approach of the evaluation and its analytical axes. The second part analyzes the trajectory of the GAGGA Alliance, its institutional challenges, and the political contexts that guided its actions. The third part then addresses the trajectory of Casa Socio-Environmental Fund within the Alliance, detailing the resources mobilized and donated, as well as the partnerships involved. The fourth and fifth parts focus on the evaluation of the Program: the profile of the supported organizations and the results achieved, including an emblematic case study: the *Fundación Socioambiental Semilla*, in Bolivia. The sixth part discusses the impacts of the Program on the activities of the Casa Fund, and offers reflections on the legacy of GAGGA and the challenges for its continuity.

More than an analytical framework, this work is the result of a collective process of listening and collaboration. This publication was only possible thanks to the generosity and availability **of all the people interviewed**, who shared their experiences, learnings, and visions for the future. **We also acknowledge the care and rigor reflected in the reports prepared by the supported organizations and systematically collected by Casa Socio-Environmental Fund, which contributed decisively to the analysis presented here.**

Our gratitude extends to the partner organizations and collectives, community leaders, funders, and technical teams involved in the implementation and evaluation processes. To each of these people, organizations, and institutions, we express our deepest appreciation: it is from the multiplicity of voices, practices, and territories that a vibrant, feminist, and transformative community philanthropy is built.

May this material serve as a record,
a reflection, and an inspiration.
May it strengthen what has already
flourished—and open new paths for
what is yet to come.



Photo: AFAQUITEL - Inauguration of Casa, Foundation of a seed bank of native trees from the Caatinga biome

List of interviewees who contributed to the
listening process for the development of
this publication:

Tamara Mohr – Both ENDS (Netherlands)

Elida Miranda – Fundo Positivo (Brazil)

Narcisa López; Carlos Ayala; Marilia Aguilar; Perla Benítez; Ada Ramirez;
Norma Beatriz Caballo Valdez – Coordinadora Departamental de Mujeres
de San Pedro (Paraguay)

Eduardo Franco Breton – Fundación Socioambiental Semilla (Bolivia)

Rodrigo Montaldi; Maira Krenak – Casa Socio-Environmental Fund (Brazil)

Nira Medeiros – Association of Indigenous Women of the Arapiun
People (Brazil)



1. WHERE DID WE START FROM



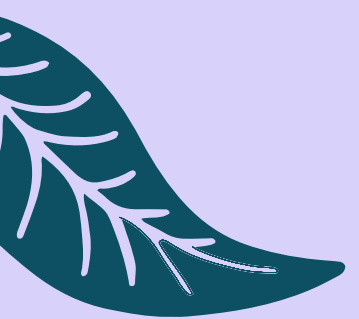

The evaluation of the GAGGA Program for the 2021–2025 period and the trajectory of Casa Socio-Environmental Fund’s activities within the Alliance, conducted between January and June 2025, served as the starting point for the preparation of this publication.



It stems from the need to systematically understand the paths taken by Casa Fund throughout this process, with the aim of analyzing the changes fostered, the results achieved, and the lessons learned from the development of the Program, which was primarily focused on providing financial resources to civil society organizations and collectives led predominantly by women, transgender, intersex, and non-binary individuals, both in Brazil and in other South American countries (Paraguay and Bolivia, specifically).

Although the evaluation’s time frame spans five years, **the focus here is on the period between 2021 and 2024**, during which the support (grants) was provided, and partnerships with strategic actors were consolidated. The year 2025 was dedicated to the evaluation and systematization of the information produced, marking the culmination of this process.

Analyzing the impact of grants is strategic for Casa Socio-Environmental Fund, highlighting how financial resources have contributed to strengthening community-based organizations and groups, mostly led by women, trans, intersex, and non-binary people, including in territorial and political contexts of great adversity. This evaluation effort is also a political commitment, as it stems from a recognition of the power of actions of various groups involved and their communities in defending their territories, access to water, food sovereignty, and life in all its forms, reaffirming the relevance of their leadership in the field of socio-environmental justice.



Methodology and approach of the evaluation conducted in 2025

The research conducted within the scope of the evaluation adopted a mixed methodology, combining quantitative and qualitative approaches, and was guided by both the **Theory of Change** and the **Results Framework**, established by the GAGGA Alliance for the period. This approach emphasized the transformation resulting from the strengthening of community-based groups, the building and mobilization of partnerships, and the execution of collective advocacy actions at multiple levels. It is important to note that the chosen analytical approach is based on the understanding that grassroots collectives, led predominantly by women, are the actors best positioned to advance local solutions to environmental and climate crises.

In this context, three strategic axes guided the analysis. The first focused on strengthening the capacities, resilience, and leadership of the people involved within their respective organizations and/or collectives. The second consisted of linking climate and environmental justice and women's rights movements, expanding solidarity networks for political action. Finally, the third axis focused on influencing public policies and engaging with investors and donors, with the aim of challenging traditional philanthropic logics and broadening the space for solutions led by women and communities in their territories.


The **quantitative research** developed within the scope of this evaluation consisted of data processing and the production of information—presented in tables and graphs—from reports prepared by supported groups, as well as from other sources systematized by the technical teams and available in the Casa Socio-Environmental Fund's database. This approach made it possible to outline the profile of the **75 groups supported throughout the period**, and to generate information on developed projects and results achieved under two lines of support: **Women Leading Climate Action** and **Gender Just Climate Solutions**.

In turn, the **qualitative techniques** encompassed document analysis—with a review of strategic documents—and the conducting of 6 semi-structured interviews with 13 strategic actors involved in the construction of the Alliance and the implementation of the Program. The interviews sought to answer questions such as: ***What changes most influenced the work of grantees? What barriers persist in integrating climate justice and gender justice? What strategies have proven most effective in strengthening community organizations in crisis scenarios?***

Interviewees were selected based on diversity criteria, reflecting the plurality of actors involved. Participants included funders, indigenous women from the Brazilian Amazon, peasant collectives in Bolivia, feminist organizations from Paraguay, as well as partners and representatives of independent funds from Brazil and Bolivia working in the fields of diversity and socio-environmental justice, in addition to Casa Fund's technical team. This plural listening ensured that the evaluation went beyond numbers, capturing the voices and perspectives of those directly involved in and impacted by the support.



2. THE GAGGA ALLIANCE: TRAJECTORY AND CHALLENGES FACED



The GAGGA Alliance is a global network that aims to catalyze the collective power of movements for women's rights and environmental justice, with the goal of ensuring that women, especially those from grassroots communities, can exercise their rights to water, food sovereignty, a healthy environment, and others. Internationally coordinated by FCAM (Fundo Centroamericano de Mujeres), with the participation of MamaCash and Both ENDS, GAGGA operates in more than 50 countries, including Brazil, Bolivia, and Paraguay, with the Casa Socio-Environmental Fund as a strategic partner in South America. The Alliance was created in 2016 and, throughout its 10-year history, has received financial contributions from the Dutch Cooperation, in addition to mobilizing resources from other sources. It is important to note that the organizations that make up the Alliance's coordination also functioned as financial intermediaries between the Cooperation and partner organizations, transferring resources to both the socio-environmental funds and the women's fund.

In addition to providing financial support to community-based groups, the independent funds that make up the Alliance have focused on developing strategies for organizational strengthening, networking, political advocacy, and knowledge production, always in dialogue with the territories and based on the demands and specificities of women environmental defenders. This perspective is relevant to the purposes of this evaluation, since the results achieved through the Alliance extend far beyond the numbers: in fact, GAGGA has been consolidating itself as a reference in the fields of independent, socio-environmental, and feminist philanthropy in the Global South.

The interviews conducted within the framework of this study indicate that the trajectory of the GAGGA Alliance did not develop linearly, as it was marked by challenges, institutional dilemmas, and adverse political contexts.

The rapprochement between environmental and feminist movements was one of the initial challenges that the Alliance faced. While the integration of socio-environmental and gender agendas was one of the Alliance's strategic assets, there were difficulties in aligning visions and operational dynamics between the socio-environmental and women's funds, even though both operate in the field of independent socio-environmental justice philanthropy.

Throughout its history, the Alliance has also faced management-related challenges. With lean teams, the Alliance's coordination often had to choose between investing in more robust information and knowledge management processes or concentrating efforts on strengthening support strategies for community-based groups, ultimately prioritizing the latter.


The contraction of international funding—especially from the Dutch Cooperation—amid the rise of the far right constitutes one of the Alliance’s main challenges. This process has directly affected its continuity and, consequently, the sustained provision of grants to community-based civil society organizations in the Global South.

Certainly, the information presented here reveals that the GAGGA Alliance did not follow a linear path of predictable results, but rather a journey marked by both impasses and the capacity for resistance and reinvention. It is precisely in this movement—between risk and creation, between contraction and reinvention—that the Alliance’s power lies in strengthening community-based civil society, in cultivating seeds of the future even in barren and adverse landscapes, which have effectively enabled transformations that continue to take root in the territories.

Thus, we start from a complex, challenging experience, yet one that is also deeply transformative, as it concerns an alliance from the Global South that, even in the face of political crises and funding cuts, has continued to strengthen women, environmental activists, and communities in the defense of their territories. In fact, the evaluation confirms that, by sowing knowledge, mobilization, and trust, the GAGGA Alliance contributed to catalyzing change processes at various levels and among diverse actors and dynamics.



Photo: Coletivo Mãe Preta - Planting of seedlings and seeds acquired at the quilombola medicinal plant site in Itacuruça.



3. THE ROLE OF CASA SOCIO- ENVIRONMENTAL FUND IN THE CONTEXT OF THE GAGGA ALLIANCE



The experience of the Casa Socio-Environmental Fund within the context of the GAGGA Alliance reflects a trajectory of support that combines responding to local emergencies with the political and institutional strengthening of organizations, collectives, and communities. Between 2021 and 2024, the Casa Fund operated in a coordinated manner across different territories, mobilizing resources from diverse sources and expanding its support modalities (ranging from invitation letters and open calls for proposals), thereby reaching a varied set of organizations and collectives led by women acting as *environmental and territorial defenders* and therefore within the field of socio-environmental justice.

The following section presents an analysis of the recent trajectory of the Casa Socio-Environmental Fund within the scope of implementing the activities of the GAGGA Alliance, which we will call the GAGGA Program. Information will be presented related to the resources mobilized and allocated; the grantmaking strategies and the support provided; the territories, geographic regions, and biomes reached; and the partnerships that guided its work throughout the period.

Donated resources and support strategies

In the context of the GAGGA Program, between 2021 and 2024, Casa Socio-Environmental Fund supported **75 organizations and community collectives** in South America through open calls and invitation letters. These initiatives, focused on Brazil, Bolivia, and Paraguay, totaled **grants amounting to USD 576,381.16**.

The table below presents detailed information, by year, on the support provided and resources allocated by Casa Fund.

Table 1: Support provided, resources allocated, type of call, and beneficiary countries.

YEAR	SUPPORT PROVIDED	RESOURCES ALLOCATED (USD)	TYPE OF CALL	COUNTRIES
2021	15	79.458,30	Invitation Letter	Brazil and Paraguay
2022	19	182.545,29		
2023	26	184.908,03	Call for proposals	Brazil
2024	15	129.469,54		
TOTALS	75	576.381,16	4 selection/ support processes	



In the first two years, through invitation letters addressed to community **organizations led by women**² — **from indigenous, quilombola (afrodescendant), riverine, fishing, peasant, and family farming communities**—support was focused on actions to address the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, mining, deforestation, and the advance of agribusiness.

According to the data presented in the table below (Summary of the main themes of the calls, by year), public calls have expanded their scope of support in recent years, including **trans, intersex, and non-binary individuals** in 2023 and, more recently, in 2024, **urban peripheral collectives and grassroots activists**. Regarding the thematic focuses, it can be said that, in recent years, they have concentrated on **institutional strengthening, advocacy efforts, and network building (2023)**, as well as **climate resilience, gender equity, and the valorization of local knowledge (2024)**.

²Although led by women or with a well-defined gender focus, the organizations in question were not exclusively made up of women, as there was also support for mixed organizations.

Table 2: Summary of the main themes of the calls, by year.

YEAR	PRIORITY AUDIENCE	CENTRAL THEME
2021	Community-based organizations led by women in traditional and rural communities	Women leading climate action; impacts of the pandemic, mining, and agribusiness
2022	Expansion to shellfish farms, enclosed pastures, and mixed groups with female leadership	Climate justice through network strengthening
2023	Inclusion of transgender, intersex, and non-binary people; strengthening feminist and climate networks	Institutional strengthening, political advocacy, and networking.
2024	Inclusion of peripheral urban collectives; organizations with smaller budgets; emphasis on grassroots activism	Climate resilience, gender equality, forest protection, and climate solutions based on local knowledge

The grantmaking trajectory within the Program during the analyzed period reveals **two complementary trends**:

- A. **An increase in the average investment per project**, especially in 2024, which, even while maintaining the same number of projects as in 2021 (15 grants), shows significantly higher values.
- B. **An expansion of the political actors** recognized as environmental defenders, with an increasingly evident intersectional focus: the calls for proposals began to explicitly incorporate issues of gender dissidence, forest protection, climate solutions based on local knowledge, and territorial governance.

The change in the themes of the calls—from *Women Leading Climate Action* (2021–2023) to *Climate Resilience and Gender Equity* (2024)—is also indicative of this shift in approach, since, in addition to the focus on gender, there is now an explicit emphasis on climate justice actions rooted in territories, community alliances, the knowledge of (women) leaders, and gender dissidence.



An analysis of the support provided over the period reveals more than a continuity of financial transfers: **the data point to carefully articulated political architecture that combines rapid responsiveness, active listening to the territories, and the continuous expansion of the political actors deemed central to the fight for climate and socio-environmental justice.** This overview allows us to understand not only where and how the resources were allocated, but also how the Program and Casa Socio-Environmental Fund have been developing a distinctive financing model.

By mapping the types of calls, the territorial distribution of support (Brazil and Paraguay), and the evolution of invested amounts, the analysis pointed to the construction of a strategy that simultaneously responds to local emergencies and contributes to the institutional and political strengthening of historically marginalized communities, with an emphasis on women, gender dissidents, and territorial defenders.

Finally, based on the analysis of this trajectory, it can be stated that Casa Socio-Environmental Fund has been building support dynamics based on **ethical and political visions linked to diversity, community-driven demands, recognition of grassroots groups' capacity to create solutions, and local (ancestral) knowledge.** In this way, the grantmaking strategy developed by Casa Fund within the GAGGA Program can be understood as a distinctive social technology that weaves together practices of care, rapid responsiveness, recognition of local assets, and the catalyzing of transformative processes.

Resources mobilized by Casa Socio-Environmental Fund within the GAGGA Program

Throughout the period, and according to the information presented in the table below, **€ 645,700 (approximately BRL 3.5 million)** was mobilized from three main sources: Both ENDS (Dutch Cooperation), the French Embassy, and Casa Socio-Environmental Fund's own resources. This can be seen on the table alongside:



Table 3: Resources mobilized, by funding source, between 2021–2024

YEAR	FUNDING SOURCE	TOTAL IN REAIS (BRL)	TOTAL IN EUROS (€)
2021	BothENDS	R\$ 649.723,00	125.000,00 €
2022	BothENDS	R\$ 647.929,00	112.500,00 €
2022	French Embassy	R\$ 330.000,00	57.292,00 €
2023	BothENDS	R\$ 540.567,00	100.000,00 €
2023	Own Resources (Casa Fund)	R\$ 315.040,00	64.163,00 €
2023	French Embassy	R\$ 303.200,00	55.000,00 €
2024	French Embassy	R\$ 150.000,00	30.000,00 €
2024	BothENDS	R\$ 572.674,00	101.745,00 €
TOTAL	-	R\$ 3.509.133,00	645.700,00 €

Based on the information presented, it is possible to observe the **central role of resources from international cooperation** (channeled through Both ENDS) in the development of the Program, totaling € 645,700 (BRL 3,509,133.00, according to exchange rates in the respective years).

However, when observing the trajectory of the mobilized resources, **a progressive trend towards the diversification of funding sources** is noticeable. Since 2022, the French Embassy began contributing significant resources to the Program. In 2023, Casa Fund also contributed with investments, providing institutional financial resources for the implementation of support actions. According to one of the interviewees: “Casa Fund’s financial contributions represent the consolidation of a strategy also aimed at strengthening its position in relation to forms of socio-environmental justice grantmaking guided by the principles of the GAGGA Alliance.”

Furthermore, the total volume of resources mobilized (both in euros and reais) reveals the development, **by Casa Fund, of diversified strategies to reach other sources of funding.**

At the same time, examining the resource flows allows us to understand the sustainability of the actions developed within the GAGGA Program and how certain funding models—such as coordinated forms of support—operate as social technologies aimed at strengthening women-led community-based organizations and/or those working in the socio-environmental field, challenging conventional funding logics (of traditional philanthropy and international cooperation), reinforcing more horizontal, rooted, and committed models aligned with community-based organizations and socio-environmental and gender justice agendas.

Territories, geographic regions, and biomes reached through support provided by Casa Socio-Environmental Fund

The analysis of territories supported within the context of the GAGGA Program, that is, the locations where groups/publics/organizations that received grants operate, highlights the presence of a grantmaking strategy guided by the principle of diversity, with special attention given to geographic regions and population sectors that are typically overlooked in terms of access to financial resources and rights.

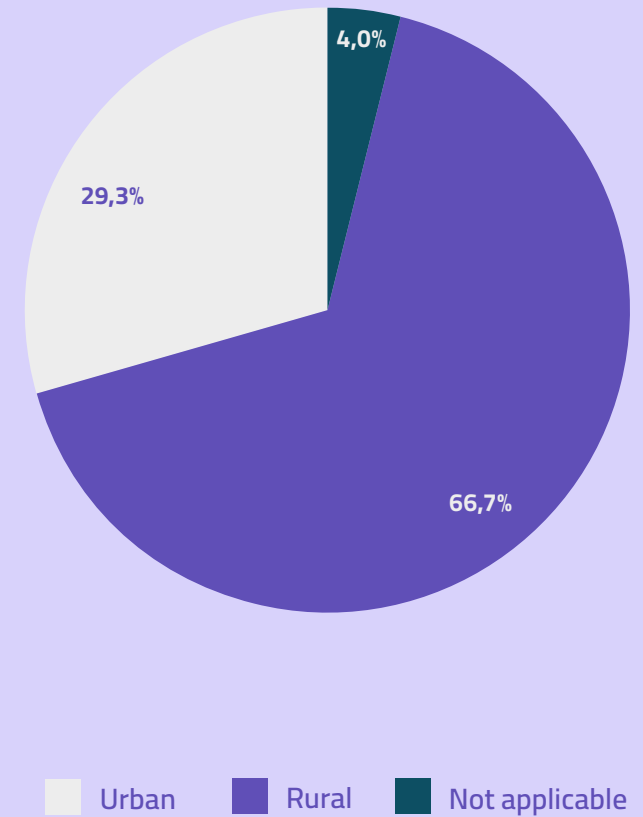
Based on the analysis conducted, it can be affirmed that Casa Socio-Environmental Fund was able to achieve the results defined within the context of the Alliance, ensuring that resources reached diverse territories and collectives: indigenous women, *quilombola* communities, female farmers, youth, gender dissidents, and urban peripheries.

The following charts show that most support went to **rural areas, accounting for 67% of projects from 2021 to 2024**, reaffirming the commitment to grants aimed at traditional peoples and communities, family farmers, quilombolas, riverine communities, and Indigenous peoples. However, there was also a steady expansion of grants to **urban territories**, which reached **29% of the projects**, particularly in metropolitan peripheries, where the climate justice struggle intersects with the right to the city through agendas related to housing, sanitation, mobility, and food justice.

Chart 1 – Area of operation of projects



Area of operation of supported projects between 2021-2024



From a **geographic region** standpoint, the **Northeast accounted for 48% of the support**, consolidating itself as the primary area of operation, followed by the **North, with 24%**, and the **Southeast, with 18%**. These three regions were prioritized, while the Central-West and South played a more peripheral role. This territorial distribution reflects a strategy oriented towards strengthening historically vulnerable regions, but which also incorporated fundamental urban and metropolitan experiences to connect the climate agenda with existing social inequalities.



Geographic region of operation of supported projects

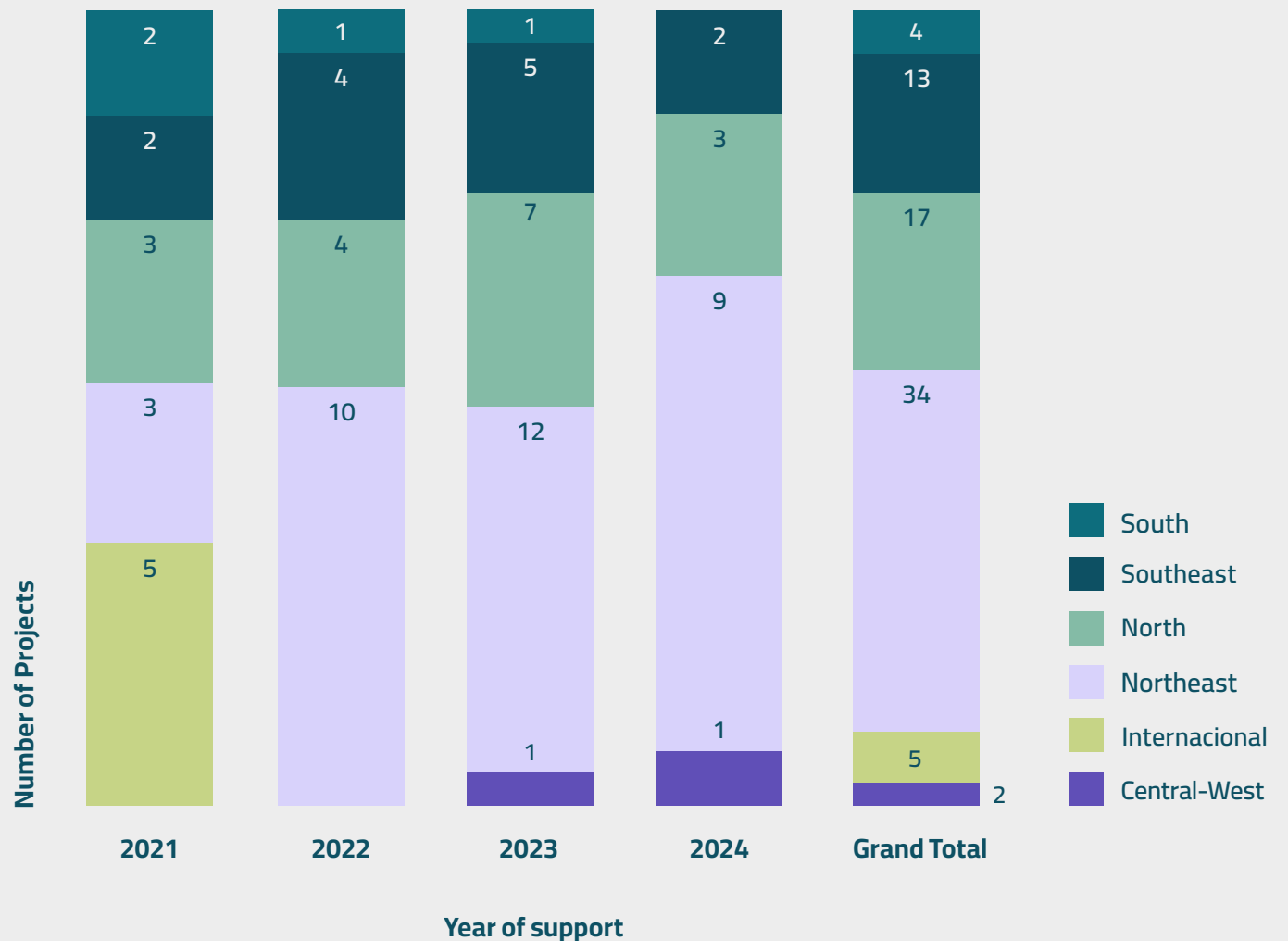
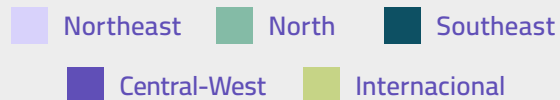
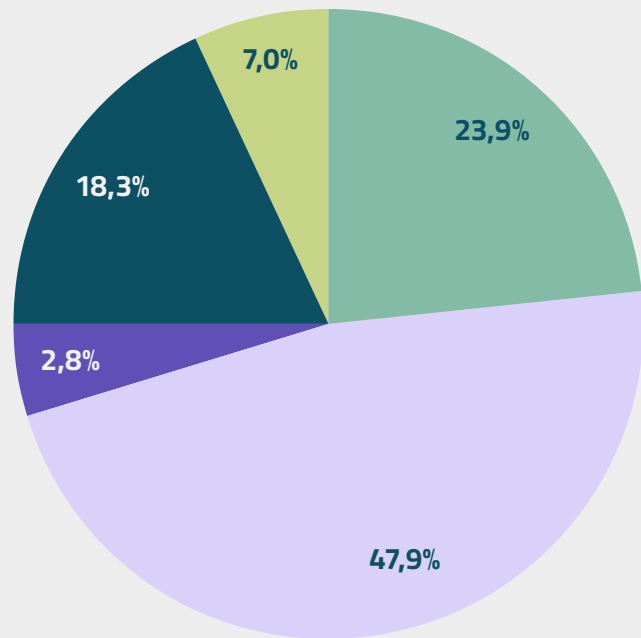


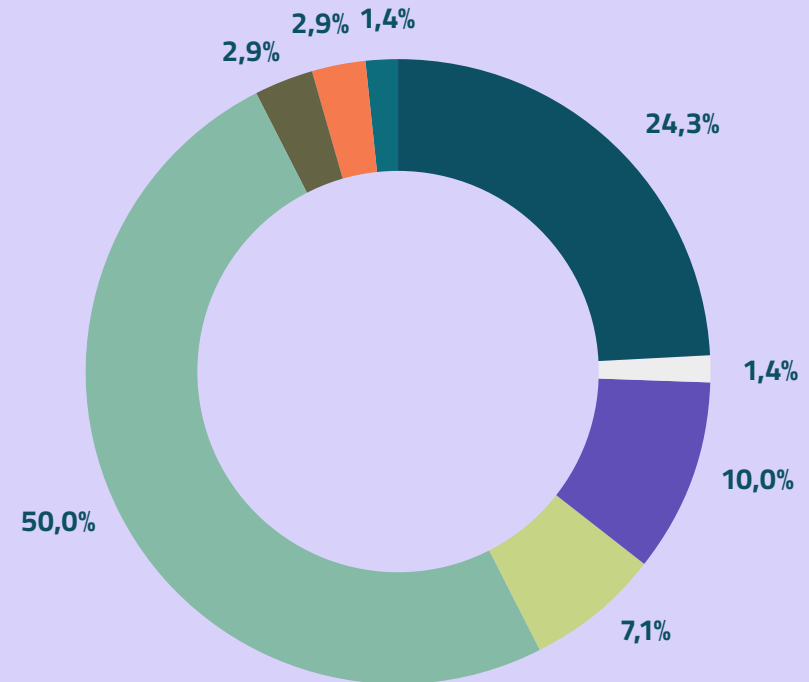
Chart 2 – Geographic regions of operation of supported projects

GEOGRAPHIC REGION OF OPERATION OF SUPPORTED PROJECTS BETWEEN 2021-2024

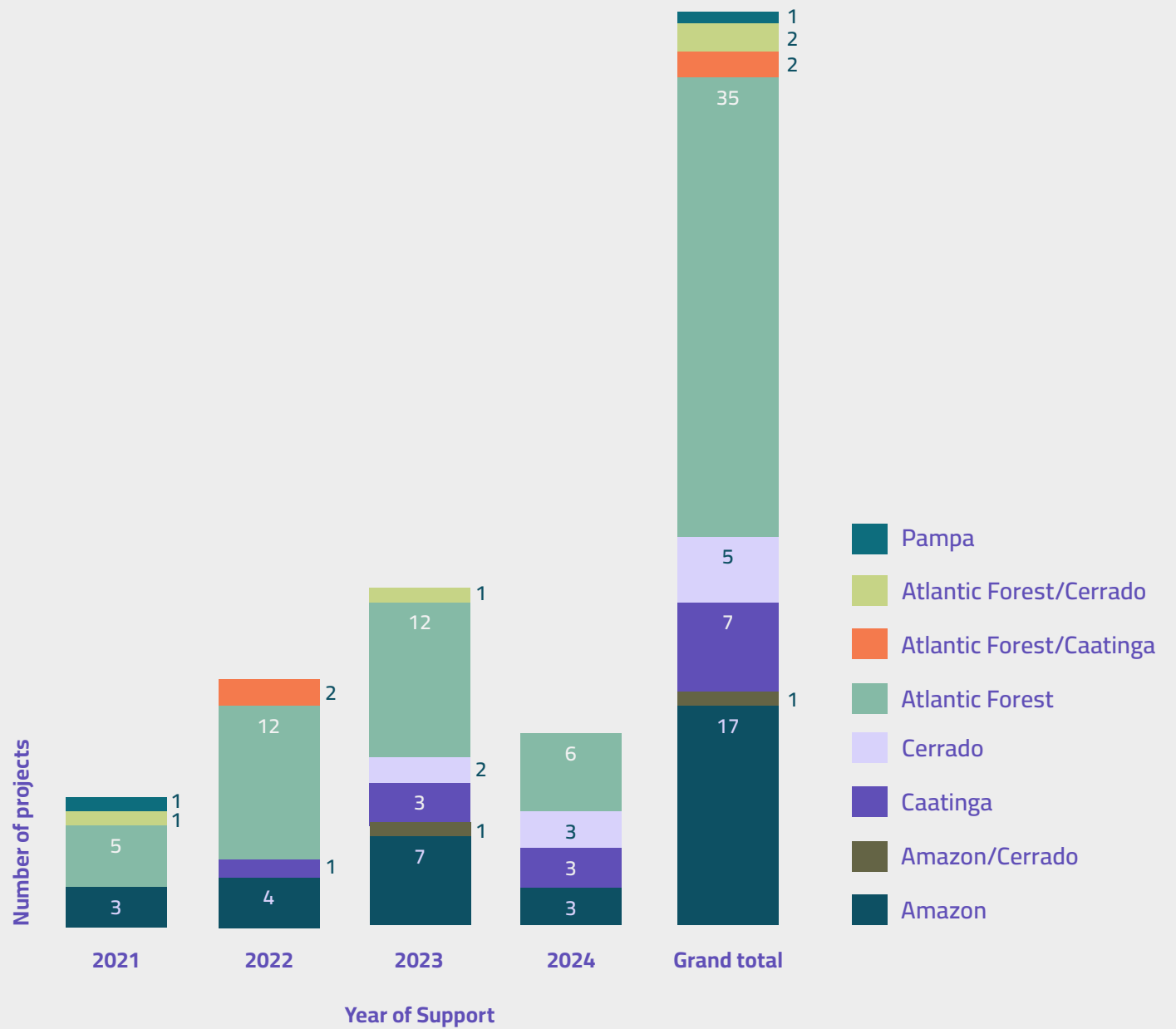


When broken down by **biome**, the following charts show that the **Atlantic Forest** accounted for **50%** of the support, reflecting both its socio-environmental importance and the intensity of land and urban conflicts within these territories. In turn, the **Amazon** was the region that housed **24% of the initiatives**, with significant growth in 2023, reinforcing attention to the environmental and climate emergency affecting this biome. In addition, there was an expansion in support for the **Caatinga (10%)** and the **Cerrado (7%)**, which, although less visible, have gained recognition as fundamental territories for climate and environmental justice.

BIOMES OF OPERATION OF SUPPORTED PROJECTS FOR THE PERIOD 2021-2024



**Chart 3 - Biomes
of Operation of
Supported Projects
for the period
2021-2024**



Impacts of infrastructure works on the territories where supported organizations and collectives operate

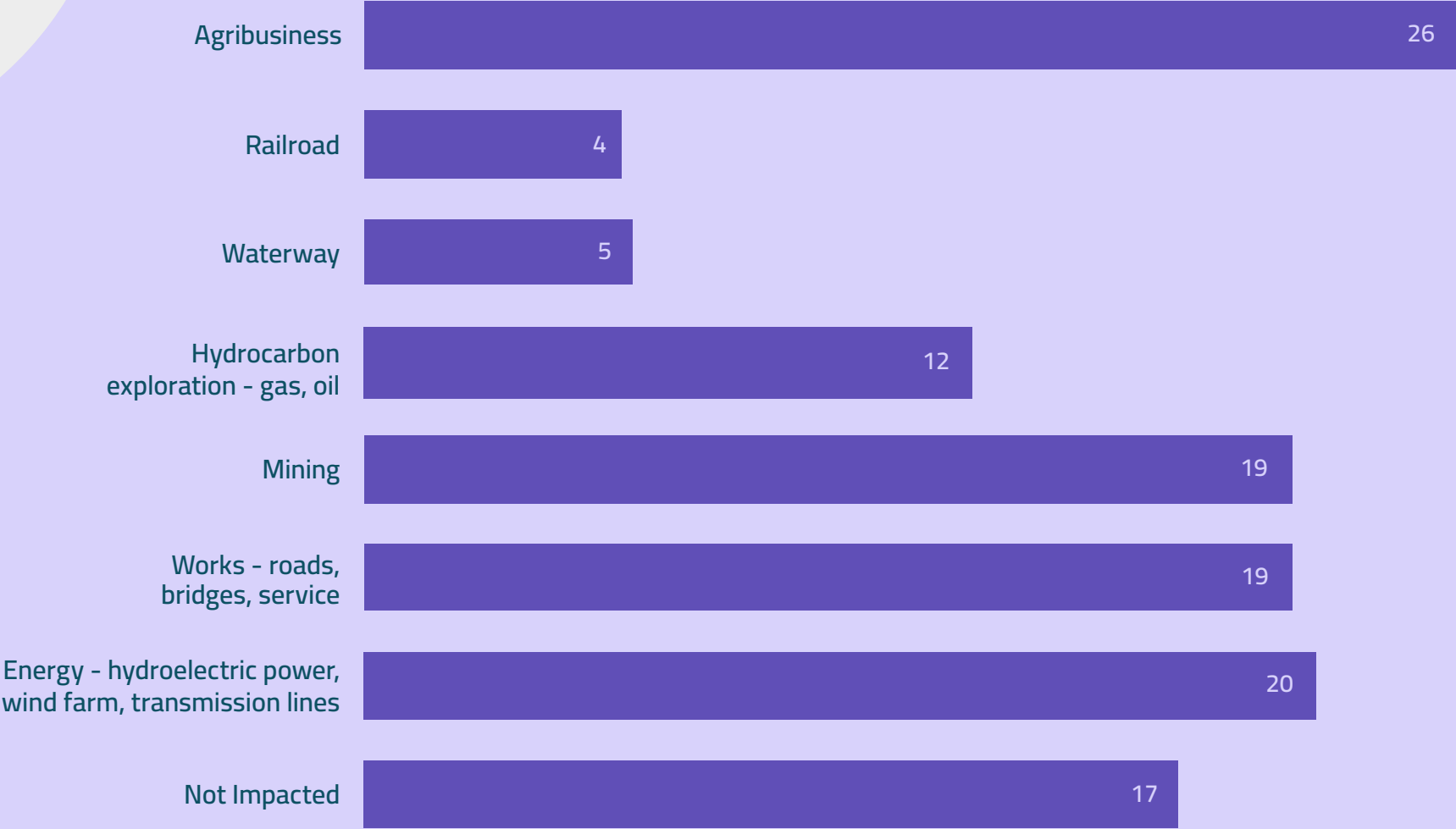
The analysis of **impacts of infrastructure works on the territories where the supported organizations and collectives operate** (Chart 4) reveals the presence of a strategy aimed at strengthening civil society institutions and collectives to address conflicts arising from the advancement of economic development initiatives that neglect community dynamics, as well as the needs and knowledge of local populations.

Sectors such as agribusiness, energy, and major transportation projects have emerged as the main vectors of pressure on the territories where grantees operate.

Agribusiness appears as the most recurrent impact, especially in the first years, although it lost momentum in 2024, suggesting both a shift in the profile of the supported territories and a localized reduction in its direct presence. Projects linked to the energy sector—particularly hydroelectric plants, wind farms, and transmission lines—remained constant throughout the period, revealing the persistence of conflicts affecting traditional communities and local collectives. Road and logistics infrastructure projects, such as highways, ports, and bridges, also stood out, with a strong incidence in 2023, followed by a decline in the subsequent year, generally associated with urban and agricultural expansion. Mining and hydrocarbon exploitation, although less frequent, remained significant threats to the environmental and cultural integrity of the territories, reinforcing the diversity of pressures faced by communities.

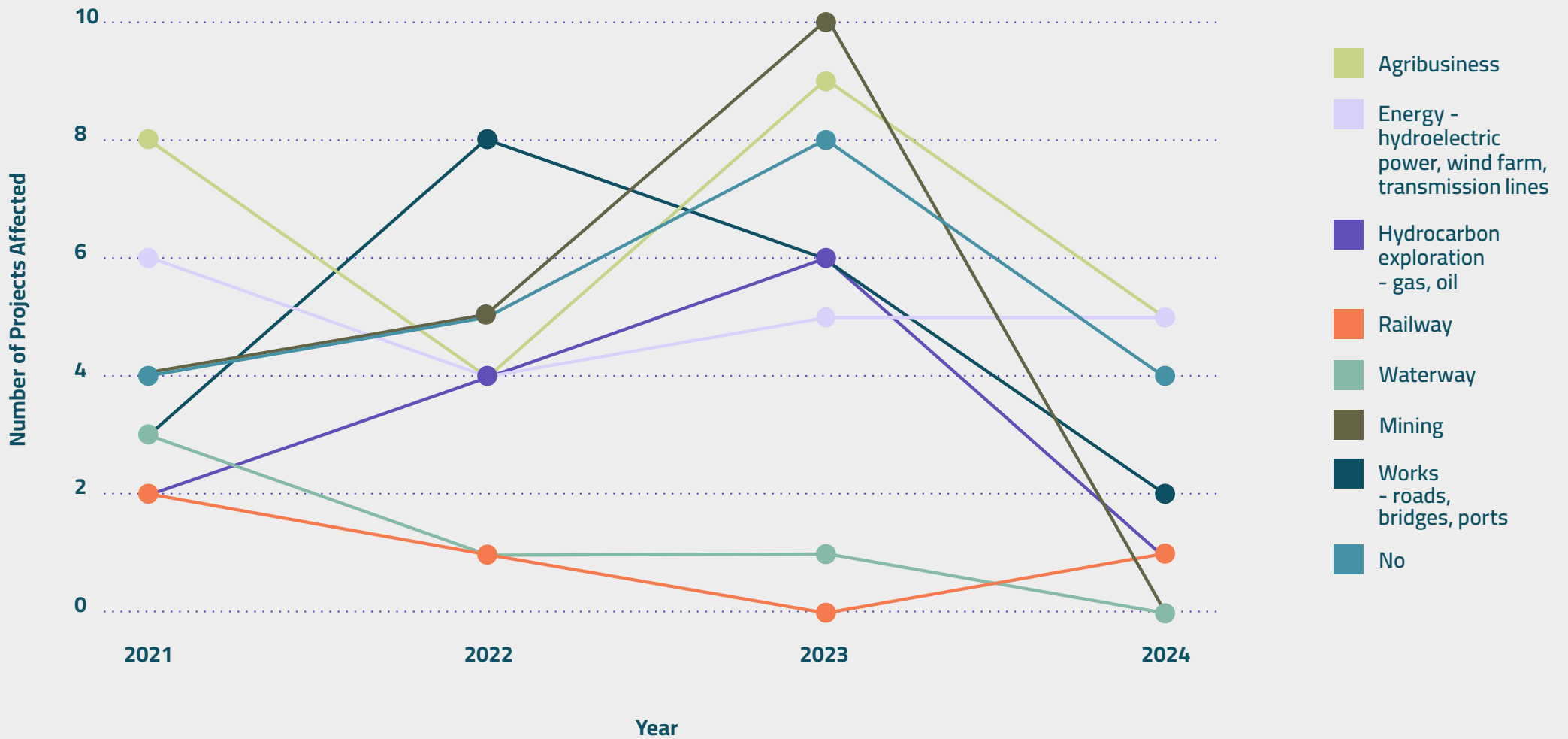
Based on the information presented, it can be stated that **organizations and collectives supported by Casa Fund operate in territories heavily pressured by the presence of infrastructure that directly affects their work**, especially those linked to agribusiness and the energy matrix. Despite annual variations, these forms of pressure remain **structural components of the challenges faced by the supported communities**. The continued—albeit smaller—presence of impacts from mining and road construction reinforces the urgency of territorially grounded resistance strategies aligned with climate justice, the right to free, prior, and informed consultation, and the sovereignty of local populations.

Chart 4 – Impacts of infrastructure works on projects



Number of times it appears between 2021-2024

The impact of infrastructure works on supported projects for the period 2021-2024



Strategic partnerships within the GAGGA Program: Fundo Positivo and support for transgender women and travestis working in the field of climate justice

The initiative “TRANSforming the climate crisis in territories within a context of environmental transphobia” was a strategic partnership between Casa Socio-Environmental Fund and Fundo Positivo within the GAGGA Program, which enabled significant progress in building on the intersection of climate and gender agendas, focusing on trans/travesti populations.

Environmental transphobia was the central axis of the partnership between the funds. For Fundo Positivo, and according to the interview conducted, this alliance represented a qualitative leap for the organization, as it had significant repercussions and impacts on the construction of this agenda, expanding the scope of its work. In the view of Positivo representative, the starting point was reflecting how climate change impacts and affects bodies in the context of subalternity.

“The Trans population is neglected by public policies and social programs in general, yet it is the first to be impacted and the last to be served. Trans women face high rates of violence in the country, exclusion from social programs, healthcare services, education and assistance, but above all in the area of housing.” (Interviewee from Fundo Positivo).

According to data from National Association of Travestis and Transsexuals (ANTRA, 2022), the Trans population faces barriers in the formal labor market, resulting in high levels of precarious employment, with 90% engaged in sex work and living below the poverty line. ANTRA also highlights that this group typically resides in areas with a higher risk of environmental disasters due to rainfall, floods, rising sea levels, landslides, heat waves, and cold spells, among others. Most of this population lives on the streets, which places them on the front line of environmental impacts.

Within the context of this partnership, Fundo Positivo received resources from Casa Fund to support four organizations led exclusively by transgender women and travestis³ who work in the field of human rights advocacy, particularly focusing on climate and territorial justice, and who exert political influence across all three levels of government.

Within the context of the projects supported by the Fundo Positivo, several activities were carried out: training sessions with leaders to promote political advocacy actions to guarantee access for transgender women and travestis to government housing programs; mapping of data on this population; actions in the field of agroecology, such as the production of urban, renewable, and low-cost vegetable gardens; debates with universities and collectives to promote broad discussions; art workshops with sustainable and recyclable materials; and advocacy actions with governmental spheres, among others. It is also important to highlight the production of a wide range of educational materials (booklets, dossiers, cards and videos), the conduct of research, analyses, and data production on socio-spatial segregation, that is, on topics such as access to drinking water, basic sanitation, environmental and housing risk, experience of homelessness, waste sorting and studies that seek to systematize the knowledge coming from the group itself and that contribute to addressing the climate crisis.

³ Associação Grupo Orgulho, Liberdade e Dignidade – GOLD (Espírito Santo, Southeast region). Project: “Environmental Transphobia in Espírito Santo: Experiences, policies, and research”; Associação de Travestis, Transexuais e Transgêneros do Estado de Roraima – ATERR (Roraima, North region). Project: “Climate Justice for Travestis and Transsexuals in Roraima”; Associação de Transgêneros de Guaíba – Igualdade Guaíba (Rio Grande do Sul, South region). Project: “The Impacts of the Climate Crisis on Travestis and Transsexuals in Costa Doce”; Grupo Gestos – Soropositividade, Comunicação e Gênero (Pernambuco, Northeast region). Project “TRANS FOR THE CLIMATE: Climate Justice is also a right of trans women and travesties.”



Photo: Todos Juntos Ninguém Sozinho



Photo: AFAQUITEL

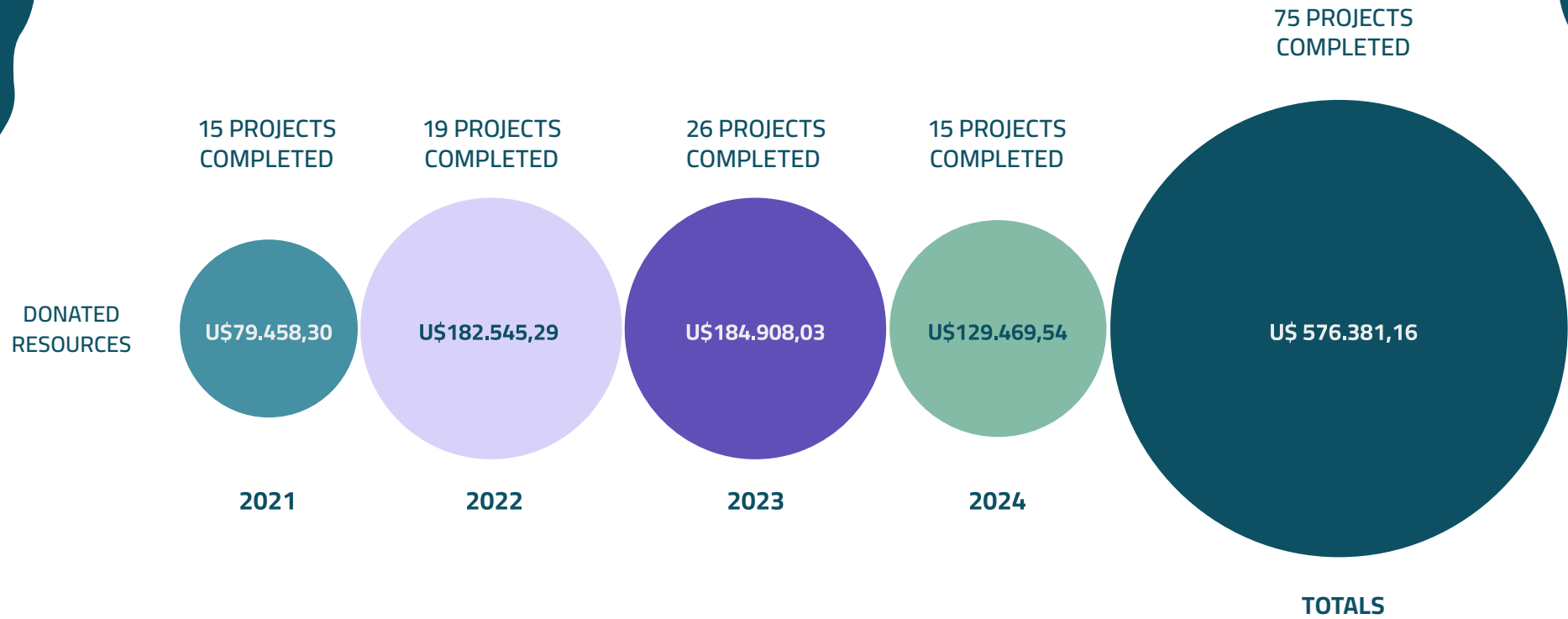
To contribute to strengthening the capacities of the organizations supported by Fundo Positivo on the climate justice, an event was held in June 2023, coordinated by Gestos (a partner institution) under the theme: “Trans for Climate: Climate justice is also a right of trans women and travestis”. The event was open to the public and focused on dialogue and construction of knowledge and strategies on climate justice. In turn, with a view to strengthening the national public debate, Fundo Positivo promoted a webinar in January 2024, during Brazil’s Trans Visibility Month, on the impact of climate justice and environmental transphobia on the dissident bodies of transsexual women and travestis, reflecting on principles and guidelines to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Another relevant action area was the strengthening of trans organizations for participation in public policy councils, forums, and networks, which focused on guaranteeing human rights and defending the promotion of individual and collective rights, especially regarding the effects of the climate crisis.

The promotion of advocacy actions was a central axis of this partnership, which initially began at the local level—within territories, communities, among the homeless and the incarcerated populations, and others—but later saw the issue of environmental transphobia enter the public debate through training and actions aimed at disseminating the concept. The involvement of universities was strategic to produce research (surveys) and knowledge. A major outcome of this initiative was the development of an e-book.

According to Fundo Positivo, there was a broadening of scope of this agenda and a positive shift towards achieving a leading role in promoting debates on intersectionality between gender and climate, which, at the same time, implied the arrival of new funders: “GAGGA was a significant leap in Positivo’s work.” The appropriation of the concept of environmental transphobia by various actors, the advocacy actions with public authorities, and the inclusion of the environmental agenda as a strategic axis—which had not been central to Fundo Positivo until that moment—are relevant results of this partnership in terms of learning and increased protagonism within this agenda.

Timeline 2021–2024: number of grants
and resources donated per year





4. PROFILE OF ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED BY CASA SOCIO-ENVIRONMENTAL FUND BETWEEN 2021 AND 2024



Photo: Espaço Gaia - Agroecology workshops

Analyzing the profile of the organizations supported throughout the period is fundamental to understanding not only the characteristics and trends of the grantmaking strategy of Casa Socio-Environmental Fund, but also to understanding the political reach of the Alliance and the GAGGA Program, as well as its contribution to the construction of a feminist, socio-environmental, community-based, and decolonial philanthropy⁴.

Formalized and non-formalized organizations and collectives

Analyzing the profile of formalized (with a CNPJ⁵ number/Registration) and non-formalized (without a CNPJ number) organizations supported within the context of the GAGGA Program is relevant to understanding the diversity and flexibility of the grantmaking strategies adopted by Casa Socio-Environmental Fund.

Based on the information produced (charts below), it is possible to observe that the presence of non-formalized collectives was significant in all years. This signals an **ongoing strategy aimed at valuing community-based movements and initiatives**, including those that are newly created or have a short history of activity.

However, there was also an increase in support for **formalized organizations** (mainly in the years 2022 and 2023), indicating that Casa Fund's strategy was to strengthen institutionalized organizations with greater management capacity.

⁴ The term decolonial refers to a critical perspective that seeks to denaturalize the persistent effects of colonization on forms of knowledge, power, and existence. For Aníbal Quijano (2000), it is a matter of questioning the coloniality of power—a pattern of domination that continues to operate even after the formal end of colonialism, sustaining Eurocentric supremacy and the subordination of non-Western knowledge and ways of life.

⁵ CNPJ: National Registry of Legal Entities, which is a nationwide registry of corporations, partnerships, foundations, and other legal entities, created and maintained by the Brazilian Federal Revenue Service.



Formalized and informal organizations/collectives supported throughout the period 2021-2024

Organizations without a CNPJ/ registration

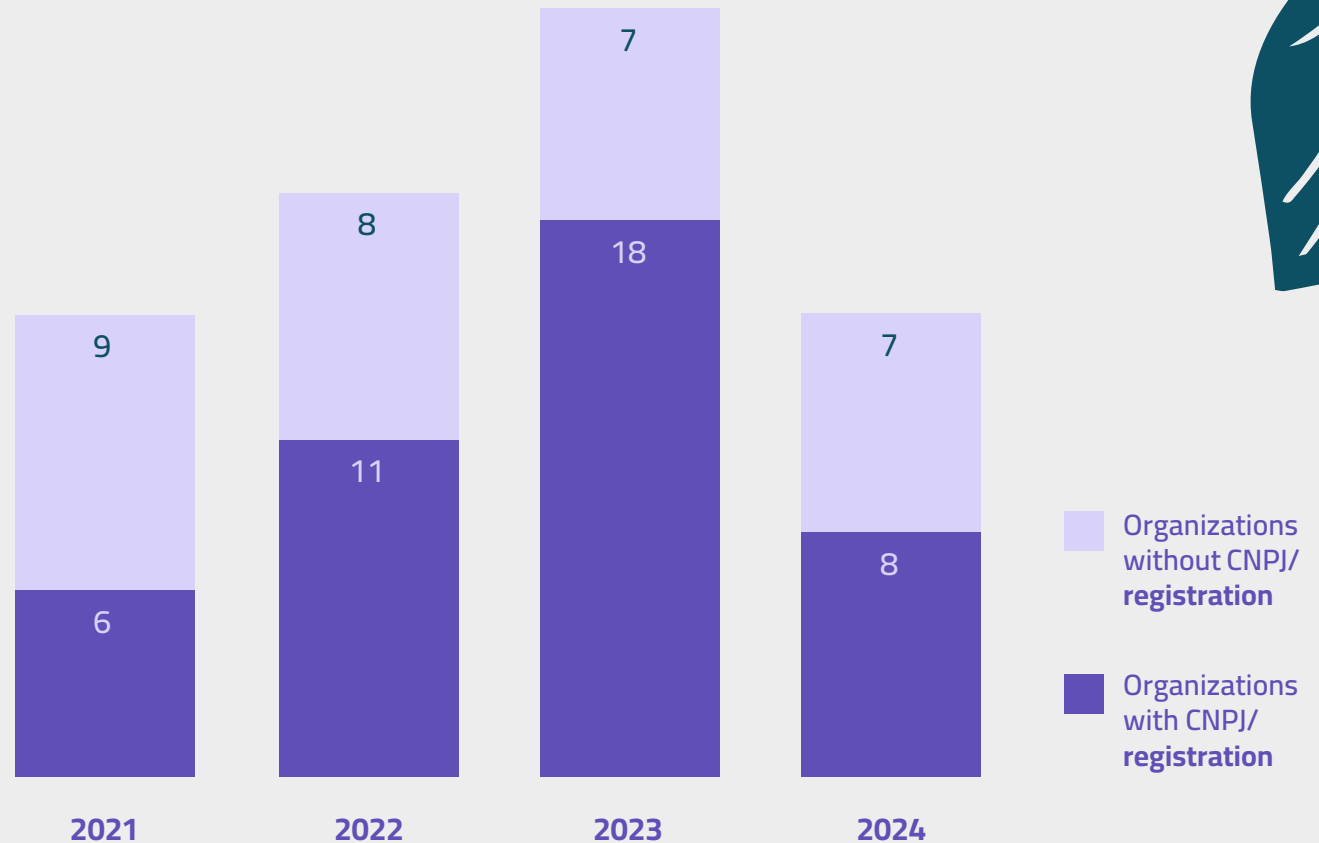
41,9%

58,1%

Organizations with CNPJ/registration

In total over the period, **58% of the supported organizations were formalized, while 42% were non-formalized**, revealing a diversified grantmaking strategy and indicating that Casa Fund operated **based on flexible criteria** capable of strengthening both established organizations and informal or emerging collectives.

Chart 5 - Formalized and non-formalized organizations/collectives



Scope of activities of organizations and collectives

An analysis of the reach of supported organizations and collectives between 2021 and 2024 shows that most operate at the **local and community** level, with a strong presence in specific territories such as indigenous villages, rural communities, afro-descendants communities, and urban peripheries. This emphasis on the local level reflects Casa Fund's commitment to transformation processes rooted in the territories and informed by the communities' own knowledge.

At the same time, the presence and strengthening of initiatives operating at **regional, national, and international** levels are observed, expanding their capacity for political influence and coordinating local experiences within broader socio-environmental and gender advocacy networks. This combination of scales—from local to international—demonstrates that the support not only strengthens grassroots groups but also creates conditions for their voices to be heard in strategic decision-making spaces. This data reaffirms that Casa Fund's grantmaking strategy values both grassroots organizations and those that manage to connect local agendas to broader arenas, promoting interterritorial connections and expanding the impact of community struggles.

Scope of activities of the supported organizations

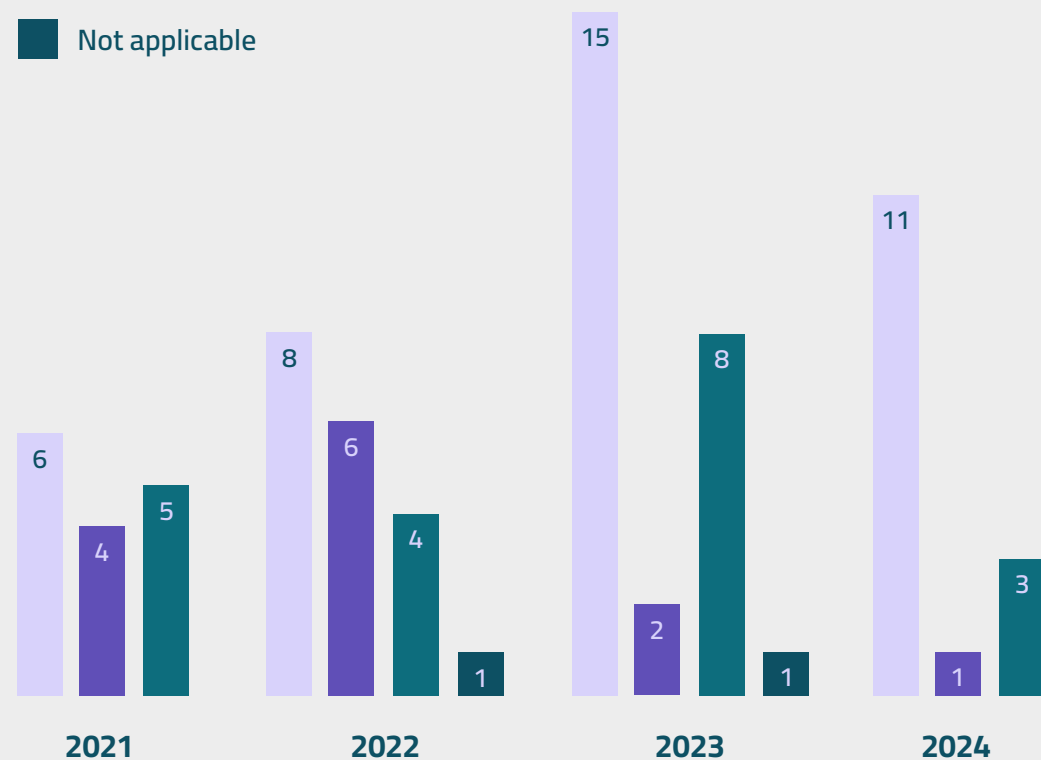
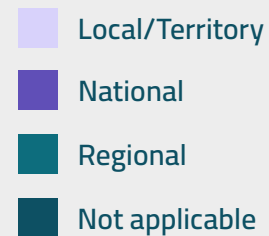
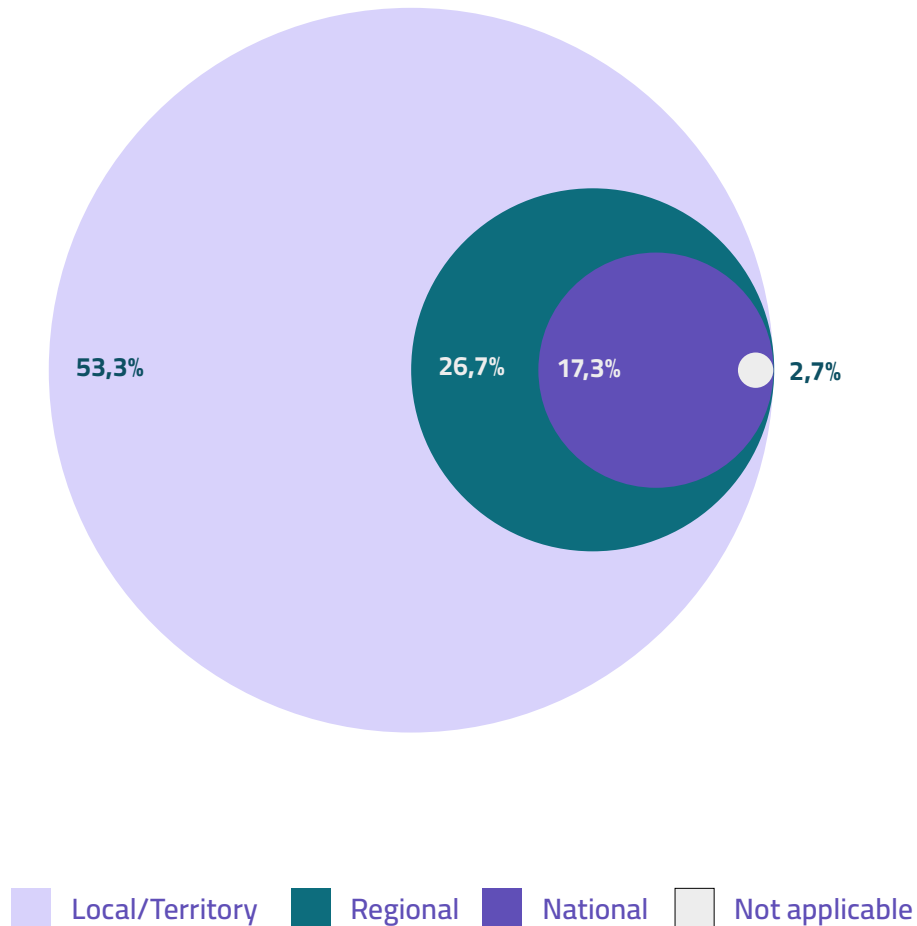


Chart 6 - Scope of operations of the supported organizations



Size of the teams and budgets of the supported organizations and collectives

The profile of organizations supported by Casa Fund under the GAGGA Program shows significant diversity, both in the size of their teams and in their budgets. Certainly, analyzing these variables is crucial for the purposes of the evaluation because it indicates the priority focus of donations on small and medium-sized organizations and collectives (Charts 7 and 8).

Regarding the teams, **small organizations/collectives predominate**, composed of few members who sustain their efforts, mainly through community mobilization and local solidarity networks. Next are medium-sized organizations, which have greater institutional capacity, but still operate under budgetary constraints. Large organizations, with larger teams and greater capacity for planning and executing long-term actions, are fewer in number.



Photo: ASPAKNO - Acquisition of a solar panel kit to be installed in the Shubuā

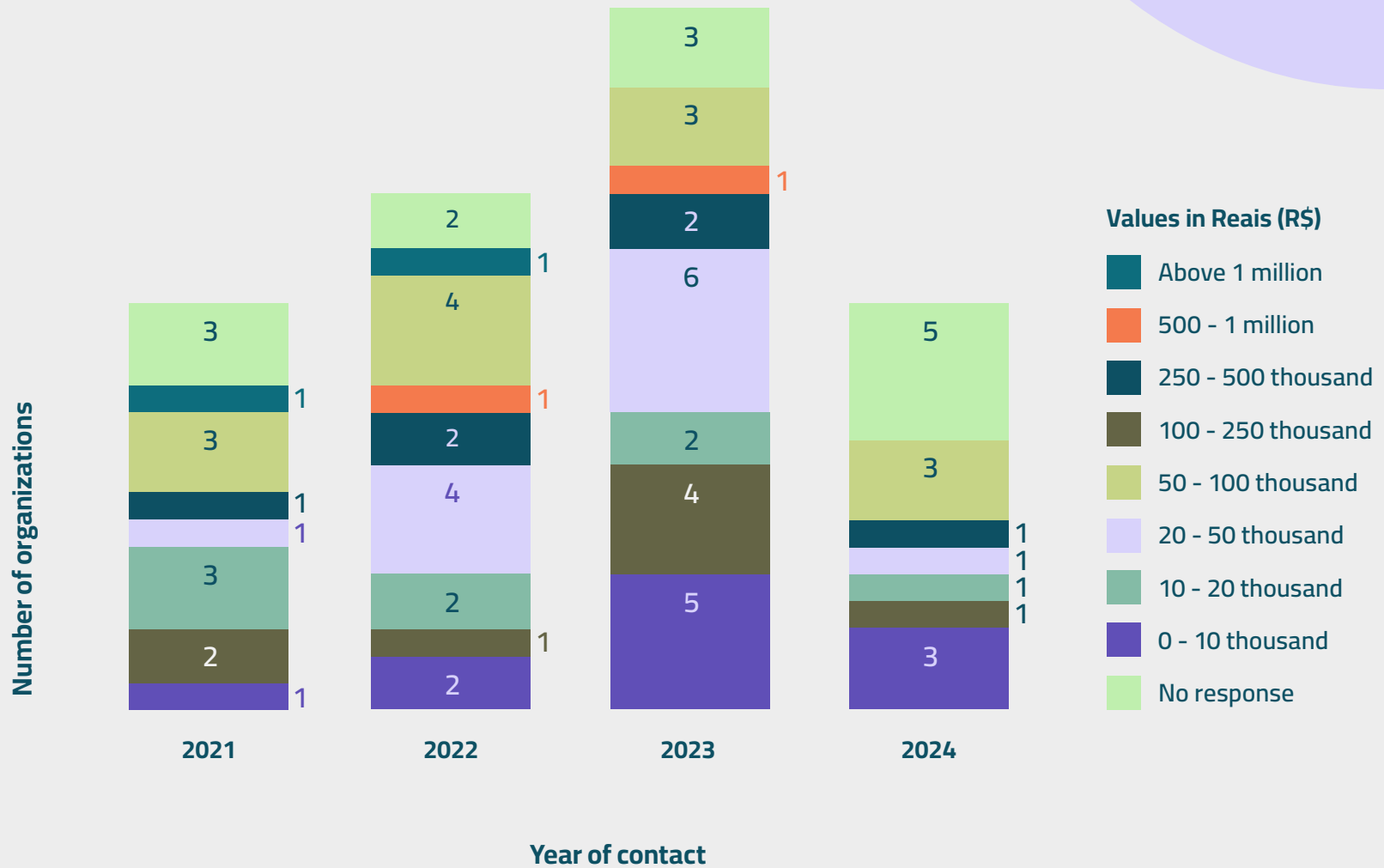
Regarding budgets, **organizations/collectives with small budgets prevail**, generally dependent on one-off contributions, volunteer work, and community creativity. Organizations with intermediate budgets emerge in smaller proportions, and even fewer have more robust resources, capable of maintaining permanent teams, expanding the reach of their actions, and strengthening their political influence at different scales. This diversity reinforces the importance of flexible funding strategies, capable of responding both to the basic continuity needs of small collectives and to the institutional consolidation processes of more solid organizations in terms of their track record and management capacity.

The intersection of these two dimensions shows that organizations with small teams generally also have reduced budgets.

Reflecting the structural precariousness that marks the performance of many grassroots collectives. Organizations with larger teams and more robust budgets illustrate the relevance of contributions that allow for structuring initiatives and sustaining actions with a broader impact. Between these two extremes, there are intermediate combinations, such as medium-sized teams with medium-sized budgets, which reveal the complexity of the field and the need for support tailored to different realities.

In short, from the analysis carried out, it is possible to observe that the grantmaking strategy developed by the Casa Fund within the context of the Program balances support for grassroots community innovation—often led by small collectives with small teams—with the strengthening of larger and more structured organizations, consolidating a plural and interdependent ecosystem in defense of socio-environmental and climate justice.

Chart 7 - Budget of supported organizations



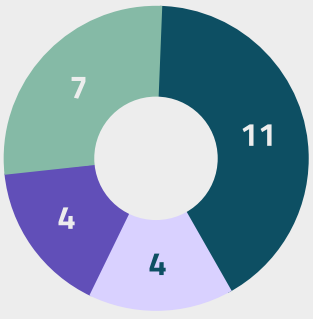
**Chart 8 -Size of organizational teams
in terms of number of people**



2021



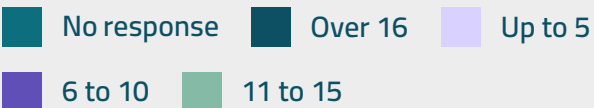
2022



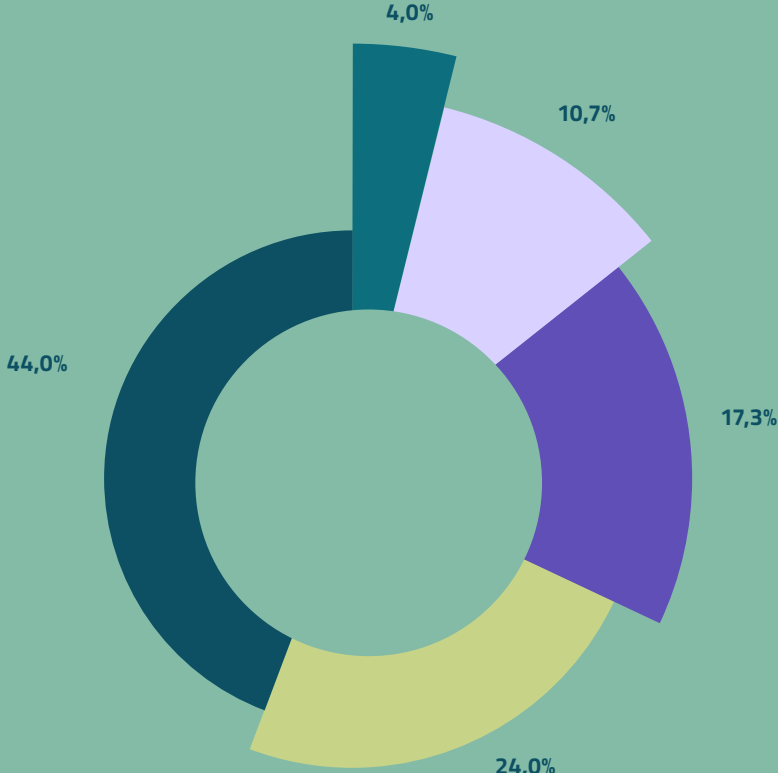
2023



2024



**Size of the teams of the
supported organizations**



Diversity of audiences involved in grantee organizations and collectives

The audiences of grantee organizations and collectives constitute a **diverse mosaic of political subjects covered by the Program**, in accordance with GAGGA Alliance's guiding principles. Quilombolas and Afro-descendant communities represented 17% of the universe, while Indigenous people, riverine communities, artisanal fisherfolk, and family farmers accounted for approximately 12% each.

In addition, there has been a growing presence of peripheral urban collectives and gender dissident organizations, especially since 2023, when the plurality of publics reached a peak. This picture shows that within the context of Casa Fund, GAGGA has consolidated itself as a program capable of amplifying historically marginalized voices and coordinating distinct political subjects around the agendas of climate justice and feminisms.



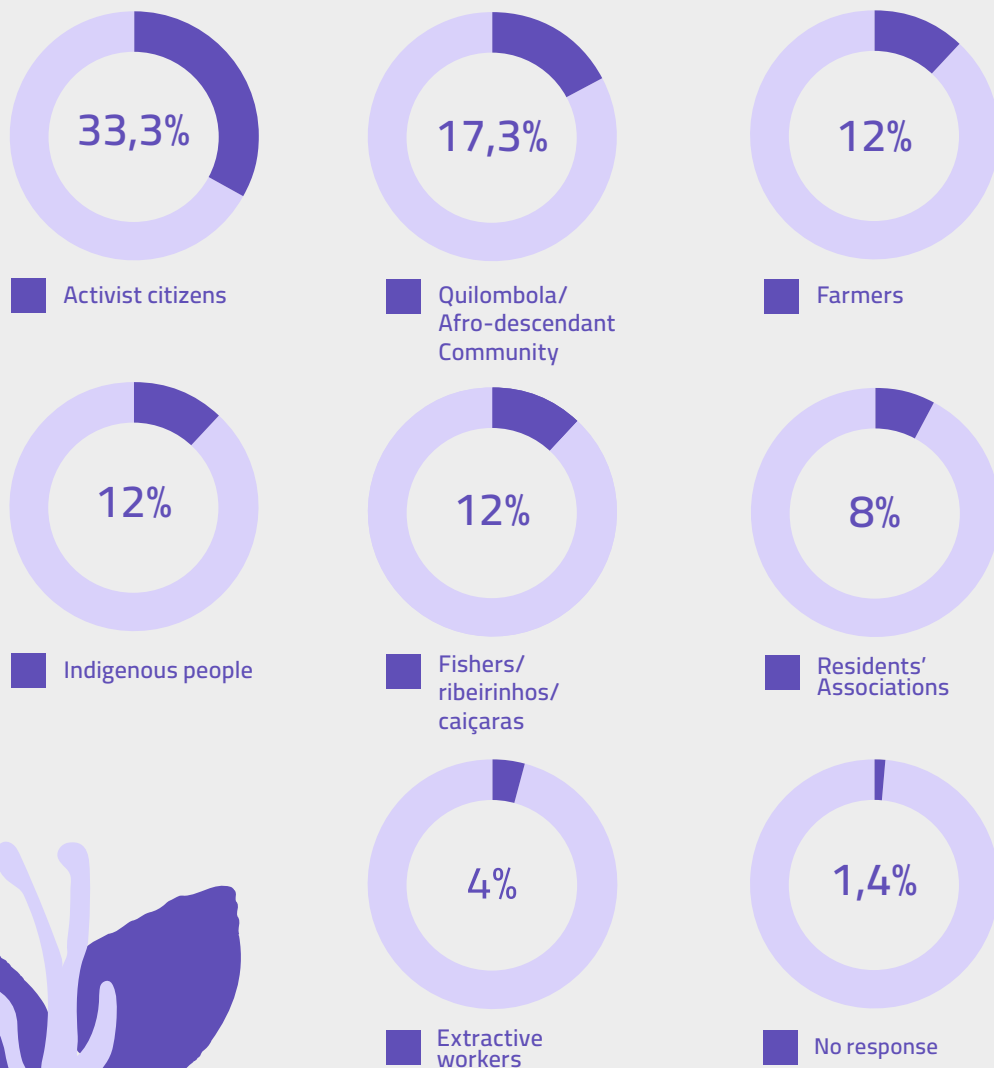
Photo: Espaço Gaia

Chart 9 - Profile of supported organizations

- Quilombola/Afro-descendant Community
- Fishers/ribeirinhos/caiçaras
- Indigenous people
- Extractive workers
- Activist citizens
- Residents' association
- Farmers



Profile of audiences involved in supported organizations between 2021-2024



Women's participation in grantee organizations and collectives

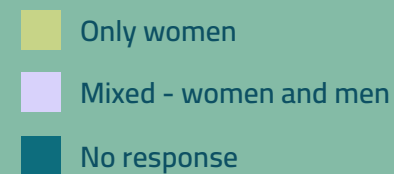
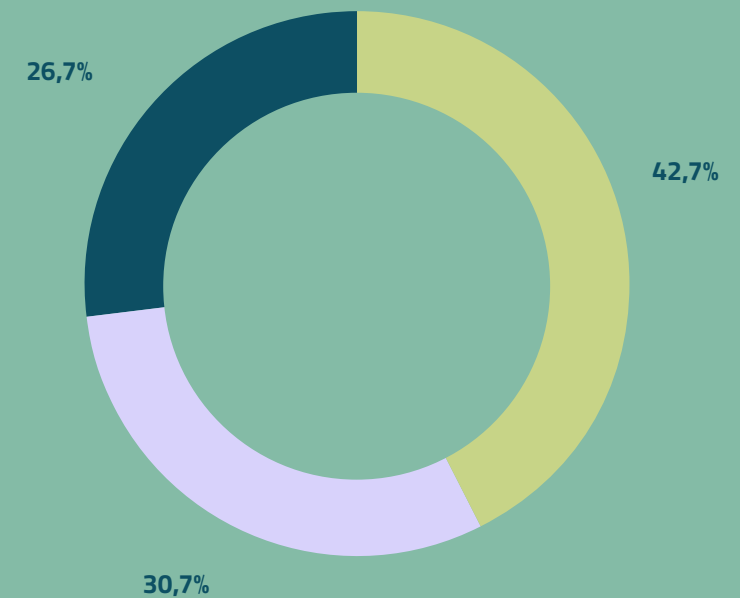
During the period analyzed, women played a leading role in the political and community coordination of projects that received grants. Most organizations/collectives had coordination structures predominantly composed of women, consolidating an ongoing trend of female leadership in decision-making spaces. This emphasis was further reinforced by the growth of organizations led exclusively by women, alongside a gradual decline in organizations with mixed leadership.

This movement demonstrates that Casa Socio-Environmental Fund's grantmaking strategy within the GAGGA Program not only strengthened collectives and communities but also placed women in a prominent position in shaping climate and socio-environmental solutions. By prioritizing projects coordinated by women—often territory defenders and voices rendered invisible in other contexts— Casa Fund reaffirmed its political commitment to a feminist grantmaking practice. In this sense, the presence of female leadership within grantee organizations goes beyond a statistical measure: it serves as an indicator of the reconfiguration of power dynamics and strengthens transformative trajectories rooted in the perspectives of women and their communities.

Chart 10 - Supported organizations led by women and/or mixed



Supported organizations led by women and/or mixed groups between 2021-2024



Networking, partnerships, and political advocacy within organizations and collectives

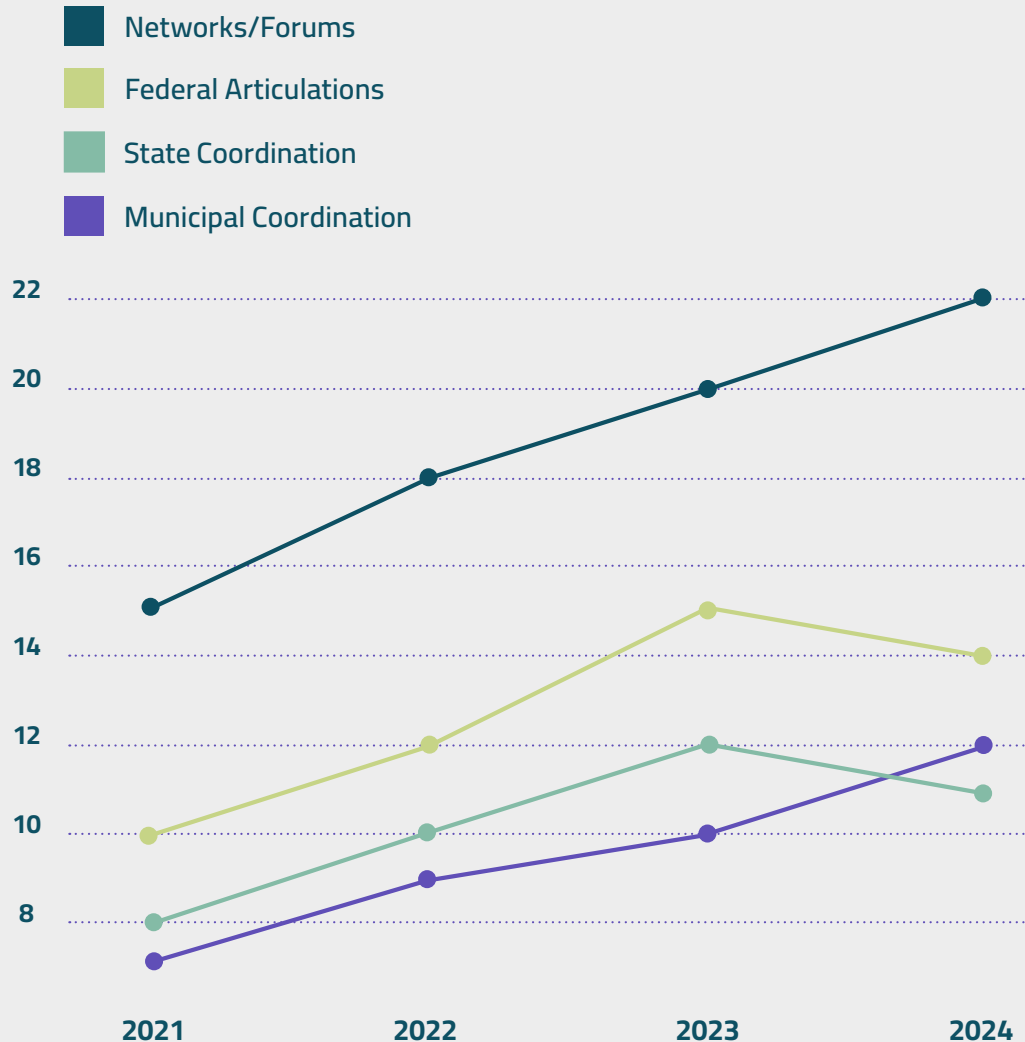
The analysis of established partnerships and political advocacy actions of organizations supported within the GAGGA Program (see chart below, *Evolution of Organizations' Participation in Networks and Mobilizations [2021–2024]*) underscores the strategic role of funding aimed at strengthening networks and collective mobilization capacity.

The information produced reveals a growing trend in the number of organizations and collectives operating in networks and forums, accompanied by the expansion of their presence in municipal, state, and federal spheres. This movement points to the strengthening of inter-organizational connections and a greater capacity to occupy strategic spaces in the field of public policies. The support provided within the scope of the GAGGA Program, therefore, was not limited to the execution of specific actions, but created conditions for women's networks and feminist, socio-environmental, and community collectives to recognize each other and begin to act in a coordinated manner, expanding their political and territorial impact.




Photo: Cooperativa Mista de Produção e Comercialização Camponesa do Estado de Alagoas - COOPCAM

Chart 11 - Evolution of Organizations in Networks and Mobilizations



An integrated analysis of the profile of grantee organizations and collectives reveals that, throughout the period, there was not only an expansion in reach and diversity of initiatives, but also the consolidation of a grantmaking model that mobilizes territorial resistance, political advocacy, and community strengthening.

The grantmaking strategy driven by Casa Fund within the GAGGA Program was undoubtedly guided by feminist, community, and decolonial principles. More than just numbers, the support provided demonstrates a practice that values both formalized organizations and non-formalized collectives, long-standing networks, and emerging initiatives. This trajectory reaffirms that social transformation is born from the grassroots, the margins, and the silenced voices, consolidating a political map of alliances and resistances that challenges traditional philanthropy and creates space for solutions rooted in the territories led by women and gender-dissident individuals.

 **75** ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED IN FOUR YEARS

 **58%** OF FORMALIZED ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED

 **42%** OF NON-FORMALIZED COLLECTIVES

 **57%** OF GROUPS COMPOSED ONLY BY WOMEN



5. RESULTS ACHIEVED WITHIN THE GAGGA PROGRAM



Shifts in grantee organizations and groups

Based on the interviews conducted, it can be stated that the impacts of climate change and the role of women in addressing the crisis constitute a central agenda in the organizations and collectives supported by Casa Fund and GAGGA Alliance.

From the perspective of interviewed leaders, the development of actions promoting visibility and awareness among women and communities (focusing on rights) was a significant contribution of the support that enabled the implementation of communication and training actions on the impacts of climate change, and on the importance of building connections and partnerships with other organizations in the territories of operation.

“The support has had a significant impact on agroforestry production processes, as well as on waste management and reforestation efforts. Support from Casa Fund was essential for providing technical assistance, participating in agricultural fairs, and carrying out communication activities, such as the community radio programs we were able to develop thanks to the resources received”

(Interviewee)



Technical training for income generation, such as training in agroecological handicraft production, was also highlighted as an outcome of the support, alongside the socio-educational activities implemented. This was achieved through the production of booklets on impacts of climate change, which allowed reaching not only women but also broader and more diverse audiences. Although the primary focus was on women from the community, it was possible to reach mainly young people and families, but also schools—with the booklet reaching classrooms—and community media.

The approaches adopted, together with the engagement of community organizations in the initiatives and the identification of common issues related to climate change impacts, has allowed grantee groups to involve collectives and associations in different regions, such as schools, churches, and community fairs, broadening their reach and strengthening opportunities for networking and partnership-building.

However, the groups had to face several challenges in developing the initiatives:

“Problems with internet access, lack of electricity and infrastructure for storing energy produced by solar panels, the distance from urban centers, and mobility challenges within the territories, especially during droughts, created obstacles in coordinating activities in the territory and meeting the planned timeline, particularly given the diversity of audiences and institutions (villages, schools, associations, etc.) that the project sought to engage”

(Interviewee)



Photo: Colective Mãe Preta

It is also important to highlight the contributions of the support to building various partnerships with public authorities, schools, churches, and civil society organizations. The support also opened the possibility of securing new funding, both from international funders and independent philanthropic organizations (CESE, Podáali, Fundo Dema, Fundo Brasil, etc.). The latter were particularly prominent, considering that they are institutions that promote access to resources in a flexible and unbureaucratic way, with a priority focus on strengthening grassroots community groups in the fight for recognition and access to rights, especially for political minorities and peripheral territories.

Currently, the main challenge for the organizations and collectives supported lies in ensuring continuity, mobilizing new resources to expand their areas of action, and advancing a rights-based agenda, identified as essential for ongoing advocacy with multiple actors.





Photo: Coletivo Mulheres Periféricas e LGBT+

Fundación Socioambiental Semilla:

From seed to independent fund

Created in 2019, Fundación Socioambiental Semilla in Bolivia is an emblematic case, since the GAGGA Alliance and Casa Socio-Environmental Fund are references that guided both its structuring and its work throughout its six-year trajectory. In fact, according to one of its founders:

“Its creation was the result of the development of diverse and collaborative strategies for strengthening and transformation promoted by strategic actors working in the field of socio-environmental philanthropy, with Casa Fund playing a central and leading role”

(Interviewee)

The creation of Fundación Semilla is linked to the trajectory of Blue Foresta, an NGO that worked in the field of environmental journalism. During that period, the organization was supported both within the South American Program and by the GAGGA Program in 2016, a period in which Casa Fund served as GAGGA Alliance’s Socio-environmental Fund, providing support to grassroots organizations in Bolivia and Paraguay. However, from 2017 to 2019, there were significant changes in the activities of Casa Fund, and the South American Program⁶ began a new phase, transferring responsibility to local funds created in six countries in the region. This process had technical, political, and financial support and today integrates the [Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur](#).

⁶ The South American Program was created in 2007 to address the needs of communities impacted by major energy projects in South America. <https://casa.org.br/programas/>

In order to strengthen the socio-environmental grantmaking ecosystem in South America's, Casa Socio-Environmental Fund recognized the potential of Blue Foresta as a benchmark in Bolivia, and through the transfer of financial resources, methodologies, technologies, and accumulated knowledge and learning from years of work, it promoted an institutional strengthening process that facilitated the Bolivian organization to become an independent fund: the Fundación Socioambiental Semilla.

The first steps were taken in 2017, the year in which the organization received resources from Casa Socio-Environmental Fund for this transition. In 2018, the legal incorporation process was initiated, and in 2019, the Fundación was established as a formalized foundation with independent management capacity.

"In this trajectory, Blue Foresta, which is the seed of the Fundación Semilla, went from being a grantee of Casa Fund to acting as a grantmaker, that is, as an independent socio-environmental fund in Bolivia that ended up joining the GAGGA Alliance in 2021".

(Interviewee)

Fundación Semilla began providing initial grants to local groups, focusing on micro-projects in 2020 and, over its six years of operation, has supported 277 groups, donating US\$1.2 million. According to the founder, the biggest leap forward was in 2021, with Fundación Semilla's inclusion in the GAGGA Alliance, supporting 63 projects, eight of which were in Paraguay⁷.

Beyond the possibility of strengthening their support strategy, for the interviewee, "it is fundamental to point out the importance of learning, exchanging experiences—both in the socio-environmental field and in philanthropy—and connections and participation in international networks (such as Human Rights Funders Network/HRFN, EDGE Funders, WINGS), resulting from this process" (Interviewee).

Integration into the GAGGA Alliance brought positive results for Semilla, as it gave visibility to its work. This also opened doors to other funding sources (Global Fund for Community Foundations/GFCF, Oak Foundation, and Inter-American Foundation/IAF) that contributed to its strengthening, in addition to participation in regional and international networks and meetings.

"The coordination and learning meetings are crucial because they create connections, help build and strengthen agendas" (Interviewee).

For the founder, the lessons learned and results achieved were also significant regarding the transformation processes of territories and grassroots groups.

"Experience indicates that it is possible to reach communities and territories and that, through small support, significant results can be achieved, especially with regard to the processes of strengthening local groups and leadership" (Interviewee).

Another highlighted aspect is Semilla's work in the field of advocacy, since "within GAGGA, agendas and bills focused on public policies were promoted" (Interviewee).

⁷ The Fundación Semilla's work in Paraguay stemmed from the fact that a fund could not be successfully established in the country, and as a result, Semilla took on the role of managing those resources.

According to the founder, cooperation between women's funds and socioenvironmental funds is strategically important, as "recognizing the role of women in transformation processes, both in local territories and communities and in political advocacy spaces, is fundamental" (Interviewee).

The Alianza Socioambiental de Fondos del Sur is recognized as a key space not only strategically for exchanging knowledge and strengthening of mobilizations, but also for providing visibility to the works of socio-environmental funds and for advocacy efforts.


"It is not possible to understand the history and trajectory of Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur without GAGGA, which is and has been a differentiating factor. Its discontinuation will also generate impacts in the field of philanthropy. However, alliances and networked work will be essential to sustaining the movement and to maintaining connections in times of adversity".

(Interviewee)



Photo: Todos Juntos Ninguém Sozinho



A large white circle is centered on the left side of the page. Overlapping the top and bottom edges of this circle are stylized green leaves with multiple pointed lobes, resembling a fan palm or similar tropical foliage. The background of the entire page is a solid dark teal color.

6. POINTS OF ARRIVAL: THE IMPACTS OF GAGGA PROGRAM ON CASA SOCIO- -ENVIRONMENTAL FUND'S WORK



In the 21 years of operation of Casa Socio-Environmental Fund, projects led by women (or with women's participation/leadership) have always been relevant, a trend that has strengthened over time and become evident across successive selection processes, reaching all calls for proposals.

There were also effects on communication and on narrative-building, but it is important to emphasize that:

“The GAGGA Alliance came to strengthen an already established way of providing support, connecting environmental issues with the gender agenda” (Interviewee).

In addition to impacting grantmaking processes across all thematic areas, this gradual shift in perspective stems from recognition of the relevance of women's involvement in territories at different levels: environmental conservation, local climate solutions, job and income generation, good living, defense of rights, education, and awareness.

“The impacts of the Program on Casa Fund's work are visible. GAGGA had an organic impact on the work of Casa, as women began to have a more visible presence as a priority audience, emerging from invisibility. For example, the defenders program is undergoing a structural change because of GAGGA, placing women at the center, as they account for 60% of those facing threats and vulnerability.” (Interviewee).

The gender perspective became one of the priorities of Casa's grantmaking strategy, and integration of this perspective as a cross-cutting theme for all the Casa Fund's programs resulted in the creation of the Gender Policy in 2025.





Photo: GRUPO DE MULHERES
INDÍGENAS CUNHÃ PORÃ

The change in perspective, focusing on gender, also impacted Casa Fund’s networking and partnerships, the promotion of debates and events, the construction of narratives and communication strategies, as well as production of knowledge, such as publications that are strategic instruments in the context of advocacy efforts.

The Program was undoubtedly significant because, over 10 years, it managed to support projects with a gender and environmental perspective, generating exchanges, learning, testing approaches and collaborative dynamics to act collectively.

“GAGGA is a fundamental reference for the field of independent philanthropy and for advocacy and, in fact, was strategic in attracting partnerships and funding” (Interviewee).

Regarding advocacy actions, a key aspect highlighted within the Program and the work of Casa Socio-Environmental Fund was the creation of the Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur (Socio-Environmental Funds of the Global South Alliance)—comprised of independent socio-environmental funds operating in the Global South—which should be understood as a path of inspiration, resulting from GAGGA Alliance.

“Because it stemmed from the recognition of the role of women’s funds in transformation processes of territories and communities, and that they were an inspiring reference (for Casa Fund and Alianza)” (Interviewee).

The current challenges are related to the prospects for continuity, since GAGGA Alliance will end its partnership with the Dutch Cooperation from 2026 onwards. In this scenario, the question that arises is: **“What will be the consequences for Casa Fund, which will no longer have specific resources for this type of support? The cut in resources should not jeopardize an approach that is already established within the organizational culture and must continue to be reinforced” (Interviewee).**

These reflections point to a challenge that goes beyond the financial dimension of the Program, since it addresses the political meaning of the initiative. As mentioned, the end of this cycle of GAGGA's activities takes place in a context of political uncertainty and contraction of financial resources from the international funding ecosystem, posing concrete challenges to its continuity. However, the results observed throughout GAGGA's trajectory demonstrate that supporting initiatives led by women and gender-dissident individuals remains a key strategy for strengthening climate justice efforts in territories.



As shown, these grants contributed to expanding organizational capacities, boosting networks, promoting political advocacy initiatives, diversifying income sources, and consolidating community knowledge that responds, in context-specific ways, to complex environmental crises.

The transformations achieved—even with limited resources—reveal the power of solutions that emerge from the territories and are sustained by community ties, ancestry, care, and the defense of good living.

Therefore, more than interrupting a cycle, this moment invites a renewal of commitments. Continuing to support actions to address climate change led by women, transgender people, and groups linked to political minorities means ensuring that these achievements are not only protected but expanded; that the alliances built remain alive; and that the territories continue to be spaces of resistance, imagination, and future.

