

Key takeaways: International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change



Progress Report 2

Progress overview



Climate is no longer a niche issue for philanthropy.

Across the world, foundations are changing how they fund, invest, operate, and lead in response to the climate crisis.

The second [International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change Progress Report](#) shows where that progress is happening, and where challenges remain.

Led by WINGS and Philea, the International Commitment now includes 64 signatories globally, representing a diverse range of sizes, missions, and geographies. The report tracks how signatories are taking action across seven areas, from funding and governance to investments, operations, advocacy, and transparency.

The Seven-Pillar Framework

- 1

Education and Learning: Building internal and external understanding.
- 2

Commitment of Resources: Allocating funding to climate solutions.
- 3

Integration: Applying a climate lens across all programmatic work.
- 4

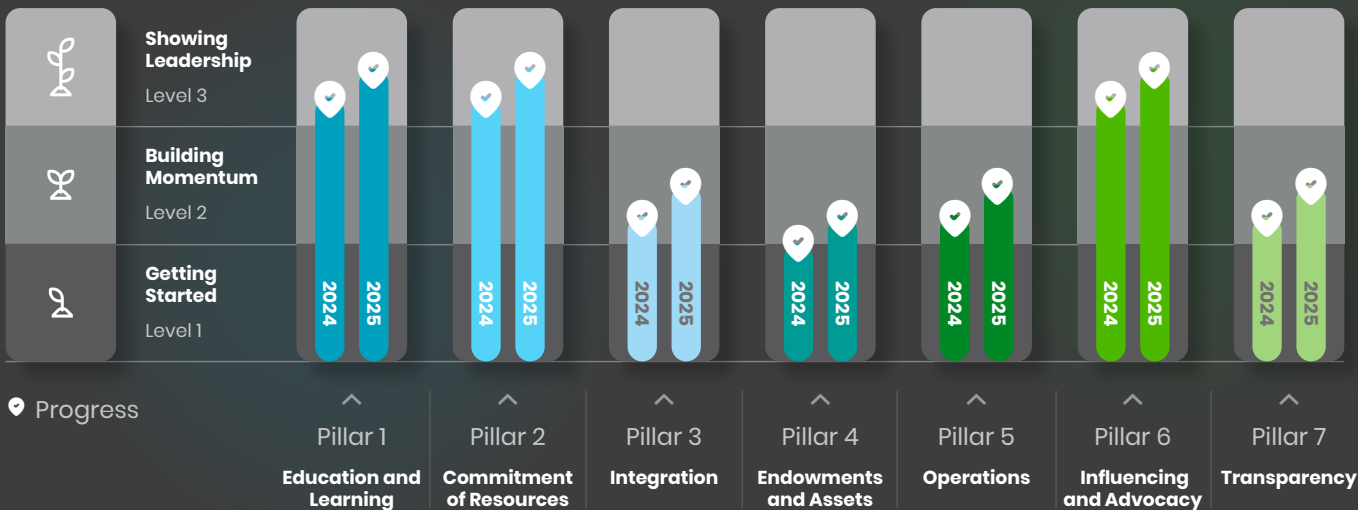
Endowments and Assets: Aligning investments with climate goals.
- 5

Operations: Reducing the foundation's own carbon footprint.
- 6

Influencing and Advocacy: Using the foundation's voice to drive systemic change.
- 7

Transparency: Publicly reporting on progress and learning.

Progress overview



Here's what stands out

1. Climate action is becoming embedded in philanthropy

- 86%

of signatories say the commitment has changed how they act on climate
- 61%

have increased climate-related funding
- Foundations are not just committing—they're changing how they work



Photo credit: Abir Abdullah Climate Visuals Countdown

2. Progress depends on structure

Foundations with a climate plan are **3x** more likely to make significant progress.

What changes with a plan:

- 🕒 Climate is built into decision-making
- 🕒 Boards and leadership are engaged
- 🕒 Action is sustained over time

3. The biggest shift is happening where it's hardest

The strongest collective progress this year was in Endowments and Assets — long considered one of the hardest areas for foundations to change.

Foundations are starting to:

- 🕒 Align investments with climate goals
- 🕒 Use screening, divestment, and impact investing
- 🕒 Treat their endowments as part of the solution

4. All foundations have a role to play – especially non-climate foundations

Non-climate funders are making crucial progress. Instead of building new programmes, they are:

- 🕒 Integrating climate into existing work
- 🕒 Applying a climate lens across sectors
- 🕒 Adapting how they fund and operate

5. Progress is real—but not even

Some areas remain harder:

- 🕒 **Operations:** cutting emissions is complex and slow
- 🕒 **Integration:** climate is not always embedded in decisions
- 🕒 **Transparency:** many foundations are not yet public about their commitments

- 🕒 **Endowments & Assets:** remain one of the most challenging areas

These challenges are real, but the report also shows that foundations are learning from each other and building momentum over time.



The pillars of the Commitment have shaped our approach to climate change and provided a clear framework for action. This Commitment has helped us determine where to begin, how to proceed, and with whom to collaborate — or when to act independently. It has also guided us in building our climate pathway.

 **Sabanci Foundation**

Photo credit: Nicholas Doherty on Unsplash

Where foundations can start (or go further)

- ② For non-signatories: Climate change already affects every mission area. Joining a Commitment offers a practical structure for learning, action, and peer exchange.
- ② For foundations getting started: Focus first on Education and Learning to build internal understanding and bring boards and staff into the conversation.
- ② For foundations building momentum: Develop a climate action plan to strengthen accountability and accelerate progress across all seven pillars.
- ② For foundations already leading: Share what's working — and what isn't. Collective learning helps strengthen the wider movement.

Read the full report: [International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change Progress Report 2](#) 

For more information and to find out how you can take action, please visit: