

2022 annual summary

Arcadia helps people preserve endangered culture, protect endangered nature and promote open access. Since Peter Baldwin and Lisbet Rausing founded Arcadia in 2002, we have awarded more than \$1 billion to projects around the world.

A year in giving

In 2022 we gave grants totalling

\$89.7
million

Protecting
endangered
nature

\$32.5
million

Preserving
endangered
culture

\$24.3
million

Promoting
**open
access**

\$29.9
million

We also gave \$3m to causes and projects that do not fall under our three programmes.

You can find information on all our grants on our website and 360Giving.

*Report updated February 2024.

In 2022 we celebrated twenty years since Arcadia's first grant. We also passed \$1 billion in total grants awarded. Milestones are important. But they are secondary to our grantees' accomplishments and the principles we apply to our grant-making. We avoid arbitrarily limiting the length of our relationships with grantees, and give them flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances.

In keeping with these principles we have looked for opportunities to make longer-term grants to organizations with a track record of success. Our awards to **COMMUNIA**, **Redalyc+AmeliCA** and the **Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative** will provide core support for periods of up to ten years. We have also renewed our funding for **Cambridge University's** Masters' programme in Conservation Leadership (ten years) and the **Modern Endangered Archives Program** at the **University of California Los Angeles** (eight years).

Our flexibility came to the fore during the coronavirus pandemic, and when Russia's invasion of Ukraine directly impacted several of our grantees. We made emergency grants to the **Institute of Human Sciences** to support Ukrainian academics, and to **Frankfurt Zoological Society** and **Foundation Conservation**

Carpathia to help refugees in Ukraine's national parks. We made further grants to the people of Ukraine from Lund Trust, Lisbet and Peter's other charity. Despite the war, we were pleased to be able to continue supporting conservation projects in Ukraine through our **Endangered Landscapes** and **Open Rivers** programmes.

Our grant-making depends on our regranteeing partners and their expert panels (read more on pages 12-16). We are also indebted to Arcadia's Advisory Board: Frances Beinecke, Johannes Burger, Charles Burrell, Anthea Case, Markus Hilgert, Heather Joseph, Ben Koerner, Sigrid Koerner, Neil MacGregor and Alison Richard. Lord Rothschild retired from the panel having served on it since its inception. We are deeply grateful to him for his wise counsel over the last two decades.

Simon Chaplin,
Chief Executive

From The Great Film of
Uruguay: Carlos Alonso
Collection, SODRE. Courtesy
of the Modern Endangered
Archives Program.



Protecting endangered nature

We aim to protect the natural diversity of the world, now and in the future. Our grants help safeguard and restore biodiverse areas of land and sea.

Our environment programme focuses on **on-site interventions, governance, and leadership.**

In 2022 we gave

\$32.5m

to protect endangered nature

Supporting locally-led conservation

Supporting locally-led conservation initiatives is a shared ambition for many funders. The Global Biodiversity Framework agreed at the United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP15) now includes a goal of protecting traditional conservation knowledge and a target of achieving full, equitable and inclusive representation and participation in decision-making. We reflected this approach in several of our grants in 2022.

Community-based conservation is at the heart of the work of **Blue Ventures** and **Forest Peoples Programme**, two of Arcadia's grantees. Blue Ventures' marine programme in Madagascar now covers one-fifth of the country's coastal seabed. It allows animals such as shrimp and octopus to recover from over-fishing while helping small-scale fishers. The Forest Peoples Programme supports indigenous people in Africa, Latin America and South East Asia monitor and map the

biodiversity on their land, helping to document forest loss and encroachment in the tropics.

Re:wild, another new grantee in 2022, supports more than 400 organizations in over 50 countries to create and manage sustainable and equitable protected areas. We also renewed our funding to **Rewilding Europe**, which supports local conservation practitioners and entrepreneurs to demonstrate the benefits of rewilding. It hopes to motivate and inspire others to make Europe a wilder place.

As well as funding organizations that channel funding to on-the-ground partners, we also support the development of conservation leaders around the world. Our grant to the **University of Cambridge's Conservation Leadership Programme** will continue to provide bursaries for young practitioners from biodiversity-rich parts of the world who, would otherwise not be able to attend the course. Our funding to **Yale University's Environmental Leadership Training Initiative** will help it run its site-based training programmes in Panama, Colombia, Brazil, the Philippines and Indonesia.

Protecting endangered nature

A baby boom in the Danube delta

Despite the challenges of drought and war, restoration efforts in Ukraine's Danube delta, coordinated by **Rewilding Europe**, have brought animals back to the region, and they are settling in well.



Koniks in the Danube Delta. Photo by Andrey Nekrasov. Courtesy of Rewilding Danube Delta.

Marmots are reinhabiting the Tarutino steppe; a released herd of kulans saw the birth of a foal, the first in Europe in more than two hundred years; and a herd of koniks (wild horses) reintroduced from Latvia had eight foals. This Danube delta project is supported by our **Endangered Landscapes Programme**.

First demolitions for the Open Rivers Programme

The first grantees of the **European Open Rivers Programme** are starting to remove dams.

European rivers are the most fragmented in the world, negatively impacting biodiversity. The programme funds small dam demolitions thus improving water quality and restoring habitats. By autumn 2022, the programme had supported the removal of three barriers – in Ukraine, France and the UK – opening up 48km of river.

Open Rivers projects have so far opened up 48km of river

When the Bayurivka dam on the White Cheremosh river in the Carpathian mountains between Romania and Ukraine was removed, protected fish like brook trout, Danube salmon, and Ukrainian lamprey moved upstream, in turn attracting brown bears, otters and various birds.

Earth Investigations Programme

In 2021 we set up the **Earth Investigations Programme** with **Journalismfund.eu** to improve reporting on environmental matters relating to Europe. In 2022, the first teams of journalists published their investigations.

One project exposed the detrimental effects on coastal ecosystems of unrestricted development in cities such as Alexandria, Dhaka, Dublin, Karachi, Lagos and Rotterdam, leaving them critically vulnerable to rising sea levels. Another investigation found that the Anglo-French oil company Perenco was responsible for damaging an internationally-important marine mangrove reserve in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The investigators showed that Perenco's gas flares release carbon dioxide equivalent to a quarter of the Congolese population's carbon footprint.

Protecting endangered nature

Grants awarded in 2022

On-site interventions

We promote collaborative, evidence-led interventions to nurture biodiversity-rich areas and rehabilitate degraded landscapes.

GRANT HOLDER Grant purpose	AMOUNT	YEARS
Re:wild Core support	\$6,000,000	5
Rewilding Europe Advancing rewilding across Europe	\$5,000,000	5
Wildlife Conservation Society Legacy Landscapes Programme	\$5,000,000	5
Blue Ventures Conservation Core support	\$2,500,000	5
Re:wild Rewilding Argentina Ibera Wildfire Crisis Fund	\$100,000	1

Governance

We support good governance to help protect and restore biodiversity.

GRANT HOLDER Grant purpose	AMOUNT	YEARS
Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative (DOSI) Advancing science-based stewardship of the deep ocean	\$4,641,000	10
Global Canopy Core support	\$1,725,000	5
Environmental Justice Foundation Ocean campaign	\$1,500,000	5

Leadership

We help people gain the knowledge and skills they need to protect and restore biodiversity.

GRANT HOLDER Grant purpose	AMOUNT	YEARS
University of Cambridge Cambridge Conservation Initiative: Masters in Conservation Leadership	\$3,000,000	10
Yale University Environmental Leadership and Training Initiative (ELTI)	\$3,000,000	5

Preserving endangered culture

We aim to preserve knowledge of the world's cultural diversity. Our grants help document endangered cultural heritage, ensuring it is available to future generations.

Our culture programme focuses on **archives and manuscripts, intangible culture, and heritage sites.**

In 2022 we gave

\$24.3 m
to preserve endangered culture

See all 2022 grants on page 8

Making, mending, remembering

Material knowledge (making, fixing and using things) is transmitted from hand to hand and rarely recorded. As mass-produced objects replace handmade items, many traditional skills are disappearing.

Two of our regranting programmes document these vanishing skills. The **Endangered Material Knowledge Programme**, hosted by the **British Museum**, has now supported 68 projects in 45 countries to record practices such as felt-making in Iraq, Brazil nut production in the Amazon, and raffia palm weaving in Nigeria.

Our new **Endangered Wooden Architecture Programme**, hosted by **Oxford Brookes University**, awarded its first grants in 2022. Ever fewer people have the skills to build and repair traditional wooden structures. Wood can be susceptible to changing climates. Also, some trees used for traditional structures are disappearing.

Read more about our cultural regranting programmes on pages 14-15



Agostinho Tenharing weaving a corn basket for Brazil nut collection. Photo by Laura Furquim. Courtesy of the Endangered Material Knowledge Programme.

The Endangered Wooden Architecture Programme makes permanent, publicly-available online records of these fragile structures, including 3D digital models. Some of the first projects will document 17th century churches in Chile's Chiloé Archipelago, Sufi shrines (khanqahs) of the Kashmir Valley, and the hybrid houses of Japanese immigrants in the Brazilian rainforest, combining traditional Japanese structures with non-traditional materials.

Preserving endangered culture

The culture of science

In 2022 we awarded three grants for digitization work in India, whose rich and diverse heritage often resides in fragile documents. They included a grant to the **National Centre for Biological Sciences** in Bangalore, focusing on archives relating to ecological science in India. At times physically deteriorated, these records are also sometimes at risk because of hostility to environmental and indigenous rights movements. The National Centre for Biological Sciences hosts the Milli collective, a network of skilled and experienced Indian archivists.

New partners, new horizons

We are also exploring new cultural projects in South America. We are supporting a three-year international partnership led by the **Universitat Pompeu Fabra** to map pre-Columbian archaeology. It will create a database of sites across 3.5 million km² of endangered forest and savanna biomes in Brazil and Colombia, where sites are under threat from agricultural expansion, looting, excavation and climate change.

A light on East Africa's manuscripts

The **Hill Museum and Manuscript Library**, our grantee since 2011, recently added 800 manuscripts from Ethiopia to its free online archive. The project has highlighted how women commissioned devotional Qur'anic manuscripts in 18th century East Africa and how important this heritage is to diasporic communities.

Our new project in South America will document endangered archaeology across 3.5 million km²



Islamic manuscripts from 19th century Ethiopia. Courtesy of HMML and the Sherif Harar City Museum.

Preserving endangered culture

Grants awarded in 2022

Archives and manuscripts

We help people digitize at-risk collections.

GRANT HOLDER	AMOUNT	YEARS
Grant purpose		
University of California Los Angeles Library Modern Endangered Archives Program	\$13,000,000	8
University of California Los Angeles Library Sinai Library digitization project	\$2,014,000	3
Columbia University Libraries Preserving historical and cultural memory of Dalit communities in India	\$1,700,000	5
University of Hamburg Digitization and preservation of Kerala archives	\$864,000	5
University of California, Berkeley California Language Archive, a repository of indigenous languages	\$500,000	5
National Centre for Biological Sciences Documenting the contemporary history of science in India	\$440,000	3

Heritage sites

We fund recording of archaeological sites and buildings.

GRANT HOLDER	AMOUNT	YEARS
Grant purpose		
Universitat Pompeu Fabra Mapping Pre-Columbian archaeological heritage in South America	\$2,270,636	3
Bournemouth University Documenting cultural heritage in the Cook Islands and Niue (pilot study)	\$87,029	1

Intangible culture

We support documentation of endangered languages and cultural practices.

We did not award any new grants in this area in 2022. Our Endangered Languages Documentation Programme and Endangered Knowledge Programme continued to make grants on our behalf (read more on page 14)

Other cultural grants

In 2022 we gave \$3.3m to the **Wende Museum** to support its Institute for Archival Research, as well as a grant of \$100,000 for running costs.

Promoting open access

We aim to improve access to knowledge. Our grants help make information free for anyone, anywhere, to find and to use, now and in the future.

Our open access programme focuses on **copyright and intellectual property**, **scholarly books**, and **discoverability**.

In 2022 we gave

\$29.9m
to promote open access

Long-term support for access to knowledge

Depending on short-term project funding can hold grantees back. Two of our new open access grants counter this by providing long-term core support for organizations with a track record of success promoting access to knowledge.

Over 10 million free peer-reviewed articles are downloaded each month via Redalyc

COMMUNIA is a European network of activists, researchers and practitioners who protect information that is in the public domain. Our grant will run for eight years, supporting COMMUNIA's advocacy work to promote users' rights and create safeguards against copyright abuse.



Map of co-authorship in 'diamond open access' journal. Image by Redalyc, 2022.

We are also supporting **Redalyc** and **AmeliCA**, a Mexican non-profit alliance which has promoted open access as a public good in Latin America for more than two decades. Redalyc indexes more than 1,400 peer-reviewed open-access journals published by 670 institutions from over thirty countries. It provides access to more than 700,000 full-text articles. The demand is impressive: around 10 million articles are downloaded every month from all over the world. Our ten-year grant will help the alliance ensure neither readers or authors are charged for research articles.

Promoting open access



The open climate campaign will help provide solutions to the climate and biodiversity crises. Courtesy of Creative Commons.

Freeing knowledge to fight the climate crisis

During the coronavirus pandemic, publishers, editors and researchers ensured that up-to-date health research was available to whoever needed it.

Inspired by this collective open access movement, we have given \$4m to a new campaign to similarly accelerate open access to research on global heating and biodiversity loss. Led by **Creative Commons**, the **Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC)** and **Electronic Information for Libraries**, we hope the campaign will help scientists, activists and policy-makers find solutions to the climate and biodiversity crises.

US Open!

2022 saw a huge win for open access in the US. In August, the US White House Office for Science and Technology Policy announced that from 2025 all federally funded research – ‘from cancer to climate change’ – must be made accessible to the public without delay.

This milestone results from persistent campaigning by organizations such as **SPARC**, which we support via the **New Venture Fund**.

Promoting open access

Grants awarded in 2022

Copyright and intellectual property

We support efforts to challenge and improve existing laws and regulations, so that people have better access to knowledge.

GRANT HOLDER	AMOUNT	YEARS
Grant purpose		

Creative Commons

Campaign to increase open access to research on climate and biodiversity	\$4,000,000	4
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COMMUNIA International Association for the Public Domain

Core support	\$3,570,000	8
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Discoverability

Our grants help people find legal, free-to-read versions of content they need.

GRANT HOLDER	AMOUNT	YEARS
Grant purpose		

Confederation of Open Access Repositories Project Notify	\$4,000,000	4
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Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México Redalyc + AmeliCA	\$3,600,000	10
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Plazi Liberating species descriptions from in-copyright journal articles	\$1,785,000	3
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Open Syllabus Core support	\$1,750,000	2
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Arizona State University Foundation Offline Internet Consortium	\$300,000	3
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MIT Open Learning MIT OpenCourseWare	\$100,000	1
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Scholarly books

We support projects to provide free online access to in-copyright academic books.

GRANT HOLDER	AMOUNT	YEARS
Grant purpose		

MIT Press Director's discretionary fund	\$500,000	3
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Other open access grants

We have given \$5m to the **New York Public Library** to support its digital work, \$2m to **Wikimedia** towards the Wikipedia endowment and \$1.6m to the **American Council of Learned Societies** towards its open access book prize. We also gave **UCLA** and **UC Berkeley** \$500,000 each; **Wikimedia** and the **Internet Archive** \$250,000 each; and the **New York Public Library** \$200,000 to continue their work to advance open access.

Regranting programmes

How do we determine where and when our support is most needed, and how we achieve lasting, meaningful outcomes?

We are a small team. So we often work through regranting schemes – Arcadia grants that are distributed by partner organizations and networks who know where the greatest need and opportunity exists. This allows us to support local initiatives worldwide that are best placed to deliver verifiable outcomes.

Sometimes we work with existing organizations to distribute funds, and sometimes we create new organizations.

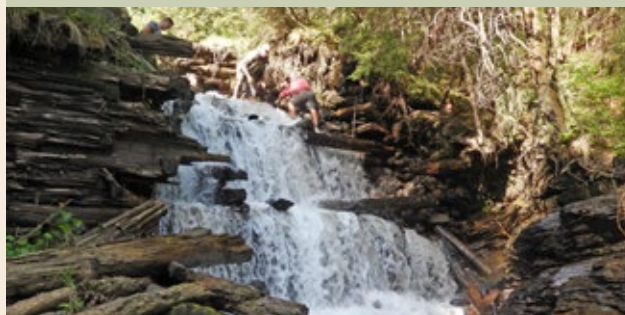
In 2022 our regranting programmes gave

\$37.6m

to 272 projects

Environmental regranting programmes

These fund restoration of landscapes and rivers across Europe, and support investigative journalism on environmental matters relating to Europe.



Bayurivka dam in Ukraine was the first dam to be removed by the Open Rivers Programme.
© WWF Ukraine

In 2022 our environmental regranting programmes gave

\$31.1m

to 147 projects

[Read more on page 12](#)

Cultural regranting programmes

These fund documentation of archives, spoken languages and craft practices. All outputs are freely available online.

In 2022 our cultural regranting programmes gave

\$6.5m

to 125 projects

[Read more on pages 13–14](#)

Environmental regranting programmes

Endangered Landscapes Programme

Hosted by Cambridge Conservation Initiative

The programme aims to create large, connected land – and sea –scapes, restore ecosystem processes, and promote more sustainable local economies. Since it started in 2018, the programme has supported 25 grants.

2022 giving:
7 grants totalling \$26.1m

The programme's second cohort of projects will improve natural habitats across more than 28,000 km². One project will create wildlife corridors and restore grassland used by semi-nomadic pastoralists on the Shiraki steppes in eastern Georgia. Hopefully, locally-extinct animals, like the Caucasian leopard, might return.

Open Rivers Programme

Hosted by Stichting Open Rivers

The programme aims to restore biodiversity in European rivers by supporting the removal of dams to restore river flow.

2022 giving:
52 grants totalling \$3.3m

The programme supported 19 dam removal projects in European countries. Together, they will restore more than 300 km of river. The demolition of two dams on Cabrillas river in Guadalajara in central Spain will restore ecological continuity to the last 25km of the Cabrillas River until it meets with the Tagus, thus restoring connectivity in more than 50% of the waterway.

Earth Investigations Programme

Hosted by Journalismfund.eu

The programme supports environmental investigative journalism on European affairs in and outside Europe.

2022 giving:
88 grants totalling \$1.7m

One project investigated pig and chicken factories in the United Kingdom, Germany and Spain, revealing their devastating pollution of rivers, aquifers and even tapwater. The investigation was led by journalists from DATADISTA and The Guardian and disseminated by the Spanish newsite elDiario.es.

Cultural regranting programmes

Endangered Archives Programme

Hosted by the British Library

The programme funds digitization of under-threat collections that are older than the 1950s. Since it started in 2004, the programme has supported more than 400 projects.

2022 giving:
32 grants totalling \$1.6m

New grants include a project at the National Library of Mongolia, digitizing 500 unique and fragile volumes written in Tibetan between 1700 and 1900. Many of these books have not been opened in hundreds of years. These significant records of Mongolian culture and scholarship have been inaccessible to the Mongolian community for about a century and have never been reachable to the global scholarly community.

Modern Endangered Archives Program

Hosted by University of California, Los Angeles

This programme funds digitization of archives from the 20th and 21st centuries. Since it started in 2018, the programme has supported 88 projects.

2022 giving:
28 grants totalling \$900,000

New projects include documenting the Kwame Ture Archive in Guinea. Kwame Ture (Stokely Carmichael) was a central figure of the Civil Rights, Black Power, PanAfrican, and Third World liberation movements from the 1960s through the 1990s. The archive includes pamphlets, meeting minutes, unpublished writings, notebooks, letters, books and photographs from Ture's years of global political organizing. Its rare and often unique materials document Ture's work alongside Martin Luther King Jr., Fidel Castro, Ho Chi Minh, Yasser Arafat, Kwame Nkrumah and Miriam Makeba.

Endangered Language Documentation Project

Hosted by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities

The programme documents endangered languages around the world. Since it started in 2002, the programme has awarded more than 550 grants.

2022 giving:
31 grants totalling \$2.1m

New projects include the documentation of a distinctive sign language used by both deaf and hearing members in a village in Dadhkai, Kashmir, India. The so called 'The Village of Silence' has a high rate of hereditary deafness. Another project is documenting Wardaman, a highly endangered Australian Aboriginal language of which only two full speakers, both elderly, remain.

Cultural regranting programmes

Endangered Material Knowledge Programme

Hosted by the British Museum

The programme documents the skills and practices used in making or using things. Since it started in 2018, the programme has awarded 68 grants.

2022 giving:
20 grants totalling
\$548,000

One new project will document the making and use of Nuosu oil-cloth umbrellas in the region of Liangshan, southwest China. The yellow oil-cloth umbrella is an iconic symbol of Nuosu femininity and is closely associated with Dutzie, the annual torch festival. Only a few craftspeople still make the umbrellas in their traditional strongholds of Butuo and Puge counties.

Endangered Wooden Architecture Programme

Hosted by Oxford Brookes University

The programme documents wooden buildings and the skills involved in making them. 2022 marked the programme's first grant round.

2022 giving:
14 grants totalling \$1.3m

Grants include a project to document mīmiro, an endangered style of post-tensioned Māori meeting house in Aotearoa New Zealand, working with a Māori community, Ngāti Ira. The project will help to reconstruct Tānewhirinaki, their community's whare tupuna (ancestral house).

Nuosu women with yellow umbrellas.
Photo by Cigui Edi. Courtesy of the
Endangered Material Knowledge
Programme.



Regranting programmes 2022 grants

