



THE MOVEMENTS TRUST

UK Charity
1194447

We exist to support people-powered systemic change

2024 - 2025 Annual Report

photo credit: @dannylines

we're doing things differently



Our Vision

is a sustainable planet populated with thriving people-led movements who are empowered to shape society.

Our Goal

is to increase the flow of funding to more movements, facilitating greater participation in, and greater effectiveness of social change; and to increase the connections between movements, and between movements and the donors that wish to support them.

what you'll find in this annual report

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letter from the chair

As I write this, in December 2025, we are on track to meet the amazing milestone of having transferred a total £3m to social movements since we began operations in 2021.



In this financial year 2024-25 (ending March 2025) we succeeded in sponsoring over £700k in grants to movements – grants that otherwise would not have been available to movements because they do not have charity status. We also regranted a further £545k to support organising efforts both in the UK and global majority world.

The pace of our growth, and in the scale of funds we have transferred reflects the real appetite amongst funders – both foundation and individuals – to support movements and create positive outcomes. We share their conviction that meaningful, system-level change can only be powered by strong social movements, and we are proud to play a part in helping them access the funding they need.

In 2024-25 our community of movements grew to 120, with more joining us all the time. They span climate, nature, new economies, democracy and health – stepping forward in response to today's challenges by forming or joining a social movement.

Our services exist to help them secure the funding they need.

In 2024-25 we launched our first Strategy – outlined in this Report and available on our website. It sets out our theory of change, the purpose that drives us, and what we aim to achieve over the coming years. Thank you for joining us on our journey.

Tarek Hasan
Chair

**THE MOVEMENTS
TRUST**

Executive Summary

In 2024–25, we saw unprecedented growth across all areas of our work.

£1.32m transferred to movements this year – more than triple last year's total of £400k, reflecting a vibrant, expanding sector and rising donor appetite for investing in movements.

£775,807 distributed through charitable sponsorship, up from £249,067 the previous year – demonstrating the critical need for movement-friendly intermediary models.

£545,538 regranted through accessible, movement-aligned programmes supporting changemaking in the UK and globally.

Gift Aid reclaimed on 227 donations, unlocking **an additional £29,413** for movements that would otherwise be inaccessible.

The global **Movement community grew to 120 movements across 25 countries**, welcoming organisers from 11 new countries.

Movement leadership profiles show increasing diversity that strengthens a Just Transition: 68% **women-led**; 69 movements led by **Black, Indigenous and People of Colour**; 45 **youth-led**.

Movement convening expanded tenfold, with **monthly online gatherings now attracting 60+ movements**, fostering vital peer support and collaboration.

The Trust also hosted its **first in-person event** in London with 80+ participants and standing room only.

20 new donors contributed nearly £450k, taking our total donor community to 53 since founding. New donors included 13 individuals/private trusts and 7 institutional funders, demonstrating the sector's growing confidence in our model.

Who We Are



Please can I take this opportunity to say a huge thank you once again for having us in The Movements Trust family, and for supporting us to access funds that we wouldn't be able to without TMT - it's been so beneficial and means a lot to us and our campaign.

Zero Hour, Movement

photo credit: @chris-slupskil

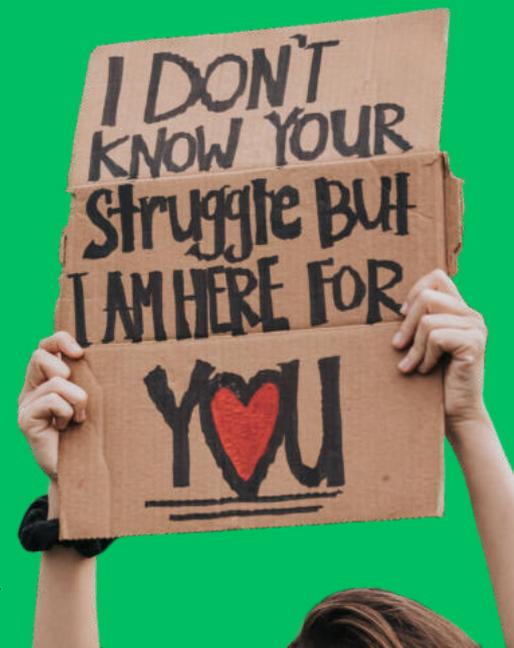
In March 2025 we launched our first [strategy](#).

The Movements Trust believes that there is not only one path to achieve a just and sustainable planet. Real change will come from the power of many people - diverse movements, campaigns, and actions rising together and across many issues.

Social movements, campaign groups, organisers and activists come together when they see a problem in society and want to, or need to, organise a solution. Often they are reacting to something new, unexpected or an issue previously unaddressed.

Therefore, movements can offer philanthropists a sought-after horizon scanning, agile response to society's current and future challenges. Yet unincorporated groups are often ineligible for grants and funding that require charitable status.

If movements have no option but to become a registered entity to access the finance they need, they will lose their unique quality. When movements lose their agility and responsiveness, society will also lose out, as we will no longer benefit from this type of organising and the social change it can achieve.



this is why the movements trust was formed

We aim to build a sustainable society through people-powered change.

We exist to unlock the philanthropic abundance available, and urgently needed, to achieve sustainable change:

- We seek out, support and amplify movement organisers who represent community need and voice, particularly those that are excluded or marginalised
- We seek and support new donors, particularly individual donors, who want to invest in movement organising but don't know how to, or where to start, or who need a charitable partner to realise their philanthropic goals
- We reach out to and work with the many support services, movement intermediaries and services out there to create an accessible ecosystem - and help movements access and benefit from their services
- We act as a bridge through our unique charity sponsorship service, and through our regranting services, to get more funding to movements so they can thrive, actively breaking down the barriers that exclude movements from funding
- We support a thriving network of active and effective social movements working towards a just and sustainable future.

Our Services

we sponsor, regrant, convene....



regrants

We advocate for funding processes that meet the needs of movements, not donors. We offer a learning-based, exploratory re-granting service to foundations and donors who want to fund movements, focused on rapid, light touch trust-based and accessible processes. We work alongside movements to understand and evaluate impact without the need for onerous reporting processes.

sponsors

Movements are often loosely organised, informal, volunteer run and short on resources. We are a registered charity, and share this registered status with movements by acting as a charity sponsor, or intermediary. This means that unincorporated movements can use the Trust's charitable status to access funds which we receive and pass on to them or their fiscal host/incubator.

convenes

Social movements are often excluded from support services designed for charities, leaving them isolated and under-resourced. We have built networks that strengthen collaboration, skill-sharing, and peer support. This includes creating a partnership of support services with clear referral pathways for specialist guidance, wellbeing support, and organisational resources.

Our Regranting

In 2024–25 we ran a number of movement friendly grants programmes:

Black Urban Growers

We supported a Thirty Percy Foundation ‘Changemaker’ to redistribute £12.5K to five other inspiring BIPOC landworker community leaders and activists, for travel to the Black Urban Growers conference in Houston, Texas in November of 2024. While the group returned with new material for seed banks and new strategies for growing, the fund highlighted relationships and community identity as well as information exchange. The group came together as a new and unfamiliar cohort, travelled and stayed together, and were invited to host a speaking panel as representatives for British growers during the conference. The fund also emphasised the strong need for regular travel and learning opportunities for UK BIPOC landworkers for resilience and respite. We are continuing our support as they explore their identity and context as a BIPOC landworking community in Britain, and develop the potential for travel funding for new cohorts in future years.

Our Climate Justice Camp Fund

After attending the Roots Climate Justice Camp in Lebanon in 2023, TMT built a £25K pooled fund to support the ongoing development of the Camp delegates’ movements through 2024. The fund was co-produced and distributed by delegates and was entirely led by young people. The co-designing panel generated their own criteria and assessed applications from the entire cohort, determining the number and amount of awards as well as recipients. TMT hosted development to support and structure their processes, and provided distribution and application infrastructure. Seven movements were chosen as awards recipients; and were geographically dispersed across Africa, Central and South America, and the South Pacific. The projects chosen aimed to mitigate the effects of climate change in their communities through education, media and gatherings, and infrastructure building.



The co-designing panel.

photo credit: @TMT



photo credit: @LynJohnson

A UK Wealth Taxation Movement

Also for the Thirty Percy Foundation, TMT redistributed £500K to support the growth of a UK wealth tax movement. Seven organisations were originally funded to work in lateral partnership to address tax reform in the UK in the year preceding the 2025 Autumn Budget. The initial participants included Economic Change Unit, New Economics Foundation and Patriotic Millionaires.

Funded strategies in the lead up to the budget included research on reform impacts and the behaviour of wealth holders, policy development and proposals, and wealth inequality campaigning. The movement has been structured for ongoing activity and funding beyond this round, engaging new organisations as participants. We are excited to continue our participation in this development as a coordinator and partner for future distributions.

photo credit: @kommunikation



regranting in 2025 and beyond

TMT's movement led values are foundational to all our regranting programming as we define our role in the sector. We use our familiarity with our family of movements to ensure that reporting and post-funding convening work resource movements with knowledge and networks with minimal burden. We want our movements to receive funding with ease, to have freedom and flexibility to designate their own work and priorities, and for us to serve as a meaningful coordinator for cohesive growth and resilience post-funding round. The results of our 2024-25 programming show just how good at this we can be.

Our own growth into 2026 also means we are piloting our capability to host donor advised funding, under these principles. Don't hesitate to get in touch if you think we can help!

Our Sponsorship

In 2024-25 we sponsored a total of £775,807 in grants through this service, in contrast to just under £100,00 in our first year. This growth is continuing, and at time of writing, we anticipate that in 2025-26 we will have acted as the sponsor for over £1m in funding to movements.

Our charitable sponsorship service has gone from strength to strength over the past three years, revealing both the scale of movement organising and the extent to which it has been excluded from much available funding. It has also exposed a previously untapped appetite from donors to resource this work, demonstrating how necessary an intermediary service like our sponsorship model is in unlocking new and additional funding for movements.

“

This year has been extraordinary in many ways, and we couldn't have achieved our milestones without the unwavering support and dedication of each one of you. Your belief in our cause and your willingness to stand with us have made a significant difference. We appreciate the trust and partnership, and we look forward to achieving even greater things together in the coming year.

Climate Justice Africa Movement

gift aid

In 2024-2025, We claimed back Gift Aid on 227 donations from UK taxpayers on behalf of four movements.

This secured £29,413.05 in additional funds that these movements would not have been able to access without charitable sponsorship from TMT.

THE MOVEMENTS TRUST



In 2024-25:

- We piloted sponsorship for movements outside of the UK, and continue to see steady global growth in interest from both movements and donors who wish to fund them.
- We nearly doubled our intake of new movements for charitable sponsorship this year, from 62 in 2023-24 to 123 in total this year.
- The number of donors using our sponsorship service as a means to give to movements increased by 38% compared to last year.
- During the year, 21 movements used our sponsorship service, and accessed a total of 40 donations – reflecting that several movements received multiple grants across different programmes.

Movements seeking our support connected with us through a diverse range of channels: via referrals from funders, peer-to-peer recommendations, and from trusted partners such as the Climate Justice Camp or fiscal hosts. Others reached us organically through other activism networks. Only 13% new movements came directly through our website or general email.

This reflects the strength of the ecosystem we are part of: a rich, interconnected network of changemakers, generating enough momentum that we have not needed to rely on marketing or outreach to drive interest.

“

I can honestly say the experience so far has been one of the most positive grant applications we have encountered. I am a firm believer of requests for funding and grant applications in general being as simple as possible, allowing for organisations like ours and the small teams that sit within them to focus on their key objectives.

Patriotic Millionaires, Movement



Sponsorship highlights

➡️ **Decolonising Economics**

We sponsored a charitable grant from a new private donor to Decolonising Economics for their work to influence financial flow: divesting from the extractive economy and towards community control in order to bring about the regenerative economy

➡️ **The Class Work Project**

We facilitated a grant from Guerilla Foundation for an initiative to develop workshops discussing the crossroads of migration and social class

➡️ **Screen Safety**

We helped an individual give a charitable donation to a youth-led initiative seeking to uplift stories of online safety and stronger protections policies

- Tax Justice
- Rewilding
- Mobilisation
- Basic Income
- Land Rights
- Gender Justice
- Decolonisation
- Accountability
- Citizenship
- Workers Rights
- Policy
- Wellbeing

The Big Give ➡️

We supported Zero Hour in applying and running the The Big Give matched crowdfunding Christmas Challenge campaign achieving a total of £118,657 for their mission to increase and activate cross-party support for the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill in UK parliament.

Sanctuary Community Holidays ➡️

We sponsored a grant for a pilot programme taking groups of asylum seekers and refugees for a short break in the countryside and helping to ensure the integration of communities from different backgrounds and cultures.



photo credit: @canva



Convening

Movement Convening:

Our movement convening role grew out of the workshops we run at the end of regranting programmes to share learning, achievements and challenges.

These discussions were so fruitful and demonstrated the value of peer support and skills that movements can share and exchange, so in 2024-25 we started a monthly 'movement gathering' online, to enable movements to easily connect with each other.

Initially, our gatherings brought together only a handful of movement representatives, but within a year they had grown tenfold into a thriving, well-attended space for open networking and collaboration.



photo credit: @canva

The issues and skills shared between movements have included fundraising and funding information, tackling security issues and threats, unfair political targeting, and the different models and options for registering and formalising movements.



photo credit: @canva

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Donor Convening:

photo credit: @TMT

In March 2025, we held our first in person event, in central London at the University Women's Club.

It was aimed at bringing together an audience of movements, movement builders and the funders interested in supporting them. We demystified what movements can look like, what our sponsorship service aims to do and set out compelling evidence about the shortage of funding for activism and movements and the barriers that exist that prevents them getting the funding they need.

In the end, we had standing room only and the event was attended by an excess of 80 people! We are indebted to our great speakers; Wild Card, Social Change Lab and Civic Power Fund, as well as those that made it possible, our event collaborators Nina Alexanderson and Angela MacDonald.



Feedback highlighted how energising and powerful the event felt – participants spoke of the buzz in the room, the joy of connecting with like-minded people, and the value of celebrating and learning from movements working for change.

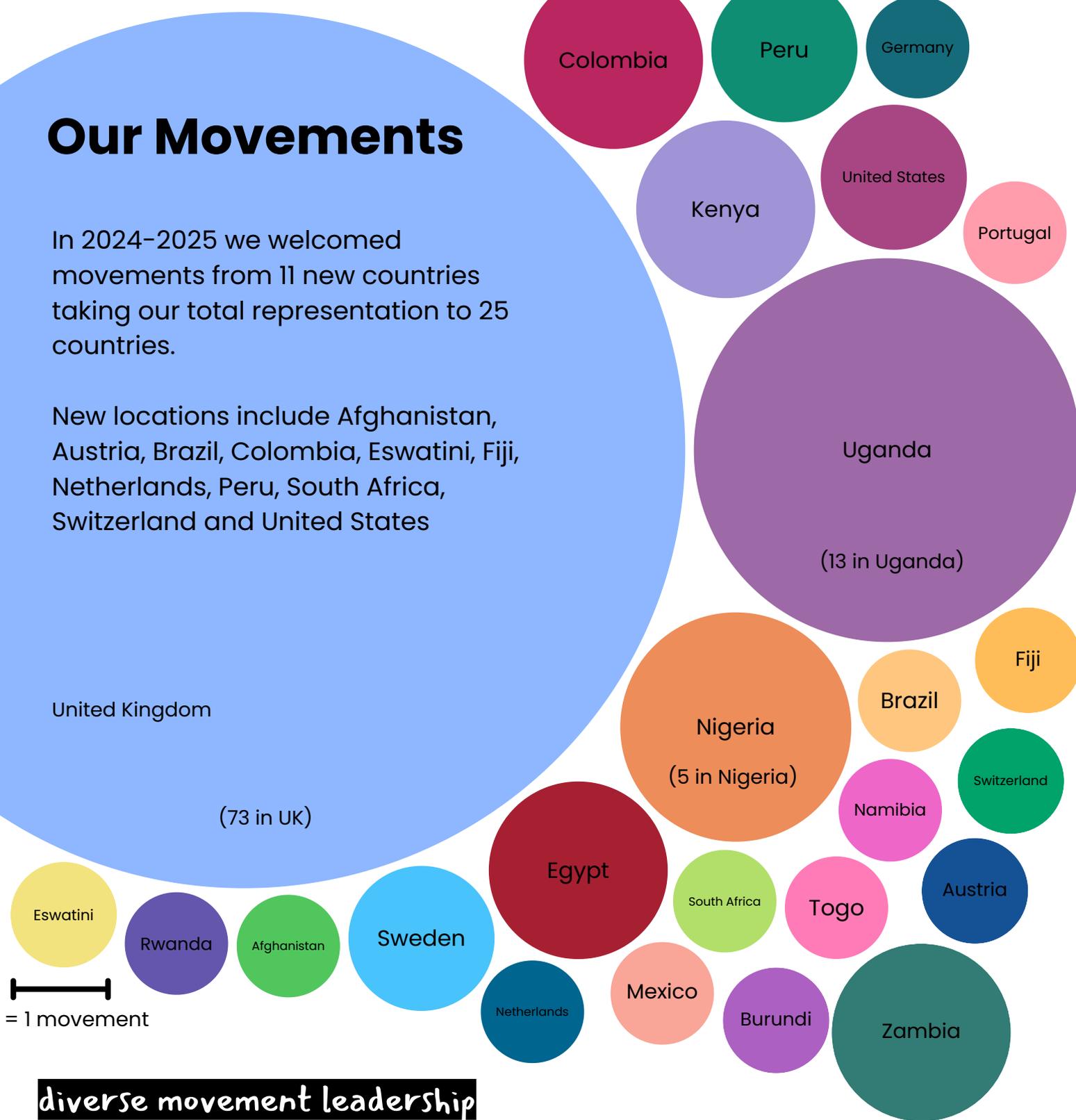
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photo credit: @TMT

Our Movements

In 2024-2025 we welcomed movements from 11 new countries taking our total representation to 25 countries.

New locations include Afghanistan, Austria, Brazil, Colombia, Eswatini, Fiji, Netherlands, Peru, South Africa, Switzerland and United States



— = 1 movement

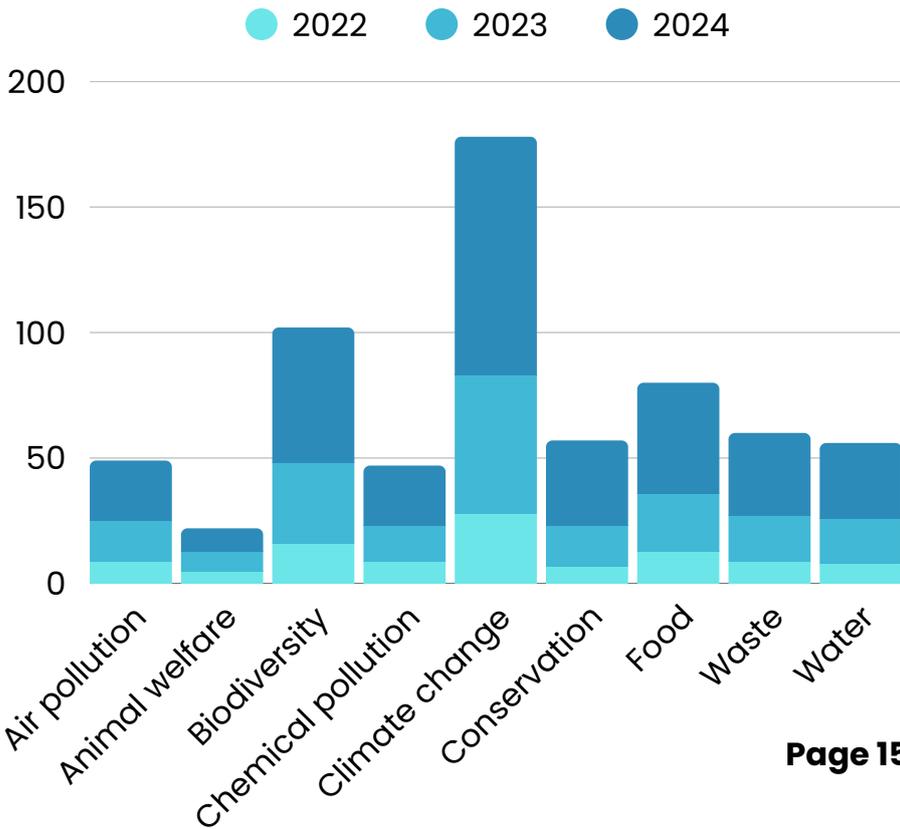
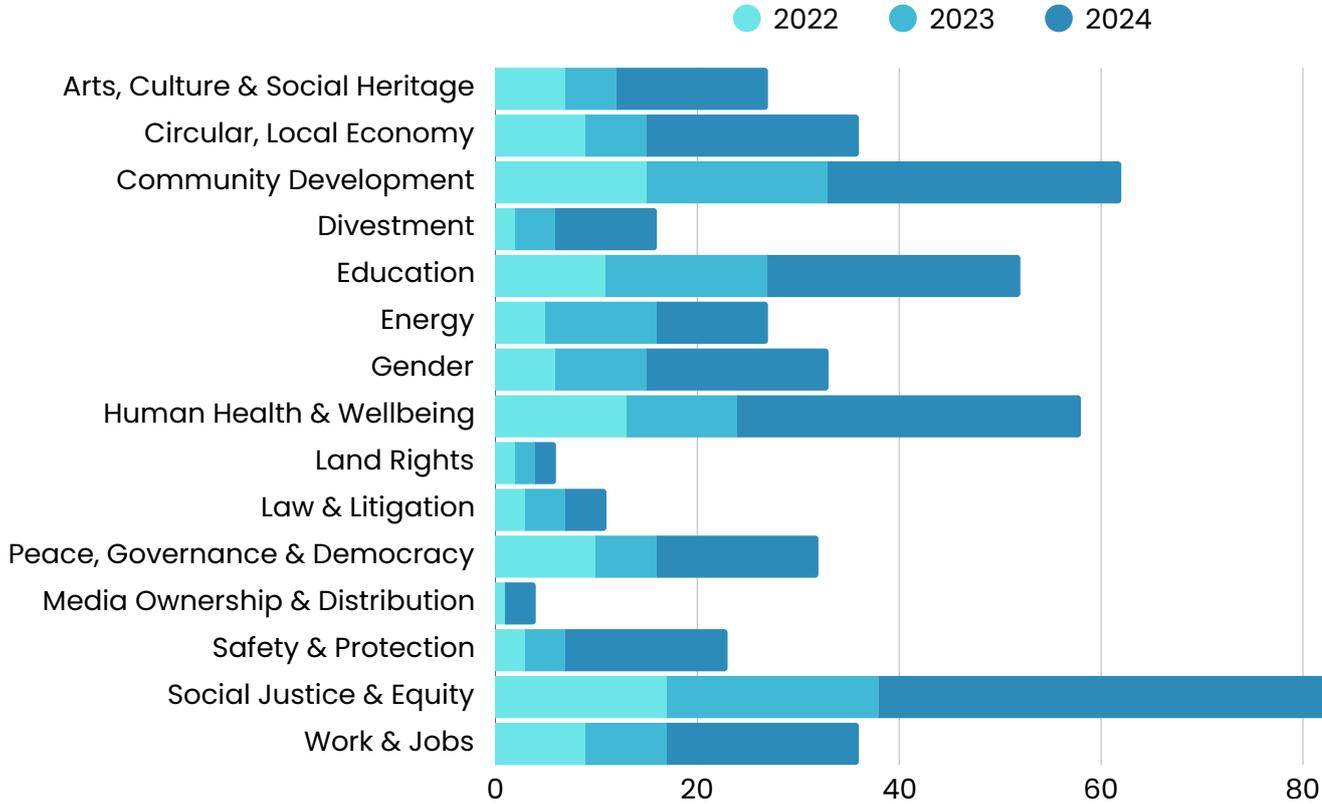
diverse movement leadership

- **68% women-led movements**
- **69 movements led by black, indigenous people of colour**
- **Young leaders made up 45 of our movements**

This year also saw the introduction of new metrics to capture LGBTQIA+ and disabled-led movements, which we will strengthen in future reporting. We see this diversity as essential to a Just Transition — ensuring that those most affected by inequality and climate injustice are leading the solutions and shaping the future.

movement impact across key issues

New movements onboarded to date, showing social impact year on year, demonstrate that **social justice and equity** remains a high priority for those campaigning on sustainable development, with **community development** and **health and wellbeing** closely behind :



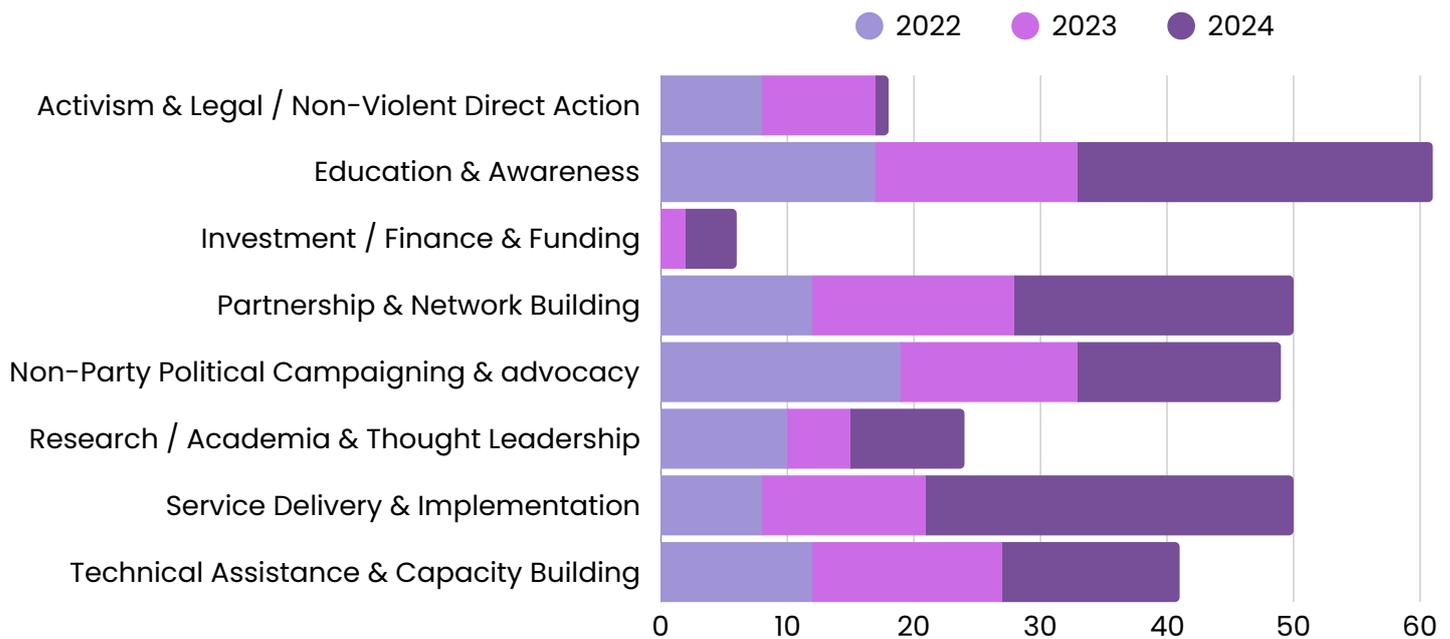
With environmental impact, **climate change** remains a steady priority for those movements we serve but 2024-2025 saw an increase of movements working to improve **biodiversity** and **food systems**.



movement approach to changemaking



We're tracking the mechanics of changemaking across our movement family, and see steady focus on **education and awareness** as a core purpose and approach. Close behind in priority are **partnership and network building, service delivery and implementation** and **non-party political campaigning and advocacy** activities.



movement survey

In early 2025, we ran the first of what will become a regular Movement Survey. We're so inspired by the diversity and range of the movements we work with - to understand and serve them better, we ran a survey to find out more about how and why they organise, what they are doing to further their objectives, and what challenges they experience. The survey findings will be published later in 2025, and we plan that this survey will become a regular bi-annual event, creating and growing a valuable

evidence base that captures our growing and diversifying movement sector.



sustainable development goals

As our movement representation expands, we're proud to see the growing impact across the Sustainable Development Goals.

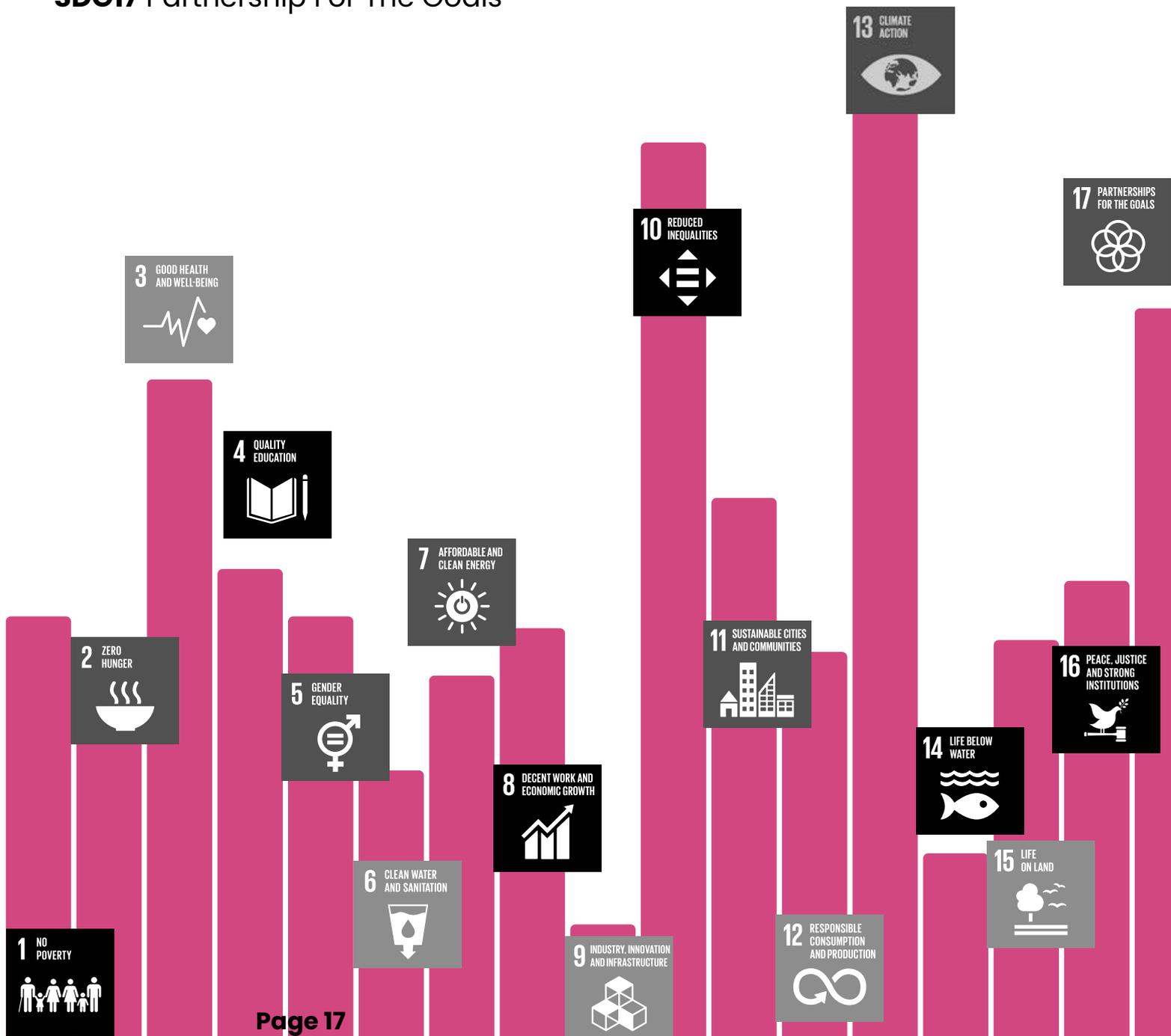
Priority issues areas for our movements include:

- SDG3:** Good Health and Wellbeing,
- SDG10** Reduced Inequality,
- SDG13** Climate Action
- SDG17** Partnership For The Goals



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 Organisations that support the UN SDGs - the most important plans for the planet - are good ones. The Movements Trust is one.

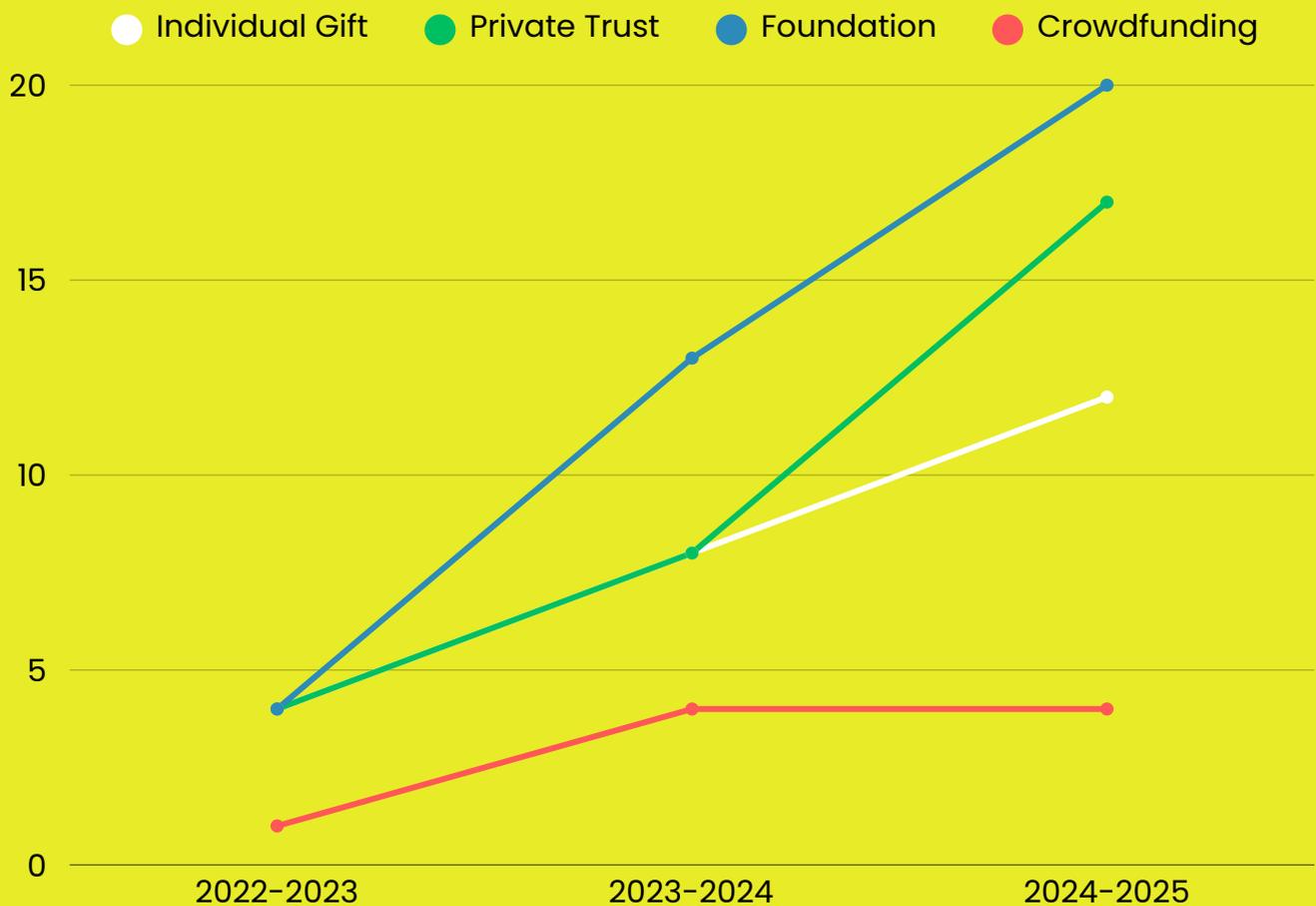
Edward Hoare, Funder



Our Donors

In 2024-2025, 20 new donors joined as partners for movements bringing monetary value of nearly £450k, and our total donor community to 53 since our founding. Of these, 13 were individuals and private trusts, while 7 were established institutional foundations. This growth demonstrates how The Movements Trust is effectively expanding the pool of resources available to movements and bringing new sources of finance into philanthropy.

Showing a steady increase of donor engagement over time:



“Moving money to social movements and community groups is vital to building a fairer society, but structurally difficult to do. Working with The Movements Trust helped me streamline the administrative process to fund important work, while learning more about movement building. Having TMT’s guidance and services continues to be hugely valuable, especially as an individual funder

Private Donor, Funder

Donor Overview

Thanks to some of our active donors featured here who have supported grassroots action this year



Oxfam Novib



photo credit: @Noorulabdeen Ahmad

Funds transferred 2024-25

moving more money to movements

To read the full set of The Movements Trust accounts for 2024 -25 [follow this link](#)

In terms of funds transferred to movements, in 2024-25 we were able to transfer nearly £1,325,000 in funding to movements, compared to £400,000 in the previous year - indicating a vibrant and growing movement sector and an increasing number of donors interested in funding them

This year, the volume of regranting funds distributed in 2024-25 amounted to £545,538.

As a charitable sponsor, we collected and transferred grants totalling £775,807 this year, compared to £249,067.60 the previous year.

Year on year since we started in 2022, our movement-friendly charity intermediary, or 'sponsorship' model is so needed in the sector, that each year we have substantially increased the volume of funds transferred and anticipate exceeding £1 million in 2025-26



What's Next?

sponsoring

The sponsorship work is increasing rapidly and The Movements Trust will be prioritising recruitment, building our capacity to meet this predictable rise in demand for our charitable sponsorship support for movements and donors.

regranting

In 2025-26 we will be making grants to movements in our own right - focusing on the UK, and funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, we will be offering small grants to UK movements to help boost their organising capability.

convening

As our online movement gatherings have gleaned more and more uptake (at time of writing, we are now seeing 60 movements join our online spaces), we are inspired to create more varied and better ways to convene movements and facilitate this amazing skill sharing and solidarity.

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Please get in touch if you want to support the work we do, and help us help movements access funding...

together@themovementstrust.org

Support people-powered systemic change with us

Thanks for our key funders



Esmée
Fairbairn
FOUNDATION



JOSEPH ROWNTREE
FOUNDATION

photo credit: @dannylines