

Press Release: 15 Top National Climate Change Nonprofits Identified by 139 Experts

Climate change should be seen as the greatest challenge to face man. -Prince Charles

The eight warmest years since 1880 have all occurred since 2001 and it is estimated that temperatures will probably rise a further 1.1 to 6.4 °C (2.0 to 11.5 °F) during the twenty-first century. Human activity has caused most of this observed temperature increase, and if global temperatures are not addressed, these changes can cause tremendous climate disruptions globally.

While many Americans care about climate change, the portion of donations given to the cause are relatively small when compared to the total annual giving in the US. In 2009, \$6.15 billion (out of about \$300 billion) was given to environment and animal-related nonprofits (these two causes are grouped together in the Giving USA 2010 report). **This represents just 2% of total charitable giving.**

In 2009, in order to find out which nonprofits were making the biggest difference, or impact, on climate change at the national level, we ran our research **surveying 139 national climate change experts** (with an average of 12 years of work experience in the field).

Philanthropedia's experts (funders, researchers, nonprofit senior staff, government officials, etc.) **identified 15 top climate change nonprofits (out of 149 total reviewed nonprofits)** working in at the national level. These organizations include grassroots organizers, policy advocates, conservation groups, lobbyists, and more.

The following is the list of the top-recommended high-impact nonprofits working on climate change at the national level. "Agree" is the number of experts who agree that the nonprofit has had the most impact in climate change. "Disagree" is the number of experts who disagree that the nonprofit has had the most impact in climate change.

15 Top High-Impact Nonprofits	# of Experts who Agree	# of Experts who Disagree	Year Founded	Location
Natural Resources Defense Council	79	2	1970	New York, NY
Union of Concerned Scientists	64	0	1969	Cambridge, MA
World Resources Institute	62	3	1982	Washington, DC
Pew Center on Global Climate Change	59	4	1998	Arlington, VA
Environmental Defense Fund	57	6	1967	New York, NY
Sierra Club	47	4	1892	San Francisco, CA

National Wildlife Federation	36	8	1936	Reston, VA
World Wildlife Fund	36	9	1961	Washington, DC
Nature Conservancy	33	8	1951	Arlington, VA
League of Conservation Voters	31	6	1970	Washington, DC
Alliance for Climate Protection	29	5	2006	Washington, DC
ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability USA	29	6	1990	Oakland, CA
Energy Action Coalition	23	4	2004	Washington, DC
Greenpeace	27	11	1971	Washington, DC
1Sky	21	6	2007	Takoma Park, MD

We invite you to visit the profiles of each of these top organizations on our website to read the expert reviews here: <http://www.myphilanthropedia.org/top-nonprofits/national/climate-change>. Experts commented on the impact each nonprofit has had, what the nonprofit's other organizational strengths are, and how each organization could further improve.

We also invite your feedback. Please tell us what you think and what experiences you've had with these great organizations! We can be reached at feedback@myphilanthropedia.org.

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<http://www.myphilanthropedia.org/>

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