A Revised Environmental Grantmaking Strategy for the Kraft Fund

April 3, 2014

THE NEW YORK COMMUNITY TRUST

INTRODUCTION

The Trust's environmental grants program beyond New York City really began with the establishment of the Henry Phillip Kraft Family Memorial Fund in 1996. The fund supports charitable organizations working in the fields of environmental protection, wildlife protection, conservation of natural resources, and preservation of land, water, and air at the regional, national, and international levels.

In 1997, the board approved a grantmaking strategy that focused on climate change; wildlife and habitat conservation; better understanding of the environment and human health; drinking water quality; and brownfields redevelopment. We made $20 million in grants from 1997 through 2002.

In 2003, the board approved a revised grantmaking strategy that narrowed our foci from five to three. We supported efforts to:

- Minimize climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions through:
  - Local, state, and regional commitments;
  - Efforts by private businesses and institutions to become more sustainable; and
  - Energy efficiency and the development of alternative energy resources.
- Reduce or eliminate toxins that are hazardous to human health by:
  - Implementing clean production practices;
  - Adopting the precautionary principle;
  - Protecting drinking water quality; and
  - Conducting research to identify links between toxic hazards and public health.
- Preserve biological diversity through habitat conservation by:
  - Supporting the preservation and restoration of ocean, estuarine, coastal, and wetlands habitat;
  - Promoting land conservation and smart growth strategies; and
  - Altering destructive agricultural and industrial practices.

This presentation will review:

- Important changes affecting the environment.
- Current issues in the three targeted areas in the last decade:
  - Climate change
  - Environmental health
  - Habitat protection
- Our grantmaking since 2003.
- Other philanthropic activity.

Our work was informed by a report prepared by a consultant who reviewed environment philanthropy and The Trust's grantmaking, interviewed 25 funders and experts, and examined reports and reference materials.

We are proposing a modest revision to our grantmaking strategy that again narrows our focus to ensure maximum impact of our work.

IMPORTANT OVERALL CHANGES AFFECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

Consensus has grown among scientists about the threats to public health, the planet, and communities from climate change, toxic chemicals, and loss of biodiversity.

- The concentration of carbon dioxide in the earth's atmosphere has risen from 280 parts per million (ppm) in 1880 and peaked at 400 ppm in 2013, a 43 percent increase. This growing concentration of carbon dioxide has caused an increase in the average surface temperature of the earth, called global warming. One effect of global warming is the melting of polar ice, and consequent rise of sea levels. Scientists predict the Arctic may be ice-free by 2040.
- There is a shrinking window of opportunity to address climate change by reducing the amount of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases emitted through burning coal, oil, natural gas, and other fossil fuels. The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change will issue a report this spring noting that another 15 years of failing to limit carbon emissions could make the problem virtually impossible to solve with current technologies.
- Important new science has emerged over the past decade about endocrine disruption, gene expression, exposures, and social determinants of vulnerability to toxic chemicals, challenging previous assumptions about safe levels of exposure.
- We are experiencing the sixth mass extinction in the planet's history, the only one to be caused by human action, not a catastrophic event. On average, every 20 minutes a living plant or animal species disappears.

Policy debates about environmental issues, especially at the national level, have become politicized in an increasingly confrontational partisan setting.

Public concern about threats to the environment has grown, as well as interest in:

- Improving access to healthy food, grown regionally and sustainably;
- Demand for urban neighborhoods with transit access for baby boomers and their children; and
- Safer consumer products, free of harmful chemicals.

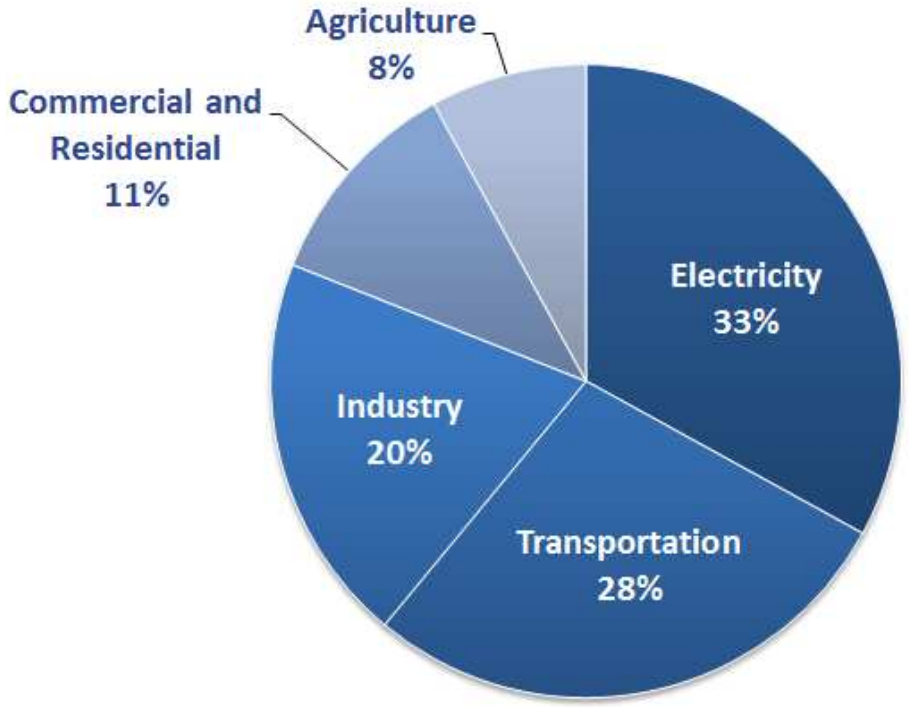
Environmental advocates still struggle to make their issues a higher priority among the public, despite known benefits of clean air and water.

Overview

Greenhouse gas emissions (carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and halocarbons) from the burning of fossil fuels and other human activities are the cause of climate change. The main sources of emissions include:

- Dependence on fossil fuels (coal, oil, natural gas) to generate most of the world's electricity;
- Widespread use of fossil fuel-powered vehicles; and
- Changing land uses and agricultural practices that lead to deforestation and suburban sprawl.

The power and transportation sectors represent the largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S.



Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2014

National and global efforts to respond to climate change have faltered over the last decade. If nations fail to limit greenhouse gas emissions substantially by 2030, experts believe it will be difficult to avoid catastrophic outcomes.

- All of the top ten warmest years on record have occurred since 1998. Last year—2013— was the fourth warmest since records began in 1880.

- As heat energy trapped in the atmosphere increases, climate models predict that the frequency of extreme weather events also will increase. Worldwide financial losses associated with extreme weather have risen to near $200 billion each year in the last decade.

- Global sea levels have risen by more than seven inches since 1901, and are expected to rise at a faster pace in the future, jeopardizing island nations and shoreline communities around the globe.

Poor households, communities, and nations around the world are disproportionately affected by climate change.

- Lower-income residents are least able to recover from or protect themselves from floods, storms, and heat waves.

- Rural poor or indigenous communities that depend on farming, fishing, or forestry could lose their livelihoods.

Responses to Climate Change

Despite stalled efforts by the U.S. government to address climate change, progress has been made at the regional, state, and local levels and by the private sector.

- U.S. greenhouse gas emissions are declining and are 12 percent below 2005 levels, within striking distance of President Obama's 2009 pledge to reduce emissions by 17 percent.

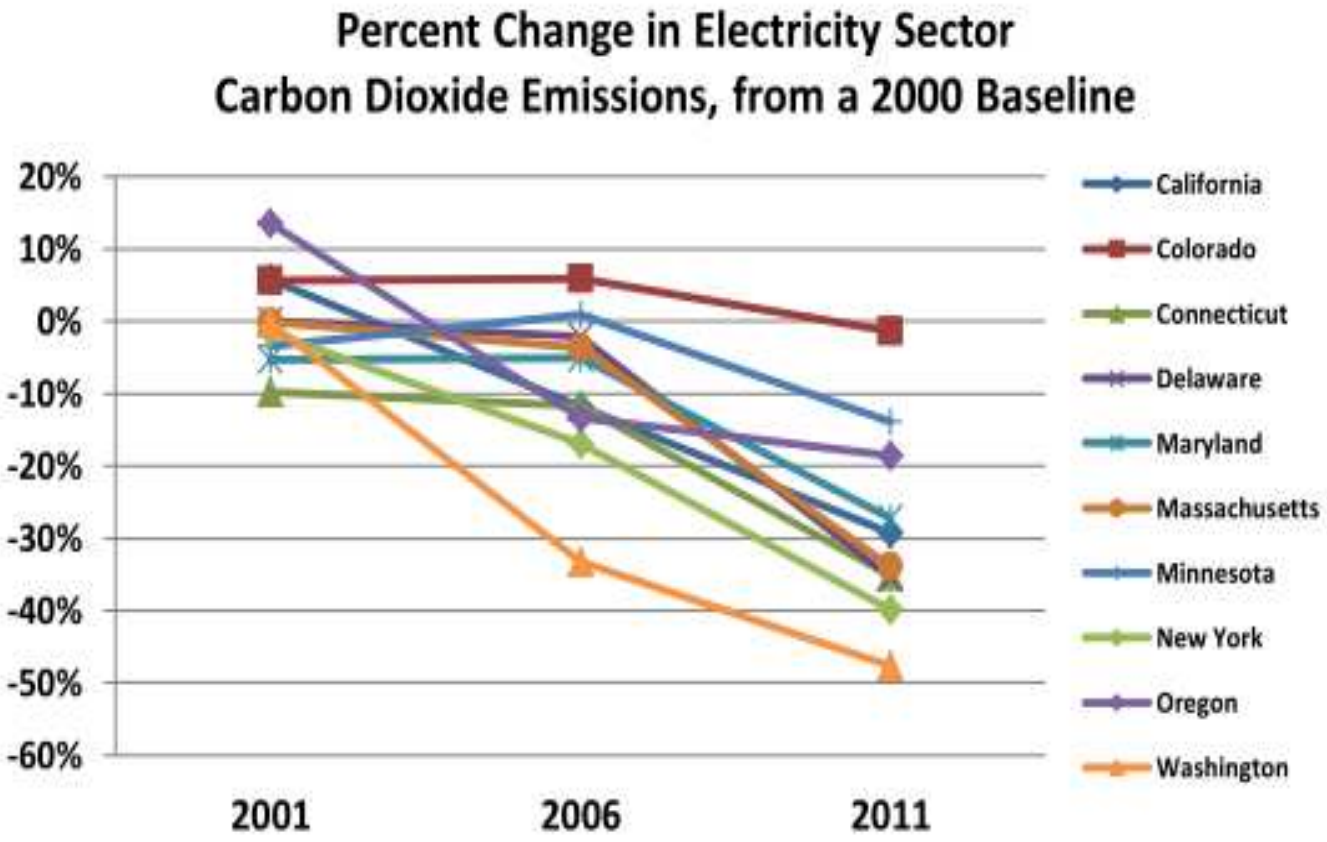
- The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) in the Northeast to reduce CO_2 emissions from the power sector through a cap-and-trade system has generated $700 million to invest in energy innovations, reduced energy bills, and created more than 16,000 jobs since it was established in 2008, while reducing emissions 20 percent more in the region than elsewhere.

- California launched a similar cap-and-trade program in 2013.

- Most states have set renewable portfolio standards designed to increase generation of electricity from renewable sources.

- New York City became a climate leader with the adoption of PlaNYC in 2007, establishing a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 30 percent by 2030. The City has already reduced emissions by 15 percent.

States Are Achieving Significant Reductions in Emissions



Source: Georgetown Climate Center

President Obama's Climate Action Plan, announced in 2013, is a series of executive actions designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The President:

- Instructed the Environmental Protection Agency to develop regulatory standards for carbon dioxide emissions for new and existing power plants by 2017, to comply with the Supreme Court decision that carbon emissions pose a danger to public health under the Clean Air Act.
- Recommended a funding increase of 30 percent for clean energy technologies.
- Requested development of an interagency methane strategy to minimize leakage associated with the extraction and distribution of natural gas.

The single biggest drop in U.S. emissions has come from a 25 percent decline in coal-fired electricity generation. Increased energy efficiency in buildings has also contributed to the drop in emissions.

- 162 coal-fired power plants have been retired since 2010, mostly by U.S. utility companies, in part due to campaigns by advocates, accelerated by the falling price of natural gas. While natural gas emits half the greenhouse gas emissions that coal does when it burns, it is mostly methane, a potent greenhouse gas.
- Wind power reached a new record in 2012 with 13,000 megawatts added in the U.S. — the number one source of new electrical generation. Installed solar more than doubled in 2012.

But the transition to a clean energy economy remains slow and bumpy.

- Our electricity grid is rapidly becoming obsolete and needs significant upgrading to distribute wind, solar and other renewable sources of power. Various so-called "smart grid" technologies are being developed but will require big investments to become reality.
- As China and India develop, they are building record numbers of power plants. China was producing 3.7 billion tons of coal at the end of 2012, nearly half the global total. The resulting air pollution has pushed leaders to look for ways to clean the air. China built 50 percent more solar power installations than any other country in 2013.
- The development of viable carbon capture and sequestration technologies, which physically capture the carbon emissions and store them deep underground, will become increasingly important because of continued reliance on coal by China, India, and other nations. But the technology is not ready to use.

Climate Adaptation and Resilience

The effects of climate change are already being felt in communities.

- Public health is threatened by more and longer heat waves, and the spread of tropical and sub-tropical diseases into new geographic areas.
- Climate change affects agriculture through droughts and extreme weather, reducing food supplies.
- Sea level rise poses threats to all coastal infrastructure including roads, rail, airports, and buildings.

After superstorm Sandy, all levels of government have acknowledged the need to invest in climate resilience.

- The Obama administration has proposed a $1 billion Resilience Fund as part of its FY 2015 budget that would provide:
  - $400 million for hazard mitigation and preparedness assistance;
  - Additional water quality protection grants to states; and
  - Research funding on sea level rise, distributed generation (on-site power installations), and microgrids (autonomously powered and managed sections of the distribution grid).
- In June 2013, the Bloomberg administration released an addendum to PlaNYC proposing $19 billion in new initiatives to create a more resilient New York.
- In 2012, the Cuomo administration's 2100 Commission developed recommendations for making New York more resilient to climate change.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Scientific research continues to establish the links between environmental conditions and human health. Some substances in the environment that cause health problems are made or spread by humans. They include:

- Heavy metals like lead and mercury, or gases like radon;
- Toxic chemicals in drinking water, food, or consumer products; and
- Air pollution from power plants, vehicles, or boilers.

People and wildlife are exposed to hazardous substances through air, water, soil, food; and through the skin.

- Fetuses are exposed *in utero***.**
- The dose or duration and timing of exposure matters. Chemicals may be dangerous at low levels of exposure, particularly during critical periods of human development.
- Chemicals may interact with genes, potentially altering them in ways that may be passed to future generations.
- New research found that chemicals also alter the way genes build critical proteins and hormones.

The 1976 Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) has largely failed to protect Americans from hazardous chemicals.

- TSCA grandfathered in 62,000 chemicals in use at the time. In addition, it placed a very difficult burden of proof on the government to show that chemicals actually cause harm. Only two percent of chemicals have been tested, and only five have been restricted (including asbestos, but its restriction was later overturned).
- In contrast, the European Union's REACH legislation, passed in 2007, makes industry, not government, responsible for assessing and managing the risks posed by toxic chemicals before they are approved for use. All companies manufacturing or importing chemicals in Europe must register them and notify the government of substances of high concern.

Chemicals and Heavy Metals

Today more than 85,000 chemicals are registered in the U.S. for use in commerce, with about 2,000 new chemicals introduced each year. Synthetic chemicals have found their way into food, water, air, and almost all consumer products.

- Common chemical and heavy metal exposures include *bisphenol A* (BPA) used for can linings and plastic bottles; *brominated flame retardants* in furniture, computers, and baby clothing; heavy metals such as *lead* or *mercury* released by fossil fuel burning and used in thermometers and other products; *phthalates* used in cosmetics and medical devices; and *pesticides and herbicides* used in agriculture and lawn care.
- Chemical exposures are linked to several diseases including cancer and asthma, developmental disabilities, reproductive health and fertility problems.
- Newer science indicates that environmental hazards are heightened during certain periods in life, especially *in utero*, infancy and childhood, and when major organs are developing.
- New lab research and tracking of disease rates have enhanced understanding of the effects of both high doses and low-level environmental exposures.

Certain classes of chemicals are particularly worrisome.

- Persistent Bioaccumulative Toxins (PBTs) and Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) last a long time, build up in the body, and are harmful to people and wildlife.
- Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDCs) affect the endocrine system, mimicking or interfering with hormonal signals for development. They are linked to developmental, reproductive, neurological, and immune problems.

Certain populations are more vulnerable or at greater risk for exposure to toxic pollutants:

- Infants and children, seniors, and those with compromised immune systems; and
- Low-income communities, communities of color, and low-wage workers who are more likely to live or work in neighborhoods that are disproportionally located near multiple sources of pollution, such as industrial facilities, power plants, waste facilities, and major transportation corridors.

Advocates have developed several strategies to reduce toxic threats to health and promote safer alternatives.

- Campaigns to reform federal and state policies.
    - The federal Toxic Substances Control Act, passed in 1976, is very weak. Bills—past and present—have been introduced in Congress to reform TSCA, but failed to pass so far.
    - State legislatures have passed hundreds of safer chemicals policy bills, banning the use of specific chemicals or broader classes in particular places, such as cleaning products in schools.
- International organizing to promote global treaties like the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the 2013 Minamata Convention on Mercury, the first new global convention on environment and health for close to a decade.
- Expanding research on links between certain diseases and environmental factors.
- Marketplace strategies:
    - To stop large retailers from selling products made with toxic chemicals, and demand safer alternatives from their suppliers; Walmart, Target, and Costco have agreed to stop selling products such as shower curtains made with polyvinyl chlorides, or foods sprayed with pesticides.
    - To help manufacturers identify safer ingredients through databases of building materials or product ingredients, such as the Pharos or Green Screen that identify safe building and consumer products.

Clean Air and Water

The nation has made significant progress cleaning waterways and air because of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Safe Drinking Water acts, seminal pieces of environmental legislation from the 1970s.

- Continued monitoring of federal laws (even 40 years later) is required to ensure that they protect the public health from new sources of pollution.
- One contentious area is protection of drinking water supplies and surface water from possible damage caused by hydraulic fracturing technologies to extract oil and gas from oil sands and shale.

BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND HABITAT PROTECTION

Overview

We are in the midst of the sixth widespread decrease in the number and diversity of species on our planet in the 3.6 billion year history of life on earth. This one is caused by human civilization over the past 10,000 years.

- Critical planetary systems such as the global atmosphere, the water cycle, and ocean acidity and coral reefs are being altered by collective human actions.
- Although the extinction of only 875 species was documented between 1500 and 2009, statistical models indicate that the current rate of extinction may be as high as 140,000 species per year. A single species going extinct can result in the extinction of others that depend on it directly or indirectly.
- The main drivers of this sixth extinction are human alteration of habitat through the destruction, degradation, or conversion of land to agricultural uses; oil, gas, and mineral exploration; and contamination of soil or water by chemicals and heavy metals.

The global and local loss of biological diversity ("biodiversity") can have far-reaching consequences for health, ecology, and livelihoods. These include:

- The collapse of fisheries due to overfishing and pollution.
- Crop failures due to the loss of pollinators or the proliferation of pests and diseases.
- The rise of new infectious diseases and the loss of potential new medicines and commercially useful compounds.

Habitat fragmentation is creating landscapes that lack biodiversity and cannot support wildlife.

- Terrestrial habitat has been cut up by transportation and development; this fragmentation makes it difficult for migratory species to find places to rest, feed, or reproduce along migration routes.
- The habitat of aquatic species has been fragmented by dams and water diversions and destroyed by coastal development.

Efforts to arrest loss of species include protecting wildlife and habitats and preserving the ecology of large landscapes.

Wildlife Protection and Conservation Measures

Over the past century, efforts to protect wildlife and habitat have evolved beyond creating preserves and regulating trapping and hunting, to encompass a broad spectrum of regulatory approaches.

- The Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, the first federal law to call for an ecosystem approach to natural resource management and conservation, placed a moratorium on importing products that harmed or killed marine mammals.
- The Endangered Species Act of 1973, which established a federal list of threatened or endangered species that could not be injured or harassed, defined the concept of critical habitat, and mandated the development of recovery plans for listed species.
- The National Environmental Policy Act of 1970, which sets the requirements for Environmental Impact Statements, has been a powerful tool for understanding the impact of federal government actions on wildlife.

These measures to conserve wildlife have not stopped the increasing fragmentation of habitat around the globe, and may not be able to respond to the conservation challenges associated with climate change. More holistic approaches are needed including:

- Smart growth land use and development strategies that incorporate wildlife and habitat conservation goals;
- Sustainable agricultural practices that eliminate the use of pesticides, ease pollution in waterways, and return land to viable habitat; and
- Connectivity between fragmented but viable habitats across landscapes.

Restoring Ecological Health by Preserving Landscape Connectivity

Creating connections across landscapes that allow species to move between viable habitat fragments is a key strategy for neutralizing the worst effects of fragmentation. However, what works for one species will not necessarily work for another. Key considerations include:

- How a species moves within its environment.
- The distance between fragments.
- The ecological health of the fragments and the surrounding land and water.
- The sensitivity of a species to habitat disturbance.

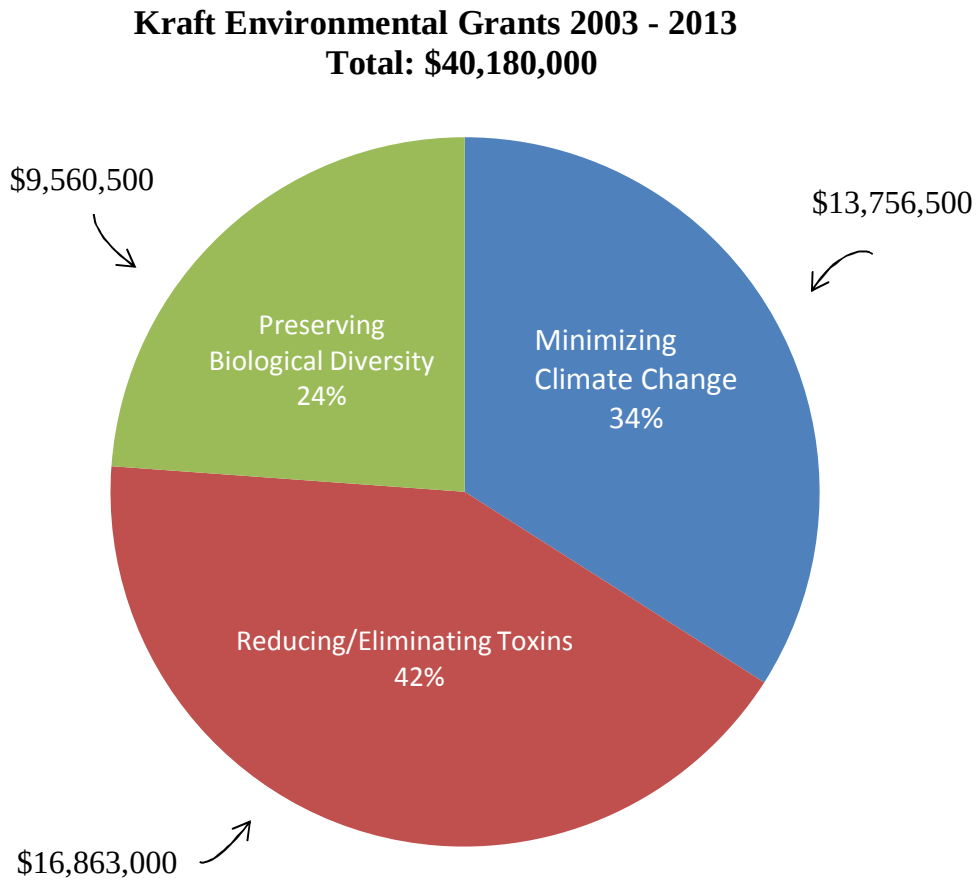
One of the most common mechanisms for connecting habitat fragments is establishing, maintaining, and enhancing conservation corridors. The three main interventions are:

- Preserving natural corridors, which typically follow geographic features such as waterways or mountain ranges. For example, the woodlands along a creek can connect isolated wetlands, or a forested ridge can connect undisturbed valleys.
- Creating human-made corridors, through changes to infrastructure or land use patterns. They can be as simple as running pipes underneath a roadbed to allow species to avoid traffic or as complex as creating urban greenways specifically designed to support the movement of wildlife.
- Protecting or restoring the large-scale natural corridors to connect protected areas and wild lands across large landscapes.

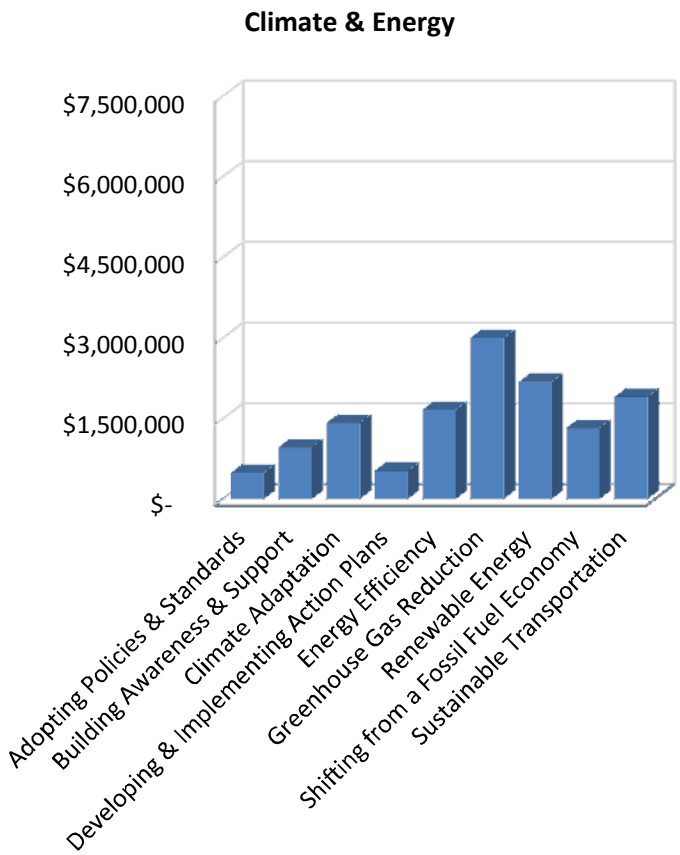
For conservation corridors to be successful, they must connect ecologically healthy and viable habitat fragments. This is especially true for migratory species that move from one habitat to another seasonally or as part of their reproductive life cycle.

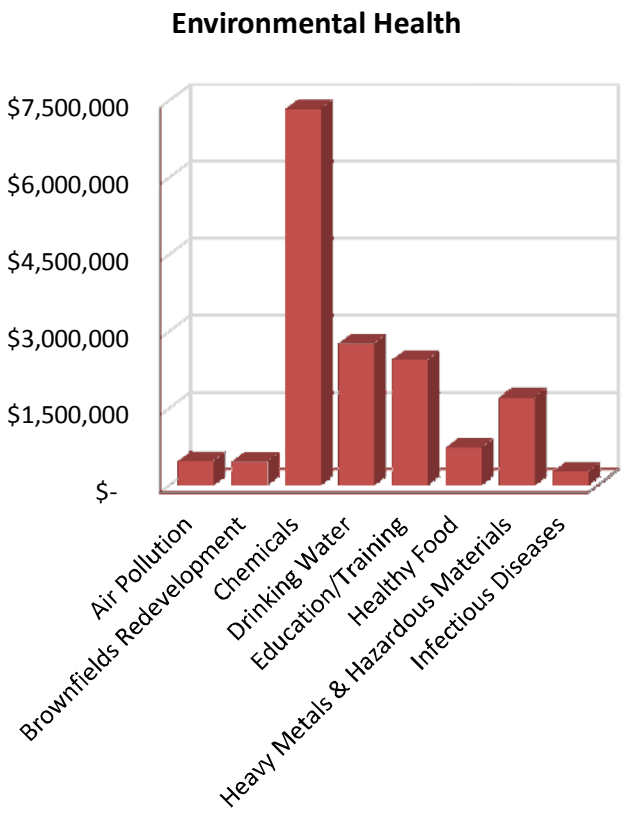
THE TRUST'S NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT GRANT PROGRAM

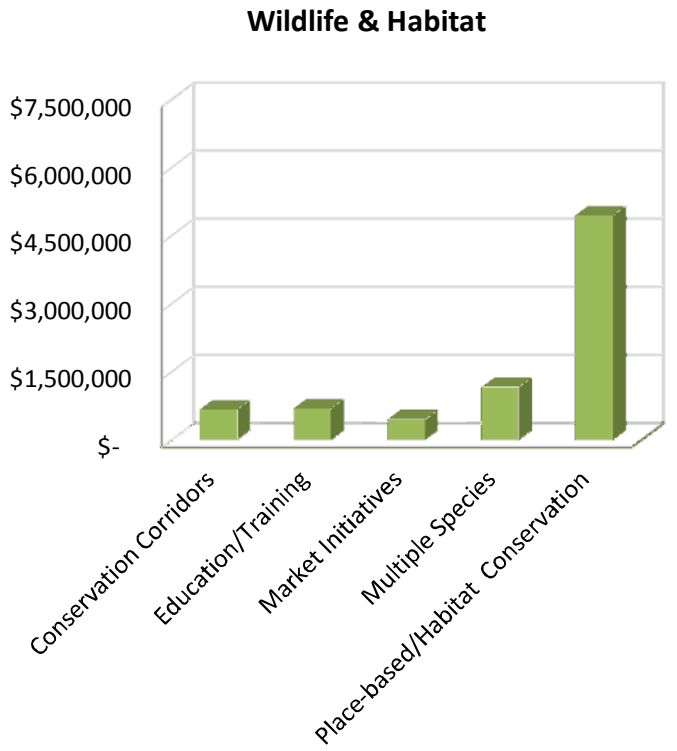
From 2003 to 2013, The Trust (and our Long Island and Westchester affiliates) disbursed $40,180,000 grants through the Kraft Fund.



Within each of the three priority funding areas, The Trust supported projects focused on a range of issues.







Almost 18 percent of our grants from 2003-13 were made to 10 organizations. These grants covered issues in all three of our areas of focus.

	Organization	Purpose	Total Dollars Granted	Grants Made
1)	**One Region Fund**	• To support sustainable transportation initiatives and projects in the tri-state region	1,425,000	7
2)	**Natural Resources Defense Council**	• To protect drinking water supplies • To support climate change advocacy • To promote more sustainable rebuilding efforts after superstorm Sandy	840,000	10
3)	**Wildlife Conservation Society**	• To protect migration pathways in the Rockies • To improve wildlife health	740,000	7
4)	**NYS Gas Drilling Protection Project**	• To protect New York from the negative impacts of natural gas drilling	700,000	5
5)	**Clean Energy Group, Inc.**	• To accelerate the development of clean energy technologies such as offshore wind energy • To advance fuel cells and hydrogen as alternative energy sources	650,000	5
6)	**Clean Air Task Force, Inc.**	• To promote state and local policies that reduce diesel engine emissions • To reduce black carbon and methane emissions from Arctic oil and gas production	625,000	6
7)	**Smart Growth America**	• To support a national campaign promoting sustainable transportation policies • To develop a network of private developers who will advocate for smart growth policies	600,000	4
8)	**Clean Production Action**	• To promote green chemistry through a partnership between businesses and nonprofits • To reduce toxic materials in the production of cars and computers	543,000	6
9)	**Long Island Sound Partners**	• To preserve, restore, and increase public access to open space along Long Island Sound	525,000	3
10)	**Union of Concerned Scientists**	• To ensure the safety of crops and livestock • To advance healthy and sustainable food and farm policies	475,000	4

Since 2003, our grants have led to the following selected accomplishments:

Climate change and energy

- Educated target groups about climate change, including hunters and anglers, students, investors, labor unions, and the insurance industry.
- Addressed hazards to public health and the land from new types of oil and gas extraction processes, including hydrofracking and tar sands.
- Advanced renewable energy, including fuel cells, solar, and offshore wind, and fuel economy standards for vehicles.
- Developed regional cap-and-trade and other climate change initiatives in the Pacific Northwest and California, Midwest, and Northeast.
- Promoted energy efficiency and renewable energy in New York State.
- Helped develop climate action plans in states and PlaNYC in New York City.

Environmental health

- Supported research on the health impacts of toxic chemicals including endocrine disruption and bio-monitoring.
- Developed safer chemical policies in a number of states, and advocated for reform of national chemical policies.
- Helped phase out mercury in thermometers and other products, and reduced flame retardants and other toxins used in computers, cars, and building materials.
- Helped make health facilities “greener.”
- Limited the use of antibiotics in animal feed.
- Trained pediatricians and obstetricians about the effects of chemicals and other environmental toxins on human development.
- Helped get stronger restrictions on diesel emissions from buses and trucks.
- Educated consumers about the dangers of pesticides and reduced their use on food crops.
- Helped develop state-of-the-art brownfields redevelopment programs in New York.

Habitat Protection

- Restored and expanded public access to Long Island Sound.
- Trained veterinarians in Central and South America and Africa to promote wildlife health.
- Helped develop bird migration corridors along the East Coast and wildlife migration corridors in the northern Rockies into Canada.
- Established marine protected areas in the north Atlantic Ocean.
- Created a certification program for land trusts.
- Promoted sustainable agriculture in Latin America.

Cross-cutting initiatives

- Promoted reforms of transportation policies and development of equitable transit-centered development in Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey.
- Trained community foundations on smart growth strategies.
- Developed partnerships between sustainability officers and local foundations in a number of cities across the country.
- Promoted smart growth strategies in New York State.
- Promoted sustainable agriculture practices nationally.
- Advocated for more sustainable transportation policies nationally.
- Advocated for a healthier food production and distribution industry.

OTHER PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVITY

There has been a dramatic increase in philanthropic giving in climate change and energy issues in the past decade. According to the Foundation Center, funding in this area jumped from 13.7 percent of environmental philanthropy in 2007 to 31.9 percent in 2009. The Trust is number 11 on the list.

Top 11 Foundations Supporting Climate and Energy in 2011 *

Foundation	Total Grants in $
Energy Foundation	58,398,203
Sea Change Foundation	41,696,332
William and Flora Hewlett Foundation	11,275,700
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation	8,100,000
Oak Foundation	7,800,062
Kresge Foundation	4,402,600
Joyce Foundation	3,977,174
Climate Works Foundation	3,965,900
Kendeda Fund	2,750,000
Rockefeller Brothers Fund	1,875,000
New York Community Trust	1,460,000

The New York Community Trust is one of the top five funders in the field of environmental health.

Top Five Foundations Supporting Environmental Health in 2011*

Foundation	Total Grants in $
Marisla Foundation	3,410,000
Kresge Foundation	1,073,315
David and Lucille Packard Foundation	1,855,192
New York Community Trust	1,070,000
California Wellness Foundation	766,667

Biodiversity and species protection make up 35 percent of all environmental giving. Much of this funding is for direct land conservation activities. The Trust is number 11 on the list.

Top 12 Foundations Supporting Biodiversity and Habitat Protection in 2011*

Foundation	Total Grants in $
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation	50,756,489
David and Lucile Packard Foundation	20,541,014
MacArthur Foundation	17,122,956
Margaret A. Cargill Foundation	13,181,926
Pew Charitable Trusts	8,483,707
Campion Foundation	4,377,800
Walton Family Foundation	3,630,444
Barr Foundation	2,864,080
S.D. Bechtel Jr. Foundation	2,585,000
EarthShare	2,083,455
New York Community Trust	1,959,688
Marisla Foundation	1,780,000

*This information is from the Environmental Grantmakers Association analyses of 990 forms filed by foundations.

KEY FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Overall

- The New York Community Trust has developed a respected niche in environment grantmaking, managing a national grant program rooted in a local perspective. It supports regional and state policy advocacy in ways that set the stage for national policy advances.
- Our willingness to support the translation of emerging science into policy-relevant information is unique and highly valued.
- The Trust is known as a good collaborative partner, interested in bringing like-minded funders and nonprofits together to accomplish a goal.
- There are many initiatives that cut across our three areas; smart growth and sustainable agriculture-regional food systems are two obvious examples.
- A focus on vulnerable communities in all three areas can connect our national environment program to other Trust grant programs.

Climate Change

- The Trust's focus on regional and state policy is important for deploying clean energy strategies and building support for federal climate and energy policies.
- Campaigns to oppose fossil fuels (tar sands, coal, oil) are relatively well-funded by large foundations, especially after the failure to pass the national cap-and-trade bill in 2010. But there are opportunities to promote clean energy that can be place-based and regional. Similarly, local efforts to make buildings more energy efficient fit the Trust approach.
- Climate adaptation and resiliency strategies have gotten increased attention since superstorm Sandy. In particular, resiliency efforts can focus on the most vulnerable residents who suffer the consequences of a changing climate most acutely.
- Integrating climate mitigation and adaptation into urban sustainability and resiliency strategies is a compelling niche for The Trust.

Environmental Health

- Trust support of this field has become even more important as several large foundations stopped funding environmental health initiatives (e.g. Beldon Fund closed in 2009; Kendeda Fund has shifted its focus). Continued leadership by The Trust is critical to realize the goal of safer state and national chemical policies that regulate the use of toxic chemicals in commerce.
- The Trust's ability to fund the combination of scientific research, policy advocacy, and market campaigns has proved effective in raising the profile of the issue and getting toxic chemicals out of consumer products.
- Market campaigns have proved effective, are becoming more sophisticated, and include many business champions.
- Much of the work in environmental health is managed by multiple coalitions of local and state groups coordinating advocacy at the regional and national levels. While effective, this approach is sometimes unwieldy to manage and difficult to support financially.
- A focus on people who are most vulnerable to environmental pollutions is strategic. They include low-income residents living near noxious facilities; infants, children, pregnant women; and immune-suppressed individuals, whose healthy development can be compromised by endocrine disruptive chemicals.

Habitat Protection

- The Trust's grants now focus on migration corridors and connectivity, rather than broader land conservation strategies.
    - While we have focused on the northern Rockies, other regions offer comparable opportunities, such as the Pacific Northwest, the Everglades, and the Appalachian Mountains (where very little has been done).
    - Current grantmaking of protected areas and corridors is not coordinated among foundations; furthermore, there is little work on combining climate mitigation with adaptation in these corridors. Including sequestration of carbon emissions in wildlife corridors could, for example, help mitigate climate change.
    - Most strategies focus on real estate transactions and financial incentives, rather than policy and regulations.
    - Restoring wildlife corridors on coastal shorelines can be part of disaster preparedness plans and incorporated into flood insurance plans and other incentives to use nature as a resiliency strategy.

A RECOMMENDED ROLE FOR THE TRUST

- As a community foundation with a national grants program, The Trust addresses three of the most serious global environmental problems from a local perspective. Tackling climate change, environmental hazards to public health, and the rapid loss of plant and animal species all require changes in how we live in communities, from energy supplies to housing, transportation, consumption, and recreation.
- Over the past decade, we have supported campaigns against new and more hazardous oil and gas extraction methods such as tar sands and hydrofracking. Now we will support projects that make communities more livable, as they transition to more efficient and clean energy, green infrastructure, public transit, sustainable consumption and waste management, and resilient shorelines.
- Protecting the most vulnerable and disadvantaged residents while communities make these transitions will be a high priority.

The Kraft-funded program supports regional, national, New York State-wide and New York metropolitan area projects, including grants made by our Westchester and Long Island affiliates. In addition, The Trust has a separate environment grants strategy for New York City, which embodies the same principles listed above, but is funded with additional unrestricted and field-of-interest funds.

PROPOSED GUIDELINES

The goal of our grant program is to promote more environmentally sustainable, resilient, and just communities. We will support projects in four areas.

Mitigate climate change by:

- Promoting energy efficiency and the replacement of fossil fuels with alternative sources of energy for buildings.
- Pursuing the shift to electric vehicles and mass transit.
- Modernizing the delivery and distribution of power through a smarter, more resilient grid and distributed (on site) generation.
- Reducing the emissions of existing fossil fuel-powered facilities through carbon sequestration or other technologies.
- Establishing regional programs, performance standards, and regulations that incentivize reduced emissions.

Help make communities more resilient and better able to handle the heat waves, extreme weather, and other hazards posed by a changing climate through:

- Modernizing storm water, street, and transit infrastructure to reduce run-off and absorb storm surges.
- Using natural barriers such as wetlands restoration to protect shoreline communities.
- Encouraging more sustainable building design and land use through insurance, building codes, or other local policies.
- Preparing weather-related disaster preparedness plans, especially for low-income and other vulnerable residents.

Protect public health from the hazards of toxic pollutants by:

- Supporting targeted scientific research that can be used to develop policy.
- Continuing to support advocacy to promote safer chemical and heavy metal policies and practices at the state, national, and international levels, especially for infants, children and other vulnerable people.

- Funding market campaigns to get retail and manufacturing companies to eliminate toxic chemicals from their products.
- Identifying special protections for low-income communities near polluting facilities.
- Minimizing the hazards of new and expanded fossil fuel extraction, including hydrofracking, on nearby communities.

Preserve biological diversity through habitat conservation by:

- Establishing, enhancing, and monitoring wildlife migration corridors.
- Supporting functional connections between fragmented habitat so that species are able move safely.

In addition, we will encourage initiatives that cut across two or three program areas, especially:

- Smart growth approaches that promote sustainable and resilient growth and development patterns in metropolitan regions and cities.
- Sustainable agriculture and regional food initiatives that encourage less polluting growing practices and affordable healthy food access in all communities.
- Producer responsibility initiatives that make manufacturers more responsible for the products and the packaging they produce, to encourage redesigning wasteful or polluting practices.

Our geographic reach will include: broad federal policy and regional (i.e. more than one state) efforts; U.S.-based organizations' projects overseas that build capacity of local communities to mitigate and adapt to climate change, protect biodiversity, and improve environmental health; and New York State and the tri-state New York metropolitan region (including Westchester and Long Island).