

Building Collective Power for Change



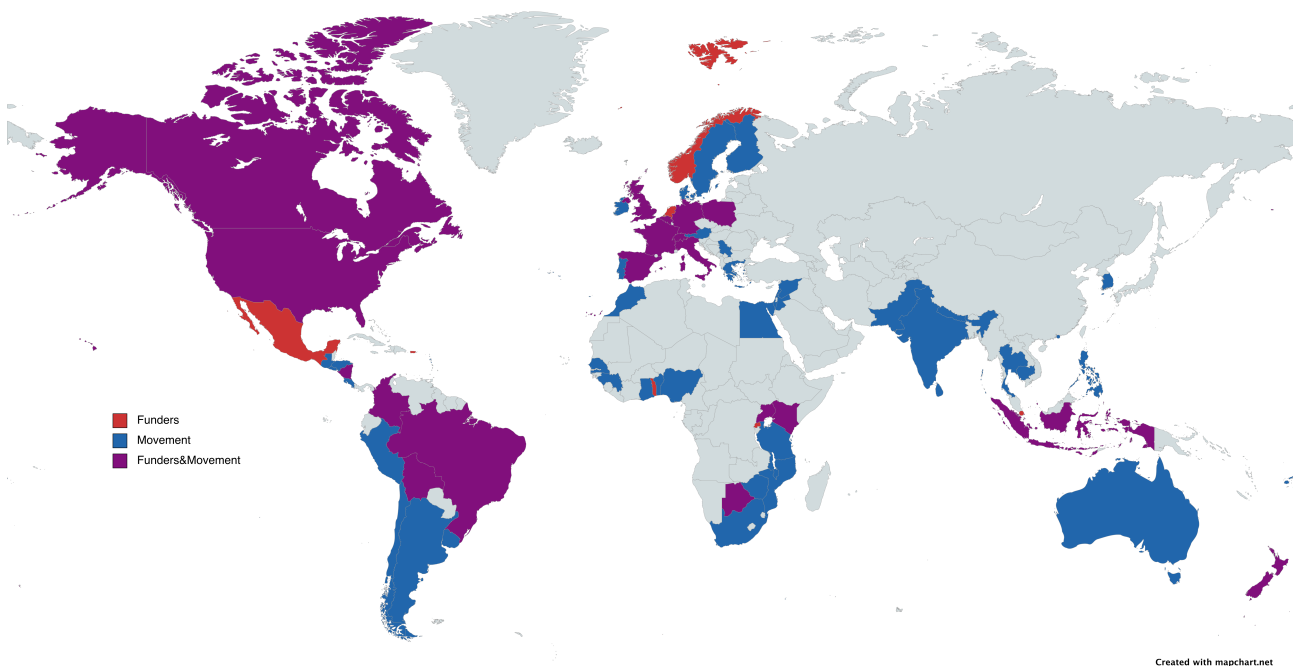
**EDGE Funders Annual Conference
2021**

Dear EDGE friends and allies

Thank you for being part of the 2021 EDGE conference “Building Collective Power for Change!”

While we were all longing for the time we could meet in person again, we decided to hold our conference virtually in line with our values of collective care, solidarity and inclusivity. It is central for us to ensure each and every participant feels safe when participating in an in-person conference, and the unjust distribution of vaccinations among our partners in the world was directly affecting this goal.

However, thanks to the active and warm participation of you all, we were able to offer an engaging virtual space for funders and social movement to connect, learn and organize together in support of the systemic change we are in need of.



Through panel conversation, open spaces, grounding exercises and moments of care for our bodies and souls, the Conference offered spaces for collective learning and sharing, reflecting, pausing and celebrating. It was great to finally connect and be in community, co-conspiring to change philanthropy together for systemic alternatives!

Thank you all for being part of the EDGE family!



The conference in numbers

5

The number of days of our Annual Conference, which included three days of conference and two days dedicated to training sessions and focused conversation.

3

The languages we offered during the conference. Interpretation was offered to/from English, Spanish and French throughout most of the conference. In the future, we hope to be more inclusive in terms of languages offering and we appreciate your patience while we learn how to apply this at best.

3

The number of care sessions offered to take care of the mind and body of the participants.

3

The number of training sessions offered during the last two days of the EDGE Conference. We had a Climate Justice Training led by It Takes Roots , Feminist Framework for Funders offered by Grassroots Global Justice, Movement Building School - Feminist Tools and Strategies organized by Just Associates (JASS)

32

the number of open space sessions that were planned and facilitated by participants.

70

Countries represented at the EDGE Conference.

121

The impressive number of speakers who contributed to our trainings, keynote sessions and open space sessions.

152

The number of funders who are based outside the Global North.

665

The number of attendees who registered for our conference and trainings, including both funders and movement partners.

Become a member

Would you like to be part of this engaged group of funders?

On our [website](#), we shared our membership criteria and the link to apply.

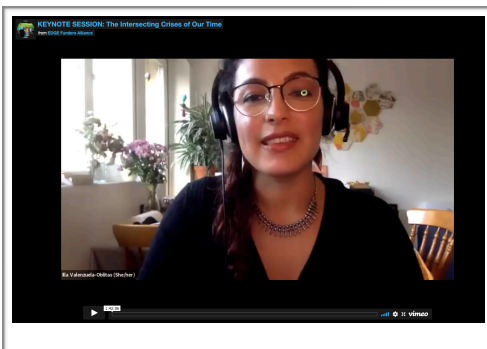
JOIN US!

EDGE Funders Conference Sessions

The EDGE Conference aimed to offer a space for connection, co-thinking and learning among funders and social movements. Below, you will find a small overview of the sessions offered, including keynote sessions, open spaces and training sessions.

If you missed any of the sessions, you can still access the wisdom shared through the recordings available on our website. You can also use our website to find resources and speakers associated with each session.

Keynote sessions



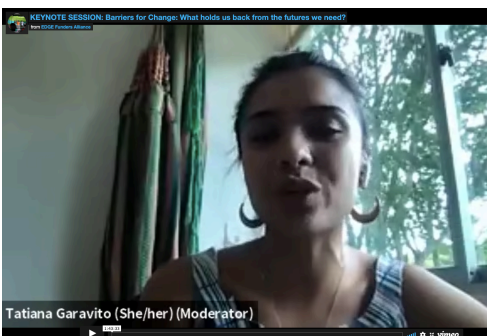
THE INTERSECTING CRISES OF OUR TIME

The Intersecting Crises of Our Time

In this session, speakers offered an overview of how systemic crises intersect and exacerbate each other, and the importance of having an intersectional approach in tackling them.

Speakers

Elsa Nury Martinez Silva (Via Campesina)
Renée Paula Horster (Resource Transformation)
J. Bob Alotta (Mozilla)



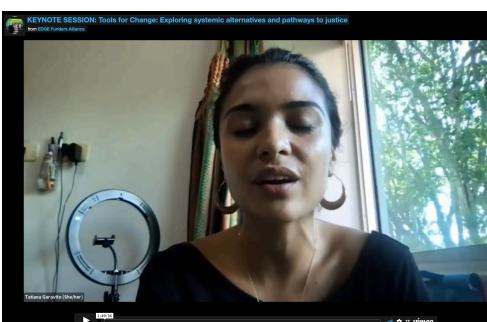
BARRIERS FOR CHANGE: WHAT HOLDS US BACK FROM THE FUTURES WE NEED?

Barriers for Change: What holds us back from the futures we need?

What are the powers preventing change? A panel of movement representatives and funders shared their experiences and named the barriers we need to overcome

Speakers

Poonam Joshi (Global Dialogue)
Rose Longhurst (OSIFE)
Rukia Lumumba (People's Advocacy Institute)
Carmen Dupont (FundAction)
Moukhtar Kocache (Rawa Fund)



TOOLS FOR CHANGE: EXPLORING SYSTEMIC ALTERNATIVES AND PATHWAYS TO JUSTICE

Tools for Change: Exploring systemic alternatives and pathways to justice

We live in times of crises, but also in times of systemic alternatives, and this final keynote session highlighted examples of change and shared ways of building better futures.

Speakers

Myrna Cunningham (Pawanka Fund)
Joan Brady (La Via Campesina)
Nani Jansen Reventlow (Digital Freedom Fund)
Leilani Farha (The Shift)
Ashish Kothari (Global Tapestry of Alternatives)

In-depth Sessions

Honoring Indigenous Day

A plenary session honouring Indigenous day with:
Galina Angarova (Cultural Survival)
Melissa Nelson (Pawanka Fund)
Jim Enote (Colorado Plateau Foundation)
Carla Fredericks (First Peoples Worldwide)

[WATCH RECORDING](#)

Systemic Alternatives Training

A two-hours in depth overview of the just transition framework organised by Pablo Solon

[WATCH RECORDING](#)

Cannot get enough of our webinars? Check out [our website](#) for many more interesting sessions!

From Crisis to Justice: How do we win a Global Green New Deal Session

An In depth overview of systemic alternatives fighting for climate justice with:
Asad Rehman (War on Want)
Julia Steinberger (Universite de Lausanne)
Chintake Rajapake (Monlar)
Lucio Cuenca (Olca Chile)
Max Ajl (Tunisian Observatory for Food Sovereignty)

[WATCH RECORDING](#)

Beyond the 2%: From climate philanthropy to climate justice philanthropy

Speakers

Alejandra Martin (W.K Kellogg Foundation)
Asad Rehman (War on Want)
Edouard Morena (University of London)

[WATCH RECORDING](#)

Food Sovereignty for All! Supporting Struggles that Transform Food Systems



[WATCH RECORDING](#)

Training Days - October 14-15, 2021

We partnered with [Grassroots Global Justice Alliance](#), [It Takes Roots](#) and [Just Associates \(JASS\)](#) to offer three incredible training sessions for funders and civil society partners.



Organised by “It Takes Roots”, the [first training](#) focused on concepts and strategies that are key to Climate Justice such as the power of grassroots organizations and the movement ecosystem, and the role of philanthropy in shifting resources and power back to communities.



During the day dedicated to feminist realities, Grassroots Global Justice [offered a Feminist Framework for Funders](#), as a summarized version of the very well known Feminist Organising School.



The [third training](#) was a Movement Building School - Feminist Tools and Strategies, organised by JASS. Collectively we explored the theoretical and historical intersections of patriarchy, homophobia, transphobia, white supremacy and climate change.

Open Space Sessions

We had 32 open space sessions, planned and facilitated by conference participants. The sessions focused on different areas of work, and included sessions dedicated to care and culture. Check them out if you missed them. [All recordings, resources and speakers are on the EDGE website.](#)

Additional Resources

The EDGE Funders website provides additional resources to support our collective learning. All [webinar series](#), [films](#), [publications](#) and [newsletters](#) are available to support you at any time. You can also find [blog posts](#) written by EDGE members and allies. If you are interested in sharing a blog post on our website, do not hesitate to reach out to [Hana](#).

Gratitude

Special thanks to our interpretation and [tech](#) team. We loved working with them and are really grateful for all their work and support. Would you like to be in collaboration with them as well? Reach out to [Abdul Otman](#) for tech support, and to [Maria José Castro](#) for interpretation support. Finally, our warmest gratitude also goes out to the whole EDGE board, to the Americas and European Steering Groups and to the whole team for making this conference happen with such enthusiasm and success. You are all very appreciated.

Till next time,

The EDGE Team



Our work

EDGE Funders Alliance organizes within philanthropy to raise awareness and deepen understanding of the interconnected nature of the social, economic and ecological crises threatening our common future.

EDGE works to increase resources for communities and movements creating systemic change alternatives for a transition to a society that supports justice, equity and the well-being of the planet.

BUILDING COMMUNITY...

SOME OF OUR PROGRAMS INCLUDE

- EDGE Funders Annual Conference
- Annual region-based member retreats
- Working Groups

EDGE community is also very active in expanding our community by organizing panels, workshops and participating in an array of philanthropic and social movement spaces.



AND CHANGING PHILANTHROPY

We believe that one of the most important roles of our network is to question the status quo and continuously deepen our systemic change analysis and practices within the field of philanthropy. We do this through initiatives such as:

- **Global Engagement Lab:** a is a six-month international learning, organizing and community-building cohort for funders
- **Gender Justice Initiative:** a collaborative group who gets together in different spaces to discuss and strategize on ways of incorporating the gender lens into the various processes within philanthropy.
- **Webinars:** online conversations curated by EDGE members, funders allies and movement partners

Become a member

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JOIN US!

If you are interested in learning more about the EDGE community and our work please send us an email to contactus@edgefunders.org