

Annual Report 2025

Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur | Socio-environmental Funds of the Global South




ALIANZA SOCIOAMBIENTAL
**FONDOS
DEL SUR**
Socio-Environmental Funds of the
Global South



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Editorial

Message from the Steering Committee

We are stronger together. Nature has been teaching us this for thousands of years. It is why ecosystems exist. Five years ago, a collective of independent funds from the global South came together to form a different kind of ecosystem - one dedicated to ensuring that resources get to the communities on the ground who are leading efforts to achieve socio-environmental and climate justice. The Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur | Socio-Environmental Funds of the Global South has come a long way since then.



At the time we write this message, we are seventeen local funds operating across Latin America, Africa and South-East Asia, united in a shared recognition of the critical work done by grassroots movements, activists and communities to secure their territories, and create, defend and promote their ways of life and experiencing the world, which are intertwined with deep respect for nature. Our role is clear: to expand access to resources for grassroots communities, strengthen the funding ecosystem we are building by sharing knowledge, practices, and lessons learned along the way, and collectively showcase the innovative, participatory funding infrastructure that operates in the Global South.

The current phase of this Steering Committee began in April 2025 at our Members' Assembly, which was an important demonstration of our democratic and collective evolution, and set key milestones for our network. As the newly elected Steering Committee, we began this cycle with renewed energy and the commitment to maintain and strengthen our collective dream.

This year, as an Alianza, we have deepened our governance, strengthened our internal systems, expanded collective learning spaces, and carried out large-scale shared initiatives, highlighting the first edition of The Global South House (La Casa Sur Global) at COP 30.

All these achievements were possible thanks to the commitment and active participation of our members, the meaningful collaborations with our partners, the support of funders, and most importantly, the guidance of the communities who are the reason we exist in the first place. In a context of global systematic violence and political unrest, where funding flows shifted towards acts of destruction, and the worsening persecution against defenders of lives, territory and the environment, working from the ground up is vital to shape the world in which we would like to live. By doing it collectively, the Alianza is contributing to the creation of a strong network and critical infrastructure for collective action.



More resources should reach the ground where it matters.

Now, more than ever, communities on the frontlines of climate change and environmental harm need our support. In this regard, we advocate to mobilize the resources of mainstream philanthropy and the broader climate and nature finance architecture, to be allocated through grantmaking that is based on proximity, trust and adaptability to the challenging contexts of the global South. But also we have committed ourselves to promote community philanthropy, to advocate for the recognition of the contributions made by the people, groups and communities to decide their own development.

By working together, we keep planting the socio-environmental justice seeds and nurturing the ones that have grown in diverse shapes and colours, thanks to the efforts and caring of many who have been here before. We are challenging the system by demonstrating the power of the South, a power rooted in collectiveness, kindness, strategic intuition, courageousness and solidarity.



Archive of Pastor Rice Fund/NTFP-EP Asia (Indonesia)

We are stronger when we are curious.

One of the defining features of this phase of the Alianza's journey has been a spirit of curiosity and exploration. We are challenging ourselves in bringing relevant questions about how we can be more effective to the people, groups and communities in their territories. These questions also sharpen our practices and move us to the limits of our current knowledge, enabling us to create something new, where bold ideas emerge not just from overcoming fear, but from creating spaces where collective power boosts our curiosity and sense of exploration. In these many ways, we demonstrated why we are the Socio-environmental Funds of the Global South.

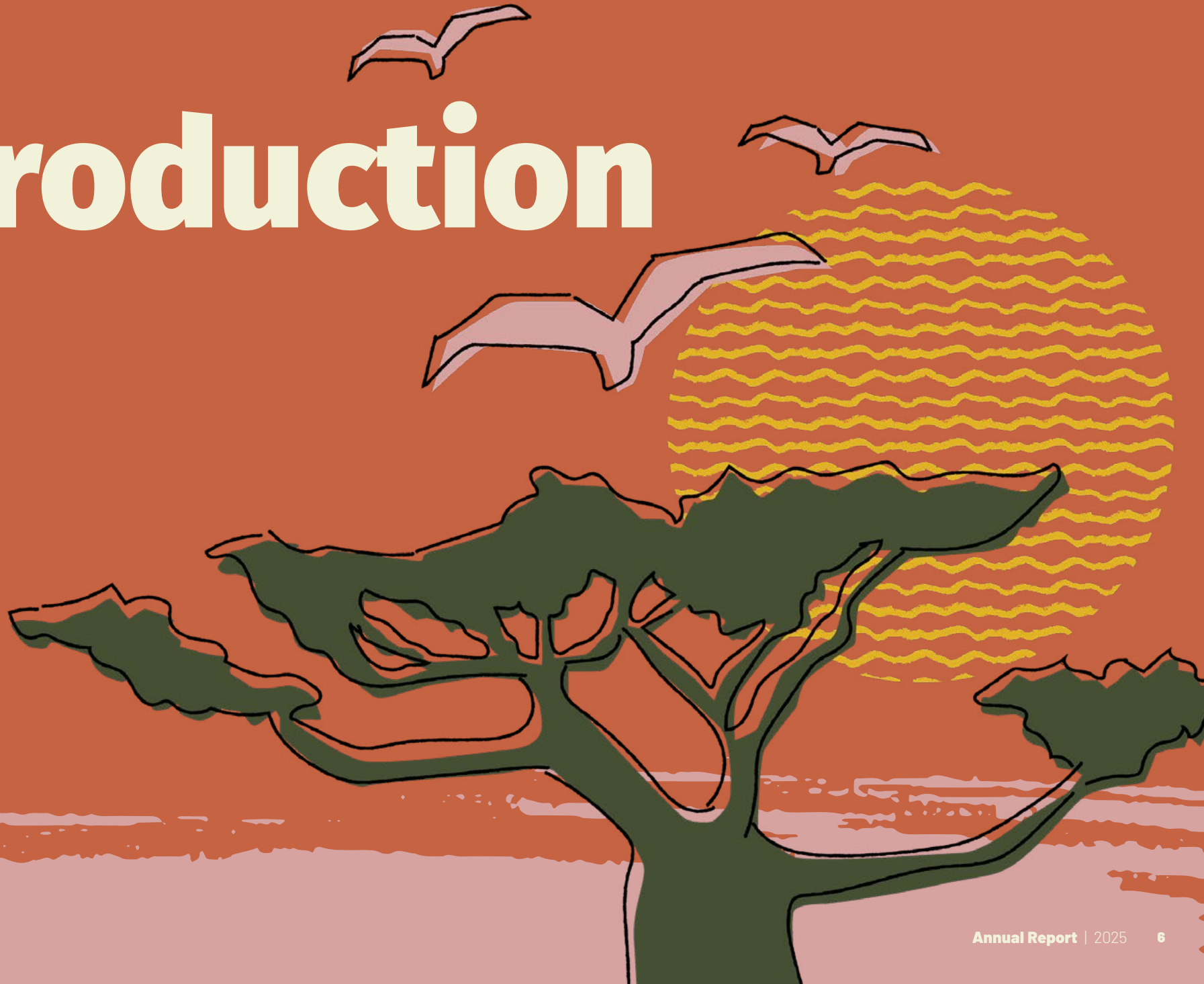
Change requires both urgency and patience.

There is a lot of work to be done in order to navigate the uncertain times in which we are living. Our community partners need resources now. But as a relevant actor in the socio-environmental and philanthropic sector, our belief remains that justice is relevant both in the outcomes we seek and the processes we use. Outcomes are immensely valuable, but systems change takes a long time and we have witnessed the immeasurable power that emerges from collective action, trust and reciprocity.

These words are an invitation to reassure that every step of the way has been so much more valuable in your company, rather than being in isolation and individual struggle. As an Alianza, we aim to revitalize the ideas and practices that we know are meaningful and effective. But also innovate and discover new ways of doing to achieve socio-environmental justice where dignity for nature and humankind can be possible in order to thrive. That is also our political dream.

ALIANZA STEERING COMMITTEE, 2026

Introduction



In 2025, Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur consolidated its role as a leading Global South platform advancing philanthropy for socio-environmental justice amid intensifying, interconnected environmental and climate crises, heightened geopolitical turbulence, and persistent — if not widening — inequities in financing for climate, nature, and communities.

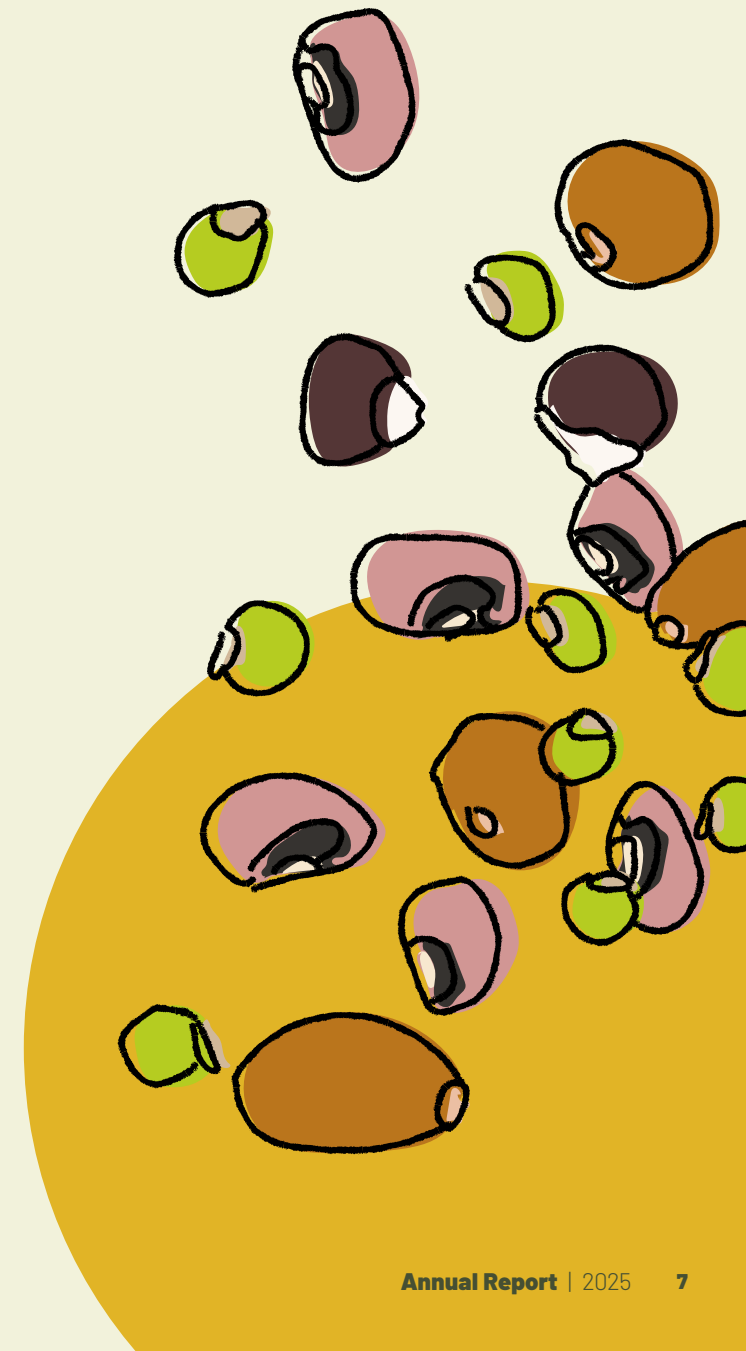
Against this backdrop, the network entered a phase of consolidation and expansion, strengthening its governance, deepening collaboration among member funds, and amplifying its collective voice in global debates on socio-environmental justice and philanthropic transformation.

Following the 2025 Members' Assembly, which approved revised Internal Regulations and elected a new Steering Committee, the network advanced the implementation of its 2024–2026 Strategic Plan, with a focus on institutional strengthening, financial sustainability, and strategic positioning as a platform for locally led Global South funding.

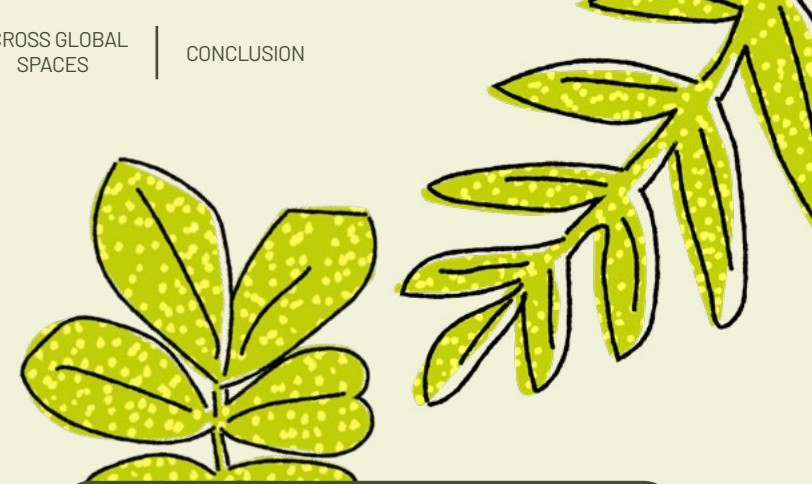
Programmatically, Alianza strengthened its role as a platform for knowledge, collective learning, and field-building. Initiatives such as Funding from the Ground Up and the Seeds of Practice peer-learning pilot contributed to advancing evidence, practice, and narratives that center Global South leadership and locally rooted solutions.

A defining milestone was the launch of *The Global South House* at COP30, co-developed with partner networks. The initiative positioned Global South actors at the center of international debates on climate, nature, and people, demonstrating the transformative potential of localized, networked, and justice-driven approaches to philanthropy.

Overall, 2025 marked a year in which Alianza strengthened its institutional foundations while expanding its influence as a systems actor, working to reshape how resources flow, decisions are made, and impact is defined in the field of socio-environmental philanthropy.



Key Milestones of the Year



Advancing institutional strengthening:

Adoption of revised Internal Regulations and transition to a new Steering Committee, reinforcing governance, accountability, and Alianza's role as infrastructure for strengthening locally led funds;

Investing in collective capacity for systems change:

Launch of the Seeds of Practice pilot, fostering peer-led learning on core operational and strategic issues and expanding engagement across member organizations;

Strengthening strategic partnerships and ecosystem alignment: Expanded engagement with philanthropic, multilateral, and civil society actors to unlock more equitable funding flows and collaboration opportunities;

Shaping the field through knowledge and evidence:

Publication of *Funding From the Ground Up*, contributing to global debates on climate and nature finance by elevating the role and effectiveness of Global South philanthropic actors;

Influencing global agendas on climate, nature, and people:

Creation and delivery of *The Global South House*, launched at COP30, positioning Global South actors as central to equitable, just, and effective funding solutions and advancing justice-based narratives in international policy and funding spaces;

Amplifying voice and narrative power:

Enhanced communication and advocacy efforts, increasing the visibility of locally led approaches and contributing to a broader shift toward socio-environmental justice in philanthropy.

Finally, this report consolidates the results achieved in 2025, marking the third year of the current Executive Coordination and the completion of Alianza's first formal cycle of institutional structuring.

This moment of reflection highlights key learnings, including the importance of building strong processes and structures grounded in trust, belonging, and shared responsibility; the value of collective knowledge; and care for the collective as non-negotiable principles for strengthening networked work.

What lies ahead builds on this collective strength, woven through intentionality, listening, and long-term commitment, reflecting the shared path that continues to shape Alianza's trajectory.



Bento Viana/ISPN/Fundo Ecos (Brazil)

The Strength of the Network

Alianza is a Global South-led alliance of locally rooted socio-environmental funds working to transform funding into a force for socio-environmental justice.

The network brings together local and activist funds across Latin America, Africa, and Southeast Asia that mobilize and distribute resources locally to support communities defending ecosystems, advancing climate adaptation, and protecting human rights in territories critical to the planet's future.



As of the end of 2025, Alianza brought together 16 socio-environmental funds across the Global South:

- **Casa Socio-Environmental Fund** (Brazil)
- **Ecos Fund/Institute for Society, Population and Nature** (ISPN - Brazil)
- **Environmental Justice Fund** (EJF - South Africa)
- **Fondo Acción Solidaria** (FASOL - Mexico)
- **Fondo Emerger** (Colombia)
- **Fondo Ñeque** (Ecuador)
- **Fondo Socioambiental del Perú** (Peru)
- **Fundación Socioambiental Semilla** (Bolivia)
- **Fondo Tierra Viva** (Central America)
- **FunBEA – Brazilian Fund for Environmental Education** (Brazil)
- **Pastor Rice Small Grant Fund/Non-Timber Forest Products** (NTFP-EP - Southeast Asia)
- **Red Comunidades Rurales** (Argentina)
- **Socio-Environmental Fund Plurales** (Argentina)
- **Samdhana Institute** (Southeast Asia)
- **Tindzila Fund** (Mozambique)
- **Youth Climate Justice Fund** (global)

*In early 2026, the network welcomed **Uruguay Socio-Environmental Fund** as a new member.



Together, these funds form a network rooted in territories that are central to the planet's ecological balance and to the global struggle for socio-environmental justice.



Across their trajectories, member funds have awarded more than **12,938 grants**



and invested over **USD 117.9 million** directly into communities across the Global South



supporting initiatives in more than **70 countries**



In 2025 alone, Alianza funds disbursed **USD 19 million** in grants.

Member funds share a strong focus on:

- ▶ **climate adaptation**
- ▶ **biodiversity conservation**
- ▶ **agroecology**
- ▶ **territorial defence**
- ▶ **strengthening community organisations and local capacities**

While grantmaking remains a core function,

94% of member funds also provide capacity-strengthening actions

75% operate emergency-response mechanisms

44% implement projects directly

25% provide in-kind donations



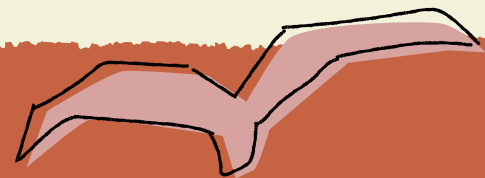


Archive of Fondo Emerger (Colombia).

In 2025, **359 organizations** received support from an Alianza member funds for the first time, reflecting their continued ability to expand access to resources and reach new actors on the frontlines of socio-environmental action.

COMMUNITIES AND GROUPS SUPPORTED BY MEMBER FUNDS IN 2025

- ▶ **100%** supported women-led initiatives
- ▶ **94%** supported smallholder and peasant farmers
- ▶ **88%** supported youth
- ▶ **88%** supported Indigenous Peoples
- ▶ **88%** supported grassroots and community-based groups



“Global Greengrants Fund is proud to stand alongside Alianza and the growing ecosystem of locally rooted funds advancing socio-environmental justice. For decades, we’ve seen that Global South philanthropy is essential to sustaining grass-roots movements – bringing the trust, proximity, and contextual knowledge needed to catalyze climate justice solutions from the ground up. Alianza is playing a critical role in strengthening a South-led, movement-rooted ecosystem that resources and connects local action to global influence. Grounded in participatory practice, solidarity, and deep community relationships, this collective effort is helping shift philanthropy toward greater equity, responsiveness, and accountability to the communities driving transformative climate and environmental solutions.”

B DE GERSIGNY

Vice President of External Relations, Global Greengrants Fund (GGF)

More than a coordination platform, Alianza functions as a space for sustained collaboration among funds that share common values and challenges. By connecting organisations operating in diverse political and territorial contexts, the network strengthens their collective capacity to support community-led solutions while amplifying Global South leadership in international philanthropic and policy spaces.

“In 2025, Alianza Fondos del Sur has been, for Ñeque, a space that allows us to breathe amid so much uncertainty. As international cooperation operates with increasingly unpredictable dynamics and funding flows shrink or shift in focus, Alianza helps ensure that we do not become isolated. Sharing doubts, strategies, and context readings with other funds from the Global South gives us perspective and the clarity needed to make decisions. This network sustains us because it affirms something essential: that our responses can emerge from ourselves, from our own realities and territorial connections.”

FONDO ÑEQUE



Women leaders from nine Alianza member funds gathered at the 2025 Global Meeting of the Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action (GAGGA) in Bali, Indonesia.

Within Alianza, members are connected through an infrastructure of trust, exchange, and collective learning that is sustained through a continuous rhythm of interaction across regions.

In 2025, the network convened more than 50 online meetings, including monthly gatherings with an average of 27 participants, as well as working groups, bilateral exchanges, and collective processes such as the Road to COP30. These spaces foster ongoing dialogue and allow funds to reflect jointly on shared challenges, strengthen their strategies, and deepen their capacity to support community-led action.

Initiatives such as **Seeds of Practice** create structured spaces for peer exchange among member funds, enabling them to share lived experience, practical strategies, and political analysis across regions and contexts. These collective learning processes help transform individual experiences into shared knowledge for the network.

Alianza also supports the collective generation of evidence about locally rooted funding practices. One example is the research **Funding from the Ground Up**, developed collaboratively by the network to better understand how local funds operate and contribute to socio-environmental justice across the Global South.

Both initiatives are explored in greater detail in the following chapter of this report.

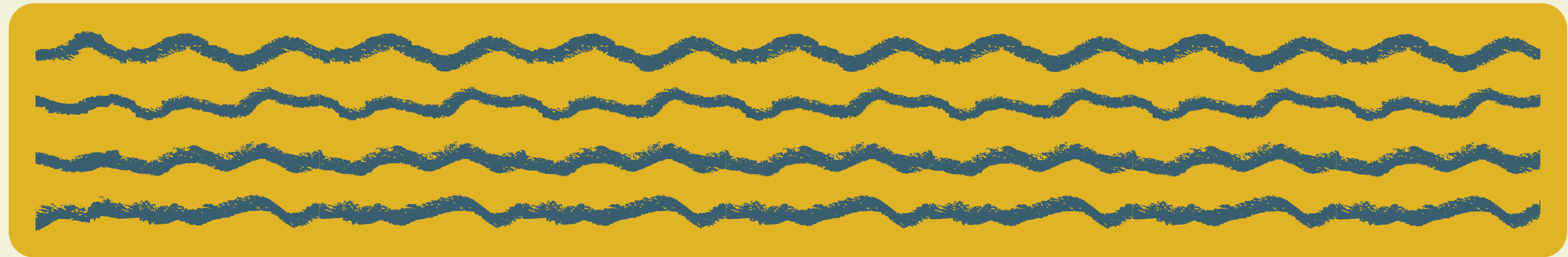
By strengthening connections among locally rooted funds and positioning them collectively in global philanthropic spaces, Alianza transforms what could be isolated local efforts into a shared platform for influence, one that helps amplify Global South leadership and open new pathways for resources to reach the communities most affected by socio-environmental crises.



Archive of Pastor Rice Fund/NTFP-EP Asia (Indonesia)

A Year of Consolidation and Collective Learning





The year of 2025 marked a period in which different dimensions of Alianza's work became more closely connected. Governance processes, knowledge production, and collective learning initiatives did not evolve in isolation, but increasingly informed and reinforced one another.

Advances in governance created the conditions for more coordinated action and shared direction across the network. At the same time, **the development of collective knowledge helped articulate a clearer understanding of the role and diversity of socio-environmental funds, both within the network and in relation to broader funding debates.** These processes, in turn, fed into emerging spaces for exchange and learning, where experiences could be shared, tested, and further developed in practice.

Rather than representing separate lines of work, these efforts point to a more integrated approach. Together, they reflect how the Alianza is gradually consolidating itself as a space that combines institutional coordination, knowledge generation, and collective learning. In doing so, the network strengthens its capacity to:

- **Support and connect** locally rooted funds across the Global South, while contributing to broader discussions on how socio-environmental funding can be organized and sustained, and
- **Reinforce** its role as a collective infrastructure for this ecosystem.



Camila Araujo/ISPN/Fundo Ecos (Brazil)

Governance

In 2025, governance emerged as a central axis of institutional strengthening for the Alianza. Building on the momentum of the Members' Assembly, where revised Internal Regulations were **approved and a new Steering Committee was elected**, the network entered a new phase of governance consolidation.

Throughout the year, the newly elected Steering Committee continued to engage in ongoing deliberations aimed at refining institutional arrangements, clarifying roles, and ensuring that governance mechanisms remained aligned with the evolving needs of the network. These discussions reflected a growing level of institutional maturity, in which governance is understood as a strategic tool to enable collective action.

A significant dimension of this process was the active involvement of members. From the preparatory workshops leading up to the Assembly, which brought together an average of around 20 participants, to the Assembly

itself, attended by 29 participants, members played a central role in shaping the institutional framework of Alianza.

“The collective process of building governance, aligned with the strategic guidelines defined in the Members' Assembly, has been key to strengthening both individual funds and the Alianza as a whole. It marked an important step in consolidating a shared vision for the future. Collective decision-making on procedures and workflows sustains the network's legitimacy, coherence, and strength. In 2025, Fundo Ecos/ISPN joined the Steering Committee, an inspiring opportunity that deepened our commitment, ensuring continuity and renewal. It reinforces our role in amplifying Global South voices, recognizing the needs of often invisible communities, and promoting a culture of philanthropy that advances socio-environmental justice.”

ECOS FUND/ISPN

This period can be understood as a transition from institutional design to institutional practice. Rather than defining governance in abstract terms, Alianza has increasingly engaged with the practical implications of sustaining a transnational network composed of diverse organizations, each operating within distinct contexts and constraints.

In this sense, governance in 2025 reflects a growing level of institutional maturity: not as a state to be achieved, but as an ongoing capacity to **revisit, negotiate, and adapt** its own structures. It is through this continuous process that governance becomes less about formal arrangements and more about **enabling alignment, coordination, and collective direction** over time.



Funding from the Ground Up

A second defining element of the year was the development and dissemination of **Funding from the Ground Up**, the first in-depth research effort carried out in partnership with the consultancy Climática and with the support of WINGS.

Produced in collaboration with member funds, the study sets out to map the diversity of socio-environmental fund models operating across the Global South. Drawing on data and insights from all 16 Alianza member funds, it examines how these organizations are structured, how they operate, and how they position themselves within their respective ecosystems.

Rather than converging toward a single model, **the research highlights variation, showing how different institutional configurations emerge in response to specific territorial, political, and organizational contexts.** This diversity is treated as a defining feature of a field shaped by proximity to communities and responsiveness to complex realities.

At the same time, the research identifies three shared foundations across all member funds: **proximity to communities, adaptability to shifting realities, and a commitment to advocacy and structural change.** These elements are not treated as optional features, but as common principles that underpin how funds operate across different contexts, even as their models vary significantly.



Photo: Sofia Hage/Ventos Do Norte.

[Download the Executive Summary of Funding from the Ground Up](#)

[Download Funding from the Ground Up Full Research](#)



Proximity

BUILT ON TRUST AND ACCOUNTABILITY TO COMMUNITIES

All funds are deeply rooted in the communities they serve. Their governance models embed participation and direct accountability to grassroots actors, and their legitimacy stems from long-standing relationships of trust.

94% of Alianza funds include community or grassroots representatives in governance and advisory bodies, showing that direct accountability is not an isolated practice but a network-wide standard.



Adaptability

RESPONDING TO URGENT AND EVOLVING NEEDS

Proximity allows funds to stay attuned to local dynamics, but it is their operational flexibility that enables them to respond effectively to crises and changing contexts. This adaptability is a deliberate design choice, embedded in governance and operations rather than improvised as emergencies arise.

- ▶ Rapid response mechanisms
- ▶ Flexible granting processes
- ▶ Evolution in response to demand



Advocacy

CATALYSTS FOR STRUCTURAL CHANGE

Beyond grantmaking, every fund in the Alianza is politically engaged. Their role as catalysts for structural change differentiates them from intermediaries.

- ▶ Defending rights
- ▶ Influencing policy
- ▶ Shifting power dynamics in philanthropy
- ▶ Building movement
- ▶ Changing narratives



By bringing these experiences into a shared analytical frame, the research contributes to making the work of socio-environmental funds more visible, both internally, for the funds themselves, and externally, for stakeholders across the philanthropic ecosystem.



This research is key to strengthening the recognition of local funds because it produces evidence from the Global South on how they operate, what they deliver, and why they are strategic within the philanthropic ecosystem. For Casa Fund, participating meant affirming a practice built from the territories, grounded in direct funding, trust, and local governance. Documenting these experiences makes it possible to challenge dominant narratives, question extractive models of cooperation, and inform better funding practices. Showing how local funds operate is not only about visibility, it is a form of political advocacy to reconfigure financial flows, criteria, and power relations in philanthropy.”

CRISTINA ORPHEO

Executive-Director, Casa Fund



As one of the few African organisations within Alianza, being featured in this research helps document a community-led funding model that is effective in the African context. Our approach ensures that resources reach communities at the frontlines of environmental injustice directly and that they are supported to implement their own initiatives effectively. This report captures that as evidence for a necessary shift in the power imbalance between philanthropy and communities. It affirms the legitimacy, knowledge, and solutions that communities already hold. By building a shared evidence base grounded in Global South voices, this research strengthens our collective ability to advocate for that shift.”

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FUND



As an environmental fund primarily focused on facilitating grants to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in South and Southeast Asia, the Pastor Rice Fund of NTFP-EP Asia finds that evidence gathered from diverse contexts and landscapes across the Global South strengthens the collective narrative of these funds and reinforces shared advocacy to shift dominant narratives in philanthropy. When funds supporting locally led climate action are strengthened, the broader ecosystem that sustains communities, including women and youth who are most vulnerable to climate change, is also reinforced in its pursuit of long-term advocacy and resilience.”

PASTOR RICE FUND (NTFP-EP ASIA)



Launch of Funding from the Ground Up during the opening session of the first edition of The Global South House at COP30, in Belém, Brazil. Photo: Sofia Hage/Ventos Do Norte.

The relevance of this evidence lies in how it connects internal reflection with external positioning. It allows funds to situate their practices within a broader collective landscape, while also offering a more grounded reference point for dialogues within the broader field of philanthropy, where locally rooted funding approaches are still not widely understood. Funding from the Ground Up contributes to a more grounded understanding of how socio-environmental funds operate across different contexts. By consolidating dispersed experiences into a shared reference, it creates conditions for more informed dialogue.

“In the almost five years of Alianza Fondos del Sur, it has grown to become a critical part of climate funding infrastructure across the Global South. The Alianza is a network of collective knowledge and experience that pushes all of global philanthropy ahead through its very existence. At Alliance magazine, Alianza has always been a trusted source to support us to bring insights on innovation within the philanthropy ecosystem to the whole sector.”

ELIKA ROOHI

Managing editor, Alliance magazine

Seeds of Practice

If the research contributes to a clearer understanding of how socio-environmental funds operate, the Seeds of Practice initiative creates a space to explore how this work takes shape in practice.

Launched in mid-2025 as a peer-learning pilot, Seeds of Practice was designed to test formats for exchange, engage members more actively, and explore interest across different thematic areas as a basis for the future development of the Alianza's first community of practice. Rather than introducing external frameworks, **the initiative builds on the experiences of member funds themselves, who co-designed and facilitated the sessions.**

The themes addressed in each session were defined and prioritized by members, reflecting both shared challenges and areas of interest across the network. This process contributed to shaping the initiative as a space

that **evolved in response to the priorities emerging from within the network.**

This approach shifts how learning is positioned within the Alianza: **knowledge is not treated as something to be extracted or standardized, but as something that emerges through exchange, shaped by context and experience.** The sessions – focused on themes such as monitoring and evaluation, resource mobilization, communication, and organizational strengthening – served as entry points for this process.

By involving staff members from different areas of the funds, Seeds of Practice broadened the range of perspectives present in the network's internal spaces, while also redistributing who engages in collective processes. The value of the initiative lies not only in the content of the exchanges, but also in the relationships that are formed and maintained through them.



“Seeds of Practice is a space where reciprocity takes center stage. We share knowledge, experiences, and tools that strengthen our work, while also inspiring us and inviting us to continue weaving bridges that we can cross again and again to connect with the purpose of continuing to contribute to socio-environmental justice from the South, for the South. In this way, our collective knowledge finds its path and flows toward a horizon that nurtures and strengthens our trust. It is a space sustained by collaboration, where we connect, accompany, and support one another in this collective commitment to socio-environmental justice.”

FONDO ACCIÓN SOLIDÁRIA (FASOL)

“ Having a space where we can pause, listen to one another, and learn from what each fund is already building is not only a technical exchange but also an exercise in trust, where what we share holds value because it emerges from practice. It has allowed us to strengthen our approaches to accompanying communities while also feeling part of something larger. Shared learning not only improves what we do, it sustains the ecosystem of local funds and reaffirms that knowledge is also built from the Global South.”

FONDO SOCIOAMBIENTAL DEL PERÚ

“ Seeds of Practice fosters collective learning within Alianza, beginning with the co-creation of shared spaces. The preparation of the session itself, developed by Fundo Ecos/ISPN in partnership with Fondo Tierra Viva, was a concrete exercise in strengthening relationships, trust, and alignment among members. During the exchange, we experienced moments of active listening and reciprocity among members. By sharing challenges, and solutions, it becomes possible to look at each fund’s processes from new perspectives, enriched by the experiences and local realities of other members. This collective learning strengthens the ecosystem as a whole, making it more collaborative and connected.”

ECOS FUND/ISPN



Archive of Pastor Rice Fund/NTFP-EP Asia (Indonesia)

The Global South House

One of Alianza's most significant efforts in 2025 was the development of The Global South House, a platform for political articulation, mobilization, knowledge production, and collaboration among philanthropic actors from the Global South.

The initiative seeks to influence resource flows and power dynamics in favour of socio-environmental justice, ensuring that local solutions are placed at the centre of global conversations on financing for climate, nature, and people.



The Global South already has a locally rooted funding infrastructure that operates close to territories and supports community-led responses to socio-environmental challenges. Yet this ecosystem often remains under-recognised in global conversations. The platform was created to give greater visibility and political strength to this field, affirming local funds and community philanthropy actors as central to the transformation of funding systems.

The initiative was designed by Alianza and Rede Comuá, a Brazilian network that brings together independent grantmaking organisations working in community philanthropy and socio-environmental justice. Their partnership was fundamental in bringing the project from concept to implementation.

“In a context marked by the contraction of international funding, it is networks and spaces of convergence that strengthen resistance and enable the resilience of our field in the face of ongoing attacks on civil society and hard-won rights. The Global South House embodies the potential of this cooperation. As a collective construction emerging from the articulation between Alianza and Rede Comuá, it demonstrates that our partnership goes beyond optimising resources and exchanging knowledge: we are creating spaces for political organisation among socio-environmental justice funds from the Global South and for strengthening other possible futures. This joint weaving is our strongest response to global challenges, showing that collective action is the path toward a philanthropy truly committed to socio-environmental justice.”

JONATHAS AZEVEDO

Executive Director, Rede Comuá



Photo: Sofia Hage/Ventos Do Norte.





Photo: Sofia Hage/Ventos Do Norte.

For its first edition, the initiative also counted on the strategic partnership of the Amazon Community Funds Network (Rede de Fundos Comunitários da Amazônia – RFCA) and the global #ShiftThePower movement. Together, these networks represent more than 40 philanthropic organisations, including Indigenous, territorial, community-based, thematic, and activist funds.

“ Being part of The Global South House was very important. COP30 was a truly special moment. We welcomed organisations, peoples, and governments from different parts of the world into our home, the Amazon. It was a deeply symbolic moment, marked by strong political energy and a great sense of urgency. At The Global South House, we showed that we are not only a force, the Global South is a living reality, and it is all of us. We are peoples, territories, funds, and organisations that sustain life every day, protect forests, and confront the climate crisis that affects the entire world. We are the response. This is the message we carry forward, and it is why this articulation is so important. We are a broad alliance committed to protecting our common home. In this moment of urgency, we must join our efforts as much as possible, with trust, solidarity, and collective action.”

JOSIMARA BARÉ

Coordinator of the Fundo Indígena Rutî

Member of the Amazon Community Funds Network



To build the content and political momentum for that physical space, the initiative unfolded throughout 2025: a virtual Road to COP30 journey that co-created a Manifesto; an open and independent curatorial process that ensured thematic diversity in the programme; strategic activation events in pre-COP spaces, both online and in person (London, São Paulo, New York and Rio de Janeiro Climate Weeks; Africa Climate Summit); and a dedicated Communication Campaign.

With COP30 taking place for the first time in the Brazilian Amazon, the initiative found a particularly meaningful context for its first in-person edition. While the Global South gained an unprecedented stage in global climate negotiations, The Global South House created a space where philanthropic actors and movements from the Global South could gather in Belém, share experiences, and shape messages and partnerships capable of influencing international debates.

The event took place in a dedicated space located in a historic building in the heart of Belém. It featured seven days of programming with a total of 19 sessions, including panels, dialogue circles, thematic discussions, and fishbowl conversations.

Over **1,200 people** passed through the space, with **109 speakers** representing at least **50 countries**, and over **80 organisations** contributing to the programme. All programming included trilingual translation and accessibility in Brazilian Sign Language (Libras) and also generated wide digital engagement, with **350 hours** of programming streamed live and amplified across social media.

More than a venue, The Global South House became a site of political articulation. Actors from Latin America, Africa, and Asia identified shared challenges, including restrictive donor requirements, short funding cycles, limited

core support, and persistent asymmetries in agenda-setting. At the same time, they recognised shared strengths: territorial proximity, contextual risk assessment, relational trust, and long-term presence alongside communities.



Photo: Sofia Hage/Ventos Do Norte.

“The Global South House recognizes a simple truth: locally rooted funds exist across the world and are best positioned to understand the realities, risks, and opportunities within their own territories. By bringing together actors who often operate in parallel, philanthropy, community funds, intersectional frontline movements, it created visibility and space to translate lived experience into funding strategies that actually reach communities.”

YOUTH CLIMATE JUSTICE FUND

“We had the opportunity to participate in several activities at The Global South House during COP30 in Belém do Pará, not only presenting our own experience but also sharing and engaging with others, strengthening a space of collective identity. For us, the House held not only logistical and identity-related relevance, but also strong political significance, as it created a horizontal space for connection and decision-making among members within a global setting.”

FONDO SOCIOAMBIENTAL PLURALES

“For Casa Fund, participating in this initiative meant strengthening a strategic agenda for climate finance based on direct access and solutions led by communities. Collective initiatives driven by Global South actors are key to challenging the current architecture of climate finance, one that is often bureaucratic and distant from territories. This space, which engaged more than 40 funds, helped reposition the debate on direct funding, demonstrating that local funds can channel resources in ways that are more direct, effective, just, and aligned with adaptation, resilience, and biodiversity protection. Platforms built by the networks behind The Global South House are essential for influencing global debates and redirecting flows toward those who sustain climate in the territories.”

CRISTINA ORPHEO

Executive-Director, Casa Fund

Alianza member funds had a strong presence throughout the programme of The Global South House, participating in panels across all days of the event. Representatives from the network took part in 15 sessions, sharing their experiences as locally rooted and activist funds and bringing the voices of the communities they support to the stage.

“Alianza Fondos del Sur is playing a critical role in advancing locally led climate action by strengthening the local philanthropic ecosystems that enable it. As external funding becomes more volatile, local funds are essential organisations working to build resilience and continuity. They unlock domestic philanthropy and channel resources directly to Indigenous and community-led initiatives at scale. This infrastructure is foundational to a more just and effective climate response. Through initiatives like The Global South House, the Alianza is elevating Global South leadership and emphasising Global South philanthropy as both a financial and political force.”

ERIKA MILLER

Head of Climate, WINGS

Following COP30 in Belém, The Global South House entered a new phase focused on a set of actions that are being designed to capture and systematize lessons learned from the development of the initiative's governance, processes, and partnerships.



Photo: Sofia Hage/Ventos Do Norte.

Part of this is framing the key messages and strategic debates that emerged during the first edition, a process being carried out in partnership with the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), which accompanied the initiative throughout the Road to COP30 process, the co-creation of the Manifesto, and the seven days of programming in Belém.

“The first edition of The Global South House at COP30 powerfully demonstrated how Alianza members and their partners are pioneering innovative financing models and effectively delivering solutions for climate, nature and people. As the world’s overlapping crises intensify, it is more important than ever to nurture these spaces of exchange and movement-building, learning from local experiences to transform financing systems so that resources reach those at the frontlines. At IIED, partnering with Alianza offers a critical opportunity to generate evidence on what is possible, identify what policy reforms are needed, and align advocacy strategies to influence a shift toward a global financial architecture that is locally led, justice-oriented, flexible, and accountable to communities.”

ALEXANDRE APSAN FREDIANI, Principal Researcher

PAULA SEVILLA, Researcher, IIED

To learn more about The Global South House, visit the platform’s website, follow the initiative on [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#), and watch the [full programme on YouTube](#).





Photos: Sofia Hage/Ventos Do Norte.

Alianza Across Global Spaces



Throughout 2025, Alianza and its member funds were present across a wide range of international spaces, from global forums and policy discussions to online exchanges, collaborative processes, and network-building efforts.

These moments reflect the diversity of agendas advanced by the network, but also how Alianza works – through ongoing collaboration, exchange, and collective construction across regions and contexts.

Occupying these spaces has been central to Alianza's political positioning as a Global South-led actor. It has enabled the network to strengthen its articulation capacity, build strategic alliances, and contribute to shaping narratives and priorities in debates on climate, nature, and socio-environmental justice.

More than participation, this presence expresses how Alianza connects territories, actors, and perspectives, bringing Global South voices into spaces where decisions, narratives, and priorities are defined.

First Planning Meeting – The Global South House

Brasília, January 2025

The first in-person planning meeting for The Global South House brought together Alianza, Rede Comuá, Casa Fund, and Ecos Fund/ISPN at ISPN headquarters in Brasília. This initial convening brought together many of the actors who would later form The Global South House Working Group, marking the genesis of the group that would guide the initiative's development. As an early coordination space, the meeting helped define the project's structure, governance, and strategic direction, laying the foundations for the Road to COP30 process.



Field Visit – FASOL / Mexico

Mexico, February 2025

Juliana Tinoco, Executive Coordinator of the Alianza, visited Mexico to participate in activities hosted by Fondo Acción Solidaria (FASOL), including a field visit to the Fundación Comunitaria Malinalco (FCM). Encounters with local partners and initiatives, including a community forest fire brigade, illustrated how territorial alliances enable direct support to communities and reinforce long-term resilience.

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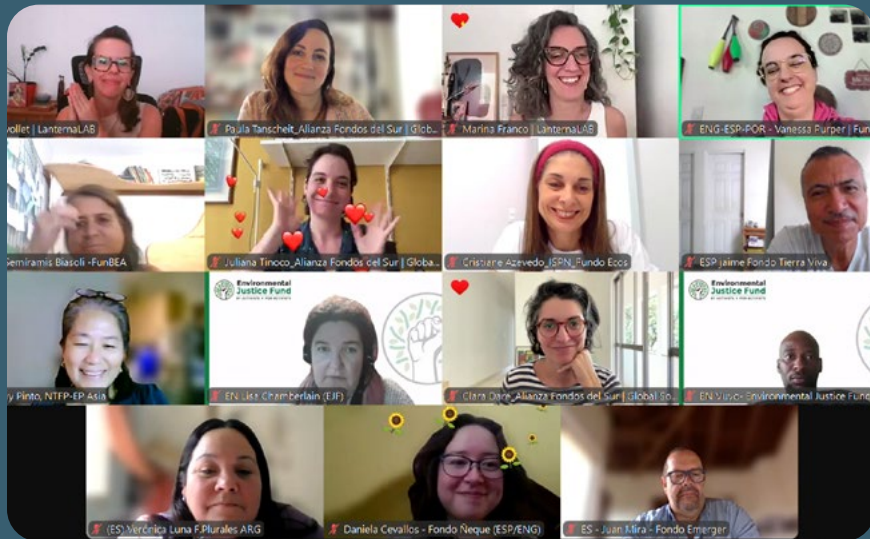


CoLab Summit 2025

San Francisco, March 2025

Alianza participated in the Global Summit of Collaborative Funds – CoLab Summit 2025, convened by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Philanthropy Together. Represented by Paula Tanscheit, Communications Lead, the network joined collaborative funds, donors, and philanthropic organisations to reflect on shared funding models and collective action. The event also brought together member funds such as Casa Fund and the Youth Climate Justice Fund (YCJF). Discussions focused on power dynamics within philanthropy and the role of collaboratives in building more equitable and effective funding ecosystems.

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Members' Assembly & Governance Process

Virtual, April 2025

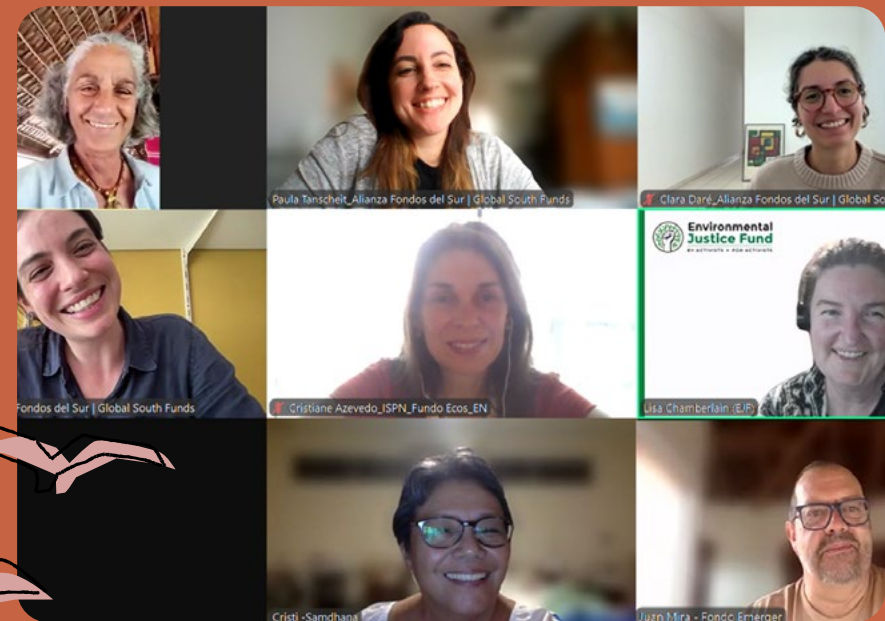
In April, Alianza held its annual Members' Assembly, advancing a key governance process that included the approval of its first Internal Regulations and a broader review of the network's governance structure. The process was supported by a series of participatory virtual meetings facilitated by LanternaLab and engaged nearly all member funds. These developments reflect a collective effort to strengthen the network's foundations, ensuring more clarity, shared ownership, and alignment across its growing structure.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

New Steering Committee – First Meeting

Virtual, April 2025

Following the Members' Assembly, Alianza held the first meeting of its newly elected Steering Committee, now composed of five member funds from across the Global South: Ecos Fund/ISPN, Fondo Emerger, Samdhana Institute, Fondo Acción Solidaria (FASOL), and Environmental Justice Fund (EJF). This transition marks an important moment in the network's governance, reflecting both continuity and renewal. Further reflections on this new cycle are explored in the editorial section of this report.



F20 Climate Solutions Forum

Cape Town, May 2025

Alianza was represented by Lisa Chamberlain (EJF) at the F20 Climate Solutions Forum, held in Cape Town and convened by the Foundations Platform F20. The forum brought together philanthropic, civil society, and government actors to advance discussions on climate finance and just transitions. Lisa contributed to sessions on direct financing for locally led climate solutions and the role of philanthropy in advancing a just transition, highlighting participatory grantmaking and community-centred approaches.



“It is a great pleasure and honour to be a partner of the Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur. Our close collaboration to strengthen Global South leadership in G20 and UN climate processes, share insights, and exchange knowledge has significantly supported our advocacy. At F20, we aim to raise climate ambition while reducing inequalities and ensuring equitable global governance. The Alianza’s work has been pivotal in shaping this agenda with a strong Global South perspective, connecting our global reach with local communities and concrete action. Your commitment to socio-environmental justice has sharpened our focus on locally-led inclusion across the energy transition, ecosystem-based adaptation, and scaling sustainable, regenerative food systems.”

KATRIN HARVEY

Secretary General, F20



Philanthropy on the Frontlines Seminar

Fortaleza, May 2025

Alianza stood alongside Casa Fund, FunBEA, and Ecos Fund/ISPN at the seminar “Philanthropy on the Frontlines: What approaches best strengthen local responses to social and climate injustice?”, held in Fortaleza, Brazil. Convened by IIED and Instituto Pólis, in partnership with Fundação Tide Setubal, GIFE, and WINGS, the event brought together foundations, movements, and networks to reflect on how philanthropy can better support locally led action.

[READ MORE HERE](#)



London Climate Action Week – The Global South House Pre-Launch

London, June 2025

During London Climate Action Week 2026, Alianza and Rede Comuá hosted the pre-launch of The Global South House, bringing together partners, allies, and new audiences around a shared vision. The event marked an important moment to present the initiative for the first time, creating space for wider connections, trust-building, and collective alignment. The session also featured Josimara Baré (Amazon Community Funds Network), Jenny Hodgson (Global Fund for Community Foundations/#ShiftThePower), and was moderated by Dina Zayed, independent consultant in international development and climate adaptation.

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London Climate Resilience Finance Summit

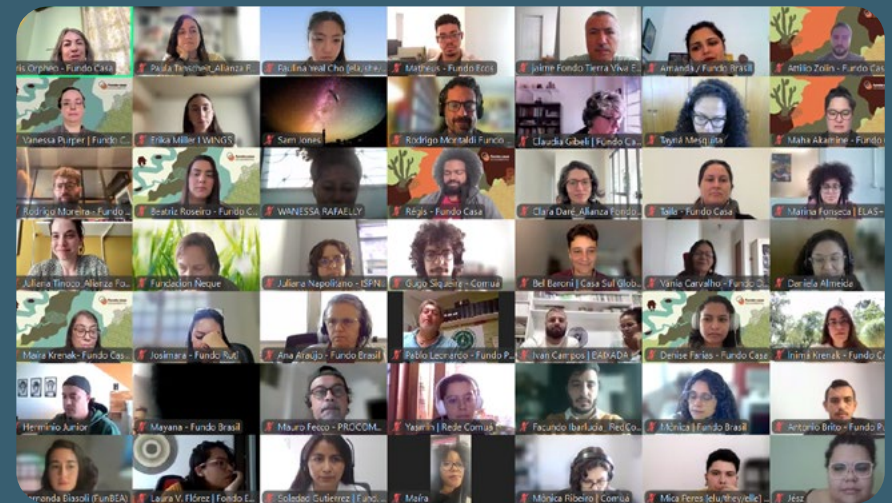
London, June 2025

As part of London Climate Action Week, Juliana Tinoco, Executive Coordinator of Alianza, presented The Global South House at the London Climate Resilience Finance Summit. The event convened government, finance, business, and civil society actors to explore pathways for unlocking more effective climate finance. Alianza's participation contributed to positioning locally rooted funds and Global South perspectives within broader discussions on financing resilience and climate action.

Road to COP30 – First Meeting

Virtual, 2025

Alianza and Rede Comuã convened the first meeting of the Road to COP30, bringing together funds, networks, and partners from across the Global South. The session marked the beginning of a series of exchanges aimed at strengthening alignment, deepening collaboration, and collectively shaping priorities ahead of COP30.



São Paulo Climate Week

São Paulo, August 2025

During São Paulo Climate Week, Alianza and Rede Comuá organized the session “Redefining Finance Flows for Climate and Nature,” as part of The Global South House initiative. The event brought together diverse actors to reflect on how finance can better reach frontline communities. Among the discussions, the participants had the opportunity to experience “Funding the Planet’s Guardians,” Alianza’s immersive game on socio-environmental justice. Facilitated by Clara Daré, Alianza’s Program Lead, the activity engaged participants in the real-life challenges faced by communities across the Global South, reinforcing the importance of strengthening locally rooted funds as a pathway to more just and effective climate action.

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Africa Climate Summit (ACS-2)

Addis Ababa, September 2025

Alianza followed key discussions at the Africa Climate Summit (ACS-2), held in Addis Ababa, which reinforced the continent’s positioning as a hub for climate solutions and called for a shift from aid to investment and justice-driven climate finance. The summit advanced proposals on mobilising resources and re-framing climate finance as a matter of economic justice.



New York Climate Week

New York, 2025

During New York Climate Week, Alianza was represented by Fundación Ñeque (Ecuador), with Sigrid Vasconez contributing to the panel “Bridging the Gap – where and how is philanthropy stepping in on climate?”, co-hosted by WINGS and Climate Group. The session connected perspectives from Asia, Africa, and Latin America, highlighting the role of locally rooted funds in mobilising resources, supporting community-led solutions, and strengthening more responsive and inclusive approaches to climate finance.

“Representing Alianza in international spaces means contributing to the visibility and consolidation of a political discourse built from Global South territories. For Ñeque, participating in COP30, The Global South House, the GAGGA Global Meeting in Bali, and New York Climate Week – The Hub Live, among others, made it possible to bring territorial evidence into spaces where narratives are amplified and strategic alliances are strengthened. The presence of local funds in these forums is essential, as collective representation brings legitimacy, opens doors, and positions community-led solutions as part of the global debate on climate and socio-environmental justice.”

FONDO ÑEQUE



Alianza at COP30

Belém, November 2025

During COP30 in Belém, Alianza and its member funds had a strong collective presence across the Blue Zone, Green Zone, and civil society spaces, as well as at The Global South House. Beyond formal spaces, the network also joined the **Global People's March for Climate Justice**, raising a collective voice from the Amazon in defence of climate justice and against environmental inequalities. The week also included moments of connection among members, such as the Alianza gathering and shared dinner, creating space to strengthen relationships, exchange experiences, and celebrate the network's collective journey.

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“The importance of local funds occupying global spaces lies in their ability to directly influence decision-making. If we are not present, others design the rules, and funding remains concentrated in intermediaries from the Global North. Collective representation through Alianza provides the scale and protection needed to negotiate from a position of strength that a single fund would not achieve alone. Participating in strategic events such as COP30 allows us to connect our local experiences with major climate decisions, transforming visibility into concrete commitments. Ultimately, these spaces act as a megaphone to demonstrate that climate justice is impossible without the autonomy and operational intelligence of the Global South.”

FUNDACIÓN SOCIOAMBIENTAL SEMILLA

“In moments of rupture and uncertainty, collective spaces become essential to holding ecosystems together and turning crises into opportunities for innovation. As civil society faces growing pressure and funding for local actors becomes increasingly constrained, Alianza Fondos del Sur serves as a collective infrastructure for the long-term strengthening of local socio-environmental funds — and, most importantly, the communities they serve. By connecting these funds, building trust among them, and fostering a shared voice, Alianza enables local actors to influence beyond their individual territories and act with greater collective power. This role was evident, for example, at COP30, where Alianza contributed to shifting climate finance conversations toward more just and locally led frameworks.”

PAULA ELLINGER

Director for Social Innovation
Fundación Avina

At COP30, the Blue Zone session “Territories that Sustain the Climate”, co-organised by Alianza and Casa Fund, brought together leaders of local funds from the world’s major forest regions – the Amazon, Congo, and Indonesia – marking the launch of the Congo Basin Climate Justice Fund. The dialogue also featured Alianza member funds, including Fondo Emerger, Fondo Ñeque, and Samdhana Institute.





Alianza member funds from Latin America and Asia, together with partners, gathered in the COP30 Blue Zone.

Conclusion



The year of 2025 reaffirmed Alianza Socio-ambiental Fondos del Sur as a collective force – one that is not only strengthening its internal foundations, but also expanding its role in shaping the broader ecosystem of socio-environmental philanthropy. The reflections, processes, and milestones presented throughout this report point to a network that is increasingly capable of connecting local realities to global agendas, while remaining deeply grounded in the territories and communities it exists to serve.

As we look ahead, we remain firmly committed to strengthening our members and the wider ecosystem of locally rooted funds, recognizing their essential role in advancing socio-environmental justice across the Global South. This commitment requires not only continuity, but also intentional growth, expanding our capacities while preserving the values that define us as a network.

We will continue to actively engage in – and contest – the spaces where discussions on financing for socio-environmental justice are most present. In doing so, we aim to influence how resources are mobilized, governed, and distributed, advocating for approaches that are more equitable, trust-based, and responsive to the realities of communities on the frontlines.

At the same time, we reaffirm that the way we build this work matters as much as the outcomes we seek. We move forward with a sense of joy and commitment, nurturing the relationships, trust, and collective energy that sustain this network. It is through this combination of purpose, care, and shared vision that Alianza will continue to grow as a space of connection, resistance, and transformation.





ALIANZA SOCIOAMBIENTAL
**FONDOS
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Socio-Environmental Funds of the
Global South