BETTER INTEGRATION
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It is a pleasure to share with you the 2015 annual report, which showcases the contributions the European Climate Foundation (ECF) made in close collaboration with a strong network of diverse partners throughout a year crowned with the successful Agreement in Paris. Coordinated action was vital in the run-up to and through Paris, and despite the fact that more work lies ahead the Agreement marks a turning point in global action to combat dangerous climate change.

Based on the recognition that interdependence of interventions in complex environments requires a cross-sectoral approach, the ECF’s activities were guided by a focus on “Better Integration” throughout 2015. Themes such as industrial innovation and good governance can provide direction and inspiration for the development of the Energy Union, for the transition of mobility, for turning energy efficiency into a top priority and for other topics at the heart of ECF engagement.

The further establishment of clusters for high-impact work with partners and grantees mirrors the integration of themes. This work reflects the general ECF approach, which aims for close collaboration with partners and shared leadership. The ECF continuously engages in an intense dialogue on values, strategies and impact, and has further strengthened the cross-fertilisation of initiatives to improve alignment of internal units.

The expertise and motivation of the ECF staff has been a core building block of success. Guided by a broadened senior leadership team, the ECF has been able to set ambitious objectives, implement coherent strategies and develop new, exciting themes. The ECF Supervisory Board has been delighted to closely follow these activities and developments.

The Supervisory Board itself has also continued to evolve. We are pleased to welcome Stephen Brenninkmeijer, Founder Willows Investments, and Connie Hedegaard, Chair KR Foundation. Both of them bring invaluable expertise. Particularly noteworthy is the engagement of two members of the Supervisory Board who filled highly significant global climate positions. Appointed by United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Mary Robinson serves as Special Envoy for Climate Change; Laurence Tubiana played a significant role both as French Special Representative for the Foreign Minister at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties (COP21) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Paris and as French Ambassador for Climate Change Negotiations.

Thank you for your interest in the ECF and for your support.

Caio Koch-Weser
Chair, Supervisory Board
2015 was a momentous year for everybody who cares deeply about climate change. We – the ECF and our partners – have been able to contribute to the development of new policies and frameworks that will mitigate climate change, and that are changing the decision-making context for consumers, business leaders, investors and policy makers.

This past year has shown that nature is not on the side of the climate denialists nor the wait-and-see cynics, with many extreme weather events and droughts across the globe creating massive hardship and exacerbating conflict and the refugee and migration crises. It has become increasingly difficult for denialists to discredit the overwhelming scientific consensus without having to face a broad rebuttal and an emphasis on the notion of risk.

The COP21 outcome far exceeded my expectations. It is a great testament to skilled French diplomacy, good coordination of stakeholders and excellent expectation management around soft governance to align diverse contributions from all nations and non-state actors. However, effective soft governance relies on credible implementation of the Paris Agreement. This points at an important watchdog and support role for civil society in the Paris Agreement follow-up. Moreover, break-through innovation has emerged in Paris as a new guiding theme and funding anchor, and it is good to see the ECF in a thought-leader position through our work on industrial innovation.

2015 is also likely to mark a turning point for coal. Global coal demand has been declining; the meme of the inevitability of coal’s growth is being struck down by a growing sense of feasibility of energy systems led by renewable sources; air pollution is mobilising broad sectors of society against coal in highly polluted cities from Krakow to Beijing and to Delhi. In Europe we can point to landmark decisions by the Norwegian sovereign wealth fund to divest from coal and in the United Kingdom (UK) to phase out coal plants within ten years. And Germany is facing up to the need to manage a coal exit if it wants to meet its emission reduction targets.

The Volkswagen (VW) Dieselgate scandal affirms first of all the strategic importance of not only setting standards, but also verifying them and closing loopholes – as has been our strategy all along. Furthermore, we need to be alert to the intense pressures within incumbent corporate systems to find ineffective shortcuts or avoid deep change. Finding ways to engage with incumbents on transformative change and the social dimension of the end of existing business models without being naive will be critical.

A broadly defined Energy Union is clearly a vital step on the path to a low-carbon society, and the ECF is well set up to make important contributions ranging from practical policy advice to thought leadership on the requisite governance. However, it is clear that more immediate pressures on European Union (EU) governance and approaches are coming from the unresolved response to the continuing refugee crisis and the fragile state of economic recovery. The responses to climate and energy challenges are deeply inter-woven with these key front-line issues.

As the challenges going forward are not diminishing, we need to reflect how we – the ECF and partners – can work together more effectively, how we can harness the diversity of perspectives better, and how we can further develop talents and capabilities. The ECF and our partners bring together a unique set of committed people with great funder support, and I am confident that we can continue to make significant contributions to mitigating climate change.

Johannes Meier

Chief Executive Officer
Leadership Team

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM

Johannes Meier
Chief Executive Officer

Christoph Wolff
Managing Director

Chris Barrett
Executive Director, Finance & Economics

EXTENDED LEADERSHIP TEAM

Keith Allott
Programme Director, UK

Rebecca Collyer
Programme Director, Power/Energy Union

Benoit Faraco
Programme Director, France

Patty Fong
Programme Director, Energy Efficiency

Thomas Fricke
Chief Economist

Pete Harrison
Programme Director, Transport

Robin Millington
Director, External Relations

Matt Phillips
Director, International Energy Programme

Julia Reinaud
Director, Industrial Policies

Martin Rocholl
Programme Director, Germany, Senior Advisor, Transport

Tomasz Terlecki
Programme Director, Central & Eastern Europe

Mayta Villafane
Chief Operating Officer

FELLOWS

Princess Laurentien van Oranje-Nassau

Bert Metz

Julian Popov
Increasingly, societies are experiencing extreme weather events, droughts and climate pattern shifts. Climate change is affecting some regions more than others, with many of the harshest impacts being felt by the world’s poorest who are also the least equipped to cope. Tackling climate change is a prerequisite for peaceful, prosperous societies in Europe and around the world. The coming years will be decisive in humanity’s attempt to avoid the worst ravages that the changing climate will incur.

2015 witnessed several tipping points in the transition to a low-carbon society: the decision of Norway’s Government Pension Fund Global to divest from coal; the UK’s commitment to phase out coal plants within ten years; the papal encyclical; the VW Dieselgate scandal; the speech by the Governor of the Bank of England, Mark Carney, on systemic risk from fossil-fuel investments; and most significant of all, the historic accord agreed at COP21 in Paris, constituting a decisive breakthrough in the way the world will approach climate change – this most global of issues.

In collaboration with a large number of diverse partners, the ECF contributed to change throughout 2015, working with its partners to prepare, shape and build on many of these developments. As climate change ignores national and sectoral boundaries, climate protection strategies need to build bridges across these divides. Integrated, concerted action is vital. Therefore, the ECF continued to base its initiatives on two principles:

• The ECF fundamentally aims for co-development of strategy with partners and stakeholders. Our approach is anchored in an intense dialogue on values, strategies and impact. Since there tend to be many interdependent factors of success and often hard to predict disruptions in our strategies, we frame our approach and time horizons accordingly.

• The ECF adheres to the core elements of strategic philanthropy. This includes drawing on state-of-the-art research and context analysis, formulating testable hypotheses and measurable goals, monitoring implementation, evaluating results, learning from experience and dynamically adapting to external developments.

In line with the 2015 ECF leitmotif “Better Integration”, we established a number of new Cross-Cutting Initiatives, which are grounded in close collaboration with our partners and grantees. We believe this will help generate more integrated debates and innovative agendas.

The ECF portfolio includes:

• **Sectoral Initiatives**: Power/Energy Union, Energy Efficiency, Transport, and Maritime and Arctic

• **Cross-Cutting Initiatives**: Externalities, Finance and Economics, Governance, and Innovation

• **Regional Initiatives**: Germany, the UK, Poland, France, in addition to a focus on the whole of Europe

Read more in our essays: Transformative Change, Tipping Points and Philanthropic Opportunities and The Road to Paris and Beyond, available from europeanclimate.org/ecf-annual-report-2015
The Power/Energy Union Initiative provides thought leadership, analysis, facilitation and grant making to support the decarbonisation of the EU energy system. In close cooperation with key partners, such as Agora Energiewende, the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL), the Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP) and Third Generation Environmentalism (E3G), the ECF seeks to ensure continued support for the Energy Union’s low-carbon vision and to link it to concrete progress in EU Member States. In the context of the challenges posed by the Ukraine crisis in 2015, the European Commission’s Energy Union proposals provided a unique opportunity to drive a new energy security debate based on electrification, renewables, energy efficiency and interconnection. The ECF’s partners supported an ambitious Energy Union workplan, which was subsequently announced alongside a governance framework for 2030.

**ENERGY UNION PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Potential</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Modern, energy efficient, cheaper to run, resilient, less polluting, competitive</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdated, inefficient, higher running costs, less resilient, polluting, uncompetitive</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**SUCCESS STORY**

As part of an ongoing effort to provide cutting-edge expertise to the European Commission and Member States governments, CISL, ECF and E3G launched a scorecard-based assessment of the European Commission’s Energy Union progress in November 2015. The resulting report provides a detailed assessment of progress on energy security, the external dimensions of the Energy Union, the achievement of climate goals, and the implementation of renewables, efficiency and demand side management. The scorecard shows that progress in some areas is strong, as is the potential for the Energy Union to drive decarbonisation. 2016 will focus on further analysis in a new series of reports under the banner of “Energy Union Choices”.

In the medium-term, the cheapest and cleanest way to meet Europe’s energy needs is by increasing energy efficiency. The ECF Energy Efficiency Initiative aims to scale up investments in, and demand for, energy-efficient products and services to ensure a more sustainable, affordable and equitable society. In 2015 our partners made a major contribution to the adoption of the “Energy Efficiency First” principle at the centre of the European Commission’s Energy Union Framework and five-year plan. Moreover, a number of minimum energy standards and labels were adopted, including for solid-fuel boilers, which are likely to save at least 8.5 million tonnes of oil equivalent annually by 2030. The ECF’s partners also drew on and actively channelled the recommendations of the Energy Efficiency Financial Institutions Group (EEFIG), a group of 120 participants representing financial institutions, manufacturers, service providers and policy experts convened by the European Commission and the UN Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI).

SUCCESS STORY

In July 2015 France passed its Energy Transition Law. With this law, France aims to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 40% in 2030 and by 75% in 2050, compared to 1990 levels. It will also reduce its energy consumption by 20% in 2030 and 50% in 2050, compared to 2012 levels. This ambitious legislation includes European precedents for the buildings sector, such as a requirement to renovate buildings to a minimum standard when changing owners or tenants starting in 2030, and a requirement for all homes with an energy label of F/G (electricity use of 330kWh/m² or more) to be renovated by 2025. ECF grantees, including Réseau Action Climat-France (RAC-F), the Comité de Liaison Energies Renouvelables (CLER) and the Coalition France pour l’Éfficacité Énergétique (CFEE), contributed analysis in the context of the debate.

Read more in our essay: Scaling the 4 I’s of Energy Efficiency, available from europe climate.org/ecf-annual-report-2015
The Transport Initiative continued in 2015 with the goal of reducing the consumption of oil for mobility in Europe. While progress has recently been made towards improving the efficiency of combustion engine vehicles, strong European growth in demand for transport has maintained emissions above 1990 levels. Ultimately, the challenge of tackling climate change will require a transition to vehicles and transport systems powered by low-carbon energy sources. During 2015 the ECF laid the foundations for projects to ensure electrified transport is smoothly integrated into the electricity network, while also taking account of other emerging mobility trends, such as digitisation and disruptive business models from the sharing economy.

There is growing acceptance that economies heavily dependent on imported oil have much to gain by promoting technologies that improve vehicle efficiency, or that enable a transition to domestically produced energy sources such as electricity and hydrogen. The ECF supported two such studies by Cambridge Econometrics during 2015 that explored the economic impact in France and the UK. These studies, conducted with input from industry partners such as Renault-Nissan and Michelin, were launched in the UK’s Houses of Parliament in March and at Renault’s Atelier on the Champs Élysées in Paris in November. Both studies demonstrated the potential for low-carbon technologies to substantially reduce the cost of vehicle ownership, improve household budgets and boost overall employment, even while accounting for job losses in the petroleum sector.

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**SUCCESS STORY**


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**En Route pour un Transport Durable (Fuelling France)** - Emissions of CO2, NOx and particulates (PM10) are significantly reduced in the “Low-Carbon Technology” scenario. Source: Cambridge Econometrics, *En Route pour un Transport Durable*, 2015.
In 2015 the ECF introduced the Arctic as a special focus area in its portfolio. The ECF Maritime and Arctic Programme focuses its work on reducing the shipping sector’s impact on the climate. It further seeks to address shipping emissions that are harmful to air quality. ECF grantees engaged in the discourse about the monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) of individual ship fuel consumption. The EU’s MRV Regulation for ships was adopted and entered into force in 2015. It will require ship owners using EU ports to monitor, report and verify their annual carbon emissions. 2015 also saw the first discussion at the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) of an emissions reduction target for the sector following a proposal by the Republic of the Marshall Islands – a climate-vulnerable nation that also has the world’s third largest shipping registry.

SUCCESS STORY

The ECF was an active contributor to the Arctic Circle event in Reykjavik, Iceland, in October 2015, the largest international gathering on the Arctic, attended by more than 1,500 participants from close to 50 countries. The ECF brought together a panel of experts on “The Perspectives for Reducing Harmful Emissions from International Shipping in the Arctic and Beyond”. The ECF also co-hosted with the Danish Government, the European Federation for Transport & Environment (T&E) and Naturschutzbund Deutschland (NABU) a side-event at the COP21 in Paris. The event brought together high-profile speakers from industry, governments, academia and civil society to discuss the climate impact of international shipping and how this challenge can be effectively addressed.
Carbon pricing is an important tool to manage the low-carbon transition. Its application in the traded and non-traded sectors via instruments such as the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) and Effort Sharing Decision (ESD) and their interaction with complementary instruments is at the heart of the ECF Externalities Initiative. Over the last few years, the ETS has seen dwindling prices that came close to €5/tCO2 in 2015. With the introduction of the Market Stability Reserve (MSR) in 2015, the first major revision of the ETS was achieved. As more fundamental reform of the system will be further discussed, a major opportunity exists to reshape the ETS to deliver more realistic carbon prices, and offer industry and the power sector more clarity on the low-carbon pathway.

SUCCESS STORY

In 2015 Europe’s ETS underwent its first systemic revision to improve the functioning of what is the world’s largest carbon market. With the adoption of the MSR, the ETS now has an active volume control instrument to better balance carbon credit supply and demand. This allows the ETS to respond more flexibly to economic cycles and work in closer coherence with other climate policies. The entry into force of the MSR in 2019 will lead to a significant tightening of available carbon credits over time. Estimates suggest that the MSR will hold approximately 2bn credits by the end of 2020, thus effectively delivering an additional 5% of emission reductions EU-wide. The ECF and its partners provided support and analysis to help inform the debate on the structure and mechanisms of the MSR.
The ECF Finance and Economics Initiative works to align climate protection, finance and economic growth to foster the transition to a low-carbon society. Throughout 2015 the challenge was to contribute to developing recommendations concerning the systematic synergies of climate protection and improved competitiveness. Increasing interest on the part of some regulators and investors provided the ECF and its partners with the opportunity to further emphasise stranded-asset risks, identify approaches to changes in business models, and link this to the fundamentally social character of a wisely managed transition. The Green New Deal approach has the potential to help greening European investment initiatives, for example via the implementation of energy efficiency incentives.

**SUCCESS STORY**

Europe hosts powerful financial institutions, including Norway’s Government Pension Fund Global. Last year Norwegian organisations and civil society partners such as Urgewald worked with the Norwegian Parliament and the Fund to bring investments in line with climate change imperatives. Presented with powerful evidence and constructive technical analysis from the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA), the Fund concluded that it can and must change its practices. The ECF and partners were able to provide some support via this process and the Norwegian Fund has now set a new benchmark for the mainstream financial sector by shifting from high-carbon towards low-carbon assets.

The ECF Governance Initiative enables new thinking from technical, political and civil society partners on credible EU climate governance. Through the 2030 and Energy Union policy processes, the EU is revising climate governance at a time of unique political and economic challenges in Europe. The on-going revision of existing EU laws, notably the ESD, allows the EU to create a long-term, stable and whole-economy governance regime that provides certainty to investors and a global model on planning and implementing the transition. In 2015 the ECF’s partners helped bring the importance of good governance in delivering the low-carbon transition into the mainstream policy debate.

Read more in our essay: **Implications of the Paris Agreement for European Governance**, available from europeanclimate.org/ecf-annual-report-2015

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**SUCCESS STORY**

ECF grantees presented recommendations for energy and climate governance reform at events across Europe. ClientEarth, Ecologic Institute and IDDRI submitted evidence to a House of Lords inquiry into EU energy governance, outlining options for reforming energy planning and reporting to enable the EU to meet its 2030 and 2050 objectives. In October E3G Director Jonathan Gaventa presented on governance at a House of Lords workshop organised as part of this inquiry. The European Commission’s preference for a legally binding approach to planning and reporting, announced in November 2015 and reversing its earlier proposal to move to a non-binding regime, reflected these recommendations.
The Industrial Innovation for Competitiveness Initiative (i24c) was created by the ECF as a unique platform aimed at strengthening Europe’s industrial leadership in the transition to a low-carbon economy through innovation. It was initiated to overcome the perception that climate protection and industrial competitiveness are in conflict, as well as to help establish clarity on, and trust in, new forms of industrial and innovation policies. In 2015, i24c built on a renewed appetite across stakeholders regarding a modern industrial strategy. European political and business spheres welcomed i24c’s strong narrative and evidence-based research programme showing that innovation is core to the successful industrial transition to a new climate economy.

**SUCCESS STORY**

i24c started by gathering high-level support around the need for a European industrial strategy focused on innovation as an essential element in the managed and just transition to a low-carbon economy. In commenting on the launch of i24c, European Commission Vice-President for Growth and Competitiveness, Jyrki Katainen, said that he is “convinced that our industry can increase its competitiveness and lead in the modernisation and decarbonisation of our economies,” and is “[looking] forward to i24c’s contribution in showing how this is possible.” i24c is also supported by a High Level Group of advisors, including former European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science Máire Geoghegan-Quinn; former Director General of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Pascal Lamy; former Secretary General of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) Bernadette Segol; and General Electric (GE) CEO for Poland and the Baltics Beata Stelmach.

Read more in our essay: *Industrial Innovation for Competitiveness*, available from europeanclimate.org/ecf-annual-report-2015
S U C C E S S  S T O R Y

In October 2015 CEOs and Chairpersons of the ECF-supported stakeholder platform #effizienzwende (efficiency transition) encouraged the German government to introduce a stable regulatory framework, long-term financial incentives and efficiency measures with binding targets. This initiative brings together a diverse group, including the trade union congress Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund (DGB), the consumers organisation Verbraucherzentrale Bundesverband (vzbv) and the business association Deutsche Unternehmensinitiative Energieeffizienz e.V. (DENEFF), and can be considered an unprecedented step forward. The initiative preceded the announcement by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy that energy efficiency was going to become a top priority of the Energiewende.

As the biggest EU Member State and a leading nation in terms of climate and energy policies, Germany plays a crucial role in the global low-carbon transformation. However, despite rising shares of renewables in the energy mix, high CO2 emissions from lignite are still threatening the success of the German Energiewende. In 2015 ECF partners played an important role in encouraging the government to tackle emissions in order to achieve the country’s 2020 climate target. For the first time, the government and the coal industry jointly agreed to shut down some existing coal-fired power plants. This is an important shift in the discussion on a coal phase-out. Taking credible action on climate domestically also allowed Chancellor Angela Merkel to push for higher ambition internationally and to achieve the G7 decarbonisation pledge in June 2015, which turned out to be a crucial milestone towards the successful Paris Agreement.
While the UK has the ground-breaking Climate Change Act to define the direction and boundaries of its low-carbon transition, it faces implementation challenges in renewable energy, building efficiency, heat supply and industrial innovation. The forthcoming referendum on the UK’s EU membership also adds uncertainty to climate and energy policies. In 2015 the ECF’s UK Initiative worked to develop solutions to the challenges of decarbonising national heat supply, to contribute to efforts to drive down energy bills through energy efficiency, to ensure energy markets support efficient and clean power, and to support approaches to infrastructure and innovation that will enable the transition to a low-carbon economy. The government’s move to phase out coal power generation by 2025 is one of the major achievements of 2015.

SUCCESS STORY

ECF grantee Carbon Brief is an independent UK-based news website that provides analysis and reports on climate science, energy developments and policy responses, with a particular focus on the media’s coverage of these vital issues. Carbon Brief, which launched in 2011, has earned a global reputation for trusted, detailed explainer journalism and fact-checking. In 2015 Carbon Brief was shortlisted for three leading journalism prizes, and its analysis was quoted by major international media outlets, ranging from the BBC and London Times to the New Yorker and Time magazine. With a new website launched in October, Carbon Brief was able to publish some of the most respected and shared coverage of the COP21 in Paris.
A successful transition to a low-carbon society depends on an understanding of the possibilities of clean and healthy energy. Therefore, the ECF’s work in Poland in 2015 focused on providing a fact-base and building consensus about feasible pathways to decarbonisation for the country. The ECF and its partners engaged on topics such as the potential costs and benefits of the power sector transition, energy efficiency measures, energy markets, and energy and fuel poverty. This also included empowering new players, most notably the new Forum for Energy Analysis (FAE). Furthermore, the ECF launched a monthly Energy Price Monitor for Poland in November 2015, which is published in cooperation with WiseEuropa Institute.

SUCCESS STORY

Polish society increasingly views climate policy as the backbone of sustainable economic development. Aligned with the Więcej niż energia (more than energy) initiative, which garners support from individuals, civil society organisations, municipalities and business associations, ECF work in 2015 involved promoting citizen-owned energy generation and energy efficiency in residential buildings. ECF partners such as Polish Green Network (PGN) actively support and manage this initiative.

ENERGY PRICES FOR POLISH CONSUMERS
INDEX 2010=100

December 2015: -0.9% from previous month

As France was host to the COP21 in Paris, the ECF and partners focused a considerable amount of attention in 2015 on aligning civil society in the run-up to the summit. While the success of the summit clearly depended on contributions from a variety of actors, it is important to recognise that the climate community’s activities prior to and at the COP helped lay the basis for the outcome. At the heart of the COP21 Agreement is a change in expectations and dynamic: No longer are we putting our hope on a closed architecture, where one size needs to fit all countries. Instead, the Agreement has embraced diversity, and different speeds of change and structural contingencies in an open architecture. In 2015 the ECF supported civil society organisations aligned via Coalition21 and RAC-F to both embrace this change of expectations and to support increased ambition.

SUCCESS STORY

ECF grantee Alternatiba was a key protagonist of civil society mobilisation in the run-up to the COP21. Alternatiba managed to scale up public action through the Alternatiba Tour, mapped after the Tour de France. Starting in June 2015, the Alternatiba Tour met with growing success throughout the 5,600 kilometres it travelled across France. Large numbers of people participated at 153 critical masses (street demonstrations on bikes), at 200 public speeches in city centres, and at 113 public conferences. In total, 2,400 volunteers ensured the Alternatiba Tour could happen. They received the support of hundreds of local associations, and often from city halls and other official institutions. Through this, more than half a million people were mobilised to call for an ambitious COP21 outcome.
A Historic Paris Agreement for the Climate

The Paris Agreement marks a turning point in global action to combat climate change. At COP 21, the EU and its Member States, alongside 167 other countries around the world, made the decision to limit global warming to “well below 2 degrees Celsius”.

The ECF’s partners focused on three key priorities in the run-up to COP21:

1. The Agreement should build a clear, lasting architecture to decrease greenhouse gas emissions in line with evolving science and reflecting the different capacities of countries to tackle the many challenges climate change presents.

2. Ambitious objectives should be agreed upon for mitigation, adaptation and support alike. A balance between these three pillars as well as enhancing solidarity between developing and developed countries was crucial in this regard.

3. The outcome should provide confidence that decarbonisation is not only inevitable but well under way.

These priorities are now all reflected in the Paris Agreement, as is the strengthening of the long-term temperature goal to recognise the impacts on the most vulnerable, increasing ambition through regular reviews and ratchet-up cycles, and ensuring developing countries receive support in their own transition to a low-carbon society.

However, the obligations under the Paris Agreement will only begin to be felt in 2020, and the next five years will be decisive in humanity’s attempt to avoid the worst ravages of dangerous climate change and to move from our current development pathway to a sustainable, prosperous low-carbon society worldwide. This is why our work to accelerate the low-carbon transition and support actors focused on implementation of the pledges made in Paris is already in motion.

Read more in our essay: The Road to Paris and Beyond, available from europeanclimate.org/efc-annual-report-2015

THE CLIMATE FUNDERS INITIATIVE IN PARIS

Not only did COP21 create a historic moment with the signing of the Paris Climate Agreement, it was also a moment when the philanthropy community coalesced in the largest-ever international gathering of climate philanthropists in one place, attending a week of events dubbed the Climate Funders Initiative. Funders came from around the globe to hear from experts, discuss the issues and share insights.

The ECF helped to organise this gathering together with a coalition of funders and funder organisations. Contributors included HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco; HRH Princess Laurentien of the Netherlands; Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC; former U.S. Vice President Al Gore; California Senate Leader Kevin de Leon; former European Climate Commissioner Connie Hedegaard; and many more. This moment of opportunity for the climate philanthropy community to meet is already fostering new collaborations across borders and continents.
Some of Our Grantees and Partners

- Alternatiba
- Carbon Brief
- Carbon Market Watch
- Carbon Tracker
- European Climate Foundation
- WWF European Policy Office
- E3G
- Climate Policy Initiative
- Ecologic Institute
- Energy & Climate Intelligence Unit
- Forum for Energy Analysis
- Friends of the Earth Europe
- Germanwatch
- Institute of Environmental Economics
- Klima Allianz Deutschland
- OECD
- Polska Zielona Sieć
- Reseau Action Climat France
- Sandbag
- SEAS at Risk
- Transport & Environment
- University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership
- VCD Verkehrsclub Deutschland
- WWF

*WWF European Policy Office*
Selected Publications

En route pour un transport durable
Cambridge Econometrics (CE), European Climate Foundation (ECF)

EU Energy Union assessment 2015
Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL), European Climate Foundation (ECF), Third Generation Environmentalism (E3G)

Understanding European industrial competitiveness and drivers of innovation in the new global economy
Carbon Trust, Vivid Economics

Effektive CO2-Minderung im Stromsektor: Klima-, Preis- und Beschäftigungseffekte des Klimabeitrags und alternativer Instrumente
Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (DIW)

Indicators for monitoring the EU energy system. New governance system for EU 2030 Climate & Energy Framework
Det Norske Veritas (DNV) GL

Evaluating our future: the crucial role of discount rates in European Commission energy system modelling
Ecofys

Streamlining planning and reporting requirements in the EU Energy Union Framework
Ecologic Institute

Submission of evidence on EU energy governance to the House of Lords European Union Committee
Ecologic Institute, Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI)

Defining competitiveness – on how to measure the largely underestimated role and overall impact of innovation
European Climate Foundation (ECF)

Green depreciation and European recovery
European Climate Foundation (ECF), Observatoire Français des Conjonctures Économiques (OFCE)

Mind the gap 2015
European Federation for Transport & Environment (T&E)

Energy efficiency: an infrastructure priority
Frontier Economics

Achieving large volume, least cost, low-carbon electricity in the 2020s
Green Alliance

Energy system crossroads – time for decisions
Imperial College London

It’s cold inside – energy poverty in Poland
Institute for Structural Research IBS, Institute of Public Affairs

Der Weg zu einer klimagerechten Zukunft - Forderungen der deutschen Zivilgesellschaft an die Bundesregierung zu den Internationalen Klimaverhandlungen in Paris und den Perspektiven danach
Klima-Allianz, Verband Entwicklungspolitik und Humanitäre Hilfe (VENRO)

Scrubbers – an economic and ecological assessment
Naturschutzbund Deutschland (NABU)

Efficient use of Modernisation Fund
Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP), Warsaw Institute for Economic Studies

Putting the Emissions Trading Scheme in context
Sandbag

Europe is on track for 30% emissions cuts by 2020
Sandbag

Investigating shipping behaviour in emission control areas: a visual approach to data analysis
University College London (UCL) Energy Institute, UCL Research Software Development Group

Applying a socio-technical innovation approach to European industrial policy
University of Westminster
In 2015, the ECF made 349 grants totalling in €25.6M to 204 grantees.

**CARBON OFFSETS**

As in previous years, the ECF will compensate for the carbon emissions linked to its activities in 2015. In 2014 we compensated for a total of 224 tonnes of CO2 equivalent.
The ECF greatly appreciates the funding that supports our work and contributes to effective progress on the route towards a low-carbon society. In 2015 we were supported by a number of major funders with established credentials working for climate and the environment.
Stay Updated

The below selection of websites and media outlets provides up-to-date and accessible information on climate and energy related issues in Europe and beyond.

Agora Energiewende - www.agora-energiewende.org
Forum for planning Germany’s transition to a high share of renewable energy sources.

Carbon Brief - www.carbonbrief.org
Provides analysis and reports on climate science, energy developments and policy responses, with a particular focus on the UK media.

Clean Energy Wire (CLEW) - www.cleanenergywire.org
Briefing service committed to providing and supporting quality journalism about the energy transition in Germany.

Energy & Climate Intelligence Unit (ECIU) - www.eciu.net
Supports an informed debate on energy and climate change issues in the UK through accessible briefings.

Green Growth Best Practice Initiative - www.ggbp.org
Global network of practitioners and policy makers sharing best practices for green growth planning and implementation.

Klimafakten - www.klimafakten.de
Offers clear and accessible information about climate change to a German-speaking audience.

Naukao Klimacie - www.naukaoklimacie.pl
Promotes science-based knowledge about climate change to a Polish-speaking audience.

Understanding the UN Climate Science Reports - www.cisl.cam.ac.uk/ipcc
Clear, concise summaries for business on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)’s Fifth Assessment Report (AR5).