



2021 ANNUAL SUMMARY

Arcadia helps people preserve endangered culture, protect endangered nature and promote open access. Since Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin founded Arcadia in 2002 we have awarded more than \$919 million to projects around the world.



Coronavirus continued to affect our grant holders' work in 2021. As well as the obvious health impacts, smaller organizations and local communities that depend on tourism income were particularly hard hit. [New grants](#) to Fauna & Flora International and to the Wildlife Conservation Society helped local partners in their efforts to protect fragile ecosystems and to develop alternative business models to assure their long-term viability.

Despite the challenge of the pandemic, we found moments to celebrate in 2021. At a time when free access to knowledge has never felt more vital, we were pleased to help the [Wikimedia Endowment](#) meet its \$100m fundraising goal, ensuring that Wiki projects are protected for the public good in perpetuity (p. 4). Arcadia's commitment to long-term support was also evident with further funding for the [Endangered Languages Documentation Programme](#), which relaunched at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy with a grant to extend the programme for another decade (p. 3).



Recording a story in Alta, an endangered Negrito language of the Philippines, spoken by less than 300 people. Photo taken by Alex Garcia. [Courtesy of the Endangered Languages Documentation Programme.](#)

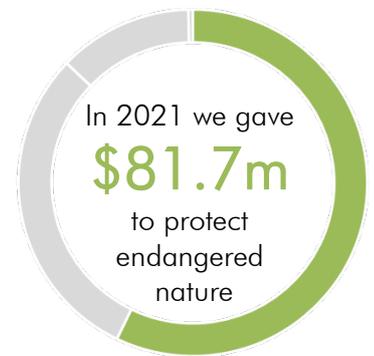
Working with expert partners to extend the reach of our funding is a distinctive feature of Arcadia's work. We launched two new partnerships in 2021: JournalismFund.EU's [Earth Investigations Programme](#), which will support investigative journalism to expose those who destroy our environment; and the [Open Rivers Programme](#), which will provide grants to remove some of the thousands of redundant dams on Europe's waterways (p.2).

Collaboration will also be critical to efforts to address the twin biodiversity and climate crises. Arcadia was one of the founding partners of the [Protecting our Planet](#) coalition (p.2), which was launched at the United Nations General Assembly in New York in September. Together the partners expect to commit \$5 billion to conserve at least 30% of the planet's most biodiverse places by 2030 ('30x30'), working with and supporting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.

The Arcadia team is grateful for those who work with us, notably our regranting programme partners and their expert panel members, and the many external reviewers and referees who have informed our Donor Board's decision-making. We are especially indebted to our [Advisory Board](#). In 2021 we welcomed Sigrid Koerner to the board alongside existing members Lord Rothschild OM GBE, Professor Dame Alison Richard DBE, Neil MacGregor OM, Sir Charles Burrell Bt, Professor, Dr Markus Hilgert, Ben Koerner, Heather Joseph, Dr Johannes Burger and Dr Frances Beinecke.

PROTECTING ENDANGERED NATURE

Our aim is to protect the natural diversity of the world, now and in the future. Our grants help to safeguard and restore unique and biodiverse areas of land and sea.



LET IT FLOW, LET IT SHOW: TWO NEW MAJOR GRANT PROGRAMMES IN EUROPE

We launched two new [regranting partnerships](#) in 2021. We gave \$50m to a six-year programme run by [Stichting Open Rivers](#) to support projects to remove river barriers in Europe. Dams, levees and other obstacles to flow are one of the key drivers of the significant decline of biodiversity in European rivers. Removing them can quickly restore river health. The programme will provide funding to community-led initiatives with a focus on the removal of derelict small dams, which account for almost 70% of all barriers to river flow in Europe.

We also gave a \$13.7m grant over six years to JournalismFund.eu for its [Earth Investigations Programme](#) which will support environmental investigative journalism on European affairs within and outside Europe. Investigative journalism exposes injustices, creates pressure on those in power and inspires action. The new programme is unprecedented for its size, focus and length of operation. It will support journalists, newsrooms and journalistic organizations to better research and report on key environmental stories.

TOGETHER FOR 30 X 30

In September 2021 we joined eight private funders in a [new commitment](#) to secure a sustainable future for nature, climate and people. Together, we are pledging a total of \$5 billion over the next ten years to protect and conserve at least 30% of the planet's most important places for biodiversity by 2030 ('30x30'). This goal is in line with scientific research which indicates that conservation in the right places could protect up to 80% of plant and animal species and secure more than 60% of carbon stocks and clean water sources. The new alliance will work with indigenous peoples, local communities, civil society and governments. It will support the creation, expansion and management of protected and conserved areas of land and sea, recognizing the knowledge of local communities and indigenous peoples and their guardianship of their lands.

MARINE COLLABORATIONS

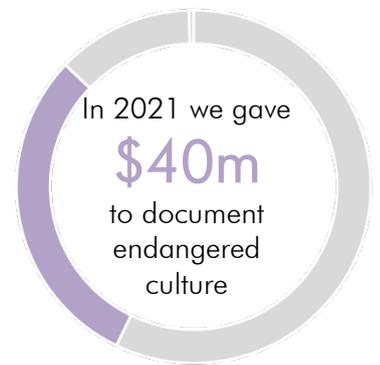
Arcadia is one of the largest private funders of marine habitat protection. In 2021, as part of a [wider review of our future funding for marine conservation](#) we committed to supporting [Oceans 5](#), an international funders' collaborative dedicated to protecting the world's five oceans. It supports projects and campaigns to establish marine reserves and constrain overfishing. We look forward to working with other foundations on collective efforts to protect marine biodiversity.



School of brown chromis (chromis multilineata) in Bajos del Norte reef. © [Oceana](#)/Carlos Aguilera.

PRESERVING ENDANGERED CULTURE

Our aim is to ensure knowledge of the world's cultural diversity is not lost. Our grants support the documentation of endangered cultural heritage, ensuring it is available to future generations.



OUR WAY FORWARD IN CULTURE DOCUMENTATION

Since we started work in 2002 the aim of our cultural grant-making has remained constant: we fund projects that record endangered heritage material and make it freely available for the benefit of future generations. But just as technology has progressed from microfilm and compact discs to open-access digital repositories, so too our approach to grant-making has evolved. In 2021 we agreed a new set of priorities for how we will achieve our goals. We will emphasize collaboration, strengthening our regranting partnerships as the best way of supporting small, high-impact projects. We will prioritize projects based on regional hubs and transnational networks, with more projects led by institutions outside Europe and North America and more agency given to heritage-holding communities. We also want to reduce the technological and linguistic barriers to access to the digital resources we fund and improve their sustainability and useability.



Our partner programme at the British Museum supports projects that document the world's endangered material knowledge, such as Indonesian boatbuilding, a unique and threatened practice in South-East Asian maritime culture. Courtesy of the [Endangered Material Knowledge Programme](#).

SUPPORTING GLOBAL SOUTH LEADERSHIP

The [Inventory of Marine Archaeology in Pakistan](#) is a new two-year project run by the Karachi-based [Maritime Archaeology & Heritage Institute](#) that will create a database of heritage sites along Pakistan's Sindh coastline. The project reflects our intention to support documentation projects based in, and led from, the Global South.

RECORDING LANGUAGES BEFORE THEY FALL SILENT

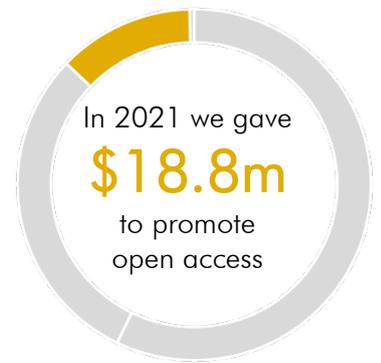
The [Endangered Languages Documentation Programme](#), Arcadia's longest running cultural programme, has moved to the [Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Arts and Sciences](#) after 18 years in London. Our \$25m grant will fund the programme for another decade, allowing more than two hundred additional highly endangered languages to be recorded. The programme's new phase coincides with [UNESCO's International Decade of Indigenous Languages](#), which will raise global awareness of the cultural consequences of languages becoming extinct. The programme's digital Endangered Language Archive, which already holds records of 614 languages from more than 70 countries, will join forces with other archives to create the world's largest and most comprehensive freely-accessible language repository.

SEARCHING MANUSCRIPTS WITH AUTHORITY

We have supported the [Hill Museum and Manuscript Library \(HMML\)](#) since 2011. It has become one of the world's largest digital repositories of African and Asian manuscripts, and, with our support, HMML is still expanding its digital library of more than 300,000 manuscripts. It is also building connections with other archives around the world with tools such as the [HMML Authority File](#), which provides a data standard to make it easier to search across different archives. The Authority File will be shared with the Library of Congress and will be used by the Arcadia-funded [Sinai Digital Documentation Project](#) and [Endangered Archives Programme](#).

PROMOTING OPEN ACCESS

We aim to improve access to knowledge. Our grants help make information free for anyone, anywhere to find and use, now and in the future.



PROTECTING OUR COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE

Wikipedia celebrated its twentieth anniversary in 2021 by announcing that it has raised a \$100m endowment to safeguard the future of the world's largest source of free information. It is a significant milestone in a campaign that Arcadia helped kickstart in 2017 with a grant of \$5m to the [Wikimedia Endowment](#). Wikipedia is the realization of an ideal promoted by the Enlightenment thinker Denis Diderot of a 'universal encyclopaedia created by and for the people'. It contains articles in 323 languages, all written by volunteers, and has over 280 billion page views each year. The non-profit Wikimedia Foundation, which runs Wikipedia, set up the endowment to provide long-term security and ensure that all of the Wiki projects are protected for the public good for future generations.

AN OPEN FUTURE FOR ACADEMIC BOOKS

Our \$1m grant to Coventry University is helping academics to publish more open access books. With additional support from Research England, it created an international collaboration known as the '[Community-led Open Publishing Infrastructures for Monographs](#)' (COPIM). Guided by the principle that publicly-funded research must be openly available, COPIM creates community-owned infrastructures to support the growth of non-profit open access book publishing. It developed [Opening the Future](#), a sustainable business model that enables publishers to use subscription access to their existing collection to fund open access to their new books. The Central European University Press and Liverpool University Press have already adopted this model.

PROMOTING A TRANSITION TO OPEN ACCESS

In 2021 we awarded the [Declaration on Research Assessment](#) (DORA) a [\\$1.2m grant](#) to help reform research assessment. Many universities use performance measures that are inconsistent, subjective, or based on obsolete concepts for making decisions about hiring and promotion. These measures tend to stifle innovations such as open access publishing or more equitable approaches to research practice. Our grant will help universities to move away from proprietary measures and towards fairer and more transparent criteria for academic career progression.

WHAT WE KNOW: A GENERAL INDEX

We have supported [Public.Resource.org](#) since 2014. In 2021 it attracted media attention by releasing an open-access '[General Index](#)' of all works published in academic journals. The index contains 355 billion words and sentence snippets from 107 million individual papers. Because snippets of up to five words long do not breach publishers' copyright restrictions the index is freely available even if the original paper is not. Public.Resource.org is now working with researchers around the world to use the index to help us better understand what we know: what information exists and where it is held. [The Florigeum: a special index to plants](#), for example, used the general index to find how plant research is distributed across tens of thousands of academic journals.



Right: The First 'Florilegium' by Adriaen Collaert, 1593, Garden Museum Ref: 2000.088. Public Domain

Grants awarded in 2021:

Total			
		\$141,052,143	
Grant-holder	Amount in \$	Purpose of grant	Years
Environment total		81,696,627	
Stichting Open Rivers	50,793,227	European Open Rivers Programme	6
JournalismFund.eu	13,685,000	Earth Investigations Programme	6
Oceans 5	6,000,000	Oceans 5 Partnership	3
Environmental Defense Fund	2,500,000	Towards work on soil carbon sequestration	4
Fauna & Flora International	2,000,000	Conservation Resilience Fund	1
Wildlife Conservation Society	2,000,000	Local Conservation Partners Fund	1
Forest Peoples Programme	1,380,000	Environmental governance programme	5
The Wildlife Justice Commission	1,190,000	Core support	5
Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide	1,000,000	Empowering legal actors working to protect global biodiversity	5
theguardian.org	900,000	The Age of Extinction series	3
University of Cambridge	138,000	Conservation Evidence	2
Pesticide Action Network UK	110,400	Towards the Pesticide Free Towns campaign	1
Culture total		40,082,896	
Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften	24,990,000	Endangered Languages Documentation Programme	10
Hill Museum and Manuscript Library	5,492,813	Hill Museum & Manuscript Library	5
Bard College	5,000,000	To support the Bard core endowment	1
Center for Jewish History	2,000,000	To support fundraising activities for the Center	1
Wende Museum	1,500,000	Soviet Jewry project	3
Maritime Archaeology & Heritage Institute	495,353	Inventory of Maritime Archaeology in Pakistan	2
Getty Conservation Institute	325,000	Internationalization of Arches data management platform software	1
Center for Jewish History	100,000	Towards core costs	1
Wende Museum	100,000	Towards the running costs of the museum	1
Heritage and Beyond	79,730	Desert of the Mamluks documentation project	1
Open access total		18,890,750	
Creative Commons	5,000,000	Advancing open access at galleries, libraries, archives, and museums	5
Our Research	4,500,000	Tools to steer academic systems to open research	3
Code for Science and Society	3,470,000	Invest in open infrastructure	3
Wikimedia Foundation Inc	2,000,000	Towards the Wikimedia Endowment	1
American Society for Cell Biology	1,200,000	Tools to Advance Research Assessment (TARA)	3

Grant-holder	Amount in \$	Purpose of grant	Years
New Venture Fund	500,000	The Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC): Strengthening open access in the US	3
Gesellschaft für Freiheitsrechte	452,200	control ©	3
International Union for Conservation of Nature	442,800	Opening access to conservation knowledge	3
Birkbeck, University of London	276,000	Open Library of Humanities & Janeway	2
MIT Open Learning	100,000	The next generation of Massachusetts Institute of Technology OpenCourseWare	1
Advancing open access	1,000,000	Gifts to the New York Public Library, Wikimedia Foundation, and Yale, Harvard, Cambridge, UCLA and UCLA Berkeley university libraries	1
Discretionary total	626,363		
Cooperativa AMBIO	278,795	Sustainable rural development work with smallholder farmers in marginalized communities in South Mexico	1
Center for Jewish History	100,000	Towards upgrading of the Center's AV systems	1
Chickenshed NYC	100,000	Towards running costs	1
Borderland Foundation	100,000	Towards core costs	4
Network for the Study of Nazism and the Holocaust	26,100	Towards making materials on Danish Jews in World War II available to wider audiences	1
Nakau Programme	15,948	Protecting tropical rainforest protection in Vanuatu	1
Tess Tomassini	5,520	On Reflection: 700 years of Dante Alighieri	1