

ANNUAL REPORT 2013

SCHMIDT



FAMILY FOUNDATION



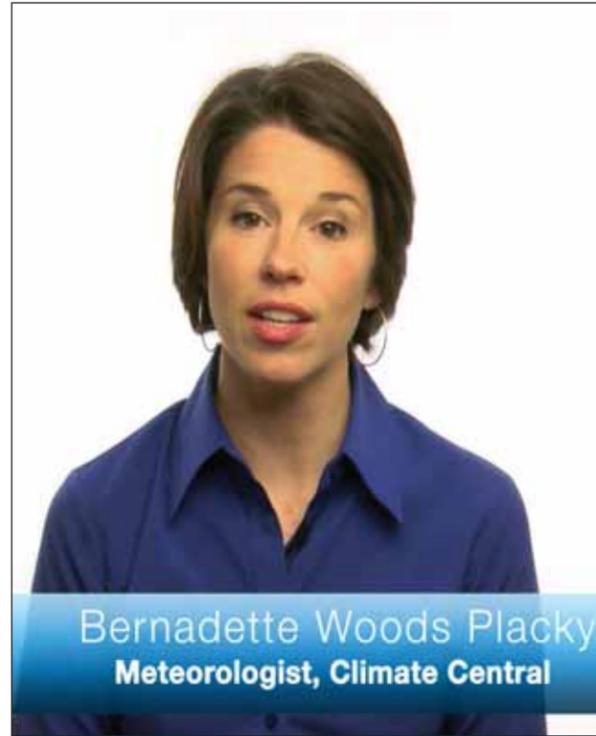
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For The Schmidt Family Foundation, 2013 was a year focused on the importance of networks for resilience – the grassroots so necessary to make transformational change. We were also inspired by the idea of harmony and how valuable it is to the work our grantees do everyday. Harmony is derived from the Greek, *harmos*, meaning joint. In music, harmony is often provided by an accompaniment – “an instrumental or vocal part designed to support or complement a melody.” We know that we can only make music when we are part of a healthy, regenerative network and our grantees know this better than anyone. This year, once again, our grantees’ work in the Climate & Energy, Ecological Agriculture, Human Rights and 11th Hour Racing programs reflected The Schmidt Family Foundation’s core vision – building a society that values functioning ecosystems, active civic engagement, and social fairness.

# Climate & Energy



Credit: NASA Goddard MODIS Rapid Response Team

The goal of our Climate and Energy Program is to support the transformation of the energy system in the United States, shifting away from fossil fuels and towards renewable energy sources over the next few decades. There are two focus areas of grant-making empowering the clean energy economy: building a climate base and fighting fossil fuels. Within these areas, the program supports grassroots efforts and organizations focused on mobilizing underserved communities, larger environmental organizations and less traditional allies and constituents. Simply put, we look for opportunities to draw links between efforts, create shared resources, and build stronger networks.

Over the last year, our grantees have increased their access to media markets, forged new collaborations with city and state governments, and waged communications campaigns to promote renewable energy.

In 2013, grantee Climate Central expanded its TV Mets program from 19 to 111 weathercasters at 81 stations across 60 media markets in the United States. Climate Central takes current scientific research and translates the findings into compelling stories about the signs of climate change and its impacts on local communities. Climate Central began working with TV meteorologists - "TV Mets" - to provide accessible content on the relationship between local weather, climate change and effects on people, like allergies or flooding. This year, Climate Central also secured a partnership with the Weather Company to deliver this content to its clients.

We partnered with leading institutions and experts like The Policy Institute for Energy, Environment and the Economy at the University of California, Davis, which launched its Zero Emission Market Acceleration Partnerships (ZE MAP) project in 2013. ZE MAP is an innovative network bringing together local and state governmental, nongovernmental, and research institutions from across North America to share resources and tackle challenges. Through collaboration, stakeholders can access best practices on the acceleration of electric vehicle adoption in other cities and states, market data, and technical assistance in program implementation.

We saw exciting projects in communications, achieving impact by addressing both sides of the energy coin – fighting fossil fuels and promoting renewable energy. Several grantees used social media to expose behind-the-scenes activities of oil companies and lobbyists, bringing to light the industry's outsized influence in policy decision-making. Others used social media to highlight the myriad success stories within the clean energy economy. Fossil fuel subsidies were highlighted and individual success stories on clean energy truly began to resonate with policy makers in the Pacific Northwest.

Looking forward, we are excited about the advances in renewable energy technology and affordability and an increasing focus on a positive narrative around solutions available today. The program's strategy will evolve to capitalize on these developments to increasingly focus on efforts that directly promote renewable energy.



## Ecological Agriculture

Credit: Paul Kirchner Studios at Full Belly Farm

The work of our Ecological Agriculture program is guided by the belief that the complex problems facing our food system today require a systems approach to solve them.

In 2013, we saw this systems approach realized with the official launch of 11th Hour grantee Berkeley Food Institute – a partnership among UC Berkeley's College of Natural Resources, The Goldman School of Public Policy and The Graduate School of Journalism. In May 2013, the Institute held its inaugural symposium bringing together researchers across campus, students, community activists, and government leaders to develop a shared vision for this interdisciplinary effort. UN Special Rapporteur, Olivier De Schutter delivered a memorable keynote address.

In 2013, our Regional Foodsheds program laid important groundwork for an approach that combines networking and skill-building with funding for infrastructure that can accelerate the growth of vibrant regional food systems. This year, grantee Common Market moved administrative and warehouse operations to the newly acquired 70,000 Philly Good Food Lab. By year end, the project was able to track an over 25% uptick in monthly sales

of regionally sourced, sustainable farm products over previous years. With Common Market providing a model for supporting regional food aggregation, we look forward to new opportunities across the value chain.

With our program firmly rooted in supporting a regionalized food economy, we continued to support efforts to halt the dangerous impacts of industrialized animal agriculture. Our grantee Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement (CCI) finally celebrated a hard fought victory. In September, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources received notice from the Environmental Protection Agency that the Clean Water Act must be enforced. This decision is a result of long-term community organizing on the part of Iowa CCI and has the potential to impact thousands of factory farms throughout the state.

In addition to our focus on ending industrialized animal agriculture, we are pleased to launch our Regenerative Rangelands program, whose mission is to work with ranchers, researchers, and government to realize the enormous potential of healthy soil and grazing animals. Rancher to Rancher launched in California, with the goal of supporting ranchers to transition to a holistic approach to land management.



# Human Rights



The vision of our Human Rights Program is to recognize and strengthen the interconnectedness of environment, human rights and prosperity. Our work is focused on promoting coalitions, diversity, equality and community-led organizations that not only bring sustainable economic opportunities to their local communities, but also protect and promote human rights within targeted disadvantaged communities.

Our projects bring together innovative, culturally appropriate strategies, tools, networks and technology in pursuit of a more just, more dignified, and more equitable world. Some of our projects from 2013 include:

SOIL translated as Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods, is focused on transforming wastes into resources in Haiti. Through the use of ecological sanitation, SOIL is pioneering a revolutionary social business model for providing access to safe, dignified sanitation that produces rich, organic compost as a natural resource for Haiti's badly-depleted soils, while also creating economic opportunities in some of the world's most under-resourced communities. SOIL provides essential sanitation services to more than 5,500 Haitians. In collaboration with the local community, the SOIL team has trained 10,000 people with ways to bring ecological sanitation services to their community and has sold more than 65,000 gallons of compost – essential beginnings for a sustainable revenue stream.



The Fund for Global Human Rights prioritizes securing the most basic freedoms for people worldwide. This requires strong, frontline activists challenging abuse wherever it occurs and providing essential financial resources to on-the-ground human rights activists building societies based on justice, equality and accountability.



Mary Robinson Foundation Climate Justice works to empower the poorest people and countries in their efforts to achieve sustainable development. The goal of putting basic human rights at the heart of responses to climate change means promoting the development of technologies, engaging an international framework to minimize the negative impact of climate change on the poor, and convening all stakeholders and their leaders for inclusive dialogue.

# 11th Hour Racing

In 2013, 11th Hour Racing worked to mobilize the sailing industry to create innovative systemic change for the improved health of our waters. The program demonstrated new, practical solutions and showcased sailing practices that increased performance and inspired responsible stewardship.

*The Atlantic Cup*, presented by 11th Hour Racing, became the first carbon neutral sailboat race in the US. Sailors raced the eastern seaboard from Charleston, New York, and Newport, while utilizing hydro-generators and bio-diesel for fuel.

In partnership with 11th Hour Racing, the *US Moth Class Association* developed and shared innovative strategies for protecting and improving the waters they sail on. By sailing fast, foiling dinghies, the athletes in this class have achieved success at the highest levels of the sport and are now advocating for ocean health. Team 11th Hour Racing also pioneered a more environmentally-friendly approach to long-distance sailing during the Transat Jacques Vabre race.

In 2013, 11th Hour Racing worked to strengthen the framework to effectively address ocean health issues by promoting marine science within sailing education. Its first-ever grant program supported youth sailing programs in their efforts to increase personal investment in the health and protection of the ocean.





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