Thousand Currents

2026 Annual Report

Living Systems

Living Systems

A LETTER FROM SOLOMÉ

Dear Friends,

The world around us is alive with connection. We know that healthy ecosystems are not centralized or static, but are made up of countless relationships and exchanges between roots and soil, plants and pollinators, people and place. And often, what makes a living system strong is what we cannot always see at first—surprising connections beneath the surface that allow life to flourish.

This is also true of the grassroots movements and partners we support. While their work isn't always widely visible, they are leading some of the most effective and consequential solutions available. Across the globe, our partners are advancing agroecology, building energy democracy, and protecting our most precious natural resources from extraction.

FY2026 was a pivotal period for Thousand Currents, marking the first year of our 10 year vision and our new strategy. We entered this chapter with 40 years of learning and experience under our belts, and deep relationships with our movement partners around the world. We built on those roots this year by putting our updated strategy into action, focusing on support for three interconnected areas where communities are leading concrete, powerful solutions: Agroecology; Collective Stewardship of Land, Water, and Forests; and Energy Democracy. We also deepened relationships with our donor community, and invested in our partners with the long-term, flexible resources they need to adapt, experiment, and grow.

In FY2025, we disbursed more than $16 million in multiyear funding to our long-term partners, providing upfront funding to support their work in FY2026 and FY2027. This fulfilled a long-held goal of providing the stability and flexibility that lasting change requires. With that support in place, in FY2026 we were able to focus our grantmaking on partner-led solutions in line with our new strategy. We moved more than $8 million to 103 movement partners in 56 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, and Asia and the Pacific, welcoming 26 new movement partners along the way.

We know the decade ahead is consequential for the future of our living world. The choices we make now will shape what is possible for generations to come. And we know that the people and organizations we support are not waiting for someone else to build a better future—they are leading the way. And they are not doing it alone. Our donors and funders made this year's work possible, and the trust they place in us and our partners is what allows this work to be long-term.

The future will require all of us to bring our imagination, resources, and courage to tend to the living systems around us—to learn from what is working, make connections across places and people, and create conditions for more possibilities to grow. We are so grateful to be building that future with you.

In solidarity,
Solomé Lemma
President & CEO
Thousand Currents

The Future is Taking Root

HOW WE SUPPORT COMMUNITY-LED CHANGE

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ousand Currents is part of a ng system of people and ganizations working to end rmful, extractive practices and vance regenerative solutions ross food, climate, and economic stems. With our movement rtners, we work to strengthen e roots of change.

Our role goes beyond just funding. We bring together the relationships, expertise, learning, and narrative support that grassroots groups and movement formations need to advance their own solutions and grow their reach.

We provide long-term, flexible funding for up to 10 years. This helps partners weather hard seasons, plan on their own terms, and strengthen the collective roots that hold communities together.

We invest in community-led solutions. Together with our partners, we identify what is sprouting and nurture it, including Agroecology; Collective Stewardship of Land, Water, and Forests; and Energy Democracy.

We connect people and ideas across places. By bringing together partners across regions and advancing with transnational initiatives, we help knowledge, solutions, and strategies reach further.

We invest in an ecosystem of community support organizations. From research to legal issues to policy support, we help ensure that partners have access to the expertise and resources they need so that knowledge, strategy, and solidarity can extend beyond a single group to support the larger movement.

Alongside others, we nurture the conditions for change. We help cultivate an environment where community-led change and collective well-being can thrive, grounded in rights, democratic principles, and just economic systems.

Nurturing Solutio

OUR GRANTMAKING

In FY2026—the first year of our new strategy—we focused grantmaking on the solution streams we are nurturing and growing with our partners: Agroecology; Collective Stewardship of Land, Water, and Forests; and Energy Democracy.

Different kinds of support are needed for these solutions to reach their full potential: some need to be seeded, others strengthened, and others scaled. Across all these areas, a shared question connects the work: Who owns and makes decisions about the resources that communities depend on? Over the coming decade, we will work with our partners in clusters where they can learn from one another and collaborate. Together, we'll strengthen these solutions and widen their reach, helping communities adapt to a changing world and limit the harm that is already underway.

Our FY2026 grantmaking total represents only the grants issued during this fiscal year. In FY2025, we disbursed $16.2 million in multiyear funding to our long-term partners, providing upfront funding to support their work in FY2026 and FY2027. This fulfilled a long-held goal to offer stability and flexibility to our partners and reflects our commitment to moving resources in ways that respond to what our partners need.

In **FY2026** we distributed:

$8.3 million* via **127** grants

*All figures exclude pass-through grants and CLIMA fiscal host grants

to **103 movement partners** in

56 countries across the globe

OUR MOVEMENT PARTNERS ARE BASED AROUND THE WORLD:

22% of our partners are from Africa

38% of our partners are from Latin America & the Caribbean

37% of our partners are from Asia & the Pacific

3% of our partners identify as multi-regional/global

Solution Streams

85 partners > Agroecology
Building food systems that restore soil health, protect farmer seed systems, and support dignified livelihoods for farmers.

21 partners > Energy Democracy
Advancing community-led energy solutions that meet local needs, while reducing reliance on centralized energy infrastructure and fossil fuels.

77 partners > Collective Stewardship of the Land, Water, and Forests
Protecting and restoring the land, forests, and waterways that sustain local lives and livelihoods, while strengthening community governance over these shared resources.

More than 75% of our partners work across more than one solution stream

Solutions Movements are Growing

OUR MOVEMENT PARTNERS

Across the globe, our partners are advancing solutions to some of the biggest challenges in their communities—from ensuring that every home has access to locally owned, affordable, and clean energy, to protecting the ancestral lands and ecosystems in which they live, to advancing farming practices that heal the soil and feed their families and neighbors.

These stories offer a glimpse of these solutions in practice—three partners in three regions, leading solutions that respond to local needs while creating possibilities that reach beyond just one community. Thousand Currents' role is to strengthen partners with the resources they need to succeed, support connections and relationships that can help them scale, and amplify their work to bring it into new spaces.

Community-Led Energy Takes Root in Malaysia

Tonibung / Asia & the Pacific / Energy Democracy

For more than two decades, Tonibung has developed community-owned, locally managed renewable energy solutions in Sabah, Malaysia, offering an alternative to energy systems that have left many rural and Indigenous communities without reliable power.

Since 2001, Tonibung has designed, built, and distributed more than 50 open-source micro-hydro and hybrid solar-hydro systems across Malaysia and Indonesia, bringing clean, community-owned electricity to more than 50,000 people. These systems replace kerosene lamps and diesel generators with reliable power for homes, schools, clinics, and food producer cooperatives. Tonibung also trains Indigenous communities, especially women and young people, in renewable energy and works with policymakers to ensure that Indigenous voices shape the region's energy future. As a founding member of the Sabah Renewable Energy Rural Electrification Roadmap consortium, Tonibung has helped map the potential for community-based microgrids across Sabah.

This year, Tonibung received a National Energy Award for their community-based micro-hydro and solar projects—the only Indigenous-led group to be recognized. Thousand Currents supports Tonibung as an anchor partner in energy democracy. Our long-term funding enables this locally rooted solution to continue growing and to make connections with other movement partners to strengthen regional energy democracy efforts.

Protecting Land and Shifting Power in the Amazon

Associação das Mulheres Munduruku Wakoborun / Latin America & the Caribbean / Collective Stewardship of the Land, Water, and Forests

This year, the Brazilian government recognized 10 additional Indigenous territories and opened official assessments into river and land pollution affecting the Munduruku people. Behind this landmark decision was years of organizing by Associação Wakoborun, an organization of Indigenous Munduruku women, and their wider movement, Munduruku Ipereğ Ayũ. Since its founding in 2008, Wakoborun has stopped numerous mining and mega development projects and made important progress in securing formal demarcation of Munduruku territory.

In November 2025, with support from Thousand Currents, women leaders from Associação Wakoborun traveled to Belém to participate at the People's Summit and COP30, pressing governments to treat them as decision-makers, not symbolic stakeholders. Acting collectively with other Indigenous organizations, they participated in a peaceful blockade of the official COP30 gates, successfully shutting them until negotiators from the Brazilian government agreed to meet with Indigenous leaders. This ultimately led to the government's decision expanding the number of recognized Indigenous territories.

For the last five years, Thousand Currents' regional team has accompanied Associação Wakoborun closely, strategizing together, connecting them to organizations and allies, and investing in their ability to defend Indigenous territory and sustain their work over time.

Cross-Continental Movement Solidarity

Hikone / Africa / Agroecology

In Mozambique, Hikone is organizing smallholder farmers, strengt
community-owned regenerative cooperatives, and advancing ag
as a pathway to economic justice, food sovereignty,
and climate resilience. Their work is rooted in the leadership of wo

This year, Thousand Currents connected Hikone to Movimento das
Mulheres Camponesas (MMC), a movement in Brazil dedicated to
organizing rural women, securing their labor rights, and promoting
agroecology. This exchange gave Hikone the opportunity to learn d
from another movement working to build women-led, community-c
alternatives. The connection with MMC equipped Hikone with practi
tools, ideas, and renewed motivation to advance agroecology as a p
to economic autonomy, defense of the land, and cooling the planet. H
reports they are adapting strategies from MMC to strengthen the grov
movement of Mozambican peasant women practicing agroecology.

By supporting relationships through which our partners can share
experiences, adapt ideas to their own contexts, and build new approa
Thousand Currents is helping solutions trave beyond borders.

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Connections That Grow

LEARNING, AMPLIFICATION, AND INFLUENCE

Resources are just one part of what our partners need to build and sustain solutions. We also work to expand the base of support for movements and bring community-led solutions into spaces where they can shape wider conversations and actions. This year, we connected funders with partners to learn directly from them, linked partners across regions and in global spaces, and brought movement stories to new audiences.

Shifting Philanthropy

Through our Center for Transforming Philanthropy (CTP), we shift philanthropic practice, influencing donors, funders, and resource mobilizers to move more and better resources to Global South movements. We create spaces for people across the philanthropic ecosystem to learn directly from movement leaders and explore what different approaches to philanthropy make possible.

This year we:

- Convened more than 230 participants in two virtual Solidarity Learning Series on global solidarity and internationalism
- Launched The Bulletin, a new resource for philanthropic practitioners that features updates on programming, research, and ideas from the field, now reaching more than 2,100 subscribers
- Facilitated bespoke workshops for foundations, including Kataly Foundation, the Omidyar Network, and ResourceGeneration on movement-led and trust-based philanthropy

Turning Relationships into Deeper Learning

This year, for the first time in our 40+ year history, we brought donor and funder partners along on a movement partner visit, enabling them to experience firsthand the solutions our partners are building and to meet the communities behind them. The Learning Journey took participants to the Munduruku territory of Associação das Mulheres Munduruku Wakoborun, deep in the Brazilian Amazon. Participants saw the devastating impacts of agribusiness and illegal gold mining alongside the resilience of the communities leading alternatives. They learned about partners' advocacy, challenges, and the importance of cultural preservation work, and shared meals and conversations with the Munduruku community.

For an organization built on trust-based relationships, this first Learning Journey was a milestone in fostering community-building between donors and movement partners.

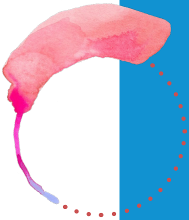
Bringing Movements into the Room

An essential part of our new strategy is to support our partners to grow collective power—connecting them to each other and ensuring that their vision is shared and included in spaces where climate strategies are decided and resources are allocated. At COP30 and the People's Summit in Belém, more than 30,000 people from 62 countries gathered to strategize around food sovereignty, energy transition, and the protection of land and life. Thousand Currents supported more than 30 movement partners from Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, and Asia and the Pacific to attend, where they shared solutions, organized, and mobilized for climate justice. For two weeks, Belém became a meeting point for movements that are often working miles, or even continents, apart to connect about struggles, create opportunities to share strategies, and build solidarity. Indigenous peoples, women farmers, youth organizers, fisherfolk, and movement allies brought forward examples including forest restoration, seed exchanges, women-led cooperatives, and energy democracy. While much of the world watched what happened inside COP during formal negotiations, it was outside of the halls in the People's Summit where bold commitments and decisive action were on display.

Making Movement Solutions Visible

We use communications, art, and media to bring movement-led solutions to audiences who may not otherwise encounter them. In FY2026, we launched our first-ever film, *It Takes a Movement*, featuring movement partners in Fiji, the Dominican Republic, and South Africa. The film shows communities responding to challenges and developing solutions—from protecting their land from extraction to supporting robust local economies, and more. The film won a 2026 Silver Telly Award, helping bring these stories to new audiences beyond Thousand Currents' existing networks. Rooted in different geographies, the stories are connected by the shared vision of a future where people and planet can thrive.

Watch *It Takes a Movement* at ThousandCurrents.org



Cross-Pollination

In FY2026, we deepened collaboration with peer funders and movement-support organizations, because no single funder reaches far enough on its own. We're part of an Executive Leadership Group of peer organization that coordinate on challenges facing the field and ways to move more resources to grassroots solutions. This year, members co-hosted a session at Skoll Forum on funding durin challenging times. We're also part of the CLIMA Fund, a collective between Thousand Currents, Global Greengrant Fund, Grassroots International, Urgent Action Fund for Feminist Activism, and Youth Climate Justice Fund, which this year mobilized $7 million for grassroots groups in 100+ countries.

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Nothing Grows Alone

OUR VIBRANT NETWORK OF SUPPORT

In FY2026

We raised more than $130 million with $99 million contributed by individual donors, including via donor-advised funds and $31 million contributed by institutional donors

- 84% of our individual donors were returning—a reflection of their dedication and belief in our vision and mission.
- 100% of our individual donors supported us with unrestricted gifts. This unrestricted support gives Thousand Currents the flexibility to adapt, direct resources to where they are most needed, and think creatively about our next steps.
- 16% of our individual donors were new to Thousand Currents—showing that our community of solidarity and support continues to grow.

Our relationship with our supporters is more than just giving—we also support donor education and learning. Through our Giving Circle this year, we created more opportunities for donors to connect with each other and our partners while deepening their understanding of movement-led change.

Our work flourishes in connection. We are so grateful for our community of partners, peers, champions, and donors who enable grassroots-led movement solutions and new practices in philanthropy to take root and grow.

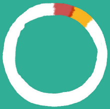
Investing in the Future

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Our FY2026 revenue totaled **$134 million***

Our FY2026 expenses totaled **$30 million**

Our ending net assets totaled **$131 million**



FY2026 Expenses Breakdown

Program: 88%

Management & General: 6%

Fundraising: 6%

*Figures represented here are unaudited and include revenue and expenses related to CLIMA, for which Thousand Currents serves as fiscal host, as well as pass-through revenue and grants, and investment and earned revenue.

A $60 million gift from Yield Giving gives us room to plan for the long term and invest in the future, including exploring using this transformative gift to seed a quasi endowment fund. We are grateful for resources given without restriction, which allow us to strengthen our organization and open up even greater possibilities to support movement partners for the long term.

We maintain the highest standards through annual independent audits, public financial disclosures, and ongoing reviews of our policies. These practices build trust and ensure that every dollar is stewarded with integrity. We have been awarded:

4/4 stars by Charity Navigator and
GuideStar's Gold Seal of Transparency

For more detailed financial information, including audited FY2026 financials (available after December 2026), please visit ThousandCurrents.org.

OUR LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors

Solomé Lemma — *Thousand Currents President & CEO*
Michelle Reddy — *Chair*
Flavia Jimenez — *Vice Chair*
Sihle Dinani — *Treasurer*
Mandy van Deven — *Secretary*
Cedric Dageville
Gautum John
Herschelle Milford
Asad Rehman

This fiscal year marked the end of two board members' terms. We are so grateful to Shilpa Alimchandani, who also previously served as Chair, and Ruth Sawyer for the care, time, and vision they poured into this work.

OUR MISSION

Thousand Currents leverages relationships and resources worldwide in support of social movements building loving, equitable, and just futures, while transforming philanthropic practices.

CONTACT US

We'd love to connect! If you're interested in partnering with us or learning more about Thousand Currents' work, please reach out.

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