

VCA

VOICES FOR JUST CLIMATE ACTION

DECENTRALIZED FINANCE FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE



Partos Session December 2024



OVERVIEW OF THE VCA

VCA

VOICES FOR JUST CLIMATE ACTION



VCA PILLARS



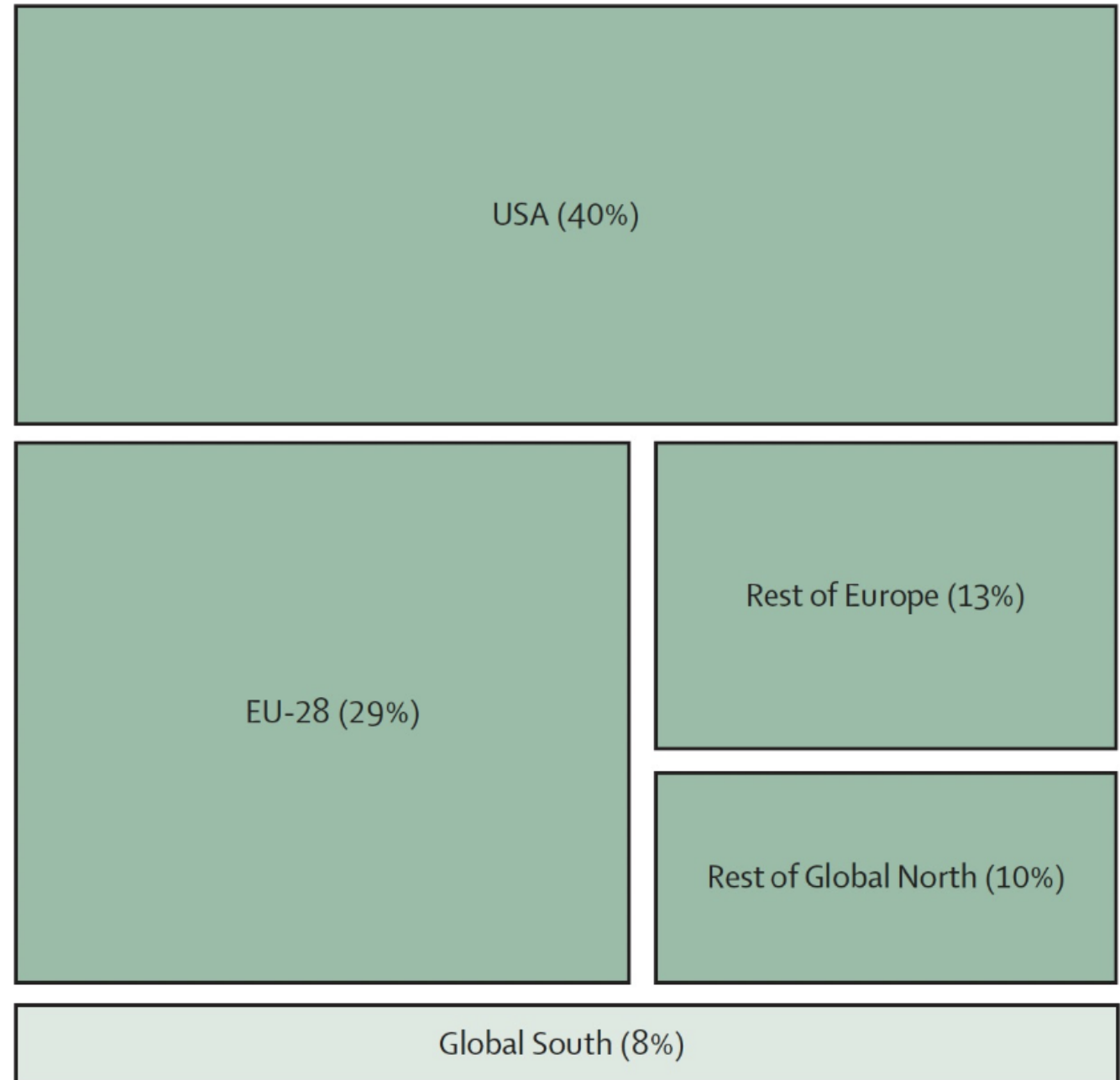
- Pillar 1: **Mutual capacity strengthening** for co-creating locally shaped solutions
- Pillar 2: **Agenda-setting** and **movement building** (shape public debate on just transition)
- Pillar 3: **Lobby and advocacy** to make **policy and finance responsive** (change in policy, practice and budget)



CLIMATE FINANCE: A VCA PERSPECTIVE

- Accumulated through public, private and alternative means, climate finance aims to support climate adaptation and mitigation objectives at the local, national, and international levels.
- Climate Finance only works through a Climate Justice Approach.

Responsibility for climate breakdown



CLIMATE FINANCE: A VCA PERSPECTIVE



- Majority of traditional funds **further entrench inequalities**, often not reaching vulnerable communities in global south.
- Current financing systems are **not designed to support small, informal and grassroots groups** and organisations efficiently.



THE NEXT LEVEL GRANT FACILITY



- Designed to ensure finance reaching the most local levels.
- 3.5 M € total budget
- 2 funding cycles: **(1) for climate emergencies** as rapid response mechanism and **(2) for climate opportunities.**



THE NEXT LEVEL GRANT FACILITY



GRANTEES

- **Small informal organizations/movements** that do not have the capacity to apply and report on more formal grants but that represent local right holders and work on local climate solutions. (*cashflow of <10000/year*)
- **Groups/ Individuals:**
 - 1) hard-to-reach/informal groups/individuals i.e. (youth, women, rural, urban and indigenous groups) who by their informal nature of operations, would not normally access program's resources
 - 2) Environmental Defenders, Climate activists, journalists, local climate champions who may not be acting on behalf of a (formal) organization.



THE NEXT LEVEL GRANT FACILITY



PARAGUAY

Defence of defenders:

- Travel support for community leaders to the capital, for meetings with different governmental institutions
- Travel support to participate in regional events, concerning HR and environmental rights
- Mobilization of indigenous/rural leaders and organizations
- Requests for legal defence of defenders
- Basic equipment for grassroots organizations

Climate Emergencies:

- Access to drinking water in dry areas; water wells
- Water harvesting in dry areas
- Loss and damage by heavy rainfall or hail

KENYA

Climate solutions:

- Soil & Water Conservation-Initiatives around damage control and water harvesting based on anticipated El-Nino rains (unblocking drains & culverts, building gabions, construction of sand dams)
- Waste management (Urban areas)
- Mangrove Restoration (Coastal Belt)
- Re-cycling, Production of Eco- briquettes, Re-usable sanitary towels & diapers
- Awareness On Climate Change



THE NEXT LEVEL GRANT FACILITY



STRENGTHS:

- NLGF reaches the 'unreachable' and capacitates smaller, grassroots CSOs and communities.
- Flexible and simplified due diligence.
- Working through experienced fund managers that have contextual knowledge and experience.
- 2 different funding cycles allow for fast disbursement.



THE NEXT LEVEL GRANT FACILITY



CHALLENGES

- Scoping and defining context-specific emergencies or opportunities for the grant
- Criteria for selection
- Reaching and connecting communities to the grant (climate change jargon, language, climate rationale)
- Measuring impact and progress through the grants & sustainability
- Resourcing for grant management
- Potential to scale up climate solutions?
- Strategic Advocacy potential



THE NEXT LEVEL GRANT FACILITY



WHAT'S NEXT FOR US

- Lots of lesson sharing...
- Lots of advocacy...
- Unpacking impact!



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THANK YOU!



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