# The BEAI Fund

Building power, leveraging resources, transforming the movement



## **A Movement United**

Standing together, defending our future

As the Trump Agenda threatens to dismantle a lifetime of environmental progress and foreclose on our future for a livable planet, BEAI is bolder than ever. BEAI was founded in 2013 to build a more powerful, diverse, and inclusive climate justice and environmental movement. It brings together national Greens, grassroots organizing groups, and environmental philanthropy.



The BEAI Fund was born out of a shared recognition that in order for the environmental movement to be successful, it must support and resource grassroots groups to institutionalize community-based solutions to the ecological crisis. The BEAI will move \$10 million towards advancing the climate and environmental justice movements.



The BEAI Fund was created by and for the grassroots to help raise, re-grant, and mobilize \$10 million for grassroots environmental organizations fighting back on the front lines.

#### **An Investment in Action**

The grassroots organizing sector gets results



Grassroots organizers on the frontlines of the ecological crisis know how to defend our communities in a hostile political climate and build greener, healthier solutions rooted in principles of sustainability and a just transition. Grassroots groups have shut down coal plants, stopped pipelines, disrupted plans for new coal export terminals, fought back against fracking, halted the expansion of oil infrastructure, and more.

These community organizations have also built local, ecological economies – from distributed solar energy projects to expanded Indigenous agriculture markets. This work has succeeded – on lean budgets – in communities of color, Indigenous communities, and

low-income communities. Moving \$10 million into this field will enable these communities to fight back even more effectively, at a time when federal environmental policy will be immobilized.

When grassroots organizations are resourced, and positioned in partnership with Greens and philanthropic allies, tremendous progress is possible.



BEAI Funds will be distributed by a grassroots-led grant-making team who knows where and how to best use resources in the field. The BEAI Fund will use rigorous criteria and a transparent grantmaking framework to support the grassroots organizing sector to advance the environmental and climate justice movement. The BEAI Fund has a significant commitment from a major national foundation for start-up funds and aims to raise 50 percent of the \$10 million goal by the end of 2017.



**Building** 

Creating from the ground up

**Equity** 

Remedying historic power imbalances

+

**Alignment** 

Advancing a shared strategy

= IMPACT

Systemic change

### **BEAI Fund Goals**

The BEAI Fund will help ensure that the grassroots sector has the necessary resources to replicate, expand, and scale its impact to create lasting solutions on the ground.

#### Specifically, the BEAI Fund aims to:

- >>> Build power in grassroots communities on the frontlines of the environmental crisis by expanding their base and increasing the capacity of their leaders to win tangible victories.
- Strengthen infrastructure across the environmental and climate justice movements to form networks, deepen alignment, and collaborate.

