

CLEAN
COOKING
ALLIANCE

2022 ANNUAL REPORT





PRATIK SHRESTHA / CLEAN COOKING ALLIANCE

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► CEO LETTER

Looking back, 2022 truly brought into focus the clean cooking sector's extraordinary achievements and opportunities.

I am honored that the Clean Cooking Alliance (CCA) and our partners helped drive the tremendous growth across the clean cooking ecosystem. After weathering years of uncertainty through the pandemic, **clean cooking companies are now seeing record levels of investment—some US \$200 million in 2022**—more than in any year since CCA began tracking investment in 2014.

Last year's investments include US \$6 million disbursed by the CCA-supported Spark+ Africa Fund, the first impact fund to finance clean and modern cooking solutions in developing markets. Carbon finance is another bright spot with significant potential to transform the sector. **The clean cooking ecosystem can only take advantage of the opportunities provided by carbon finance if fair policies and protocols are in place, and if tools and market insights help markets to operate more efficiently.** To ensure carbon projects are carried out in a transparent and trustworthy way, CCA recently launched the **Responsible Carbon Financing Initiative**, which aims to improve program quality and to expand carbon financing opportunities and the benefits they can provide to the widest possible audience.

More than ever, 2022 highlighted the myriad ways in which clean cooking companies are innovating, making their products more efficient, affordable, and user-friendly. CCA's work with companies has supported projects ranging from improving gender-inclusive practices, to better understanding production costs.

Research shows these efforts are paying off: more and more customers are accessing clean cooking solutions, and **a recent study found that 8 out of 10 customers said clean cooking technologies have improved their quality of life.**

Not only did clean cooking continue gaining traction at important global events like the COP27 climate summit in Egypt, but CCA's **Clean Cooking Forum 2022**, held in Ghana, was the largest such gathering to date. **I am proud that the Forum reflected CCA's commitment to an equitable energy transition, including supporting women and youth leaders.** We eagerly anticipate hosting the next Forum in 2024.

This year is already off to a promising start. I am confident of even greater progress in 2023, as the initiatives under CCA's Systems Strategy continue to develop and we strengthen ties with adjacent sectors, including for climate action and nature-based solutions. Thank you to our donors and partners, without whom we could not take on this important work. We look forward to working with all of you to ensure no one's life is limited by how they cook.

Dymphna van der Lans
CEO, CLEAN COOKING ALLIANCE

► 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

By accelerating access to clean cooking, CCA and its partners are improving health, reducing climate and environmental impacts, empowering women, and improving livelihoods. In 2022, CCA's wide-ranging activities helped build a sustainable and inclusive clean cooking ecosystem. Here are some of the year's notable achievements.



► DRIVING INVESTMENT

Launching a US \$50 million+ clean cooking fund

CCA supported the development and launch of the Spark+ Africa Fund, the world's first impact fund financing clean and modern cooking solutions. The fund raised [US \\$54 million](#) at first close and has already made initial investments of [US \\$4 million](#) in BURN Manufacturing and [US \\$2 million](#) in Sumac Microfinance Bank, both in Kenya.

Increasing access to finance

CCA launched new strategic [partnerships](#) with the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and the African Guarantee Fund to promote financial innovation and investment in African and Asian markets. The partnerships aim to further increase the flow of both public finance and newer forms of climate and social impact finance to clean cooking companies.

Supporting Results-Based Finance (RBF)

In a new [report](#), CCA and Modern Energy Cooking Services developed innovative case studies of RBF initiatives in the clean cooking sector that could help program developers design future RBF programs.





Tracking industry developments

CCA's [2022 Industry Snapshot](#) reported that investment in clean cooking companies remains in the tens of millions of dollars, falling short of the billions needed to reach universal access. That said, despite lingering impacts of the pandemic, 2022 saw record-breaking increases in capital raised. CCA will publish updated data in mid-2023.

Making carbon markets work for clean cooking

CCA launched the [Responsible Carbon Finance for Clean Cooking Initiative](#), focused on building responsible carbon markets that work for clean cooking and also support a just energy transition. This work kicked off with a landscape review that engaged stakeholders in key issues that affect the functioning of carbon markets in the clean cooking sector.

Advocating for greater progress

In Next Billion's [most-read article](#) in October 2022, CEO Dymphna van der Lans explored the historical lack of funding in the clean cooking sector, highlighted promising signs of momentum, and called for increased innovation, partnerships, and financing.



“We need clean cooking finance to go from **the millions to the billions**. That is why UNCDF is working with CCA to increase finance flows into companies operating in clean cooking markets and to close the clean cooking gap that is undermining local economies, producing negative health outcomes in communities, and damaging the climate on a global scale.”

Xavier Michon

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, UNCDF

► SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE COMPANIES

CCA established its [Venture Catalyst](#) program in 2020 to help clean cooking companies innovate and scale up. Since then, the program has carried out 83 [projects](#) with 26 companies in 19 countries. In 2022, the Venture Catalyst added five new companies based in Ghana and Nigeria to its portfolio.

With CCA's support, Venture Catalyst companies have completed a wide range of impactful activities, from [refining](#) fundraising materials, to [improving](#) business models, to [better understanding](#) production costs.

To document the experiences of these ground-breaking companies, CCA continued interviewing business executives through its [Leadership Series](#). CCA spoke with leaders of [Bidhaa Sasa](#), [KOKO Networks](#), and [BioMassters](#) about their successes, challenges, and outlooks for the years ahead.



“With CCA’s support, BBOXX completed a **comprehensive piece of analytical work** that has been instrumental in helping us work through the options for expanding our cooking business in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and refine our strategy in this market.”

Louis De Muylder
HEAD, BBOXX COOK



▶ CHARTING A COLLECTIVE WAY FORWARD

Stewarded by CCA, the Clean Cooking Systems Strategy is an ecosystem-wide blueprint to accelerate universal access to clean cooking solutions, in alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and Net Zero Emission by 2050 Scenario. Development of the Strategy involved consultations with more than 200 organizations and concluded in late 2021.

In 2022, CCA published an [update](#) on the Strategy focused on its priority outcomes and the four strategic initiatives. These outcomes include:

- **Empowering** governments to lead inclusive energy transformations
- **Fostering** innovation in technologies and business models
- **Scaling up** private and public delivery models that center on users
- **Maximizing** pools of capital
- **Activating** the most impactful—and impacted—voices to lead holistic clean cooking transformations

CCA made substantial progress implementing four initiatives that were collectively identified during the Strategy development, namely:

- A **Delivery Units Network** dedicated to clean cooking
- A **User Insights Lab** to better understand user preferences and behavior
- A **Catalytic Finance Accelerator** to spur innovation and scale up applications like RBF and carbon finance
- An **Evidence to Action Initiative** that uses actionable, evidence-based messaging to reshape perspectives on clean cooking

More details on these initiatives appear throughout this report.



▶ CONVENING THE ECOSYSTEM



CCA hosts Clean Cooking Forum 2022 in Ghana

CCA and the Government of Ghana welcomed **700+ in-person attendees** from more than 60 countries, as well as **2,500+ virtual attendees**, to the global [Clean Cooking Forum 2022](#) in Ghana, held October 11-13.

The landmark event highlighted the need—as well as the path forward—for mobilizing the necessary investment, innovations, partnerships, and policies to achieve clean cooking for all and to accelerate progress toward global climate and development goals.

The Forum also featured:

- High-level plenaries and **24 highly curated breakout sessions**
- An Innovation Expo showcasing **40 organizations** and the latest developments in clean cooking technologies and business models
- More than **150 business-to-business networking meetings**
- A powerful musical performance from two-time Grammy-nominated artist Rocky Dawuni, a native of Ghana and longtime CCA Champion
- Discussions about financing and investment, technology and business innovation, climate funding and RBF, national policymaking for market growth, youth, and women's empowerment
- The first international youth and Francophone delegations



“It will be impossible to meet global climate goals, achieve a just, clean energy transition, protect our environment, achieve gender equality, and provide a future for the next generation, without **changing the way people cook.**”

Rebecca Akufo-Addo

FIRST LADY OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA

▶ SUPPORTING NATIONAL TRANSITIONS



Building a Delivery Units Network (DUN)

CCA announced plans to launch the [DUN](#), a platform to help countries establish their own Clean Cooking Delivery Unit—a dedicated team, embedded in government, with a mandate to accelerate clean cooking progress. Participating countries will receive technical support, catalytic funding for projects, a peer-to-peer action network, and leadership training.

CCA conducted exploratory missions to Kenya, Ghana, Rwanda, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, and Cote d'Ivoire; received letters of interest about hosting Delivery Units from Kenya, Ghana, Sierra Leone, and Cote d'Ivoire (with other countries forthcoming); and hosted workshops for government and other stakeholders in Ghana and Kenya, highlighting the importance of country-led transitions and soliciting early input about the DUN design.

Reinforcing country-led efforts

CCA supported Kenya's National Clean Cooking Week, Nigeria's Clean Cooking Forum, and a Ghana-specific convening following the Clean Cooking Forum, and also supported the development of Nigeria's Clean Cooking Strategy and the work of several national clean cooking associations.

Mapping Nepal's energy future

Following years of close collaboration, CCA and the Government of Nepal's Alternative Energy Promotion Center (AEPC) published the "Country Action Plan (CAP) for Transforming the Cookstoves and Fuels Market in Nepal." The CAP provides the government with a clear, strategic, and evidence-based roadmap and a list of prioritized interventions to support Nepal's energy access goals, especially those related to electric cooking.

The CAP builds on significant CCA-led research, including two recent publications: an [assessment](#) of Nepal's readiness for widespread adoption of electric cooking and a pilot study finding that direct cash transfers can motivate households to not only increase their use of clean cooking solutions, but also to decrease their use of traditional, more polluting options.

To bolster the CAP, CCA partnered with the World Resources Institute, Kartoza, the KTH Royal Institute of Technology, AEPC, and Nepal Open University to launch the [Clean Cooking Explorer](#) for Nepal. This free, open-source, online tool analyzes geospatial datasets to guide decision-making for clean cooking programs. CCA and its partners are working to expand the program to other countries.



Promoting clean cooking in Haiti

For most of 2022, Haiti experienced increased political unrest, civil insecurity, and fuel shortages, which largely paralyzed socio-economic life. Nevertheless, CCA's Haiti Cookstove and Clean Energy Market Project made progress toward its goals of reducing the negative climate, environment, health, and economic impacts of traditional cooking practices.

In response to its calls for proposals, CCA received more than 20 applications from enterprises eager to play a role in the clean cooking value chain. CCA has moved forward with 12 of them and,

so far, has approved six, bringing the total number of CCA-supported businesses to eight.

CCA also finalized its Haiti Gender Strategy, which sets out how women's organizations and enterprises supported by CCA's Haiti Clean Cooking Fund will benefit from training on integrating gender considerations into all aspects of their operations.

To ensure the project's sustainability and reach, CCA established strong partnerships with the Ministry of Women's Affairs and other entities in Haiti, as well as with organizations across the diaspora, through which CCA could reach more than 100,000 Haitians in the United States and Canada.





“We need global leadership, and we also need country-level leadership. As more countries join together in action, we must **move forward collectively** to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals for universal access to clean energy and clean cooking.”

Michael S. Regan

ADMINISTRATOR, U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

► PRIORITIZING CLEAN COOKING AS A CLIMATE SOLUTION

Ensuring a major presence at the UN climate summit

CCA joined numerous partners at [COP27](#) in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, to ensure clean cooking was at the forefront of conversations on climate action, systemic approaches, and financing for sustainable and just energy transitions.

Clean cooking was highlighted throughout the summit, including as a leading topic at the pavilions for SDG7, UNFCCC, and the World Health Organization. CCA hosted and participated in sessions that presented the latest research on clean cooking benefits, showcased government leadership, and inspired greater commitment and funding for clean cooking transitions. In addition, CCA and the UN Climate Change High Level Champions [recognized](#) clean cooking as one of 30 climate mitigation actions needed to halve global greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.





Helping countries achieve their goals

Led by CCA, the Clean Cooking and Climate Consortium (4C) brings together the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, Berkeley Air Monitoring Group, and the Stockholm Environment Institute to help countries advance clean cooking as part of their Paris Agreement commitments. To strengthen the sector's access to carbon finance, 4C provided [technical support](#) on implementing, measuring, reporting, and verifying clean cooking activities.

Activating adjacent sectors

[New research](#) from CCA's Evidence to Action Initiative underscored the need for the global community to expand access to cleaner cooking fuels and technologies, illustrating their potential, as a nature-based solution, to mitigate climate change. As communities around the world faced a summer of extreme heat, drought and fire, the report shed light on cooking as an often-overlooked cause of global carbon emissions, forest degradation, and preventable illness among women and children in developing countries.

“By reducing the demand for firewood and encouraging new forest growth, clean cooking can address both **nature loss and emissions reductions**, while also improving health and women’s empowerment. It’s imperative that countries and institutions align with nature-based finance to realize these vast potential gains.”

Nigel Topping

UN CLIMATE CHANGE HIGH-LEVEL CHAMPION



▶ EMPOWERING WOMEN

Creating a gender-inclusive workforce

CCA supported Venture Catalyst company Circle Gas by providing tailored technical assistance to enhance gender mainstreaming efforts throughout Circle Gas' internal and external operations. CCA engaged Value for Women to support this work through gender-smart tools and training services.

Recognizing outstanding leaders

CCA announced the winners of the [2022 Clean Cooking Women Leaders Award](#) at the Clean Cooking Forum 2022 in Ghana. This award recognizes three individuals who are advancing clean cooking solutions in emerging markets through policy, advocacy, and research; business leadership and entrepreneurship; and youth leadership. Winners received high-level recognition at the Forum, opportunities to network, and financial sponsorship for leadership coaching.

Catalyzing change

Fortune magazine named CCA CEO Dymphna van der Lans to its ["Extraordinary Women in Business" list](#) for bringing together global partners to empower women and protect the environment. In the profile article, van der Lans highlighted CCA's convening power and efforts to expand access to clean stoves and fuels for women and children everywhere.





EVANS AHORSU / CLEAN COOKING ALLIANCE

Spotlighting changemakers

As part of its [Women Energizing Change series](#), CCA interviewed Ellen Boamah, the lead coordinator of the Ghana Randomized Air Pollution and Health Study, co-funded by CCA, about how clean cooking interventions can impact levels of household air pollution in homes, and what that means for the health of mothers and their children.

Cultivating talent in the sector

CCA, SEforALL, and GWNET launched the second cohort of the [Women in Clean Cooking mentorship program](#) with 120 early- to mid-career women from Africa, Asia, and Haiti. The 12-month program provides targeted professional development support for rising women leaders in the clean cooking sector, including one-on-one mentoring, virtual networking opportunities, curated knowledge-transfer webinars, and skills training.

“Women are the driving force behind the clean cooking transition.”

Sheila Oparaocha

DIRECTOR, ENERGIA

▶ RAISING YOUTH VOICES

Spreading the word

CCA-sponsored youth [delegates](#) brought clean cooking messages to the forefront at several global events, including the Sustainable Energy for All Forum in Rwanda and the One Young World Summit in the United Kingdom.

Providing a platform

For the first time, CCA hosted a delegation of 20 young people to actively participate in its Clean Cooking Forum, in partnership with Student Energy. The 2022 event also included a [panel discussion](#) with young entrepreneurs and leaders in clean cooking and sustainable energy.

Reaching young viewers

In partnership with UNICEF and the Government of Bangladesh, CCA launched [Shorno Chef](#), a new television show where adolescents learn about the benefits of nutrition and clean cooking while competing in cooking challenges.

Supporting tomorrow's leaders

To inform its forthcoming Youth Engagement Strategy, CCA launched a [consultation process](#) featuring surveys, webinars, discussions, and constructive dialogue with young people and relevant organizations working in clean cooking, energy, sustainability, and youth leadership.





“I would like to thank the Clean Cooking Alliance for putting together such a **rich and insightful consultation**, providing a space for young people to engage in clean cooking. I’m so excited about the prospects of this work.”

Lisa Nyamadzawo

CLIMATE, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT
SPECIALIST, UNICEF

▶ LISTENING AND LEARNING



Keeping customers at the center

CCA's new User Insights Lab explored how consumer-centered innovation can substantially scale up demand for, and sustained use of, clean cooking solutions. At the Clean Cooking Forum 2022, CCA held a [session](#) on the importance of consumer insights; organized a workshop to discuss shared challenges; and led a day trip around the greater Accra region to speak first-hand with people using various cooking technologies.

Improving Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)

CCA released its annual [M&E Framework Report](#), which features updated Standard Indicators data for 2021, a section highlighting CCA's focus on learning, and steps CCA has taken to strengthen the implementation of the Framework.



BHUMESH BHARTI / CLEAN COOKING ALLIANCE

Learning from clean cooking pioneers

In 2017, Inyenyeri appeared to be a for-profit business that had stimulated demand for a truly clean cooking solution among some of the world's poorest people. In 2020, the company closed. To understand why, CCA produced a detailed [article](#) that explored Inyenyeri's strategic decisions, distilled lessons learned, and discussed the efforts of other biomass pellet companies operating today.

Understanding the customer experience

To better understand the impact of clean cooking technologies on people's lives, CCA partnered with 60 Decibels to survey thousands of customers from across a dozen Venture Catalyst companies. A midway [report](#) found that companies were providing products and services that most customers previously did not have access to, but that there was still room to reach more low-income consumers. This research will continue in 2023, reaching around 5,000 customers from 19 companies.

“Clean cooking helps me attract more customers because of its quality. **The number of sales has increased**, and I can save more money. More than this, clean cooking enables us to be flexible in cooking.”

Customer of a Venture Catalyst company

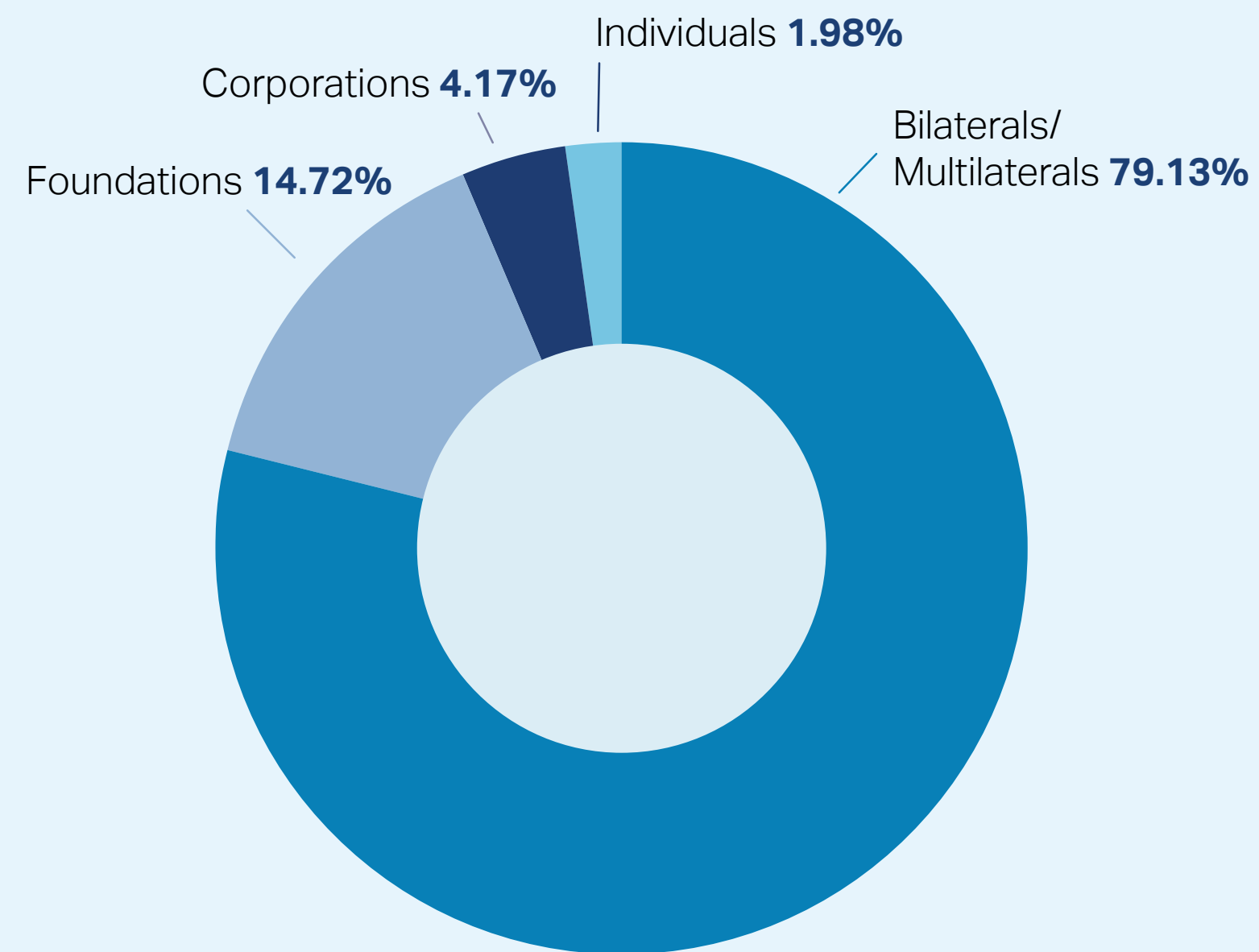
AGE 35



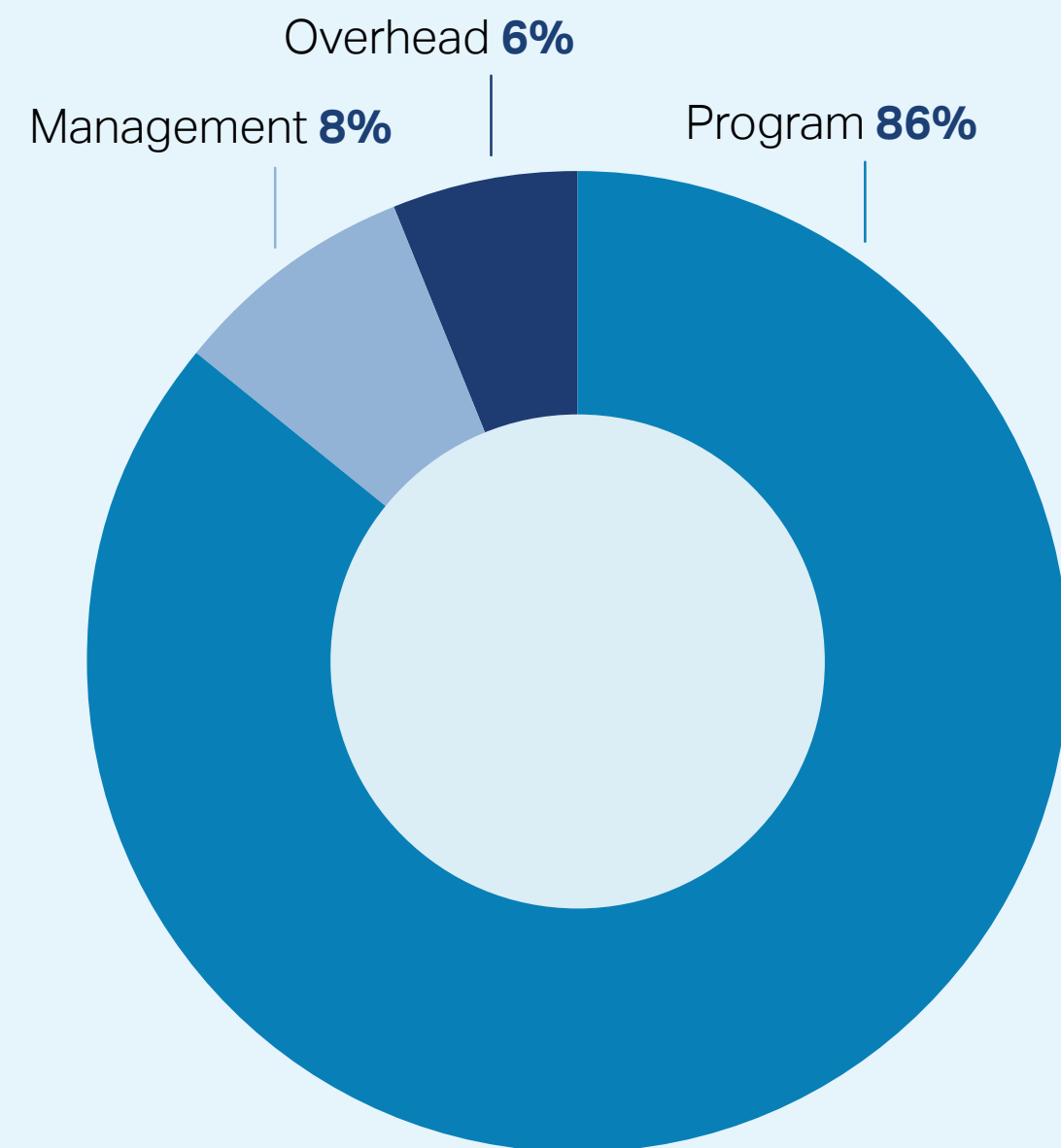
▶ FINANCIALS

CCA is grateful for the generous financial support of its donors in 2022.*

How CCA's Work Is Funded



Where Donor Support Goes



*As an initiative hosted by the United Nations Foundation (UN Foundation), CCA is officially governed by the UN Foundation's Board of Directors and its financials are included under the UN Foundation's U.S. Internal Revenue Service Form 990. The UN Foundation Board of Directors maintains fiduciary responsibility for CCA, and the UN Foundation also provides CCA with operations support and maintains a seat on CCA's Leadership Council.



▶ 2022 DONORS



ZG Foundation



▶ LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

CCA's Leadership Council is comprised of high-level global advocates working to ensure that no one's life is limited by how they cook. The Advisory Committee (*), a select group of Leadership Council members, provides strategic counsel to CCA and offers a diverse range of viewpoints that are critical to advancing innovation, investment, and impact across the clean cooking sector.



Kris M. Balderston*
President, Balderston
Strategic Partnerships



Hillary Rodham Clinton
Former Secretary of
State, United States



Henry De Sio
Chief Operating
Officer, United Nations
Foundation



António Guterres
Secretary-General,
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former Prime Minister,
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Former President of
the Senate, Nigeria



Wang Shi
Founder and Honorary
Chairman, China Vanke
Co., Ltd



Dymphna van der Lans*
CEO, Clean Cooking
Alliance

▶ CHAMPIONS



José Andrés
Founder of World
Central Kitchen and
Chef/Owner
of ThinkFoodGroup



Julia Roberts
Academy Award-
winning actor



Sanjeev Kapoor
Chef extraordinaire



Rocky Dawuni
Grammy-nominated
musician and Founder
of the Rocky Dawuni
Foundation



H. E. Samira Bawumia
Second Lady of Ghana



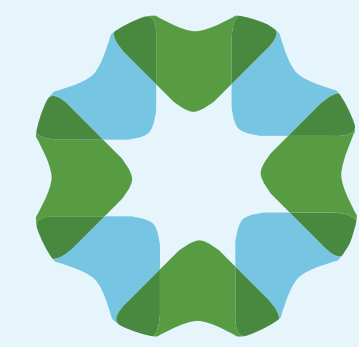
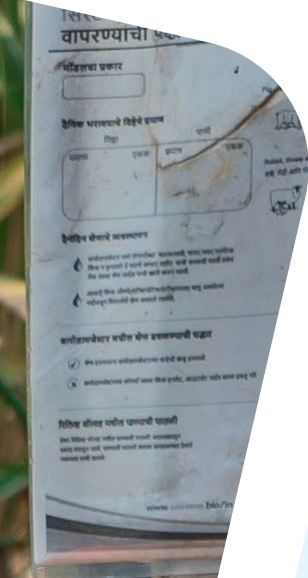
Zhao Wei
Actor and director





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