

Earth Funding Lab

Basecamp Programme

September 2025

**We believe that to see the
fundamental changes our world
needs, we must fundamentally
transform philanthropy.**

About the Earth Funding Lab

The goal of the Earth Funding Lab is to help funders work with greater impact towards **economies that serve life.**

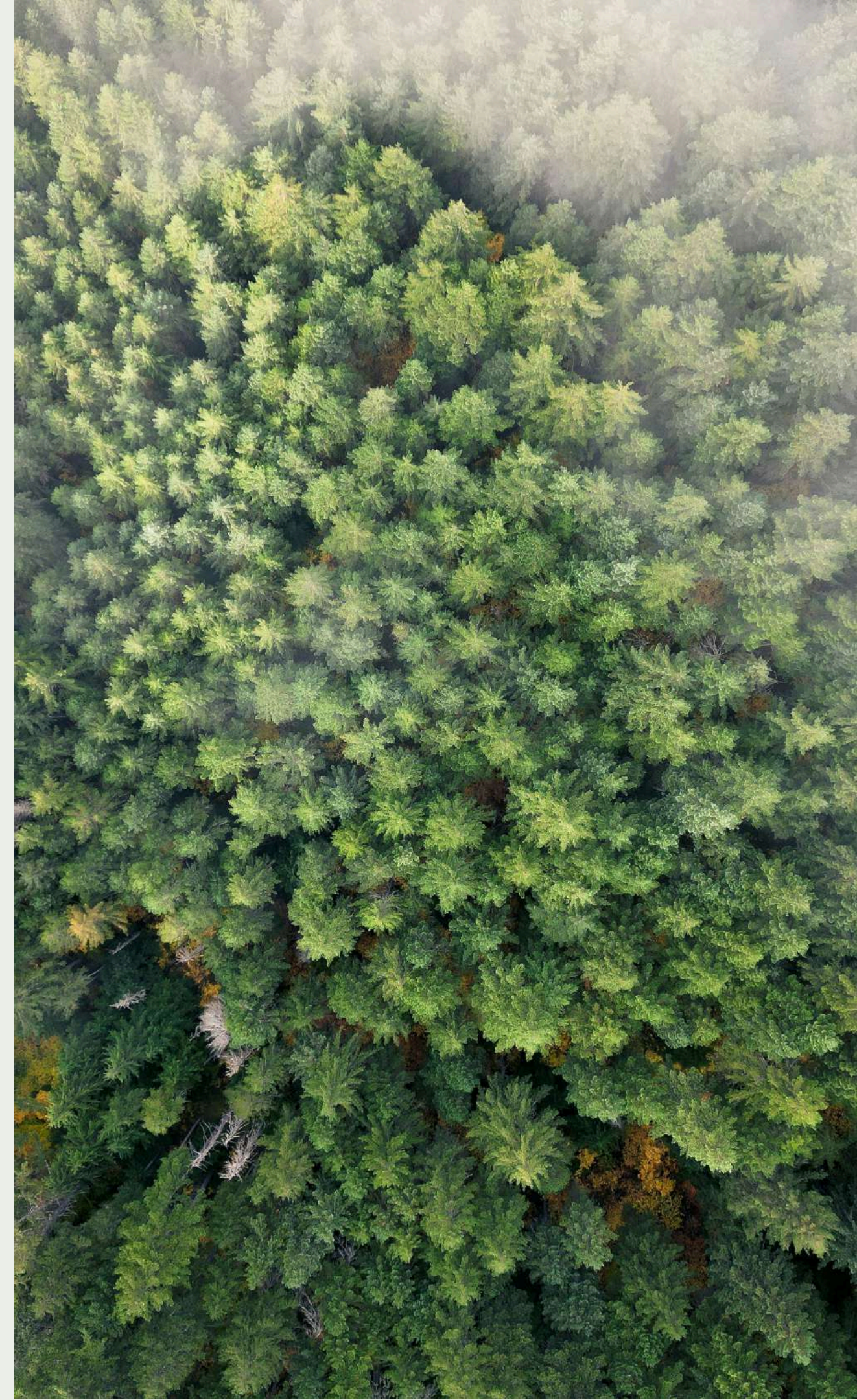
The Lab is a place to **see the bigger picture** of possible change together; to **coordinate action** around key areas of need and opportunity; to **learn and adapt** quickly as a community; and to help form groups that can **collaborate and take action** more effectively when times are urgent.



What makes the Lab different?

The Lab is an **ongoing community of practice** for funders and philanthropists who want to come together, ask different questions, and dig more deeply into how change happens.

- The Lab doesn't merely ask 'What should we fund to bring about a different world?' but also '**HOW should we fund?**'
- The Lab is not only interested in the thriving of people, but in the **thriving of ALL life**, both now and in future generations.
- The Lab is not just about learning and thinking, it's about **practicing and DOING** alongside peers to bring about meaningful change.



**“We are going to a different place.
Let’s go there differently.”**

–Nora Bateson



About the Basecamp Programme

The Basecamp programme is for individual funders and philanthropic organisations looking to expand and evolve their thinking and practice around how to **support economies that put life at the centre.**

During this journey, taking place across 2 months, we'll explore how philanthropic practices might evolve to take us somewhere different and how we might **discern interventions with truly systemic potential.**

We'll also connect with a faculty of leading practitioners, activists and thinkers who will guide us through encounters with **different perspectives, knowledge** and **ways of being.**



Who is this for?

The Basecamp programme is open to funders (individuals and organisations) who are interested in learning and working together to support economies in service to life.

It is for funders who:

- Believe that by **changing our models** of philanthropy, we can create bigger impact;
- Know we can achieve more by **working together**;
- Want to **change the system** we are a part of;
- Believe that **working with and as nature** can help us address the challenges we face;
- Desire to be **part of a community** of funders working together to shift systems.



Why a Basecamp Programme?

Shifting our practice and creating economies that serve life is not a straightforward task. The Basecamp Programme equips us with the **knowledge, tools, ideas, language, and inspiration** to go forth into this work with added confidence and creativity.

The Basecamp programme also forms a vital foundation of **trust and openness** between Lab members, built on **shared vision, values, language, experience and knowledge**.

Note: After completion of the Basecamp Programme, all participants will be invited to become partners in the Lab and to gain access to its other activities and community. However, this is not compulsory and a commitment to joining the Lab community is not a requirement for participation in the Basecamp programme.



Why now?

There is an urgent and growing need to do things differently—right now. The Basecamp programme is designed to help funders reimagine philanthropy to better meet the needs of this current moment.

The polycrisis is accelerating and we must shift financial flows to support a liveable future for all. The Earth Funding Lab is committed to a radical reimagining of how we fund projects, bringing funders together to create an outsized impact on the system.

The programme

The Basecamp Programme takes place across two months. It begins with a 2-day in-person gathering (in the UK – within two hours of London) and is followed by four online sessions of 2.5 hours every other week.

Opening Gathering (in person)

Day 1 - Meeting & Mission

Meeting each other, learning about the Lab, a moment with nature, mapping interventions, and exploring courageous collaboration.

Day 2 - Going Differently

Why an 'economy that serves life?'
Stories of systemic work, working with nature's principles, mapping possibilities and working with story.

Online session 1

An Economy that Serves Life

What is an economy that serves life? Imagining new economies; How your work connects to this; How we explore this in the Lab.

Online session 2

Transforming Philanthropy

The current state of philanthropy; What is needed; Inspiring stories & best practices; Exploring how we shift power.

Online session 3

Working in Systems / Reimagining Impact

How to understand and re-envision systemic work; 'How does nature do it?'; Using stories as a systemic tool.

Online session 4

Shifting our Work in Practice

Returning to the map of interventions; What are (y)our big questions? What could we do differently? Personal stories; Reflections & next steps.

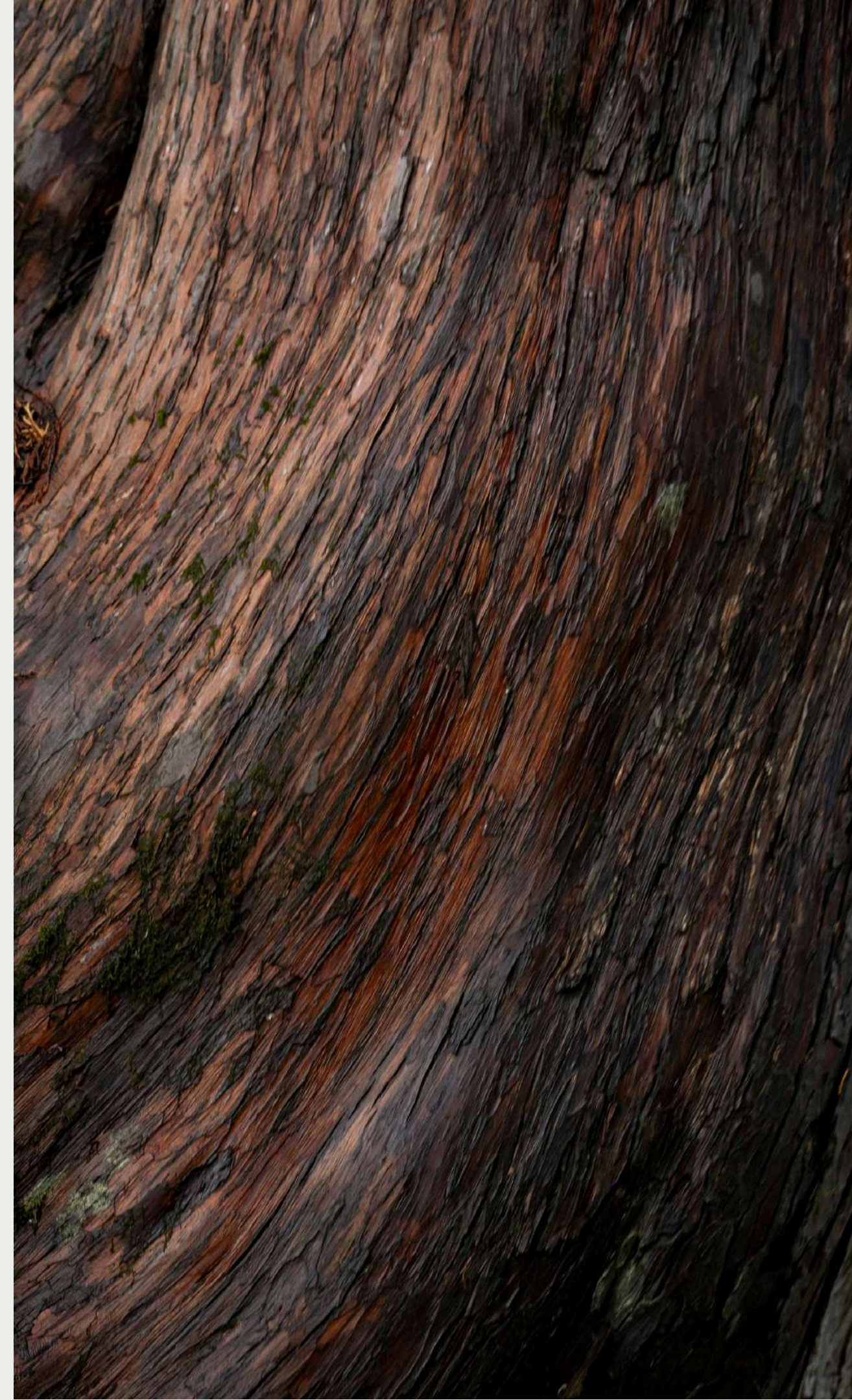
Upcoming dates

The next Basecamp Programme kicks off in September 2025. Final dates for online sessions will be confirmed soon, but you can find an indication below (selected weeks will not change).

Opening Gathering (in person, UK) – September 16/17

Online sessions (2.5 hours)

- **An Economy that Serves Life** – w/c 22 September
- **Transforming Philanthropy** – w/c 6 October
- **Working in Systems / Reimagining Impact** – w/c 20 October
- **Shifting our Work in Practice** – w/c 3 November



Cost

The programme, including the 2-day opening gathering, costs between £1700 and £2200 per participant. We offer a sliding scale rate based on organisation size and sector (e.g. individual donor versus foundation).

Please note that accommodation & travel costs for the opening gathering are not included.



Testimonials

“I feel really passionately about the importance of this work. The Lab is no idle experiment, it’s vital.”

Jonny Wates, Wates Family Enterprise Trust

“The Lab has been a great opportunity to attempt genuine collaboration with other funders and to hear from expert speakers.”

Nick Marple, Gower Street

“Being part of the Lab has expanded my understanding around funding practices and foundational issues that are the roots of our systemic challenges. It has connected me to a wider network of funders that also value nature and its voice, while guiding us beautifully through the journey of learning, conceptualizing and acting collaboratively.”

Renata Minerbo, Be the Earth Foundation



How to join

Interested funders can sign up for the training via **this form.**

Still want to learn more? Join one of our upcoming one-hour **Discovery Calls!**

- Wed. 16 July, 10am BST (**register here**)
- Fri. 18 July, 9:30am BST (**register here**)
- Tue. 5 August, 11am BST (**register here**)

Any other questions, please email Hannah Temple (hannah@tealco.org) or Andres Roberts (andres@bio-leadership.org).



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