WIKIMEDIA ENDOWMENT

FY2026-27 Annual Plan

The Wikimedia Endowment is our long-term commitment to ensuring everyone has free access to knowledge that is accurate and relevant to their lives.

- Launched in 2016, the Wikimedia Endowment is on track to fulfill its purpose of providing lasting financial support to the Wikimedia projects.
- In FY2026-27, we will continue to grow the Wikimedia Endowment by raising $10 million and continuing our planned giving program efforts
- Further, we will ensure that the Wikimedia Endowment is well-invested to grow and generate income for the long-term sustainability of the Wikimedia projects.
- Lastly, we will provide direct support to evolve and innovate the technology behind Wikipedia so that it can thrive with a rapidly changing Internet.

Winner Image of the 2023 Wiki Loves Monuments competition by Mona Hassan Abo-Abda

Raising Support for Wikimedia's Future

The Wikimedia Endowment launched a second multi-year fundraising campaign that will allow the Endowment to return even greater support for Wikimedia projects for years to come. We plan to raise $10 million in FY2026-27 for the Endowment from donations through direct appeals to our donors and fundraising events.

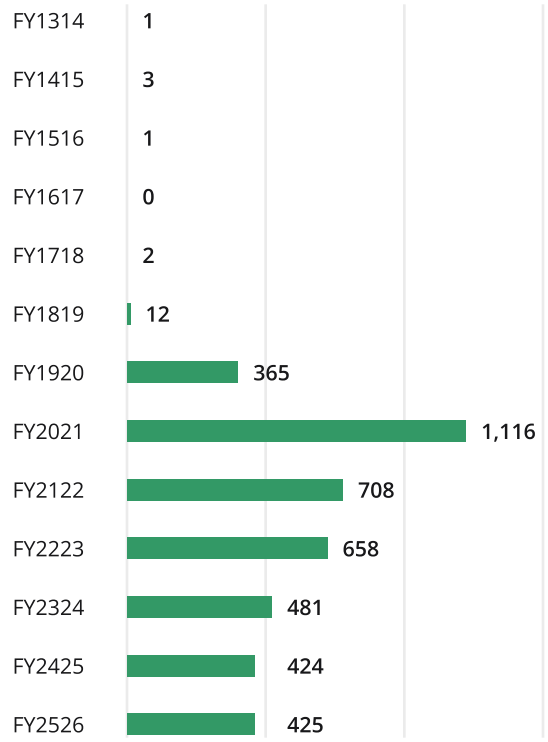
Planned Giving

Planned giving, also called legacy giving, simply means arranging a gift now that's given later, usually when an individual names the Wikimedia Endowment in their will, trust, or as a beneficiary of a financial or retirement account.

The Wikimedia Endowment's partnership with FreeWill, a free online tool for creating a legal will in the United States, remains our largest source of planned giving leads. Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) from US-based Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) also continue to grow, generating more than $2.2 million in revenue in FY2025–26.

As we increase outreach to potential future planned gift donors, we aim to build a pipeline of planned giving commitments that will come to fruition in stages over the coming years. By 2050, planned gifts could be the primary funding source for the Endowment.

Planned Giving Commitments by Fiscal Year

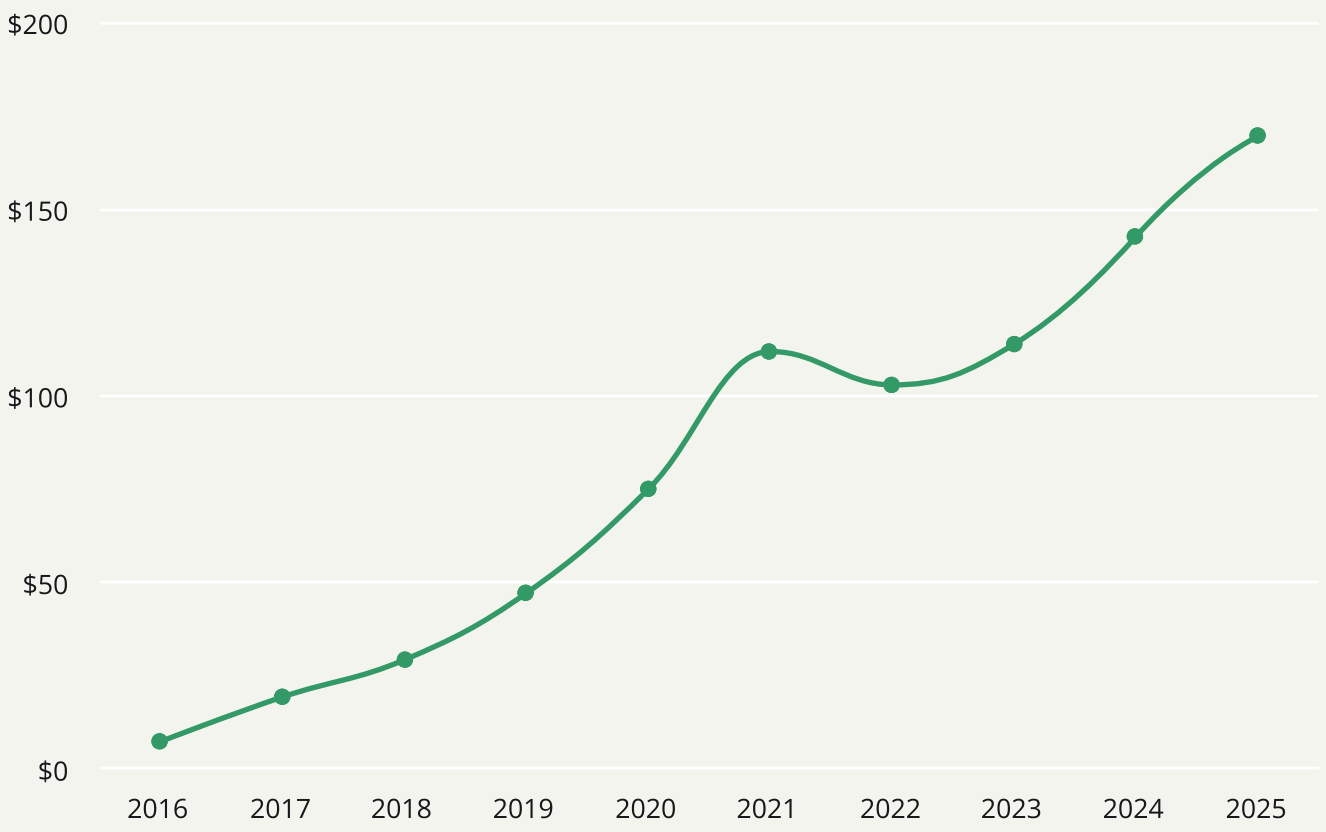


As of **June 30th, 2026**, the Wikimedia Endowment has secured **4,190 planned giving commitments** from our donors and we aim to secure 540 more commitments this fiscal year and increase Wikipedia Legacy Society membership by 25%.

Investing for the Long-term

The Wikimedia Endowment is invested to provide financial support for Wikimedia projects in perpetuity. The Board defined an investment policy that guides how the fund is invested and sets a target average annual nominal return of 6.0 percent

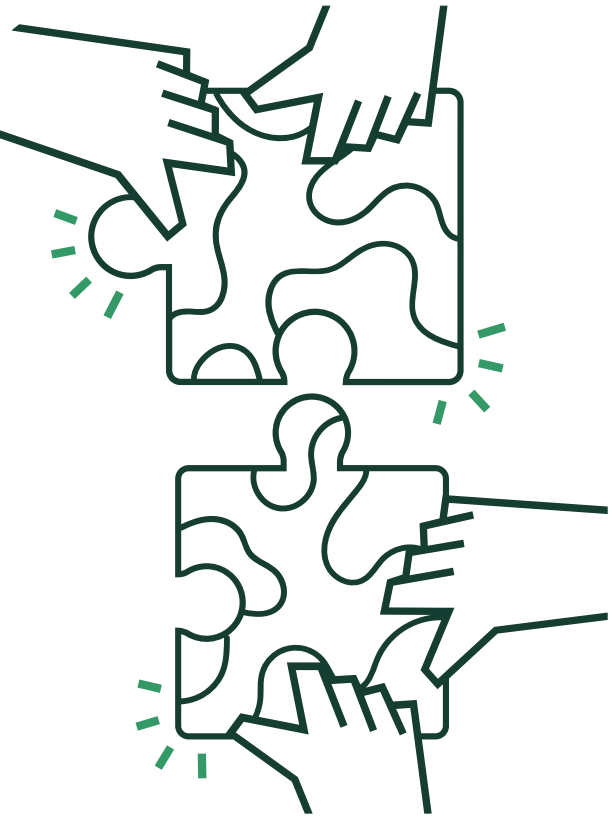
Wikimedia Endowment Growth (in millions)



In FY 2025-26, the fund generated an investment income of $21.2M, including interest and dividends of $3.7 million. Since its inception, the Wikimedia Endowment has had an average return of 7.84 percent. In accordance with the policy, the fund is invested in a mix of public equities, public fixed income, and alternative investments.

Supporting Technical Innovation of the Wikimedia Projects

The Wikimedia Endowment, still in its early years, is already providing financial support to the Wikimedia projects.



In 2022, we interviewed donors about what strategic focus we should take for the grants we would provide from the Wikimedia Endowment. We heard a desire to fund projects that will help Wikipedia stay relevant and thrive in a rapidly changing technology landscape. In response, the Wikimedia Endowment is investing in efforts to innovate and evolve the technology behind Wikipedia to meet new challenges.

In FY2025–26, the Wikimedia Endowment disbursed $3.5 million to support technical innovation across Wikimedia projects and the broader free knowledge ecosystem. This funding supported Abstract Wikipedia, Wikimedia Commons, Kiwix, improvements to Wikimedia's machine learning infrastructure, and work to strengthen Wikimedia's infrastructure against scrapers. These investments help Wikimedia projects remain resilient and accessible as the ways people find and use knowledge continue to evolve. You can read more about projects supported by the Wikimedia Endowment in prior years in our annual reports.

Adapted illustration by Jasmina El Bouamraoui and Karabo Poppy Moletsane, CC BY-SA 4.0

FY2026-27 Budget

The Endowment's FY2026-27 budget is $6.8 million, which includes approximately $2.3 million for operational expenses and $4.3 million for grants for the Wikimedia projects.

This results in a **spending rate of 4.0 percent**, which is within the spending range defined in the Wikimedia Endowment's spending policy. The $4.3 million allocated to grants results in an increase of approximately 23 percent compared to grants in FY 2025-26.

The Wikimedia Endowment has no direct employees and is supported by employees of the Wikimedia Foundation. Through a cost-sharing agreement, the Wikimedia Endowment reimburses the Wikimedia Foundation for staff time and

Revenue targets

Fundraising target	$	10,000,000
Investment income target minus related costs	$	3,732,178
Total revenue targets:	**$**	**13,732,178**

Expense budget

Fundraising	$	1,302,287
General & administrative	$	638,005
Programmatic	$	4,741,511
Based on:		
Grants		$4,317,875
Other programmatic		$423,636
Contingency	$	118,000
Total expenses:	$	**6,800,000**

For more information about the Wikimedia Endowment or to donate, please visit wikimediaendowment.org