

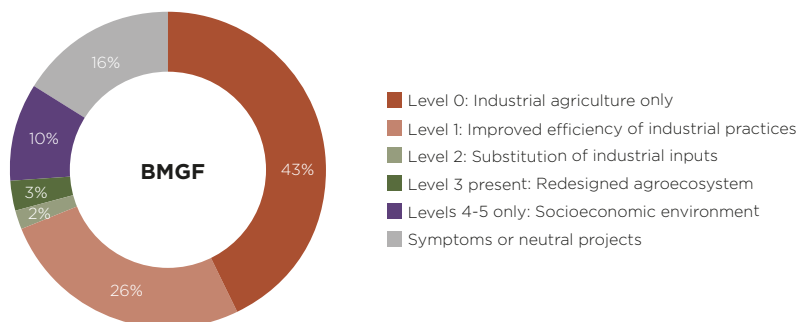


# BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION

## THE BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION'S AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FUNDING: AGRICULTURE WITHOUT ECOLOGY?

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), is the biggest philanthropic investor in agri-development. Given its funding volumes and global network of partners, the BMGF has a significant ability to shape the global agri-development agenda. Among the BMGF's grantmaking areas, its Global Growth and Opportunity Programme (est. 2006) includes agricultural development grants. It has come to dominate the field with total donations of US\$4.9 billion.

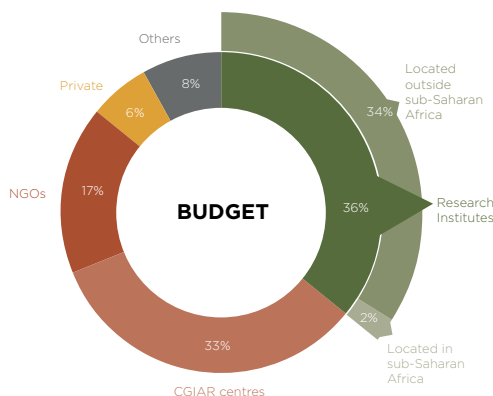
As many as **85% of BMGF investments** in agricultural research for development (AgR4D) are limited to supporting industrial agriculture and/or increasing its efficiency. What does this mean for agroecology? Around **3%** of the Foundation's projects have agroecological components. None refer to agroecology explicitly.



### QUICK FACT

African research institutes are the main funding recipient of **just 9%** of BMGF's AgR4D projects. And **only 2%** of total funding goes to research institutes in sub-Saharan Africa.

### DISTRIBUTION OF BMGF BUDGET FOR AgR4D BY RECIPIENT TYPE (TOTAL FUNDING: US\$807 MILLION)



Universities, CGIAR research programmes, inter-governmental and governmental organisations, and private research institutes are among the primary recipients of BMGF funding. In particular, large shares of AgR4D funding continue to be channelled through the Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centres (CGIAR), despite much of its work remaining limited to crop breeding and input efficiency.