The Development Education and Awareness Raising (DEAR) Programme\(^1\) promotes active citizenship and critical understanding of sustainable development issues, the interdependent world and people’s roles as change-makers. The 2014-2019 external evaluation of the Civil Society Organisation (CSO) Thematic programme concluded that: DEAR was unique in its scope, DEAR programme worked through a coherent set of implementation modalities, and that there is evidence of the results achieved by the DEAR programme, which include citizens’ engagement through a multitude of projects.

The budget for the DEAR programme 2014-2020 was EUR 224 200 000 from the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) Thematic Programme ‘CSOs and Local Authorities’. The indicative budget under the current Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) is EUR 186 180 000, funded from the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) – Global Europe (GE) Thematic Programmes ‘CSOs’ and ‘Global Challenges – Partnership for Local Authorities’.

The share of funding paid to date is EUR 186 133 655 and will increase towards the end of activities of the ongoing grant contracts.

Under the MFF 2014-2020, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) was awarded 2 grant contracts: WWF Austria (EUR 6 277 027 EUR) and WWF Finland (EUR 10 167 419)\(^2\).

The highest amount of funding was awarded to Stichting Oxfam Novib (EUR 11 974 028,33) Christliche Initiative Romero (EUR 10 042 726,90) and WWF Finland (EUR 10 167 419).

All DEAR projects have to submit expenditure verifications at the end of the projects done by independent audit companies. Additional audits are based on risk assessments. The audits executed on the DEAR projects detected errors of less than 1% of the DEAR programme allocation under MFF 2014-2020.

\(^1\) [https://dearprogramme.eu/](https://dearprogramme.eu/)