As the year comes to an end, we are thrilled to announce that a new initiative will be joining NEF. Healthy Food Healthy Planet will complement with an environmental perspective NEF’s portfolio of collaborative projects. It is with great pleasure that we will accompany their developments.

The next year will also welcome new colleagues on board, and they will arrive on time to reflect with the entire NEF team about what Diversity, Equity and Inclusion means and how we can adapt our practices, internally and externally. In this newsletter you will read about how we have started this journey. You will also read how different collaborative funds partner together for organizing joint convenings based on their shared work. In addition, success stories or exciting news are shared by the teams.

As always your feedback is welcome, and we wish you all a restful holiday season.
## Highlights

### Civitates – European AI Fund Convening

Civitates and the European AI Fund convened in Brussels more than 40 grantee partners from both collaborative projects in the context of their overlapping work on digital and tech policy. Conversations revolved around the common external challenges faced by civil society organizations in the field and how to build a stronger ecosystem approach to these challenges.

Illustration credit: Harry Burton: @HBtoons

Participants also heard ideas for collective action from other sectors like the climate movement, insights on EU advocacy, and reflected on the infrastructure that is needed for enabling better collaboration. See notes and resources that emerged from the convening [here](https://campaign.indev.be/lj-e-vukiudd-l-r/).

### Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at NEF

NEF embarked on a four-step process to explore how to better implement Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) principles in its grantmaking practices as well as in the workplace. In the first introductory workshop, team members across collaborative projects and NEF board members examined their own biases, and how they might be affecting their work and perpetuating a discriminatory system.

The workshop facilitators shared lessons learnt and specific examples on building an inclusive organization. Throughout the process the objective is to foster exchanges amongst NEF collaborative projects about DEI approaches and practices and ultimately come up with an individualized roadmap for each of the collaborative projects and for NEF to collectively embrace DEI in day-to-day operations.
Updates

**Alliance for Gender Equality**

In the past months, the Alliance prepared a new call for proposals to be launched in January 2023. It aims at driving impactful and sustainable community-driven solutions that promote economic opportunities for marginalised women...

**European Fund for the Balkans**

The EFB has started a new research and advocacy project on the "Geopolitics of the Green Energy Transition in the Western Balkans", to explore the connection between the slow pace of the green energy transition in the Western Balkans...

**European AI and Society Fund**

The European AI and Society Fund has announced its 14 new grantees in November 2022. Over the next two years, the new cohort will work on policy and advocacy around AI, joining the already supported. As AI effects every aspect of society...

**JAFOWA**

The programme has produced a video presenting its activities and highlighting its partnership dynamics. JAFOWA is finalising its preparatory work in the run up of a new call for proposals in early 2023 to gear up Farmer Organisations...

**EPIM**

In March 2022, as part of its response to the war in Ukraine and the resulting displacement in Europe, EPIM raised €4.3 million and has supported over 30 organisations with a particular focus on Central and Eastern Europe (CEE)...

**Evaluation Fund**

The Evaluation Fund: Reducing Violence Against Children was founded in recognition that violence prevention interventions should be evidence-based, culturally relevant and contextually appropriate. The final report, "Preventing violence...
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