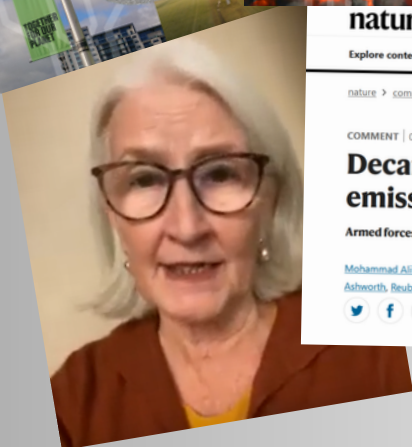
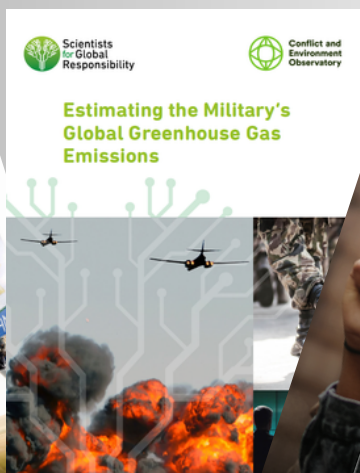
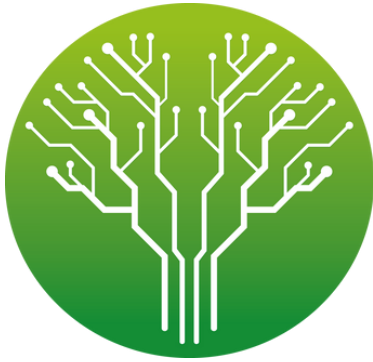




# Scientists for Global Responsibility

## Annual Report 2022-23





**Front Cover Photos:**

- Cover of SGR report: *The Carbon OFF Plan*
- Cover of SGR & CEOBS report: *Estimating the Military's Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions*
- Cover of SGR's *Responsible Science* Journal no. 4
- Ann Pettifor speaking at SGR's 2022 online conference
- *Nature* opinion article co-written by Stuart Parkinson on military carbon emissions

**Design by:** The Argument by Design  
[www.tabd.co.uk](http://www.tabd.co.uk)

**Layout by:** Emily Heath

**Reporting Period:**  
**March 2022 to**  
**February 2023**  
**inclusive**

## STAFF

**Executive Director:**  
Dr Stuart Parkinson

**Assistant Director:**  
Andrew Simms MA

**Education Director:**  
Dr Jan Maskell CPsychol

**Finance and Membership Manager:**  
Dr Emily Heath

**Responsible Science Campaigner:**  
Dr Liz Kalaugher (1)

**Assistant Campaigner:**  
Liam Killeen (2)

**Communications Assistant**  
Lucia Simmons (3)

## NATIONAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE (NCC)

**Chair:**  
Dr Philip Webber

**Vice Chair:**  
Dr Jan Maskell CPsychol

**Committee Members:**  
Dr Keith Baker  
Nico Edwards  
Liam Killeen (4)  
Simon Reed FIAP

- (1) until 31 December 2022  
(2) until 30 September 2022  
(3) until 8 April 2022  
(4) until 5 December 2022

## SUMMARY

Against the background of war in Ukraine – and the associated threat of nuclear escalation – increasing weather-related disasters as climate change bites, and the spiralling ‘cost of living’ crisis, the global situation remains very challenging.

SGR’s mission – to promote responsible science and technology – has never been more important. Our funding base contracted significantly during the reporting year, but we continued to be very active with influence at national and international levels, making sure every penny counted.

Our key achievements in the reporting period:

- We continued to be a leading national and international voice on the neglected issue of military carbon emissions. We published a ground-breaking new report which estimated that the global military carbon footprint is approximately 5.5% of the world’s total emissions. We also co-authored a paper in top science journal *Nature* on the issue, and were called to give oral evidence to the House of Commons Defence Committee. In addition, we continued to work with other campaigners to give this issue more prominence within UN climate negotiations.
- With the threat from nuclear weapons returning to levels not seen since the worse periods of the Cold War, we spoke in numerous forums about the dangers and supported calls to calm the situation. A particular highlight was speaking alongside the former leader of the Labour Party Jeremy Corbyn at the national party conference.

- We continued to raise awareness of the broader climate threat, while proposing solutions – at events ranging from the Stockholm+50 conference to the Glastonbury Festival. We supported campaigns against new fossil fuel extraction, while the international ‘loss and damage’ campaign that we had endorsed saw success at the COP27 climate negotiations.
- As part of our ‘Responsible Science’ campaign, we challenged the financial links between the fossil fuel industry and professional science bodies. The number of signatories to our Science Oath for the Climate expanded to 570. We also launched our 1.5C Living Targets – for scientists and others to sign up to as a way of exemplifying the scale of change that is needed to keep climate goals within reach.
- Our education activities reached lots of young people. We ran five webinars as part of Science4Society Week 2022, and our web-based resource Globally Responsible Careers in STEM continued to be popular.
- We played an active role within a new National Lottery-funded project on sustainable food systems in North Lancs.
- Our website again reached a large audience, with 64,000 page-views during the reporting period, and our reach on social media continued to grow.

We would like to thank our membership, our trust funders, and individual donors – all have been essential in SGR’s successes. We also thank our staff and volunteers for their hard work throughout the year.

**Stuart Parkinson, Executive Director**  
**Philip Webber, Chair**

# PROJECTS

## CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE MILITARY

Following on from our influential reports on UK and EU military carbon emissions, SGR published a new report in November 2022, this time on the global scale of the problem. Using international data, the report estimates that the global military carbon footprint is approximately 5.5% of the world's total emissions. The report was written by SGR's Stuart Parkinson with Linsey Cottrell of the Conflict and Environment Observatory (CEOBS), and was launched at a webinar during the COP27 climate negotiations.

Stuart was also co-author of an opinion piece on the issue in top science journal, *Nature*.

Following publication of these outputs, SGR worked with campaigners to input our evidence into the decision-making processes of the UN climate convention in order to galvanise more action.

Further demonstrating the influence of SGR's work in this field, in January 2023, Stuart was called to give oral evidence before the House of Commons Defence Committee on UK military carbon emissions. Stuart also gave seven other presentations on military and climate issues during the reporting year: at an international parliamentary seminar in London, where he spoke alongside former Foreign Secretary, Margaret Beckett MP; at five webinars organised by campaign organisations; and at a peace and environmental campaigners' day school in Oxford. At the latter event, he was joined on the panel by Andrew Simms.

Our work in this field also gained a great deal of media coverage during the reporting year, with SGR quoted on average once a week. A summary of all our coverage is given on p.6. One highlight was an hour-long podcast in which Stuart debated the issue with the Ministry of Defence's Director of Climate and Sustainability.

Interest in SGR's growing web-based library of articles and reports in this area was also high during the reporting year – with over 7,000 page-views. We thank the Minor Foundation for funding much of our work in this area.

## NUCLEAR WEAPONS THREAT



With the threat of nuclear war increasing following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in late February 2022, SGR immediately upped its activity calling for action to reduce the risks. In the days and weeks following the invasion, we were busy on our social media channels, co-signing letters to policy-makers, and in numerous other ways.

Philip Webber published a new article entitled 'Has the world forgotten the extreme horror of nuclear weapons?' and spoke at webinar organised by Labour Party activists.

## PROJECTS (CONTINUED)

Stuart Parkinson spoke at a webinar organised by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and at an anti-war rally in Lancaster.

A particular focus of our work was to highlight the risk of nuclear winter – which is grossly under-reported by mainstream media.

In the autumn, Stuart spoke alongside former leader of the Labour Party Jeremy Corbyn MP at a side event at their national party conference (see photo on p2).

In the winter, many SGR staff and members were among over 1,000 scientists signing the Future of Life Institute's statement to world leaders opposing any nuclear arms escalation.

In February 2023, Philip spoke at a webinar organised by the National Union of Journalists. In addition, Philip and Stuart responded to a Green Party consultation on their peace and defence policies, including on nuclear weapons. Many of our concerns were reflected in the final policy document.

During the year, interest in our extensive web-based library of articles and reports on nuclear weapons was high – with over 7,000 page-views.

## RESPONSIBLE SCIENCE CAMPAIGN

During the reporting year, SGR continued its work to encourage the science community to be more forthright in promoting action to tackle the climate emergency. Liz Kalaugher led our work in this area, assisted by Liam Killeen.

A key focus was to challenge the financial links between the fossil fuel industry and the professional science and engineering bodies. By late 2022, we had published updated assessments on our website of the climate performance of 9 UK-based professional science bodies and 12 such bodies outside the UK (mostly based in the USA). We wrote to these bodies, encouraging improvements – and several took action, including strengthening their ethical investment criteria, especially when SGR members who were also members of those bodies added their voice to the calls.

We built on these activities by encouraging the philanthropic sector to take similar climate action, with Liz writing an introductory guide aimed at these organisations.

Another focus within this campaign was to encourage scientists and engineers to be role models for society's transition to sustainable living. To this end, we created a new web-based resource: 10 sign-up targets for 1.5°C-compatible living. While our main focus was on scientists and engineers, we also encouraged any interested individuals outside these professions to add their names.

In addition, the number of signatories of our Science Oath for the Climate continued to climb, reaching 570 by the year end.

Over the reporting period, our web-based resources in these areas received about 4,000 page-views. We thank the ClimateWorks Foundation and the Martin Ryle Trust for funding our work in this area.

## SCIENCE4SOCIETY WEEK



For Science4Society Week in March 2022, SGR ran five interactive webinars aimed at young people. Jan Maskell spoke on 'Globally Responsible

Careers in STEM', Bryony Maskell covered 'Handwashing and soap-making' and 'Climate kitchen', Martin Paley looked at 'Plastic and the circular economy', and Stuart Parkinson discussed 'War and climate change'.

The competition this year was to use the power of storytelling to encourage action on climate change, and the winner was Afrin Kasim, a 13-year-old from Plashet School in London.

The project was co-ordinated by Jan Maskell, assisted by Lucia Simmons.

## GLOBALLY RESPONSIBLE CAREERS

SGR's web-based resources aimed at helping scientists and engineers choose a more 'globally responsible' career – launched in autumn 2021 – continued to be in demand with about 1,000 page-views during this reporting year.

## CLOSING LOOPS

Jan Maskell has continued to participate in a project which aims to "close loops in the local food system" to help develop "a thriving local food system that is healthy, resilient and fair".

The project will run for five years and is based in North Lancashire, where SGR's office is based. SGR's role in this project is to carry out monitoring and evaluation. In addition, Jan will deliver 'Climate Conversations' training to local groups. We thank the National Lottery Climate Action Fund for funding this work.

## RESPONSIBLE SCIENCE CONFERENCE

SGR held its annual conference online again in 2022 in order to maximise membership participation from around the country. Over 80 people attended the event.

The conference was entitled 'Science superpower or techno dead-end: what would a globally responsible Britain look like?'

The speakers were:

Kevin Anderson (right), Anne Pettifor, Andrew Simms, Anne Kretzschmar, Paul Dorfman, Anna Jonsson, Stuart Parkinson, and Josie Wexler.



The conference explored: (i) how the government's focus on the Ukraine war was undermining the use of science and technology to help tackle climate change and poverty; (ii) how a focus on 'false technofixes' – such as zero carbon aircraft and new nuclear power – acted to undermine rapid emissions reductions; and (iii) how a combination of green economic reforms and sustainable technologies would be far more effective in tackling national and global problems.

At the AGM which followed the speaker session, members overwhelmingly voted in favour of proposals from SGR's National Co-ordinating Committee to transition to a Company Limited by Guarantee. It was agreed that this would have numerous benefits. This process was completed at the end of the reporting year (see p.7).

## OTHER CAMPAIGNING

SGR's other campaigning activities during the reporting year focused mainly on climate change and further large increases in spending on military technology.



We were especially pleased that the 'loss and damage' campaign that we had been supporting achieved a major success at the COP27 climate negotiations. This campaign had been seeking a mechanism through which payments for damage caused by climate change could be channelled to those experiencing that damage. At COP27, a fund was established through which finance from wealthier nations – which are responsible for most of the damage – could be made to those nations experiencing major losses. However, the specific rules under which that fund will operate remain to be agreed.

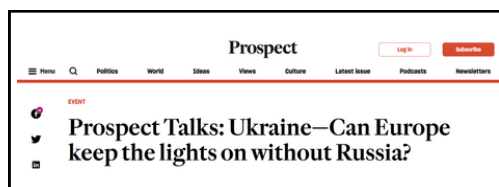
Andrew Simms spoke about climate issues at numerous events during the reporting period, including at the Stockholm+50 conference in Sweden, the Tipping Points climate science conference in Exeter, the Glastonbury Festival, a webinar organised by *Prospect* magazine (right), and the British Science Festival in Leicester – at the latter sharing a panel with SGR patron, Bill McGuire.

We also helped the US-based Union of Concerned Scientists with a campaign to try to convince academic publisher Elsevier to end its financial links with the fossil fuel industry. Our joint petition gained 380 signatories from the scientific community.

SGR continued to support other climate-related campaigns, notably in opposing:

- the new Rosebank oil field in the North Sea;
- the new deep coal mine in Cumbria;
- the lifting of the moratorium on fracking in England;
- BP sponsorship of British Museum; and
- Shell sponsorship of British Cycling.

SGR also continued to support campaigns challenging the militarisation of science and technology. Nico Edwards contributed to a new report on research at UK universities with links to the development of autonomous weapons. Stuart Parkinson spoke at the Future War conference in London in November 2022, organised by CND and Drone Wars. He also wrote two military spending briefings for the UK branch of the Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS-UK), as well as speaking at its AGM. SGR also supported the new student campaign group Demilitarise Education (dED).



# COMMUNICATIONS

## MEDIA

SGR's work received a very high level of media coverage during the reporting year.

In the run-up to the COP27 climate conference in November, Stuart Parkinson co-authored an opinion piece in the prestigious science journal, *Nature*, on military carbon emissions.

SGR's research in this area was also covered by *CNBC News*, *Al-Jazeera*, *Bloomberg*, *Forbes*, *Byline Times*, *Stars and Stripes*, *Peace News*, *Asia Times*, *Transform*, *Alternet*, and many others – with our data now widely quoted across international media as well as by campaigners, researchers, and policy-makers.

Andrew Simms published several articles during the reporting

year, notably in *New Scientist* (above), *The Ecologist*, and the Rapid Transition Alliance website. He was also interviewed on the *BBC World Service* on fossil fuel advertising.

Keith Baker wrote an article for *The Conversation*, Philip Webber authored a piece in CND's *Campaign* newsletter, and Jan Maskell had an article published on the Society of Occupational Medicine website.

SGR has also been quoted by numerous other outlets including *BBC News online*, *Financial Times*, *i news*, *Wired*, *Morning Star*, *Physics World*, *Media Lens*, *DeSmog* and *New Left Review*.



## SGR WEBSITE

SGR's website continued to be one of the main ways we communicate with the world, especially when social contact was limited due to COVID-19 restrictions. There were 64,000 page-views during the reporting period. Among the most popular outputs were: 'The carbon boot-print of the military' (viewed 3,100 times); '1.5C Living Targets' (viewed 2,800 times); and 'UK nuclear weapons: a catastrophe in the making' (viewed nearly 1,400 times).

## RESPONSIBLE SCIENCE JOURNAL

In April 2022, we published the fourth edition of the *Responsible Science* journal, with 44 pages of high-quality material.

There were 18 features articles, including:

- 'A new era of activist science;
- 'To scare or not to scare? Is a message of fear more effective than a message of hope?';
- 'Solving the UK's energy crisis: Heat pumps and insulation for peace?';
- 'Has our society forgotten the extreme horror of nuclear weapons?';
- 'Towards a fair consumption space'; and
- 'Militarising research: The dark side of Global Britain's science agenda'.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

We continued to run two email lists – SGRforum and SGRupdate – as well as using Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Instagram to promote our activities.

Including social media accounts run by staff and committee members, at year end, we had nearly 23,000 followers through these channels.

## ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS

### STAFF

Stuart Parkinson continued as Executive Director, Andrew Simms as Assistant Director, Jan Maskell as Education Director, and Emily Heath as Finance and Membership Manager. Sadly, during the course of the year, we said goodbye to Liz Kalaugher (Responsible Science Campaigner), Liam Killeen (Assistant Campaigner), and Lucia Simmons (Communications Assistant), as funding came to an end for each of their posts.

### FROM NATIONAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The NCC – chaired by Philip Webber, with Jan Maskell as Vice-Chair – continued to provide oversight of SGR's activities until the end of the financial year, 28 February 2023. At the AGM in November 2022, Philip, Jan, Keith Baker, Nico Edwards, and Simon Reed were re-elected. Liam Killeen stood down.

Following the overwhelming votes at the AGM (see p.4) to transition to a Company Limited by Guarantee, this CLG formally took over the identity of SGR on 1 March 2023. The co-ordinating body of the CLG is the Board of Directors, which comprised Philip Webber (Chair), Jan Maskell (Vice-chair), Keith Baker, Emily Heath, Stuart Parkinson, and Simon Reed. Nico Edwards became an Advisor to the Board. All these appointments were confirmed by votes at the AGM.

We thank all our staff and volunteers for their hard work.

## ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT

In August 2022, we achieved 'Level Bronze' accreditation with Investors in the Environment ([www.iie.uk.com](http://www.iie.uk.com)). This involved reviewing our environmental policy, auditing our resource use (focusing on gas, electricity, travel, and paper), and producing a comprehensive Environmental Management System report and action plan.

SGR's total Scope 1-3 emissions have long been relatively small, but we managed to reduce them further (from 1.72 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2019-20 to 0.42 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2021-22), mainly by eliminating commuter travel through the relocation of the SGR office. Business travel also reduced during COVID-19 lockdowns, and we plan to continue to hold our meetings and conferences online to keep our business travel emissions low. We have been encouraging SGR members to switch to digital communications where possible, and many have done so.

All SGR staff and NCC members participated in our 1.5C Living Targets project (see p.3) by signing up to as many of 10 targets as each person felt able to (almost all of them in some cases).

SGR will be working towards iie 'Level Silver' in 2023-24.



# FINANCIAL REVIEW

SGR’s finances for this reporting period (from March 2022 to February 2023 inclusive) continued to be healthy, but there was a significant reduction in our income and only a relatively small reduction in our expenditure compared to the previous year.

A detailed breakdown of our income and expenditure is shown in the tables and figures.

## INCOME

Total income fell by nearly £41k compared to the previous year.

We received project-related grants (including overheads) of: £7,500 from the National Lottery Climate Action Fund for the Closing Loops (sustainable food) project; and £4,283 from the Minor Foundation for work on the climate impacts of the military. We received grants towards core costs from The Martin Ryle Trust (MRT) totalling £8,098, plus a restricted grant of £2,500 from the MRT towards the legal costs associated with SGR’s transition to a Company Limited by Guarantee.

Income from membership subscriptions was down compared to the previous year. The apparent large drop in income from the 2022 appeal was partly because the previous year’s accounts included some donations from the 2020 appeal as well as the 2021 appeal. However, there was also a genuine reduction in income that comes directly from members and supporters is probably due to the increased cost of living.

The 2022 Responsible Science conference was again online and free (see p.4), but asking for optional donations during registration generated some additional income.

## OVERALL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

<b>Opening balance 01.03.22</b>	<b>£59,327</b>
Income	£46,700
Expenditure	£75,085
Income minus expenditure	-£28,385
<b>Closing balance 28.02.23</b>	<b>£30,942</b>

*NB All figures rounded to the nearest pound;  
totals may not sum exactly due to rounding.*

INCOME	2021-22	2022-23
Membership subscriptions	£18,661	£16,502
Membership appeal	£10,863	£5,258
Grants	£48,805	£22,381
Donations	£9,216	£2,128
Conference income	£0	£254
Publication sales	£2	£57
Interest	£18	£120
<b>Total</b>	<b>£87,565</b>	<b>£46,700</b>

At the end of the reporting period, we had 658 members and supporters (similar to the previous year).

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure was slightly reduced this year, mainly due to some of our projects coming to an end or reducing their activity substantially (i.e. One Planet One Life, Science4Society Week, Globally Responsible Careers and our Responsible Science Campaign). We began a new project (Closing Loops) and continued our work on Climate Change and the Military.

SGR ended the 2022-23 financial year with a satisfactory level of reserves, equivalent to about 6 months core operating costs. Core costs (including salaries, rent and utilities) are projected to rise again in 2023-24, so we have been considering options for reducing our expenditure and increasing our income so that reserves do not fall too much below the current level. Our decision not to print the Annual Report and post it to members will reduce our core costs and environmental impact.

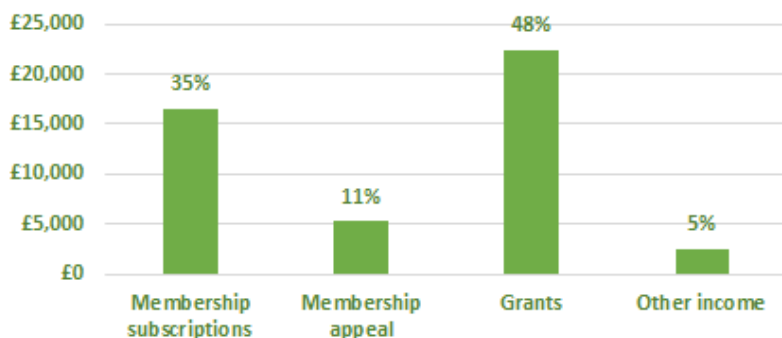
As ever, our finances continue to depend on the success of grant applications and the generosity of donors.

We are very grateful to all who supported SGR’s work this year.

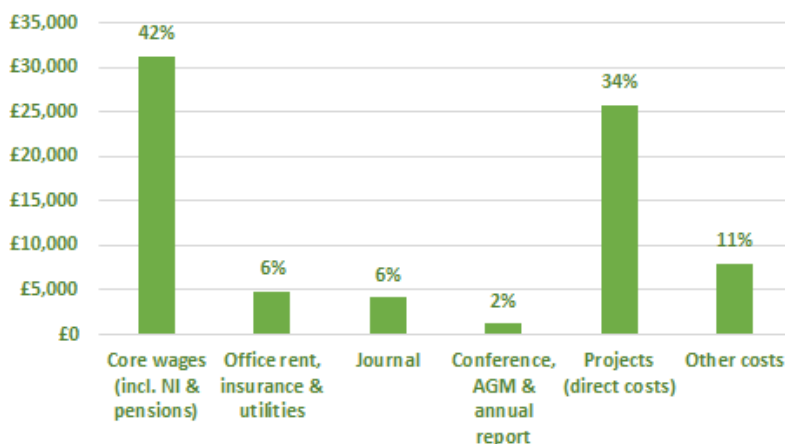
EXPENDITURE	2021-22	2023-23
Core wages (incl. NI & pensions)	£28,344	£31,248
Office rent, insurance, utilities	£5,242	£4,798
Recruitment	£1,591	£505
Responsible Science journal	£3,493	£4,132
Conference, AGM & Annual Report	£1,312	£1,210
Other core costs	£7,332	£7,418
One Planet - One Life project	£3,017	£0
Science 4 Society Week project	£2,323	£575
Globally Responsible Careers project	£6,850	£188
Responsible Science campaign	£20,933	£15,188
Climate Change and the Military project	£496	£3,824
Closing Loops project	£0	£6,000
TOTAL	£80,932	£75,085

NB All figures rounded to the nearest pound; totals may not sum exactly due to rounding.

## INCOME 2022-23



## EXPENDITURE 2022-23



**SGR**  
responsible science

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