# **Argidius 2024 Grantee Perception Report**

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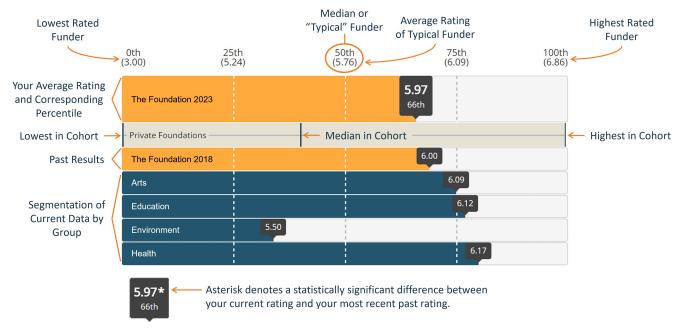
The online version of this report can be accessed at cep.surveyresults.org

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## **Survey Information**

Many of the charts in this report are shown in this format. See below for an explanation of the chart elements.



Missing data: Selected grantee ratings are not displayed in this report due to changes in the survey instrument, or when a question received fewer than eight responses.

Throughout this report, Argidius's survey results are compared to CEP's broader dataset of more than 60,000 grantee responses from over 350 funders built up over more than a decade of grantee surveys. A list of some funders who have recently participated in the GPR can be found at https://cep.org/gpr-participants/.

#### Subgroups

In addition to showing Argidius's overall ratings, this report shows ratings segmented by Strategy. The online version of this report also shows ratings segmented by Program Area, Geography, General Performance Rating, Length of Relationship, Number of Grants, and Respondent Gender.

Strategy	Number of Responses
Capacity	11
Geography	26
Program Area	Number of Responses
Organizational Development	9
Accelerator	17
Access to Finance	8
Geography	Number of Responses
Africa	17
Latin America and the Caribbean	15
Global	8
General Performance Ranking	Number of Responses
Strong	19
Potential for Improvement and Limited Performance	10

General Performance Ranking	Number of Responses
Too Early	11
Length of Relationship	Number of Responses
1 to 3 Years	13
4 to 8 Years	13
9 Years or Longer	14
Number of Grants	Number of Responses
One Grant	14
Multiple Grants	26
Respondent Gender	Number of Responses
Identifies as a Man	20
Identifies as a Woman	20

## **Customized Cohort**

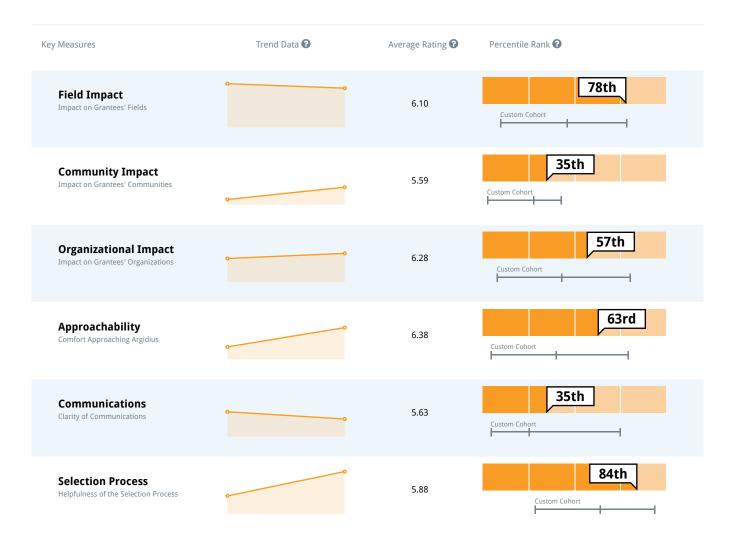
Argidius selected a set of 14 funders to create a smaller comparison group that more closely resembles Argidius in scale and scope.

LUS	tom	CO	nort	

Argidius
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Citi Foundation
Comic Relief
wing Marion Kauffman Foundation
Ford Foundation
audes Foundation
Omidyar Network
Porticus
Robin Hood Foundation
Segal Family Foundation
The Rockefeller Foundation
litol Foundation
Valton Family Foundation

## **Key Ratings Summary**

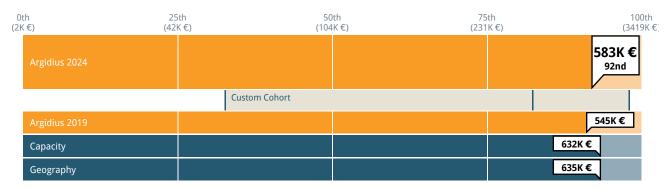
The following chart highlights a selection of Argidius' key results. Each of these data points corresponds to an individual survey measure that is displayed with additional detail in the subsequent pages of this report.



## **Grantmaking Characteristics**

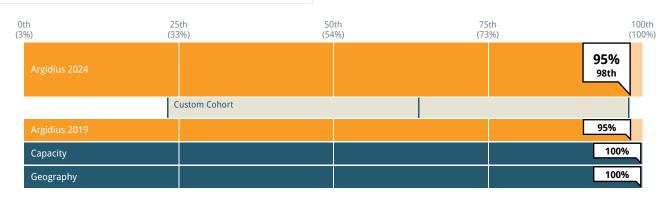
Funders make different choices about the ways they organize themselves, structure their grants, and the types of grantees they support. The following charts and tables show some of these important characteristics. The information is based on self-reported data from funders and grantees, and further detail is available in the Contextual Data section of this report.

#### **Median Grant Size**



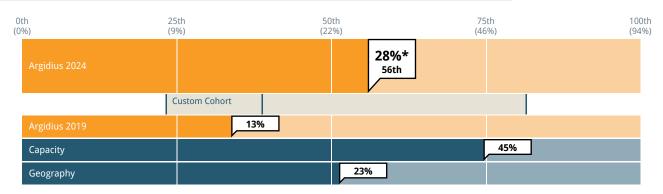
#### **Proportion of Multi-year Grants**

Proportion of grantees that report receiving grants for two years or longer



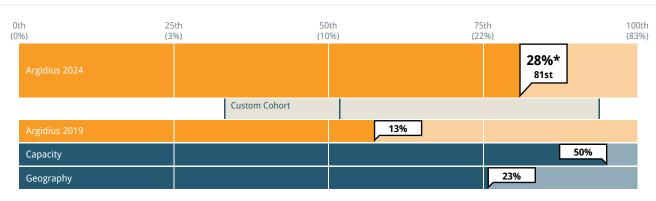
## **Proportion of Unrestricted Funding**

Proportion of grantees responding 'No, this funding was not restricted to a specific use (e.g., general operating, core support)'

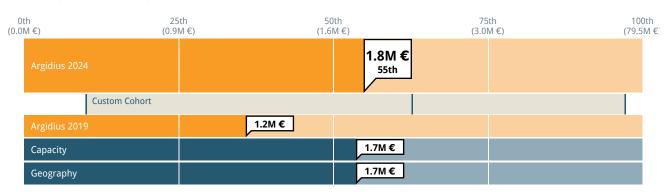


#### **Proportion of Multi-year Unrestricted Grants**

Proportion of grantees that report receiving grants for two years or longer and who report receiving general operating support funding that was not restricted to a specific use.



## **Median Organizational Budget**



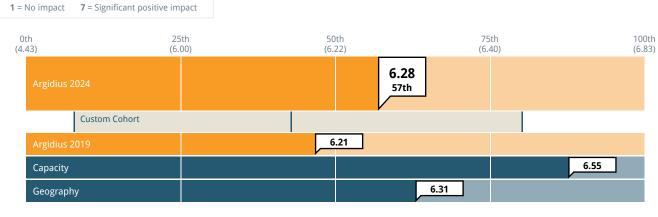
Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort				
Grant History	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
Percentage of first-time grants	36%	62%	29%	34%

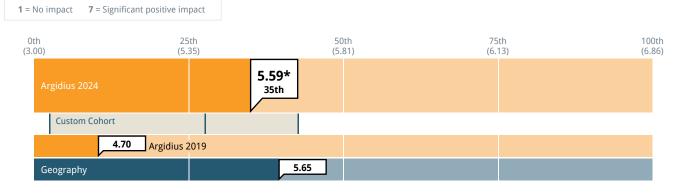
Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort				
Program Staff Load	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Median Funder	Custom Cohort
Dollars awarded per program full-time employee	2.6M €	10.5M €	2.4M €	2.4M €
Applications per program full-time employee	7	7	23	N/A
Active grants per program full-time employee	24	22	31	19

## **Overall Impact**

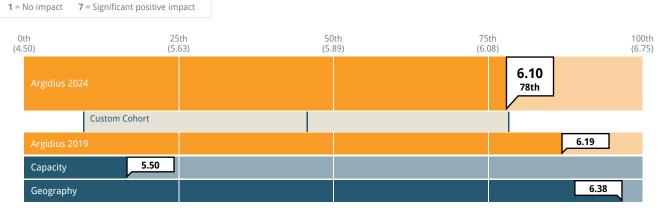
## Overall, how would you rate Argidius' impact on your organization?



## Overall, how would you rate Argidius' impact on your local community?



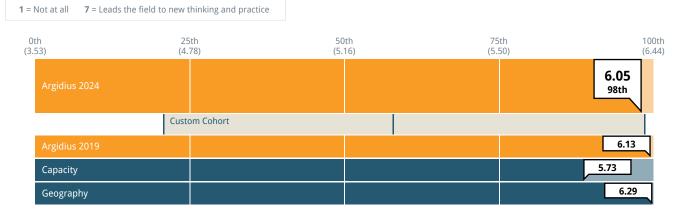
#### Overall, how would you rate Argidius' impact on your field?



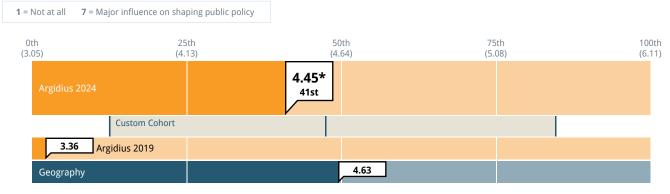
Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

## **Advancing Knowledge and Public Policy**

## To what extent has Argidius advanced the state of knowledge in your field?



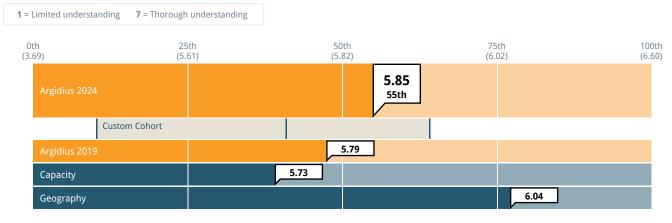
## To what extent has Argidius affected public policy in your field?



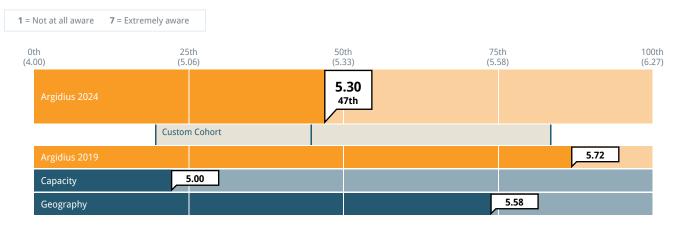
Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

## **Overall Understanding**

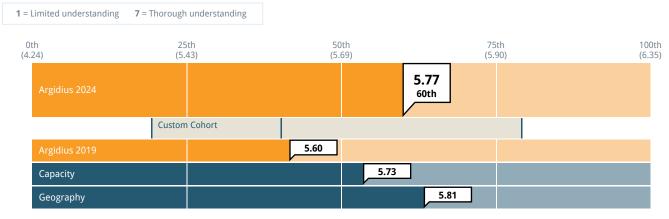
## How well does Argidius understand your organization's strategy and goals?



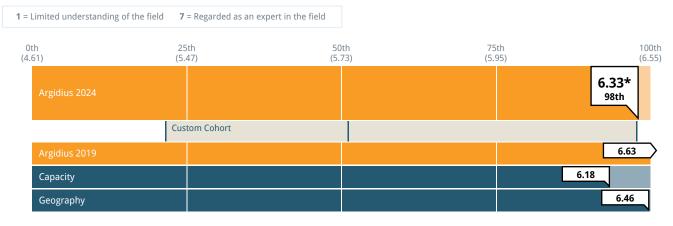
## How aware is Argidius of the challenges that your organization is facing?



#### How well does Argidius understand the social, cultural, or socioeconomic factors that affect your work?



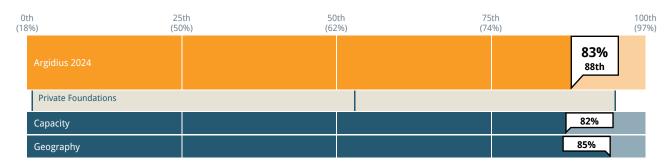
## How well does Argidius understand the field in which you work?



## **Assistance Beyond the Grant**

## **Proportion of Grantees Receiving Assistance Beyond the Grant**

Proportion of grantees who indicate receiving at least one form of assistance beyond the grant

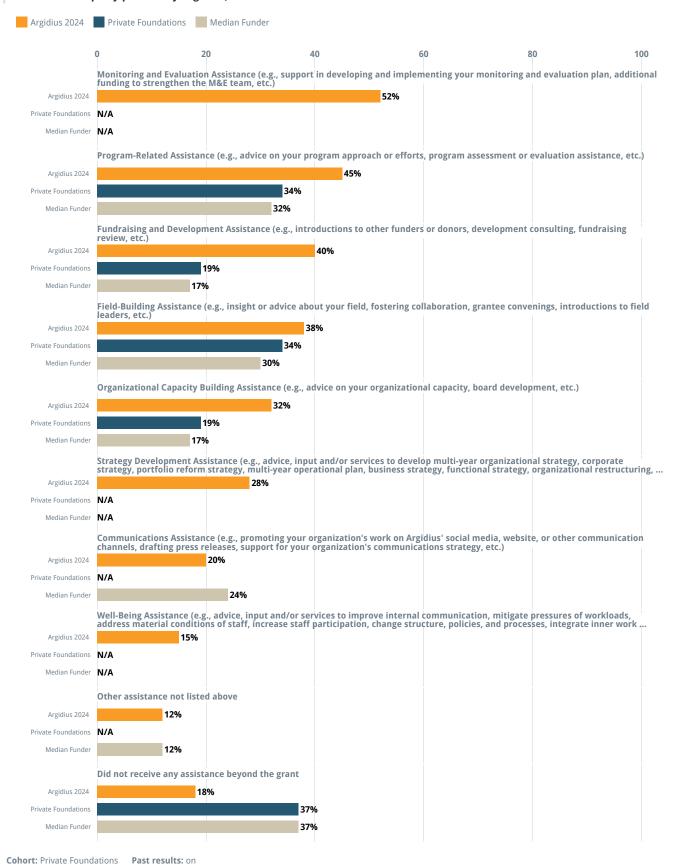


Cohort: Private Foundations Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

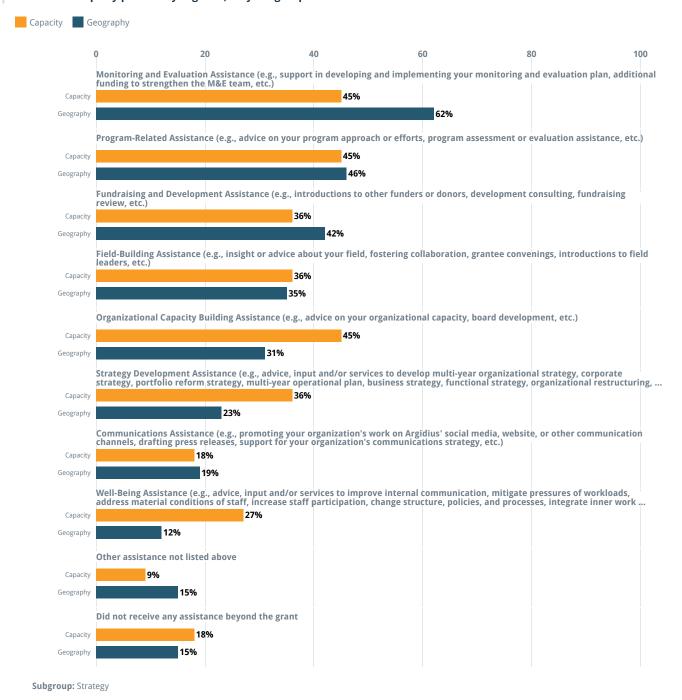
In the survey, respondents were asked about the assistance beyond the grant they received in a check-all-that-apply format. Therefore, the following charts provide greater detail on the previous assistance beyond the grant question.

Please note that "Communications Assistance" and "Other assistance not listed above" were added as options to this question in 2024, and these options depict comparative data from fewer than 25 funders in the dataset.

# Please indicate any types of assistance beyond the grant that were a component of what you received from Argidius (from staff or a third party paid for by Argidius).



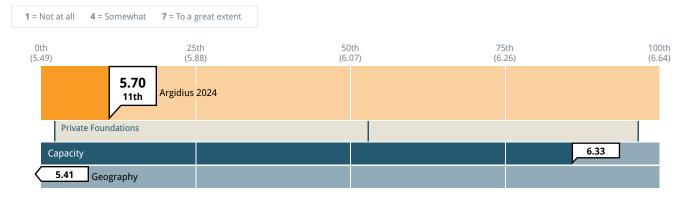
# Please indicate any types of assistance beyond the grant that were a component of what you received from Argidius (from staff or a third party paid for by Argidius). - By Subgroup



Note: The following questions were asked only of grantees who indicated receiving at least one form of assistance beyond the grant in the previous question.

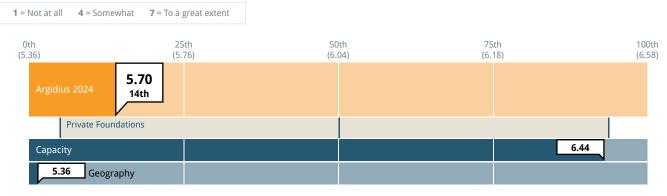
Please rate the extent to which you agree with the following statements about the assistance beyond the grant you received from Argidius.

## The support I received met an important need for my organization and/or program



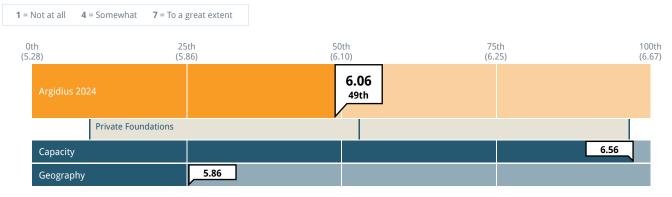
Cohort: Private Foundations Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

## The support I received strengthened my organization and/or program



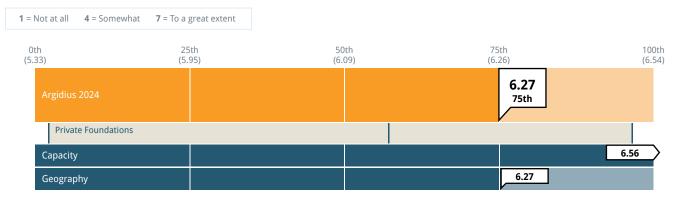
Cohort: Private Foundations Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

### Argidius' assistance beyond the grant was a worthwhile use of the time required of us



Cohort: Private Foundations Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

## I felt Argidius would be open to feedback about the assistance beyond the grant it provided

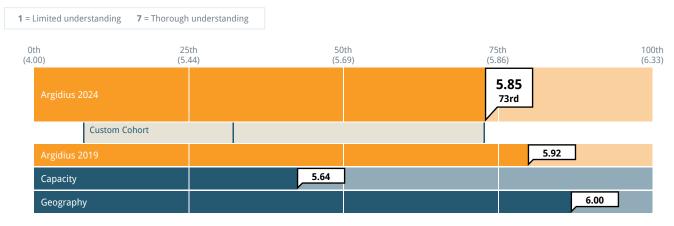


Cohort: Private Foundations Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

## **People and Communities Served**

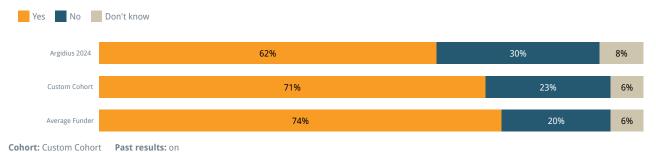
In the following question, we use the phrase "the people and communities that you serve" to refer to those your organization seeks to serve through the services and/or programs it provides.

## How well does Argidius understand the needs of the people and communities that you serve?

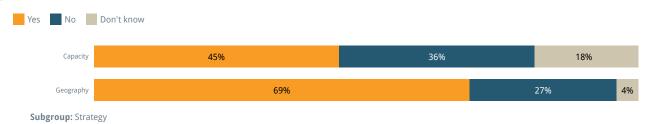


Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

## Are the efforts funded by this grant primarily meant to benefit historically disadvantaged groups?



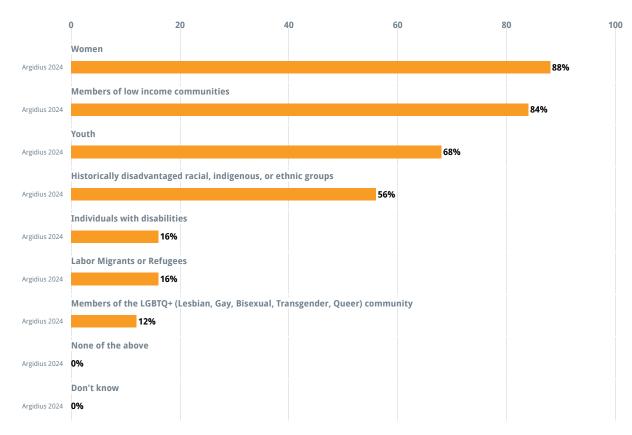
## Are the efforts funded by this grant primarily meant to benefit historically disadvantaged groups? - By Subgroup



The following question is asked only of grantees who answered "yes" to the question "Are the efforts funded by this grant primarily meant to benefit historically disadvantaged groups?"

# Specifically, are any of the following populations the primary intended people and/or communities served by the efforts funded by this grant?

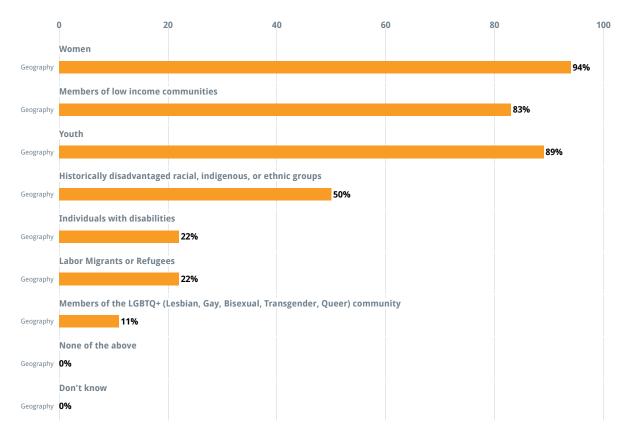




Cohort: None Past results: on

# Specifically, are any of the following populations the primary intended people and/or communities served by the efforts funded by this grant? - By Subgroup

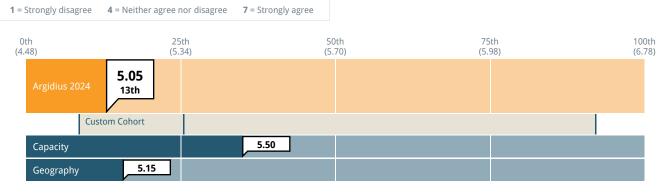




Subgroup: Strategy

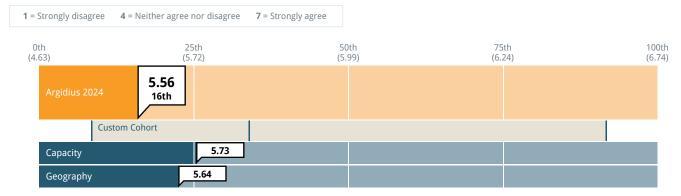
## **Gender Equity and Social Inclusion**

To what extent do you agree or disagree that Argidius has clearly communicated what Gender Equity and Social Inclusion means for its work?



Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

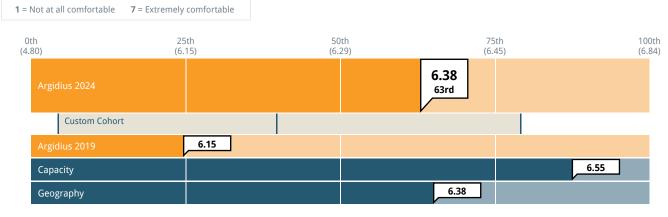
To what extent do you agree or disagree that Argidius demonstrates an explicit commitment to Gender Equity and Social Inclusion in its work?



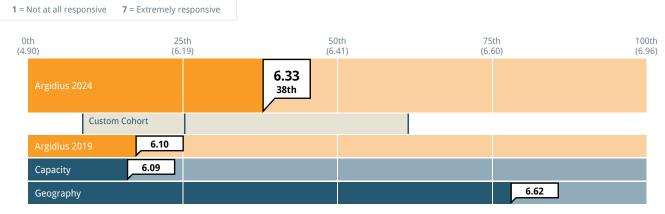
Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

## **Funder-Grantee Relationships**

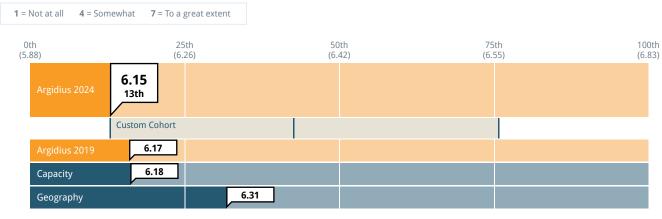
## How comfortable do you feel approaching Argidius if a problem arises?



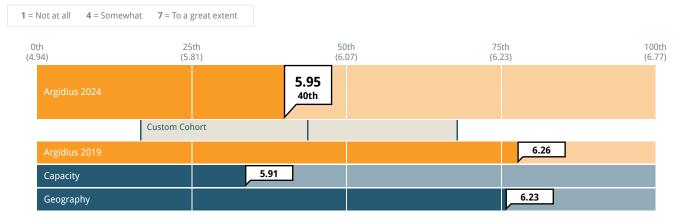
## Overall, how responsive was Argidius staff?



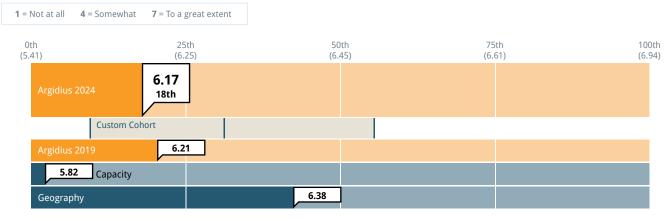
## To what extent did Argidius exhibit trust in your organization's staff during this grant?



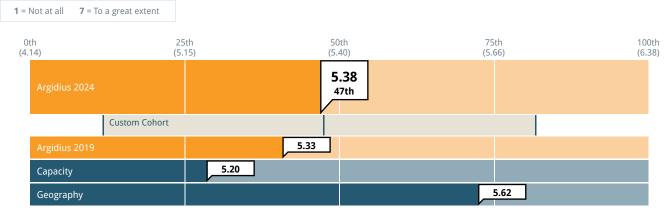
## To what extent did Argidius exhibit candor about Argidius' perspectives on your work during this grant?



#### To what extent did Argidius exhibit compassion for those affected by your work during this grant?



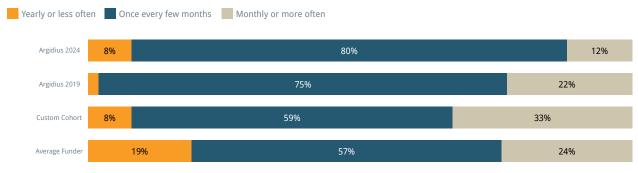
#### To what extent is Argidius open to ideas from grantees about its strategy?



Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

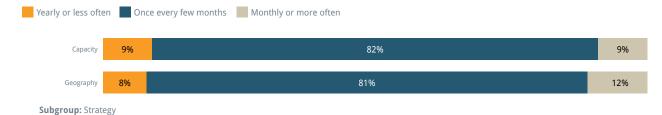
## **Interaction Patterns**

## How often do/did you have contact with your primary contact during this grant?

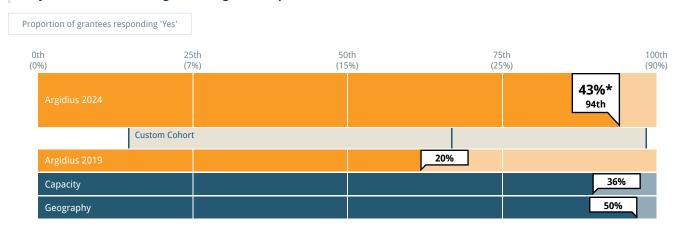


#### Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on

#### How often do/did you have contact with your primary contact during this grant? - By Subgroup

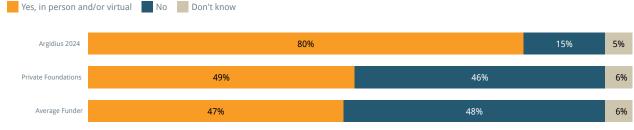


## Has your main contact at Argidius changed in the past six months?



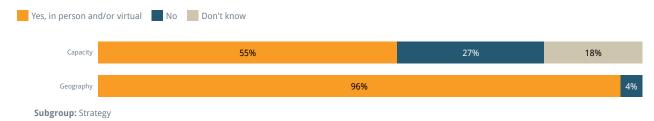
Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

#### At any point during this grant, including the selection process, did Argidius staff conduct a site visit?



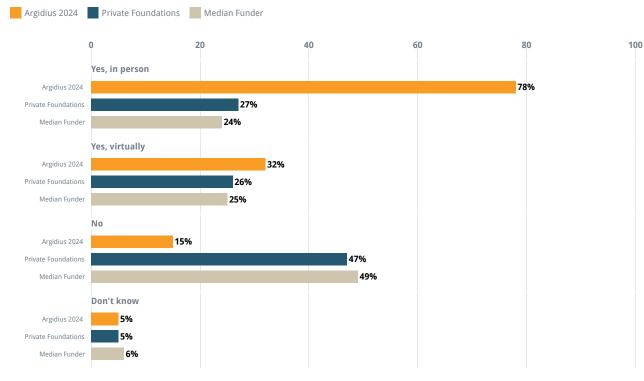
Cohort: Private Foundations Past results: on

## At any point during this grant, including the selection process, did Argidius staff conduct a site visit? - By Subgroup



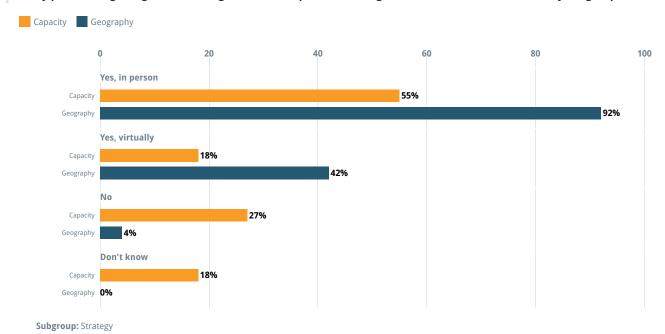
In the survey, respondents were asked the site visit question in a check-all-that-apply format. Therefore, the following charts provide greater detail on the previous site visit question.

## At any point during this grant, including the selection process, did Argidius staff conduct a site visit?



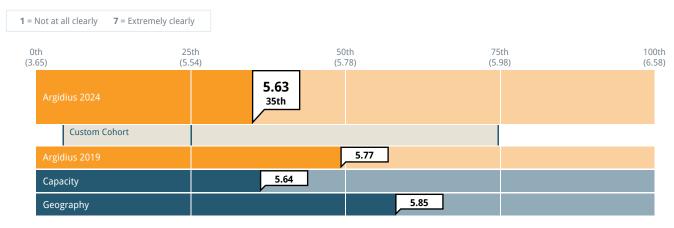
**Cohort:** Private Foundations Past results: on

## At any point during this grant, including the selection process, did Argidius staff conduct a site visit? - By Subgroup

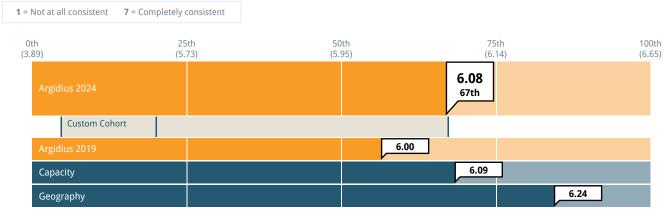


## Communication

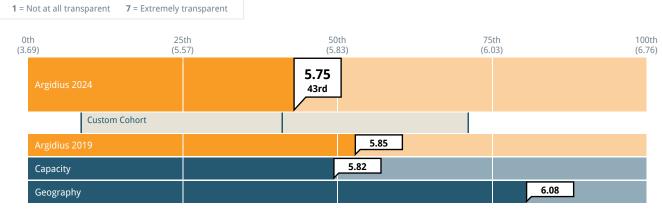
## How clearly has Argidius communicated its goals and strategy to you?



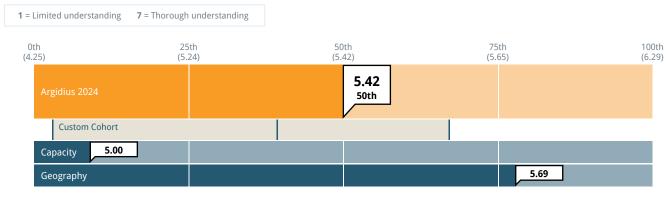
# How consistent was the information provided by different communication resources, both personal and written, that you used to learn about Argidius?



## Overall, how transparent is Argidius with your organization?

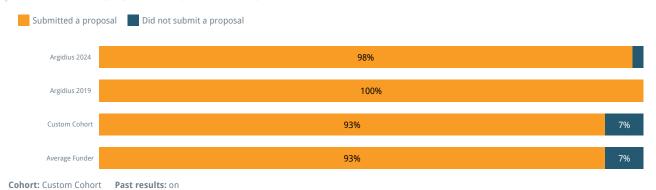


## How well do you understand the way in which the work funded by this grant fits into Argidius' broader efforts?



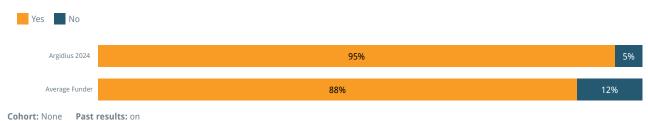
#### **Grant Processes**

## Did you submit a proposal to Argidius for this grant?

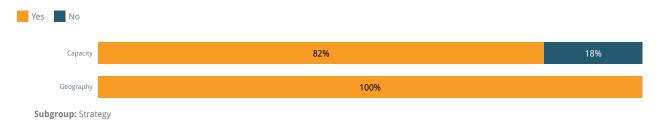


The following question was only asked of grantees that indicated submitting a proposal for their grant. This question was recently added to the grantee survey and depicts comparative data from fewer than 25 funders in the dataset.

## Did you have contact with an Argidius staff member via phone, email, or in-person/video before you applied?



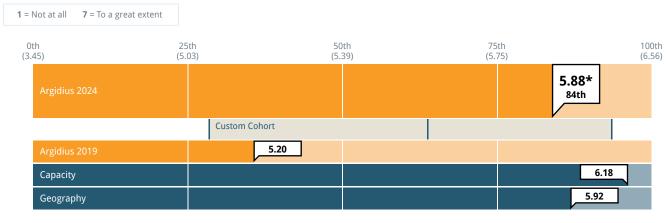
## Did you have contact with an Argidius staff member via phone, email, or in-person/video before you applied? - By Subgroup



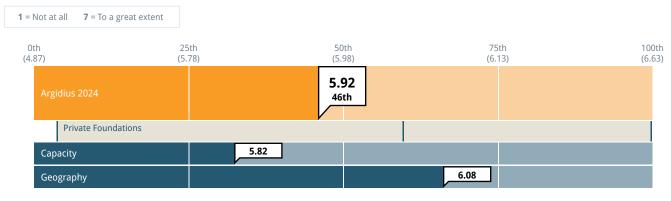
## **Selection Process**

Please note that CEP modified the following question in 2022. The prior question text was: "How helpful was participating in the Foundation's selection process in strengthening the organization/program funded by the grant?" The corresponding anchors were "not at all helpful" and "extremely helpful."

## To what extent was Argidius' selection process a helpful opportunity to strengthen the efforts funded by the grant?

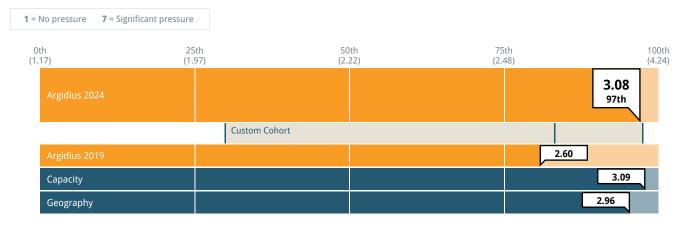


#### To what extent was Argidius' selection process an appropriate level of effort given the amount of funding received?

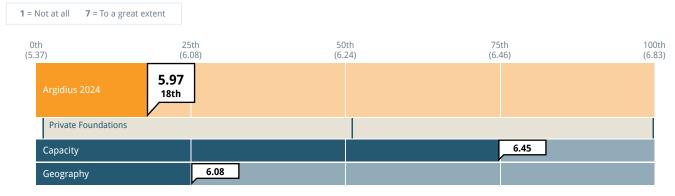


Cohort: Private Foundations Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

# As you developed your grant proposal, how much pressure did you feel to modify your organization's priorities in order to create a grant proposal that was likely to receive funding?

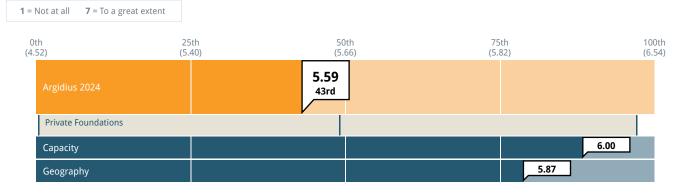


## To what extent was Argidius clear and transparent about the selection process requirements and timelines?



Cohort: Private Foundations Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

# To what extent was Argidius clear and transparent about the criteria Argidius uses to decide whether a proposal would be funded or declined?



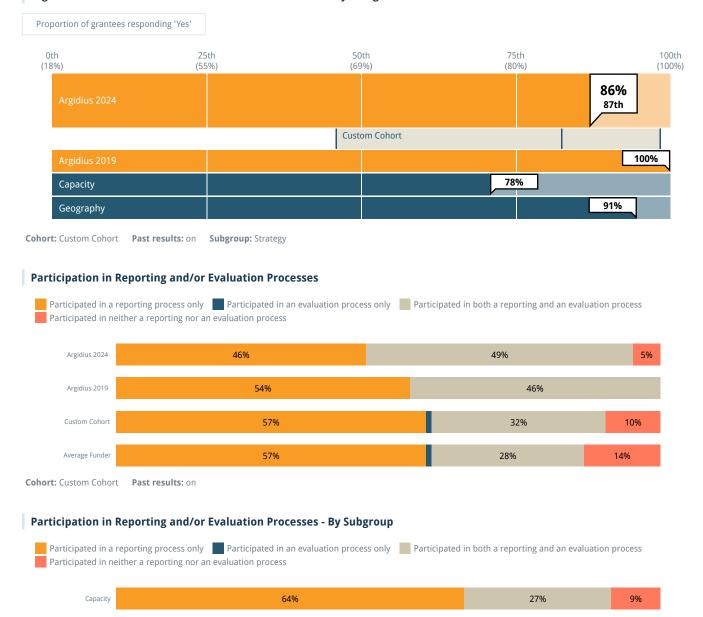
Cohort: Private Foundations Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

## **Reporting and Evaluation Process**

## **Definition of Reporting and Evaluation**

- "Reporting" Argidius's standard oversight, monitoring, and grant reporting.
- "Evaluation" formal activities beyond reporting undertaken by Argidius to assess or learn about a grant, a program, or Argidius's efforts.

# At any point during the proposal or the grant period, did Argidius and your organization exchange ideas regarding how your organization would assess the results of the work funded by this grant?



# **Reporting Process**

Geography

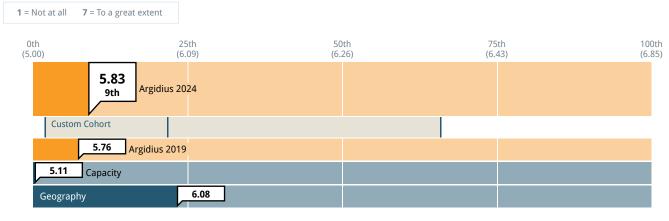
Subgroup: Strategy

32%

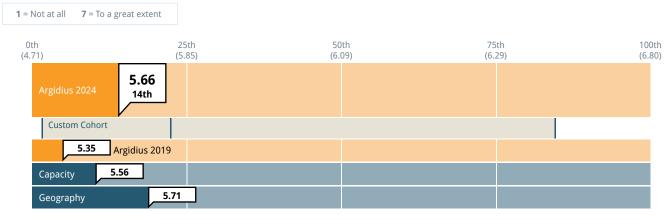
The following questions were only asked of grantees that indicated having participated in a reporting process. See the "Reporting and Evaluation Process" page for data on the proportion of grantees participating in this process.

64%

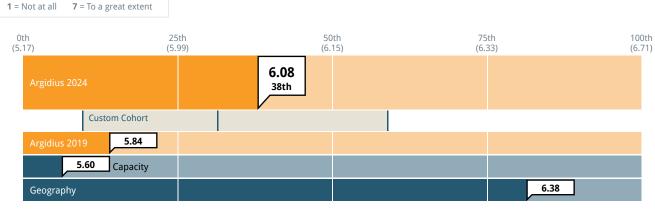
## To what extent was Argidius' reporting process straightforward?



#### To what extent was Argidius' reporting process adaptable, if necessary, to fit your circumstances?

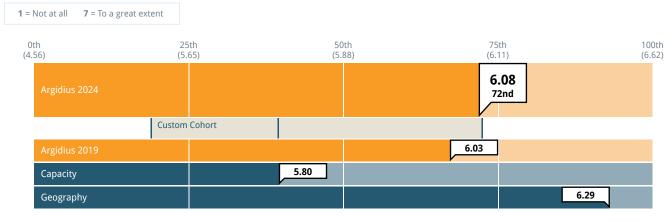


# To what extent was Argidius' reporting process relevant, with questions and measures pertinent to the work funded by this grant?



Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

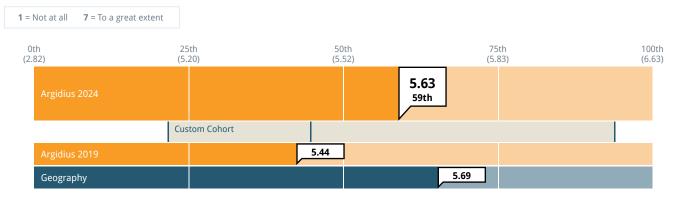
## To what extent was Argidius' reporting process a helpful opportunity for you to reflect and learn?



## **Evaluation Process**

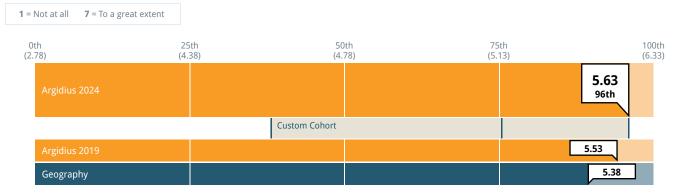
The following questions were only asked of grantees that indicated having participated in an evaluation process. See the "Reporting and Evaluation Process" page for data on the proportion of grantees participating in this process.

## To what extent did the evaluation incorporate input from your organization in the design of the evaluation?



Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

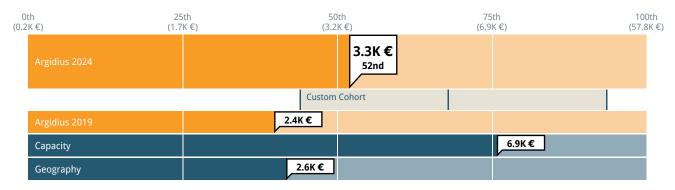
## To what extent did the evaluation result in your organization making changes to the work that was evaluated?



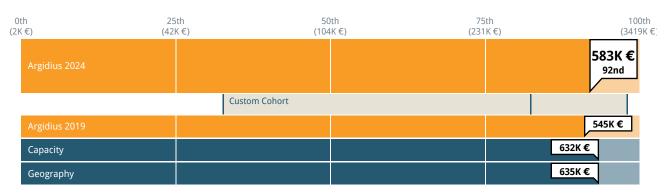
## **Monetary Return and Time Spent on Processes**

## Monetary Return: Median grant amount awarded per process hour required



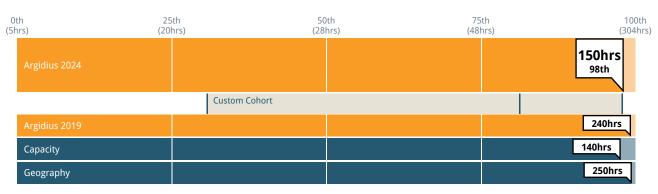


#### **Median Grant Size**



Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

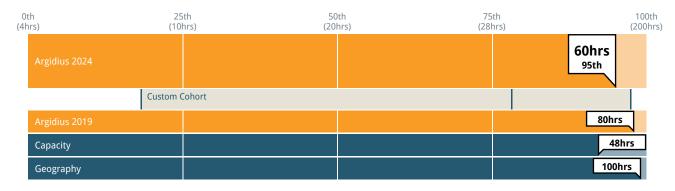
#### Median hours spent by grantees on funder requirements over grant lifetime



Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on Subgroup: Strategy

## **Time Spent on Selection Process**

## **Median Hours Spent on Proposal and Selection Process**

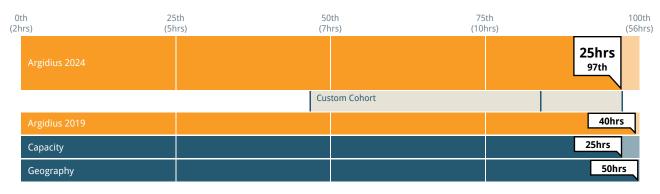


Time Count On Dunmand and Calentina Dunana	Augidius 2024	Aunidius 2040	Assaura Francis	Custom Cabout
Time Spent On Proposal and Selection Process	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
1 to 9 hours	0%	0%	26%	14%
10 to 19 hours	11%	2%	22%	17%
20 to 29 hours	3%	8%	16%	15%
30 to 39 hours	0%	5%	7%	8%
40 to 49 hours	24%	12%	10%	13%
50 to 99 hours	21%	28%	10%	15%
100 to 199 hours	24%	22%	5%	10%
200+ hours	18%	22%	3%	7%

Time Spent On Proposal and Selection Process (By Subgroup)	Capacity	Geography
1 to 9 hours	0%	0%
10 to 19 hours	9%	8%
20 to 29 hours	0%	4%
30 to 39 hours	0%	0%
40 to 49 hours	45%	8%
50 to 99 hours	27%	21%
100 to 199 hours	9%	33%
200+ hours	9%	25%

# **Time Spent on Reporting and Evaluation Process**

### Median Hours Spent on Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation Process Per Year

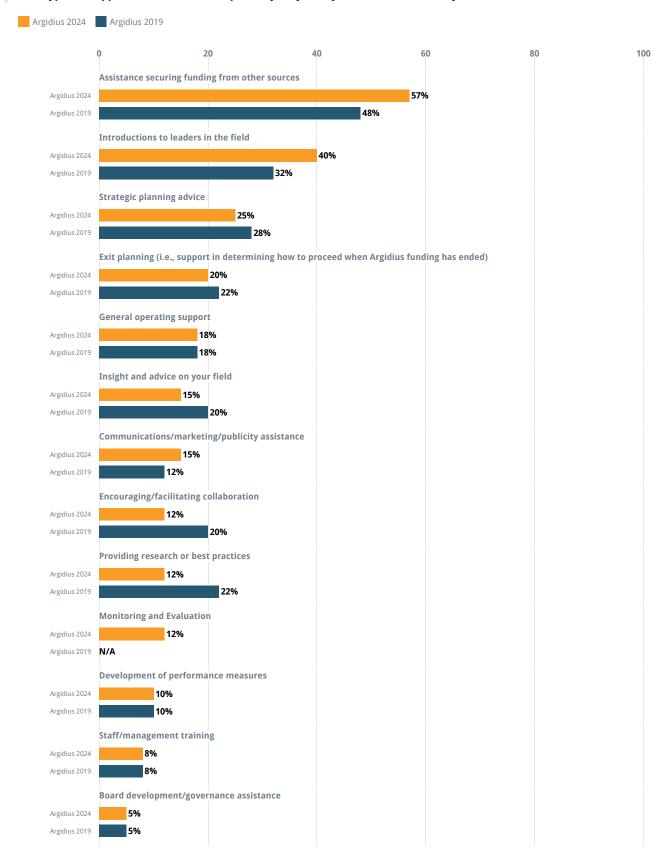


Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort				
Time Spent On Monitoring, Reporting, And Evaluation Process (Annualized)	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
1 to 9 hours	17%	11%	57%	41%
10 to 19 hours	26%	16%	19%	21%
20 to 29 hours	11%	21%	9%	12%
30 to 39 hours	3%	0%	3%	5%
40 to 49 hours	3%	8%	3%	5%
50 to 99 hours	17%	21%	4%	9%
100+ hours	23%	24%	4%	8%

Selected Subgroup: Strategy			
Time Spent On Monitoring, Reporting, And Evaluation Process (Annualized) (By Subgroup)	Capacity	Geography	
1 to 9 hours	11%	13%	
10 to 19 hours	22%	30%	
20 to 29 hours	33%	0%	
30 to 39 hours	0%	4%	
40 to 49 hours	11%	0%	
50 to 99 hours	11%	22%	
100+ hours	11%	30%	

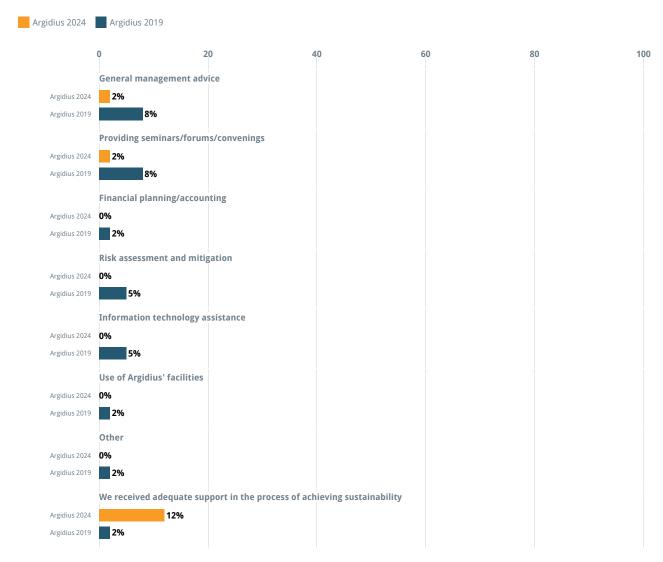
# **Custom Questions**

#### What types of support would be most helpful on your journey towards sustainability?



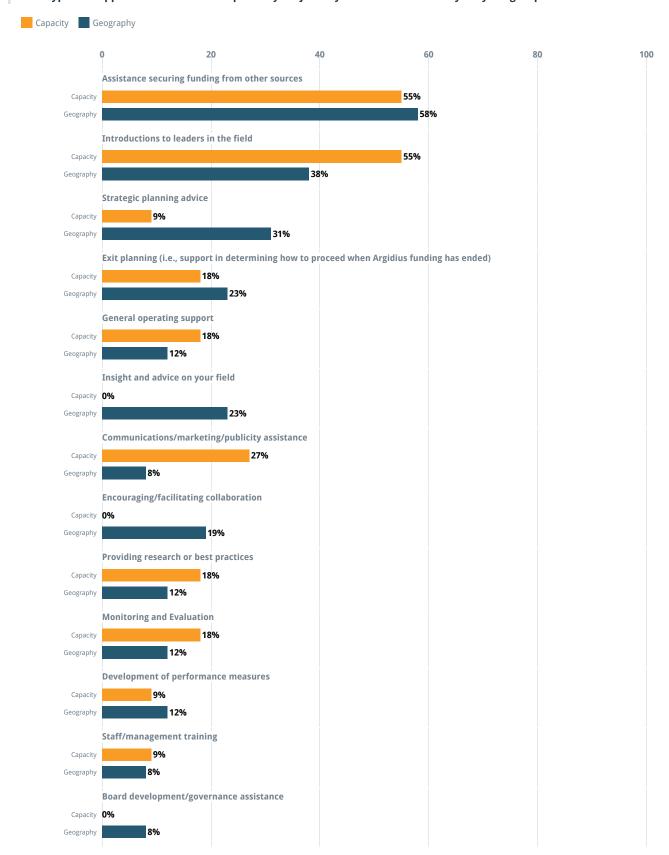
Cohort: None Past results: on

### What types of support would be most helpful on your journey towards sustainability? (cont.)



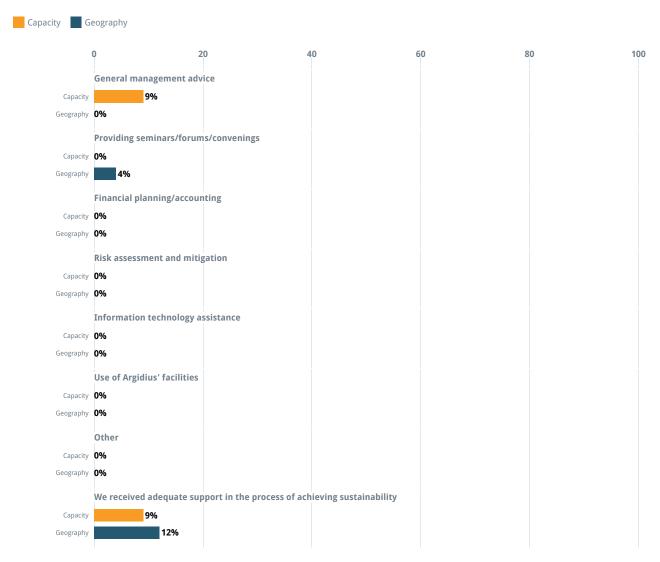
Cohort: None Past results: on

#### What types of support would be most helpful on your journey towards sustainability? - By Subgroup



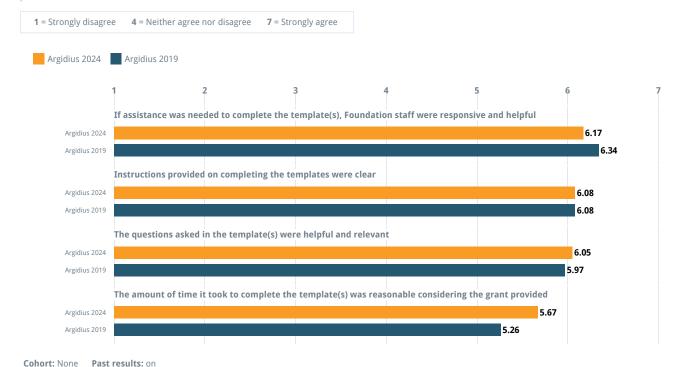
Subgroup: Strategy

### What types of support would be most helpful on your journey towards sustainability? - By Subgroup (cont.)



Subgroup: Strategy

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements concerning Argidius' application and reporting templates (including the logframe, partner income form, and reporting guidelines)?



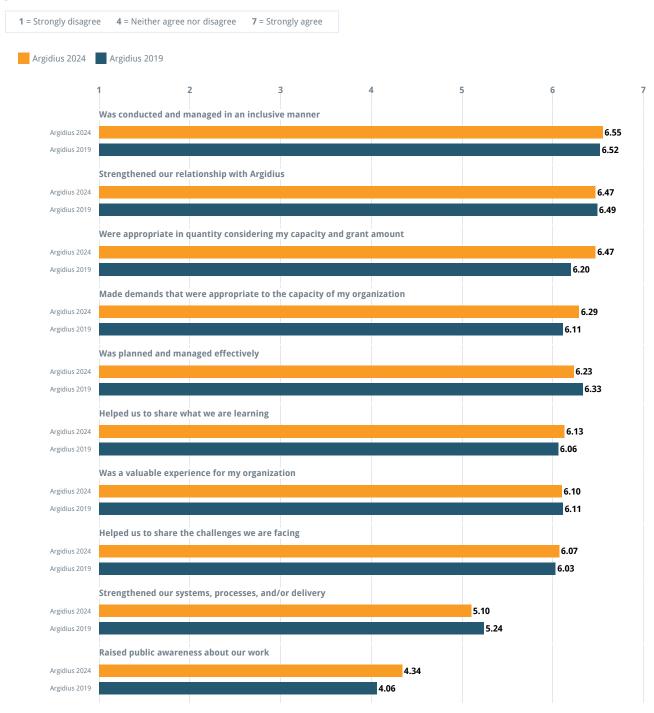
How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements concerning Argidius' application and reporting templates (including the logframe, partner income form, and reporting guidelines)? - By Subgroup



#### **Additional Custom Questions**

Note: This question was shown only to grantees who indicated having received a site visit from Argidius in a separate survey question (80% of grantees). For more information, please see the Interaction Patterns page.

#### Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements: Argidius' visit(s) to my organization:

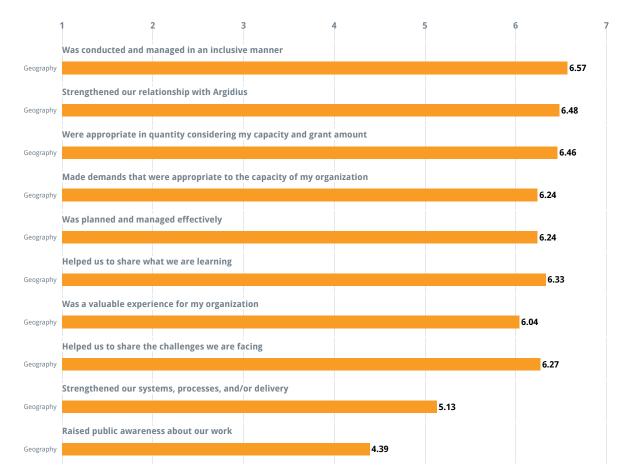


Cohort: None Past results: on

# Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements: Argidius' visit(s) to my organization: - By Subgroup



#### Geography

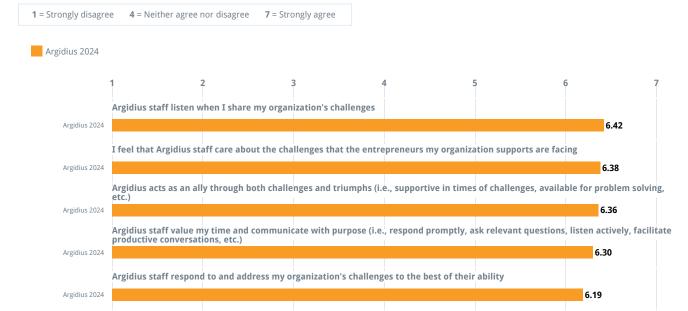


Subgroup: Strategy

6.13

6.13

#### To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



I feel that Argidius staff care about the challenges my organization is facing

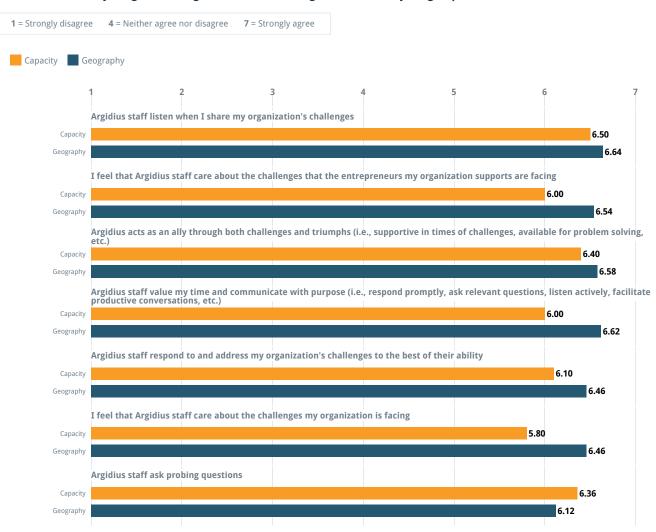
Argidius staff ask probing questions

Cohort: None Past results: on

Argidius 2024

Argidius 2024

#### To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - By Subgroup



**Subgroup:** Strategy

#### **Grantees' Written Comments**

In Argidius' Grantee Perception Report survey, CEP asks four written questions:

- 1. "Please comment on the quality of Argidius' processes, interactions, and communications."
- 2. "Thinking beyond the grant you received, please comment on how Argidius influences your field, community, or organization."
- 3. "What specific improvements would you suggest that would make Argidius a better funder?"
- 4. "What is the most significant change (positive or negative), if any, that has occurred as a result of your partnership with Argidius both as a result of funding and support beyond the grant check?"

To download the full set of grantee comments and suggestions, please refer to the Attachments in the Report Overview section of your report. Please note that some comments may be redacted or removed to protect the confidentiality of respondents.

#### **CEP's Qualitative Analysis**

CEP thoroughly reviews each comment submitted and conducts comprehensive qualitative analysis on two of these questions in the GPR.

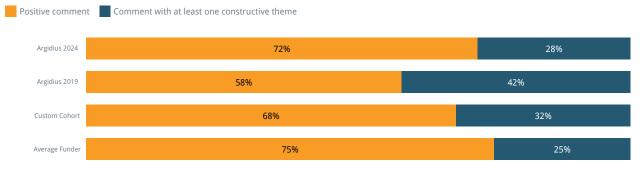
The following pages outline the results of CEP's analyses.

#### **Quality of Processes, Interactions and Communications**

Grantees were asked to comment on the quality of Argidius' processes, interactions, and communications. Their comments were then categorized by the nature of their content, specifically whether the content is positive, neutral or constructive.

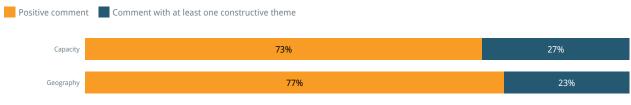
For a comment to be categorized as constructive, there must have been at least one constructive topic in its content.

#### Positivity of Comments about the Quality of Argidius' Processes, Interactions, and Communications



Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on

### Positivity of Comments about the Quality of Argidius' Processes, Interactions, and Communications - By Subgroup



Subgroup: Strategy

# **Suggestion Topics**

Grantees were asked to provide any suggestions for how Argidius could improve. The 40 grantees that responded to the survey provided 51 constructive suggestions. These suggestions were thematically categorized by CEP and grouped into the topics below.

#### **Proportion of Grantee Suggestions by Topic**

Topic of Suggestion	Proportion
Assistance Beyond the Grant	31%
Relationships with Grantees	25%
Argidius' Impact and Leadership	22%
Argidius Processes	16%
Other	6%

#### **Suggestions**

Grantees were asked to provide any suggestions for how Argidius could improve. The 40 grantees that responded to the survey provided a total of 51 distinct suggestions. These suggestions were thematically categorized by CEP and grouped into the topics below.

#### Assistance Beyond the Grant (31% N=16)

- Connect Grantees with Each Other and Other Funders (N = 9)
  - "I recommend that Argidius actively facilitate networking opportunities among its grantees. Creating a platform or organizing events where grantees can share their experiences, challenges, and successes would be invaluable. This not only fosters a sense of community but also enables grantees to leverage each other's learnings, expertise, and resources."
  - "I would be interested to be connected to other organizations that are funded or partners of Argidius to exchange learnings."
  - "Build and nurture the grantee community in general and around events."
  - "Argidius could play a more outspoken role in for example connecting grantees with other potential partners or funders..."
  - "We would appreciate connections with other potential donors or stakeholders we could share lessons learned with."
  - "More support for connecting and exchanging ideas, acceleration methodologies and lessons learned with other organizations in its network."
  - "Connections to other funders."
  - "Shopping good ideas they fund to other foundations would be helpful to fund and build them out over time."
  - "Maybe sponsoring more big conferences where these funders are like Socap and giving their investees a platform to talk at these events."
- Assistance with Metrics and Impact Measurement (N = 3)
  - "It would be interesting to include some global methodologies to help us standardize issues such as innovation (ISO 56001), tools for scenario and risk analysis (Crystal Ball) and a more in-depth analysis of qualitative indicators using the Underground Theory in order to obtain more in-depth information on the needs, perception, motivations and incentives of the groups of influence and/or beneficiaries."
  - "Update the Enterprise Level Data Sheet to a more comprenhensive tool to provide feeback to our beneficiaries."
  - "More support and methodological guidance on impact/results measurement."
- Amplify Grantees' Work (N = 2)
  - "Argidius could play a more outspoken role in... using their communications platforms to amplify the voices of their grantees."
  - "Be more vocal advocates for our work on social media. We see some of the same people/organisations being mentioned, would be ideal if it was more inclusive."
- More Support for Capacity Building (N = 2)
  - "Focus on the capacity building efforts within the supported organisations with the aim of strengthening their overall setup and sustainability financial, knowledge/skills-wise and impact-wise."
  - "Recognize the critical importance of technical assistance in achieving sustainable impact. Consider integrating technical assistance components into
    access to finance grants."

#### Relationships with Grantees (25% N=13)

- Clearer and More Frequent Communications about Argidius' Work (N = 3)
  - "Introduce a biannual reporting or communication system to share updates on Argidius' strategies, successes, and lessons learned."
  - "Sharing more succinctly and frequently what they are looking to do with their funding decisions what changes in the field they are looking to make and sharing their own advancements towards their own metrics."
  - "Improve the communication of Argidius own strategy, theory of change and project portfolio which can enable greater collaboration, especially with regards to advocacy."
- More Field Visits (N = 3)
  - "Have more visits to our SGB's in field."
  - "That the field visits made by ARGIDIUS staff include getting to know the direct actions with the beneficiary, but also meetings to analyze the progress or limitations in organizational strengthening."
  - "Perhaps by coming to the field more often we would have more occasions to benefit from their experience."

- More Frequent Engagement with Grantees (N = 3)
  - "In the process of formulating proposals or projects, it is suggested that a virtual diagnostic meeting be included, during which the institutions can comment on how we are doing, what we are doing, and our limitations."
  - "Have occasionally informal moments for mutual feedback, discussing past/present/future."
  - "Build the relationship with us as an organisation more as its difficult to know how much to reach out to them."
- Prioritize Understanding Grantees' Work and Challenges (N = 3)
  - "Understand the long-term strategic direction of its grantees so it can better support them and connect them."
  - "More involvement on a ground level to truly understand the work, and support in whichever way possible."
  - "We suggest Argidius to gain a deeper understanding of these complexities inherent in the funding landscape to ease the collaboration process."
- Other Comments (N = 1)
  - "I [have had to wait] for guidance and I am bit surprised that even though in the e-mail communication regarding my inquiries various staff are included, apparently only one is able to answer as no one else is taken it up during his absence."

#### Argidius' Impact and Leadership (22% N=11)

- Collaborate with Other Funders to Increase Funding and Share Practices (N = 5)
  - "Do a 'hostile takeover' of [foundation name] and several other large cap foundations and help redirect those monies to more effective and efficient mode of operating, more collaborative approaches and a humility to listen to the 'on-the-ground' stakeholders to find more effective solutions."
  - "Trying to bring more (quasi) commercial funding to this space e.g. family offices, DFIs, high net work individuals, and using their data to help outstanding performers network into this group to leverage additional funding to scale."
  - "If they could convince other funders to invest alongside with them at greater scale. Argidius is uniquely positioned to do so and the may have fallen short in moving the needle at a larger scale."
  - "Hopefully they could have more budget and/or influence other donors to follow Argidius approach."
  - "Support for the joint development of a support mechanism to provide better services to sectors in subsistence economies, but where the burden of
    poverty and the greatest gaps in access lie."
- Increase Provision of Longer-Term and Unrestricted Funding (N = 3)
  - "I believe longer timelines on certain grant opportunities might be helpful to get programs to sustainability."
  - "More focus on broader and longer-term funding for organisation."
  - "Be willing to support institutional strengthening."
- Share Data and Learnings from Argidius' Work (N = 3)
  - "I feel that Argidius has a very accurate view of the sector and it would be great to benefit even more from their experience and knowledge and views of what works or not, what can be improved."
  - "While their expertise is appreciated and valued, hearing about some of their own failures and learning from them would be refreshing."
  - o "Data/research on benchmark growth for various industries and geographies."

#### Argidius Processes (16% N=8)

- Streamline and Simplify Processes (N = 4)
  - "Their application reporting pack, which is built on a logical framework. It took me quite some time and effort to understand how it work and without Argidius guidance, I might have failed. I would wish it could be a bit simpler. Also, our context is not logical but very volatile so hence, difficult to fit within such a framework."
  - "We understand that Argidius values data, and learning from data, very highly. This made the grant proposal very tedious though and not all data could
    properly fit into the used format for the proposal but also for the reporting later... While we understand the need to standardization across the
    grantees, maybe there is a way to have slightly adapted reporting formats depending on the nature of organization and activities."
  - "While they require significant co-financing, Argidius also has specific demands regarding MRM, project activities and objectives. Finding a
    complementary donor to match with Argidius wants to fund is a challenge. To prepare a proposal for Argidius takes literally hundreds of hours."
  - "Reporting pack (google spreadsheet) could be more 'sophisticated', since little operational details make it difficult. I.e., having merged cells limits the view of the year 2 and 3 (logframe, timeline)."
- Greater Transparency on Process Guidelines and Timelines (N = 3)
  - "More transparent communication with potential grantees... Other peer donors tend to be more transparent about process, timeline, next steps and feedback."
  - "There could be more clarity on the selection process (timeframe especially)."
  - "Sometimes the processes for reporting, evaluation, and proposal writing are intentionally informal to avoid busywork, but it also gives less security and
    predictability to grantees. Some further clarity on Argidius' funding cycles and internal approval processes would help."
- Other Comments (N = 1)
  - "Develop an annual orientation process on the subsidy, mainly in order to better understand the instruments, especially how to fill in the indicators, since it could help refresh knowledge and do it better, or because there are changes in the personnel in charge and require orientation."

#### Other (6% N=3)

#### • Other Comments (N = 3)

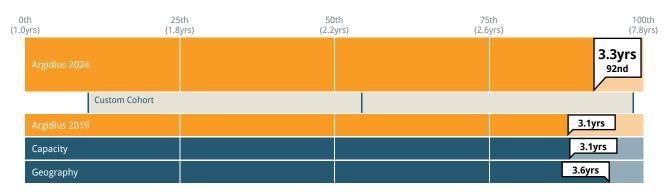
- $^\circ$   $\,$  "To redo an audit on the scale model and find out how it's fairing."
- "Consider establishing specific funding streams or initiatives that address the unique challenges faced by women-led or women-owned enterprises. This
  aligns with the broader goal of promoting gender equality and women's empowerment."
- "Where Argidius staff have been available to directly participate or support our work in the countries where we work this has been positive, so having staff in more locations to play this role would also be beneficial."

#### **Contextual Data**

Please note that all information below is based on self-reported data from grantees.

# **Grantmaking Characteristics**

### **Average Grant Length**



Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort				
Length of Grant Awarded	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Median Funder	Custom Cohort
Average grant length	3.3 years	3.1 years	2.2 years	2.2 years

Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort				
Length of Grant Awarded	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
0 - 1.99 years	5%	5%	47%	36%
2 - 2.99 years	18%	12%	22%	24%
3 - 3.99 years	44%	65%	19%	23%
4 - 4.99 years	21%	10%	3%	7%
5 - 50 years	13%	8%	8%	10%

Proportion of Unrestricted Funding	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Average Funder	<b>Custom Cohort</b>
No, this funding was not restricted to a specific use (e.g., general operating, core support)	28%	12%	29%	20%
Yes, this funding was restricted to a specific use (e.g., supported a specific program, project, capital need, etc.)	72%	88%	71%	80%

# **Grantmaking Characteristics - By Subgroup**

Selected Subgroup: Strategy		
Length of Grant Awarded (By Subgroup)	Capacity	Geography
Average grant length	3.1 years	3.6 years

Selected Subgroup: Strategy			
Length of Grant Awarded (By Subgroup)	Capacity	Geography	
0 - 1.99 years	0%	0%	
2 - 2.99 years	30%	15%	
3 - 3.99 years	40%	46%	
4 - 4.99 years	30%	19%	
5 - 50 years	0%	19%	

Proportion of Unrestricted Funding (By Subgroup)	Capacity	Geography
No, this funding was not restricted to a specific use (e.g., general operating, core support)	45%	23%
es, this funding was restricted to a specific use (e.g., supported a specific program, project, capital need, etc.)	55%	77%

### **Grant Size**

Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort				
Grant Amount Awarded	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Median Funder	Custom Cohort
Median grant size	583K€	544.8K €	104.4K €	303.2K€

Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort				
Median Percent of Budget Funded by Grant (Annualized)	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Median Funder	Custom Cohort
Size of grant relative to size of grantee budget	11%	10%	4%	8%

# **Grant Size - By Subgroup**

Selected Subgroup: Strategy		
Grant Amount Awarded (By Subgroup)	Capacity	Geography
Median grant size	631.5K €	635.3K €

Selected Subgroup: Strategy				
Median Percent of Budget Funded by Grant (Annualized) (By Subgroup)	Capacity	Geography		
Size of grant relative to size of grantee budget	11%	11%		

## **Grantee Characteristics**

Please note that all information below is based on self-reported data from grantees.

Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort						
Operating Budget of Grantee Organization	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Median Funder	Custom Cohort		
Median Budget	1.8M €	1.2M €	1.6M €	2.2M €		

Selected Subgroup: Strategy		
Operating Budget of Grantee Organization (By Subgroup)	Capacity	Geography
Median Budget	1.7M €	1.7M €

# **Funding Relationship**

Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort					
Funding Status	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Median Funder	Custom Cohort	
Percent of grantees currently receiving funding from Argidius	85%	87%	82%	79%	

Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort					
Pattern of Grantees' Funding Relationship with Argidius	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Average Funder	Custom Cohort	
First grant received from Argidius	36%	62%	29%	34%	
Consistent funding in the past	44%	28%	53%	49%	
Inconsistent funding in the past	21%	10%	18%	17%	

# Funding Relationship - by Subgroup

Selected Subgroup: Strategy		
Funding Status (By Subgroup)	Capacity	Geography
Percent of grantees currently receiving funding from Argidius	82%	88%

Selected Subgroup: Strategy			
Pattern of Grantees' Funding Relationship with Argidius (By Subgroup)	Capacity	Geography	
First grant received from Argidius	27%	44%	
Consistent funding in the past	64%	36%	
Inconsistent funding in the past	9%	20%	

### **Funder Characteristics**

Please note that all information below is based on self-reported data from Argidius.

Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort					
Financial Information	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Median Funder	Custom Cohort	
Total assets	N/A	N/A	281.5M €	N/A	
Total giving	9.3M €	52.3M €	19M €	54.7M €	

Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort					
Funder Staffing	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Median Funder	Custom Cohort	
Total staff (FTEs)	6	6	18	67	
Percent of staff who are program staff	61%	83%	44%	54%	

Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort					
Grantmaking Processes	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Median Funder	Custom Cohort	
Proportion of grants that are invitation-only	100%	70%	52%	97%	
Proportion of grantmaking dollars that are invitation-only	100%	85%	71%	N/A	

# Methodology, Analysis, and Respondent Demographics

Survey	Survey Fielded	Survey Population	Number of Responses Received	Survey Response Rate
Argidius 2024	February and March 2024	54	40	74%
Argidius 2019	September and October 2019	42	40	95%
Survey Year				Year of Active Grants
Argidius 2024				2023
Argidius 2019				August 2018 - August 2019

# **Standard Comparative Cohorts**

CEP included 18 standard cohorts to allow for comparisons to a variety of different types of funders.

### **Strategy Cohorts**

Cohort Name	Count	Description
Small Grant Providers	34	Funders with median grant size of \$20K or less
Large Grant Providers	126	Funders with median grant size of \$200K or more
High Touch Funders	33	Funders for which a majority of grantees report having contact with their primary contact monthly or more often
Proactive Grantmakers	121	Funders that make at least 90% of grants by invitation only
Responsive Grantmakers	110	Funders that make at most 10% of grants by invitation only
Intermediary Funders	25	Funders that primarily regrant philanthropic dollars
International Funders	62	Funders that fund outside of their own country

### **Annual Giving Cohorts**

Cohort Name	Count	Description
Funders Giving Less Than \$5 Million	57	Funders with annual giving of less than \$5 million
Funders Giving \$50 Million or More	96	Funders with annual giving of \$50 million or more

### **Foundation Type Cohorts**

Cohort Name	Count	Description
Private Foundations	181	All private foundations in the GPR dataset
Family Foundations	93	All family foundations in the GPR dataset
Community Foundations	41	All community foundations in the GPR dataset
Health Conversion Foundations	31	All health conversion foundations in the GPR dataset
Corporate Foundations	26	All corporate foundations in the GPR dataset

### **Other Cohorts**

Cohort Name	Count	Description
Funders Outside the United States	45	Funders that are primarily based outside the United States

Recently Established Foundations	63	Funders that were established in 2000 or later
Funders Surveyed During COVID-19	159	Funders who surveyed grantees during COVID-19 (2020 - 2022)
European Funders	27	Funders that are headquartered in Europe

#### **Subgroup Methodology and Differences**

The following page outlines the methodology used to determine the subgroups that are displayed in the report, along with any differences in grantee perceptions. Differences should be interpreted in the context of Argidius' goals and strategy.

CEP conducts statistical analysis on groups of 10 or larger. Ratings described as "significantly" higher or lower reflect statistically significant differences at a P-value less than or equal to 0.1. Ratings described as "trending" higher or lower reflect a 0.3-point difference larger or smaller than the overall average rating.

#### **Subgroup Methodology**

Using the grantee contact list provided by Argidius, CEP tagged grantees according to the following:

- Strategy: Capacity and Geography
  - There were not enough respondents from grants in the Learning strategy to display these responses.
- Program Area: Accelerator, Access to Finance, and Organizational Development
  - There were not enough respondents from grants in the Platform or Research program areas to display these responses.
- Geography: Africa, Global, and Latin America and the Caribbean
- · General Performance Rating: Strong, Potential for Improvement and Limited Performance, and Too Early
- Length of Relationship: 1 to 3 years, 4 to 8 years, and 9 years or longer
- Number of Grants: One grant or multiple grants

CEP used grantees' self-reported survey data to tag them based on their **Gender Identity**. Those segmented as "Identifies as a Man" selected "Man" only, and those segmented as "Identifies as a Woman" selected "Woman" only.

#### **Subgroup Differences**

Strategy: There are no consistent, significant differences in grantees' ratings according to their grant's Argidius strategy.

**Program Area:** Ratings from grantees in the Organizational Performance program area trend lower than Argidius' overall survey average on many measures in the report, particularly related to themes of Argidius' impact, understanding, funder-grantee relationships, and Argidius' processes.

**Geography:** Ratings from Global grantees trend lower than Argidius' overall survey average on many measures in the report, particularly related to funder-grantee relationships, Argidius' processes, and Argidius' support for grantees' challenges.

General Performance Ranking: There are no consistent, significant differences in grantees' ratings according to their grant's performance rating.

Length of Relationship: There are no consistent, significant differences in grantees' ratings according to the length of their organization's relationship with Argidius.

**Number of Grants:** Grantees who have received one grant from Argidius rate significantly higher than those who have received multiple grants on many survey measures, particularly related to Argidius' understanding and funder-grantee relationships.

**Respondent Gender:** There are no significant differences in grantees' ratings according to their gender identity. For more information, please see the Respondent Demographics section.

### **Respondent Demographics**

Note: Survey language and response options for questions about gender and LGBTQ+ identity are guided by best practices shared by Funders For LGBTQ Issues, HRC Foundation's Welcoming Schools, and the Williams Institute of the University of California – Los Angeles School of Law.

Survey respondents are asked to share their gender identities in a check-all-that-apply question. Each chart has the option of showing the average ratings of respondents who selected only "man," only "woman," multiple gender identities, "gender non-conforming or non-binary," "prefer to self-identify," and "prefer not to say" - as long as that response option had at least 8 respondents.

The question "Are you a member of a racial or ethnic minority in your country?" was recently added to CEP's grantee survey for international survey respondents only, therefore comparative data is unavailable

All answers on demographic identity are optional. Survey respondents were asked to opt-in to responding to questions on gender, racial/ethnic, disability, and transgender identity.

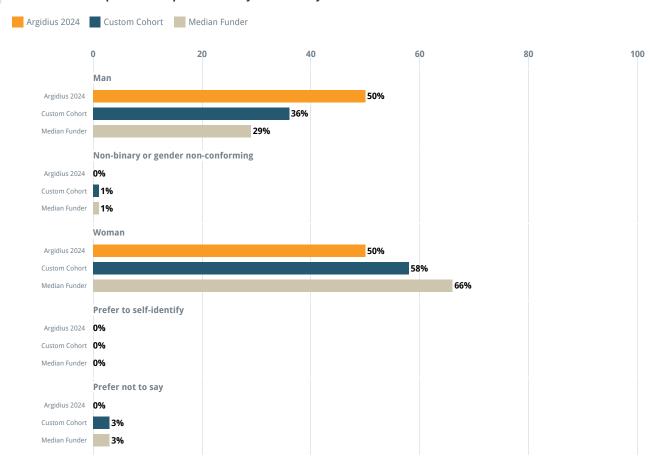
### **Differences in Ratings by Respondent Demographics**

It is CEP's standard practice to analyze responses for differences based on grantees' self-reported demographic characteristics.

There are no consistent, significant differences in grantees' ratings according to their gender identity.

There were not enough respondents to run analyses according to grantees' identity as a member of a racial/ethnic minority in their country, transgender identity, disability status, or identity as a member of the LGBTQ+ community.

#### Please select the option that represents how you describe yourself:



Cohort: Custom Cohort Past results: on

Selected Cohort: None	
Are you a member of a racial or ethnic minority in your country?	Argidius 2024
Yes	12%
No	80%
Prefer not to say	8%

Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort			
Are you transgender?	Argidius 2024	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
Yes	0%	1%	0%
No	98%	96%	96%
Prefer not to say	2%	4%	3%

Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort			
Do you have a disability?	Argidius 2024	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
Yes	8%	6%	5%
No	87%	89%	90%
Prefer not to say	5%	5%	5%

Selected Cohort: Custom Cohort				
Do you identify as a member of the LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer) community?	Argidius 2024	Average Funder	Custom Cohort	
Yes	8%	11%	10%	
No	88%	84%	85%	
Prefer not to say	5%	5%	5%	

# **Respondent Job Title**

Job Title of Respondents	Argidius 2024	Argidius 2019	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
Executive Director/CEO	70%	42%	47%	48%
Other Senior Team (i.e., reporting to Executive Director/CEO)	15%	28%	19%	23%
Project Director	12%	15%	11%	13%
Development Staff	0%	15%	16%	12%
Volunteer	0%	0%	1%	0%
Other	2%	0%	5%	3%

# **Additional Survey Information**

Grantees may decide not to answer any question in the grantee survey. On many questions in the survey, grantees are allowed to select "don't know" or "not applicable" if they are not able to provide an alternative answer. In addition, some questions in the survey are only displayed to a select group of grantees for which that question is relevant based on a previous response.

As a result, there are some measures where only a subset of responses is included in the reported results. The table below shows the number of responses included in each of the survey measures. The total number of respondents to Argidius's grantee survey was 40.

Question Text	Number of Responses
Overall, how would you rate Argidius' impact on your organization?	40
Overall, how would you rate Argidius' impact on your local community?	27
Overall, how would you rate Argidius' impact on your field?	39
To what extent has Argidius advanced the state of knowledge in your field?	38
To what extent has Argidius affected public policy in your field?	29
How well does Argidius understand your organization's strategy and goals?	40
How aware is Argidius of the challenges that your organization is facing?	40
How well does Argidius understand the social, cultural, or socioeconomic factors that affect your work?	39
How well does Argidius understand the field in which you work?	40
Please indicate any types of assistance beyond the grant that were a component of what you received from Argidius.	40
Please rate the extent to which you agree with the following statements about the assistance beyond the grant you received from Argidius:	
The assistance beyond the grant I received met an important need for my organization and/or program	33
The assistance beyond the grant I received strengthened my organization and/or program	33
Argidius' assistance beyond the grant was a worthwhile use of the time required of us	33
I felt Argidius would be open to feedback about the assistance beyond the grant it provided	33
How well does Argidius understand the needs of the people and communities that you serve?	39
Are the efforts funded by this grant primarily meant to benefit historically disadvantaged groups?	40
Specifically, are any of the following the primary intended people and/or communities served by the efforts funded by this grant?	25

Question Text	Number of Responses
To what extent do you agree or disagree that Argidius has clearly communicated what Gender Equity and Social Inclusion means for its work?	39
To what extent do you agree or disagree that Argidius demonstrates an explicit commitment to Gender Equity and Social Inclusion in its work?	39
How comfortable do you feel approaching Argidius if a problem arises?	40
Overall, how responsive was Argidius staff?	40
To what extent did Argidius exhibit trust in your organization's staff during this grant?	40
To what extent did Argidius exhibit candor about Argidius' perspectives on your work during this grant?	40
To what extent did Argidius exhibit compassion for those affected by your work during this grant?	40
To what extent is Argidius open to ideas from grantees about its strategy?	39
How often do/did you have contact with your primary contact during this grant?	40
Has your main contact at Argidius changed in the past six months?	40
At any point during this grant, including the selection process, did Argidius staff conduct a site visit?	40
How clearly has Argidius communicated its goals and strategy to you?	40
How consistent was the information provided by different communication resources, both personal and written, that you used to learn about Argidius?	38
Overall, how transparent is Argidius with your organization?	40
How well do you understand the way in which the work funded by this grant fits into Argidius' broader efforts?	40
Did you submit a proposal to Argidius for this grant?	40
Did you have contact with an Argidius staff member via phone, email, or in-person/video before you applied?	39
To what extent was Argidius' selection process a helpful opportunity to strengthen the efforts funded by the grant?	40
To what extent was Argidius' selection process an appropriate level of effort given the amount of funding received?	40
As you developed your grant proposal, how much pressure did you feel to modify your organization's priorities in order to create a grant proposal that was likely to receive funding?	39
To what extent was Argidius clear and transparent about the selection process requirements and timelines?	39
To what extent was Argidius clear and transparent about the criteria Argidius uses to decide whether a proposal would be funded or declined?	37
At any point during the proposal or the grant period, did Argidius and your organization exchange ideas regarding how your organization would assess the results of the work funded by this grant?	35
Have you participated in a reporting or evaluation process?	39
To what extent was Argidius' reporting process straightforward?	35
To what extent was Argidius' reporting process adaptable, if necessary, to fit your circumstances?	32
To what extent was Argidius' reporting process relevant, with questions and measures pertinent to the work funded by this grant?	36
To what extent was Argidius' reporting process a helpful opportunity for you to reflect and learn?	36
To what extent did the evaluation incorporate your input in the design of the evaluation?	19
To what extent did the evaluation result in you making changes to the work that was evaluated?	19
Total funding committed for this grant	39
Total number of years of approved funding for this grant	39
Was the funding you received restricted to a specific use?	40
What is the approximate annual operating budget of your organization?	38
Are you currently receiving funding from Argidius?	40
Which of the following best describes the pattern of your organization's funding relationship with Argidius?	39
Custom Questions	
Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements. Argidius' visit(s) to my organization:	
Strengthened our relationship with Argidius	32

Question Text	Responses
Strengthened our systems, processes, and/or delivery	30
Helped us to share what we are learning	31
Helped us to share the challenges we are facing	29
Raised public awareness about our work	29
Was planned and managed effectively	31
Was a valuable experience for my organization	30
Made demands that were appropriate to the capacity of my organization	31
Was conducted and managed in an inclusive manner	29
Were appropriate in quantity considering my capacity and grant amount	30
How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements concerning Argidius' application and reporting templates	
The amount of time it took to complete the template(s) was reasonable considering the grant provided	39
If assistance was needed to complete the template(s), Foundation staff were responsive and helpful	35
The questions asked in the template(s) were helpful and relevant	39
Instructions provided on completing the templates were clear	39
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	
Argidius staff listen when I share my organization's challenges	38
Argidius staff respond to and address my organization's challenges to the best of their ability	37
I feel that Argidius staff care about the challenges my organization is facing	39
I feel that Argidius staff care about the challenges that the entrepreneurs my organization supports are facing	39
Argidius staff ask probing questions	39
Argidius staff value my time and communicate with purpose (i.e., respond promptly, ask relevant questions, listen actively, facilitate productive conversations, etc.)	40
Argidius acts as an ally through both challenges and triumphs (i.e., supportive in times of challenges, available for problem solving, etc.)	39

#### **About CEP and Contact Information**

The Center for Effective Philanthropy's mission is to provide data, feedback, programs, and insights to help individual and institutional donors improve their effectiveness. We do this work because we believe effective donors, working collaboratively and thoughtfully, can profoundly contribute to creating a better and more just world.

CEP pursues this mission through several core activities:

Assessment and Advisory Services: Our assessments provide actionable insights on funders' work with and influence on key stakeholders through comparative benchmarking. Our assessments include the Grantee and Declined Applicant Perception Reports (GPR/APR), Donor Perception Report (DPR) for community foundations, and Staff Perception Report (SPR) for foundation staff. Our customized advisory projects offer data-driven services to help funders answer pressing questions about their

**CEP Learning Institute**: The CEP Learning Institute draws on CEP's rigorous research and decades of experience advising foundations to offer learning cohorts, trainings, and custom workshops for individuals and groups looking to improve philanthropic practice.

**Programming and External Relations**: CEP works to promote philanthropic effectiveness through resources such as our website, blog, podcast, newsletter, speaking engagements, social media, free webinars, and biennial national conferences.

Research: CEP's research provides data-based insights about effective foundation practices and trends in the philanthropic sector. All of CEP's research reports can be downloaded for free at our online resource library.

YouthTruth: The YouthTruth initiative partners with schools, districts, states, educational organizations, and education funders to enhance learning for all young people through validated survey instruments for students, families, and staff, as well as tailored advisory services.

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