Introduction
The United States of America’s increasingly wealthy, active, and innovative philanthropic organizations have had a growing impact on international development since World War II. The Ford Foundation, one of the leading American philanthropic organizations, has influenced international development and foreign relations since the early 1940s. Research shows that international development institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have increased their role in an environment and sustainability concern since their establishment after World War II (Goldman, 2005). This research looks at the Ford Foundation’s overseas grants dedicated to natural resources, the environment, and sustainability to see if a leading U.S. philanthropic organization pursued particular trends across time and across the foundation’s geographic and thematic focus. This research examines the role of the Ford Foundation in the context of green development initiatives, within the foundation’s philanthropic and development discourses and of the leading international development organization.

Methodology
This research analyzed 49 years of Ford Foundation’s Annual Reports (1960 to 2004) to identify 3,046 overseas green development grants dedicated to natural resources, environment, and sustainability. Bao recorded each one’s program name, grant amount, funded organizations, grant location, and geographic focus; researchers also noted each grant’s category (natural resources, environment, and sustainability) and its mode: transaction and transfer, research, institutional building, and expert training. The geographic locations were documented using the knowledge of the map’s originator. Bao used ArcGIS to geocode each grant by grantee location to generate a series of interactive maps that allowed the viewer to zoom to a scale that mapped out the historic timeline and spatial perspective of the “green concept.” It also indicated that as a model of American philanthropy, the Ford Foundation gradually expanded its knowledge and support of the green development on a global scale. This preliminary research is a useful resource for future academic research and public knowledge on understanding the political ecology of American green philanthropy, the changing rhetoric of green development, and the economic and political geography of the Ford Foundation’s green philanthropy.

Conclusion
Researchers fully analyzed the Ford Foundation’s annual reports from 1960 to 2004 and created a digital map showing the trajectory of its financial support to the international green development based on their geographic focus. This research produced an interactive platform that allowed users to either click on the location to learn about the details of each grant dedicated to green development or zoom to the scale that mapped out the historic timeline and spatial perspective of the “green concept.” It also indicated that as a model of American philanthropy, the Ford Foundation gradually expanded its knowledge and support of the green development on a global scale. This preliminary research is a useful resource for future academic research and public knowledge on understanding the political ecology of American green philanthropy, the changing rhetoric of green development, and the economic and political geography of the Ford Foundation’s green philanthropy.