Highlights from 2023

As Right Livelihood, we work towards our vision for a just, peaceful and sustainable world for all by organising our activities into four interwoven dimensions:

**Educate**

Educate signifies our work to ensure everyone can learn from the Laureates and their profound visions for societal change. We continue to connect activism and academia through our global university partnerships with the Right Livelihood College and the Global Campus of Human Rights, as well as training Climate Justice Fellows through our partnership with the Albert Einstein Institution.

In 2023, we delivered a workshop series titled “Creative strategies in achieving gender equality” with Laureates Mozn Hassan, Kvinna till Kvinnna, and Ilwad Elman. The series allowed activists from all around the world to hear about Laureates’ strategies and how to strengthen their local communities working to prevent gender-based violence and protect girls and women. The series continues to be available as a resource on our website.

**Honour**

Honour captures the international nomination process and selection of Laureates, the Award Presentation, and prize money, all of which have an immediate positive impact on the Laureates’ work.

In 2023, we considered 166 nominations from 68 countries. We saw a strong trend of female nominees, with their number again exceeding male nominees. The number and diversity of nominations demonstrate not only awareness of the Award but also spark hope from the many courageous people making our future brighter.

The year culminated with celebrating four new change-makers at our Award Presentation in Stockholm, recognising Laureates from Cambodia and Ghana for the first time. The prestige of the Award provides visibility for the Laureates, which means that their messages are amplified and lasting change can begin to take root.

**Support**

We support Right Livelihood Laureates in developing their work and reaching their potential while ensuring their safety and connecting them with relevant stakeholders. We believe that political decision-makers and the international community should consider the Laureates’ voices, and we work towards making this happen.

In 2023, we further developed the exile project, tailoring our holistic support to the needs of each fellow. We also initiated consultations to develop a women Laureates network and began a more systematic involvement with Laureates’ local communities. We visited Laureates in their countries, conducted advocacy meetings and met with local stakeholders to better understand the context.

The protection team strengthened its skills in adopting a participatory and holistic approach to Laureates’ security.

**Inform**

Right Livelihood’s communications initiatives amplify Laureates’ voices and spread awareness of their transformative solutions for today’s pressing issues. In 2023, our efforts saw 6,144 news items featuring mentions of the Award or the Foundation, showing that the Laureates’ work continues to inspire people worldwide.

We expanded our own content output significantly, publishing 78 news items on our website. We also introduced a compelling new visual story format, enhancing the engagement and reach of our messages. These results demonstrate the global impact of Right Livelihood’s work, offering hopeful stories of real alternatives as antidotes to apathy and despair.
Fundraising, admin & finance

In 2023, our operational expenses related to fundraising, administration, and finance constituted 10 per cent of our total costs. These areas generate income and enable us to achieve our mission effectively. Costs included fundraising campaigns, financial management and audit, board meetings, and the management of our own property in Stockholm, which saves us a considerable amount of rent each year. Right Livelihood is audited by Grant Thornton and regulated by the Swedish Fundraising Control to ensure transparency and good governance. These efforts contribute to our growth, improved efficiency, and long-term sustainability.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE IN 2023: €5,289,196

- FUNDRAISING: €194,836
- ADMIN & FINANCE: €311,589
- HONOUR: €1,030,990
- INFORM: €690,785
- SUPPORT: €1,006,801
- EDUCATE: €2,054,195*

*funding from a special endowment

See our official annual report 2023 at rightlivelihood.org/publications or scan the QR code.

In October, Advocacy Officer Fedora Bernard visited 2021 Laureate Marthe Wandou in Yaoundé, Cameroon. Together with Wandou’s organisation ALDEPA and other civil society organisations, we identified the most pressing issues surrounding women’s and girls’ rights in crisis areas. The recommendations we then drafted were sent to the UN to be included in Cameroon’s periodic human rights review. The trip served as a platform to present the findings to relevant States and stakeholders to ensure better coverage and implementation of the outcomes of the UN’s review.

On April 27, Diana Nabiruma from the 2022 Ugandan Laureate organisation AFIEGO gave a lecture on “Protecting Landscapes from the Commercial Development of Oil Production” as part of the University of Zurich’s Sustainability now! lecture series. The series also hosted five other Right Livelihood Laureates: Neshan Gunasekera, legacy holder of 2007 Laureate Christopher Weeramantry from Sri Lanka; Tony Rinaudo from Australia; Marthe Wandou from Cameroon; Mozn Hassan from Egypt and Ilwad Elman from Somalia.

As part of our “FreeAlQahtani” advocacy campaign, Abdullah, the son of forcefully disappeared 2018 Laureate Mohammad al-Qahtani, came to Stockholm to highlight his father’s case at our Award Presentation. We also accompanied him on a visit to Saudi Arabia’s embassy in Stockholm to hand over a letter calling for his father’s release.