



ANNUAL REPORT
2017

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EDITORIAL

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The world we live in is changing fast, and, it seems, not necessarily for the good. Every day we are confronted with negative news and shocking headlines. But this problem-orientated approach towards today's challenges is paralysing and unproductive. Is there really nothing we can do? We know that solutions exist; our supporters are, just like us, convinced that change towards a better future is possible if you just think outside the box. Let's take a tour through the diverse and numerous solutions we identified and promoted during 2017:

For example from the people of Ethiopia who are turning a vast, barren dryland into a green, fertile landscape; from pupils in Peru, who are learning to cherish and protect their unique environment during the national Environmental Education Week; initiatives from Brazil, where rainwater collection cisterns are providing water supply and empowering millions of rural people in the Semiarid; from European municipalities, implementing 100% Renewable Energy and helping to build strong, resilient communities; and from Chinese cities, enabling urban biological diversity and reducing air pollution.

Our supporters successfully took action to showcase these and other positive examples on an international level, and helped decision-makers worldwide implement sustainable policy solutions. These encouraging success stories illustrate how responsible and future-just solutions are a powerful tool to realise greater sustainability and fairness in a world that is still dominated by greed for profit and short term interests.

This Annual Report looks back at our impact in 2017 and shows, yet again, our supporters' strong commitment: collectively we can be proud of what we achieved in climate protection, advancing 100% Renewable Energy, combating land degradation, protecting children from violence, fostering a sustainable economy, and promoting peace and disarmament.

Together, we are a strong team for a more sustainable, just and peaceful world. We are connected by our mutual values and aims: responsibility for our children and grandchildren, compassion, a sense of justice, respect and care for our planet.

We look forward to many more years in which we work to change this world for better, and help spread the positive news stories that are emerging from across the globe.

With warm regards,



Alexandra Wandel

ALEXANDRA WANDEL
Director and Vice-Chair,
Management Board



J. Dillig

JOHANNA DILLIG
Head of Operations,
Management Board

Why live
with problems
we can solve?

Jakob von Uexküll

JAKOB VON UEXKÜLL
Founder of the
World Future Council



OUR VISION IMPACT

We at the World Future Council envision a sustainable, just and peaceful future where universal rights are respected, and are working to pass on a healthy planet and just societies to our children and grandchildren. To achieve this, our policy team researches, identifies and spreads the best and most sustainable policy solutions worldwide.

Here are a few examples of our achievements last year – and how we work towards achieving all 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals!

FUTURE JUSTICE

We are working to introduce Guardians for Future Generations at the international, national, sub-national and local levels. We have helped to convene the Network of Institutions for Future Generations, with members from **9 COUNTRIES** to share good practices in safeguarding long-term needs.

CLIMATE FINANCE

It is estimated that investments in renewable energies of up to **2000 BILLION US \$ PER YEAR** are needed to meet the 1.5 °C limit of the Paris Agreement. Our Future Finance Commission came up with an innovative finance tool to unlock the trillions for this inevitable shift.

THE “OSCAR FOR BEST POLICIES” FUTURE POLICY AWARD (FPA)

SINCE 2009, we have been highlighting the world’s best solutions to the most pressing global challenges with our Future Policy Award (FPA) in partnership with UN Agencies. We identify topics on which policy progress is particularly urgent and with the award, we encourage policymakers around the world to adapt and implement them.

26 PIONEERING LAWS AND POLICIES have received the FPA and gained worldwide recognition. **In 2017, we awarded the 7 world’s best policy solutions combating desertification and land degradation.**

100% RENEWABLE ENERGY

Together with the University of Sydney, we proved that with renewable energy, Tanzania could provide universal access to reliable energy for all its citizens, while increasing living standards to the level of industrialised countries – and it would be **30% CHEAPER** than from fossil resources.

PEACE & DISARMAMENT

Our Inter-Parliamentary Union Handbook was written to support global nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. It is available in English, French, Spanish, Russian, and **since 2017 also in Arabic.**

165+ National parliaments have received the handbook.





FuturePolicy.org

Our online database of sustainable policy solutions, is designed for forward-thinking policy-makers, to simplify the sharing of existing and proven policy solutions to tackle the world's most fundamental and urgent problems. It highlights the **75 MOST EXEMPLARY POLICY SOLUTIONS IN 7 POLICY AREAS** and provides a handy toolkit for policy-makers across the globe.

PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM VIOLENCE

Realising every child's right to freedom from violence is a fundamental element of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. In 2017, we organised an International Child Rights Conference with over **110 DELEGATES FROM 12 COUNTRIES** to exchange best policy and practice on protecting children from violence. Since then, **4 COUNTRIES** are interested in transferring policy elements to their jurisdictions.

EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Our international conference in Maryland in 2016 inspired the Peruvian Ministry of Education. As a result **PERU** has introduced an Environmental Education Week and an Outdoor Education Day. We supported them with our expertise and aim to deepen our cooperation.

URBAN WETLANDS IN CHINA

A guide on Urban Wetland Protection and Restoration has been developed by our Regenerative Cities Programme. The guide has been adopted by a pilot city in China and as a result, **2 MILLION CITY RESIDENTS** have improved water quality thanks to our guidelines.

WHY

FUTURE JUSTICE

MATTERS



Who are the future generations? Those who are not yet alive? Or everyone who are living tomorrow, next month, a year or five or ten years from now? Our children, grandchildren? Future generations, I think, first of all, are ourselves. Our foresightful, moral side, our real, full personality.

Dr. Sándor Fülöp,
Former Parliamentary
Commissioner for Future
Generations in Hungary and
World Future Councillor

FUTURE JUSTICE

Future Justice means considering future generations in our decision-making. Because if we destroy nature and natural resources today, we deny future generations their right to lead a life in peace and dignity.

OUR APPROACH

Decisions taken today will have a major influence on the world of tomorrow. We seek to bring intergenerational justice and protection of long-term interests into the heart of policy-making.

Our vision of Future Justice is to change unsustainable trends and create fair conditions that will benefit society as a whole including providing a good quality of life for generations to come – starting today. Current political cycles are driven by short term interests and election schedules. Filling the governance gaps and introducing effective checks and balances can expose the long-term impacts of policies.

FURTHER READING

WE ARE WORKING TO ESTABLISH
GUARDIANS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS
AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNANCE.
OUR LATEST BROCHURE **GUARDING
OUR FUTURE** SHOWS HOW FUTURE
GENERATIONS CAN BE INCLUDED
IN POLICY-MAKING.





CHANGE-MAKER CONFERENCE FOR FUTURE JUSTICE: WORLD FUTURE FORUM IN BREGENZ

“IF WE DO NOT CHANGE COURSE, WE ARE HEADING TOWARDS UNPRECEDENTED DANGERS AND CONFLICTS OR EVEN – IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE – THE END OF LIFE ON EARTH.” – WITH THIS ALARMING ASSESSMENT OF OUR CURRENT SITUATION, JAKOB VON UEXKULL OPENED THE **WORLD FUTURE FORUM (WFF) IN BREGENZ, AUSTRIA.**

Councillors from governments, parliaments, civil society, indigenous peoples, academia, the arts and business convened for the World Future Forum at Lake Constance.

They convened not only to take a look back at 10 years of the World Future Council and best policies for future generations: our dedicated experts discussed the agenda for the next year and defined the most pressing challenges of humankind.

The Councillors are convinced: solutions do already exist – they only have to be spread and realised. For this reason, the World Future Council identifies policies and measures to safeguard the interests of future generations for a sustainable, just and peaceful world. The “Bregenz Declaration”, published at the end of the 3-day conference, summarises the work priorities of the coming year. Renewable energies, rights of children, food security, regenerative cities, climate finance and disarmament were set as the agenda for the year. The common goal is to find the best policy solutions and to convey them to political decision-makers worldwide.

During the World Future Forum, desertification was identified as the topic for the 2017 “Future Policy Award”, our “Oscar for best laws and policies”. That year, the award honoured policies that effectively combat desertification and land degradation: Drylands cover over 30% of the earth’s land mass and are extremely vulnerable to overexploitation and climate variability, which is why more than 135 million people are at risk of being displaced by desertification – one of the reasons for refugee movements. Find out more about the Future Policy Award on pages 6 and 7.

Other actions include advising decision-makers on how best to reform the central bank’s money creation policies to help fund the implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals; and to spread measures that prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons as well as ban their financing.

The World Future Forum 2017 in Bregenz was realised with the generous support of the Festival House Bregenz and their partners, see page 19 for details.



Inspiring performance during the WFF: Children’s Choir of the Hilti Foundation with “Superar”, a charity musical training school from Vienna



FIND THE BREGENZ DECLARATION ONLINE:
<http://wfc.world/2oll8N1>

CELEBRATING BEST POLICIES TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION: FUTURE POLICY AWARD 2017

IN 2017, OUR OSCAR FOR BEST POLICIES – THE **FUTURE POLICY AWARD** – HIGHLIGHTED LAWS AND POLICIES THAT EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS LAND AND SOIL DEGRADATION, THE RELATED RISKS TO FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS, AND HELP SECURE A SUSTAINABLE AND JUST FUTURE FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN THE WORLD'S DRYLANDS.

INCREASING AWARENESS AND SPREADING EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS FOR LAND DEGRADATION

Desertification and land degradation are a threat to food security, livelihoods and the health of hundreds of millions of people. It is estimated that 135 million people are at risk of being displaced by desertification. Climate change and increasingly unpredictable and extreme weather in arid lands make combating desertification vital. Policymakers urgently need to adopt laws and policies that effectively address land and soil degradation.

Therefore in 2017, the World Future Council decided to award the world's best solutions combating desertification and land degradation. In order to identify and highlight these best policies, we partnered with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). After meticulous evaluation by our research department, an international jury composed of renowned land restoration experts decided upon the winners of the Future Policy Award 2017. Beating 26 other nominated policies to the prize, the world's best policies come from Ethiopia's Tigray Region, Brazil, China, Australia, Jordan, Niger and an initiative from the international level.



Hundreds of millions of people are directly threatened by land degradation and climate change is only going to intensify the problem. The Future Policy Award 2017 is turning the spotlight on the looming environmental challenge and effective responses.

” Monique Barbut
UNCCD Executive Secretary

FUTURE POLICY AWARD 2017: CELEBRATING THE WORLD'S BEST POLICIES TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

THIS BROCHURE PRESENTS THE FUTURE POLICY AWARD 2017 WINNERS THAT SUCCESSFULLY TACKLE LAND DEGRADATION, AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROTECTION OF LIFE AND LIVELIHOODS IN THE DRYLANDS.



What makes these policies so effective is that they tackle desertification in a holistic way: they scored highly in the Future Policy Award evaluation not only by advancing the sustainable use of resources but also by addressing equity, the eradication of poverty, community participation, and the peaceful resolution of conflicts.

The 2017 Future Policy Award winners were celebrated in Ordos (Inner Mongolia, China) during the 13th Conference of the Parties (COP) in partnership with UNCCD on September 11, 2017 – with an audience of 300 environment and development ministers, and heads of delegations from across the world. In addition, they were presented to stakeholders at numerous other events, including the Committee on World Food Security in Rome, UN Geneva, and the UN Climate Conference in Bonn. With the Future Policy Award we achieved an unprecedented media outreach, resulting in more awareness both among policymakers and the public.

We are currently building more partnerships to spread the awarded policies through films, social media materials, a study tour and a multi-stakeholder dialogue. We are focusing on the spread of our Future Policy Gold Award winner from Tigray, Ethiopia through hearings for local, national and regional policymakers, academics, media and civil society, and building coalitions for change.

FUTURE POLICY AWARD 2017 WINNING POLICIES



GOLD AWARD

To the **people and the government of Tigray (Ethiopia)** for having restored land on a massive scale, for enhancing food and water security and empowering youth.



SILVER AWARDS

To **Brazil's Cistern Programme** which – with 1 million rainwater collection cisterns – provides water for domestic use for millions of rural people in the Semiarid, especially women and youth.

To **China's efforts** to prevent and control desertification and reverse the trend of desertification. It is no coincidence that the country lifted more than 700 million people out of poverty during the same period.



VISION AWARD

To the international **'4 per 1000'** Initiative which uses carbon sequestration in soils for food security and to preserve the climate.



My country is very proud of this international award. We feel empowered, heard, and encouraged that we're doing well in restoring our land in a sustainable, holistic way. And yes, we believe that we can inspire others.

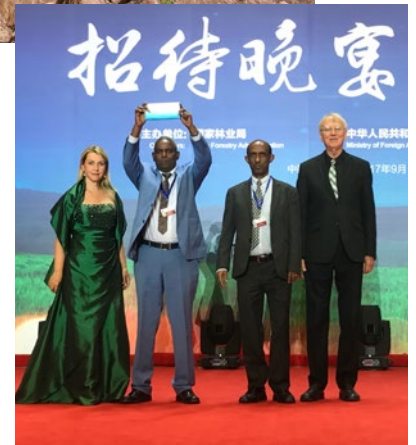
” Dr. Atinkut Mezgebu Wubneh, Head of Agriculture and Rural Development Bureau, Tigray Regional State Council



With great commitment of the local community, people of Tigray (Ethiopia) turned a vast desert landscape into fertile, green land again.

I am delighted and honoured as head of the Regional Government of Tigray that Tigray has won the Gold Future Policy Award 2017. The people of Tigray demonstrate that all challenges can be overcome if the leadership is addressing the will, need and priority of the people. Tigray's people have proved that development is possible without harming our mother Earth.

” H.E. Abay Weldu
President of Tigray State (Ethiopia)



Another impressive example of global impact is the international 4 per 1000 Initiative. It promotes an innovative model for mitigating climate change, through the annual increase in soil organic carbon by 0.4 per cent in the top 30-40 cm of agricultural soils. Professor Rattan Lal, Ohio State University, stated that 1.2 billion tonnes of carbon could be stored annually in agricultural soils. Based on this approach, various pilot programmes are being undertaken. Finland, for instance, has showcased pilot testing projects on the ground, such as a network of nutrient and energy-effective school farms.



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BEST POLICY SOLUTIONS
FROM AFRICA ONLINE:
www.worldfuturecouncil.org/champions

SECURING THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AND FUTURE GENERATIONS

THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN COMMISSION IS DEDICATED TO CONTRIBUTING TO THE VISION OF THE WORLD FUTURE COUNCIL TO ENSURE A PEACEFUL, JUST AND SAFE PLANET FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS – THROUGH A COMPREHENSIVE LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR PROMOTING, REALISING, AND SECURING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS TO SURVIVAL, GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT, PROTECTION, AND PARTICIPATION.

How can we ensure that children can grow up safely, healthily and happily? Our Rights of Children team worked on promoting best policy solutions that safeguard the fundamental rights of girls, boys and young people. As an outcome of our Future Policy Award on Child Rights in 2015, we have not only been working to highlight and spread the winning policies themselves but also deepening our expertise and work in the field of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and Child Protection. Through participation in international events and our communications work, we have also highlighted the special relationship between the enjoyment of children's rights and the environment.



I am excited that you have not relented even after the conference in Zanzibar. I must say that my experience, especially the field trips, have given me a new perspective towards child protection initiatives in Ghana.

Christopher Lartey,
Senior Programme Officer and head of the Policy Coordinating Unit responsible for overseeing the implementation of all child related legislations and policies in Ghana.

PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM VIOLENCE: LESSONS FROM ZANZIBAR

A highlight in 2017 was the International Conference on Child Protection, Justice and Participation which took place in Zanzibar. Around 120 representatives of ministries and policymakers from 12 countries, mainly from Africa and Asia, alongside experts on children's rights and representatives from civil society and youth gathered to explore the positive impacts of Zanzibar's Children's Act and share success stories on child protection, child friendly justice and participation from around the world. The conference was concluded with the Zanzibar Declaration on Securing Children's Rights, with signatories from 12 countries.

Since the conference we have been in close contact with Ministries from four countries that expressed an interest in deepening cooperation with us for children's rights policy transfer in order to improve their own child rights legislation.



It's their right to grow up safely and healthily: Children across the world can be protected from violence through effective policies, for example the Zanzibar Children's Act.



”

We are very happy to see that good laws and their implementation can inspire policy-makers to make a difference in a child's life. We strongly believe that more role models are needed to ensure that our children and grandchildren grow up healthy and safely surrounded by an intact environment.

Prof. Dr. Michael Otto, World Future Honorary Councillor
& Janina Özen-Otto, World Future Council Ambassador



Young people get a perspective: one of Zanzibar's Youth Centres.



What are the vital elements of an effective child protection system? How can we learn from best practices? Delegates from across Africa and Asia committed to child protection during the conference.

STRENGTHENING CHILD RIGHTS IN GERMANY

We are an active member of the National Coalition Germany, a network for the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child that also advocates for the integration of child rights in the Basic Law, as well as for education for sustainable development and democracy in the educational system.

In Hamburg, we actively participated in the core group “Hamburg lernt Nachhaltigkeit” – Hamburg Learning Sustainability – that is mandated to develop an action plan on how to implement Education for Sustainable Development within the Hamburg educational system (from Kindergarten through to non-formal education) which will be submitted to the Hamburg Senate in 2019.

PERU ON THE PATH TO EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Our international conference in Maryland in 2016 inspired the Peruvian Ministry of Education and as a result, Peru has introduced an Environmental Education Week and Outdoor Education Day. We supported the Ministry with expertise on good practices in outdoor education and these measures have now been introduced and are building in ambition. We are holding talks with the Ministry to deepen our cooperation.



”

The workshop enabled its participants to access Maryland's experience on environmental education through its own protagonists which really motivated and inspired us first-hand. These experiences enabled us in Peru to strengthen our scheme (our objectives and components), projects and initiatives, including the environmental education day. Then we received further support from the World Future Council team through the design and implementation process during 2017.

Eliana Rojas Torres, Education for Sustainable Development
Coordinator at Ministry of Education, Peru

ROAD TO 100 % RENEWABLE ENERGY



OUR **CLIMATE ENERGY COMMISSION** SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSES THE QUESTION OF HOW WE CAN PROMOTE A RAPID SHIFT TO A SOCIETY WHICH IS POWERED BY 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY – A STRONG TOOL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION. THE AIM IS TO BUILD CAPACITY AND CROSS-SECTORIAL NETWORKS AMONG POLICY-MAKERS TO IMPROVE LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORKS FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION, AND A FUTURE-JUST ENERGY SYSTEM BASED ON 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY.

In order to effectively tackle climate change and ensure sustainable development for all people, a profound paradigm shift in resource consumption and energy infrastructure is needed. We need to move away from our highly polluting, centralised system based on finite fossil fuels towards a distributed and fair infrastructure based on 100 % Renewable Energy (RE) sources.

Therefore, our Climate and Energy Team advises governments in cities, regions, nations and international negotiations to catalyse this paradigm shift. By identifying policy solutions and facilitating an international policy dialogue, we work towards a future-just, affordable and fair energy system that strengthens societies, boosts sustainable development and addresses climate change.

100% RE IN TANZANIA

In Tanzania, the majority of people still live without any access to energy services, but we have provided a solution that can tackle a number of challenges at once: by deploying 100% Renewable Energy, Tanzania can provide universal access to reliable energy for all its citizens, while increasing living standards to the level of industrialised countries. Generating the necessary electricity from renewable sources even is 30% cheaper than from fossil resources. This was the result of a study that the WFC has compiled in cooperation with national and international development organisations and the University of Technology, Sydney.

We strongly believe in this solution for Tanzania, and work towards its implementation: we build capacity, particularly among opinion leaders and political decision makers from various ministries and the parliament, jointly identifying the necessary policy amendments. As a result, leading government officials have formed a national task force to push 100% RE on the political agenda. In 2018, we are committed to continuously provide the necessary policy advice to the members of this task force.



As legislators, we can only take good political decisions, if we have good information. The World Future Council therefore helps us to develop a coherent policy framework for Tanzania's energy transition.

Hon. Doto Mashaka Biteko, Deputy Minister for Minerals and former Speaker of the Parliamentary Committee for Energy and Minerals.

With Renewable Energy, every Tanzanian citizen would have access to cheap energy. This especially helps women and children to focus on their education.



RECONNECTING EUROPEANS WITH RENEWABLE ENERGY

In times of rising populism, internal cleavages, and climate scepticism across EU Member States, Europe needs to reconnect with its citizens. Uniting the continent and regaining people's trust in European integration has never been more relevant. In fact, building a European Renewable Energy Union with regions, cities, municipalities, and indeed citizens at its core could be the vehicle to realise this goal. We have therefore convened policy-makers from across Europe to develop a strategy on how regional cooperation can fill the ambition gap between national energy policies and standardised EU guidelines. As a result, the pioneering municipalities of Emmen (NL) and Haren (GER), who are aiming at building a regional smart energy infrastructure across national borders, are now collaborating with the European Commission and grid operators to realise this vision. In 2018, we will feed these learnings and strategy recommendations in the development of European decarbonisation pathways, which is led by the European Commission.



Renewable Energy has the potential to bring the Union back to the EU.



While we are facing many challenges, we luckily also have a breadth of solutions available as well. Through the World Future Council, we are sharing them with policy-makers from across the world and enable them to replicate successes.

Dipal Chandra Barua, World Future Councillor and recipient of the Right Livelihood Award



Are you in? Study Tour with participants from Tanzania and Bangladesh on 100% Renewable Energy solutions.



BUILDING GLOBAL NETWORKS FOR 100% RE

Over the past years, we have collaborated with more than 30 organisations from science, industry, and civil society to build up the first global alliance for 100% RE. In 2017, this initiative was formalised as an independent organisation: The Global 100% RE Platform. As a unique voice that convenes different backgrounds and perspectives, this platform connects the fragmented dots of RE advocates and identifies pioneers to inspire change globally. At the UN Climate Conference in Bonn, we partnered with the Global 100% RE Platform to connect local and national policy makers, exploring opportunities to escalate the local 100% RE movement to the national level. Using the momentum among governments to implement the Paris Agreement, we will continue with this work in 2018.

100% RENEWABLE ENERGY (RE)
IS MORE THAN JUST REPLACING
FOSSIL WITH RENEWABLE SOURCES.
IT CAN SERVE AS A MEANS FOR
SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
HELP CREATE AN EQUITABLE SOCIETY FOR
TODAY'S AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.

**OUR RECENT PUBLICATION DESCRIBES THE
VITAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RE AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.**



REGENERATIVE CITIES PROGRAMME IN CHINA



CHINA IS AN EMERGING ECONOMY WITH A GROWING URBAN POPULATION IN 15 MEGACITIES, WITH OVER 10 MILLION INHABITANTS EACH. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT CHINA WILL HAVE 221 CITIES WITH OVER ONE MILLION INHABITANTS AND AN URBAN POPULATION OF ONE BILLION IN 2025. WITH SUCH RAPID URBANISATION, LOW CARBON, SUSTAINABLE, REGENERATIVE CITY DEVELOPMENT IS INDISPENSABLE. IT IS NOT ONLY PROVIDING URBAN RESIDENTS WITH GREEN LIVEABLE CITIES, BUT IT ALSO RE-CONNECTS THEM WITH NATURE BY RE-BUILDING THE REGENERATIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CITY AND NATURE.

Most modern cities have a linear metabolism – more urbanisation, more natural resource consumption, higher carbon emissions, and less green spaces. Our Regenerative Cities concept is about rebuilding the circular metabolism relationship between cities and nature by protecting nature from urban expansion, greening of the urban environment, and above all else greening the urban system of production, consumption, and construction.



PROTECTING URBAN WETLANDS

A guide to help Chinese cities on Urban Wetland Protection and Restoration was developed based on cooperation with Yuncheng city. The guideline was adopted by the city government and successfully changed the local government's urban development plan to a freshwater eco-friendly one to secure urban water quality for 2 million city residents.

With the one-year project with the World Future Council, we learnt how to protect and restore our Dongxi Wetland so that it can, on the one hand, improve our citizens' livelihood with more ecosystem services, and on the other hand, boost our economic development with eco and sustainable tourism.

Mr. Shi Qihai, Director of the New Urbanisation Office, Yuncheng City, China.

CREATING THE CITY WE NEED FOR A LOW-CARBON FUTURE

For the next three years, we plan to engage millions of citizens in leading cities in China to improve their participation and public discourse on regenerative cities, with a focus on integrating nature into cities by developing fun and innovative tools as well as the leverage effect of media.

Our China Team works towards mainstreaming urban ecology into high-level policy dialogue and exchange at the international level. They facilitate international policy exchange and ensure that the UN Convention on Biodiversity will set robust targets for the next ten years taking urban development challenges and urban ecology targets into consideration.



TOGETHER WITH BEIJING JIAOTONG UNIVERSITY, WE COMPILED A **BEST PRACTICE REPORT ON REGENERATIVE CITIES** WITH CASE STUDIES FROM CHINA AND INTERNATIONALLY, WITH A FOCUS ON URBAN ECOSYSTEMS, URBAN WATER REGENERATION, URBAN WASTE RECYCLING, AND URBAN RENEWABLE ENERGY.

MORE KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE FOR CHINESE DECISION-MAKERS

The 7th Future of Cities Forum was successfully held in China, providing a platform for over 200 participants from local governments, financial institutions, urban planners and developers, academics, and NGOs to explore an integrated approach for urban green blue infrastructure protection and restoration.



TOWARDS A FAIR AND SUSTAINABLE FINANCIAL SYSTEM

OUR CURRENT **ECONOMIC SYSTEM** IS UNSUSTAINABLE, UNFAIR, UNSTABLE, AND NO LONGER IMPROVES OUR QUALITY OF LIFE. IN CHANGING OUR ECONOMIC SYSTEM TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMON WEALTH, WE CAN ENABLE CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION, EMPOWER MILLIONS OF PEOPLE, AND LEAD THE WAY TOWARDS A FAIRER FUTURE.

For a just and sustainable future, we need a global economy that serves the people and the planet rather than profits and short-term interests. The Future Finance programme identifies, develops, and disseminates policy proposals for reforming the financial and monetary system. Sustainable economies require productive and stable financial markets as well as monetary resources for climate protection and the implementation of the other Sustainable Development Goals.

WHY DEGROWTH IS NOT ENOUGH

Can our production systems become sustainable and balanced within our existing political and economic order? This is, in principle, possible. Degrowth of GDP is not enough if we need a reduction of greenhouse gases emissions to zero. Growth and real finiteness have to be reconciled if we want peace and sufficiency for possibly over 10 billion people in the future. In our new Position Paper on this topic, we reveal how this could be achieved – for example through 100% Renewable Energies.

UNLOCKING THE TRILLIONS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

In order to achieve the 1.5°C limit in line with the Paris Agreement, it is estimated that investments in renewable energies of up to \$2000 billion per year are needed. To meet this huge scale, new innovative, financial tools are necessary. Our new finance paper “Unlocking the Trillions” outlines how the large investment sums could be financed between a co-operation of developing countries, Multilateral Development Banks, the private sector and Central Banks. We spread our innovative finance tool at the UN Climate Conference in Bonn and into the media. It has been adapted by F20, a foundations platform of 45 international foundations (see also page 15).

” Guy Dauncey – Canadian author and climate activist – featured the Future Finance proposals recently in his article ‘The Biggest Climate Solution You Have Never Heard Of’:

Why hasn't this been proposed before? My guess is that it's a combination of two reasons. First, that most people have no idea that central banks can create money and don't understand what quantitative easing is, and second, that most climate activists don't understand monetary policy, so they have not had the confidence to move into this territory. Dr Matthias Kroll has moved into this territory, and his proposal deserves serious attention, serious debate, and rapid adoption as a new climate solution that could have huge impact.

UNLOCKING THE TRILLIONS TO FINANCE THE 1.5°C LIMIT

THIS REPORT DEMONSTRATES
HOW A GLOBAL SHIFT TO 100%
RENEWABLE ENERGIES
CAN BE FINANCED.



A 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY VISION FOR TANZANIA

Based on our overall climate finance proposal we developed a country specific tool for Tanzania. The Paper – which was also presented to the Tanzanian government – showcased how we could finance 100% Renewable Energy in Tanzania; a model that can be applied to other countries.

For the upcoming year, the global implementation of the 100% Renewable Energy vision is our focus. A huge amount of fossil fuel assets become stranded if we implement the necessary changes in the energy infrastructure to meet the 1.5°C limit in the speedy way that is necessary. We will be presenting a solution on how we can convert stranded fossil fuels assets into renewable energies.

SHARING DISARMAMENT BENEFITS ACROSS BORDERS



THE COMBINED EXPLOSIVE YIELD OF MORE THAN 15,000 NUCLEAR WEAPONS AROUND THE GLOBE IS SUFFICIENT TO DESTROY LIFE ON EARTH AS WE KNOW IT. CLIMATE CHANGE, AS A CATALYST FOR CONFLICT, AMPLIFIES EXISTING THREATS. IN 2017, OUR **PEACE & DISARMAMENT PROGRAMME** HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF PEACE, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, AND SECURITY.

One of our ideas to raise awareness for the nuclear threat: a 3D painting of a nuclear missile silos, pictured here in front of the German parliament

SPREADING GOOD DISARMAMENT PRACTICE

The Peace and Disarmament Commission continued to collaborate with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND) on giving legislators the tools to take action on nuclear disarmament. One such tool has been the unique Parliamentary Handbook to support nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. In early 2017, the Arabic version of this Handbook was released during a side-event Nuclear Weapon-Free Zones at the 135th IPU Assembly.



What I appreciate about the World Future Council's peace and disarmament work is that it combines authoritative policy-research with public advocacy campaigns on the need for building resilient and peaceful societies that prioritise human wellbeing.

Frank Otto,
World Future Council Ambassador



The nine nuclear armed countries are collectively allocating \$100 billion annually to nuclear weapons production. The World Future Council provides solutions for cutting nuclear weapons budgets, divestment of government and city funds from nuclear weapons corporations, and redirecting these budgets and investments towards environmental and social needs.

Alyn Ware,
World Future Councilor and recipient of the Right Livelihood Award

SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL DISARMAMENT PROCESSES

We also supported and participated in the conferences and UN negotiations that led to the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in July 2017. The Commission worked with other organisations to support negotiating states and submit working papers reviewing the scope and wording of provisions and prohibitions in the Treaty, including on the need for a prohibition on financing of nuclear weapons producers.

MOVE THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS MONEY

On the issue of nuclear spending and financing, we joined with PNND and the International Peace Bureau in launching the project 'Move the Nuclear Weapons Money', which provides information about parliamentary actions in nuclear-armed states to cut nuclear weapons budgets and re-direct these funds to economic, social, and environmental needs, as well as parliamentary actions in non-nuclear states to end investments of public funds and banks in corporations manufacturing nuclear weapons and their dedicated delivery systems.

EVERY YEAR, AN ESTIMATED 100 BILLION USD IS BEING SPENT ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS – MONEY THAT COULD INSTEAD BE USED FOR SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMMES. IN THIS HANDBOOK, WE PROVIDE IDEAS, EXAMPLES, AND RESOURCES FOR LEGISLATORS AND CIVIL SOCIETY TO **MOVE THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS MONEY**, FOR THE SAKE OF HUMAN KIND AND OUR PLANET.





F20: FOR A TRANSFORMATION THAT LEAVES NO ONE BEHIND

ACROSS THE GLOBE, FOUNDATIONS WORK TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION. WHY NOT JOIN FORCES, AND COMBINE EXPERTISE AND RESOURCES TO ACHIEVE MUTUAL GOALS? IN THE CONTEXT OF THE 2017 G20 SUMMIT IN HAMBURG, A NEW PLATFORM WAS ESTABLISHED WITH FOUNDATIONS FROM DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD: **F20**.

In 2017, a new platform was launched: Foundations 20 or, for short, F20. The platform calls for common and transnational action towards a zero carbon economy and a successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The World Future Council played a vital role in the coordination of this process and remains associated with the constantly growing platform as a partner in 2018 and beyond.

F20 seeks to establish an open dialogue that serves to highlight solutions but also potential barriers to progress, whilst attempting to motivate other actors to initiate sustainable transformation processes – bridging the gap between, politics, the economy and civil society.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION

The decision of the US administration to withdraw from the Paris Agreement accord ironically triggered a broad alliance to participate in the increasing support of the Paris Agreement. The G20 summit in Hamburg in 2017 was the ideal occasion to launch the ambitious F20 platform project. In a joint statement, F20 in alliance with G20 engagement groups such as the Business 20, Think Tank 20, Women 20 and Labour 20, called on the G20 to implement the Paris Agreement even without the US.

Since the last series of events around the G20 summit in Hamburg in 2017, the platform has had further events at the UN Climate Conference in Bonn. Overwhelming support from civil society and the private sector manifested itself in the mutual demand for bold steps to transform the energy sector and the development of long-term decarbonisation strategies.

THE REPORT ANALYSES **THE EMERGING ENERGY TRANSITION TOWARDS EFFICIENT AND RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS** AT GLOBAL LEVEL AND IN SPECIFIC G20 COUNTRIES, AND PROVIDES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FOUNDATIONS AND THE G20 AIMED AT ENHANCING CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND SUSTAINABILITY.



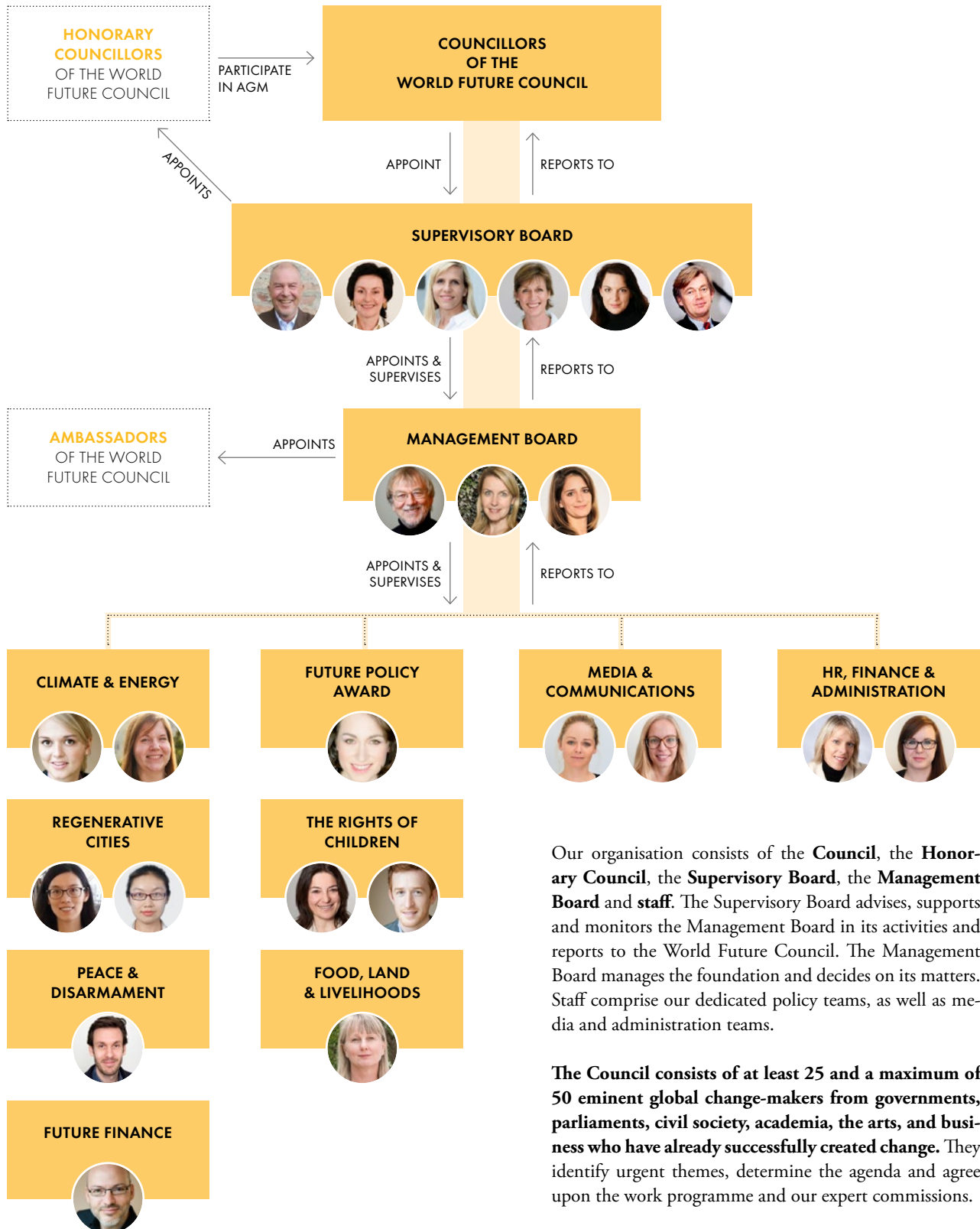
NEXT STEPS

F20 aims to serve as an enabler and bridge-builder between non-state actors. It is a global learning platform for improved cooperation interlinking foundations globally and suggesting a variety of mutually complementary opportunities. F20 will continue their work and has produced two new films, launched a new website and established a new internal blog for all its partners.

A series of activities at this year's G20 summit in Argentina and at the Climate Conference will follow. The focus of the upcoming year will be on the questions of finance and on the concept of 'shifting and unlocking the trillions'.

Our recent study "Unlocking the Trillions" (see also page 13) gave crucial input and the necessary expertise in this process.

HOW DOES THE WORLD FUTURE COUNCIL WORK?



COUNCILLORS



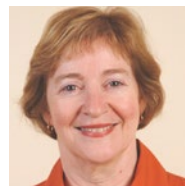
Dr. h.c. Hafsat
Abiola-Costello



Helmy Abouleish



Charlotte Aubin



Dr. h.c. Maude Barlow



Dipal Chandra Barua



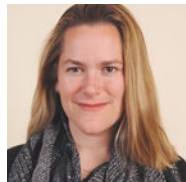
Prof. Ana María Cetto



Shuaib Chalklen



Dr. Tony Colman



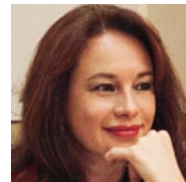
Prof. Marie-Claire
Cordonier Segger



Thais Corral



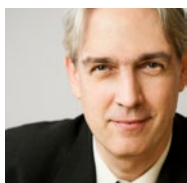
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Dr. María Fernanda
Espinosa



Anda Filip



Dr. Sándor Fülöp



Prof. Dr. Rafia Ghubash



Luc Gnacadja



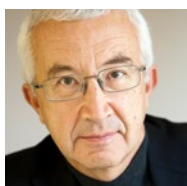
Neshan Gunasekera



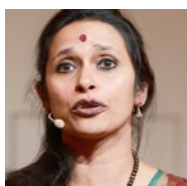
Dr. Ashok Khosla



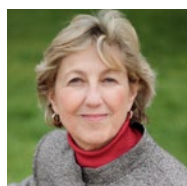
Prof. Dr. Rolf Kreibich



Prof. Dr. Alexander Likhotal



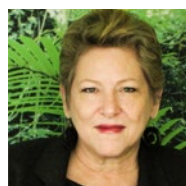
Dr. Rama Mani



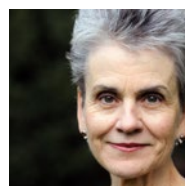
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Wanjira Mathai



Jan McAlpine



Frances Moore Lappé



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Anna R. Oposa



Dr. Katiana Orluc



Sirpa Pietikäinen



Prof. Dr. Vandana Shiva



Victoria Tauli-Corpuz



Alyn Ware



Anders Wijkman

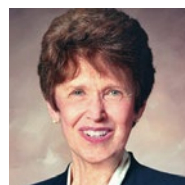
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Patrus Ananias



Dr. Ahmed Djoghlaif



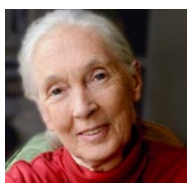
Dr. Riane Eisler



Prof. Herbert Girardet



Dr. Olivier Giscard d'Estaing



Jane Goodall Ph.D. DBE



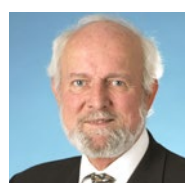
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Ibengwe Mongella



Prof. Dr. Michael Otto



Pauline Tangiora



Prof. Dr. Ernst Ulrich
von Weizsäcker



Barbara Woschek

AMBASSADORS



Kehkashan Basu



Demian Dressler



Vinay Nayak



Alexandra Freifrau
von Rehlingen-Prinz



Dr. Farhad Vladi



”

As a young person, I am deeply concerned at the current trend of economic progress being achieved at the cost of the environment. This shortsighted nature of policy making must change, and the World Future Council is playing a very important role in influencing decision-makers and civil society to adopt a long term approach so that the rights of future generations are not compromised for current gains.

Kehkashan Basu

Youth Ambassador for the World Future Council and Environmental Activist

Change happens by listening and then starting a dialogue. For this, it is most helpful to speak about solutions.

The World Future Council's "best policy" approach is a promising way to promote lasting change for a better future.

Jane Goodall Ph.D. DBE

Primatologist, Anthropologist, UN Messenger of Peace and World Future Honorary Councillor

”



”

The World Future Council shines a light to show you where best practice works: on laws and policies that on a large scale impact and make a positive contribution toward putting in place solutions to preserve and protect our planet for future generations. The World Future Council is cracking the system of despair and lethargy. Change is possible – this is what they prove and promote.

Dr. Auma Obama

Founder and Director of the "Sauti Kuu Foundation", World Future Councillor

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

We warmly thank everyone who supported us and made our work possible in 2017.

PRIVATE DONORS:

- Gisela Holz
- Frank Otto
- Dr. Nikolaus Peters
- Jörg Pilawa
- Dr. Gunnar Seibt
- Farhad Vladi
- Jakob von Uexkull
- Natascha von Uexkull

FOUNDATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS:

- Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra Foundation
- Bread for the World
- Elion Foundation
- European Climate Foundation
- Green Cross International
- Hilti Foundation
- JUA Foundation, Janina Özen-Otto
- Martin and Gerda Essl Foundation
- Michael Otto Foundation
- Threshold Foundation

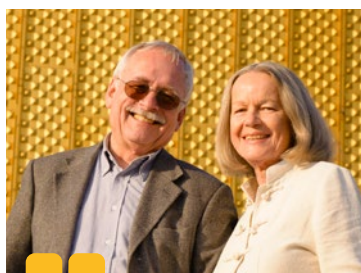
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS:

- City of Bregenz
- European Centre for Sustainability Research ECS, Zeppelin University gGmbH
- Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany
- Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism, Austria
- Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (DEZA)
- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
- Vorarlberg County

COMPANIES:

- Berlin Festival/Music Festival Berlin – A Department of the Cultural Events of the Federal Government in Berlin (KBB) GmbH
- Convention Partner Vorarlberg
- GbR Semperhäuser
- IPPNW-Concerts, Ingrid and Dr. Peter Hauber GbR
- Kongresskultur Bregenz GmbH
- Noerr LLP
- OTTO GmbH & Co. KG
- United Ventures S.A.
- Vladi Private Islands GmbH

Donors listed supported the World Future Council in 2017 with cash and in-kind donations or services and partnerships worth more than 5,000 Euros. We would also like to thank all donors who contributed to our achievements with smaller donations.

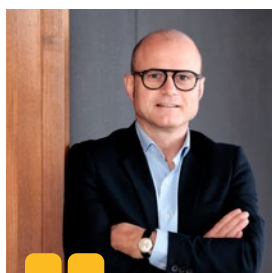


”

The overexploitation of our natural resources has to stop so that our children and grandchildren will be able to enjoy this world's beauty, and can grow up in peace. We are grateful that the World Future Council is promoting the rights of future generations.

Ingrid and Dr. Peter Hauber

Pharmacist and pediatrician, honorary concert organisers, IPPNW-Concerts GbR



”

We all hope for a better future for our children – but what can we actually do about it? Learning from each other is a proven concept, and the World Future Council puts it on a political level. That's why it's important to support them.

Gerhard Stübe

Director of Kongresskultur Bregenz GmbH



”

100% Renewable Energy is the most critical measure for tackling climate change. The World Future Council promotes the implementation of long-term policies that enable this transition. Their impact is invaluable for the future of this planet.

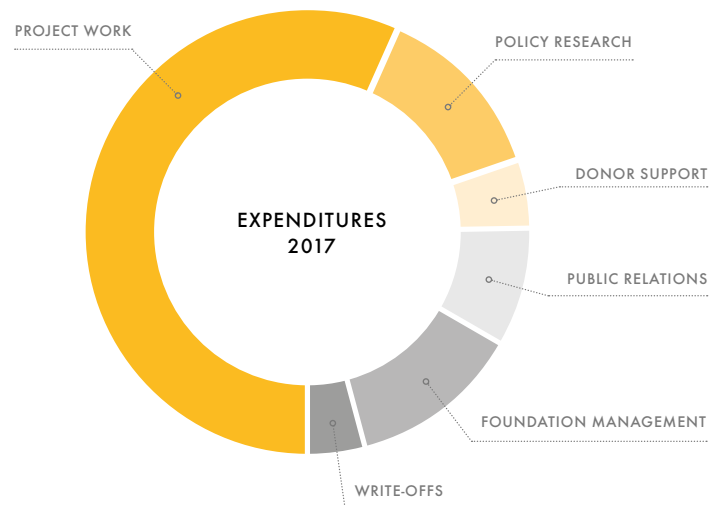
Dr. Farhad Vladi

President of Vladi Private Islands GmbH

FINANCIALS

The **World Future Council Foundation** is an independent charitable foundation. We ensure that all expenditures of the Foundation are spent in accordance with our statutes.

Schomerus & Partner mbB has prepared the Foundation's annual accounts for 2017 and confirms that these meet the legal requirements. Schomerus & Partner mbB compiled the annual financial statement – comprising the balance sheet, the profit and loss account and the notes to the financial statements – of the Foundation World Future Council, Hamburg, for the financial year from 1 January to 31 December 2017 in accordance with German commercial law.



WORK OF THE FOUNDATION	2017	2016
	in thousand euro	in thousand euro
I. EARNINGS		
Donations	914	584
External Funding	105	28
Other income*	182	40
Income asset management	17	45
Special purpose operations	201	0
Economic business operations	19	0
SUM EARNINGS	1 439	697
II. EXPENDITURE		
Project work	1 013	1 210
Policy Research	237	225
Donor support	90	64
Public relations	154	164
Foundation management	223	191
Write-Offs	70	42
SUM EXPENDITURES	1 786	1 895
ANNUAL RESULTS	-347	-1 197
RESERVES	448	745
ENDOWMENT	617	617

*in 2017: other income, inter alia for F 20 coordination, which was handed over to the Umweltstiftung Michael Otto in 2018.
All sums are rounded.

WE KNOW THAT EFFECTIVE POLICY SOLUTIONS
TO TACKLE HUMAN KIND'S

GREATEST CHALLENGES

EXIST

SO WHY LIVE WITH

PROBLEMS

WE CAN SOLVE?

YOUR DONATION MATTERS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

We provide future generations with a voice and work to protect their rights. We provide the policy tools to empower millions of people around the world. By making a donation, you can support our unique work for the common good. Your donation can help us:

- ✓ Protect children from violence and injustice, and give them the opportunity to grow up in an intact environment.
- ✓ Catalyse the upscale of renewable energy and energy efficiency. We work towards an energy transition that fights climate change and poverty.
- ✓ Promote best policies and laws globally. In 2018, we will specifically highlight best policies that scale up sustainable agriculture.

For further information, please contact

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Alexandra Wandel, Director, Phone: +49 40 3070914-0, alexandra.wandel@worldfuturecouncil.org

To make a tax deductible donation:

The World Future Council Foundation is recognised as a charitable organisation. Donations are tax deductible. Inheritances and legacies are exempt from inheritance tax in Germany. For more information, as well as our online donation form, please visit www.worldfuturecouncil.org/donate

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U.S.-based donors can support our activities in a tax-efficient way through the King Baudouin Foundation United States (KBFUS)

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