

PATHFINDER

Our Annual Report 2020 – and a look ahead

Hazardous chemicals:

Children and pregnant women are particularly at risk. How can people and the environment be protected?

100% renewable energy for all!

How we have helped Bangladesh, Tanzania, Uganda, Vietnam, and other countries achieve this.

Less nuclear weapons, more human rights! Bombs are useless for preventing pandemics, poverty, and other crises. Insights into our work towards peace and disarmament.

“ We need to develop a new relationship with animals and nature and a new sustainable economy before it is too late ”

Read our Interview with Jane Goodall

Sustainable ecosystems and habitats: Our commitment to agroecology and marine conservation.



PATHFINDER

Our Annual Report 2020
and a look ahead

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PREFACE

Dear Friends and Supporters,

No one will forget the year 2020. We all have a deeply personal connection with it: sorrow, separation, grief, and loss. But for many of us, 2020 was also a spark for change. The pandemic gave us an opportunity to break new ground and to build more resilient and healthy societies.

Our Councillors were unable to meet in person this year. We therefore made a virtue out of necessity and switched to video conferencing. The energy in the Council was impressive! The shared experience of the pandemic and the lockdown, the urgent challenges that come with it – from the Philippines to India and Germany to Brazil – the exchange amongst our Council members was both passionate and engaged.

For us, the current crisis has also been an opportunity. At the World Future Council we are working towards a healthy, sustainable planet with just and peaceful societies. This heartfelt commitment connects us with our supporters. We are working together to ensure that rebuilding in the aftermath of the pandemic is done in the interest of present and future generations. To achieve this, we identify the best solutions to humanity's challenges, make them visible, and promote their worldwide implementation.

Our areas of work are as diverse as the challenges they address. In 2020, these were and still are:

- Climate and renewable energies
- The rights of children and the youth
- Sustainable ecosystems and habitats
- Peace and disarmament

On the following pages, we invite you to learn more about our projects and achievements, our solutions and activities, our methods of working, and our global network. Without your dedicated support, we could not be this successful. For this, we thank you sincerely!

As our founder Jakob von Uexküll says: **“We all make a difference in this world. It is up to us to decide whether our contribution changes it for the better or not.”**

Kindly keep in touch with us – and stay healthy.

Sincerely,



Alexandra Wandel

Alexandra Wandel
Chair
Management Board



Theodor Boitor

Theodor Boitor
Management Board



F. Gottwald

Prof. Dr. Franz-Theo Gottwald
Chair
Supervisory Board

Our mission is to pass on a healthy planet and fair society to our children and grandchildren. What does this mean in practice? Learn more about our diverse work programmes and our achievements in 2020.

OUR HIGHLIGHTS



100% RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR ALL!

Our goal is 100 per cent renewable energy – worldwide. Countries in the Global South in particular can benefit from this, especially in their fight against poverty. Find out how we have supported Bangladesh, Tanzania, Uganda, Vietnam, and other countries on [pages 12 and 13](#).



PROTECTION FROM HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS!

Chemicals are everywhere, and children and pregnant women are particularly at risk. How can we help protect people and their environments? Read more about our “Policy Oscar” on [pages 6 and 7](#). And on [page 10](#), you can find out why we have intensified our focus on the issue of children’s health.



EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE!

The pandemic has hit young people particularly hard. Find out on [pages 10 and 11](#) why their future is at stake and how we can strengthen their participation and provide increased educational opportunities.



LESS NUCLEAR WEAPONS, MORE HUMAN RIGHTS!

Bombs are useless for preventing pandemics, poverty, and other crises. For this reason, we support decision-makers in building policies for peace, disarmament, and human security. Read more on [pages 18 and 19](#).



PROTECT 30% OF THE OCEANS BY 2030!

We continue working to ensure that this demand is heard at the highest level. The German government is already on board. On [pages 16 and 17](#) find out why this target is so important and why we want even more.



HEALTHY FOOD FOR SLUM DWELLERS!

For the people in the slums of Namibia’s capital, Windhoek, healthy food cannot be taken for granted. On [page 14](#) read how our farm Okukuna contributes to increased food security and education.



MORE AGROECOLOGY!

Our goal is to find and share solutions for sustainable agriculture that work. The year 2020 provided an opportunity for us to raise awareness of good policies and practices at virtual events with an international audience. Read more on [page 15](#).



DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

2020 was the year of webinars. From the European Green Deal and youth participation to food security and renewable energy in the global south, our webinars are as diverse as our work programmes. Find out more about these and other World Future Council online resources on [page 9](#).



A BETTER WORLD AFTER COVID!

This crisis has given us an opportunity. Our Council has addressed heads of state from around the world, urging them: Improve children’s rights! Restore ecosystems! Shape a just economy and society! Read more about the Council’s activities on [pages 8 and 9](#).

INTERVIEW WITH
**JANE
GOODALL**



Jane and her mascot, Mr H

”

**WE NEED TO DEVELOP A
NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH
ANIMALS AND NATURE
AND A NEW SUSTAINABLE
ECONOMY BEFORE IT IS
TOO LATE.**

Jane Goodall, Ph.D., DBE, is the founder of the Jane Goodall Institute and a UN Ambassador for Peace. As a young woman, she began researching chimpanzees in 1960 in Gombe National Park in Tanzania. Her pioneering findings became the foundation of all future primate research. The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), which she founded in 1977, is a world leader in protecting chimpanzees and their habitat. She has received several awards for her outstanding achievements. Jane is a member of our Honorary Council.

Jane, thank you so much for joining us for an interview for this year's Annual Report! How are you feeling now and how has 2020 been for you?

I've been "grounded" here in Bournemouth for a year now – and busier than I have ever been in my whole life! At first, I was frustrated, but then I realised I had to make the best of it!

So, with my JGI* team we created "Virtual Jane" – to my amazement I have been able to reach literally millions more people in many more countries from my "studio" in my attic, than if I had been on the road. I do a lot of interviews, Zooms, Skypes, podcasts, webinars, and send video messages. And on top of that, lots of writing, articles, interviews ... oh, and the emails.

My two breaks in the day are firstly taking our ancient dog (16 years, almost blind and deaf and even sense-of-smell diminished, so each leaf must be smelled for ages.) And in the evening, I have supper with my sister Judy and sometimes with her daughter and two grown-up grandsons.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a wake-up call. We realised how the fate of humankind, biodiversity loss, depletion of natural resources, climate change, and other crises are all interconnected. Can you tell us more about these links? And why do you think humanity has to pivot?

First, we brought COVID-19 on ourselves by our disrespect for animals. We destroy their habitats, forcing some into closer proximity to people. We hunt and kill them, we traffic them. And we cram billions of animals into "factory farms" so we can have cheap meat. All this provides great opportunities for pathogens to spill over from one animal to one person. The same disrespect for the natural world has led to climate change and loss of biodiversity. It is clear we need to develop a new relationship with animals and nature and a new sustainable economy before it is too late. We cannot have unlimited economic development on a planet with finite natural resources and a growing population of people and livestock.

The topics we are working on are very complex. But they will (and certainly already do) affect everyone everywhere. How would you explain to a child how the World Future Council works and why it is so important?

There are so many people all wanting to get rich, and people who buy MUCH more than they need and who waste so much. And then there are the poor people who cut down trees to sell or to make space for growing food for their families and hunt animals to eat. All of this has brought our planet to a very dangerous crossroads. The World Future Council is working to push us along the right path towards a healthier planet – working to protect the environment and persuade people to live more sustainably and with respect, and to alleviate poverty. Many people have this goal, and the World Future Council is working on the solutions.

You have been a member of the World Future Council for many years. Why are future generations so close to your heart?

When I was travelling some 300 days a year, giving talks and having meetings about the harm we have inflicted on the planet, I met many young people who had lost hope. They were apathetic, depressed, or angry. All said more or less the same – we have compromised their future, stealing it, and there was nothing they could do about it. But was it true there was nothing to be done? Oh no! We have a window of time to start healing the harm and slowing down climate change and biodiversity loss – IF we take action. So, in Tanzania we formed the first group of Roots & Shoots. The main message: Every individual matters and has a role to play and each of us make an impact every day – and we can choose the kind of impact we make. We empower young people to choose projects they care about – for people, animals and the environment. They are active – thousands and thousands of young people from kindergarten through university (and even adults) – in more than 65 countries. They are the future.

My goal? A critical mass of young people who have the right values, who respect other life forms and who respect each other, irrespective of nationality, culture, language, colour of skin, socio-economic status, or religion. They ARE the future. I have grandchildren – no wonder I care about the future and work to improve things and empower young people and support them as they work to make this a better world for all.

At the World Future Council, we are working on solutions for our common future. What is your hope for the people and the planet?

I hope that we can come together and take action now, to make a better world for all life, that we can create a new economy that respects the need to protect the environment, and that we can overcome the divisiveness that exists in so many countries. I hope that values, such as respect, compassion, and understanding, lead to adherence to the golden rule that is shared by every single major religion around the world but so often ignored: Do to others as you would have them do to you. And I would include animals and ecosystems in the equation.

Why am I hopeful? Because of the energy and commitment of youth, the incredible intellect we have been gifted with, the amazing resilience of nature if we give her a chance and the indomitable spirit that enables people to tackle what seems impossible – and succeed!

*JGI = Jane Goodall Institute

PROTECTING PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS

We are currently faced with a dramatic number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and polluted and contaminated air, water, and soil. This is impacting present and future generations and our environment. It is therefore absolutely critical that we strengthen the sound management of chemicals and waste – through inclusive, effective, inspiring, and innovative laws and policies. More ambitious worldwide action by all stakeholders is urgently required.

This is why, in 2021, our **Future Policy Award** is dedicated to the most effective policy solutions that minimise the adverse effects of exposure to chemicals on human health, with a focus on children's health, and the environment. The award highlights the fact that solutions do exist – solutions that are ambitious and impactful.



GOLD Stockholm Region

Phasing out of the purchasing and procurement of many toxic chemicals, including several that may cause cancer.

SPECIAL AWARD "High-Hazard Pesticides" Sri Lanka:

A policy ensuring that only the least hazardous pesticides are available, reducing the suicide rate by 70 per cent.

GOLD Kyrgyzstan

The classification and labelling of chemicals became legally required – a policy applied in the workplace, in transport, to consumer products, to pesticides, and to pharmaceuticals.

SPECIAL AWARD "Lead in Paint": Philippines

The first Southeast Asian country to successfully implement lead-safe paint legislation.

SPECIAL AWARD "Pharmaceutical Residues in the Environment": Colombia

Creation of the first successful enforced medicine disposal programme in Latin America.

Our partners:



Learn more about the winning legislation on our website:
www.worldfuturecouncil.org/chemicals



How does this award promote children's rights?
Find out on [page 10](#).

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

CRISIS AS OPPORTUNITY: COUNCIL MEMBERS APPEAL TO HEADS OF STATE

COVID-19 has been a wake-up call for humanity. Because the pandemic is a global crisis, common, global solutions are needed to tackle it and its impact on our societies. Our Council members expressed this in an appeal to our world leaders in May 2020. In their letter to UN agencies and heads of state, they called for a “build back better” approach after COVID-19 through support for sustainable and just economies, the dissemination of green technologies, such as renewable energy and agroecology, and the protection and restoration of ecosystems to prevent future pandemics. They also called for a global ceasefire and the reduction of military budgets in order to release funds for public health and sustainable development.

Empowering and protecting girls and women and ensuring children’s rights was also part of their appeal: “The COVID-19 pandemic hits the vulnerable members of our societies the most”, explains Maria Fernanda Espinosa, President of the 73rd UN General Assembly and WFC Council Member. “Children’s rights are being cut, women feel an increase in their workload and are more exposed to domestic violence. Healthcare workers and other front liners bear the brunt of this crisis. They all need to be treated with respect, today and in the future.”


 More about the statement:
<https://wfc.world/2YHSGiA>

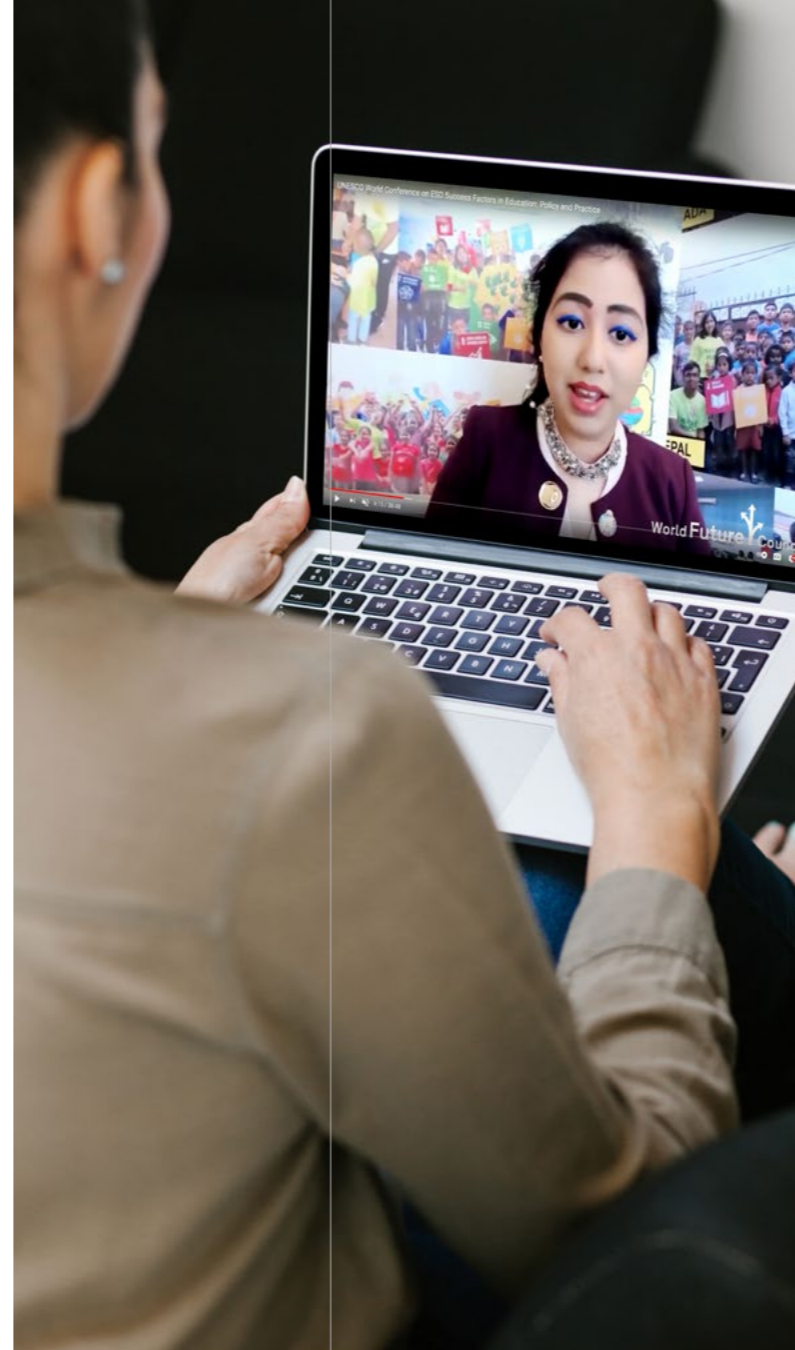
UN SUMMIT ON BIODIVERSITY: WORLD FUTURE COUNCIL CALLS FOR ACTION TO CONSERVE BIODIVERSITY

The pandemic has shown that without a healthy natural environment, human health is also at risk. The figures are worrying: one million animal and plant species are on the brink of extinction – the highest number in human history. Biodiversity conservation must, therefore, play a vital role in any recovery strategy.

As governments convened for the UN Summit on Biodiversity in New York on 30 September 2020, the World Future Council called for immediate action to protect and conserve biodiversity – for the sake of current and future generations, we must prevent further pandemics, ensure life-sustaining systems, and live in harmony with nature.



 More about the statement:
<https://wfc.world/BioDivAppeal2020>



WFC DIGITAL

FOR FORWARD THINKERS: WEBINARS AT THE WFC

“You’re still on mute!”, “Can everyone hear me?” – 2020 was a year of webinars and online conferences. Working remotely and lockdowns are forcing us to reinvent ourselves. And even if a shaky Internet connection or a child’s voice in the background initially caused unease, this form of communication and learning has now become everyday life for us. Webinars offer advantages that were previously completely underestimated: without the costs of travel, catering, and event management, we can now bring together top-class experts. And everyone can participate from home. A low-emission, easily accessible exchange across continents has been a major accomplishment of the pandemic year. The World Future Council also made a virtue of this necessity by organising a series of exciting webinars featuring our Council members as well as experts from both the World Future Council and other institutions.

WFC webinars – all in one place

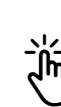
From the European Green Deal and youth participation to food security and renewable energy in the Global South, our webinars are as diverse as our work programmes. We have collected recordings of all our past webinars on our website to provide you with a rich pool of expertise.

 Current webinars
and all recordings:
wfc.world/webinars

A look ahead to our new webinar series:

Forward Thinkers

The Forward Thinkers webinars highlight the exemplary solutions that were the winners of the “Policy Oscars”, the Future Policy Award – and more.

 Read more:
<https://wfc.world/ForwardThinkers>

A DATABASE FOR GOOD LAWS: FUTUREPOLICY.ORG

Our English-language website FuturePolicy.org has been in existence since the World Future Council was founded in 2007. It was developed for policy-makers and facilitates the exchange of proven policy solutions for the major challenges of our time.

The website is a silent hero of our work: all our Future Policy Award winners as well as other ground-breaking laws and policies can be found here and are sorted by topic. We regularly update the content of the website and research whether the laws and policies are still relevant, or whether there have been changes. This requires much time and expertise. We are therefore proud to present our supporters with a little insight into FuturePolicy.org in this year’s Pathfinder!


FuturePolicy.org

Proven solutions for current & future generations.

Your opinion is needed!

We would like to improve FuturePolicy.org by getting our supporters on board! What are the things you like about it? What would you do differently? Where can we break new ground?

We would like to ask you to provide us with feedback on FuturePolicy.org to help us better prepare this valuable knowledge base for policy-makers and experts.

 Contact us:
media@worldfuturecouncil.org

RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

PROTECTION FROM DANGEROUS CHEMICALS, GREEN JOBS WITH A FUTURE, AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

2020 was a particularly special year for our work: the rights of children and young people have been restricted and threatened in unprecedented ways. Lockdowns isolated children and young people all over the world, threatening their right to education, their right to protection from violence, and their mental and physical health.

Children and young people have been neglected by policy-makers in this crisis. We demand that all policies take their welfare significantly into account! We want the voices of children and young people to be heard and included in decision-making in the post-pandemic reconstruction process. We remain concerned about the future of the young generation and are committed to ensuring that they are not forgotten! Please also read our Councillors' statement on the COVID-19 pandemic and child protection on [page 8](#).



FUTURE POLICY AWARD 2021 THE SILENT PANDEMIC: CHILD HEALTH AT RISK

Dangerous chemicals threaten children's health, even before they are born. These chemicals are found in fabric softeners, food, wall paints, and toys. Because of the undeveloped defence system in children, toxic substances cannot be processed or excreted. Instead, they can disrupt the development of the brain, the functioning of hormones, or the DNA. We are working to find good policy solutions that protect children from the effects of dangerous chemicals. Our "Policy Oscar" Future Policy Award this year (see [pages 6 and 7](#)) addresses this issue.



One focus of our work in 2020 was preparing for the award. For this, all policies nominated for the award were researched and analysed in relation to child health. In particular, our team "Rights of Children and Youth"

examined regulations relating to lead in paint and exploitative child labour in gold mines (mercury exposure).

GREEN JOBS WITH A FUTURE: THE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE

All over the world, young women and men are the backbone of every society. In the wake of the pandemic, it is clear that educational opportunities for young people have deteriorated and youth unemployment is on the rise – with long-term consequences. Good policy action is, therefore, even more important right now.


In 2019, the Future Policy Award examined the best policies to tackle youth unemployment and promote decent and green jobs for young people. Building on this, in November 2020 we organised a high-level webinar on solutions for tackling high youth unemployment in Europe. The occasion was the reinforced Youth Guarantee of the European Commission's Green Deal programme. With a special focus on Greece and Spain, as well as the presentation of Scotland's Youth Workforce Strategy, which won the 2019 silver Future Policy Award, we reached more than 2,780 people. We are keeping the momentum going and are on track with more economic empowerment activities for young people in the coming months.



YOUTH:PRESENT OUR NEW YOUTH FORUM

Today, the world is home to 1.8 billion people between the ages of 15 and 35 – a quarter of the world's population! Yet, young people are still excluded from decision-making. We want to change this – young people deserve a seat at the table. And that is why we have launched Youth:Present, the World Future Council's new international youth forum.

Open to anyone between the ages of 8 and 28, Youth:Present aims to bring young people together to discuss and present innovative solutions to our many global problems. At our launch event in October 2020, we brought together six young people aged between 11 and 24 and four UN representatives, amongst them the WFC Council members Maria Fernanda Espinosa and Kehkashan Basu, in a (digital) space to discuss how young people could participate in global and national decision-making.

 You can watch the virtual launch event here: <https://youtu.be/50JksnOUbk4>



Find us on social media:

-  Instagram
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-  Twitter
[@youthpresentWFC](#)
-  Facebook
[youthpresent](#)
-  LinkedIn
[YouthPresent](#)

CLIMATE AND RENEWABLE ENERGY



BUILDING BACK BETTER WITH RENEWABLES

In 2020, the rapid spread of the coronavirus pandemic put many lives on hold. In response, governments began preparing to invest trillions to revitalise their stricken economies: massive spending that will determine the future of our infrastructure and the planet. To build back better, we examined the important role renewables should be playing in recovery efforts and analysed their role in the recovery packages of ten European and Asian countries (including Germany, Spain, Philippines, Bangladesh, India, among others). According to the Hon. Loren Legarda, Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives in the Philippines and member of the Global Renewables Congress, “there is a strategic opportunity in the pandemic to introduce critical investments in the nexus of climate action, sustainability and green recovery.” This work is being undertaken by the Global Renewables Congress, our parliamentary network dedicated to upscaling renewable energy solutions.



www.renewablescongress.org

STRENGTHENING RENEWABLES SO THAT NO ONE IS LEFT BEHIND

Renewables play a crucial role in sustainable development and climate action. A 100 per cent renewable energy future is not only feasible, it also offers a wide range of socio-economic benefits. To implement the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and leave no one behind in this transformation, we have given our support to the governments and parliaments in Nepal, Uganda, and Vietnam for the development of renewable energy strategies to achieve their countries' decarbonisation ambitions by 2050. Together with our partners, we strengthen ownership for a just renewable energy transition in the 100% RE MAP project.



100re-map.net

OPENENTRANCE: AN OPEN-SOURCE ENERGY MODELLING PLATFORM FOR A LOW-CARBON FUTURE

In 2019, we joined the openENTRANCE project. The project aims at developing an open, transparent, integrated energy modelling platform for assessing low-carbon transition pathways in Europe. In alignment with the EU, which aims to become carbon neutral by 2050, the project works towards shifting the energy supply to renewable and clean systems, together with technological, behavioural, and organisational changes in both the economy and society.

As an important component of the open modelling platform, openENTRANCE has, in collaboration with different stakeholders, developed transitioning scenarios for a low-carbon future. These scenarios look at the current technical, social, and political trends and provide a complete insight into the future of the European energy system, including the relevant barriers and opportunities. Information and results are provided to 345 stakeholders.



www.openentrance.eu

EMPOWERING CIVIL SOCIETY IN A DIGITAL WORLD

With work and lives being moved to the digital world as COVID-19 spreads, the mass of information that floods us on a daily basis has increased significantly. Many grassroots organisations and smaller NGOs are facing challenges in getting their voices heard. Together with our partner Bread for the World, we provide capacity building for civil society by highlighting best practice examples for participatory policy making and providing guidelines on how to develop national roadmaps for 100 per cent renewable energy. To bypass the digital “white noise”, we facilitated communication trainings to strengthen outreach activities of local partner organisations in Bangladesh, Tanzania, Costa Rica, Nepal, Uganda, and Vietnam.



Could this work for you, too?
Explore our online resources:
www.worldfuturecouncil.org/webinars



SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEMS AND LIVELIHOODS

FOOD, EDUCATION, PERSPECTIVES

How our farm Okukuna contributes to more food security

Healthy food and an income of their own – for the slum dwellers of Namibia’s capital, Windhoek, this is not a matter of course. We want to change this. The World Future Council runs the Okukuna farm in the northern slums of Windhoek. Here, residents grow vegetables in their allotments and have the opportunity to earn money – for example, by producing high-quality compost.

The Okukuna farm is also a training centre, offering courses and workshops on permaculture. People can benefit from our work in the long term, an opportunity that is mainly taken up by women. Many young mothers in the area have no income and no prospects. Our trainer Annatolia Shipale tells how she and other women benefit from the Okukuna farm:

“I live in Havana informal settlement, Windhoek, with my husband and three children – plus another baby on the way. Our hut is about three by five metres. We have no water or electricity. [...] I think it is important that we grow our own food instead of buying it from the shops. If we grow our own food, we don’t have to starve. We can use this place, use the land. It helps us to be happy. If we grow our food and eat our vegetables, we can be healthy.

“I have started teaching the people around me how to grow small gardens by their houses. Many of them have started doing this. If they have problems, I go there to see where the problem is. There are many women between 20 and 30 years old. They are alone in their hut with their children. They have no work. I want them to come and grow with us so they can have food for their children.”

The 39-year-old goes on to explain what permaculture is all about and why it is so suitable for the Namibian climate: “At Farm Okukuna we grow our food in a permaculture way. That means we grow different plants in the same place. In Windhoek, we have many slopes, it is very mountainous. We also plant along ditches. We don’t want the water to sit in the ground without doing anything. Some plants give us shade, others give us fruit. We plant chilli, moringa, papaya, guava, banana, sugarcane and many more.”

EVENTS FOR MORE AGROECOLOGY

Our goal: to share solutions that work. These virtual events with an international audience have given us a stage to implement good policies and better-known practical examples from around the world.

#WEEMERGE: THE FUTURE OF FOOD

What should the future of our food systems look like? This is the question The DO explored in their virtual event, and we were there.

Through its programmes, The DO empowers people at all levels to put their ideas into action – for a better world. We at the World Future Council were honoured to contribute our expertise on agroecology to The DO’s #WeEmerge series. The online conference focused on how we can emerge stronger from the current crisis, why and how our food system plays an important role in this, how food security can be achieved, and what innovation is needed to achieve this.

Our Council members Helmy Abouleish and Dr Hans Herren, together with the World Future Council Director Alexandra Wandel, spoke at the event. They highlighted how the pandemic has exposed our weaknesses and shown how fragile our food system is. At the event, the World Future Council presented solutions to these problems, looking to the future.



Watch recording: <https://youtu.be/S7TRXx-0WyI>



TRANSITION FORUM: SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

The World Future Council at the annual meeting of global changemakers for a clean and sustainable future.

Our Director Alexandra Wandel was the keynote speaker at the TRANSITION Forum 2020. In her speech, she addressed the problems of industrial agriculture: the loss of biodiversity and habitats, the use of pesticides and fertilisers on human and planetary health, its negative impact on the climate, and much more. She also presented solutions that have been identified and awarded by the World Future Council: e.g., the first 100 per cent organic state of Sikkim in India, Denmark’s Organic Action Plan, and Quito’s Participatory Urban Agriculture Programme in Ecuador, all winning policies in the Future Policy Awards on agroecology. Our Outstanding Practices in Agroecology Award was also highlighted.



Her speech is available online: https://youtu.be/_rSR50-nMMc

PROTECTING OUR OCEANS

The science is clear: we need to protect at least 30 per cent of our oceans and land in order to protect at least some of the biodiversity of our planet. Our particular concern is the Southern Ocean, whose biodiversity is unique, yet climate change and human impact are threatening this “last paradise”.

OUR GOAL IS TO PROTECT 30 PER CENT OF THE OCEANS BY 2030

We have worked to ensure that the “30 by 30” demand is heard at the highest level. Together with our partners, we organised a virtual Bundestag (German parliament) breakfast attended by leading officials from all relevant ministries (fisheries, environment, science, and foreign affairs), together with several members of parliament and some leading German scientists.

One of the outcomes was a letter from the leaders of most political parties in the Bundestag to Chancellor Angela Merkel stressing the importance of marine protection. A resolution was also passed calling on the German government to act at the highest political level and to use all available diplomatic means in this regard.

Our success: the German government has officially become a member of the Global Ocean Alliance (GOA). The GOA is an alliance of several states that have set themselves the goal of protecting 30 per cent of the oceans by 2030. This is to become one of the biodiversity goals of the United Nations. In addition, the “30 x 30” target has also become part of the EU’s biodiversity strategy.

ALTHOUGH IT IS A GREAT SUCCESS, IT IS NOT ENOUGH!

The next important step is the implementation of Germany’s demand for the protection of the Weddell Sea in Antarctica. This demand is supported by almost all countries of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR); only China and Russia are preventing full consensus. We have asked the Chancellor to take action at the highest political level in Russia and China in order for the largest planned marine protected area in the world to be established.



PEACE, DISARMAMENT AND HUMAN SECURITY

Bombs and bullets are powerless against the spread of viruses. The pandemic has taught us that the security of humanity is far more important than the military security that weapons promise. And military security is also counter-productive when addressing the health and economic impacts of the pandemic: the vast sums required for military budgets are then unavailable for the funding of sustainable development, peace, public health, or other urgent matters.

Through our Commission on Peace and Disarmament, we work to shift government priorities from military to human security, phase out the reliance on the threat or use of force in international relations, abolish nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, and shift military budgets and investments towards supporting public health and sustainable development. To achieve this, we engage with policymakers and civil society actors to advance exemplary policies and build cooperation on peace, disarmament, and human security.



UN75 AND #WETHEPEOPLES2020

2020 was the 75th anniversary of the United Nations. The World Future Council engaged with UN member states and civil society organisations in the UN75 process to support and improve the UN and expand its positive impact. One of our contributions was to establish the #WeThePeoples2020 platform to build cooperation between key UN objectives, initiatives, and commemorative events relating to peace, climate action, disarmament, non-violence, and sustainable development. The platform also launched a Protect People and the Planet global appeal.

YOUTH FUSION

The World Future Council joined with the Basel Peace Office and Abolition 2000 to launch Youth Fusion, a youth-led initiative for peace, nuclear disarmament, climate action, and human rights. Youth Fusion engages youth through webinars, podcasts, appeals, and social media activities. Youth Fusion also organises inter-generational dialogue on peace and disarmament, including through a Youth Fusion Elders programme.

MOVE THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS MONEY

Imagine if the \$100 billion annual nuclear weapons budget was slashed and these funds became available for public health, peace, and sustainable development. The Move the Nuclear Weapons Money campaign provides support to legislators and others taking action on nuclear weapons budgets, such as the ICBM Act (Invest in Cures Before Missiles) and the SANE Act (Smarter Approach to Nuclear Expenditure) in the USA, and the nuclear cuts for Covid appeal and a Defence Diversification initiative in the UK.

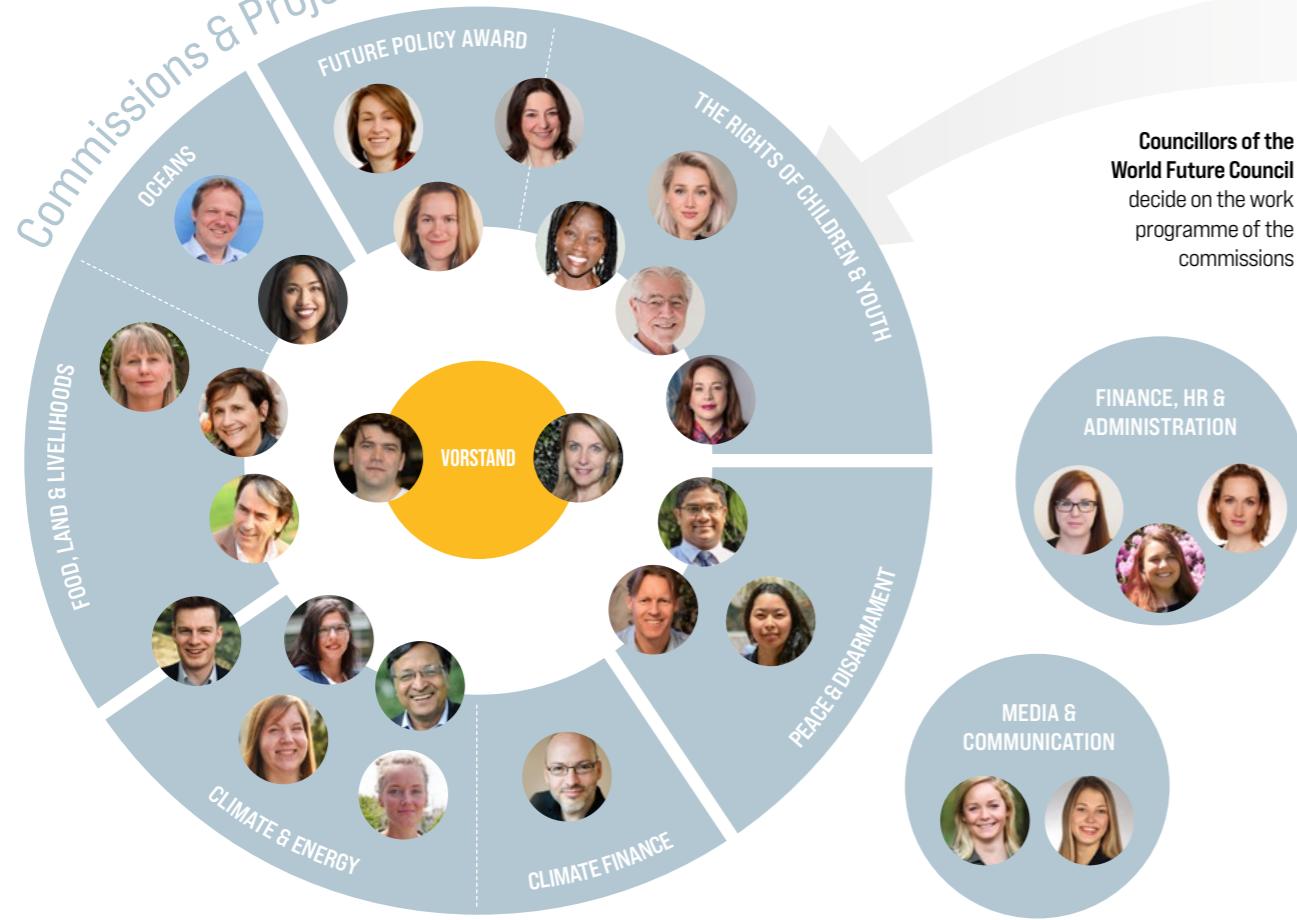
ENGAGING LEGISLATORS: ASSURING OUR COMMON FUTURE

We joined with Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament and other partner organisations to develop Assuring our Common Future, an online parliamentary handbook on disarmament for security and sustainable development that we released in 2020. The handbook provides background information, recommendations, and over 90 examples of effective legislation and other parliamentary actions on the wide range of disarmament issues outlined in the UN Agenda for Disarmament released in 2018. The World Future Council and our partners organised a number of national and global events to introduce the handbook to parliamentarians and key civil society actors so that they could use it to help advance effective policy.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

In 2018, the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) affirmed that the threat and use of nuclear weapons violate the right to life, a right codified in key human rights agreements, most notably the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. We joined with the Basel Peace Office and other partner organisations to challenge the policies of some of the nuclear armed and allied states as their turn came up for review at the UNHRC and other human rights bodies. To date, this has included Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, and the DPRK (North Korea). The media outlet Voice of America covered our submission.

Commissions & Project Teams



HOW DOES THE WORLD FUTURE COUNCIL WORK

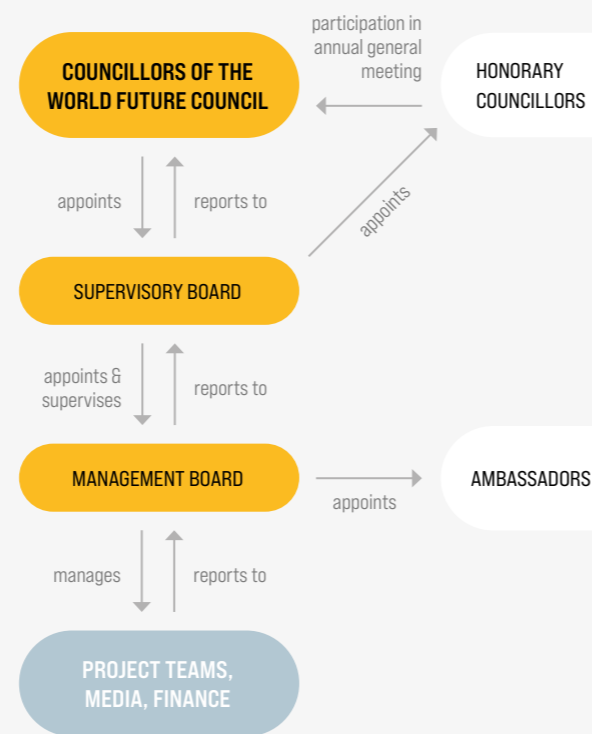
The **World Future Council** consists of the Council, the Supervisory Board, the Management Board and the staff in Hamburg, Prague, Cairo and Windhoek.

The **Council** has at least 25, and at most 50, members from the fields of politics, science, business, civil society, and the arts who have made outstanding contributions to sustainability and future justice in their respective fields. The Council identifies urgent issues and determines the agenda for our work.

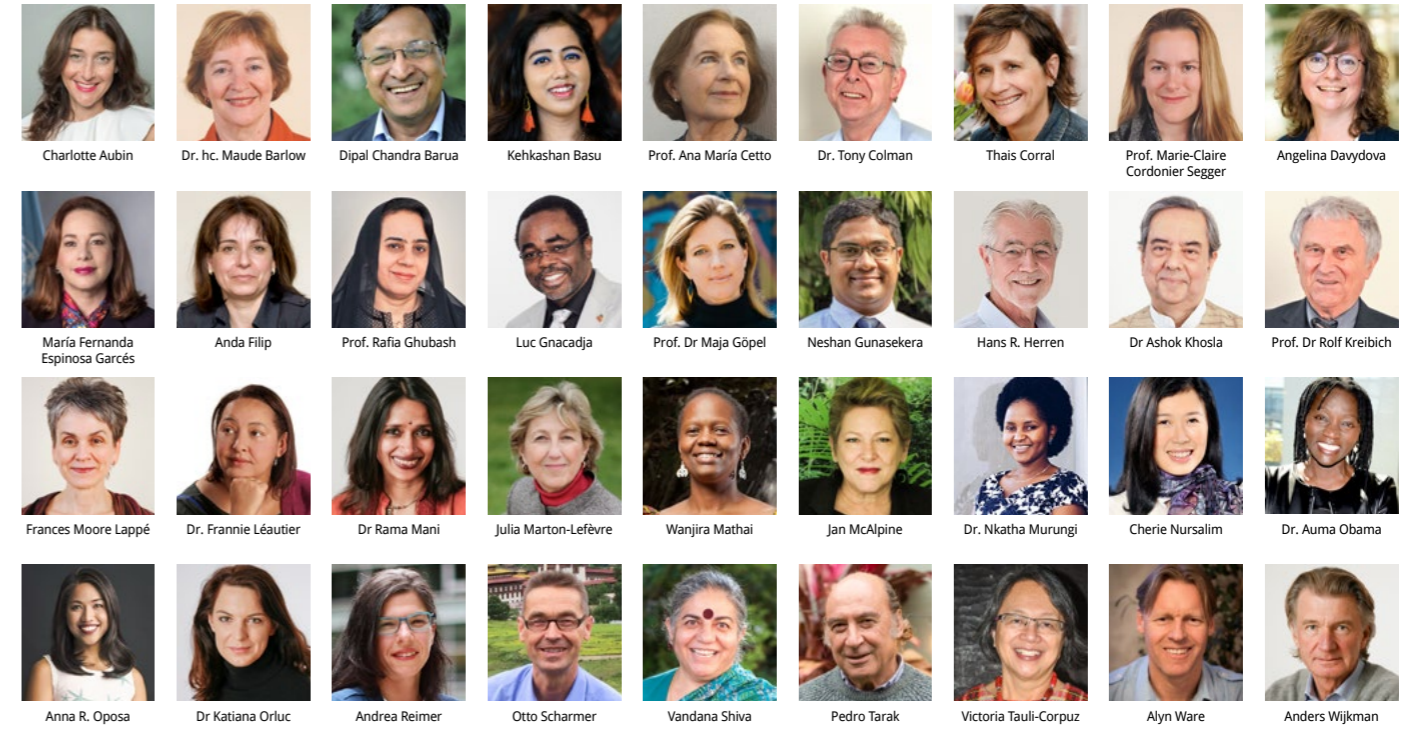
The work is carried out in **commissions** or **project teams** that are active in different fields, but nevertheless jointly contribute to the goals of the **World Future Council**. Each commission has one or two Council members as chairs and a team member as staff coordinator.

The **Supervisory Board** appoints, advises and monitors the **Management Board** and reports to the Council. The Management Board manages the foundation's business, supports the commissions in their work, makes operational decisions and leads the team in their headquarters in Hamburg.

BODIES OF THE WORLD FUTURE COUNCIL



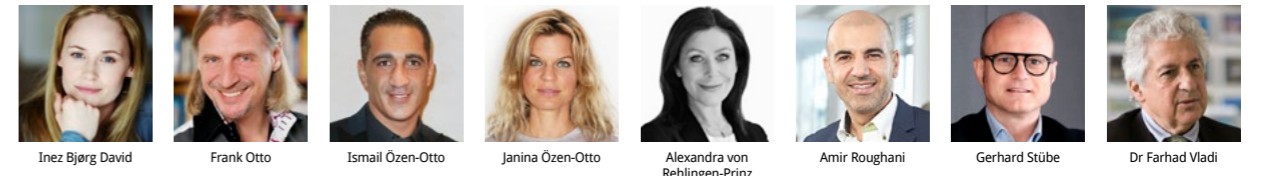
Councillors



Honorary Councillors



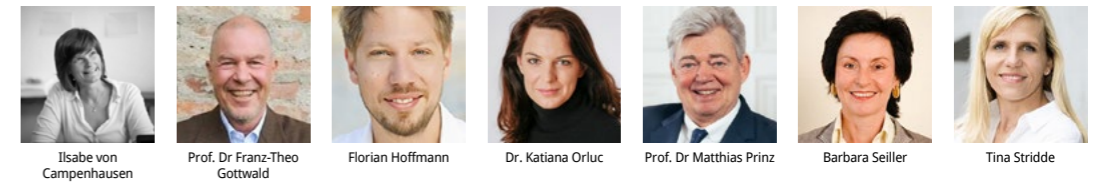
Ambassadors



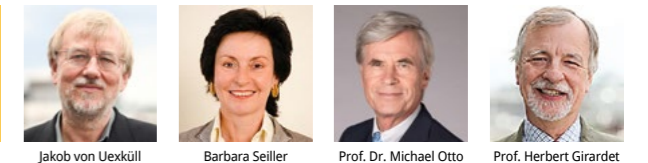
Advisors



Supervisory Board



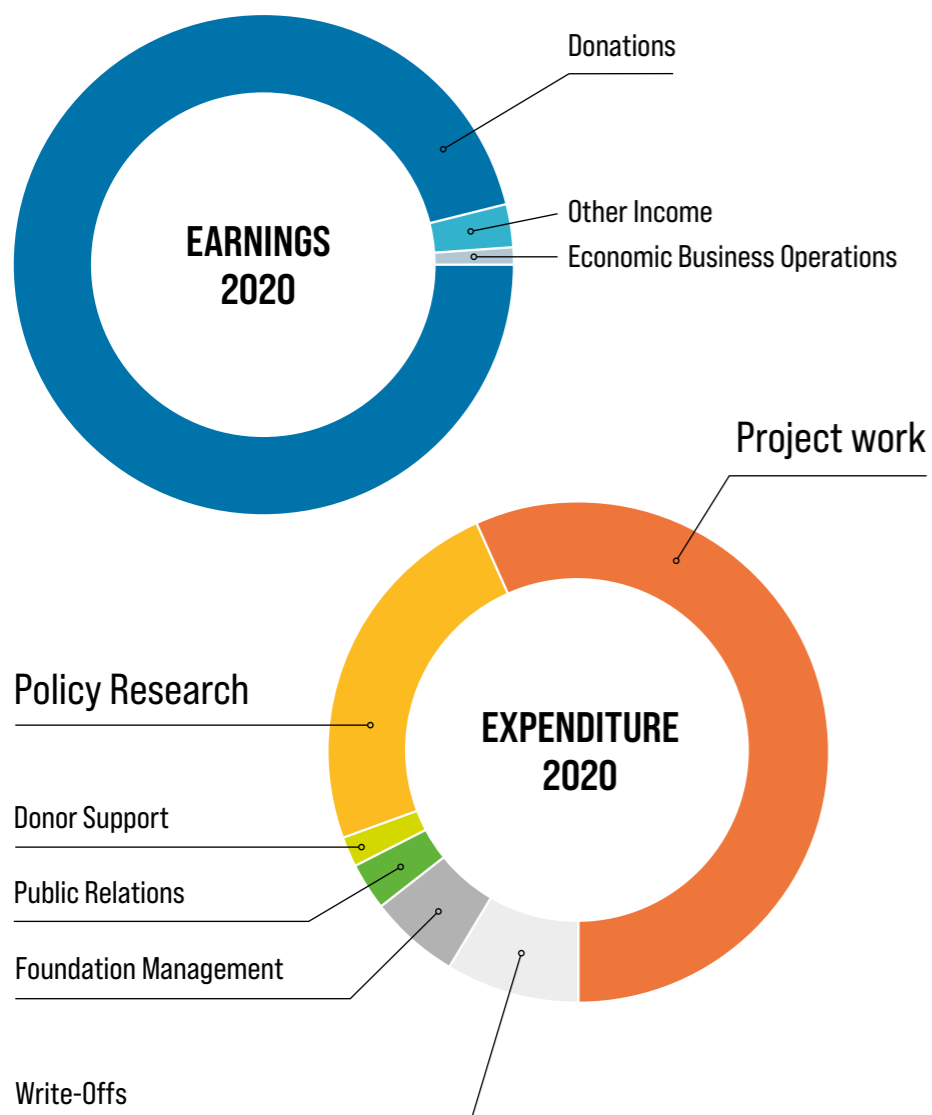
Founder And Co-Founders



FINANCIAL REPORT 2020

The **World Future Council** is an independent charitable foundation. We are also a member of the EU Transparency Register.

The World Future Council compiled the annual financial statements – comprising the balance sheet, the profit and loss account and the notes to the financial statements – with the support of Schomerus & Partner mbB for the financial year 1 January to 31 December 2020 in accordance with the German commercial law. The annual financial statement has been audited by KPMG AG.



Find our complete financial statements for 2020 here: www.worldfuturecouncil.org/transparency

THANK YOU!

We would like to warmly thank everyone who supported us and made our work possible in 2020.

Friends and Donors

- Helga and Manfred Braun
- Anne-Marie DeJonghe
- Frank Otto
- Jörg Pilawa
- Dr. Behrouz Rowhani
- Farhad Vladi
- Barbara Woschek

Foundations and Associations

- Bread for the World
- German Federal Environmental Foundation (DBU)
- Jua Foundation, Janina Özen-Otto
- Liselotte Foundation
- Stiftung Mercator
- Michael Otto Foundation
- Robert Bosch Stiftung
- The Pew Charitable Trusts

Institutions

- European Commission, Directorate - General Research and Innovation
- University of Surrey
- Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), Germany
- German Environment Agency (UBA)
- Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany

Companies

- Noerr LLP
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- Stehn e.K.
- United Ventures S.A.
- IOS Prof. Schley & Partner GmbH

The donors listed here supported the **World Future Council** in 2020 with cash and in-kind donations or services and partnerships worth €5,000 or more. We would also like to thank all donors who contributed to our achievements with smaller donations.



More than ever, it is important to protect future generations around the world and provide them with a more sustainable and equitable tomorrow. Only with the support of committed donors, can the forward thinkers at the World Future Council share more concrete solutions. I am happy to be able to contribute a small part to this.

Anne-Marie DeJonghe
Communications Expert, Delegate of the Verband deutscher Unternehmerinnen Bayern-Süd (Association of German Women Entrepreneurs, South Bavaria)



Good policies are needed to meet the complex challenges of our time. The World Future Council is working for this at the highest level. We find their work very important and are happy to support it!

Dr Lilian Busse
Acting Vice President and Head of Department of the Gesundheitlicher Umweltschutz und Schutz der Ökosysteme (Environmental Health and the Protection of Ecosystems), German Environment Agency (UBA)



The WFC works efficiently, with commitment and innovation! Together with them, you can really move things. Together, we have successfully anchored the topic of 100 per cent renewable energy in many countries of the Global South and linked it to poverty reduction, equal rights, and sustainable development. We have been working very successfully with the WFC for years and hope to continue doing so for many years to come.

Dr Joachim Fünfgelt
Senior Policy Advisor for Energy, Bread for the World

HOW YOU CAN HELP

In this issue of the **Path Finder**, you learnt about our commitment to future generations. Do you want to help pass on a healthy planet with peaceful societies to our children and grandchildren? If so, we are connected by a common goal. Our work would not be possible without the support of our donors. If you wish to improve the livelihood of millions of people with your donation, there are many ways to support the **World Future Council**.

YOUR ADVANTAGES

Doing good is worth it: The **World Future Council** is a recognised charitable foundation. Donations are tax deductible. Inheritances and legacies are exempt from inheritance tax in Germany. 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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ONLINE DONATIONS

Easy, fast and safe:
 Use our online donation form to donate or become a supporter
www.worldfuturecouncil.org/donation

EVENT DONATIONS

Whether a birthday, wedding anniversary, or company event: Many people want to do good on special occasions. You could, for example, arrange a keyword with us, write it on your invitation card, and ask people to transfer their donation directly to us. **Feel free to contact us, and we will help you find the right procedure for your event.**

YOUR LEGACY FOR THE FUTURE

If you wish to do good beyond your life, you can support the **World Future Council** through a bequest. We would be happy to help you with your last will and testament to strengthen the rights of future generations.



GET IN TOUCH WITH US!

Your contact person for all questions concerning donations:
Alexandra Wandel
 Chair, Management Board
alexandra.wandel@worldfuturecouncil.org



A SELECTION OF PARTNERS IN 2020



WE ARE MEMBER OF



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