

ANNUAL REPORT



2023/24

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Foreword

Welcome to our 2023-2024 annual report. We hope you will appreciate the opportunity to learn more about the work of our network and members in the last 12 months.

Over the last year our network has grown to 1,850 civil society organisations across 129 countries – each resolutely committed to building the resilience of people most at risk and preventing hazards from becoming disasters.

The role of civil society has never been more important. The last year has been full of extraordinary challenges as the world remained in recovery from Covid-19 – challenges shaped by seemingly interminable conflict in Europe, Africa, west Asia and the Middle East, growing numbers of humanitarian disasters across the globe, and the unchecked increase in air and sea temperatures, extreme weather events, rising sea levels and CO2 emissions. The World Bank estimates that over half of the world’s population are at high risk

of experiencing disasters linked to climate change, and that 44 million people globally have been affected in the last year alone.

The impacts of these disasters – both slow and rapid onset – are felt most keenly, and most devastatingly, by the most at-risk communities who contribute the least to global emissions. These are the communities that our members serve, and it is their voices that we, collectively, seek to amplify to ensure that development is informed by risk and driven by localisation.

Our year centred around a celebration of ‘collaboration over competition’ and South-South cooperation. In February, we welcomed members, policymakers, funders and the wider DRR sector to Nairobi for the Global Summit for Disaster Risk Reduction



2024. The depth of conversations and the richness of experiences shared created a truly inspiring event.

We were delighted that 84% of participants strongly recommended participation in future summits – a sentiment that was reflected in our annual membership survey, the results of which you can find in the Our Year in Numbers chapter.

We continued to champion the need to support and empower local voices in global decision-making spaces. While we remain concerned that the space for civil society at global platforms, such as the High Level Policy Forum and COP, appears to be narrowing, we are committed to ensuring that voices from the frontline of disaster are represented.

We were proud to be joined by 11 members in New York for the High Level Meeting on the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. And similarly, nine members in Dubai for COP28, where we were inspired by their contributions to the negotiations around loss and damage and the localisation agenda.

2023-24 also saw the culmination of two of our flagship programmes – *Making Displacement Safer* and *Local Leadership for Global Impact* – and the inception of *Local Leadership for Humanitarian Solutions*, a project that sits at the nexus of humanitarian action, development and peacebuilding. You can find out more about these groundbreaking initiatives in the following pages.

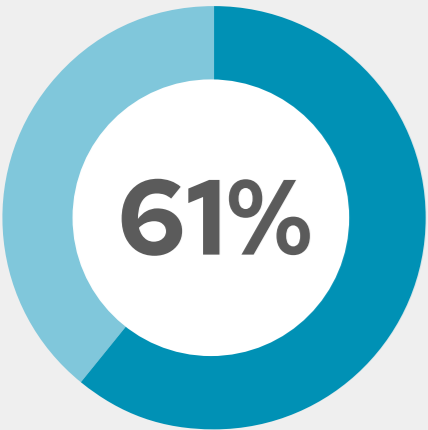
This report provides us with the chance to look back and take stock of the achievements and progress we have made as a global force for risk reduction. As we look forward, with hope and in a spirit of solidarity, we reaffirm our commitment to harnessing the expertise of our members to influence policy and practice, and build the resilience of communities on the frontline of disaster.

Graciela Salaberri
Chair of the Global Board

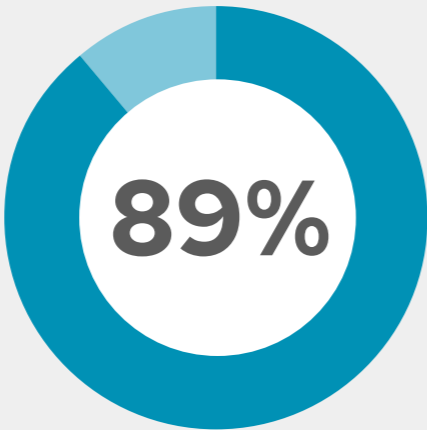
Peter Curran
Chair of Trustees



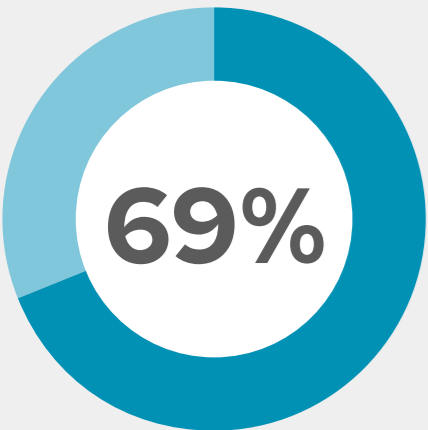
Our year in numbers



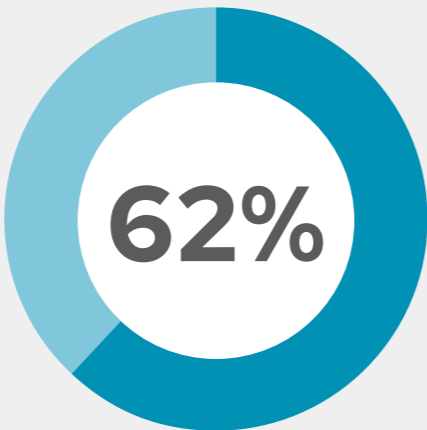
Members agree that GNDR supports their organisation to access **resources** on disaster risk reduction.



Members agree that GNDR **communicates** effectively with the membership.



Members agree that GNDR improves the **collaboration** of CSOs working in disaster risk reduction.



Members agree that GNDR has increased their **understanding** of how to do risk-informed development.

1831

Community members participated in **Urban Living Labs** as part of our *Making Displacement Safer* project.

1098

Individuals shared their knowledge and experience during **climate exchange visits** as part of our *Local Leadership for Global Impact* project.

14

Member-led **workshops** at our Global Summit for Disaster Risk Reduction.

93

Members were sponsored to attend our **Global Summit** for Disaster Risk Reduction in Nairobi.

18

Regional Advisory Group meetings held across Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean.

28

Member organisations contributed to the development of our **Making Displacement Safer Cookbook**.





Photo: A woman with a bag of corn in Fiji
Credit: Giorgia Doglioni / Unsplash

OUR VISION

A world in which everyone works together to strengthen the resilience of people most at risk and prevent hazards from becoming disasters.

gndr.org/strategy



Our principles

At the heart of the growing local, national and international influence of our members are seven guiding principles.



Include all groups

Ensure the inclusion of all groups, particularly those most at risk



Promote gender equality

Implement gender-transformative approaches



Partner and collaborate

Work with and across all groups and levels to pursue the interests of people at risk



Start at the local level

Recognise the local context and understand community perspectives of risk



Mobilise different resources

Share resources, build on existing capacities, knowledge and other sources of resilience



Align policies with practices

Ensure coherence across disaster risk reduction, climate change and other development frameworks and activities



Be accountable to local communities most at risk

Ensure that we are accountable and challenge others to do the same



Our roles

A core strength of our network is the diversity of experience and expertise that members bring.



Amplifier

We mobilise, we harness local voices and we use our collective influence to lobby and campaign for the needs and priorities of people most at risk.



Capacity strengthener

We strengthen capacities and capabilities through member-to-member and member-to-partner support.



Catalyst

We spark action and energy across and beyond this movement of civil society organisations to speed up an all-of-society approach for resilience; we facilitate and support local action by working in solidarity with people most at risk.



Convenor

We develop and strengthen relationships and partnerships by connecting local, national and international actors, working across different levels, agendas and frameworks.



Reporter

We strive to ensure greater accountability and transparency through monitoring, reporting and evaluating local-level progress.



Thought leader

We research, gather, generate and share knowledge, including indigenous expertise and innovations.

Photo: Fishermen hauling in their nets in Kolkata, India.
Credit: Shibasish Saha / Climate Visuals



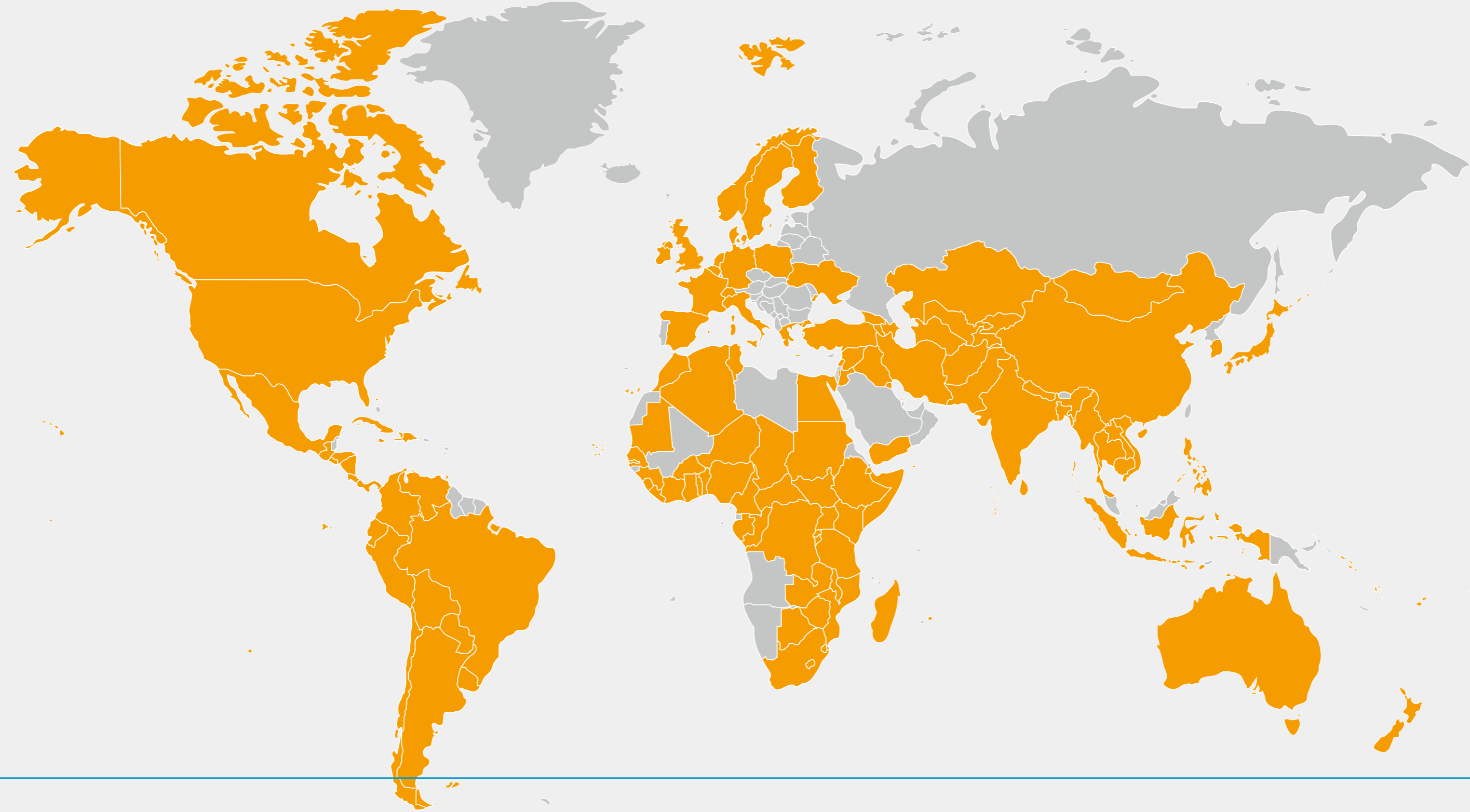
OUR NETWORK

A global network

We are the largest international network of civil society organisations working together to strengthen the resilience of communities most at risk of disasters.

Many of our member organisations work directly with communities most at risk. Our website has an up-to-date list of all members.

gndr.org/directory



1,850
Organisations

161
Representatives

129
Countries



Our award-winning members

Thousands of exceptional individuals and organisations from every part of the world form GNDR’s membership. Their excellence and commitment to building safer, more resilient communities is an inspiration; we are proud to honour a small selection of their recent award-winning achievements here.

Women’s International Network for Disaster Risk Reduction Leadership Award 2023

Shaila Shahid, a GNDR member and Senior Advisor at the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), has won the Women’s International Network for Disaster Risk Reduction Leadership Award 2023. This award recognises her outstanding leadership in disaster risk reduction, particularly in advocating for gender-responsive strategies and empowering at-risk communities in climate resilience efforts.

Everest Climate Action Award 2023

Rural Aid Pakistan, a GNDR member, received the prestigious Everest Climate Action Award 2023 at the South Asian Climate Action Conference (SACAC) for its significant contributions to climate change mitigation, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable agriculture. This global award recognises individuals and organisations that demonstrate exceptional leadership, innovation, and commitment to environmental sustainability. The SACAC panel, composed of experts in the field, praised Rural Aid’s transformative impact and its potential to inspire others toward a more sustainable future.

Inclusive GEF Assembly Challenge Program

JADD Madagascar, a GNDR member, is one of 23 CSO winners of the Global Environmental Facility’s Inclusive GEF Assembly Challenge Program, an initiative that supports and elevates community-driven climate and nature projects and the unique contributions of Indigenous Peoples, women, girls, and young people.

Dangal Bantayog ng Katatagan award

Zenaida Delica-Willison, Vice Chair of the GNDR Global Board, founding president of the Center for Disaster Preparedness (Philippines), and pioneer of community-based disaster risk reduction, has won the esteemed Dangal Bantayog ng Katatagan award at the 35th National Disaster Resilience Month Culminating Activity. The award is given to outstanding individuals who have made significant contributions to disaster risk reduction in the Philippines.

Authentic Women of Latin America 2023

Graciela Mercedes Salaberri Vacani, a meteorologist and Chair of GNDR’s Global Board, as well as the South America regional representative, has been awarded the 2023 Authentic Women of Latin America recognition. Presented by The Global School for New Leadership, this award honours her authenticity and ability to inspire other women to lead.

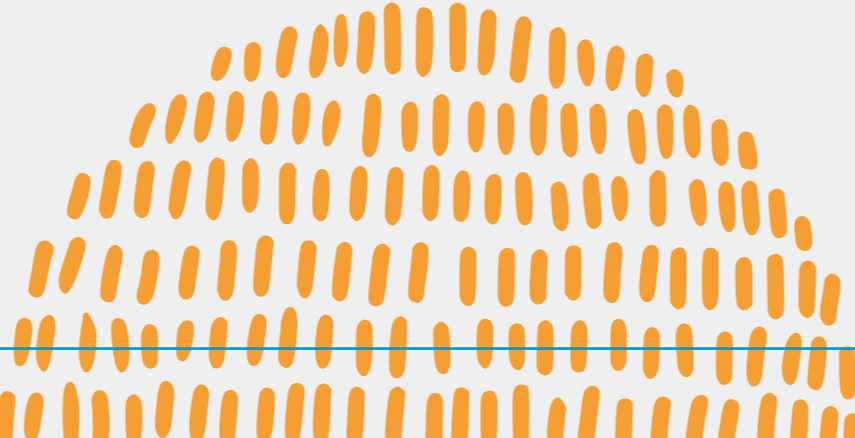




Photo: Participants at our Global Summit for Disaster Risk Reduction 2024.
Credit: Artea Creators / GNDR

GOAL 1



Our 2020-2025 strategy, *Local Leadership for Global Impact*, was developed by our members and is structured around three interlinked goals.

GOAL 1

Strengthen the collaboration, solidarity and mobilisation of civil society organisations

We must continuously re-energise and harness the commitment and dynamism that members bring to the work they do.



Global Summit for Disaster Risk Reduction 2024

In February, 180 participants from 60 countries across the globe came together in Nairobi for our Global Summit for Disaster Risk Reduction 2024.

[Watch our Summit highlights film >](#)



The three-day event was a unique opportunity for the DRR community to network, learn about the latest challenges and solutions in risk reduction, and build new partnerships for localisation.

The event brought together sector leaders and innovators, predominantly from the Global South, who work in disaster risk reduction and resilience building. It provided a space for participants to network, share, innovate, collaborate, and create partnerships for action and advocacy on new and emerging issues in anticipatory action, climate change adaptation and DRR.

The agenda was packed with a wide variety of collaborative sessions, featuring speakers from over 30 countries. Together, we discussed community owned and led disaster risk reduction, risk-informed development, and ways to build resilience and facilitate localisation. We learnt about the importance of data – and its need to be fully inclusive. We discussed an ‘all-of-society approach’ to meet the Sendai

targets. We considered the challenges faced by displaced communities in urban areas as part of the *Making Displacement Safer Cookbook* launch. And through a series of powerful films, we saw up-close the risks faced by communities on the frontline and their actions to build resilience.

The vital role of communities and civil society in shaping national and international policy was at the forefront of the conversation. In each session members from Colombia and Togo, India and Cameroon, Uruguay and Yemen, Kyrgyzstan and Jordan, Kenya and the Philippines, and everywhere in between, shared their knowledge, experience and commitment with one another.

This inspiring and collaborative event would not have been possible without the engagement and commitment of GNDR members and participants, and the generosity of our donors who supported the Summit.

Together, we amplified the network’s impact and aim of building resilience and preventing hazards from becoming disasters.

“We must emphasise the necessity of tailoring our approaches to meet local realities and CSOs play a pivotal role in this endeavour, effectively bridging the gap between frameworks and local action.”

Amjad Abbashar, UNDRR



Photo: A speaker at our Global Summit
Credit: Artea Creators / GNDR



The Global Summit: collaboration and connection



84%
of participants surveyed strongly recommended participation in future Global Summits





Championing local leadership on the global stage

We represented our network at key global forums, reaffirming our dedication to amplifying the voices of civil society and local communities.



Our participation at the High-Level Meeting (HLM) on the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework and the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) provided crucial opportunities to influence global disaster risk reduction (DRR) and sustainable development agendas.

The High-Level Meeting (HLM) on the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework

HLM served as a vital platform for assessing progress towards global DRR goals. For GNDR, this event was instrumental in ensuring that the perspectives of those most at risk from disasters were included in global policy discussions.

Our delegation championed the advocacy messages developed by our members during the midterm review process, calling for governments to commit to localised DRR strategies.

During HLM, we participated in multiple panel discussions. GNDR's Regional Lead for Africa, Adessou Kossivi, moderated a session where we emphasised the need to integrate DRR into humanitarian and peace-building efforts, particularly in countries facing complex crises.

Our Executive Director, Marcos Concepcion Raba, highlighted the importance of a whole-of-society approach to DRR, stressing the role of civil society in mobilising stakeholders and strengthening local capacities.

GNDR members also made significant contributions during panel discussions and side events.

Dr Manu Gupta of SEEDS India underscored the need to enhance communities' adaptive capacity to manage risks effectively. Ireen Ng'ambi from Tenvelo shared success stories from Eswatini, illustrating the positive impact of locally led DRR initiatives. Meanwhile, Tanjir Hossain, former GNDR National Focal

Point for Bangladesh, emphasised the importance of collaboration with affected communities to develop informed and effective solutions.

The Political Declaration adopted by delegates at HLM took important steps towards recognising the need for increased DRR investment. It reflected many of our calls to action, including the adoption of a whole-of-society approach and the acknowledgment of local knowledge and expertise.

Achieving the SDGs by integrating DRR

At HLPF, we continued to advocate for the essential role of civil society in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Our involvement in a side event organised by the UNDRR Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism (SEM) - *The Importance of Disaster Risk Reduction to Achieve*

Sustainable Development - What can we learn from the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework? - highlighted the importance of integrated approaches to DRR, sustainable development, and climate action. We reiterated that these strategies must prioritise local communities, ensuring their active participation in global decision-making processes.

As a global network we remain committed to creating a world where societies work together to strengthen the resilience of people most at-risk of disasters and prevent hazards from turning into catastrophes.

Together, we stand united to support the UN system and member states to fast-track the implementation of the Sendai Framework and ensuring that risk-informed development is at the heart of achieving the global goals.

Our delegation championed the advocacy messages developed by our members during the midterm review process, calling for governments to commit to localised DRR strategies.

Asia-Pacific Members Spotlight series

In 2023, we took a significant step to strengthen collaboration among our members in the Asia-Pacific region by launching the Member Spotlight series.

1



This initiative is part of our ongoing commitment to empowering civil society organisations (CSOs) and amplifying their critical role in disaster risk reduction.

The Member Spotlight series was designed as a quarterly webinar programme, providing our members with the opportunity to share their frontline experiences, exchange knowledge, and discuss emerging challenges in disaster risk reduction. In collaboration with our regional partners - the Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN) and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) - as well as our members, we successfully brought together a diverse range of voices and perspectives.

Each webinar began with a broad presentation to establish the context and key concepts of the topic at hand, followed by case studies showcasing practical applications from across the region. Throughout the year, we hosted four webinars that covered a range of critical topics:

Anticipatory Action in Practice

We explored how at-risk communities and local organisations can most effectively benefit from anticipatory actions, focusing on proactive strategies to mitigate disaster impacts.

Curating Localisation

These sessions delved into whole-of-society approaches to disaster risk reduction, highlighting the importance of local partnerships, community-based financing, nature-based and technology-driven solutions, innovation, and the role of indigenous communities.

Early Warning and Early Action

This webinar emphasised the importance of effective early warning dissemination and inclusive, gender-responsive, forecast-based early actions to protect vulnerable populations.

The series featured 12 speakers from our member and partner organisations and provided a valuable platform for sharing insights at the regional level and reinforced our belief that collaboration is key to building resilience and reducing disaster risk.

Through the Member Spotlight series, we continue to champion the voices of local organisations, ensuring they are able to share their knowledge and experience at the regional level and beyond.

By fostering collaboration, solidarity, and mobilisation among CSOs, we are committed to building a stronger, more resilient global network capable of responding to the growing number of hazards communities face.



Photo: Community members in Garut, Indonesia sit outside their home which was destroyed by flash flooding. Credit: Gani Amin / GNDR



Photo: Three cyclists in Kebumen, Indonesia. Credit: Dikaseva / Unsplash



GOAL 2

Champion a localisation movement

Communities most at risk must be enabled to participate, influence and take decisions on risk-informed development.



Empowering marginalised women in 11 countries

Our *Locally Led Humanitarian Solutions* project, funded by USAID, will run until 2027, and represents a transformative approach to addressing the intertwined challenges of climate change, conflict, and gender inequality.



Building resilience in fragile contexts

The project spans 11 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, each facing unique but severe challenges related to climate change, conflict, and social inequality. These regions include some of the most fragile contexts globally, where the effects of climate change are compounded by ongoing conflicts and deeply rooted gender disparities.

We are working with our members in each of the 11 countries. They have conducted baseline assessments which reveal that each of the countries involved, except Benin and Côte d'Ivoire, face High to Very High risks according to the INFORM Risk Index. Countries like Iraq, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and Yemen are particularly vulnerable, with significant risks of epidemics, floods, earthquakes, and other natural disasters.

Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, is one of the world's most vulnerable locations. **The risks faced by communities are not only environmental but also deeply social.** The area is prone to severe flooding and other climate-related hazards, which disproportionately affect women and marginalised communities. These challenges are further exacerbated by the ongoing conflict and displacement issues within the region.

Nari Maitree, a Bangladeshi organisation committed to empowering marginalised women, is one of our members implementing this project.

Khaled Bin Yousuf, Director of Programs at Nari Maitree, emphasises the importance of this initiative: "The *Locally Led Humanitarian Solutions* project aligns with Nari Maitree's mission by empowering marginalised women in Cox's Bazar, enhancing local capacities to address climate change and humanitarian needs. This approach fosters sustainable, inclusive solutions, amplifying the voices of those most affected."

The nexus of risk, conflict, and gender

The baseline assessments also highlighted the intricate nexus between risk, conflict, and gender inequality. Six of the countries involved in the project - Yemen, Armenia, DRC, Iraq, Pakistan, and Colombia - are classified as high-risk for human-caused hazards, including ongoing and projected conflicts. The Global Peace Index scores for these countries are alarmingly high, indicating a significant level of societal unrest and insecurity.

Gender inequality is another critical issue identified in the assessments.

Gender inequality is another critical issue identified in the assessments. Eight of the 11 countries rank among the lowest in the world for gender equality. Pakistan, DRC, Iraq, and Yemen are particularly concerning, with severe disparities that hinder the participation and empowerment of women in these regions. Even countries with relatively better scores, such as Bangladesh, Colombia, and Honduras, have seen a decline in gender equality over the past year.

Empowering local CSOs for sustainable development

To address these challenges, the project focuses on empowering local civil society organisations and enhancing their capacities to develop sustainable, locally led strategies. In the initial phase, we have selected six partners to work directly with communities, starting with surveying nearly 4,880 community members in each country to understand their specific needs and vulnerabilities.

We will train local partners in thematic approaches such as localisation, PESTLE analysis, and the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. By equipping local organisations with these tools, **the project will build resilience from the ground up, ensuring that solutions are not only effective but also sustainable.**

It represents a significant step forward in addressing the complex challenges faced by communities in fragile contexts like Cox's Bazar. By focusing on the empowerment of marginalised women and building local capacities, this project will pave the way for more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable communities.

Climate knowledge exchange visits

To understand how knowledge and practices from communities at the frontline of the climate crisis can be used to plan for complex disasters, we organised 10 knowledge exchange visits between local civil society organisations (CSOs) and academic researchers.

4



The visits saw local CSOs and expert facilitators meet with communities actively managing the impact of climate change, to consolidate knowledge on how they understand climate change and how they are coping with its effects.

They were designed to document and amplify local practices in environmental management and climate adaptation, ensuring that the voices and experiences of those most affected are heard at all levels of decision-making.

Visits took place in Benin, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, India, Indonesia, Kiribati, Tunisia, Uganda, Uruguay and Zimbabwe. The findings in the subsequent report reaffirmed what we have long believed: local communities possess deep, invaluable insights into their environments and the climate risks they face.

In Kiribati, for instance, residents have developed innovative techniques to manage the impact of rising sea levels on freshwater supplies. In Zimbabwe, farmers

are using traditional agricultural practices to adapt to erratic rainfall, conserving soil moisture and protecting crops.

Similarly, in Indonesia, coastal communities are implementing mangrove restoration projects to protect against storm surges and erosion, while in El Salvador, local leaders have devised early warning systems for landslides, integrating traditional knowledge with modern technology to save lives.

However, our research also highlighted a concerning gap. Despite their critical knowledge, 84% of local actors reported being excluded from assessing threats, preparing policies, and planning actions to mitigate climate risks. This exclusion diminishes the effectiveness of broader climate policies, which too often overlook the practical, on-the-ground knowledge that these communities offer.

We are using the findings to advocate for more inclusive policy-making processes. We believe that national and global climate strategies must incorporate the insights

and practices of local actors if they are to be truly effective.

The evidence we've gathered feeds into international frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals, the Sendai Framework, and the Paris Agreement – frameworks that call for inclusive approaches but often fall short on delivering genuine localisation.

Our goal is to influence global climate policies, urging governments to take more decisive action to address the challenges of climate change, particularly for those who are most at risk of disaster. By amplifying the voices of local communities, we aim to drive forward solutions that are not only effective but also sustainable and reflective of the needs of those on the frontlines.

We are committed to ensuring that local communities – armed with resilience, resourcefulness, and a deep understanding of their environments – are at the heart of global efforts to tackle climate change.



Photo: Transporting coconuts in Tuvalu where means of transport are limited. Credit: Rodney Dekker / Climate Visuals





Transforming disaster resilience with local leadership

Our groundbreaking and recently concluded, BMZ funded project, *Local Leadership for Global Impact (LLGI)*, has significantly boosted disaster resilience in high-risk communities worldwide.



By enhancing disaster planning capacities, promoting locally led strategies, and advocating for systemic changes, the project has empowered communities to strengthen their own resilience.

Boosting disaster planning capabilities

A central component of the project was the development of a multilingual Risk-Informed Development guide. This resource was used to train GNDR members around the world. Through a series of 13 Regional Advisory Group (RAG) meetings and 39 National Coordination Meetings (NCMs), CSOs were equipped with the skills needed to lead disaster preparedness efforts in their communities.

A key focus of the project was empowering women, with **79 women joining the global pilot of our Women's Mentorship programme**. Of these, 41 successfully completed the training, and five went on to train an additional 45 women in their

communities. Judith Mbarushimana, a participant from Rwanda, spoke highly of the programme's impact: "This mentorship programme has improved my negotiation skills and opened new opportunities. I'm inspired to mentor other women, especially those in poor conditions, to support them in climate change response training."

Localised disaster preparedness

We prioritised locally led disaster planning in high-risk communities by developing a **Localised Climate Projections guide**, which is available in five languages.

In Mozambique, Madagascar, and Malawi, six workshops led to the creation of 58 community-developed contingency plans. These plans, covering topics such as community action plans and micro-grant management, were developed with the support of DKH and its partners, ensuring that local communities had the tools they needed to prepare for and respond to disasters.

Fostering global collaboration and advocacy

The project also facilitated significant international collaboration and advocacy efforts. Ten climate scientists visited 19 at-risk communities resulting in the publication of two academic papers. The summary paper titled *"The Sun is Falling": Evidence of how local practices are mitigating and adapting to climate change, and what more can be done*, highlighted seven key findings and underscored the value of learning from local practices and community voices.

GNDR's involvement extended to major international forums, including the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, where we contributed to key sessions, delivered side events and shared the voices of communities at risk of displacement. LLGI enabled our participation in COP26, COP27, and COP28 which further extended our advocacy efforts, including an online seminar on advocacy skills designed to help CSOs influence decision-makers.

Looking ahead: tools for future resilience

A comprehensive **toolkit and guide for Local Leadership in Anticipatory Action** has been developed and is now available on the GNDR website in English, Spanish, French, and Portuguese. The resource is designed to empower CSOs to engage with communities and local actors, playing a crucial role in establishing mechanisms for anticipatory action at scale.

As Jean-Pierre Rakotoarisoa, a Fokontany Deputy from Madagascar, observed, "To truly carry the voice of the community and enhance anticipatory action at the local level, strengthening partnerships between different actors and stakeholders is essential, especially through early partnership agreements with national stakeholders to facilitate information sharing and collaboration." This insight underscores the importance of collaboration and partnership in successfully implementing anticipatory

actions that reflect community needs and drive sustainable outcomes.

The project's achievements demonstrate the power of local leadership in addressing global challenges. As at-risk communities continue to face an increasing number of hazards, the lessons and tools developed through this project will play a critical role in building a more resilient future.

"This mentorship programme has improved my negotiation skills and opened new opportunities."

Judith Mbarushimana



Photo: Community members in Cebu, Indonesia participating in disability-inclusive disaster preparedness training. Credit: UNDRR / GNDR



GOAL 3

Strive for risk-informed development

Sustainable development can only be achieved when local risk is fully understood.

GOAL 3



COP28 – GNDR members call for climate action

We were proud to represent the network at COP28 where we called for decision-makers to give greater attention to loss and damage, climate finance and adaptation, inclusivity and risk-informed development.



We remain in a climate crisis. Global temperatures, sea levels and the frequency of extreme weather events continue to rise. Local communities at the frontline of climate change, especially those in the Global South, continue to pay the greatest share of the costs – and disproportionately so. Against this backdrop, a GNDR delegation of secretariat staff and members joined decision-makers in Dubai for COP28 in November 2023 to move the needle on climate action.

Ahead of the negotiations, we co-developed our COP28 Call-to-Action with members from across the globe. With the collective force of the world’s largest network of civil society organisations behind it, our members called for policymakers and negotiators to:

1. Listen to and engage with the communities at the frontline of the climate crisis
2. Enhance the engagement of civil society to strengthen effective climate actions at local and global levels

3. Increase allocation of financial resources at the local level
4. Promote inclusion of local to global levels of climate change decision-making
5. Mainstream climate and disaster risk-informed development into national planning and Official Development Assistance (ODA)
6. Strengthen climate and disaster risk reduction efforts in fragile and conflict-affected settings
7. Operationalise a Loss and Damage Fund that meets the needs of those affected by climate change and disasters
8. Preserve and restore ecosystems and biodiversity as resources to reduce disasters and limit the impact of crises

At COP28, we were able to increase our presence and influence both in terms of member engagement and the number of side events conducted compared with

COP27. Throughout the negotiations, GNDR members championed loss and damage, localisation, and the voices from the frontline of climate risk.

Our delegation either led, coordinated, or spoke in a total of 16 side events, which were opportunities to highlight our Call-to-Action while having specific focus on issues including loss and damage, climate finance, the role of data, anticipatory action and early warnings, and risk communication.

Operationalising the Santiago Network for Loss and Damage

GNDR staff and members participated in a number of critical discussions on the funding mechanisms for loss and damage. At a side event moderated by the United Nations Environment Programme, Adessou Kossivi, our Regional Lead for Africa and Climate Change Lead, along with GNDR member Joshua Amponsem, the founder of the Green Africa Youth Organization, and GNDR Global Board member, Emmanuel

Seck, highlighted the need for localisation and inclusivity to be the guiding principles of the Santiago Network.

GNDR members were once again at the forefront during a separate side event which provided the space for a wide range of non-state stakeholders to share their experiences and knowledge, and discuss the current progress of the operationalisation of the Santiago Network.

Ghada Ahmadein, GNDR board member and Technical Coordinator of the Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED), highlighted the escalating exposure and vulnerability of communities in the Arab region to various hazards which result in both stresses and shocks that significantly impact daily lives.

Hasina Razfindrakoto, GNDR member and Operations Manager from SAF/FJKM, shared that, in terms of loss and damage, we need to strengthen local structures with the required tools and provide space to hear the voices of the community.

The operationalisation of the Loss and Damage Fund was one of the signature achievements of COP28. The fund is designed to compensate developing countries for the impact of climate-induced disasters. While the Fund’s establishment marked clear progress, the mobilised funds represent only 0.2% of the yearly requirement.

Looking ahead to Baku

COP28 raised doubts about the global community’s ability to handle the immediate challenges posed by climate change. As the world struggles to cope with the mounting effects of climate change, it is clear that future conferences must prioritise and deliver urgent, practical initiatives to protect the planet for future generations. As we look forward to COP29 in Baku, GNDR and our members will continue to come together to hold member states accountable.



The Making Displacement Safer Cookbook

In September 2020, 11 GNDR network members from 11 countries embarked on a three-year journey to explore ways to make displacement in urban settings safer, build community resilience, and avoid further displacement.

Through interviews with 4,900 displaced people and 150 governments and CSOs, this USAID BHA funded project, *Making Displacement Safer*, sought to understand firsthand the threats displaced populations face, the solutions to building resilience, and the barriers to those solutions.

The findings from this research were synthesised into the *Making Displacement Safer Cookbook*, a compilation of best practices and lessons learned by GNDR members throughout the three-year project. The purpose of the cookbook is to strengthen the capacities of civil society organisations to address the challenges of disaster risk in urban displacement contexts.

Increasing levels of displacement

The number of people forcibly displaced has increased every year for the past 12 years. While some are able to return home a few days after an evacuation, others may not be able to return for months, years, or ever, as their homes have been destroyed or remain unsafe.

Many displaced people end up in informal settlements in urban areas, exposing them to other risks, particularly if they settle in hazard-prone, deprived areas of cities and their peripheries.

Displaced people face many challenges: they may be unaware of risks in their new location, unable to access basic services if they are not formally recognised, lack strong social networks, be excluded from decision-making, confronted with discrimination, face language and cultural barriers, and may be unable to access economic opportunities in their new locale. These displacement-related challenges increase their risk of becoming displaced a second or even multiple times.

Recipes to address displacement

The cookbook was officially launched at our Global Summit for Disaster Risk Reduction 2024. Prior to the launch, a series of regional learning events were conducted in Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean to discuss and critically assess the research findings and empower participants with knowledge and strategies to address displacement and build resilience.

The cookbook stands as a testament to the power of collaboration. It has brought together diverse constituencies to tackle the cascading and compounding risks faced by displaced communities.

It distils key principles for building resilience in displaced communities, and we believe these principles will not only inform advocacy efforts at the national and international levels but will also support grassroots initiatives, empowering civil society to make a tangible difference at the community level.

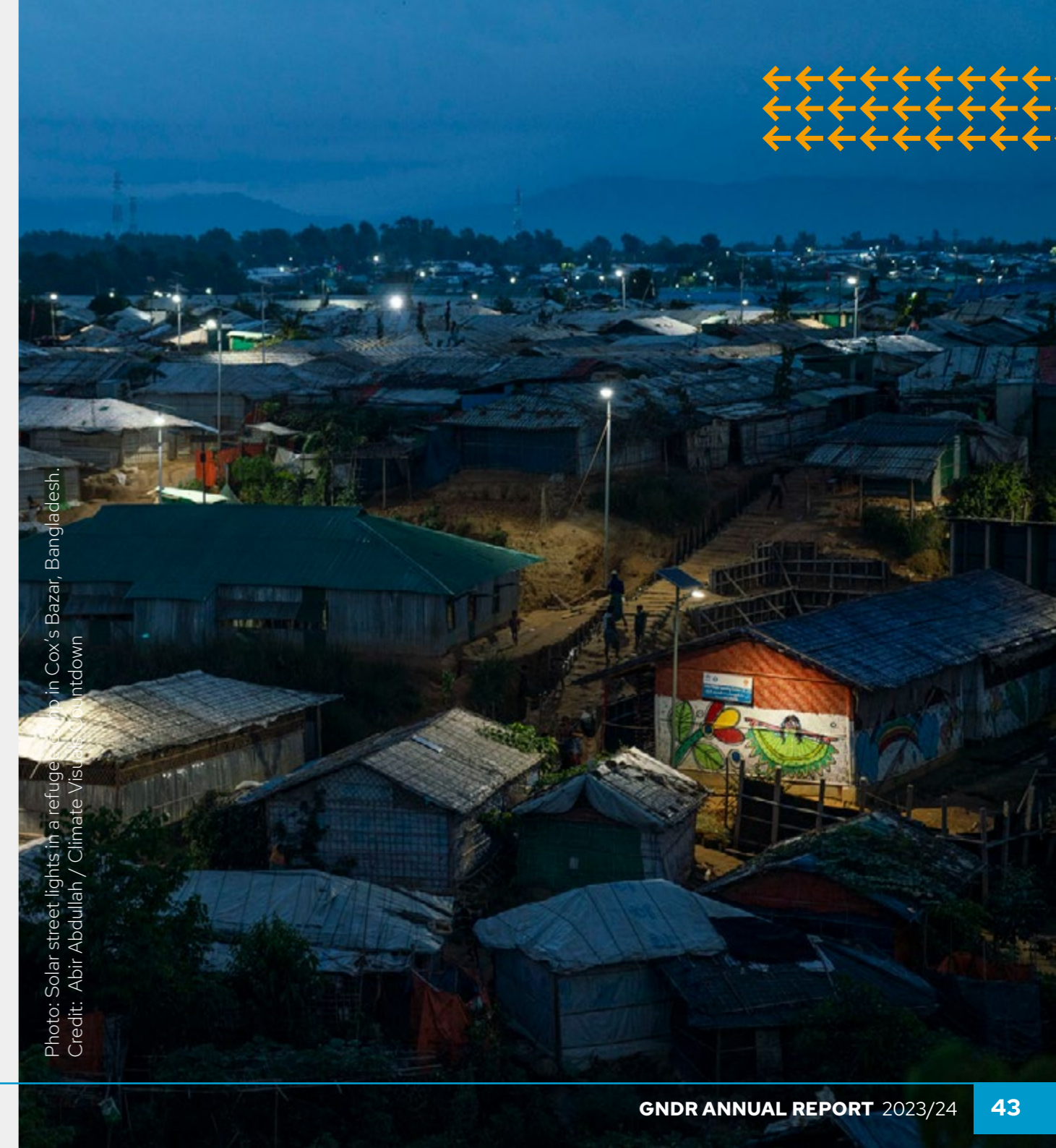


Photo: Solar street lights in a refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.
Credit: Abir Abdullah / Climate Visuals Countdown



Harnessing local knowledge in Rwanda

Frank Rusine, a resident of Gisasa, in Rwanda, has lived through the devastation that extreme weather events can bring.

For years, his community suffered the consequences of severe erosion triggered by heavy rains. "Before starting anti-erosive activities of terracing hillsides of Gisasa community, there were no trenches along the hill, and the erosion caused catastrophes such as house destructions, wiping out good land," Frank recalls. The runoff from the hills destroyed his home and swept away his crops, leaving his family and neighbours facing hunger, displacement, and a lack of access to basic services.

In 2023, GNDR member, Manadisaster Organisation, initiated a project in Gisasa and the neighbouring Kangondo community, as part of our *Making Displacement Safer* programme. This initiative aimed to address the disaster risks faced by displaced communities like Frank's by empowering them to develop sustainable solutions.

The project was a collaborative effort. It brought together displaced community members, local government officials, academia, NGOs, and the private sector through the Urban Living Lab process.

Together, they worked to understand the challenges and propose innovative solutions tailored to the specific needs of Gisasa and Kangondo.

Frank was actively involved in this process, contributing to the community-driven initiatives. One of the solutions proposed was the digging of trenches and terracing of hillsides to combat the severe erosion that had affected the area.

He remembers the impact before these measures were implemented: "My crops have been washed away down in the river by runoff from up hills. Nowadays, that issue is sorted as we got irrigations, diggings, and trenches to intercept all the runoff from up the hill. The same runoff used to come with high velocity, destroying everything including my crops, and I lost my house too and roads."

The implementation of these anti-erosive measures, combined with environmental conservation training and domestic gardening initiatives, has significantly reduced the risk of flooding and landslides in Frank's community.

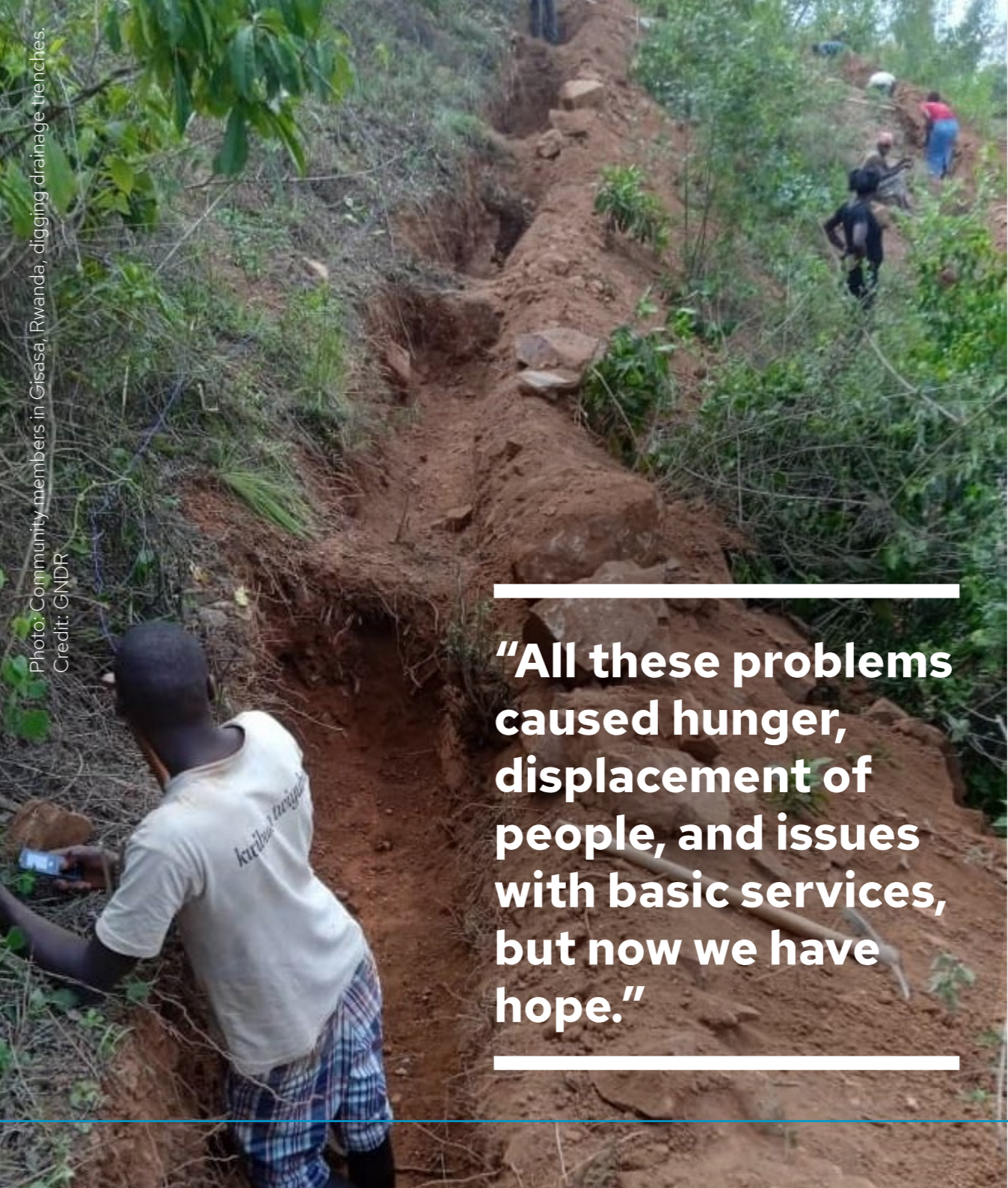


Photo: Community members in Gisasa, Rwanda, digging drainage trenches. Credit: GNDR

"All these problems caused hunger, displacement of people, and issues with basic services, but now we have hope."



These efforts have not only protected homes and farmlands but have also contributed to improving agricultural productivity and overall resilience.

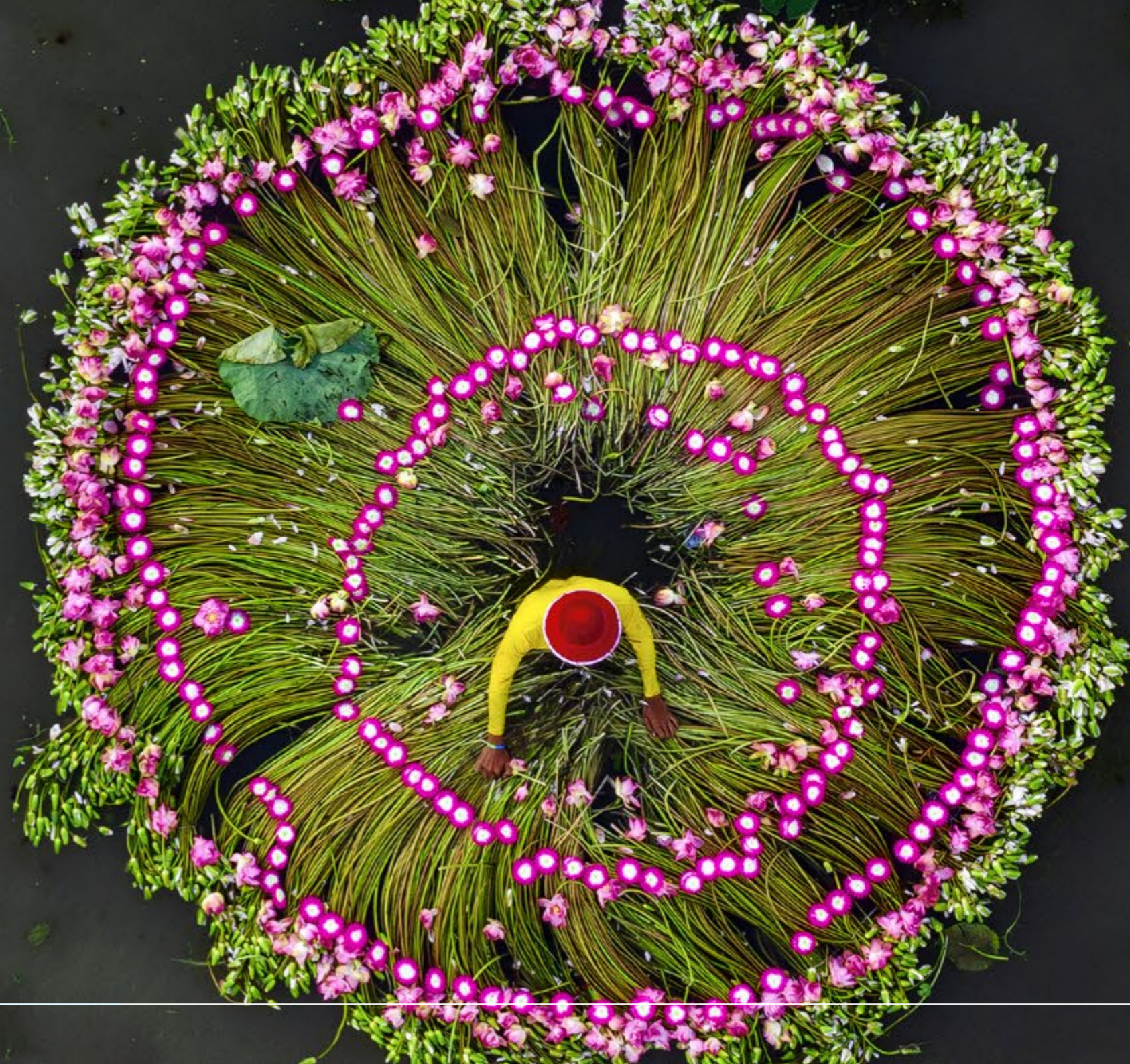
In addition to these interventions, the project focused on advocacy, particularly with local government authorities like the City of Kigali's management. During roundtable discussions, these authorities committed to allocating budget resources for the following year to provide accommodation and necessary equipment for displaced populations – a significant victory for the community.

Frank's experience shows how a combination of local knowledge, community engagement, and strategic advocacy can create lasting change. "All these problems caused hunger, displacement of people, and issues with basic services," Frank reflects. "But now we have hope." His story demonstrates the effectiveness of Manadisaster's approach, which has helped build resilience in Gisasa where the community can now look forward to a future where their homes, livelihoods, and families are safer and more secure.

Photo: Collecting waterlilies during monsoon season in West Bengal, India.
Credit: Shibash Saha / Climate Visuals Countdown

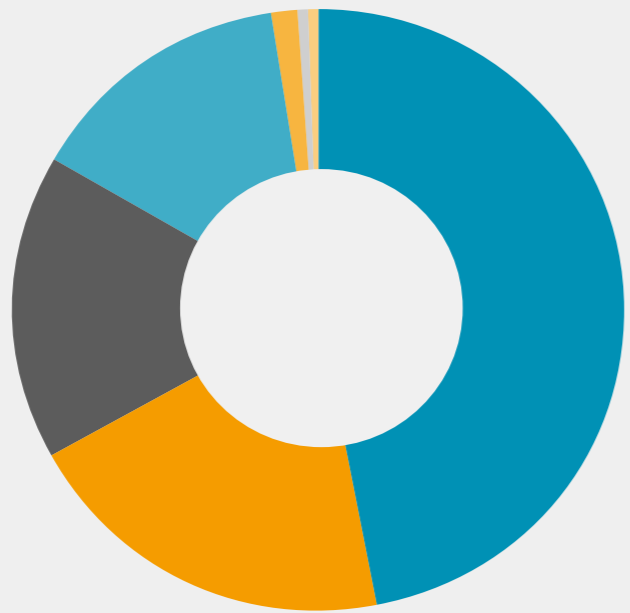


FUNDING



Our charitable income

- £3,912 EU Horizons
- £27,272 Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe
- £271,433 BMZ (German Government)

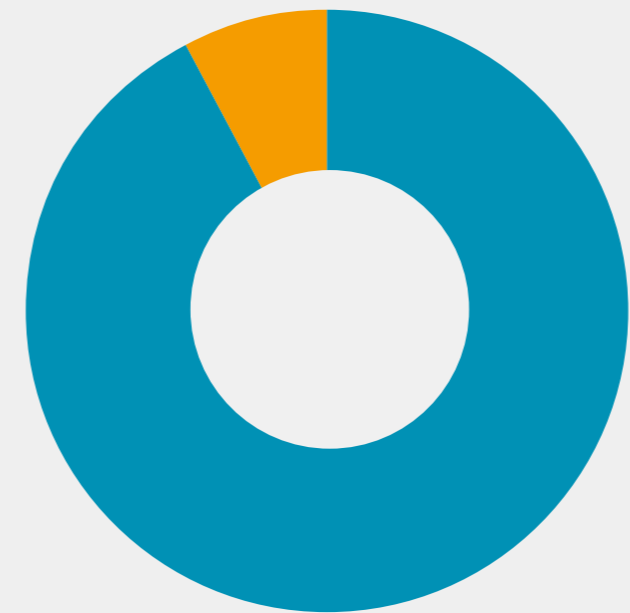


- £11,999 Other
- £895,362 USAID BHA (US Government)
- £379,477 SIDA (Swedish Government)
- £312,891 SDC (Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation)

Total income
£1,902,346

Total expenditure
£1,869,873

How we spent our funds



- £1,724,771 Strategic goals and objectives
- £145,102 Other costs

OBJECTIVE 1

Promoting the mobilisation of CSOs by enabling spaces for shared learning and collaboration
£299,965

OBJECTIVE 2

Empowering our members through training and capacity building
£318,579

OBJECTIVE 3

Providing evidence to promote risk-informed development
£234,661

OBJECTIVE 4

Implementing projects to generate data from the frontline of disaster
£549,740

OBJECTIVE 5

Position civil society as a key stakeholder in global, regional and national decision-making
£40,632

OBJECTIVE 6

Communicating and amplifying the voice and work of our members
£281,194

Virtual project visits

Following on from a successful first year, 2023 saw the continuation of our Virtual Project Visit series. These virtual events provide our members with the opportunity to connect directly with donors to offer valuable insights into their work, without the need for travel and the associated carbon footprint.



This year, donors were transported to Paraguay, to meet with GNDR member and national focal point (NFP), Tesãi Reka Paraguay (TRP). Like GNDR, TRP is a network of local organisations working at the forefront of disaster management. They are working in over 200 communities across the country to enhance their resilience against natural hazards.

As a GNDR NFP, TRP actively support other GNDR members through national coordination meetings, which serve as vital platforms for amplifying the voices of local, community-based organisations at national, regional, and global levels.

Likewise, they represent the perspectives and concerns of communities most vulnerable to risks in Paraguay at regional advisory groups. The outcomes of these meetings influence our global strategy and advocacy activities, ensuring that the voices and experiences of the communities TRP works with help to shape global decision-making through our advocacy and programming efforts.



Photo: A woman and child on an Indigenous Women's March in Brazil. Credit: Natalia Gomes / Cobertura Colaborativa



From South America to West Africa

Later in the year, Benin, and GNDR member, DEDRAS, hosted funders for a virtual visit that took a closer look at the organisation's projects that build community resilience to climate change, social cohesion and livelihood development.

DEDRAS actively participated in a GNDR project focused on the social integration and livelihood development of vulnerable rural households in northern Benin. Their activities included surveys, social mapping, community engagement, and financial support to enhance income-generating activities. Additionally, they received valuable training from GNDR on risk and disaster management.

Through GNDR, DEDRAS also accessed resources and training in disaster management, climate resilience, and community-based approaches. This training equipped them to develop climate-

resilient interventions and become experts in resilience, collaborating with local authorities in their region.

DEDRAS also engaged with GNDR members in Benin for capacity-building and has participated in virtual meetings to organise advocacy initiatives. They have played a vital role when supporting national meetings with other GNDR members. They continue to benefit from expertise in resilience and disaster management shared by the GNDR secretariat and broader membership.

OUR PEOPLE



Global board

Our global board sets our overall policy and defines the strategic direction and objectives of the network.

The board ensures we operate in accordance with our charitable objectives, our principles and in support of the membership.

The board is made up of 19 members: 13 regional representatives elected by members, two independent representatives, and four trustees.

Regional representatives



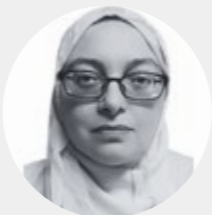
Baimba Sisay
Southern Africa
Executive Director of EGAN: (Evangeliização Geral de Ajuda aos Necessitados)



Eena Gheslaine Barrun
South East Asia & East Asia
Program Co-ordinator, Center for Disaster Preparedness Foundation, Inc



Emmanuel S. Seck
West & Central Africa
Programme Manager, ENDA Energie



Ghada Ahmadein
North Africa & West Asia
Program Manager, Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)



Graciela Salaberri
Chair of Global Board and South America Representative
Executive Director, Sociedad Amigos del Viento meteorología ambiente desarrollo (AdelV)



Khurram Shahid Malik
Pacific
Founder and Board Member, Humanitarian Organization for Poverty Eradication (HOPE)



Lorenzo Mota King
Caribbean
Executive Director, Servicio Social de Iglesias Dominicanas



Mario Flores
North America
Director, Field Operations, Disaster Risk Reduction and Response, Habitat for Humanity International



Sophie Rigg
Europe
Senior Resilience and Climate Adviser, ActionAid



Tania Triminio Quintanilla
Central America
National Director of Disaster Preparedness, Response & Humanitarian Assistance Cruz Verde Hondureña



Global board



Tasneem Siddiqui

South Asia

Chair and Founder, Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU), University of Dhaka



Tolekan Ismailova

Central Asia

Director, Human Rights Movement "Bir Duino-Kyrgyzstan"

Independent representatives



Rod Snider

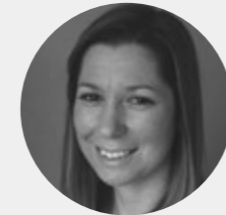
Vice Chair of the Global Board
Senior Associate, Tetra Tech



Zenaida Willison

Vice Chair of the Global Board
Senior Advisor, Center for Disaster Preparedness

Trustees



Claire Tiffen

Vice Chair of Trustees
Global Programme Funding Manager, Tearfund



Ewout van den Blink

Treasurer
Management Consultant, Eiffel B.V. (The Netherlands)



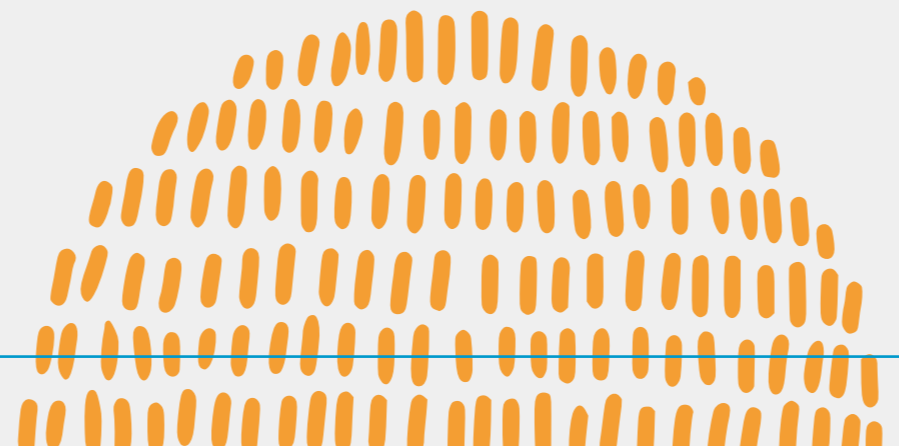
Peter Curran

Chair of Trustees
Director & Principal Consultant, Explorer Consulting Limited



Usha Menon

Trustee
Founder, Usha Menon Management Consultancy





Stichting GNDR

Stichting GNDR is an independent organisation created by GNDR and registered in The Netherlands.

It was established to ensure that our global network can still access vital European funding now the UK has left the European Union.

Supervisory board



Dorothea Hilhorst

Member

Professor of Humanitarian Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR)



Heleen van der Beek

Chair

Director Strategy, Communication and Innovation, Cordaid



Ewout van den Blink

Treasurer

Management Consultant, Eiffel B.V. (The Netherlands)



Oenone Chadburn

Member

Head of Humanitarian and Resilience Team, Tearfund



Farah Kabir

Member

Country Director, ActionAid Bangladesh



Secretariat

The secretariat is responsible for delivering the strategy and annual work plans, as agreed by the global board and trustees.

The secretariat supports the development, coordination and implementation of the GNDR strategy. Our team is responsible to the board of trustees and the global board, via the executive director.

Staff are based in regional hubs in six countries around the world: Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Senegal and the UK.



Abdullah Javed

Operations Officer (Asia & Europe)



Adessou Kossivi

Regional Lead (Africa)



Ajay Singh

Project Officer



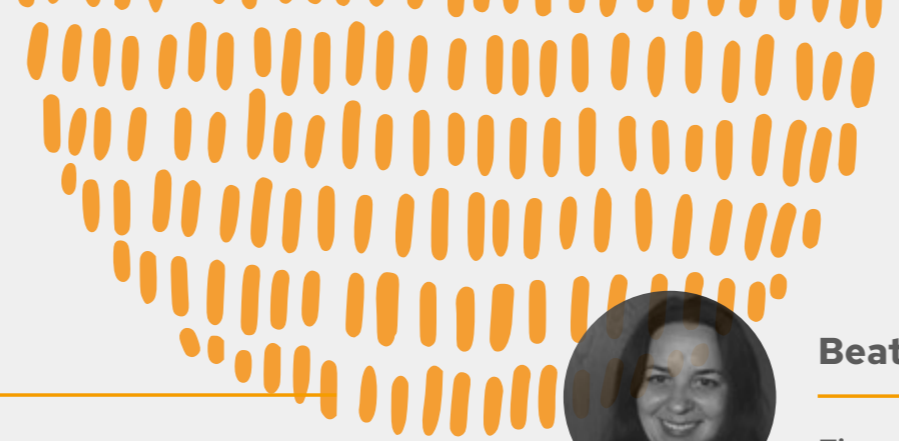
Alejandra Mazariegos

Operations Officer (Americas & Caribbean)



Aminata Some

Membership Engagement Coordinator



Beata Hudakova

Financial Accountant



Danny Everett

External Communications Coordinator



Dansam Ouma

Project Officer



Ellis Tsang

Trusts and Foundations Coordinator



Felix Martin

Senior Fundraiser



Florencia Pasquale

Translation Projects Administrator



Hepi Rahmawati

Regional Coordinator (Europe, South East Asia & Pacific)



Ipsita Sircar

Regional Lead (Asia, Pacific and Europe)



Secretariat



Jabran Ali

Finance Business Partner



Liza Hernandez

Regional Lead (Americas & Caribbean)



Nick Roberts

Head of Operations



Rehema Batti

Project Coordinator



Jekulin Lipi

Policy & Research Officer



Marcos Concepcion Raba

Executive Director



Pauline Madiro

Regional Coordinator (East & Southern Africa)



Shivangi Chavda

Head of Programmes



Koffi Apedjagbo

Project Officer



Max Wilder

MEAL Coordinator



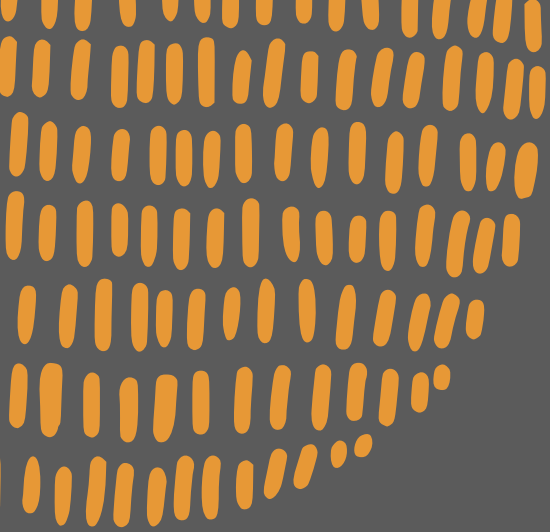
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Policy Lead



Valeria Polazzi

HR Adviser



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Cover photo: A community on their way to a shelter camp before a cyclone hit Cox's Bazar.
Credit: Abir Abdullah / Climate Visuals