

A WORD

FROM THE SECRETARIAT



Eilert L. Rostrup Director



Tyler Dale Hauger Senior Advisor

"We rise. We build. We resist."

The cover of this years' "Year at a Glance," a photo showcasing Filipino climate activists, conveys a timely message that resonates with the current era: the moment has arrived for us to rise, to build the new, and to stand against prevailing challenges the world is facing.

The planet grappled with relentless unrest in 2023: it was the deadliest year for armed conflict globally since 1994, we witnessed concrete examples of increasing geopolitical tensions, and global inequality (which was on a decline) is on the rise again following COVID. Vulnerable communities continue to bear the brunt of the wars, climate change, corruption, neoliberal exploitation, and the aftermaths of a global pandemic. The year concluded with a stark escalation in breeches of international law, in human rights violations, and horrific number of causalities in Gaza after the brutal Hamas attack in October. Despite being the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, global humanity and governments around the world showed little sign of learning from the past.

Yet, in this critical moment, brave movements and individuals are still struggling for real change. As the cover photo of Karibu's annual report suggests:

Groups are rising and speaking truth to power: Despite the challenges and odds, courageous groups are jointly raising their voices and shining a light on unspoken issues. Groups like the "BRICS Policy Center" in Brazil shed light on the effect of China's role in the global South. Inclusive and Affirming Ministries in South Africa lend a voice to deliberately silenced LGBTIQ+ communities in Africa, calling for alternative, courageous religious voices. Groups like Badil in Palestine are actively confronting and raising alternative policies related to the ongoing Israeli military occupation.

Movements are building alternatives: Karibu's grantee partners also engaged in initiatives aimed at building a better future – building the new. Groups like *Bilaterals.org* and

their partners lifted alternative global trade agreements that are based on the principles of cooperation, solidarity, equality, sustainability, and democracy. In Latin America, Fundación Ciudadanía Inteligente is building interactive toolkits and pilot projects related to participatory environmental democracy in local governments in the region.

Brave voices are resisting injustice: In the face of shrinking space for civil society, groups across Africa are mobilizing a collective voice for local communities for the "Right to say no" against extractive industries. Activists relating to *IBON International* and *PAN-AP* are taking to the streets to demand just food systems and climate justice. *EcoVoice* in the Philippines is bringing stories human rights abuses to the UN's Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights and the UN Human Rights Council.

These are just some of the many initiatives, campaigns, and efforts taking place in Karibu's network and around the world. The challenges of 2023 remind us that the journey towards a just and sustainable world is far from over.

From Karibu's perspective, our hope lies in these pockets of hope and resistance, and in the belief that systemic change is possible when individuals and communities unite with a shared goal.

We hope this small collection of stories from 2023 will continue to demonstrate the critical work of Karibu's grantee partners in the struggle for a more just world.

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LOOKING BACK: FAREWELL INTERVIEW WITH DIRECTOR EILERT L. ROSTRUP

After 18 years, Karibu director Eilert. L Rostrup will retire from his position starting in June 2024. We talk to Eilert about his experiences with Karibu, what challenges he sees ahead, and what gives him hope for the future.

How are you feeling right now as you step into the next chapter?

Most of all, I feel deep gratitude and appreciation for the many individuals, networks, and organizations around the world that have been key contributors to what Karibu has been involved with during my years with the foundation and to what Karibu has become today.

What has drawn you to Karibu over these years?

Karibu has always, from its initial days and with the clear commitment of its founder (Cecilie Nustad) and my predecessor (Øystein Tveter), very clearly defined its core mission as a resource provider, facilitator, channel, and networker for amplifying the alternative voices of the global South. Yet, it is the individuals

and movements that Karibu has connected to – the change actors and activists aiming to address root causes for injustice, inequalities, oppressive structures, and power concentration – that have drawn me to the work and mostly inspired me.

This focus on systemic injustices that Karibu partners aim to disclose and name brings to light the concentration of capital and resources, political alliances of the privileged, military strength, and weaponized control of exploited and suppressed people. For many individuals and communities. the fundamental global unequal distribution of resources and opportunities is experienced as a lack of possibility to sustain a minimum dignity and sustenance for life. The world order is built on injustice, and that is a constant challenge for



"Hope for change to me lies exactly in the coming together and the willingness to stand in solidarity with each other and see the common agenda of system change in all the various local, national, and thematic issues that are addressed and focused."



Photo: Eilert and Karibu founder Cecilie Nustad meet with Mpho Tutu van Furth, daughter of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, in Cape Town in 2015.

involvement and hard work. For me, it has been a privilege to stand shoulder to shoulder with so many social movements and activist individuals and groups that Karibu works with, who are struggling against this injustice.

You started in Karibu in 2006. What challenges have you seen movements facing now, compared to when you first started?

I've observed that more and more, there is a need for new strategies, creativity, and adaptation to changing conditions for movements – as the situation has changed since I started. Security control, often militarized, imposes harsh limitations for voices that challenge the orders and executors of power. The critical voices are registered, monitored, and even subjected to harassment and restrictions because a sophisticated system of surveillance supports the policies that restrict democracy and civil society space.

Booking digitalization, also sped up by the shutdowns of the pandemic, has brought decision-making processes to closed digital platforms and the arena for social movement networking to digital cells that can easily be ignored and sidelined. The pandemic closed the main arena for political mobilization and manifestation for social movements – the streets and squares – where they could be seen and heard.

Do you have any thoughts on how we could face these challenges?

One thing is that we have to take the public arena back as a space for collectively raising our voices for alternatives and system change. And for demonstrating that there is really a huge network of like-minded and rights-based movements, and that these peoples' movements are claiming the right to express their analysis and their visions and goals in the public space.

To contribute to change, to 'stop the bad' and 'build the new,' depends fundamentally on building collective power from the grassroots. The alternative voices and actors committed to building a more just world must come together in collectives of shared struggle. This is a huge task, especially when high-



Photo: Eilert sings and plays guitar at a Palestine Solidarity public gathering in front of the Norwegian parliament in 2015.

cost traveling is mostly impossible for the less-resourced movements, and we must reduce or end destructive carbon-emission activities to reduce climate change. We need new creative models for peoples' power manifestation.

Looking back, what memories will you have of Karibu's partners taking on these challenges?

I'll remember the energy when activists have come together in various collectives and platforms to design and envisage how a more just and sustainable world could be.

The arenas for this resistance and building of alternatives have been diverse. Attending multilateral international platforms has been important to participate where power meets and where decisions are taken and strategies designed. Publishing reports, creating audio-visuals, bringing victims of injustice to global-North platforms has been a way of introducing the other narrative, sharing the life stories of the affected but neglected victims, and anchoring political advocacy efforts in the truth of life on the ground.

I'll remember the moments when people met together for social forums, peoples assemblies, or just rallying in crowds in the streets and squares. This has been crucial to demonstrate what power the many, the thousands, and the millions of people really represent for pushing the agenda of system change.

I'll remember the creative and powerful tools for non-violent resistance and civil disobedience that many of our partners have used. Sit-in actions to be allowed to cross checkpoints. Bishops on motorbike expeditions through hills and forests to reach guarded and fenced mining areas. But also the incredibly steadfast and patient advocacy year after year of lobbying and challenging the big forums like WTO, UNHRC, GFMD to influence their decisions. In this way, social movements demonstrate that power and influence aren't only privileges for the elites but also the actual potential for influence when social movements come together and unite communities, collectives, unions, solidarity movements, and activists from a variety of sectors.

All this is happening. Perhaps not reaching the headlines in the news. But it is there, in the unwavering work of networks of social movements and change actors.

What have you learned during your time with Karibu?

The years I've had with Karibu, and first and foremost with the incredible partners in this network, have taught me a lot about resilience, steadfastness, unwavering commitment, and courage that is the fundamental quality of brave social movement activists all around the world. They have included me and Karibu in various settings where we've met for political training, for analysis, for setting agendas, and strategizing on how to build the new future.

What will you take with you?

I will carry with me memories, insights, experiences, and inspiration from 18 wonderful years working with the global Karibu network. A network that consists of so much richness in the form of political and activist capacity, visionary aspirations for contributing to change, individuals and platforms that are resilient and persistent in their one life mission of struggle against injustice and

suppressive inequalities, violence and conflict, destruction and exploitation of natural resources and the whole creation. And much more. And that choice for life will continue to inspire me for future involvement.

What do you hope for Karibu's future?

Hope for change to me lies exactly in the coming together and the willingness to stand in solidarity with each other and see the common agenda of system change in all the various local, national, and thematic issues that are addressed and focused. I hope this is where Karibu will remain and explore new opportunities and arenas. I have had great years here, and I leave this Karibu space with much hope for what comes next.







Aurora Nereid

Incoming Director

"Brave, strategic and alternative voices from the Global South have never been more important, and the need for international solidarity never more visible. I look forward to engaging with and learning from Karibu and its partners in the continuation."



- Aurora Nereid

KARIBU WELCOMES NEW INCOMING DIRECTOR

Following an extensive recruitment process, the Board of the Karibu Foundation has appointed Ms. Aurora **Nereid** to take the position as director for the foundation. She will join the foundation from April 15th and have a period of overlap with current director of Karibu, Eilert L. Rostrup.

Aurora brings with her a broad experience as volunteer, staff member, board member, and executive leader from a variety of CSOs, solidarity movements, and global South focused development organisations.

She served as the executive director of the Norwegian Council for Africa from 2019 to 2021, and she has held positions as programme advisor in the Norwegian Students' and Academics' International Assistance Fund (2014-2019) and international advisor in The Norwegian Children and Youth Council (2011-2014).

Aurora is looking forward to starting the work ahead:

"Karibu and its constituency and leaders has a legacy which I will do my best to honour and build wisely from as the new director of Karibu. I am humbled by the opportunity to bring my experience and strong commitment to equal partnerships into the foundation.

Brave. strategic and alternative voices from the Global South have never been more important, and the need for international solidarity never more visible. I look forward to engaging with and learning from Karibu and its partners in the continuation."

The chair of the Karibu Board. Mr. Kasper Landmark, expressed great joy and satisfaction in welcoming Aurora to the Karibu family.

"We are happy for having identified Aurora as our next head of operations at Karibu. We welcome her and look forward to working with her as we continue our journey of solidarity with, and promoting of the alternative voices of. the Global South."

CEASEFIRE NOW CEASEFIRE NOW CEASEFIRE NOW

funders4ceasefire.org

RESPONSE TO HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN PALESTINE AND ISRAEL

The year was marked by devastating violence - by civilian casualties in Israel during the attacks on October 7th, and the continuous humanitarian crisis for the entire population in Gaza since then. By the end of 2023, the death toll from Israeli attacks on Gaza climbed to more than 22,000 people. There have also been over 1,000 Israelis killed.

Karibu has endorsed an open letter (funders4ceasefire.org), along with hundreds of grantmakers from around the world, contributing our voice to a collective response to the unfolding situation on the ground where civilians are the primary victims. The letter urges an immediate ceasefire, safe and unimpeded passage of humanitarian aid, cessation of U.S. and European funding and weapons for the Israeli military, and adherence to international humanitarian and human rights laws by all parties.

Furthermore, Karibu has provided unrestricted emergency support to several Palestinian and Israeli partner grantees amid the crisis.

GRANTS SHARED IN 2023

KARIBU HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING PARTNERS AND PROJECTS THROUGH OUR STANDARD GRANTS IN 2023:

Bilaterals.org Global

Support to the development of bilaterals.org, focusing on the struggles of social movements against free trade and investment agreements.

BRICS Policy Center Brazil

Support towards research and documentation on the political economy of South-South relations, especially related to China's investments in Brazil and South Africa.

Churches Witness with Migrants (CWWM) Global

Support to Global South participation at the international consultation on rights of migrants.

Ecuvoice / Philippine UPR Watch / NCCP Philippines

Support to advocacy work on human rights in the Philippines, and towards mobilization and advocacy related to the UN's Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights and the UN Human Rights Council.

Fundación Ciudadanía Inteligente Chile

Support towards mobilization efforts for democracy and ecological justice in Latin America.

Grey Matter Media South Africa

Support towards the documentary film "The Return".

Inclusive & Affirming Ministries (IAM) South Africa

Support towards regional efforts on the rights of the African LGBTIQ+ community.

Our World Is Not For Sale (OW-INFS) Global

Support for Global South participation in strategic WTO and trade processes.

PAN Asia Pacific Malaysia

Support for mobilizing efforts related to the "Global Peoples' Caravan for Food, Land, and Climate Justice" (GPC) and advocacy campaign leading up to COP28.

Stop the Wall Global

Support towards World Without Walls initiative, aimed at building alliances in Africa, Latin America, and Asia.

World Student Christian Federation - Latin America and the Caribbean (WSCF-LAC) Argentina

Support towards coordination of regional programs related to capacity building, networking, and advocacy towards Gender Justice.

"KARIBU NEW REALITIES GRANTS" SHARED IN 2023 (CYCLE 2)

The Karibu New Realities Grant is a unique participatory grantmaking pilot project in Karibu, where African activists and civil society members make decisions of what initiatives receive grants within the bounds of this pilot project.

THE "CORE GROUP" OF KNRG DECIDED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FOLLOWING GROUPS AND MOVEMENTS IN CYCLE 2:

Africa Climate Justice Collective Pan-African, Zimbabwe

Support to the "African People's Counter COP" in 2024.

Africa Water Justice Network Pan-African, Ghana

Support to national campaigns against water privatization bills on the African continent

Building Blocks for Peace Foundation West Africa, Nigeria

Support towards to build and train a regional "Youth Protection Network" with young people from West Africa, with the aim to confront shrinking civic space in the region.

Centre for Alternative Research and Studies on Economic, Social and Environmental Issues Madagascar

Support towards movement building and a conference on ecological justice and peace in the Indian Ocean region.

Coalition for Grassroot Human Rights Defenders Kenya

Support towards the development of podcast series on feminism, activism and social movements, as well as closed learning circles on sustainable social movement building.

Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) Coalition for Human Rights and Good Governance Malawi

Support towards regional consultations, information campaigns, and advocacy work with Malawian CBOs on the topic of decolonizing aid.

Cry of the Xcluded South Africa

Support towards a joint petition campaign and movement building between social movements in South Africa.

Green Foster Action Uganda

Support towards national campaigns in Uganda against the East Africa Crude Pipeline (EACOP) project, including public events, podcasts and online campaigns, and co-creation workshops.

Manica Youth Assembly Trust (MAYA) Zimbabwe

Support towards the establishment and trainings of "Community Monitoring Agents" youth advocacy groups and strategy development on holding decision-makers accountable on corruption and other community issues (mining, politics, elections, human rights).

Rural Women's Assembly South Africa South Africa

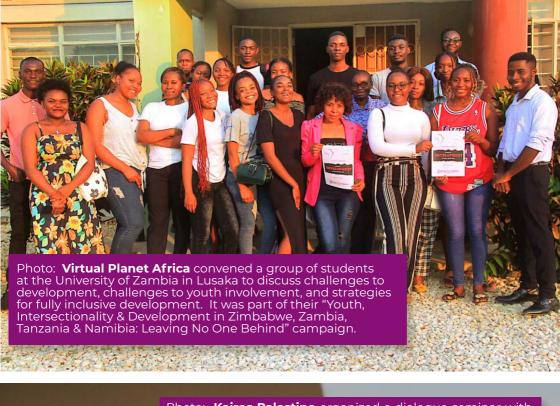
Support to the ongoing "One Woman-One Hectate" campaign in South Africa, on equitable land distribution and agro-ecology.

West African Youth Network Sierra Leone

Support towards the "Not Too Young To Run" campaign, which aims to contribute to increase the amount of young people engaging themselves constructively in public issues and public office in Sierra Leone.

Yetu Infotech Collective South Africa

Support towards the development two websites for social movements and progressive CSOs, with the aim of connecting movements, amplifying their voices, and providing alternatives to corporately held digital spaces.











STRUGGLING FOR NEW REALITIES IN AFRICA

In 2023, bold and courageous groups and movements across the African continent struggled for a more just world. This included the inaugural (Cycle I) grantees of the of 'Karibu New Realities Grant'.

From challenging extractivism and championing women's rights to confronting patriarchy, ensuring food sovereignty through agro-ecology, and advocating for water justice. These groups also delved into political participation, fostered ecounions, struggled for human rights, and harnessed the power of art as activism. Their varied initiatives underscored the strength of individuals uniting with a shared voice.

This continuum of efforts builds upon the history of Karibu's support for movements and groups in Africa, all of which are contributing to shaping collective African voices in the pursuit of justice, pan-Africanism, and the broader vision of the "African Renaissance."











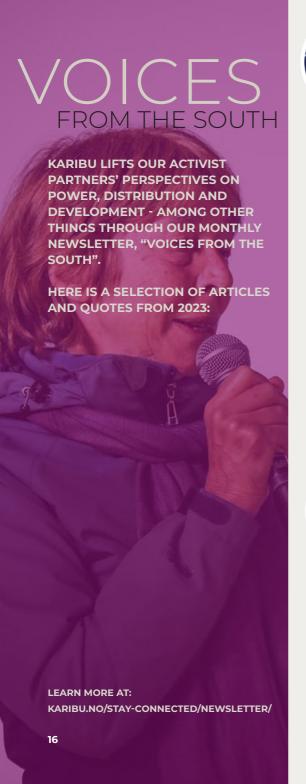








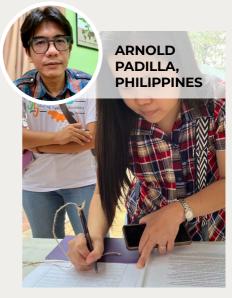






ON CHINA'S INVESTMENTS
IN BRAZIL & SOUTH AFRICA....

"THESE CASES SHOW US THAT, WITHIN THE CAPITALIST MODE OF ACCUMULATION, WHICH SYSTEMICALLY EXTRACT VALUE FROM LABOUR & NATURE, SOUTH-SOUTH INVESTMENTS DO NOT PROVIDE A CONCRETE ALTERNATIVE FOR WORKERS, COMMUNITIES & THE ENVIRONMENT."







ON LGBTIQ+ RIGHTS IN AFRICA...

"IT'S CLEAR THAT THERE IS AN URGENT NEED TO EQUIP COMMUNITIES AND CHURCHES WITH RESOURCES TO CREATE COMMUNITIES THAT ARE AFFIRMING OF LGBTIQ+ PEOPLE."



ON TOURISM DEBT...

"THE DEBT IN TOURISM, LIKE ANY OTHER ECONOMIC ACTIVITY, IS NOT A SPONTANEOUS PHENOMENON, BUT RATHER IT HAS BEEN FEEDING AND ACCUMULATING OVER THE YEARS. IT IS A HISTORICAL BURDEN THAT CAUSES HUGE INEQUALITIES WITHIN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETIES."

■ ON FOOD, LAND, & CLIMATE JUSTICE...

"THE VOICES OF
RURAL PEOPLES AND
THOSE WHO SUPPORT
THEIR DEMANDS FOR
CLIMATE JUSTICE MUST
BE HEARD. THROUGH
OUR PETITION
ADDRESSED TO
COP28, WE STRIVE TO
BRING ATTENTION TO
THESE VOICES."

ON CIVIC TECH & THE DIGITAL DIVIDE...

"BUILDING POLITICAL
POWER THROUGH
TECHNOLOGY
REQUIRES THE
ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT
OF CITIZENS AND
MOVEMENTS TO
GENERATE REAL
CHANGE, WHILE ALSO
BRIDGING THIS DIGITAL
DIVIDE."





Activists mobilize for a global South-led signature campaign towards COP28, as part of **PAN-AP'**s contribution to the "Global Peoples' Caravan for Food, Land, and Climate Justice"



Karibu staff, board, and members of the African KNRG Core Group (Karibu's participatory grantmaking group) meet in Norway.



Migrant rights groups meet at Regional Seminar Workshop on Migrant Organising, Network Building and Solidarity organised by the **Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants.**



Karibu senior advisor Tyler Dale Hauger served as a visiting researcher at the **Centre on African Philanthropy (CAPSI)** at Wits University in South Africa. Pictured here with Halima Mahomed and Bhekinkosi Moyo.



Members of WSCF Latin America and the Caribbean lead a workshop in Brazil on exclusion and marginalization.

WHO WE ARE

OUR BOARD IN 2023:

Kasper Landmark (chair)
Peder Nustad (vice-chair)
Heidi Finskas
Gina Lende
Ingrid Stolpestad
Gustavo Parra de Andrade

OUR STAFF:

Eilert L. Rostrup (outgoing director) rostrup@karibu.no

Tyler Dale Hauger (senior advisor) tyler@karibu.no

Aurora Nereid (incoming director in 2024) aurora@karibu.no

OUR ADMIN SUPPORT:

Endre Havnås (financial manager, Mallin Ltd)

Gregers Barfod (properties manager, Mallin Ltd)

Jorunn Molander (properties advisor, Mallin Ltd)

STUDENT PLACEMENT:

Lea Rekdal Sletten (Summer 2023)

OUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVES:

- To provide economic support to organizations and networks in the South that work for a just world
- To strategically cooperate with these organizations and networks, support network-building processes, and convey the thoughts and experiences of our partners to various arenas in the North.

OUR GRANTEE PARTNERS:

Karibu supports organizations, networks, and movements of the global South (both secular and faithbased) that provide alternatives to the dominant paradigms of power, distribution, and development.

Projects that Karibu supports are primarily related to the areas of information exchanges, mobilizing efforts, legislative and research efforts, bridge-building, dialogue, and capacity building.

More info: www.karibu.no/ who-we-are/what-we-support/

- **■** KaribuFoundation
- ▼ @KaribuFnd

https://www.karibu.no

Cover:

Youth climate justice activists march in Manila for the Philippine leg of the Global Day of Action for Climate Justice.

The event was organized in part by Karibu grantee partner IBON International. Activists urged global solidarity to establish alternative platforms, reclaim spaces, ensure accountability of governments and corporations, and champion the people's visions for justice and equity in the formulation of global climate policies.

Credit: IBON International.



Photo modified for privacy and formatting purposes.



THE KARIBU FOUNDATION

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