

Arigatou International

ANNUAL REPORT

April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023



Arigatou International is...

All for Children

All that we do, we do for children; everything we do is for them.

We call **All** people to help build a better world for children;
we bring everyone together for this universal cause.

We give our **All** to protect child rights and enhance children's well-being;
the fate of children deserves our every effort, so we work at it with **All** of our heart.

We are **All** united in this single purpose;
caring for children takes precedence over all else.



KEEPING OUR “ALL FOR CHILDREN” PROMISE, WITH CHILDREN

Message from Rev. Keishi Miyamoto

President, Arigatou International, and
Convenor, Global Network of Religions for Children (GNRC)

Thank you for your interest in Arigatou International. This report highlights our recent efforts to foster children’s agency and support them to be change-makers who can transform their local communities.

Children and young people have precious insights and uniquely creative views on how to address the problems their communities face. Without hearing their voices and supporting their participation, we cannot build a just and peaceful world.

Especially if we include children, the opportunities for global cooperation have never been greater, yet the threats to it have never been more severe.

UNICEF speaks today of a global polycrisis — multiple, simultaneous shocks with strong interdependencies, intensified in an ever-more integrated world. The climate crisis, the COVID-19 pandemic, growing child poverty with the accompanying food insecurity, as well as armed conflict and the displacement it causes, are only a few of the serious crises affecting children.

These crises are threatening the progress made over the last 30 years in children’s well-being. We must redouble our efforts, especially to reach children in marginalized and disadvantaged groups.

This is why Arigatou International strives to create meaningful opportunities for children and adults to work together for change. Starting with transformative dialogue, we facilitate opportunities for cooperative action. The process fosters resilience and helps to build inclusive, peaceful societies.

Children and young people are an integral part of these efforts, and we believe engaging them fully is a highly effective way to channel the heartfelt aspirations of the human family.

We strive not just to see and young people, but to hear what they have to say, offer them platforms for action, and learn from what they do. We believe that their insights hold immense capacity to transform the world. In that spirit, I would like to share just a few of their thoughts with you here.

Busisa (18) from South Africa, says his experiences in the GNRC Children’s Committee taught him that “we are all different and unique as individuals, with our uniquely different characteristics and personalities, and if we combine them, we can make a peaceful and thriving society.”

Lucia (18) from Venezuela, told me she cherishes how our programs helped her to connect with children from other countries and “understand that there are many people around the world who may not share religion, language or customs, but are all committed for a better society for those who are probably the most vulnerable.”

When children and young people contribute their ideas and experience ownership of initiatives in their own community, they feel respected, empowered and valued. They gain hope as they see their efforts making a positive impact—and they inspire us all.

I am convinced that this work with children, for children, is the surest path to the peaceful world we all long for. Let us all take action together. A world where every child thrives is within our reach.



Busisa



Lucia

EMPOWERING CHILDREN AS CHANGE-MAKERS

Arigatou International is all *for* children, but also all *with* them. Children are at the heart of all we do and how we do it. We work hard to create safe spaces and learning opportunities, free from any form of violence, where children can fully express themselves, participate, engage with people of different cultures and beliefs, and become actively and positively involved in our work and in their communities.

Children's Solutions Lab

The **Children's Solutions Lab** empowers children to make meaningful contributions to their communities by addressing child poverty locally and reflecting on the roots of social conflicts and injustice. In 2022, groups of children in Armenia, Brazil, Ghana, Malawi and Niger received support and small grants to implement their child-led projects.

"The project made us gain experience, responsibility, and a sense of citizenship."

– Moabe (16) from Brazil



SDGs Academy for Children

"The world's best bet for a sustainable future is to teach children about the SDGs."

– Sanara (18) from Sri Lanka, who participated in the SDGs Academy

The **SDGs Academy for Children** addresses sustainability from an early age. It uses interactive curriculums that educate children about the SDGs and their own role in promoting sustainability. Children's inputs are not only heard, but then directly presented to policy makers via intergenerational dialogues on the SDGs.



Photo (top right): Pioneer Hub in Limuru, Kenya
Photo (bottom right): Model Classroom in Colombo, Sri Lanka

Ending Violence Lab

Arigatou International launched the **Ending Violence Lab** in 2021 to equip local communities to carry out year-round, systematic, grassroots, intergenerational advocacy to prevent violence against children. The work is based on Arigatou's **Guide and Toolkit on Advocating for Children's Rights and Well-being: An Interfaith Approach**.



GNRC Children's Committee

Six children were selected as members of the GNRC Children's Committee for 2022. The children discuss and share their ideas and recommendations for our work. We provide platforms for them to engage with religious leaders, United Nations agencies, their local governments, and more.



Aisha (16), Mauritius

Everyone is human, we breathe the same air and live under the same sky on the same earth... The joy is if we all unite and accept everyone for who they are, it would be so nice and beautiful!



Busisa (18), South Africa

In our differences we have similarities... We are all created in the image of God and we are one thing after all, so we shouldn't let our differences create a divide within ourselves.



Frida (16), Panama

Societies should create safe spaces that are regulated and really protected, raising awareness and educating about it in all media.



Jason (15), Pakistan

I think safeguarding is important because when children feel safe, they don't have a stressed mind and are able to talk to adults they trust.



Lucia (18), Venezuela

I would love to start creating spaces for expression for the little ones in schools or communities close to me, because I believe that in this way we begin to give visibility, recognition and value to their thoughts, ideas or feelings...and in this way the right to free expression can be preserved.

GET MORE DETAILS [HERE](#)

Online Course on "How to Promote Child Participation"

This original online course shares Arigatou International's unique experience and expertise. It is self-paced and free-of-charge. Participants access a set of resources and practical recommendations on how to engage children in respectful, safe, and meaningful ways in various settings. This course is for adults only, but we also offer an interactive course for children where they can learn about their rights and how they can work within their communities to secure those rights.

SEE ONLINE COURSES [HERE](#)

Walk the Talk

Members of the GNRC Children's Committee helped us develop the online course, "How to Promote Child Participation." Each lesson features videos they made, sharing their experiences and their recommendations on how adults can engage young people meaningfully.

Wear My Shoes Awards 2022

The Wear My Shoes Award 2022 recognized five outstanding grassroots practices addressing the rights and dignity of children on the move. Each winning organization received US\$5,000 to support its child-led project. In 2022, the number of applications received doubled, at 54. These awards were made possible thanks to a generous donation by the Interfaith Alliance for Safer Communities.



GET MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE WINNERS [HERE](#)



LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE WITH HOPE: CONTINUING TO SUPPORT GRASSROOTS ACTION

Dr. Mustafa Y. Ali

Secretary General, Global Network of Religions for Children, and
Director, Arigatou International – Nairobi

In 2022, one in six children lived in a conflict zone, and **according to UNHCR**, an estimated 43.3 million children were refugees—the highest number in 20 years. This comes at a time when the effects of the destructive COVID-19 pandemic are being felt globally, triggering even graver violations of children's rights.

The need for collaborative efforts to address these challenges and reach the most vulnerable children has never been more urgent. The **Global Network of Religions for Children (GNRC)** addresses the need by bringing people of all faiths together to work for the well-being of children and build peace. This year, we focused on further strengthening the GNRC by fostering the meaningful participation of children so that they are fully seen, heard, and engaged across all of our programs.

Our increased grassroots focus has enriched children and expanded inclusivity, especially spotlighting children living with disabilities. Children in remote rural villages, informal settlements, conflict and fragile settings, and other difficult situations are also a priority in our work. Hundreds of volunteers across the world, including many children, join hands to support ethics education for children, interfaith approaches to ending child poverty, and efforts to uphold children's rights, including by ending violence against children.

GRASSROOTS ACTION

The Global Network of Religions for Children

The Global Network of Religions for Children (GNRC) is a global interfaith network of organizations and individuals specifically dedicated to securing the rights and well-being of children everywhere. GNRC members come from all the world's major religions and many other spiritual traditions.

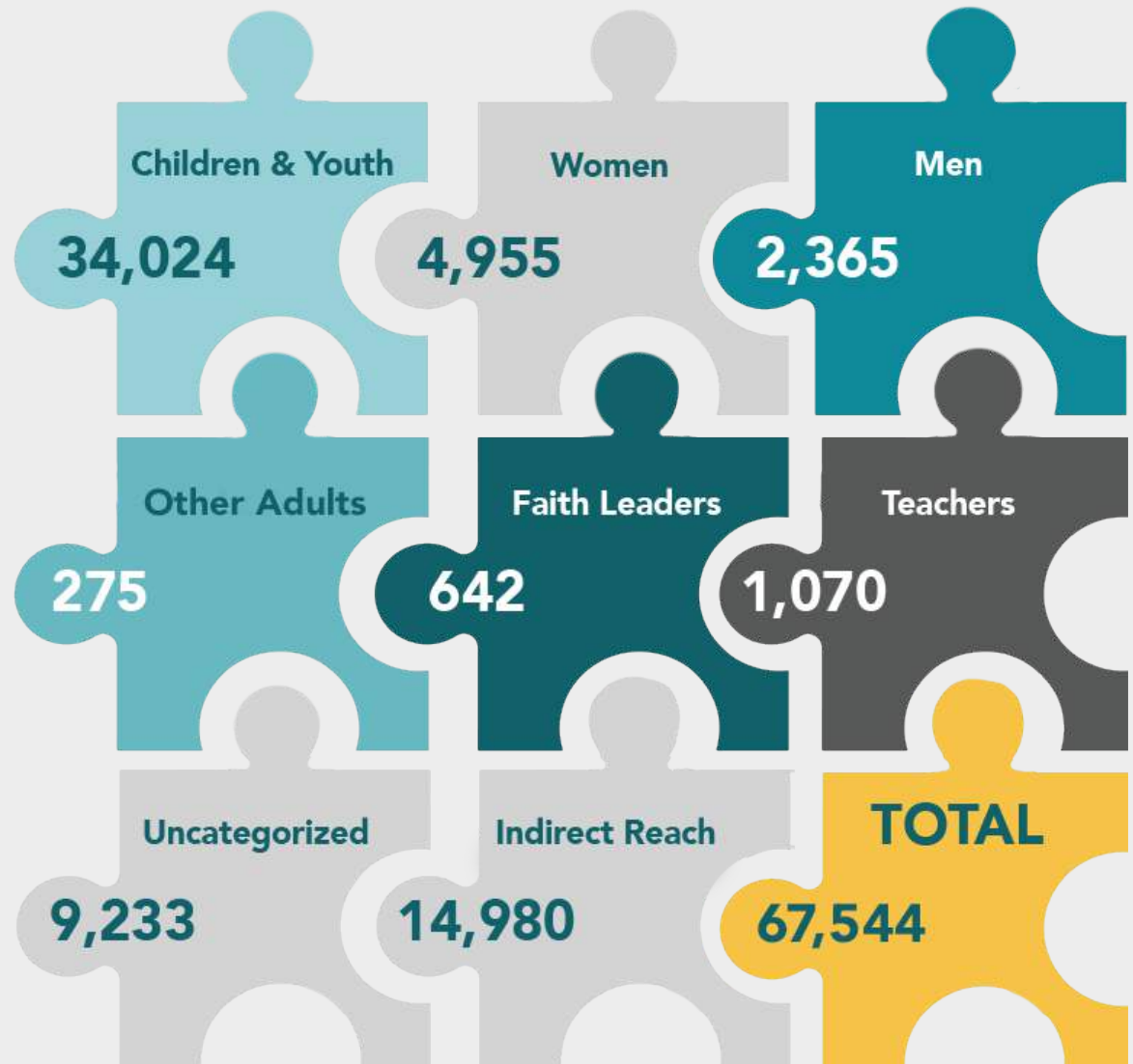
GNRC Priorities

- Preventing Violent Extremism and Gang Violence
- Nurturing Spirituality in Child Upbringing
- Ending Child Poverty and Supporting Vulnerable Children
- Promoting Safe Spaces for Children and Ending Sexual Exploitation and Abuse of Children
- Strengthening and Reinvigorating the Network



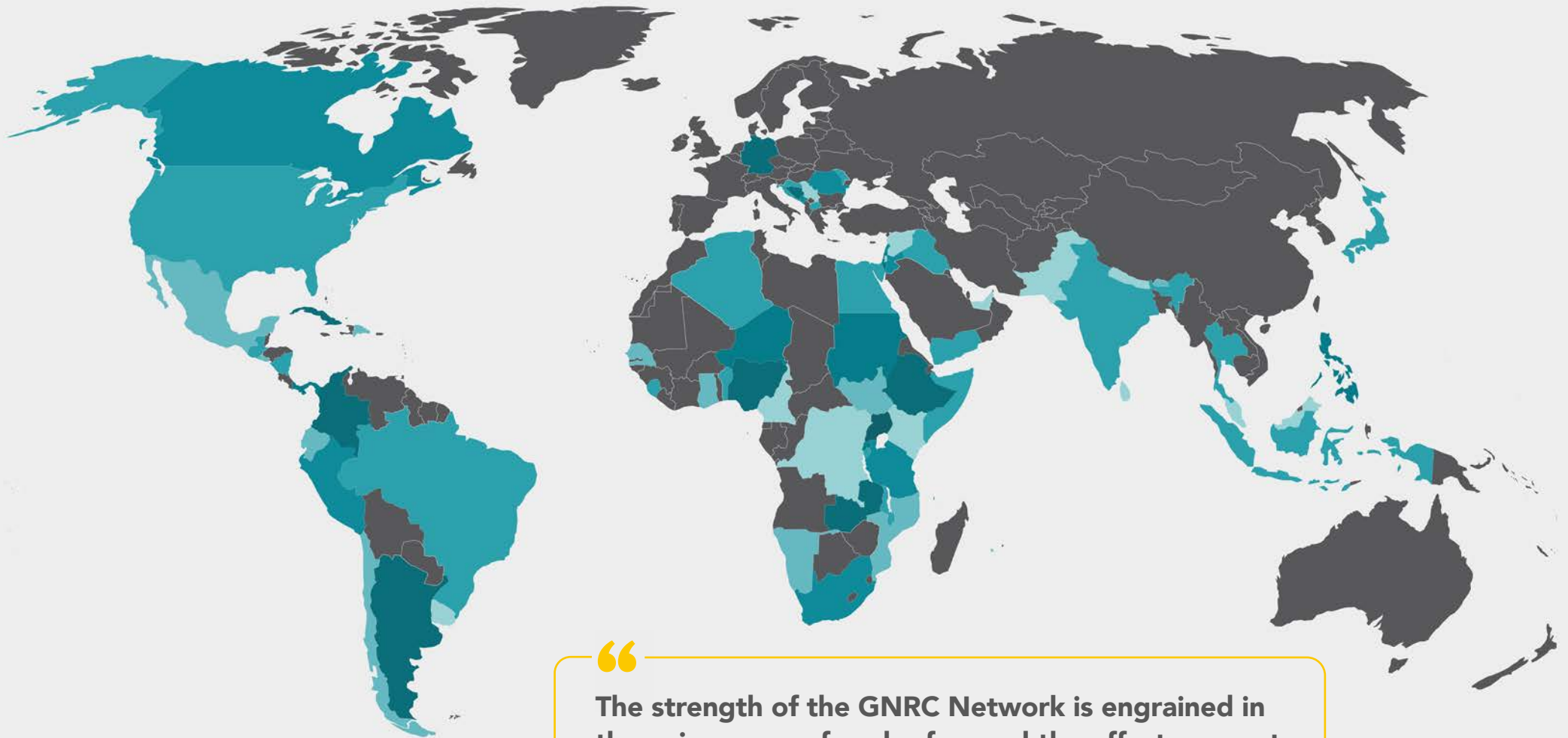
Consultation with GNRC members in Visoko in Bosnia and Herzegovina, June 2022

GNRC Reach this Year



BUILDING A BETTER WORLD FOR CHILDREN

GNRC Around the World



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The strength of the GNRC Network is engrained in the uniqueness of each of us and the efforts we put into making the world a better place for children.

— Dr. Dorcas Kiplagat, Network and Program Coordinator, GNRC



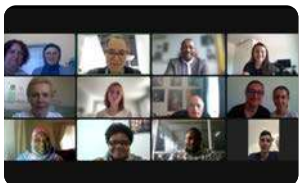
The GNRC is active
in **67 countries**

STRENGTHENING AND REINVIGORATING THE NETWORK

GNRC Members Active in 67 Countries, 15 New National Committees Launched

As we worked to reinvigorate, strengthen, and nurture the GNRC at all levels, 15 national networks formally launched GNRC committees. These collaborative, interfaith, decision-making bodies work to inspire and guide grassroots work for children in their countries. Click the gold country names below to learn more.

Bosnia and Herzegovina



Comoros



Indonesia



South Africa



Bhutan



Democratic Republic of Congo



Kenya



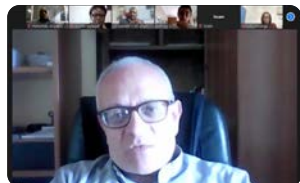
Tanzania



Burundi



Lebanon



Pakistan



Uganda



Cameroon



India



Romania



Reaching the Vulnerable

Humanitarian Aid for Families Affected by the Earthquake in Syria

The GNRC member Kids Future aided families affected by the earthquakes in February 2023. They set up tents, provided basic needs such as food and clothing, and secured land rent for them. Medicines and nebulizers needed to treat children with bronchitis and other diseases during the winter season were provided.



GNRC MEMBERS AT WORK: GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS



Argentina

Preventing Child Sexual Abuse

GNRC members held a workshop to raise awareness of how to prevent child sexual abuse, attended by 110 men, women, and teachers, as well as 52 children and young people. They also organized a workshop for 58 young people on preventing sexually transmitted diseases.



Democratic Republic of Congo

Sewing For Peace

Amid the ongoing conflict in North Kivu, the purchase and distribution of sewing machines to school-going girls from vulnerable families significantly impacted the community.



Kenya

Preventing Violent Extremism, Gang Violence, and Organized Crime

GNRC members reached some 400 children at risk of being recruited by gang groups in Mombasa in their local schools and communities with programs based on the **Community Resilience Against Violent Extremism (CRAVE) Manual**.



Bhutan

Clothes Drives

GNRC members held several clothes drives for schools, benefiting approximately 516 children, 5 faith leaders, 15 teachers, and 107 adults.



Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Mexico

Prevenir—Protecting Children from Violence

Working to empower children at risk of being recruited by gang groups, children were equipped with various tools to increase their resilience and improve their livelihood.



Pakistan

Contributing to Ending Domestic Labor

The Provincial Coordination Forum to End Child Domestic Labor was established to address child domestic labor. Joining GNRC members, government representatives are committed to ending the abuse and exploitation of children.



Cameroon

"Together Like Bees"

In a marginalized village in Cameroon, GNRC members offered training for children and adults on building beehives, beekeeping, and living harmoniously, fostering a sense of unity among local residents.



India

Journey to Unity

This interfaith-intergenerational journey celebrated the cultural and religious diversity of the city of Coimbatore, bringing children and adults together to appreciate religious diversity.



Serbia

Promoting Learning to Live Together

GNRC members reminded children and youth of their rights via sensitization workshops.



South Sudan

Sports for Peace

A football tournament with 350 participants was held to promote peace among different tribes. Islamic and Christian leaders blessed the event with their attendance.



Sri Lanka

Supporting the Vulnerable

GNRC members set up a community kitchen to provide food to vulnerable families during the political and economic crisis, assisting 4,200 children, 180 teachers, and 250 pregnant/lactating mothers.



#EverydayHeroes

“

My motto for change and work is: **'INSPIRE. ACT. CHANGE!'**
My biggest success is when I see that one of my students made a positive **CHANGE** in the globe.

— Ms. Zvonimira Jakić, GNRC Youth Coordinator



COLLABORATING FOR GREATER IMPACT—STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS TO REACH THE MOST VULNERABLE CHILDREN

Maria Lucia Uribe

Director, Ethics Education for Children, and
Director, Arigatou International – Geneva

Children are disproportionately affected by the world's interrelated struggles—economic crises, climate change impacts, the growing number of migrants and refugees, violent conflicts, and the rising fragility of many States and regions, among others. At Arigatou International, we seek to respond by building respectful, effective collaborations and partnerships to address the factors that contribute to these issues that so negatively affect children.

Our collaborative initiatives employ unique processes to contribute to quality education in formal and non-formal educational settings around the world, foster intercultural and interfaith learning to promote social cohesion, and strengthen children's participation while promoting their holistic well-being.

One important focus is listening to local partners to find common ground, build on each other's strengths, value one another's expertise, and build synergies in ethical, compassionate, and respectful ways—all without compromising our principles and vision. This is not always easy, but I truly believe it is what we are called to do: to strengthen our common humanity as we work together, to collaborate and to strengthen our joint leadership.

NURTURING THE SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN IN THE EARLY YEARS

After four years of research and collaboration, in November 2022 the 22 organizations and individuals in the **Consortium on Nurturing Values and Spirituality in Early Childhood for the Prevention of Violence** launched an innovative resource for nurturing the spiritual development of children. Entitled “Nurturing the Spiritual Development of Children in the Early Years – A Contribution to the Protection of Children from Violence and the Promotion of Their Holistic Well-Being,” this toolkit is designed to equip faith actors to actively engage with parents, caregivers and educators and take an active role in addressing violence in early childhood.



The toolkit makes an original link between spiritual development and protecting children from violence. It makes this case by presenting research on the impact of violence against children in the early years, and by describing how nurturing children’s spiritual development acts as a means to promote safe, respectful, violence-free environments, build positive relationships between parents, caregivers, educators and children, and equip adults in these roles to create empowering experiences for children. It provides specific curricula and guidance on a multi-level cascading style of implementation designed to reach families far and wide, with learning programs for both adults and children, as well as in-depth guide for trainers, facilitators, implementing organizations, religious leaders, and more.

GET THE NINE BOOKLETS OF THE TOOLKIT [HERE](#)

Convened by Arigatou International in 2018, the Consortium brings together civil society and faith-based organizations, religious and spiritual communities, multilateral organizations, academia, and individual experts.

“

With the influential role of the faith communities, the toolkit can be used to break the silence and stigma around violence against children. It can also be used to question the social and cultural norms that condone violence against children in all settings, including in the circle of trust.

— Dr. Najat Maalla M’jid, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children, and member of the Consortium

What’s next?

The toolkit will be implemented in 2023 by Pastoral da Criança in Brazil, Shanti Ashram in India, World Vision and the Franciscan Sisters in Mexico, and Islamic Relief in Pakistan. A collaboration with the Global Center for the Development of the Whole Child at the University of Notre Dame is in place to co-develop the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework for a 2-year pilot implementation in the four locations. Partners in Kenya, Tanzania, Thailand and Sri Lanka are also preparing to implement it in their organizations.

This implementation is supported by Porticus North America and the Fetzer Institute.



ETHICS EDUCATION FELLOWSHIP TO CONTRIBUTE TO GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP AND BUILD INCLUSIVE AND PEACEFUL SOCIETIES

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Ethics education is at the center of our planning of transforming education. It is much more important to have ethics at the center of given education rather than to have a good school infrastructure, teacher training, books and modern technologies by which we are providing it.

— Dr. Dipu Moni, Minister of Education, Bangladesh

The Ethics Education Fellowship program has unfolded across Bangladesh, Indonesia, Kenya, Mauritius, Nepal, and Seychelles, with a focus on strengthening the sustainable delivery of ethics education programs for children in formal education settings.

This initiative brings together six ministries of education and UNESCO National Commissions. They have all made institutional commitments and are working hand



in hand to integrate ethics education within national curricula, in order to advance global citizenship and build more peaceful, inclusive societies.

The Ethics Education Fellowship builds the capacity of teachers to foster positive relationships with learners and empower them to become active citizens and agents of positive change.

The Fellowship kicked off with a Train the Trainers Workshop held October 3-9, 2022, where 30 fellows, including ministry officers, school principals, teachers, professors, lecturers, teacher trainers, and curriculum developers, gathered in Indonesia. The fellows will now conduct national training workshops for teachers in their respective countries. The 323 trained teachers will implement ethics education programs in schools expected to reach 4,430 children.

This collaborative effort is made possible through a partnership between Arigatou International, the Guerrand-Hermès Foundation for Peace, KAICIID International Dialogue Centre, the Muslim Council of Elders, the UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa, and the UNESCO New Delhi Cluster Office, in collaboration with the National Commissions for UNESCO of the participating countries.

6 ministries of education involved

30 fellows trained as trainers

323 teachers trained to implement the program with children

4,430 children to be reached



PRAYER AND ACTION FOR CHILDREN: MOBILIZING COMMUNITIES TO PROTECT CHILDREN ON THE MOVE

Rebeca Rios-Kohn

Director, Prayer and Action for Children, and
Director, Arigatou International – New York

Our flagship advocacy event, the World Day of Prayer and Action for Children, is reaching more and more organizations, people of goodwill, child rights advocates, children, and youth. Commemorated annually on November 20 with GNRC members and other key partners, the World Day is a symbolic occasion for raising the status of the child and creating interfaith spaces for spiritual reflection and inspiration.

Beyond the annual celebration, we are promoting year-round action to improve the lives of children worldwide. Our Ending Violence Lab equips participants—both children and adults—with advocacy skills for ending child marriage, preventing online child sexual abuse and exploitation, ensuring children's access to fundamental rights, and supporting the meaningful participation of children in policymaking.

In 2022, we launched the World Day from the emblematic city of Rome, bringing together diverse leaders committed to inspiring local faith communities to protect the unprecedented number of child refugees. Yet, as all the indicators show, greater action is needed on all fronts. The COVID-19 pandemic set back childhood and children's rights worldwide in many areas, not least health and education, particularly for those children who live in the poorest and most marginalized communities and the countless children who were forced to flee their homes to escape violence, poverty, or persecution. Going forward, we are determined to ensure our Prayer and Action for Children initiative reaches them wherever they are.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER AND ACTION FOR CHILDREN 2022

In 2022, Arigatou International and UNICEF were joined by 16 child-focused organizations to plan the World Day of Prayer and Action for Children.

World Day 2022 focused on the rights and needs of the more than 37 million children who are on the move. Regardless of the reasons for displacement, children risk their lives on these journeys and face common risks in transit, at destination and upon return, including economic or sexual exploitation, abuse, neglect, and violence. Through activities worldwide and the symposium, **"Protecting Children's Dignity! A Call to Action for Children on the Move,"** held in Rome November 17-18, 2022, the World Day presented a platform for multi-stakeholder advocacy for these children.

LEARN MORE [HERE](#)

The moral imperative to advocate for the dignity of children on the move was captured in the **Joint Statement** presented in Rome. It represents the commitment of 16 organizations.

The Symposium in Rome convened:

+65
speakers



23 organizations
representing
8 different
FAITH
communities



+95
participants

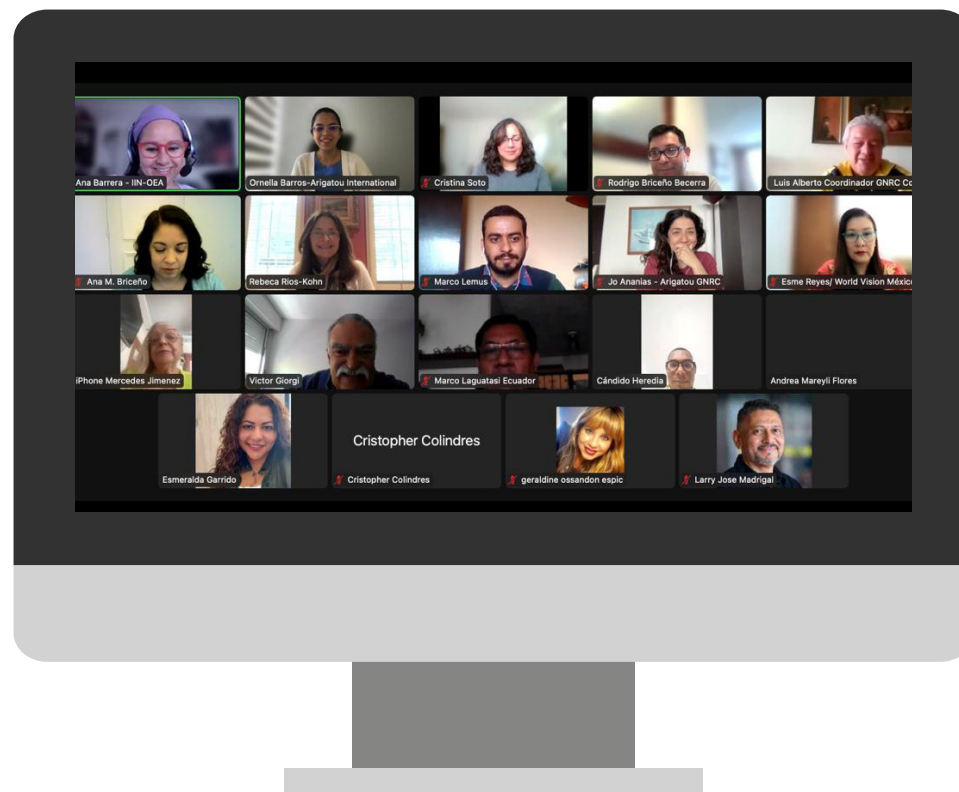
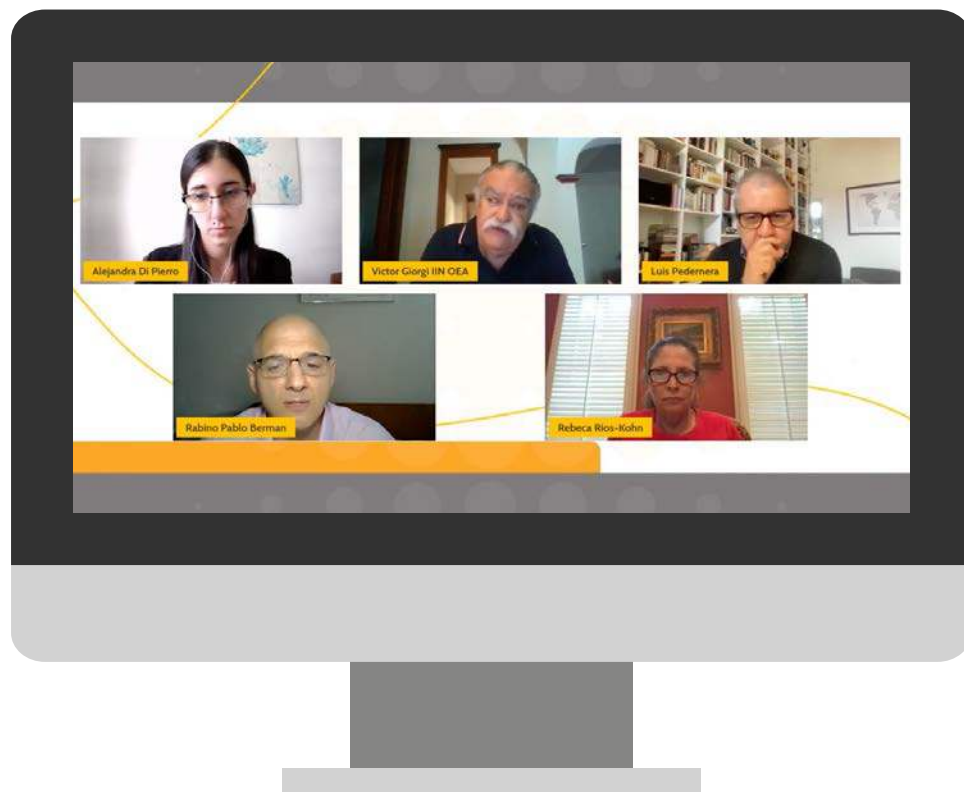


+300
joined **online**
including **CHILDREN** and
YOUTH



"FAITH AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS" ONLINE COURSE

In July 2022, Arigatou International – New York and GNRC Latin America and the Caribbean launched the "Faith and Children's Rights" online course in collaboration with the OAS–Interamerican Children's Institute. The 8-week course is based on the multi-religious study, *Faith and Children's Rights*, conducted and published by Arigatou International, UNICEF and other partners in 2019. The course builds multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral collaboration by allowing participants to learn about the commonalities among the values shared by diverse religions and the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Accompanying the course, an online dialogue was held, with 47 participants, including 28 GNRC members and States' representatives from the Latin America and Caribbean region.





COMMEMORATING 10 YEARS OF END CHILD POVERTY

Fred Nyabera

Director, Interfaith Initiative to End Child Poverty

We recently celebrated the 10th anniversary of the End Child Poverty Initiative, with immense gratitude for the unwavering support and dedication that has propelled our mission forward. Together, we have made significant strides in our pursuit to eradicate child poverty, touching the lives of countless children and families. As we reflected on our achievements, we renewed our commitment to this critical cause and pledged to continue our relentless efforts to build a future where every child can thrive, unburdened by the chains of poverty. We are committed to act, advocate, educate and collaborate to achieve lasting positive impacts and prevent any child from experiencing poverty.

ECP@10

The **ECP@10 Campaign, “All Out to End Child Poverty: Looking Back, Forging Ahead,”** marked the 10th anniversary of our End Child Poverty initiative, which was launched at the GNRC Fourth Forum in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, in 2012. The campaign began on June 16, 2022, on the Day of the African Child, providing opportunities for children to share their views on child poverty while calling on leaders and policymakers to do more to address it. Conversations among children and adults, including faith leaders, academia, and researchers, shaped the agenda. The campaign attracted 110 pledges from individuals and organizations in areas such as advocating for policy and social change, promoting education and awareness, enhancing capacity building, fostering child participation, and taking action on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

One notable accomplishment of the ECP@10 Campaign was the “Grow Trees With Children” initiative, which sought to highlight the climate crisis and its disproportionate impact on children, especially those already living in poverty. Recent analyses by the World Bank estimate that climate change could push an additional 68 to 135 million people into poverty by 2030. During the campaign, GNRC members and other partners donated and planted over **23,000 trees and tree seedlings** in various countries, including Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Comoros, Ghana, India, Kenya, Malawi, Moldova, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and Uganda.

SEE THE CAMPAIGN REPORT, **“GOING ALL OUT TO END CHILD POVERTY”**



CELEBRATING THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY— PROMOTING DIGNITY FOR ALL CHILDREN

We celebrated the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (IDEP) on October 17, 2022, with the theme “Dignity for All in Practice: The Commitments We Make Together for Social Justice, Peace and the Planet.” The commemoration of IDEP 2022 recognized the progress made toward ending poverty, particularly child poverty, since the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

End Child Poverty commemorated IDEP 2022 along with the ECP@10 Campaign in collaboration with the GNRC and key partner organizations. We organized commemorative events with partners from more than 20 countries throughout the month of October to encourage actions to overcome child poverty. Actions ranged from planting tree seedlings to advocacy dialogue with government leaders, to launching innovative social initiatives addressing child poverty, to organizing education sessions with children.

We also joined the International Movement ATD Fourth World and members of the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty as they led the global IDEP 2022 commemoration at United Nations Headquarters in New York. Speaking at the event, Sanara (18), a child member of GNRC Sri Lanka, representative of the Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement, and participant in our SDGs Academy for Children, stated:

“

The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is most important for me because today my voice becomes the voice of millions of children across my country and around the world as well.

20

**countries in which IDEP
was commemorated**

110

**pledges to combat
child poverty**

150

**children supported
through scholarships**

180

**faith actors reached through
trainings and dialogue forums**

515

**households received
training on climate
smart agriculture**

3,000

**children reached through
the SDGs Academy**

23,000

trees planted

1 million

**people reached through media
platforms and campaigns**

EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, AND FAITH ACTORS TO TAKE GRASSROOTS ACTION

Throughout the year under review, we accompanied and supported young people, religious leaders, and other faith actors leading local peace initiatives in Kenya, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Sudan, Somalia, Tanzania, and Uganda through the **Eastern and Horn of Africa Regional Peace Programme (RPP)**, supported by Norwegian Church Aid. Under the RPP, we directly reached over 180 faith actors with training and dialogue programs, indirectly impacted more than one million people via radio and other media, and held public events in collaboration with government agencies and other partners.

In promoting education for children, we provided significant support, including **scholarships**, to over **150 children** through the Amani Village of Hope-Kenya and the Meethotamulla Children's Empowerment Centre and End Child Poverty Knowledge Centre in Sri Lanka.

Additionally, we forged a collaboration with the Organization of African Instituted Churches (OIAIC) to implement Project Nutrition+, which brought training to **515 households** in climate-smart agricultural practices and nutrition. This project also facilitated the establishment of **120 demonstration farms** and **18 seed banks**, thereby creating sustainable solutions.

These flagship initiatives are designed to address the underlying causes of child poverty by promoting theological reflection, advocating for change, and mobilizing communities to lead impactful grassroots responses that tackle the structural and systemic drivers of poverty.



CHOOSE A TOOL!

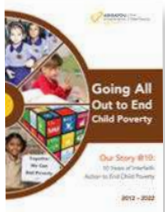
Arigatou International works hard to provide creative, useful resources for all those working to build a better world for children. Working closely with partners, doing thorough field-testing, and consulting children themselves, each tool is developed to address a specific need for capacity-building and empowerment. All are shared free of charge. This section introduces a few of the main resources available now.



Toolkit — Nurturing the Spiritual Development of Children in the Early Years

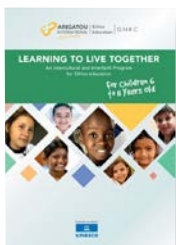
A Contribution to the Protection of Children from Violence and the Promotion of Their Holistic Well-Being

Download the Toolkit [here](#)



Going All Out to End Child Poverty Our Story at 10: Interfaith Action to End Child Poverty

Download the guide [here](#)



Learning to Live Together: An Intercultural and Interfaith Program for Ethics Education for Children

For working with children ages 6 to 11
Download the manual [here](#)

For working with children 12 and above
Download the manual [here](#)



Guide for the Prevention of Violence against Children and Adolescents

Published by the Alliance for the Protection of Children in Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico

Download the guide in Spanish [here](#)



Faith and Children's Rights: A Multi-religious Study on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)

Available [here](#) in English, Spanish and an executive summary in French



Advocating for Children's Rights and Well-Being: An Interfaith Approach

Available [here](#) in English and Spanish



For more Arigatou International publications, visit us [here](#) online.

GLOBAL AND REGIONAL ADVOCACY

Championing Ethics Education and Nurturing Children's Spiritual Development

Migrant and Refugee Children: The Power of Ethics Education and Faith-Sensitive Approaches for Children's Well-being

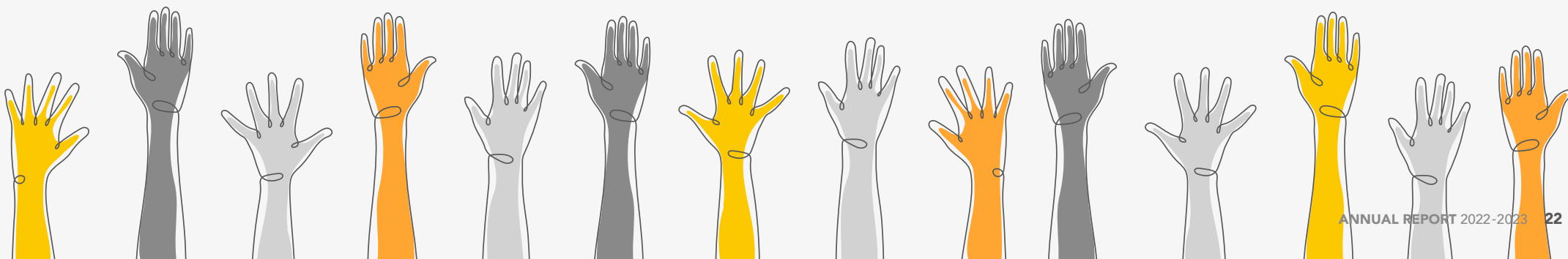
Transforming Education in Africa to Advance Peace and Resilience

Working Collaboratively to Promote the Rights of Children Worldwide

Transforming Education Worldwide: The Impact of the *Learning to Live Together* Program

WORKING TOGETHER TO REACH MORE CHILDREN

SEE THE DOZENS OF PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS WE WORK WITH AROUND THE WORLD [HERE](#).

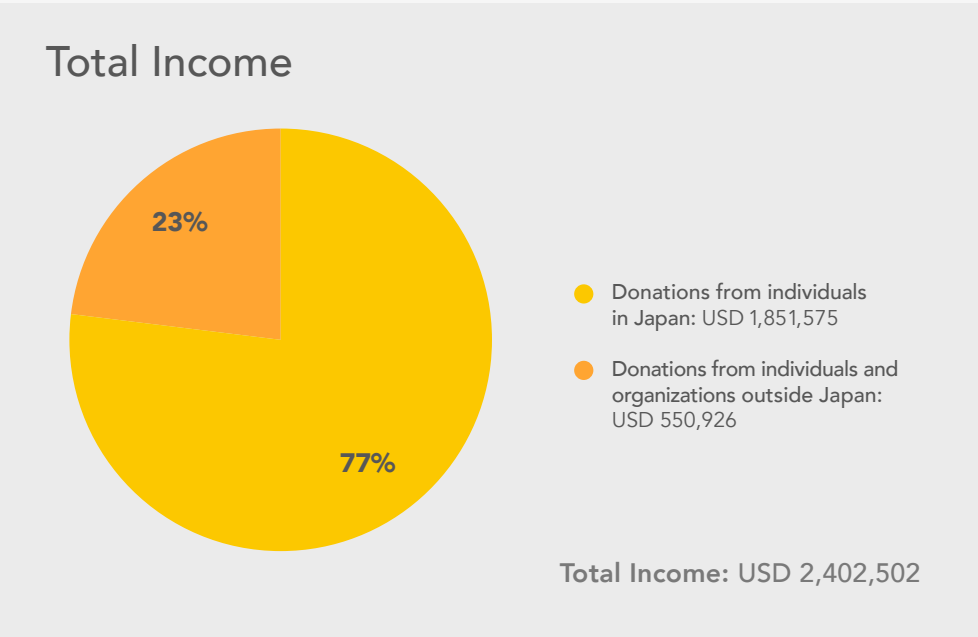


FINANCIAL INFORMATION

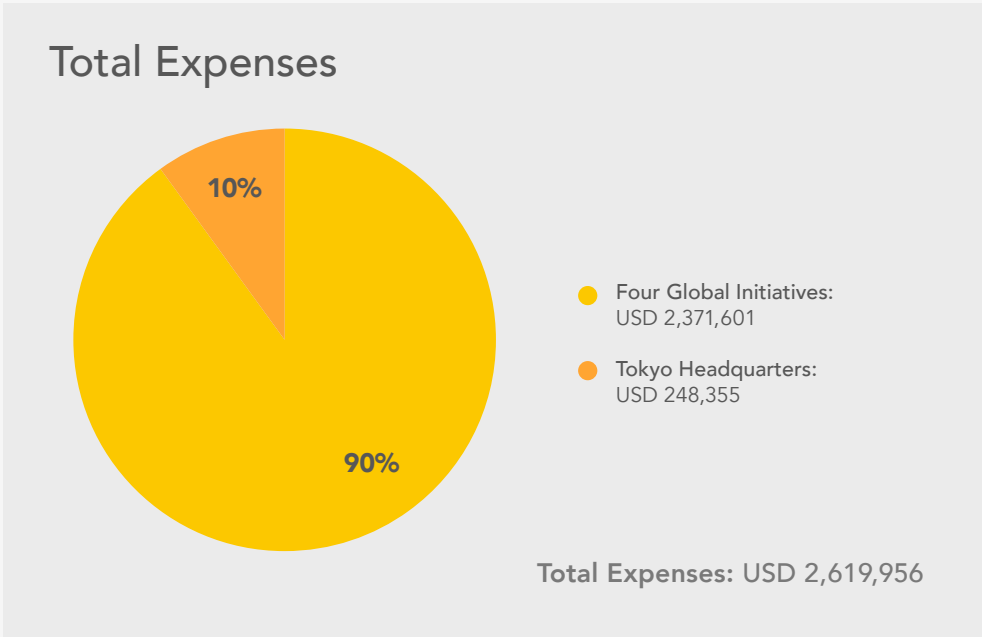
The majority of Arigatou International’s funding comes from donations made by individual donors in Japan who support the organization’s mission. The work of the organization around the world is also supported by many volunteers, by in-kind and financial contributions from project collaborators, as well as by project- or partnership-based grants from foundations or other institutional donors.

Much of Arigatou International’s work involves catalyzing, mobilizing, equipping and inspiring other organizations and individuals. We participate in multi-stakeholder partnerships and apply our resources in a targeted manner that capitalizes on our globally unique core competencies in interfaith cooperation and children’s empowerment and participation. In this way, we seek to strategically expand the direct and indirect impact of every contribution and grant we receive. Arigatou International is profoundly grateful to all who support its efforts to build a better world for children.

April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023



April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023



Notes: Original figures in Japanese yen for individual donations in Japan were translated to US dollars at 133.94 yen to 1 dollar.
Due to the impact of the strong depreciation of the Japanese Yen the exchange rate difference over the total expenses resulted in USD 217,454.46
*Tokyo Headquarters expenses include assistance for children’s participation in educational and other programs, and general administrative expenses.

Arigatou International contributes to the progress of the localization efforts by supporting and strengthening the capacity of the local grassroots organizations of the Global Network of Religions for Children to access and manage funding opportunities from international donors with the goal to further the local implementation of the Arigatou International “All for Children” approaches.

GOVERNANCE

Governance and Operating Structure

Arigatou International is a registered general non-profit corporation in Japan whose mission is to build a better world for children.

It was established in 1990 as the Arigatou Foundation by the Japanese Buddhist organization, Myochikai. Arigatou International is governed by a Board of Councilors and a Board of Directors, in accordance with Japanese law. To learn more visit our website [here](#).

The Arigatou International [Advisory Group](#) provides strategic advice on how Arigatou International can make the most of its unique initiatives to help build a world where every child gets to grow up safe and sound. Arigatou International is very grateful for the significant collaboration and contributions that the Advisory Group members are offering to its work.



Arigatou International

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