



Annual Report **2018**



1988–2018: 30 years of direct support to human rights defenders



About solidarity and stamina

Word from the Chair and the Executive Director

At the onset of the year, the NHRF celebrated three decades of solidarity work and collaboration with different actors in direct support to local and frontline human rights defenders. We asked our self: In these critical times when the human rights movement is facing heavy pressure from aggressive actions like legal restrictions, slanderous campaigns and threats – what does solidarity mean for those working in the frontlines of the human rights movement?

In 2018, the NHRF supported local human rights organizations in 16 countries, spanning 3 continents, whose work

focuses on marginalized and vulnerable groups' rights. In this report, we highlight some of the grantee organizations' achievements, our focus and work over the past year. We are proud to be able to witness the everyday passion and courageous willingness to stand up for the rights of the most marginalized and vulnerable, even when it comes at such a heavy price.

Last year, we had the opportunity to take a critical look at our own work and current strategy through a commissioned external evaluation. We are glad to see the conclusion of the evaluation:

«The NHRF comes across as a well-managed, highly needed, innovative, flexible, and compassionate fund.»

This evaluation finds that the NHRF has done a tremendous job since 2015 in becoming more strategic, more visible, and less vulnerable.

While the NHRF was originally established to provide support through grants, the evaluation confirms that our work to enhance the security of grantees and linking them to national and international mechanisms and networks,

is viewed as highly relevant and useful.

The NHRF used the 70th anniversary of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 20th anniversary of the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders to increasingly engage through social and traditional media, with a focus on what local human rights defenders do and their working conditions, as well as to reach out to new stakeholders for support. We are glad that we established new partnerships last year that will enhance local human rights defenders work in the time to come.

PHOTO: NHRF/MÓNICA ORJUELA

Front page picture:
Indonesian human rights defenders from Women and Youth Development Institute of Indonesia.
Photo: NHRF/Mónica Orjuela.

Graphic design:
Cockpit v/ Hege Bruun Høy



The Norwegian Human Rights Fund (NHRF) works to protect and promote human rights internationally through direct support to organizations working in the first line of defense for human rights. Established as a flexible donor, the NHRF has been able to take risks and support nascent initiatives which are targeted and smart, without intermediary links or time-consuming procedures.

The NHRF is anchored in Norwegian civil society organizations and institutions which contribute strategically, professionally and financially to the NHRF's work and are represented in its board. In 2018, the following were the owner organizations: Amnesty International Norway, Church of Norway Council on Ecumenical and International Relations, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions and The Atlas Alliance.

«These are bloody awful times for human rights», said UN Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Andrew Gilmour, at the NHRF 30th anniversary conference in November 2018. His candid sentiments are supported by several human rights reports, including the latest one (February 2019) from Amnesty International that points to a sweeping legal crisis wherein new, negative laws are adopted to limit human rights work. At times like these, solidarity is needed most, and the NHRF will continue to support the human rights movement throughout these challenging times. In all of this, the NHRF will continue its support. This year we will start strategic discussions on the way forward for the NHRF – preparing for a new strategy to be adopted at the end of next year. We will support the frontline defenders with means to do human rights work on the ground, work with partners and local human rights defenders to strengthen the visibility of their work, strengthen efforts towards networking for solidarity and to include new stakeholders in the struggle, and most importantly, demonstrate that solidarity means, among many other things, to continue even when the going gets rough!

Kathrine Fauske
Chair of the Board

Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO)

Sandra Petersen
Executive Director

Norwegian Human Rights Fund (NHRF)



Panel conversation at the NHRF anniversary conference. From the left: UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; Michel Forst; NHRF advisory board member Mary Lawlor, Norwegian State Secretary Audun Halvorsen and UN Assistant Secretary General Andrew Gilmour.

Activity highlights from 2018

- 32 organizations in 16 countries supported with grants.
- Support to 140 HRDs to participate in Forum Asia Bi-Annual Human Rights Defenders Forum, including grantees from India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Thailand.
- Support to the 20th anniversary of the Asian Federation of Involuntary Disappearances in the Philippines, where 3 HRDs from grantees in Mexico, Colombia and Indonesia participated.
- Capacity building and security work for 5 grantee organizations in Colombia, with SweFOR.
- Over 200 HRDs told their story on the #Idefendrights initiative in English, French and Spanish.
- A weeklong celebration of NHRF's 30 years of support to human rights work, with over 230 participants in 6 events in Norway, including an anniversary conference at the Nobel Peace Center.
- Positive external evaluation of the NHRF conducted by Scanteam that included field visits in Colombia and Sri Lanka, and meeting with grantees from Asia in Bali.
- Active participation in networks: Colombia Forum, Central America Forum, NGO forum for Human Rights, Forum 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and the Norwegian Dalit Solidarity Network as well as the International Dalit Solidarity Network.
- The NHRF engaged with donor networks such the Nordic network and Human Rights Funders Network, as well as actors and mechanisms within protection and security.



NHRF project coordinator Liv Hernæs Kvanvig (to the left) at the AFAD anniversary.

PHOTO: NHRF/MÓNICA ORJUELA

2018 at a glance

60
PROJECTS
WERE ONGOING IN

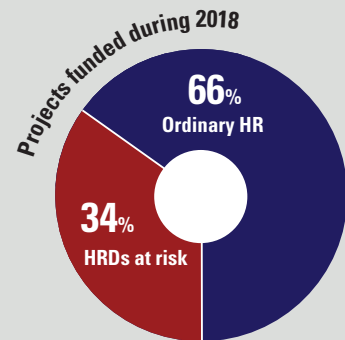
16
COUNTRIES*

32
PROJECTS WERE
FUNDED DURING 2018

**The NHRF funds project throughout the whole year which means there are always more projects in the portfolio than those funded in a year.*

49
HRDs
at NHRF seminars

local human rights defenders attended NHRF seminars in Mexico, Colombia and Indonesia.



SUPPORTED PROJECTS PER STRATEGIC PRIORITY**



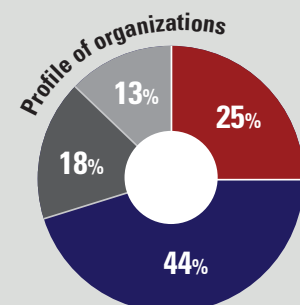
Over 200 women from all over Colombia participated in a symbolic act against the near total impunity in cases of violence against women organised in Bogotá, December 10th, by grantee Confluencia de Mujeres.

ORGANIZATIONS FUNDED IN 2018
WITH **WOMEN** IN
LEADERSHIP POSITIONS



41 % of organizations funded in 2018 were headed by women

78 % of the funded organizations had women as a specific target group in the project



Less than USD 50 000
Between USD 50 001 and 100 000
Between USD 100 001 and 150 000
More than USD 150 000

**NHRF supported projects per strategic priority overlap. Several of the projects fall within two or more of these categories.

«We feel a pain. That pain is the threat to our land, and the threat to our land is a threat to our lives.»

MARIBEL CERVANTES, HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER FROM CDH BETY CARÍÑO, MEXICO

Land and environmental human rights defenders are living under increasing pressure from states and non-state actors. Their situation has been described as a «global crisis» by the Special Rapporteur for Human Rights and the Environment. In 2018, the NHRF supported 12 projects on land and environment in 6 countries.



Red Sur Baranquilla in Colombia uses radio, dance and creativity to empower kids and youth from marginalized communities to become future leaders and build a peaceful society. «With rights there is peace».

Work against discrimination

Support to marginalized groups and individuals is at the core of the NHRF’s mandate. Priority is given to projects where both social and economic factors come into play, such as gender, caste, work, income, descent, religion, among others. Gender is the strongest area of discrimination, according to an internal

review of projects supported within this strategic line from 2016 to mid-2018, with workers and caste in second and third place.

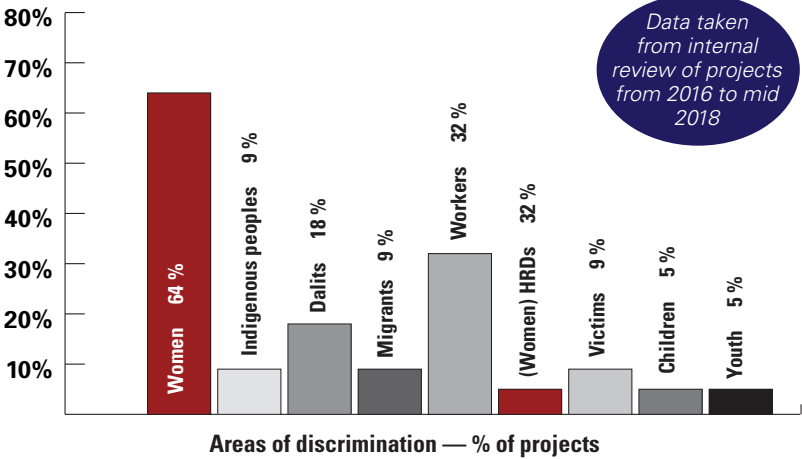
Most projects within this strategic line are located in India, but there are also projects in Liberia, Mexico, Pakistan, Colombia, Indonesia and Nigeria.

Overarching results

Grantees that have been supported from 2016-2018 report that, to some or a large extent, they have achieved:

- Fulfilment of human rights 90 %
- End of marginalization of vulnerable individuals/groups 83 %
- End of discrimination 73 %

Survey from the external evaluation of the supported organizations between 2016 and October 2018.



Domestic workers in India

During recent years, urban slums have grown in Karnataka, India, taking a form of labor colonies, where the majority of unorganized workers stay. In Bangalore, the capital of Karnataka, there are approximately 5 000 domestic workers, working part time in several households, according to K.G.F. Women’s Association (KGFWA). KGFWA works on women’s and worker’s rights and has received support from the NHRF since 2014. The domestic workers are mostly dalit-women, with a difficult economic and social background. Many of them are migrants and live-in workers, which makes them more vulnerable for abuse, including sexual abuse and trafficking.

«The domestic workers are the silent, invisible backbone of the economy. They are treated as servants/slaves, are not given dignity, no identity, recognition, no regulation, protection or social security,» says Geeta Menon from K.G.F. Women’s Association.

Through the Dignity Project, KGFWA is restoring dignity for the domestic workers, through workers’ collectives. In 2018, more than 5 000 workers were reached with activities, such as trainings, workshops, campaigns, counselling and meeting places such as «domestic workers café» where women meet and



Domestic workers from KGFWA campaigning for their rights in Bangalore, India.

share experiences and dreams. Through these activities, women are enabled to address injustices they meet in work situations and collectively organize so that their demand stands stronger. Through their work, some domestic workers now have smart cards, which is a step towards informal workers accessing social security schemes.



Domestic workers with their labour union cards.



Sexual harassment and abuse have received much-needed attention through the #MeToo movement, which has helped counter societal norms by, among other things, holding even the most powerful male perpetrators accountable. In 2018, #MeToo shook India as well – from Bollywood to civil society and even the governmental level. In this picture are women from KGFWA at a demonstration against sexual harassment.



CDH Bety Cariño is fighting for the right of indigenous communities to be informed and organize themselves against the intrusion of extractive industries in their land, in Veracruz, Mexico.

Work against impunity and for access to justice

The NHRF prioritizes work aimed at ensuring full and equal access to justice, recognizing justice as the key component to combat impunity.

Most organizations funded in this strategic area exist to serve marginalized communities and to actively work against their discrimination. Many work

to seek justice and protection for indigenous communities that are vulnerable to the exploitation of extractive industries and other land and environmental abuses. The organizations use methods such as documenting human rights violations, promoting the visibility and empowerment of discriminated groups, preserving memories so future generations

will not forget and repeat the violations, and providing free legal assistance to ensure equal access to justice.

The majority of the organizations are from Mexico and Colombia, thus there is a focus on land, natural resources, enforced disappearances, torture, extrajudicial killings and peacebuilding. Projects within this strategic line were also supported in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Pakistan.

Overarching results

Grantees that have been supported from 2016–2018 report that, to some or a large extent, they have achieved:

- Access to justice 90 %
- Changes in national policy/ies 76 %
- Changes in national law/s 71 %
- Ceased impunity (to some extent) 60 %

Survey from the external evaluation of the supported organizations between 2016 and October 2018.



I(dh)eas has developed guidelines for both authorities and victims' collectives that they use in workshops with among other police forces.

Disappearances of women and girls in Mexico

I(dh)eas Strategic Human Rights Litigation (I(dh)eas) has succeeded in putting disappearances of women and girls in the state of Mexico on the national and international agenda.

«Although the crisis of the disappearance of people living in Mexico was known, no civil society organization, much less the authorities, had done any work to document from the local level the impact of this problem on women and girls.» (I(dh)eas)

I(dh)eas is a pioneer in Mexico in the use of litigation to defend cases of disappearances before the United Nations system. This has been instrumental for putting political pressure on the federal and local authorities, for documentation, for making the obstacles that obstruct access to justice visible, and for advancing implementation, says Jérémy Renaux, deputy director in I(dh)eas.

Through working with five victims' collectives and using methods such as documentation, legal aid, awareness raising and advocacy, I(dh)eas has supported the search and investigation of the 2 363 women and girls that are missing in the state of Mexico.

In July 2018, the National Commission for the Prevention and Eradication of Violence against Women (CONAVIM) admitted the request for a Declaration of Alert for Gender Violence (AVGM) for the disappearance of women, adolescents and girls in the state of Mexico. The implementation of urgent measures to prevent, investigate, punish and combat the disappearance of women in this entity will be a process that I(dh)eas will continue to monitor and promote in collaboration with the victims' collectives in the state of Mexico.

Global movement against disappearances

The NHRF supports victims' groups of disappearances not only in Mexico, but in Colombia, Sri Lanka and Indonesia as well. In June 2018, Asian Federation



«I'm deeply inspired by the mothers of missing people,» says Jérémy Renaux, holding the white banner (left), marching with mothers of disappeared on Mother's Day.»

Against Involuntary Disappearance (AFAD) marked their 20th anniversary with the slogan «Decade three: Fight to be free». Through the support of NHRF, I(dh)eas, MOVICE Antioquia in Colombia and SKP-HAM in Indonesia participated at the conference. «This conference has given me more confidence as I observed that there is a strong global movement of civil society organizations against

enforced disappearances. It has been really useful to learn from other HRD's about the context in their respective countries, the similarities and the differences with the Mexican situation, as well as the Asian civil society's strategies to combat this scourge and the challenges they face,» says Jérémy Renaux, who attended the conference.



Pictures of disappeared people in Sri Lanka, in a protest tent organized by mothers from Affected Families Forum (AFF). (Photo: AFF)



NEW TOOLS AND STRATEGIES IN HUMAN RIGHTS WORK

Director of the Nobel Peace Center Liv Tørres leads panel conversation on new tools and strategies for human rights work, with Louis Bickford from Memria, Emelie Wieslander from Malmö Rescue Archives, Thenmozhi Soundararajan – Dalit activist and director of Equality Labs and Horia Mosadiq – founder of Safety and Risk Mitigation Organization in Afghanistan.



PHOTO: UNA NORWAY

MAYOR OF OSLO Marianne Borgen at seminar for high school students, co-hosted with the Norwegian UN Association at Nobel Peace Center.

IN NOVEMBER THE NHRF marked 30 years of direct support to frontline human rights defenders. We celebrated by gathering grassroots human rights activists, academics, students, politicians, UN leaders, representatives from our own organizations, and Norwegian and international civil society organizations for five days of seminars, debates, networking, advocacy and discussions about the future of the defense of human rights.



PHOTOS: ALL PHOTOS EXCEPT THOSE MARKED DIFFERENTLY ARE TAKEN BY NHRF/MÓNICA ORJUELA



AFGHAN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER
Horia Mosadiq at the anniversary dinner in Oslo.



IN SEPTEMBER NHRF participated at the 8th Asian Regional Human Rights Defenders Forum in Bali and supported the participation of 140 human rights defenders, including representatives from eight grantee organizations. The NHRF contributed to a platform for Asian human rights defenders to discuss human rights work and advocacy and to share their experiences and challenges.

Women human rights defenders gathered in Bali.



NHRF ADVISORY BOARD member Miloon Kothari visited Oslo in August and gave a lecture at the Norwegian Center for Human Rights on the sustainable development goals and how they interact with human rights work.



MEMBERS OF THE NHRF Advisory Board discussed work against impunity, at the Norwegian Center for Human Rights. In the panel, from the left: Gerald Staberock from World Organisation Against Torture, Nora Sveaass and Jemima Garcia Godos, both professors at the University of Oslo. Facilitated by Gerald Folkvord from Amnesty Norway.

PHOTO: NHRF/MÓNICA ORJUELA

Human Rights Defenders Protection Grant

For the strategic area that promotes and supports human rights defenders at risk and better working conditions for them, the NHRF supported a total of 11 projects in 2018 that took place in 8 non-priority countries and 3 projects in 3 of our priority countries. In addition, the NHRF continued its support to ongoing projects in Honduras, as well as conducted special follow-up of local human rights organizations in Colombia as part of our partnership with SweFOR. Our inspiring and inexhaustible grantee partners have worked hard to increase membership/participants in their collaborative HRDs networks, to provide rapid response to HRDs through early warning alert systems, to monitor and document human rights violations against HRDs, to bring international recognition to the work of select HRDs that have demonstrated exceptional courage in their resistance, to help HRDs understand their human rights and how to use them, participated in UN reporting mechanisms, and so much more.

Our grantees that have been supported from 2016–2018 report that:

- 73% had improved working conditions for Human Rights Defenders: 20% to a large extent.

Survey from the external evaluation of the supported organizations between 2016 and October 2018.

Type of initiatives and support given to Human Rights Defenders at risk:**

- Awareness/community mobilization 44%
- Workshops/training 67%
- Legal aid 44%
- Distribution of educational or awareness materials 33%
- Advocacy on national and international level(s) 56%
- Networking 44%
- Documentation, monitoring, reporting 56%
- Security and protection 56%
- Other 22%

«Some of the largest achievements were that people who otherwise would have been killed have survived due to the protection provided.»

(From the NHRF external evaluation November 2018)

PREVENTIVE projects can be defined as long-term because they focus on methods and activities that are typically a long-term development in prevention, such as awareness raising, law changes, reporting and documenting violations, etc.

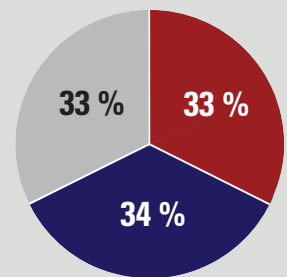
REACTIVE projects are responding directly and immediately to a crisis or HRDs in immediate need. They respond to the shrinking space for civil society by mobilizing HRDs and/or protecting them.

***Findings based on the assessment of all ongoing grantees from 2016 to August 2018.*

The current HRD strategy aims at supporting projects and organizations that protect HRDs in line with three identified priorities:

Type of countries that HRDs are supported in, through network and protection initiatives in 2018*

- Obstructed
- Repressed
- Closed

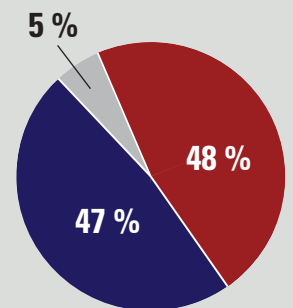


**Civicus rating of countries*



PREVENTIVE/REACTIVE SUPPORT

- Preventive
- Preventive & Reactive
- Reactive



A few HRD-project highlights

The NHRF has supported the **Cambodian Minority Rights Organization (MIRO)** since 2014. In 2018, they reported that, through their NHRF supported program, 50 Khmer Krom human rights activists received legal training workshops, over 200 persons received legal aid in human rights related cases, and 16 human rights defenders have improved their security and working conditions, including release from imprisonment for three detained Khmer Krom activists.

From 2014, the NHRF has supported **INFORM Documentation Center** working on protection of HRDs at Risk and in exile in Sri Lanka and South Asia. In 2018, INFORM supported 17 HRDs at risk. They collaborated with other organizations to provide trainings and capacity building to women HRDs and HRDs located in rural areas. INFORM, along with other civil society organizations, gathered at the end of 2018 to express

their opposition to the drafting of an amendment that would require mandatory registration for any group involved in civil society work. Their efforts led to the withdrawal of the amendment by the government.

The NHRF supported the **Pakistan Human Rights Defenders Network's** advocacy work in 2017 and 2018, working for positive actions from the national human rights institution and the government. On December 10, the National Commission for Human Rights launched its guidelines for protection of human rights defenders (see picture below).

«The NCHR appreciates the hard work and support of Pakistan Human Rights Defenders Network for facilitating the consultative process.»

(Chairperson of NCHR Justice (R) Ali Nawaz Chowhan).



Trough legal assistance, advocacy and capacity building, MIRO fights for the rights of minorities in Cambodia including human rights defenders.



Exchange of experiences on protection strategies and work between Sri Lanka and the newly formed Sindh Human Rights Defenders Network (SHRDN) in Pakistan. Above from the left, Ruki Fernando from Inform and Ali Pahl from SHRDN, October 2018.



An advocacy milestone for Pakistan Human Rights Defenders Network: launching of protection guidelines by the national human rights institution.

Human Rights Perception Index

The NHRF Human Rights Perception Index (HRPI) measures the perception of the human rights situation on the ground amongst NHRF-supported local grass-roots organizations. In 2017, the first annual HRPI survey was sent to NHRF grantees to ask about their perceptions of the current human rights situation in their local contexts. The second annual survey was sent in 2018 and the data collected tells us that: 62 % of the res-

pondents perceive a negative change in the overall human rights situation in their country. However, only 48 % report a deterioration at local level, which is an improvement of 8 % from last year.

46 % of the grantees report that laws or policies have been changed for the worse for the work of civil society. One Latin American grantee reported that «In less than one year they have passed

three laws restricting the actions of human rights defenders, as well as the criminalization of freedom of expression.»

Still, 86 % of the respondents are positive about the future of their work, a slight increase from last year. One grantee explains this optimism with «We will continue any way».



The Mexican Lawyers collective I(dh) eas uses strategic litigation in their work for the defense of human rights.

	NO it remains the same	YES it has improved	YES it has deteriorated
Has the overall human rights situation in your country changed during the course of 2018?	27%	11%	62%
Has the human rights situation in your local area (city, state, province, etc.) changed during the course of 2018?	41%	11%	48%
	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Are there laws in your country that restrict civil society organisations' work and are not in line with your country's human rights obligations?	45%	39%	16%
Have there been any changes in laws and policies in your country during the course of 2018 that affect civil society organisations' possibilities to carry out their work?	46%	34%	20%
Are you optimistic about the possibilities for your organisation to continue your human rights work in 2019?	86%	2%	12%

Communications

PHOTO: NHRF/MÓNICA ORJUELA



LOUIS BICKFORD (MEMRIA) AND SARAH MCMAINS (NHRF) COLLECTING HUMAN RIGHTS STORIES AT THE NOBEL PEACE CENTRE. In 2018 NHRF continued the I Defend Rights project together with Memria. The initiative aims to collect and disseminate the stories of human rights defenders all over the world, celebrate them as essential agents of change, and foster global narratives that support their work.



MARTIN ENNALS AWARD

The NHRF continued its support to The Martin Ennals Award – an annual prize for human rights defenders. The finalists and laureate are selected by a jury of 10 of the world's leading human rights organizations. The award provides protection and support to human rights defenders at risk and helps to increase visibility for and awareness of the important work of all human rights defenders. The finalists were presented in the fall of 2018 and supported through advocacy and communication efforts throughout the fall. The finalists were Abdul Aziz from Sudan (from the left in the banner), Eren Keskin from Turkey, and Marino Cordoba Berrio from Colombia. Abdul Aziz Muhamat was announced laureate during a ceremony in Geneva in February 2019.



MONICA ORJUELA FILMING, INDIA.

In 2018 NHRF developed our communication work, focusing on the audiovisual. The NHRF produced and published a series of short films and videos of human rights defenders working in India, Indonesia, Mexico and Colombia. NHRF's engagement in social media grew more than tenfold, and a podcast covering our events was established at the end of the year.



NEWS COVERAGE: In 2018 we celebrate both the 20th anniversary of the UN Declaration of Human Rights. And, during the year, the NHRF wrote various op-eds, and many of the HRDs visiting Norway were interviewed by Norwegian press.

Grantee seminars during 2018

PHOTO: NHRF/MÓNICA ORJUELA



Grantees from Asia, at the first ever seminar in Indonesia.



Seminar in Mexico City for all grantees, with representatives from the Norwegian Embassy, and grantee from Honduras.



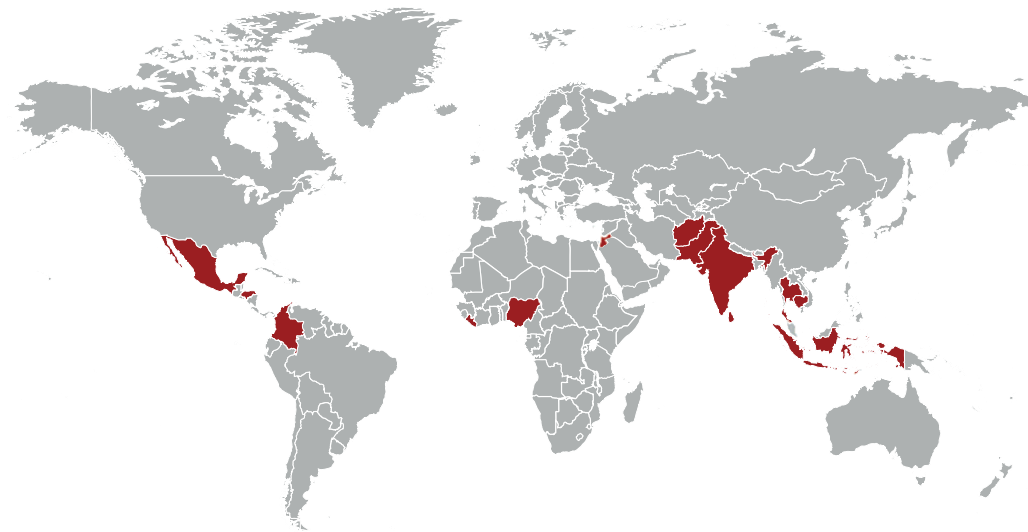
Workshop on security for human rights defenders in Colombia, with Somos Defensores and PBI Colombia.



Seminar in Bogota for all Colombian grantees.



Challenges and opportunities mapped out by Mexican grantees.



Organizations supported in 2018

Afghanistan

- Safety and Risk Mitigation Organization

Cambodia

- Minority Rights Association

Colombia

- Asociación red de Defensores y Defensoras de Derechos Humanos
- Asociación de Víctimas por la Paz y el Desarrollo
- Red Sur Barranquilla
- Comité de Integración Social del Catatumbo
- Confluencia de Mujeres para la Acción Pública
- Corporación Regional para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos-CREDHOS
- Fundación Las Dos Orillas
- Madres y familiares de los casos de ejecuciones extrajudiciales en Soacha, Bogotá y otras ciudades de Colombia
- Movimiento de Víctimas de Crímenes de Estado - Capítulo Antioquia

Global/Regional

- Martin Ennals Foundation
- Women Human Rights Defenders International Coalition
- Asian Federation Against Involuntary Disappearances

- Network support to the Asian Forum for Human Rights
- Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development

Honduras

- Asociación Madre Tierra

India

- Rights Education and Development Centre
- MARPU Society
- Prarambha
- K.G.F. Women's Association
- Sanchaya Nele
- Jeeva
- Centre for the Sustainable use of Natural and Social Resources

Indonesia

- Commission for «the Disappeared» and Victims of Violence of North Sumatra (Kontras Sumut)
- Ikatan Keluarga Orang Hilang Indonesia (Indonesian Association of the Families of the Disappeared)
- The Solidarity for Human Rights Violation Victims Central Sulawesi (SKP-HAM)
- Women and Youth Development Institution of Indonesia

Israel / OPT

- Human Rights Defenders Fund

Liberia

- Forum for Women Rights Defense
- West Point Women for Health and Development Organization
- Women Solidarity, Inc (WOSI)

Mexico

- Centro de derechos humanos de los pueblos del Sur de Veracruz Bety Cariño
- Centro de Derechos Humanos Digna Ochoa AC
- Centro Regional de Defensa de Derechos Humanos "José Ma. Morelos y Pavón" A.C.
- Colectivo Contra la Tortura y la Impunidad A.C.
- Conservación, Investigación y Aprovechamiento de los Recursos Naturales A.C.
- I(dh) eas, Litigio Estratégico en Derechos Humanos A.C.
- Organización Familia Pasta de Conchos
- Tequio Jurídico A.C.
- Un Mundo Una Nación A.C.
- Instituto Mexicano de Derechos Humanos y Democracia
- Centro de Derechos Humanos Fray Francisco de Vitoria

Nigeria

- Federation of Informal Workers' Organizations of Nigeria

Pakistan

- Digital Rights Foundation
- Green Rural Development Organization
- Sindh Human Rights Defenders through Rights Now Pakistan
- Pakistan Human Rights Defenders Network through Democratic Commission for Development

Sri Lanka

- Affected Families Forum
- Human Rights Office Kandy
- INFORM Human Rights Documentation Centre

Thailand

- Thai Poor Act
- Friends Without Borders Foundation
- Human Rights Lawyers Association



PHOTO: NHRF/MÓNICA ORJUELA

NHRF owner organizations discussing solidarity across sectors. From the left: Morten Eriksen – Atlas Alliance, Kristin Sæther – Confederation of Trade Unions, Gentian Zyberi – Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, Berit Hagen Agøy – Church of Norway, and Jan Egeland – founder of the NHRF. Amnesty not present in the panel.

Administration and organization

The Secretariat

The NHRF has three full time staff consisting of Executive Director, Sandra Petersen, and Project Coordinators Halvard Hjermundrud as of mid September and Kristin Storaker Skutla-berg. In addition, the NHRF works with Communications Consultant, Mónica Orjuela; Accountant, Bjørg Haugstulen; and Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Sarah McMains. The NHRF wishes to thank Liv Hernæs Kvanvig for her work as Project Coordinator for the last 6 years until October this year. As well as the interns that contributed in 2018: Vanessa Leversen, Victoria Skeie and Hadi Rodwal.

The Board

The Board consists of one representative from each of the five owner organizations. Members of the Board in 2018 have been as follows:

- **Amnesty International Norway:** Sidsel Stanmore Andersen (deputy board member Tale Birkeland Hungnes)
- **Church of Norway Council on Ecumenical and International Relations:** Guro Almås (deputy board member Einar Tjelle)

- **Norwegian Centre for Human Rights:** Peris Sean Jones (deputy board member Knut D. Asplund)
- **Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions:** Ellen-Kathrine Fauske, Chair of the Board (deputy board member Terje Kalheim)
- **The Atlas Alliance:** Morten Eriksen (deputy board member Anders Strømsodd Hosar)

The Advisory Board

2018 was the first full year of interaction with our Advisory Board, and we are excited to see a solid footprint from the board members at various seminars and meetings organized by the NHRF throughout the year, including the 30th anniversary celebration in November. **Phil Robertson, Mary Lawlor, Gerald Staberock, Jemima Garcia-Godos, Nora Sveaass and Miloon Kothari**

The Consultants

A special thanks to the local consultants for their work in 2018: **PAKISTAN:** Zulfiqar Shah **COLOMBIA:** Mildrey Corrales **INDIA:** Mathews Philip **MEXICO:** Agnieszka Raczynska



PHOTO: NHRF/MÓNICA ORJUELA

Internships

The NHRF receives interns from the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights and, beginning in 2018, Bjørknes University College. «Being an intern at NHRF gave me valuable experience, contemporary perspectives and opportunities, which I believe will help shape and influence my professional life forever», says Hadi Rodwal, to the left in the picture above, with UN Special Rapporteur Michel Forst.

External Evaluation

The NHRF underwent an external evaluation conducted by Scanteam as part of our framework agreement with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign



PHOTO: NHRF/MÓNICA ORJUELA

Secretariat and consultants from Colombia, Mexico and India (Pakistan missing), 2018.

Affairs. The evaluation team consisted of people based in Norway, Colombia and Sri Lanka. The evaluation found that the strategic priorities of the NHRF are highly relevant and that many grantees «feel at home» under these priorities. The evaluation concluded that «The NHRF is found to contribute important, relevant and appreciated added value to their grantees beyond financial support. Most importantly are perhaps

the efforts made in connecting the grantees to relevant human rights organizations, bodies and mechanisms, nationally, and internationally.» The evaluation team visited grantees in Sri Lanka and Colombia, and attended the grantee seminar in Bali, as well as the anniversary conference in Oslo. The NHRF wishes to thank Scanteam for good cooperation and providing a thorough evaluation.



PHOTO: SCANTEAM

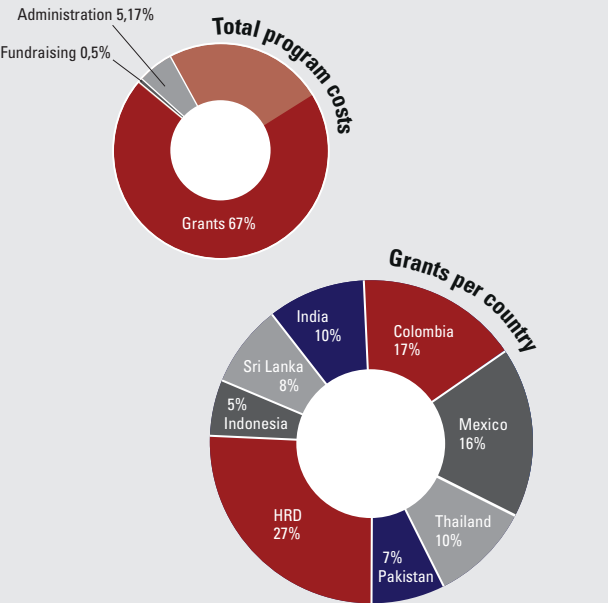
Scanteam interviewing human rights defenders from Colombian grantee Credhos.

Accounts

The majority of the budget was covered by a framework agreement from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The remaining part of the budget was covered by the owner organizations of the NHRF and other donations. The NHRF is happy to have received generous support from private donations such as the Jamette og Sverre Markussens Hjelpes-fond and the Kriss Lee Music Festival, in addition to Fagfor-bundet, among others. We will continue to work with our owners, new partners and to seek new partnerships to increase our support to local human rights defenders on the ground in the year to come, in accordance with our strategic plans.

ACCOUNTS IN 2018	USD	NOK
Total income	1 155 679	9 938 842
From owners	110 465	950 000
From government	930 233	8 000 000
Other income	114 982	988 842
Total expenses	1 150 318	9 892 740
Total Program cost	1 073 783	9 234 533
For grants	719 473	6 187 466
Communication/report	40 350	347 010
Personnel cost incl. audit and account	238 262	2 049 057
For follow-up, capacity building, seminars, strategy, travels incl. external evaluation	93 140	801 000
Total administration costs	53 112	456 764
Fundraising	5 982	51 441

(Exchange rate: 8,6 USD average 2018)



Change

Accountability

Human rights

Protection

Local defenders

Empowerment

Dignity

Mobilisation



Sahar Vardi is a teacher, and a Jewish Israeli activist who stands up for the rights of her Palestinian neighbours in her home town Jerusalem.

"Jerusalem is a lot of things to a lot of people. For me, it was the city that taught me to be an activist. [...] Seeing these two completely different realities, sets of laws and daily experiences of people according to whom they were born to – that's what made me an activist."



Sahar tells us her story.
You can also tell us why you defend rights.

I Defend Rights is a project of the Norwegian Human Rights Fund and Memria.org, in collaboration with numerous partners around the world.

Read more and participate: www.idefendrights.org



www.nhrf.no