KidsRights Annual Report 2015

“KidsRights gives a voice to the voiceless”

Advocacy
We advocate for and raise awareness about children’s rights, to ensure they are put on the agenda globally.

Research
We do research to provide insight in the status of children’s rights.

Action
We take local action to directly improve the realisation of children’s rights and stimulate child participation and changemaking in our local projects.
With this report we are pleased to summarize and share what KidsRights has achieved in 2015 with your support.

**About KidsRights**

KidsRights promotes the wellbeing of very vulnerable children across the world and advocates the realisation of their rights. KidsRights sees children as *changemakers* in this process.

**Advocacy in 2015**

**The International Children’s Peace Prize 2015 awarded to Abraham M. Keita**

In 2015 KidsRights received 77 submissions for the International Children’s Peace Prize: 38 boys and 39 girls from 39 countries. On 9 November 2015 the International Children’s Peace Prize 2015 was awarded in the Hague, The Netherlands. Seventeen-year-old Abraham M. Keita from Liberia received the prize for *his efforts to have perpetrators of physical and sexual violence against children brought to justice*. In the presence of the world press, Keita received the prize from Nobel Peace Prize winner Leymah Gbowee. According to the Expert Committee, Keita deserved the prize because he, as strong campaigner and critical author, made it clear like no one else how one child is capable of ensuring change, bringing offences against children to the attention of the public and continuing to fight until the perpetrators are behind bars. Keita also had a leading role in the Liberian Children’s Parliament and, due to his efforts, the Children’s Law was adopted in the Parliament. What is furthermore special about Keita’s work is that his successful public protests have always been peaceful.

**The KidsRights Youngsters off to a flying start in 2015**

The platform of *The KidsRights Youngsters* was launched in 2014 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Children’s Peace Prize. Their first year provided many wonderful results and special learning opportunities. *The Youngsters* sought cooperation from important players in children’s rights in order to position children’s rights and current issues high on the international agenda. They also made meaningful contributions to research and policy. Furthermore, they remain fully engaged with their personal local actions in their home countries.

- **Contribution to International Children’s Rights Policy**
  
  The KidsRights Youngsters have contributed to the drawing up of a children’s policy for the *International Criminal Court* in The Hague concerning child victims and child witnesses. They have also worked on the Amman Youth declaration - *UN Security Council Resolution 2250*, which acknowledges the role of youth in the process of peace building.

- **Local Changemaking**
  
  Children’s Peace Prize winners Neha (2014) and Chaeli (2011) each set up a student group at their universities to stand up for vulnerable children. Kesz (2012 winner) brought 200 young people together to offer help to hundreds of street children in the Philippines and Om Prakash (2006 winner) united students at his university to give *extra lessons* to vulnerable children in the immediate surroundings.

- **Children’s Peace Prize winner 2009 Baruani Ndume speaks at UN forum on child refugees**
  
  Baruani was selected from more than 10,000 applications and invited to speak at the Global Forum on Youth, Peace and Security in Jordan. During the forum, Baruani spoke about the problems that children and young people have encountered in refugee camps for generations. Baruani himself has lived in a refugee camp in Tanzania for more than 16 years now. ‘*Structural problems need structural solutions*,’ said Baruani.

**Almost 1,000 classes in the Netherlands learn about children’s rights**

KidsRights finds it important to teach children in The Netherlands about children’s rights so that they can join the discussion and personally take action. KidsRights makes the ‘Children’s Rights Curriculum’ available free of charge to all primary schools in the Netherlands for years 7 and 8. In 2015 KidsRights developed a *new curriculum: A World Full of Children’s Peace Prize Winners*. The pupils get to know the winners and the children’s rights they are fighting for by means of an interactive world map. The entire curriculum is available online on the KidsRights website.
Action in 2015

In 2015 KidsRights supported fourteen projects spread over six countries and thereby directly reached more than 12,433 children. Our projects are focused on a specific children’s right or a specific target group of vulnerable children whose rights are infringed or under pressure.

Philippines

In support of Children’s Peace Prize winner 2012 Kesz Valdez, KidsRights supported 4 projects in the Philippines whereby more than 2,000 street children and children at risk were given education and care on the streets. They have also learned how to protect themselves better and to stand up for themselves while living or working on the streets.

Pakistan

In Pakistan KidsRights supports five projects focused on improving the status of girls in education. Three new schools have been established specifically to educate girls from religious minority groups. 90 girls are given lessons. Also, KidsRights, together with the 2013 Children’s Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai and her family, developed two projects in Pakistan that make education possible for girls, such as the Evening School in the Shangla region. At this time 50 girls attend extra educational classes at this school. After two years the girls can study at a university or become teachers themselves en provide more girls with an education.

Dominican Republic

In support of Children’s Peace Prize winner 2010 Francia Simon, KidsRights supported a project in the Dominican Republic to help more children go to school. Dozens of children in Batey Cuchilla, one of the poorest villages in the surrounding area, received their birth certificate with the support from KidsRights and more than 340 children received educational support. A bus was also purchased to bring the children in the community to school. The school drop-out rate in the village is now much lower due to this project.

Research in 2015

KidsRights Index 2015

The 2015 KidsRights Index was published worldwide on 19 October 2015. The Index outlines how countries comply with children’s rights and to what extent they are equipped to promote children’s rights in their own countries. The KidsRights Index 2015 shows that ‘wealthier’ countries do not automatically perform better in honouring children’s rights in practice and that all countries must fully implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child to be able to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030.

KidsRights Report: The Silent Majority

KidsRights has drawn up the report The Silent Majority: Justice for child victims of violence for the celebration of the 2015 International Children’s Peace Prize award. This in-depth report contains conclusions from worldwide research on the rights of children who are victims of violence. Worldwide, there is little justice for child victims of violence. Children are often not seen as victims by deeply rooted beliefs about children and violence. Furthermore, children have very limited access to the justice system. The KidsRights Report has been shared with more than 3,500 international contacts working in the field of children’s rights.
Our Financials

Our total income of €1,865,592 came from:

- Individual donors: €972,939 (52.2%)
- Partners & Business Friends: €544,480 (29.2%)
- In-kind gifts: €132,300 (7.1%)
- Trust funds: €82,372 (4.4%)
- Spontaneous gifts: €67,718 (3.6%)
- Income from third party campaigns: €55,753 (3%)
- Legacies: €5,171 (0.3%)
- Miscellaneous: €4,859 (0.3%)

Our total spending of €1,827,391 went to:

- Executing on our purpose: €1,458,992 (79.8%)
  - Advocacy and Research: €841,833 (46.1%)
  - Action: €617,159 (33.8%)
- Fundraising expenses: €263,783 (14.4%)
- Management & administration: €104,616 (5.7%)

Result 2015: €38,201
Number of employees 2015 (average): 6.8 FTE

For daily updates on our activities, please follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

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KidsRights thanks its donors and relations for the wonderful results in 2015!