2017 Annual Report
The Earth Rights Institute
Letter from the Directors

Considering the difficult and painful state of our world, we felt Earth Rights Institute (ERI), as an organization, needed to stand strong, be more committed and dedicated to building a world that works for everyone. We set our goals for 2017 to be a voice for the global sustainability movement, especially with regard to climate change and land rights.

With a fresh new look for our new website, a major undertaking converging 16 years of history from three websites into one, we felt ready to take a big leap forward and break through old barriers. We made new partnerships, strengthened our ties with existing ones, and expanded our influence beyond our own expectation. ERI is now a well-known and respected name in many cities and countries throughout Africa, with several UN and other international agencies and groups like GEF, Green Climate Fund, WB, C40 (C40 Cities) and others that address the issues we care so much about, such as climate change, poverty, environmental degradation, land rights and public finance reform.

Our biggest success is with our African Director, Professor Dramane Toure, located in Cote d’Ivoire. He has tirelessly worked for decades to bring about sustainable development to his people, country and beyond, and finally has gained recognition for our pilot model, “Climate Action Plan for Cocody,” now ready to be franchised to other districts and cities in West Africa. Annie’s official visit to Cote d’Ivoire, with ERI European Program Director Jerome Leonelli, made us realize what an important role we play in the world of climate change. We are now approaching some of the most powerful agencies and corporations to ask for their support. Ending this year, the horizon is bright with great prospects for funding from the UN-Habitat for our marine restoration program and other international agencies who regard our initiative as a leader to mobilize the entire region.

Our deep appreciation goes to the Mayor of Cocody, Mathias Akas N’Goan and his staff for believing in our organization and hosting us for an unforgettable visit to meet the community and all the participants involved in this Eco-City program. We want to thank our partners who are joining us, including the United African Congress, Global Ecovillage Network, REDES, Aipra NGO, UNEP, and many others. Our partners for the land tenure and tax reform include the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, International Union for Land Value Taxation and the Council of Georgist Organizations. Each step along the way
has allowed us to rise to a more powerful position.

We want to give special thanks to the following volunteers and team members who contributed to our success: Joanne Manzella, ERI master website designer for doing an amazing job on our websites and social media; Dawn Omura, Living Lab Program Director for being Annie’s right-hand person and promoting our living lab to potential partners; Jerome Leonelli for his incredible commitment and all the resources he brings from Europe into our organization; Dimitri Selinger, Program Manager for his dedication to help our Comoros project to move forward; Tania Saldivar, graphic designer who developed our beautiful brochures, PPT and e-newsletters.

We would like to express our deep appreciation for all our other volunteers/colleagues throughout the year who have helped us with bookkeeping, translations, web maintenance, graphic designing and outreach. We hope you will take the time to look over our website and learn more about each ERI family member, including our Board, African team, partners, sponsored organizations and friends. Their participation and amazing backgrounds are what makes us special. Together, we have built a beautiful movement with Earth Rights Institute and our partners.

2018 is the year for us to receive the funds and support we need to fulfill our mission to bring Africa into the international world of climate change, build new ecovillages, attraction to our Living Lab and land rights online course. We are ready more than ever to take on this new role. It is from our unique relationships and roles that we have experienced over the decades that gives us the knowledge and know-how to successfully engage the people of Africa and others in developing their own transition into a healthier and vibrant society. We also look forward to working closely with our Co-Founder and CFO ERI Living Labs, Nola Force, on a new educational venture for California.

We hope you can join us as we stand firm to resist business-as-usual, bring bright and innovative solutions to our world, and welcome the collaboration of those of like-mind and spirit.

Green blessings and peace from

Anne de la Bouillerie Goeke and Alanna Hartzok
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Earth Rights Institute (ERI) was incorporated in 2001 as a US 501(c)(3) organization and is a UN NGO of the International Union of Land Value Taxation and a GuideStar Gold participant.

Our mission is to support a culture of peace and justice worldwide by establishing dynamic worldwide networks of persons of goodwill and special skills, promoting policies and programs which further democratic rights to common heritage resources, and building ecological communities.

Earth Rights Institute takes an innovative approach to join education, advocacy and research in building ecologically, economically and culturally sustainable communities in some of the world’s poorest regions. We advocate a model of development that supports the re-localization of development expertise and believe that in order to empower communities to manage and direct their own development, strategies and expert knowledge must be conceived locally.
New Board Members

Quisia Gonzalez - VICE PRESIDENT FOR HONDURAS, INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR LAND VALUE TAXATION - M.D.
Trained as a medical doctor in Brazil, practiced medicine in Honduras and moved to the US in 1989. She has worked extensively in the field of education and active in the Proyecto de los Trabajadores Latinoamericanos, advocating for fair wages and immigration reform.

Rob Wheeler - UN REPRESENTATIVE FOR GLOBAL ECOVILLAGE NETWORK (GEN)
He participates in the UN Commission and High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. He is part of GEN’s PanAfrican Ecovillage Development Programme and GEN’s Ecovillage Impact Assessment project. Serves on GEN’s Fundraising, Outreach and Networking Working Groups. Coordinator of the UN Working Group.

Courtney Dowe - SINGER, SONGWRITER AND ACTIVIST
Courtney Dowe has performed in places as humble as subway stations and as legendary as The Fillmore in San Francisco. Her interest in human rights has inspired “protest songs”. She is now developing and coordinating ERI’s Itsodi Ecovillage in VA.
Our Team- United States

Annie de la Bouillerie Goeke, CO-FOUNDER/DIRECTOR has 25 years of leadership and experience in planning, developing, and maintaining programs using sustainable, holistic approaches for social enterprises and community building worldwide. She is a well-known international consultant for sustainable development, climate change, ecological education and women in leadership roles.

Alanna Hartzok, CO-FOUNDER/DIRECTOR is an expert on fair land tenure and public finance from a local-to-global framework. With the UN HABITAT, she developed an online course and training program and is part of an UN task force addressings land rights. She is Administrator Director and an UN NGO Rep. for the International Union for Land Value Taxation. Author of the award-winning book ‘The Earth Belongs to Everyone.’

Dawn Omura, LIVING LABS PROGRAM DIRECTOR, is a science educator. Her skills include project development, grant writing and outreach. She is from CA but she spent 9 years in Argentina, where she gained experience working in various foundations and nonprofits developing and directing programs to further environmental sustainability and science education.

Joanne Manzella, WEBMASTER, designed and maintains the website from all aspects. She has many years in software and web development. In her spare time, she enjoys taking photos of nature, animals, and classic cars.

Tania Saldívar, GRAPHIC DESIGNER- founder and creative Director of Neisybustudio in Mexico. Lives in LA, CA and is a freelance graphic designer and project planner. Has Communication and Organization skills as well.
Our Team—United States

**Elizabeth Manso**, SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR, produced our e-newsletters, managed our social media platforms and develops and executes marketing campaigns.

**Daphne Danfeng Chen**, WEB & GRAPHIC DESIGNER, is a user experience and visual designer in Los Angeles. With her international experience in China and Europe, she also provides coordination to our China programs.

**Kevin Lee**, INTERN IN WEB AND GRAPHIC DESIGN is a graduate student in the field of information science. He has an interest in user experience design and is helping us with various graphic design projects.

**Valentina Baccianella**, SUMMER INTERN/ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR, is a sophomore International Relations major and Italian minor at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. She also plans to go to graduate school for International Affairs/Studies/Development.

**Jennifer Vitanzo**, COMMUNICATION EXPERT AND WRITER. Worked on conservation and education projects in South Africa.

**Jeffrey Sklar**, LEGAL COUNSEL, has been serving as legal counsel for Earth Rights Institute for over 10 years. With a law degree from Loyola Law School of Law. He reviews and formulate MOUs and multilateral International engagement agreements.

**Richard Chance**, ACCOUNTANT is a CPA and has a Master of Accounting and a BA in Business Administration from Washington State University. Richard has worked as an auditor and lives in LA, CA.

**Izhar Manzoor**, PROGRAM ASSOCIATE, UCLA graduate, conducts outreach for ERI and works on our social media presence.
Our Translators

**Harold Slamovitz** - translator roster for Office of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Translated all our official climate change initiative documents for West Africa.

**Delphin Ngulumingi** - lives in Kenya as a professional translator and writer. Has translated many documents for international agencies.

**Souhail Arfaoui** - Tunisian who has translated for several international associations and foundations. Works with the UNDP. Expertise on human sciences and communication fields.

**Valentine Elleau** - professional freelance translator and proofreader located in Austria. Worked on translation of ERI educational materials.

**Seana Parker-Dalton** - holds a SDL certificate and translation intern from UW Milwaukee. She is a trained Climate Reality leader. Lives in Florida with her husband and kids.

**Jean Ganter** - originally from Madagascar and lives in Florida. A freelance translator and proofreader.

**Wilson Obame** - Gabonese Deputy Manager of the Translation and Interpretation Department at Alliance Francaise in Ghana.

**Susan Ballard** - translator and attorney in CA. Helps with translations of legal documents.
Our Team - Europe

Jerome Leonelli, **PROGRAM DIRECTOR**, he dedicates his entrepreneurial skills and his European network to ERI, living in Paris. He is an expert in field of training; working for multinationals, French and European companies, administrations and business schools. He is a member of ETMA - European Training Media Association.

Dimitri Selinger, **PROGRAM MANAGER**, is from Belgium. Over 15 years of expertise in the food industry. He holds a MSc Engineer in Agriculture and Agrifood Industries, a Cert. in International Development and Cooperation and more.

Our Team - Cote d’Ivoire

Professor Dramane Toure, **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF AFRICA LOCATED IN ABIDJAN**. He has been a professor in many departments at the University Felix Houphouet-Boigny in Abidjan. He serves as the Director of the Cabinet of Studies for AID and Director for the Institute for Strategic Studies in Abidjan. Dr. Toure is the Chief of the great tribe Longo of the North. Author of West Africa’s Climate Change Initiative and our Cocody Climate Action Plan. For decades has been initiating projects to bring stability and sustainability to the entire region.

Felix Aka, **ASSISTANT PROGRAM MANAGER FOR COCODY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN**, is a specialist in natural resources management and policy.

M. Kone Tiemoko, **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF COTE D’IVOIRE** located in Abidjan. Has been a leader in his country regarding sustainability. Heads up some of our ERI farm initiatives in the north of Cote d’Ivoire.
Our Team - Comoros, Nigeria, Senegal and African Diaspora

Madame Diaby, CONSUL FOR THE COMOROS ISLANDS IN COTE D’IVOIRE. Dr. Nissoiti Keldi (Diaby) from the Comoros Islands and one of the 1st Comorians to receive a baccalaureate in 1973 and lives in Abidjan. Together we are in the process of formalizing our partnership with the government of the Comoros Islands.

Gordon Abiama, DIRECTOR FOR NIGERIA. Born in Bayelsa State in Nigeria’s oil rich region. He is the leader of our Odi Ecovillage and developed a Living & Learning Centre in Yenagoa. Director of Africa Centre for Geo-classical Economics, partner of ERI, NGO dedicated to sustainable development practices and eco justice pedagogy.

Francis Udisi, DIRECTOR NIGERIA/USA from Nigeria and lives PA. He is adept at donation project management, professional employment/ student counseling, job recruitment for multinational companies.

Dr. Ousmane Pame, PRESIDENT GLOBAL ECOVILLAGE NETWORK/AFRICA, is an educator and a community leader. He worked as the resident Academic Director of Living Routes at the Dakar Earth Rights Ecovillage Institute in Senegal. He is the director of academic programme in ecovillages which engage international and local students on rural community projects.

Sidique Abou-Bakarr Wai, PRESIDENT AND NATIONAL SPOKESPERSON FOR THE UNITED AFRICAN CONGRESS, A PARTNER. Originally from Sierra Leone, is the Administrative Staff Analyst to the NYPD Police commissioners and advises on policy for effective community outreach. He has served as a 2009 Sierra Leone Delegate to the UN General Assembly and provided counsel to elected officials including Presidents.
Programs and Projects

CLIMATE CHANGE WORLD MAP
Earth Rights Institute is designed to be an equilateral knowledge platform, where local people collaborate with academics and development professionals both local and foreign by exchanging skills, experiences and knowledge to solve crucial development issues such as widespread poverty, climate change, land right disputes and environmental degradation.

ERI believes that the empowerment of local communities is bringing development studies back to local communities so that development knowledge and strategies are cultivated locally, and ‘experts’ of sustainable development are formed at the grassroots. This means that the power and authority to manage local development lies with the local people.

2017 was a year where our efforts evolved us into a higher position of authority through our Climate Change initiative for West Africa. Our participation and presentation at the UN COP 21 & 22 by our Africa ERI Director, Professor Toure, put ERI on the forefront of this international movement. Our organization is now highly respected and considered as one of the best designers for sustainability programs that fit well with Africa. We are on the verge of becoming one of the major NGO consultants in West Africa well-known for our capacity building to work directly with national and city governments in a successful manner. We build a bridge between their local representatives and the international world of expertise and provide the transparency and recognition needed to ensure its viability.

Our objectives for 2018/2019 is to franchise our climate action plan for Africa to other areas in the region. It has been a long-term desire for us to help with the transition of development to be inclusive of ‘grassroots’ participation and more integrated and interconnected in design. The time is now for Africa to enter into a New Dawn!
Eco-City West Africa Climate Change Action
Cocody, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire
www.earthrightinstitute.org

Commitment To Reduce Carbon Emissions By 70% By 2030

**Carbon Reduction**
- 2 million trees for roadways and parks
- 1000 solar dehydrators for markets
- 200,000 energy efficient stoves for cooking

**Ecological Restoration**
- 2 million mangrove trees planted
- 30 km of lagoon restored and cleaned
- 20 km of parks and gardens restored and cleaned

**Transportation**
- 5000 taxis replaced with lower emission engines
- 100% carbon free public buses

**Energy Efficiency**
- 4 solar plants
- 5000 solar street lights
- 1000 solar traffic lights

**Public Engagement**
- Local Eco Radio Station
- Green Events - Bike Day
- 1 Tree Planted Per Household
- 100,000 Jobs
- Ecological Education For All

84% Renewable Energy By 2030

Climate Action Plan Cocody
ERI USA/Europe delegation, Annie Goeke and Jerome Leonelli as official dignitaries, visited Cocody in April 2017 to formalizes agreement with the Mayor of Cocody (Mr. N’GOAN AKA KACOU Mathias) and ERI to launch Eco-City Initiative, starting with the municipality of Cocody, Cote d’Ivoire

In support of the UN COP21 Paris Accord climate change initiative, Cote d’Ivoire, in partnership with ERI and under the Directorship of Professor Dramane Toure, has made a commitment to reduce carbon emissions 70% by 2030 by creating a prototype Eco-City in the Municipality of Cocody. This franchised model “Cocody Green City, Carbon Well of Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire, and Africa,” authored by Professor Toure will provide a baseline from which to roll out eco-initiatives in the other 13 municipalities of Abidjan, and to other areas of West Africa.

This Climate Action Plan uses a multi-faceted approach to implement 23 measures to create a carbon-negative, stable and sustainable environment and instill an eco-conscious mindset in the communities. Measures for efficient and sustainable energy use will reduce greenhouse gas emissions while positively impacting local businesses and infrastructure, as well as residents. By creating local jobs in renewable energy and safety, we will also combat widespread poverty in the region. Marine restoration and reforestation measures will not only increase carbon sequestration, they will beautify city streets and parks, as well as provide clean air and water. Plans to produce biogas and bioethanol from household waste as substitutes to fossil butane gas will address the many problems associated with overflowing landfills and provide new sources of renewable energy. Redesigning the transportation system, introducing carbon friendly buses and taxis, and programs to remove and repair the most highly polluting vehicles, will provide greater mobility to all citizens, support alternative healthy forms of transportation, and significantly reduce carbon emissions.
Current efforts to implement the Paris Agreement are already falling behind. The flow of funds to African nations has been slow and is the main barrier to progress in these areas. All of the key components are in place to implement our comprehensive, multifaceted Climate Action Plan for Cocody that has been over 10 years in development, working in collaboration with local and international development experts, NGOs, academic institutions, government agencies, and community leaders. Cocody is ideally positioned due to its accessibility, natural resources, connections to other communities, and thriving university population (1/3 of total population). The University Felix Houphouet Boigny has been organizing environmental actions in promoting the alternative transportation, community cleanup, education and reforestation projects.

Cocody has already made a series of investments in sustainable development, but to continue this work, the municipality of Cocody needs international support. The official visit by ERI USA/Europe delegation consisted of meetings with top officials, UN representatives, Bank of Africa Development, FEM and many other international agencies as well as village leaders, NGOs, other Mayors and stakeholders in the program. We received a lot of media attention including TV, radio and newspaper reports. This 7 day visit enabled us to establish strong ties with all involved in the program and included a tour of the region and visits to key partners.

ERI and its partners are working hard to gain the support of international funding agencies and foundations that are committed to making a serious impact on climate change. We are working closely with UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNEP, FEM, GEF, C40, R20 and corporations like Bollere, MARS and Total. Our role internationally is to build recognition and visibility for this program to bring the resources, tools, expertise, financial support and partnerships necessary to reach our goals. This initiative is
designed to meet the needs of the local population and is unique because it is designed as a community-based, African cultural program. We recognize that our organization is now in a powerful position to bring an innovative program that can change the direction for West Africa and fulfill its pledge to address climate change. This ambitious project brings hope to a city stricken with poverty, overpopulation, pollution, and poor infrastructure to raise the quality of life for its residents and create a sustainable urban center. Our Climate Action Plan for Cocody will serve as a realistic model for transitioning neighboring communities toward greater sustainability and spark an ecological movement in Côte d’Ivoire and beyond.

**Developments in Europe**

In 2017 we launched ERI Europe under Director Jérôme Leonelli whose first task was to help with translations and communications with our ERI initiatives in Côte d’Ivoire. Once he was familiar with our programs, he focused on finding funds from institutions, foundations and companies located in Europe to help ERI programs to fight against poverty and climate change. Jerome has been actively lobbying the Paris City Hall, France, to help the city of Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire to integrate into the C40. He has also connected with the Paris office of the R20 to obtain funding for the program of Cocody, Côte d’Ivoire. Several requests for funding are underway from various foundations, including Chanel and with companies including Bolloré and Mars. Jerome was part of the ERI delegation, in April 2017, to sign a partnership agreement with the Cocody City Council in Abidjan and initiate contacts with the African stakeholders of the project and has since maintained telephone relations with the Mayor of Cocody and the Africa Director of ERI.
Since 2016, Earth Rights Institute has been working directly with our West Africa office, Professor Toure, to initiate our first program with the Comoros Islands. In partnership with the Government of the Comoros Islands, we have been collaborating with their Consul Mme Diaby to push forward our participation to address poverty and malnutrition in the Comoros. During our ERI official visit to Cocody in April 2017, we had the opportunity to meet with her and other representatives from the Comoros. We discussed what other services we could offer. We are scheduled to go sometime in 2018 once the funds have been approved for our official and fact-finding visit to launch our partnership. We have expanded our initial project, Family Food Gardens to include eco-village development. We will be working directly with REDES – International Service Training Program with GEN-Africa. We have been in contact with various potential businesses that have an interest in the Comoros such as Chanel Perfume, Organic Spices and others who might sponsor and support new social enterprises that financially benefit the people and conserve their natural resources. Our projects will include a nutrition training program which leads to a good healthy lifestyle. Our hope is to help shift the country from a poverty stricken reality to a vibrant green sustainable economy and lifestyle. There are many possibilities for positive change as the country has much to offer. Our goal is for ERI to be part of their transition and bring our knowledge, skills, resources and tools to help empower them to realize their vision for a better future.
In 2017, we made a push to revive our Living Labs Program with sites in Senegal, Guatemala and China. Our Senegal Program, previously offered in collaboration with UCLA, focuses on ecovillages in northern Senegal where we are working with community organizations to promote ecovillage principles and practices in these rural communities. In our Guatemala Program through our action research/workshop method, students actively participate in finding sustainable solutions to local challenges, working closely with local NGOs, with the goal of becoming informed, pro-active global citizens. Our China Program focuses on sustainable agriculture and traditional culture while living and working on a biodynamic agricultural farm, studying permaculture design and experiencing a unique integration of teaching, learning, practicing and collaborating with the local community.

We reached out to a wide range of university programs, departments and professors to generate interest, with the ultimate goal of being able to offer credits for the programs. We’ve made some solid connections with programs such as UC Berkeley’s Global Poverty and Practice Minor program and will be hosting several student interns through our Guatemala program in 2018.

In April of 2017, Earth Rights Institute presented its Living Labs Program at the Institute for Postmodern Development (IPDC) of China’s 11th International Forum on Ecological Civilization. The conference included local and international speakers and guests with talks, breakout sessions, and banquet and was a great opportunity to connect with academics and students involved in ecological movements. Through IPDC, Annie Bouillerie de Goeke gave a talk in China at the end of 2016 and visited Professor Li at the Phoenix Hills Farming Academy, which is our newest partner site.
Annie was named ambassador for the REDES network for ecovillage emergence and development in the Sahel, Senegal. REDES is committed to playing an active part in bringing relevant solutions to the complex environmental and socio-economic challenges that communities in the region are facing in their daily lives. It promotes biodynamic farming and best forestry practices to create abundance for the populations and reduce poverty. Permaculture projects for women in rural areas help preserve existing community orchards and are combined with food processing workshops to generate income and better diets for families during long dry seasons. With the support of its partners, REDES is building classrooms in rural areas and developing an ecoschool program. In collaboration with ERI’s Living Labs program, REDES International Service Learning Programs bring together International and Local University students, eco-design educators, researchers, entrepreneurs and leaders to support integrated community-led, ecological, social and cultural initiatives in the Sahel Region.
ERI Co-Director Alanna Hartzok and new board member Courtney Dowe spoke at the Green Festival in Washington, DC in April 2017. Their talk entitled *Earth Rights and Ecovillages for a Triple Win World*, highlighted our rights and responsibilities to Mother Earth and how hundreds of thousands of people worldwide are now living in ecovillages and ecological family homesteads. Board members Diane Perlman and Melissa Burns joined them at the ERI information table where ERI was one of hundreds of exhibitors at this popular event.

Hartzok and Dowe have been working with the School of Living Community Land Trust to create a center focused on providing refuge and opportunities for being on the land for African American women and children now living in cities. They are preparing to sign a lease agreement for 67 acres of rural land in western Virginia in early 2018 to house this project. Dowe will be ERI’s Project Manager for the “Itsodi Community Land Trust,” with a focus on bringing her Women’s International Living Library (WILL) project into the activities of this land base.

WILL is collecting women’s stories – in particular human rights voices and will be part of a larger program. The needs of women and children who are experiencing present day genocide are given high priority within WILL. This includes African descendants in the United States, Indigenous people of the Americas, practitioners of Falun Gong and all refugees and oppressed peoples of the Earth. While primarily operated by and for women, WILL strives to be inclusive of all people who identify as allies to women and children.

Hartzok organized a one-day forum on WATER held at the Open Center in New York City in May. The forum was live-streamed and is posted on the Internet. Hartzok also presented a powerpoint titled *Intention and Strategy for Land Value Tax Policy Implementation* via the New Urban Agenda at the Council of Georgist Organizations annual conference held this year in St. Louis, MO. Her article on the UN New Urban Agenda was prepared for the Rising Sun publication.
Partnerships

Earth Rights Institute recognizes that an important aspect of enduring social change on a global scale is collaboration at local and international levels and securing dynamic partnerships with governments, groups, organizations and skilled individuals who share common goals and vision in development.

Our organization stands strong due to our long-term partnerships with GEN, GEN-Africa, UCLA, Green Festivals, United African Congress, CGO, IU, UN-Habitat GLTN, UN ECOSOC, LVT, Schalkenbach Foundation, and others who we are proud to have had the opportunity to work with on many initiatives globally.

Becoming a partner of ERI means joining a worldwide network of like-minded institutions that share a common vision for the future of the world. Our purpose is to share knowledge, experiences and skills while gaining global visibility for all of our causes.

2017 was a year filled with many new exciting partners: City of Cocody, UN-Habitat Urban Climate Change Project Development Department, FEMA (GEF), Center for Process Studies, School of Living, REDES, Office of Sustainability Santa Monica, Sustainable Works, and UC Berkeley’s Global Poverty and Practice Minor Program.

Our ERI Land Rights and Land Value Capture program partners with several organizations in designing, managing and offering public forums and other educational opportunities. Prominent among these partners are the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, the International Union for Land Value Taxation, and the Council of Georgist Organizations.

ERI is looking forward to 2018 to continuing our efforts locally in California with Nola Force, Co-Founder and CFO ERI Living Labs, to develop a new educational and service program on building leadership in sustainability to our region.
Earth Rights Institute loves to collaborate and support others doing ‘good’ around the world! It is an honor for us to offer through our fiscal sponsorship program, a way for others to receive the benefits of being under a non-profit organization. To do this, the applicant’s program/project must fit well under our mission statement and be in agreement with our ERI principles and goals.

This service that ERI provides has enhanced our overall organization. Through this program, we have initiated many new types of collaboration and we are proud to say that some of these programs have matured into becoming their own successful non-profit organization who are making positive impacts around the world. These relationships continue to build a strong foundation to achieve our objectives in our mission.

We are happy to announce the following new sponsored programs for 2017:

- **iQsonics** – Early childhood Language Development Program
- **Milk Basket** – Provide education and food service for children in the Niger-Delta region of Nigeria
- **Liberia Diabetes Testing Center** – Provides testing, education and disease prevention programs in Liberia
- **Sustainable Food Basket** – Improving nutrition, fighting deforestation, reducing poverty and valuing Brazil’s biodiversity

And we are happy to continue our fiscal sponsorship program for

- **SMILE** – Supporting Multitudes in Life & Education – provide free education, food, and healthcare to underprivileged students in Laos
- **SWF** – Servicing Wildflower International working to eradicate Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in Sierra Leone by empowering men, women and children through discussion, education and protection in a non-violent way
- **ACCW** – Association of CA Commissions for Women provides a voice for women of all races to improve quality of life
- **YES, Salon International** – collaborates in hosting a wide range of live interactive community cultural events
Accomplishments

ERI Director Africa, Professor Toure with President of the UN COP, Segolene Royale, 2017
Earth Rights Institute is constantly seeking interns and volunteers. We are grateful to all who have donated their valuable time and skills to make our programs successful. We offer an abundance of opportunities for individuals to gain experience working in the field of international development by practicing our unique approach.

2017 was a year of great expansion with many new members joining our organization. Our new ERI Europe Program Director, Jerome Leonelli, expanded our outreach to bring European organizations, foundations, enterprises and governments to collaborate with us. Meetings at the office of the Mayor of Paris (C40), attending the Climate Finance Summit and other such events has put ERI on the map in the region. We are very grateful to Jerome and Dimitri Selinger for being part of our team.

Our official visit to Cote d’Ivoire provided us the opportunity to partner with a whole consortium of international organizations, government, academics and NGOs who are directly involved in sustainability and climate action. Our presence has reached far beyond our expectations as ERI is now affecting over 1 million people in the region through various projects and we are ready to expand even further our influence into other nations in West Africa. It is not an easy task to accomplish our goals as there are many challenges that we need to overcome to reach them. The most challenging has been the lack of funding but we are optimistic that 2018 will bring the financial support we need to fulfill our obligations for the local communities we represent and to mobilize the region into a new direction to address climate change. It is with our determination and commitment, we are pushing the powerful global agencies to support Africa.
Hartzok and Dowe worked together with the School of Living Community Land Trust in preparation for ERI to sign a lease agreement for 67 acres of rural land in western Virginia for refuge, retreat and camping for women and children. The lease is expected to be signed in early 2018. Dowe will be ERI’s Project Manager for this “Itsodi Community Land Trust.”

Hartzok organized a one-day forum on WATER held at the Open Center in New York City in May. The audience of 90 people heard three main speakers and three respondents. The forum was live-streamed and is posted on the Internet. It was funded by the Schalkenbach Foundation.

Hartzok presented a powerpoint titled “Intention and Strategy for Land Value Tax Policy Implementation via the New Urban Agenda” at the Council of Georgist Organizations annual conference held this year in St. Louis, MO.

Her article on the UN New Urban Agenda was prepared for the Rising Sun publication.

Hartzok is currently planning a forum titled “Ethics, Morality and the Land Question” that will be held in Baltimore, MD on August 30, 2018 as part of the annual Council of Georgist Organizations Conference. Eight speakers have confirmed including Charles Avila, author of Ownership, Early Christian Teachings who will be joining us from the Philippines.

Courtney Downe, at Green Festivals WDC 2017
2017 marked the new era for our website, social media and marketing materials. With our volunteer website designer Joanne Manzella, we were able to launch our new beautiful website that converged 16 years of our history and 3 older websites into one. This was a major accomplishment and we had help from Dawn Omura, Jennifer Vitanzo and others with the editing, proofreading and design. It took about 6 months for this task to be completed. There is still more to do as we are making it available in French and adding more to our history and archived sections. Our social media sites have been revised and we have reached over 2000+ likes on our Facebook page due to Izhar Manzoor’s efforts. Our next goals for 2018 are to increase our subscription membership to our e-newsletter that we currently have nearly 700.

We now have a team of translators who have been helping us with translations from our African office in Cote d’Ivoire. Many of our documents and promotional materials for ERI Climate Action are available both in English and French.

We continue to have a great team of volunteers who come and go but have allowed us to continue our efforts as an international organization. Our objectives for 2018 are to raise our level of funding to give us an office and paid staff in the USA and hopefully the same for Europe.
Annie Goeke and Jerome Leonelli gave a talk on April 25, 2017 in Cocody, Cote d’Ivoire at the University Felix Houphouet Boigny at the public Conference on The Cocody Green City, Carbon Well of Abidjan, of the Cote d’Ivoire and Africa, as part of their official visit to formalize ERI’s agreement with the Mayor of Cocody (Mr. N’GOAN AKA KACOU Mathias) and launch the Cocody Climate Action Plan.

Dawn Omura, Living Labs Program Director, presented ERI’s Living Labs Program on April 28, 2017, at the Institute for Postmodern Development (IPDC) of China’s 11th International Forum on Ecological Civilization.

Green Festivals Washington DC May 13-14th – ERI Co-Director Alanna Hartzok and new board member Courtney Dowe spoke at the Green Festival in Washington, DC in April. Board members Diane Perlman and Melissa Burns joined them at the ERI information table where ERI was one of hundreds of exhibitors at this popular event.

Hartzok organized a one-day forum on WATER held at the Open Center in New York City in May.

The audience of 90 people heard three main speakers and three respondents. The forum was live-streamed and is posted on the Internet. Hartzok also presented a powerpoint titled Intention and Strategy for Land Value Tax Policy Implementation via the New Urban Agenda at the Council of Georgist Organizations annual conference held this year in St. Louis, MO. Her article on the UN New Urban Agenda was prepared for the Rising Sun publication.

Dimitri Selinger represented ERI at the European Union’s meeting on Sustainability in June, 2017.


Professor Toure presented the Cocody Climate Action Plan at the COP 23 in Bonn, Germany on November 6–17 as part of the official delegation from the Cote d’Ivoire.

2017 was a year for preparations and recognition for our initiatives. We formalized our partnership with the City of Cocody, we developed new collaborations with international agencies and multi-national companies who have an interest in climate change and sustainability in Africa. ERI has finished developing these proposals that include the budgets and costs.

Our current programs for the Eco-City Climate Action Plan for Cocody are requesting over $200M USD. Our entire ERI West Africa Climate Action Plan is estimated to cost $1B over 5 years. Today, we are discussing possible funds with UN-Habitat from their $14M grant to fund our marine restoration in Cocody. We have submitted numerous grants to GEF, Green Climate Fund, UNDP, UNEP and others. We are in negotiations with MARS, Bollere, Total, Chanel Foundation, C40, R20 and others for their financial support. We believe 2018 will be our year to finally get the funding we need to proceed with our programs and implementation of our climate action plans.
Revenue and Expenses

**Income**
- Direct Public Grants: $40,000.00 (51.4%)
- Donations: $37,762.92 (48.6%)

Total: $77,762.92

**Expenses**
- Programs: $29,926.55 (91.0%)
- Operations: $2,956.33 (9.0%)

Total: $32,882.88
ERI’s offices in Africa have been funded over the years by international agencies, National governments, universities and other funding sources that are not reflected in ERI’s USA based operations.
General Information

Earthrights institute

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EarthRightsInstitute
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Gallery (Talks and Presentations)
Featured NYC Speakers

- Rocky Kel, Composer & Grammy® Award Winner (Global Humanitarian Artist) and US Billboard #2 Artist
- Green Bay, President and Co-Founder of Farm Sanctuary
- Marianne Schair, Founder, Author, Co-Founder Executive Director, What Will It Take Movement
- Dick Neswell, Author, Winner of the Apocalypse: The Men Who Are Destroying Life on Earth
- Charlie Hayes, Founder of World's First Vegetable Sound System
- Angela Steinberg, Author, Recipe for Success: An Insider's Guide to Bringing Your Natural Food to Market
- Siham Abu Bakar, President and National Spokesperson, United African Congress Inc.
- Khare Forbes, Founding Executive Director, Food Ingredients and Health Research Institute
- Lucy kleine, Co-Founder, Bridge To Bhutan
- Jen Eicken, Partner at Between The Blank Hospitality Group
- Ivy Wolff Turk, Founder/Director of Project Liberation
- Maya Regano, Director, Climate Change Project & film The Story We Want

Featured DC Speakers

- Bhushan Deodhar, Director, Art of Living
- Dr. Margaret Flowers, Co-Director, Popular Resistance, Health Over Profit for Everyone Campaign
- Terry Victor, Dentist, The DC Dentist
- Alanna Hartzok, Co-Founder - Earth Rights Institute
Gallery (Working teams)