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## October Newsletter: Shaping Tomorrow Together

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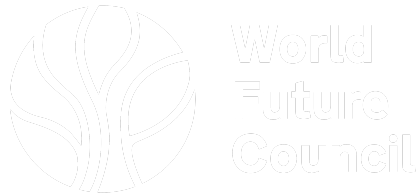
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# October Newsletter

**Dear Friends,**

At the World Future Council, our mission is clear: safeguarding the **Rights of Future Generations** and **Nature**, and ensuring today's decisions reflect long-term responsibility, peace, justice, and sustainability. The past months have shown that change is happening and fast. There are many crises which plague our efforts, including human-induced climate change, a proliferation of armed conflicts and a growing lack of courage to build trust within human rights systems. As recently held in the historic **International Court of Justice, Advisory Opinion on Climate Change**, there are strict obligations on States, as well as on non-state actors to protect the climate and the wider environment system for the benefit of future generations. These efforts are linked with the work of Councilors across generations and continue unabated to bring about healing and understanding in keeping with our mission. In June, we celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the **Earth Charter movement**, receiving blessings from our Honourary Councilor Pauline Tangiora, and to which Founding Honourary Councilor Herbert Girardet and several others have contributed in many ways.

The World Future Council was featured in the high-level segment of the **Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025**, while an international jury completed deliberations on the **World Future Policy Award 2025 *Living in Harmony with Nature and Future***

**Generations.** The WFPA will be celebrated with the IUCN and the Inter-Parliamentary Union at the IUCN Congress 2025 in October, marking a paradigm shift in **Future Just policy making**. Our work on **Renewable Energy** is reaching new heights through the Global Renewables Congress, recognizing MPs as **Renewable Energy Champions** and supporting them with Masterclasses on **green hydrogen** and **community energy**. Meanwhile, the **Himalayan Agroecology Initiative** is transforming policy dialogues on food systems, proving that resilience, inclusion, and ecological sustainability can go hand in hand. In **Vilnius** this November, we will celebrate the winners of the **NonHazCity Building Award**, spotlighting policies that make construction safer and healthier, while across the Baltic region, municipalities continue to be empowered to phase out harmful chemicals in buildings and renovations.

In this period of transitions, we have had to bid farewell to several colleagues, including our respected former Management Board, **Alexandra Wandel** and **Marie Biermann**, and team members **Damian Cramer**, **Bertylle Duforest** and **Clara Collewuie**. We are thrilled to welcome back former colleagues **Ramana Shareef** and **Catherine Pearce** and new colleague **Ali Gülceğün**, strengthening our work on global renewable energy efforts and Future Justice. With the launch of our **Digital Info Hub** and the release of our **Annual Report PathFinder 2024**, our research, success stories, and policy insights are now more accessible than ever. Across all initiatives, one truth stands out: **the future belongs to those who plan, protect, and act for it today**. We thank you for your spirit of collaboration in these challenging times and welcome your continued support in this common journey.

As always, you will find useful links and resources at the end of the newsletter.

**Enjoy Reading!!**



*Neshan  
Gunasekera*

CEO

## Content

- ***From Research to Inspiration: Our Digital Info Hub Is Here***

*Teaser: What once lived in reports now comes alive through multimedia, stories, and interactive exploration.*

- ***Honouring Future Generations***

*Teaser: Māori MP Kahurangi Carter honoured the Moriori Peace Covenant at the IPU Assembly, turning history into healing before the eyes of hundreds of parliamentarians.*

- ***Himalayan Agroecology Initiative: From the Mountains to the World Stage***

*Teaser: The Himalayan Agroecology Initiative is gaining global recognition as a model for resilient, inclusive, and sustainable food systems.*

- ***Lawmaking for Tomorrow, Starting Today***

*Teaser: The Future Justice Project, launched with UBA, is building tools and platforms to embed intergenerational justice into policymaking.*

- ***Honouring the Laws that Shape Tomorrow***

*Teaser: The World Future Policy Award 2025 celebrates groundbreaking policies that protect Nature and future generations. Finalists will be revealed on 23 September.*

- ***Turning the Tide on Hazardous Chemicals in Construction***

*Teaser: Our insights from the Baltic to Brussels will support NGOs and EU policy makers in advancing safer, healthier environments for all.*

- ***A Year of Change, A Future of Possibility***

*Teaser: Our new Annual Report, PathFinder 2024, dives into the policies, partnerships, and progress shaping a just and sustainable tomorrow.*

- ***Meet the Champions of Renewable Energy***

*Teaser: From parliaments around the world, Lawmakers are driving the just energy transition. Discover their stories and explore new Masterclasses-style video series from the Global Renewables Congress*

- ***A Milestone for Future Generations in Hamburg***

*Teaser: At the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, the WFC celebrated a breakthrough: the UN's announcement of a Special Envoy for Future Generations.*

# Programmes Update

## From Research to Inspiration: Our Digital Info Hub Is Here



With every World Future Policy Award, the team embarks on a journey: months of in-depth research into policies that nurture sustainable peace and development. But instead of letting this wealth of knowledge live only in reports and archives, we wanted to bring it to life.

That vision is now a reality. In collaboration with our partners, we've created the **Digital Info Hub** - a dynamic space where stories of transformative policies unfold in an engaging, interactive format.

Whether you're a student searching for inspiration, a policy maker exploring proven solutions, or simply curious about the forces shaping a more peaceful world, the Hub has something to offer. You can dip into introductions, navigate through detailed accounts, or explore multimedia resources that bring policies to life beyond words.

The official launch will take place this October in New York, but you don't have to wait. The Digital Info Hub is already live, ready to inspire, educate, and connect.

👉 [Access the Digital Info Hub here](#)

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## Honouring Future Generations at the 150th IPU Assembly



At the **150th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly** in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, the global stage turned toward the future. Our team collaborated with the IPU to spotlight the **World Future Policy Award 2024 finalists**. Videos of the winning policies were screened before hundreds of MPs, while representatives from finalist countries proudly introduced their groundbreaking initiatives.

The response was delightful. Delegates told our staff they left inspired and committed to championing peace and safeguarding the rights of future generations.

One moment in particular touched the Assembly. Indigenous MP **Kahurangi Carter** paid heartfelt tribute to the **Mori Mori Peace Covenant**, one of the world's longest-standing indigenous commitments to peace and non-violence. The Covenant, upheld by the Mori Mori of the Chatham Islands, New Zealand, even in the face of the 1835 genocide, remains a living testament to moral courage. For Carter, who is Māori, to honour Mori Mori wisdom was an act of reconciliation that resonated deeply across the Assembly. IPU President **Dr. Tulia Ackson**, visibly moved, invited the Right Honourable Carter to chair the remainder of the Assembly, a symbolic gesture met with resounding respect.

This gathering offered a powerful reminder that **effective, lasting policies for peace already exist**—and when their stories are told, they can inspire decision-makers worldwide to follow suit.

👉 [Watch all our policy winner videos here](#)

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## The Himalayan Agroecology Initiative: From the Mountains to the World Stage



The Himalayan Agroecology Initiative (HAI) is no longer just a regional effort - it's becoming a global reference point for the future of food. In July, HAI stepped into the spotlight at two major international gatherings, each affirming its role as a catalyst for sustainable, resilient food systems.

At the **UN Food Systems Summit +4** side event, *“From Aspiration to Action”* (27 July), governments and civil society leaders discussed how agroecology is moving from vision into policy. HAI was highlighted as a **model for regional collaboration**, showing how shared approaches can strengthen entire food systems.

Just days later, at the South Asia conference *“From Green Revolution to Green Evolution”* (29–31 July), HAI's contributions took center stage again. The initiative was celebrated for shaping agri-food systems that are not only productive, but also **resilient, inclusive, and ecologically sound** - a true “green evolution” for the region.

From the Himalayas outward, HAI is proving that agroecology offers real solutions for sustainable agriculture, stronger value chains, and healthier consumption patterns.

[Find out more](#)

# Bridging Law-Making with Future Justice



How can today's laws truly serve tomorrow's generations? That question lies at the heart of the **Future Justice Project**, launched in June 2025 with support from the **Umwelt Bundesamt (UBA)**.

The project will create a **Future Justice Hub** - a platform for lawmakers, policy experts, stakeholders, and all those interested in embedding the rights of future generations into governance. By fostering dialogue and collaboration, the Hub will help develop **policy guidelines** that will ensure legislation does not just solve present challenges but also safeguards the long-term well-being of people and planet.

Looking ahead, these guidelines will feed into an innovative **AI tool** designed to measure how "future-just" a given law or policy is. The vision: to give policymakers a clear, practical way to evaluate decisions through the lens of **intergenerational justice**.

This initiative is more than a project—it's a step toward transforming how we make laws, ensuring that justice is not only for us, but also for those who come after.

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## Towards a Tox-Free Future: Reducing Hazardous Chemicals for Generations to Come



Some of the most dangerous chemicals in everyday use are not only harmful now - but they can also affect children, grandchildren, and even future generations. Many of these substances are hormone disruptors, known to damage brain, bone, and neurological health and development. Reducing and replacing them is one of the most urgent challenges of our time.

That's why our team is sharing key lessons from the **NonHazCity III Project** at the upcoming NGO Conference *"From Evidence to Policy: Towards a Tox-free Living Environment"* on **18 November in Brussels**. Our focus: how to effectively incentivise the substitution of hazardous chemicals.

The conversation won't end there. On the following day, we'll explore how these learnings can best be integrated into the **EU Agenda** - supporting NGOs from across the Baltic Sea region and Brussels to strengthen their capacity and amplify their impact.

This work is about more than cleaner products. It's about safeguarding the health of today's children and protecting the generations yet to come.

[Read more about the NonHazCity project here](#)

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## Parliamentarians Powering the Energy Transition



The shift to renewable energy is more than a technological change, it is a political one. Across the globe, Members of Parliament are stepping forward as **Renewable Energy Champions**, advancing legislation that ensures the transition is not only rapid, but also **just and inclusive**.

Through the work of the [Global Renewables Congress \(GRC\)](#), we are identifying and celebrating champions who are driving the energy transformation in their countries. Their role is vital: strong, future-oriented policies from Parliamentarians are what will guarantee that no one is left behind.

To strengthen and support this work, the GRC team has developed two **Masterclass-style video series** on pivotal topics:

[Green Hydrogen](#): exploring its potential in a renewables-powered world.

**Community-Based Energy**: showing how local ownership drives both equity and resilience.

These resources are designed to empower Parliamentarians - and everyone working on renewable energy - with the knowledge needed to accelerate the transition.

[Explore the Renewable Energy Champions and Masterclass series here](#)

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## Parliamentary Dialogue at the 2nd Africa Climate Summit



In early September, our team joined leaders and innovators at the **2nd Africa Climate Summit** in Addis Ababa. As part of our ongoing work with Parliamentarians, we co-organised a side event with the **Climate Vulnerable Forum** and partners bringing together representatives from **20 African countries**.

The focus was urgent and clear: how to secure **affordable and just climate finance** for Africa. Parliamentarians, as the architects of national legislation, hold the keys to ensuring finance flows where it is needed most, supporting resilience, prosperity, and equity.

Our own **Lena Dente** moderated a session on climate prosperity and investment opportunities. The discussion featured insights from experts at **RMI, REN21, and E3G**, alongside powerful contributions from MPs representing **Ghana and The Gambia**.

The message that resonated: Africa's climate future depends not only on international commitments, but on empowered lawmakers who can translate vision into transformative policy.

👉 [Read the communique issued at the end of the dialogue](#)

## Updates From Our Councillors

# Shaping the Future Together: WFC at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference



In October 2024, the **Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC)** gathered leaders from around the globe under the motto *“Transforming Challenges into Alliance Opportunities.”* For the **World Future Council**, it marked a special moment: UN Deputy Secretary-General **Guy Ryder** announced the creation of a **Special Envoy for Future Generations** - a breakthrough we have championed for over two decades.

Our ten-member delegation including Council Members **Neshan Gunasekera**, **Helmy Abouleish**, **Alyn Ware**, and **Dr. Katiana Orluc** ensured that **intergenerational justice** was central to the agenda. We presented our report *“Achieving Intergenerational Trust for Sustainability,”* offering decision-makers practical steps to embed the rights of future generations into policy.

Beyond plenaries, our team joined panels on the **circular economy, green mobility, and resilient food systems**. And we pushed ideas forward:

- **Intergenerational Committees** bringing youth, elders, Indigenous voices, and experts together.
- A **Future Generations Pavilion** at the next HSC a space for dialogue, mentoring, and innovation.
- Blending **local wisdom and traditions** with research and digital tools to shape resilient strategies.

Looking ahead, we are championing the creation of a **Hamburg Sustainability Platform** with regional hubs, to ensure the conference's outcomes spark **long-term change**.

For the WFC, the message is clear: **when generations stand together, a sustainable future is within reach**.

## What's New

# The PathFinder 2024: Charting the Way to a Just and Sustainable Future



The release of our new **Annual Report, PathFinder 2024**, highlights our efforts to safeguard the rights of **future generations and Nature**. For us, future-oriented thinking is more than resource conservation, it means weaving long-term responsibility into today's decisions, while also promoting **social justice** and **economic stability**.

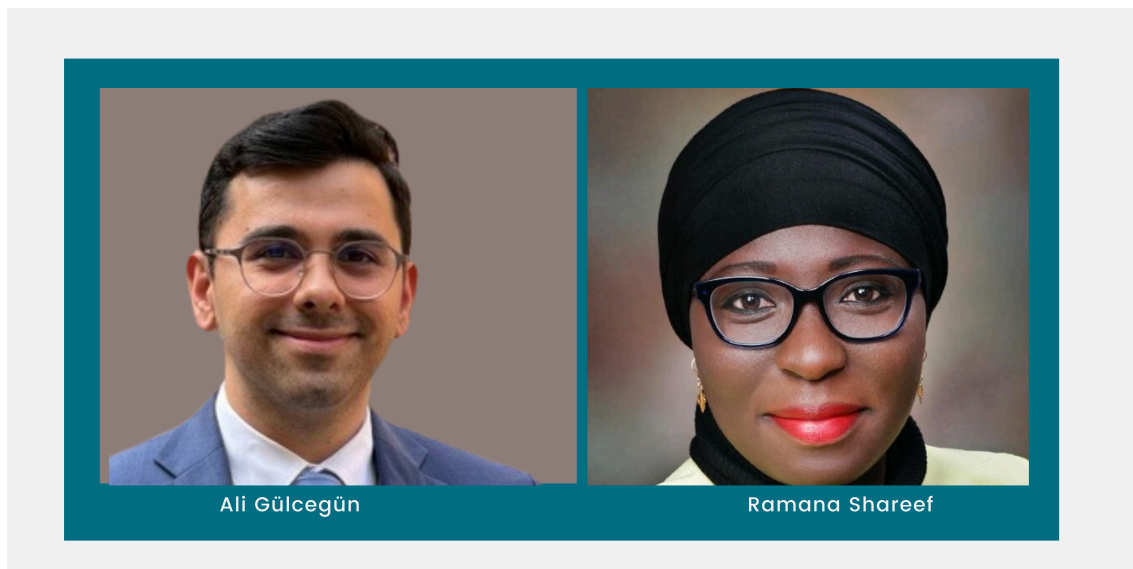
But what does this look like in practice? The PathFinder brings the answer. Inside, you'll find highlights from the past year: our work, our commitments, and the stories of impact that show how visionary policies can create lasting change.

Take a moment to explore how together we are building a future that is just and resilient for all life on Earth.

👉 [Read the PathFinder 2024 here](#)

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## Welcome to Our New Team Members!



Ali Gülcegün

Ramana Shareef

We are delighted to welcome **Ali Gülcegün** and **Ramana Shareef** to the World Future Council team! Both will be focusing primarily on the **Global Renewables Congress** project, bringing fresh perspectives and expertise to our work on advancing renewable energy worldwide.

Please join us in giving them a very warm welcome!

👉 [Read their profiles here](#)

## Upcoming Events

# Celebrating the Best Laws for Nature, People, and Future Generations



Every year, the **World Future Policy Award (WFPA)** shines a light on policies that prove what's possible: visionary laws that protect our planet, strengthen peace, and safeguard the rights of generations to come. It is the world's leading policy prize, honouring policies that truly change lives.

In 2025, our theme speaks to the heart of our times: **Living in Harmony with Nature and Future Generations**. This is more than urgent – it is existential. Humanity must transform how it relates to Nature if we are to secure the foundation of life itself.

The journey is already underway. In August, our **international jury** reviewed a shortlist of groundbreaking policies. On **23 September**, we unveiled this year's **finalists** and the countdown to the Award begins.

But the biggest moment is yet to come. Who will take home the prestigious World Future Policy Award? Join us at the **IUCN World Conservation Congress in Abu Dhabi**, where

the winners will be revealed during a **livestreamed Award Ceremony**.

Stay tuned, follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), or [Bluesky](#) and be part of this global celebration of the laws fostering a better future.

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# Spotlight on Safer Buildings: The NonHazCity Building Award

**Interreg**  
Baltic Sea Region



Co-funded by  
the European Union



SUSTAINABLE WATERS

**NonHazCity 3**

This November, Vilnius will set the stage for a celebration of forward-thinking policies in construction. On **26 November**, during *Green Governance Day 2025* jointly organized by the **City of Vilnius** together with the Interreg projects **NonHazCity III** and **ChemClimCircle II**, we will proudly host the **NonHazCity Building Award Ceremony**.

After months of careful review, our **international jury** has selected two outstanding policies that show how municipalities can lead the way in making construction and renovation safer, healthier, and more sustainable. We can hardly wait to finally reveal the winners and shine a spotlight on their achievements.

[👉 See the Green Governance Day programme](#)

## Background

The **NonHazCity III project** unites 21 partners across **seven EU countries in the Baltic Sea region**. Together, they are supporting municipalities in phasing out the most harmful substances so-called “Substances of Very High Concern (SVHCs),” as defined

under the EU's REACH regulation—from construction and renovation projects. The project runs until the end of 2025.

The WFC is also a proud partner of **ChemClimCircle II**, which will kick off its next phase of work in 2026.

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## Other Upcoming Events

- Global Ethics Forum, Geneva 7-9 October 2025
- World Future Policy Award, IUCN Annual Conference, Abud Dhabi 10/11. October 2025
- One Home Journey Year 2: Earth Citizens Rising, Geneva, 16 October 2025

## Reading Material & Resources

# Global Status Report 2025

## A comprehensive annual overview of the state of Renewable Energy.

Since 2005, REN21's Renewables Global Status Report (GSR) has spotlighted ongoing developments and emerging trends that shape the future of renewables. This year's 20th edition of the GSR illuminates a complex landscape of progress tempered by persistent challenges.

[Start reading](#)

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# Colonialism and climate risk are connected: evidence from Ghana and Senegal

The experience of colonialism led to economies and societies being re-arranged in ways that have had far-reaching consequences.

As a researcher interested in colonial histories and their impacts on present-day development, I recently explored aspects of these legacies through a comparative analysis of Senegal and Ghana, based on previous archival research.

[Read the research here!](#)

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This Newsletter is compiled and edited by **Ramana Shareef**



# Be part of the solution!

## Become a WFC supporter

Your support makes a difference! We give a voice to future generations and stand up for their rights by providing policy tools to empower millions of people around the world. Become a supporter by contributing on a regular basis to make the world a more sustainable place

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### World Future Council

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