



ANNUAL **IMPACT** REPORT
2023



MISSION

Atlas Network increases global prosperity by strengthening a network of independent partner organizations that promote individual freedom and are committed to identifying and removing barriers to human flourishing.



VISION

Atlas Network's vision is of a free, prosperous, and peaceful world where the principles of individual liberty, property rights, limited government, and free markets are secured by the rule of law.



Atlas Network has been a four-star Charity Navigator member since 2008.



Atlas Network is a GuideStar Exchange Platinum-Level Participant.



Atlas Network's donation payment processor is certified to PCI Service Provider Level 1, the most stringent level of certification.

TOGETHER

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The work
we've done
TOGETHER
this year will
reverberate for
generations.

MESSAGE FROM Our Board Chair

Our world becomes more interconnected every day. The impact of conflicts, diseases, natural and even manmade disasters is no longer confined to the region where it occurred. Never was this more obvious than in the throes of the global pandemic. When governments impose harsh restrictions on their people—whatever the justification—the negative effects can, and do, reach across borders.

The good news is that positive actions, by those working Together with the vision to promote individual freedom and remove barriers to human flourishing, also have wide-reaching effect . . . often bringing exponential benefit to people across an entire continent, and yes, even far distant parts of the world. You will see examples in this report.

Our 2023 word of the year was **“TOGETHER,”** and we couldn’t have chosen a better one. Together, with our supporters and partners across the globe, we have scored legislative victories that are dramatically improving the lives of everyday people. Together we have educated young adults today who will be leading nations toward greater freedom tomorrow. Together through the years, **we have trained thousands** of free-market and think tank leaders who will be the authors of the as-yet unimagined stories you will read in months and years to come.

We are pleased to present to you a selection of some of the most important work accomplished in the past year in this 2023 Atlas Network Impact Report. In our efforts to provide you with the most relevant information in a concise and meaningful manner, we are merging our *Annual Report* and *Grantee Impact Report* into a single document. In blending these two reports, our goal is to offer you a more comprehensive portrayal of our impactful programs, sharing with you not just the efforts undertaken but also the real-world benefits these actions have brought to people around the world.

Thank you for your continued support of Atlas Network that enables the crucial work we do Together to continue.

Debbi Gibbs
Chair, Board of Directors



Atlas Network

Some of the People...



Atlas Network collaborates with more than 500 independent, nonprofit organizations in over 100 countries, united by a shared dedication to the values of a free society.

...Who Power Our Mission



We serve as the hub for a global community of like-minded freedom champions who want to successfully advance the cause of liberty with local solutions in their countries and communities.



2023 Grant Investments & Outcomes

246
grants

Awarded **US\$7,635,431** across **246 grants** supporting grantees working in 85 countries.

103
countries

Partnered with **589 organizations** in **103 countries**, including 41 new partners.

207
victories

Partners achieved **207 total freedom-expanding policy victories** across 25 countries.



Grant Funding Across the World

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Latin America, Mexico
& the Caribbean:
US\$2,035,962

U.S. & Canada:
US\$1,686,828

Europe & Central Asia:
US\$2,092,739

South Asia:
US\$379,360

East Asia, Pacific
& Oceania:
US\$317,040

Sub-Saharan Africa:
US\$619,207

Middle East
& North Africa:
US\$442,295

Australia &
New Zealand:
US\$62,000

TOGETHER

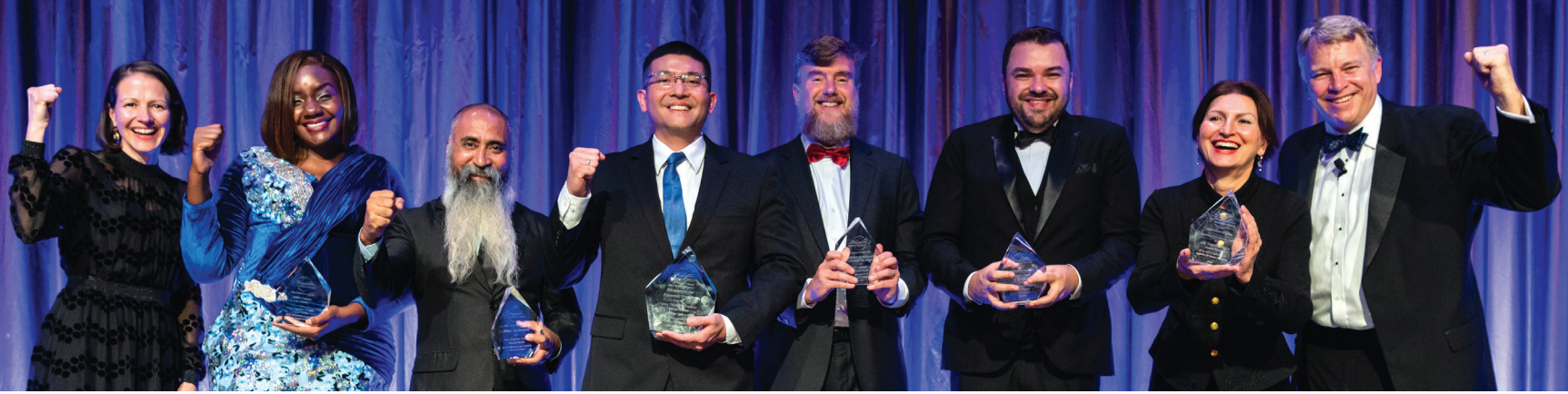


OUR CORE BUSINESS MODEL

Coach, Compete, Celebrate!™



The drive to achieve impact is strongest in the context of friendly competition among high-achieving peers. In this way, Atlas Network's **Coach, Compete, Celebrate!™** model accelerates the pace of pro-liberty policy victories around the globe.



THE COACH DEPARTMENT provides liberty-minded think tanks with essential training in professional and organizational development through Atlas Network Academy and Atlas Network Facilitation Services. Academy programs—both virtual and in-person—enhance and certify skills of individuals working within the freedom movement, while Facilitation Services improves organizational efficiency and impact by helping our partners better envision and implement changes within their unique organizations.

Atlas Network Academy is often the first step for new staff at our network think tanks and required “continuing education” for seasoned staff to ensure their knowledge and skills stay cutting edge in a rapidly changing world. Atlas Network’s specialized summits foster peer-to-peer learning to inspire breakthroughs for the freedom movement.

THE COMPETE DEPARTMENT rewards innovative, impactful, and locally designed projects through a competitive grant process, with a select group of the highest-achieving partners receiving added support through Atlas Network’s annual Smart Bets program. Each year, well-vetted think tanks are also invited to share their best liberty-advancing ideas at each of our six Regional Liberty Forums (U.S. & Canada, Latin America, Europe, Asia & Oceania, Sub-Saharan Africa, and the Middle East & North Africa) through Atlas Network’s Think Tank Shark Tank grant competition. An independent panel of judges selects six finalists from these competitors, with one of these recognized with the \$100,000 Templeton Freedom Award, generously supported by the Templeton Religion Trust.

THE CELEBRATE DEPARTMENT is the perfect companion to our Compete category as we Celebrate the extraordinary accomplishments of our inspiring think tank partners through world-class Regional Liberty Forums and the Liberty Forum & Freedom Dinner. These highly anticipated events strengthen the ties of friendship, increase teamwork, and build support among our freedom-loving partner organizations. They are also an excellent way to bring widespread third-party attention to the remarkable think tanks and people who make up our liberty family.



2023 Grantee Impact



MESSAGE FROM

Director of Development

Dear Friend of Freedom,

We know you understand that every investment takes time to grow and produce a return—whether that is starting a retirement portfolio, raising children, building a business from the ground up, or even planting a crop. Growing the freedom movement is no different.

In 2023 our partners continued to plant new seeds of liberty, watered young seedlings of opportunity, and harvested the fruits of freedom in 207 policy reforms in 25 countries. **In this 2023 Atlas Network Impact Report we are excited to highlight four of those partner organizations whose stories reveal how your investment in Atlas Network has produced results around the globe in 2023.**

While there will always be weeds that attempt to choke out the seedlings of individual rights and free markets, while droughts and harsh winds batter the saplings of limited government, we continue our efforts to grow the grassroots organizations of liberty.

And we see results.

We value your partnership and are so grateful for your continued support. You'll see in this report how we have achieved much more than we ever could have separately, and *Together* we will continue to grow the freedom movement, support classical liberal values, and improve human flourishing around the world.

Vale Sloane
Director of Development
Atlas Network



PHILIPPINES



The Win: Amended the country's restrictive public service law and opened the door to foreign investment, giving over 100 million Filipinos more affordable and reliable access to wireless internet, mass transportation, and renewable energy at lower costs.

The Foundation for Economic Freedom is a public advocacy organization dedicated to advancing the cause of economic and political liberty, good governance, secure and well-defined property rights, market-oriented reforms, and consumer welfare.

The Impact

- 1** Launched a far-reaching multimedia communications campaign to educate the public on how reforming the 86-year-old Public Services Act would improve many aspects of life in the Philippines.
- 2** Lobbied to reform entrenched protectionist laws and actually define “public utility” so that key industries controlled by inefficient monopolies would be open to foreign investment, leading to nationwide improvement in transportation, telecommunications, and electricity.
- 3** FEF worked to remove the country’s restrictions on renewable energy investment, resulting in *Forbes* magazine calling the Philippines one of the hottest markets for renewable energy today.
- 4** FEF-inspired reforms allowed satellite internet companies to begin offering service across the Philippines. Now, many places—like public schools—that have never had reliable internet before have newfound high-speed access to the world.

The Difference WE MADE TOGETHER: In the last five years, the Foundation for Economic Freedom has twice been recognized as the winner of the prestigious Templeton Freedom Award for reforms the organization counts among its greatest policy achievements in their 27-year history. Through Atlas Network Academy training for their communications and fundraising staff, as well grant support for their policy education programs, FEF has established themselves as a trusted and respected advisor to Filipino policymakers—a team capable of taking on major economic challenges once viewed as insurmountable and shifting the Overton Window in the direction of free enterprise and the rule of law.



A F R I C A



STUDENTS FOR LIBERTY
A F R I C A

The Win: African Students For Liberty created exponential growth in Africa's liberty movement by training and developing nearly 1,400 young leaders in classical liberal philosophy, leading to the establishment of almost two dozen pro-liberty think tanks across Africa.

African Students For Liberty, the local branch of the international Students For Liberty (SFL) organization, exists to educate, develop, and empower the next generation of leaders of liberty in Africa.

The Impact

- 1 African SFL established on-campus groups across the continent, introducing college students to the core principles and philosophies of classical liberalism, including free markets, self-reliance, and individual liberty.
- 2 They have mentored a growing network of young adults on the ideas of liberty, training local coordinators with the know-how to establish programs and policies in their own communities to support human flourishing.
- 3 With continued support of exceptional alumni leaders from their programs, Africa SFL has spurred the establishment of nearly two dozen pro-liberty organizations that are having a significant impact changing beliefs, policies, and lives across the continent.
- 4 African SFL's competitive fellowship program received 1,550 applications from 36 African countries, highlighting the organization's ever-growing influence in the region.

The Difference WE MADE TOGETHER: Since 2014, Atlas Network has supported African Students for Liberty outreach programs on university campuses across the continent and has provided Atlas Network Academy training to countless program alumni. These investments have catalyzed a growing, professionalized African freedom movement that regularly convenes in regional conferences, produces original policy writing and research on local issues, and stands at the forefront of empowering a youthful “Cheetah Generation” aware of Africa’s ancient and proud traditions of free enterprise and the rule of law. For their unmatched potential in continuing the growth of Africa’s freedom movement, Atlas Network granted African Students For Liberty \$7,000 as the winner of the 2023 Africa Liberty Award and \$20,000 as a finalist for the 2023 Templeton Freedom Award.



NEPAL



The Win: In a Nepalese province where about 4.5 million people need access to motorbikes to get around, bureaucracy and corruption was forcing drivers to wait years to legally operate a vehicle. Bikalpa—An Alternative brought attention to this injustice, pushing the government to cut licensing wait times from three years to two weeks. This means simple and accessible transportation, free from harassment and abuse by police, enabling people to pursue their livelihoods in peace.

Bikalpa—An Alternative protects the individual rights of Nepalese citizens and advocates for policies that increase economic freedom through research, education, and public engagement.

The Impact

- 1** Bikalpa created short films highlighting harm caused by the broken licensing system. The videos quickly earned millions of views, bringing the issue to the forefront of public discussion.
- 2** When government officials failed to follow through on promises of reform, Bikalpa called for peaceful demonstrations in the streets.
- 3** Responding to Bikalpa's efforts, the government increased the number of licensing service centers in their local province; the number jumped from two to nine.
- 4** Through Bikalpa's influence, obtaining a vehicle license has become markedly easier, with reduced costs and a streamlined process that guarantees approval within two weeks.

The Difference WE MADE TOGETHER: Bikalpa—An Alternative has built a growing, decentralized freedom movement in a country that remains institutionally socialist, and is still governed by Maoists with a statist ideology. As an alumni of Atlas Network's Smith Fellowship, a grantee of our 2023 Smart Bets program, and a participant in mentorships with colleagues in the United States and throughout Asia, Bikalpa's founder, Basanta Adhikari, has received continuous support to build the capacity of his impactful team. Bikalpa's successful efforts have inspired other locally focused policy organizations throughout Atlas Network, winning the 2023 Asia Liberty Award, and earning recognition as a finalist for the 2023 Templeton Freedom Award.



B R A Z I L

ilisp

The Win: Through its Freedom to Work project, ILISP has helped states and municipalities implement the federal Economic Freedom Law, reducing licensing regulations that kept potential workers unemployed or trapped in the informal economy, leading to millions of individuals now having the freedom to pursue their entrepreneurial dreams.

Instituto Liberal de São Paulo (ILISP) is a classical liberal think-tank focused on improving the rights to life, liberty, and property in Brazil.

The Impact

- 1** To date, ILISP has convinced four Brazilian states and 184 municipalities to change the designation of certain professions to “low risk,” alleviating the necessity of a burdensome and restrictive licensing process for millions of workers.
- 2** With support from ILISP, the São Paulo state government redefined 900 economic activities as exempt from licensing permits, the second highest rate in the country.
- 3** Jurisdictions that have adopted the Economic Freedom Law supported by ILISP have seen an 88.9% increase in the annual average number of new businesses opened and 40% increase in the number of jobs.

The Difference WE MADE TOGETHER: Atlas Network provided a monthly series of virtual meetings where Marcelo Faria of ILISP learned how reforming occupational and business licensing requirements could allow low-income workers to move into higher-paying jobs, become entrepreneurs, and keep their businesses open. Inspired by his Atlas Network contacts, Marcelo and the ILISP team began developing relationships with municipalities and states, working to implement the federal Economic Freedom Law that decreased licensing requirements and increased freedom of opportunity for millions of Brazilians, earning recognition as a 2023 Templeton Freedom Award finalist.

Executive Team

Our executive team has a combined 100+ years of experience working for the free society principles at the heart of Atlas Network's mission. We are committed to ensuring the freedom movement is innovating and making progress every day.



Brad Lips
Chief Executive Officer



Matt Warner
President



Tom G. Palmer
Executive Vice President



Lyall Swim
Chief Innovation Officer



Katherine Price
Chief Operations Officer

Board of Directors

Debbi Gibbs, *Chair*

Lawson Bader

Scott Barbee

Thomas Beach

Robert Boyd

Montgomery Brown

Linda Edwards

Dan Grossman

Jean-Claude Gruffat

Gerry Ohrstrom

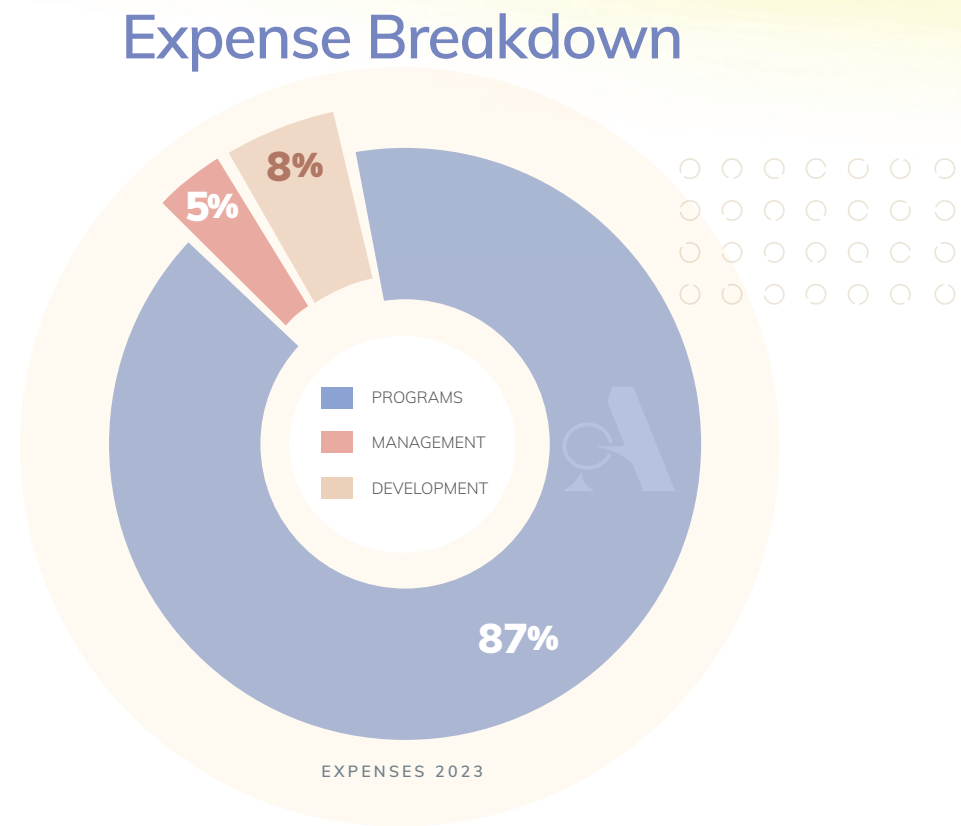
Parth Shah

Laura Ann Spencer

Kathryn Washburn

2023 Year End Financials

	2023 (thousands)	2022 (thousands)
Revenue		
Contributions	\$28,066	\$20,185
Expenses		
Programs	\$19,636	\$18,876
Management	\$1,020	\$955
Development	\$1,872	\$1,572
12/31/23 (thousands)		12/31/22 (thousands)
Cash & Investments	\$18,781	\$9,722
Pledges & Receivables	\$2,313	\$4,369
Other Assets	\$2,491	\$2,729
Total Assets	\$23,585	\$16,821
Liabilities	\$3,082	\$3,240
Net Assets	\$20,502	\$13,580



Audited financial statements are available at AtlasNetwork.org/financials

Strengthening the *Worldwide Freedom Movement*



ATLAS
NETWORK

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