

Security and protection of Environmental Human Rights Defenders (EHRDs): A compendium of resources

This document aims to collect useful resources specific to EHRDs including Indigenous People, Peasants, Women defending the environment, etc.

[General resources and grants for defenders at risk can be found on Shelter city](#)

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Guidance, toolkits for EHRDs holistic security

- [EHRDs toolkit on protection \(APNED\)](#)
- [Guide Personal Safety \(Earth Defenders Toolkit\)](#)
- [Security and protection for Earth Rights Defenders, a facilitation toolkit \(EarthRights International\)](#)
- [Practical Guide to Community-Based Security for Women Defenders of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights \(ProDESC\)](#)

Guidance, toolkits for general holistic security

- [Workbook on security for human rights defenders \(Front Line Defenders\)](#)
- [Reprisals: Toolkit on assessing and mitigating risks for UN engagement \(ISHR\)](#)

Guidance, toolkits for digital security

- [Digital Security For Earth Defenders](#)

Global organisations (including grants)

- **Open Briefing** is an advisory organisation that specialises in risk intelligence, strategic foresight, and security support for EHRDs, amongst other groups. They give [direct advice and accompaniment](#) in designing frameworks to comprehensively enhance security.
- **Frontline Defenders (FLD)** has rapid response mechanisms for human rights defenders. They have also implemented an [emergency response to reprisals](#), including protection grants that equip individuals and collectives “to provide rapid and practical financial support to human rights defenders at risk.”
- **Protection International (PI)** has a comprehensive understanding of community-led protection and collective framing to prevent attacks and mitigate risks. They have several [frameworks and tools for enhancing HRDs](#) protection, including [environmental human rights defenders' work](#).
- **Peace Brigades International (PBI)** works alongside grassroots movements including EHRDs through a combination of [protective accompaniment](#), international advocacy, campaigning, and diplomacy.
- **Earth Rights International** is an organisation that [works globally providing legal, strategic, and advocacy-based protection](#) for EHRDs. They represent cases and victims of human rights abuses arising from environmental harms. They also create resources for defenders to take action independently.
- **Araminta advisers** [support human rights defenders](#) and civil society organisations at the intersection of business, donors and government level. That includes practical protection, rapid support, and long-term strategies for human rights defenders worldwide.

Regional organisations

- **Asia - APNED (Asia Pacific Network of Environmental Defenders)** protects [environmental HRDs](#) by strengthening networks, visibility, and regional solidarity, and by developing capacity and reframing their struggles as human rights and environmental justice issues at the international level.
- **Africa - African Defenders Network** (the Pan-African Human Rights Defenders Network) is a network of five African sub-regional organisations, dedicated to the promotion and protection of human rights defenders (HRDs) across the African continent. Amongst other strands of work, they [provide relocation](#) for EHRDs at risk.
- **Latin America (Central America) - Iniciativa Mesoamericana de Mujeres Defensoras:** They document, alert and advocate for Women HRDs at risk, including those standing up for [environmental causes](#). They adopt a holistic, feminist approach to protection, centred on feminist, intersectional, and decolonial principles, with the aim of upholding movements in the face of structural violence.
- **MENA - Regional Coalition of Women Human Rights Defenders in the Middle East and North Africa (WHRD-MENA):** This coalition [document abuses against women human rights defenders](#), including those defending the environment. They coordinate campaigns and collective action to uphold the role of activists across these regions.

Example of global reports for data on EHRDs

- [The information produced by the UK-based CSO Global Witness](#). This organisation has documented lethal violence against environmental human rights defenders since 2012.
- [The annual report was released by Frontline Defenders \(scroll down on the welcome page\)](#). This organisation gathers different attacks against human rights defenders, including EHRDs
- [The report was released by The Business and Human Rights Centre](#). This report centres its interest on corporate drivers of violence between 2015 and 2024.
- [The bi-annual report produced by the ALLIED Coalition on Environmental Defenders](#). This is an initiative combining efforts from different sources and members of the ALLIED coalition, reflecting on the wide array of violence EHRDs face.

Tip! It is important to use the numbers from those reports to contextualise your advocacy.