

**GOLA
ANNUAL
REPORT**



2023



Gola in 2023

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Gola;

Since 2006, Gola Culture, Art and Ecology Association has been trying to produce in a peaceful and inclusive language in the fields of cultural rights and environmental rights related to the Lazca and the Eastern Black Sea region. In this direction, Gola Culture, Art and Ecology Association has been intertwined with the local community through the Yeşil Yayla Culture, Art and Environment Festivals. The festivals continued for 10 years. Continuing its efforts to expand the shrinking civil space, Gola contributes to the localization of knowledge production processes through its archive and workshops.

1.Vision and Mission

Our Vision:

A society where there is interaction between generations, where equal conditions are created for the survival of cultures, where harmony is achieved between nature and human beings, and where there is no discrimination.

Our Mission:

- **To facilitate effective intergenerational communication,**
- **Building bridges between rural and centers,**
- **Transforming the locality through culture and arts activities,**
- **To increase ecological awareness and widespread it with A holistic perspective on nature and human beings.**
- **To increase local production and stimulate the local economy,**
- **To carry out studies that contribute to the sustainability of Laz language and to carry out the studies carried out support,**
- **Creating an alternative Eastern Black Sea memory through knowledge production,**
- **To create an archive on the Eastern Black Sea region,**
- **To strengthen civil society in the Eastern Black Sea region and contribute to democratization,**
- **Keeping a record of tangible and intangible cultural heritage.**

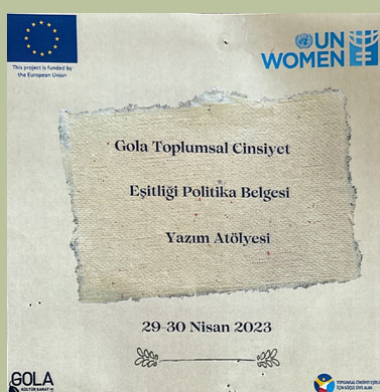
Strengthening the Capacity of Associations

2.1. Policy Documents

In 2023, the focus was on transcribing the internal memory of the Gola association, which was established in 2006, identifying points of institutional resistance and developing policy documents for the sustainability of internal well-being and rights-based perspective. The Principles and Values Policy Paper and Strategy Paper were developed with the support of the Support to Rights Program, while the Gender Policy Paper was developed with the support of UN Women.

2.1.1. Principles and Values Policy Statement

Over a period of 3 months, a working group of 11 members and employees of the Association held meetings in a zoom environment and produced Gola's Policy Statement on Principles and Values.

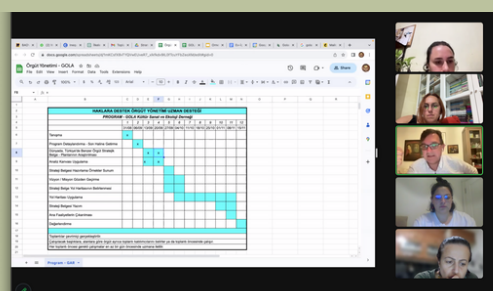


2.1.2. Gender Policy Document

In April, a policy document writing workshop was organized by Ceren Akçabay and a Gender Policy Document Writing Group was formed within Gola. As a result of 5 months of work, a Gender Policy Document was drafted.

2.1.3. Strategy Document

Under the consultancy of Evren Ergeç, the strategy document for 2024-2026 was worked on over a period of three months. The document will be finalized in the first weeks of 2024.



2.2.Human Resources

General Coordinator	Sevilay Refika Kadıođlu
Finance Coordinator	Ebru Demir
Project Coordinator	Bediz Yılmaz
	Çisem Şendeniz
	Özlem Şendeniz
Corporate Assistant	Aycan Şeşen
Project Assistant	Ali Cem Yıldız
Project Employee	Elif Güney Özmetin
	Evrin Aykan
	Soner Oruç
Consultant	Evren Ergeç
	Güneşin Oya Aydemir
	İrfan Çağatay
	Yörük Kurtaran

2.3. Trainings

2.3.1. Digital Transformation Training

Within the scope of the "Digital Transformation" project carried out with Elele Support, a 40-hour training was received. Through this training, it is aimed to strengthen the adaptation of Gola members, employees and volunteers to digital technologies and to ensure information equality in the use of digital tools.



2.3.2. Impact Monitoring and Evaluation Training

As part of the Elele support, Gola received impact monitoring and evaluation training. The goal of the training was to increase our competence in the ways of collecting and analyzing data that will accurately measure the impact of Gola's productions and guide our future work.



2.3.3. Philanthropy and Financial Sustainability

With EED support, Yörük Kurtaran was consulted on financial sustainability and pluralizing sources of finance. It involved learning and experimenting with different income generation models to democratize Gola's financial resources.



Trainings

2.3.4. Minority Rights Group International Turkey Program Thematic Training
Sevilay Refika Kadiođlu attended the training on minority rights in January 2023.



2.3.5. STOK 500 Trainings
Çisem Şendeniz participated in STOK 500 trainings organized by the Civil Society Development Center (STGM) to strengthen civil society in Turkey.



2.3.6. Capacity Building on Gender Equality Data and Statistics and Technical Assistance Program.

Çisem Şendeniz participated in the trainings funded by UN Women and conducted by CEİD in April 2023.

3. Transformation through Culture & Arts

Since the day it set out, Gola has acted with the knowledge and motivation that culture and art are one of the essential and permanent elements of transformation. In 2023, it has taken steps in this direction.

3.1. Apple School

After the Yeşil Yayla Culture, Art and Environment Festivals, Gola is preparing to organize another festival in 2024. As the first event of our festival project to be conducted jointly with Borçka Municipality within the scope of the Ortaklaşa program led by İKSV and Marmara Municipalities Union, Apple School was organized between November 22-24. With the Apple School, an important step has been taken in the establishment and testing of new methods and ways in the relationship between nature and human beings.



3.2. "The Coast That's No Longer There" Premieres

In 2022, the premiere of the short film "The Coast That Is No Longer There", which we made with the support of Heinrich Böll, was held with the support of Elele. The short film focuses on the changing relationship between people and space after the Black Sea Coastal Road project.

3.3. Gola Traditional Laz Calendar 2024

The Gola Traditional Laz language calendar that we produced with the support of Elele this year: 365-leaf educational wall calendar. The content of the calendar was prepared by İrfan Çağatay and its design by Özüm Asilkazancı Ak.



4. Development through Knowledge Production & Sharing

Gola cares about expanding the field of knowledge production and being an intermediary for sharing the knowledge produced locally.

4.1. Gola Gender Equality Talks

With the support of UN Women, 7 interviews were organized in 2023 to contribute to the strengthening of gender equality at the local level and to raise awareness.

15 January 2023 / 14:00	Celal Nizam Osmanağaoğlu / Simge Etik	Women Have No Name Even in Inheritance
24 February 2023 / 17:30	İdil Atasoy	What Falls on the Streets Femicide in Turkey
8 April 2023 / 14:00	Ece Öztan / Özgün Biçer	"What does this have to do with gender?"
6 June 2023 / 18:00:00	Aycihan Onuk	Women's Organizations' Construction of Masculinity: The Case of Hopa and Fındıklı
20 July 2023 / 20:00	Arzu Kepez / İlknur Akbaba	Women's Struggle from Local to Local: Erzincan Case
14 August 2023 / 20:00	Funda Şenol	How We Build Our House of Life: Gender Differences in Autobiographical Narratives
30 September 2023 / 18:00	Ezgi Kovancı / Güneşin Oya Aydemir	What the Climate Says to See: How Women Are Affected by the Climate Crisis



Bu proje Avrupa Birliği tarafından finanse edilmektedir.



KADININ MİRASTA DA ADI YOK



Konuşmacı: Av. Celâl Nizam Osmanağaoğlu
Kolaylaştırıcı: Av. Simge Etik
Tarih / Saat: 15 Ocak 2023 / 14.00
Yer: Gola Fındıklı Ofisi



Bu proje Avrupa Birliği tarafından finanse edilmektedir.



"BUNUN CİNSİYETLE NE İLGİSİ VAR ?"



Konuşmacılar: Ece Öztan-Özgün Biçer
Tarih / Saat: 8 Nisan 2023 / 14.00
Yer: Gola Fındıklı Ofisi



This project is funded by the European Union



"Kadın Örgütlerinin Erkeklik İnşası: Hopa ve Fındıklı Örneği"



Konuşmacı: Aycihan Onuk
Tarih/Saat: 6 Haziran 2023/18.00
Yer: Gola Fındıklı Ofisi



This project is funded by the European Union



Yerelden Yerele Kadın Mücadelesi: Erzincan Örneği



Konuşmacılar: Arzu Kepez-İlknur Akbaba
Tarih/Saat: 20 Temmuz 2023/20.00
Yer: Gola Fındıklı Ofisi



Bu proje Avrupa Birliği tarafından finanse edilmektedir.



Ömür Evimizi Nasıl İnşa Ederiz?: Otobiyografik Anlatılarda Cinsiyet Farkları



Konuşmacı: Funda Şenol
Tarih/Saat: 14 Ağustos 2023/20.00
Yer: Gola Fındıklı Ofisi



Bu proje Avrupa Birliği tarafından finanse edilmektedir.



İklimin Gör Deddiği: Kadınlar İklim Krizinden Nasıl Etkileniyor?



Konuşmacı: Ezgi Kovancı
Kolaylaştırıcı: Güneşin Oya Aydemir
Tarih/Saat: 30 Eylül 2023/18.00
Yer: Gola Fındıklı Ofisi



Development through Knowledge Production & Sharing

4.2. Gola Podcasts

With the support of Friederich Ebert, 9 original podcast episodes were published on 3 podcast channels, Dark Green, From the Soil, From the Local, in 2023.

Koyu Yeşil	On Artvin, Mines and Practices of Struggle with Hakan Tekin
	Defending Animal Rights while the Yusufeli Barrage Holds Water with Yasemin Yılmaz
	The Black Sea under Multiple Pressures and Microplastics with Ülgen Aytan
Toprağın Hali	Geological state of soil with Prof. Dr. Gönenç Göçmengil
Yerelden	"Becoming an Operator" A Conversation with a Lokal Operator
	"Becoming a Localized Youth" A Conversation with a Young Person
	"Becoming a Birdwatcher" A Conversation with an Ornithologist
	"Being a Civil Society Worker" A Conversation with a Civil Society Worker
	"Becoming a Writer in Your Mother Tongue" A Conversation with a Laz Novelist



Development through Knowledge Production & Sharing

4.3. BookLook: Conversations with Authors

In 2023, 2 interviews were held with authors who produced works on Laz language and Laz culture.

Nazlı Demet Uyanık	Author of Şanu
Nuriye Günaydın	Author of Xaticena



4.4. EU Delegation Field Visit

On 12 July 2023, Alexander Fricke, Head of Civil Society, Fundamental Rights, Judiciary and Home Affairs Section, Eser Canalıoğlu, Program Manager and Neslihan Sevilmiş Gola visited the Fındıklı office of the EU Delegation. The visit focused on the shrinking civic space and the situation of civil society in the Eastern Black Sea region.



Development through Knowledge Production & Sharing

4.5. Climate Justice and Gender Workshop
Çisem Şendeniz attended the workshop organized by Kırkayak Cultural Association in October 2023.



4.6. UN Women Strong Civic Space for Gender Equality Project Steering Committee
Özlem Şendeniz attended the Project Steering Committee in Ankara in December 2023 to share the experience of Gola, one of the beneficiaries of the Project's Phase II.

4.7. Experience Sharing Visits for Diversification and Democratization of Financing Sources

In June 2023, Ebru Demir and Sevilay Refika Kadioğlu made a series of visits to rights-based organizations focused on civil society and social enterprise in Istanbul. These visits, with the theme of "learning from each other's experiences", were carried out within the scope of Gola's efforts to democratize and decouple its funding sources. Among the organizations visited were Anadolu Kültür, Hrant Dink Foundation, Idea Universal, Istos Publications, Postane Istanbul, Nostalji Kitabevi.



5. Democratization of Association Financing

With the support of the EED, Gola is working to ensure its financial sustainability and to pluralize and democratize its financial resources. A number of activities are being carried out in this direction.



5.1. Goladan.com

As an example of a slow shop combining traditional crafts with modern designs, goladan.com focuses on women's labor-oriented productions in the rural Eastern Black Sea region.

In November 2023, Çisem Şendeniz and association volunteer Melis Kurum participated in the Civil Voices Festival to promote Goladan's products and Gola's work as a social enterprise.

GOLAdan

5.2. Donationism

Philanthropy, which is one of the uncommon ways of generating income in civil society, is one of Gola's focus areas in the 2023-2024 period.

GOLURI

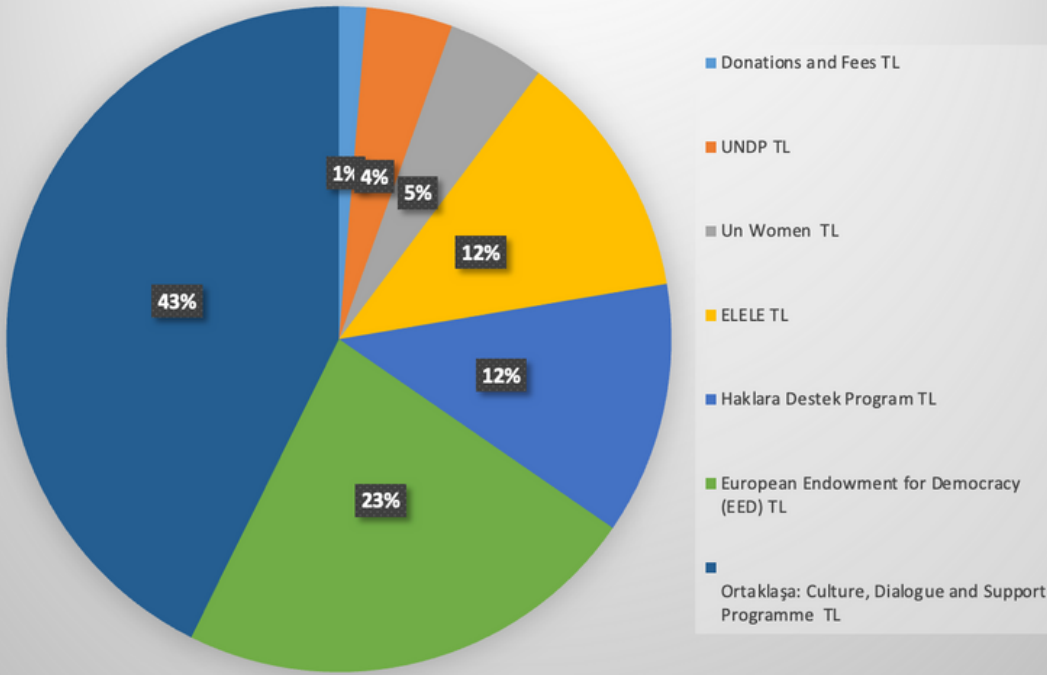
5.3. Goluri

Goluri, a social enterprise, is a tourism company formed under the umbrella of Gola and aims to contribute to Gola's sustainability, designing slow, local and transformative travels. In 2023, it worked to create a model of private sector and civil society cooperation.

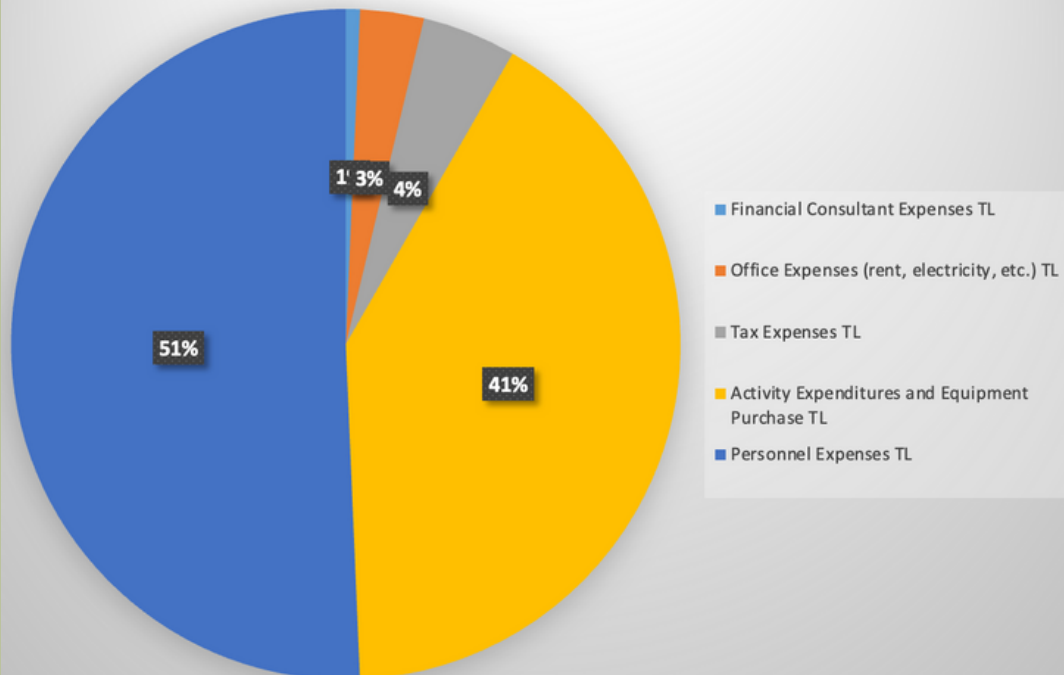
6. Gola Finance in 2023

Our 2023 Declaration, which will be prepared in April 2024, will be added to the report after approval. The graphs of our income and expenditure summaries while preparing the annual report are given below.

INCOMES



EXPENSES



As always, there were many people and institutions that crossed Gola's path in 2023 that we need to thank. Our list of thanks is in alphabetical order.

Persons

Arzu Kepez; Ayberk Çelikel; Aycihan Onuk; Aysel Ergün; Baha Hiçyılmaz; Celal Nizâm Osmanağaoğlu; Çiğdem Usta Güner; Damla Özlüer; Didem Tekeli; Ece Öztan; Ercan Orhan; Evren Ergeç; Evrim Aykan; Ezgi Kovancı; Funda Şenol; Göksenin Göksel; Gönül Özmetin; Güneşin Oya Aydemir; Hakan Tekin; Havva Yazıcı; Hilal Başak Demirbaş; İdil Atasoy; İlke Gökdemir; İlknur Akbaba; İrfan Çağatay; Kadirhan Kadioğlu; Nazlı Demet Uyanık; Nuriye Günaydın; Özgün Biçer; Özgür Mehmet Kütküt; Özgür Kurtuluş; Özlem Ece; Özüm Asilkazancı Ak; Simge Etik ; Soner Oruç; Şenol Taban; Tuğba Yazıcı; Tuna Semir Akpınar; Ülgen Aytan; Yasemin Taşkın; Yasemin Yılmaz; Yaşar Adanalı; Yörük Kurtaran; Yücel Yıldırım Kaya.

Organizations

Anadolu Kültür

Atatürkçü Düşünce Derneği Fındıklı Şubesi

Borçka Belediyesi

Borçka ve Köyleri Turizm Geliştirme Kooperatifi

Cinsiyet Eşitliği İzleme Derneği

Elele

European Endowment for Democracy

Felamur Kadın Derneği

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Derneği Türkiye Temsilciliği

Goluri Turizm

GOperatif Karadeniz Ekolojik Kalkınma Derneği

Hafıza Merkezi

Hayata Destek Vakfı

Heinrich Böll Stiftung Derneği Türkiye Temsilciliği

İdea Universal

İstanbul Kültür Sanat Vakfı

İstos Yayıncılık

Kırkayak Kültür Derneği

Marmara Belediyeler Birliği

Meci Kadın Kooperatifi

Postane

Sivil Toplum Geliştirme Merkezi

United Nations Development Programme

UN Women Türkiye Ofisi

23,5 Hrant Dink Hafıza Mekânı

Special
Thanks

Contact Details

Adres: Gola Kltr Sanat ve Ekoloji Derneđi
Merkez Mah. 1026. Sok. Őahinler Apt. 14/A
53700 Fındıklı/Rize

Tel: 05334905308

Mail: golader@gmail.com

Web: <https://www.golader.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/goladernegi>

Twitter: <https://www.facebook.com/goladernegi>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/goladernegi/>

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/@golakultursanatveekolojide6790>