

3RD QUARTER 2025 | www.rswr.org

Welcome Yasmin to Right Sharing

Right Sharing of World Resources is proud to welcome our new Director of Community Development, Yasmin Khan. She steps into the role following Sarah Northrop, whose many years of expertise and dedication have left a lasting mark. Yasmin says she has "big shoes to fill" and is deeply impressed by the knowledge, commitment, and impact Sarah brought to the position over the years.

Yasmin grew up in Chicago in a multicultural household, with an Indian father and an Italian-American mother. She now calls New Mexico home, where she is drawn to its nature, culture, and sense of community. A journalist for more than two decades, she has reported across the U.S., Mexico, and Bolivia, telling the stories of refugees, migrants, and low-wage workers. As a radio reporter in New Mexico during the COVID-19 pandemic, she covered the Black Lives Matter movement and documented the inequalities faced by low-wage and migrant workers during a time of deep

Yasmin hikes with her dog Roxy in Jemez. New Mexico

YASMIN IS EXCITED TO **WORK ALONGSIDE AN AMAZING TEAM AND** TO LEARN FROM THE WOMEN RSWR PARTNERS WITHIN EACH COUNTRY.

crisis. She has also reported on LGBTO rights at the U.S.-Mexico border, bringing attention to the challenges and resilience of LGBTQ asylum seekers and migrants.

Her academic work is equally far-reaching. Yasmin holds a Ph.D. in Human Geography and Women & Gender Studies from the University of Toronto and two master's degrees—one in Community & Regional Planning and another in Water Resource Management, both from the University of New Mexico. For her doctoral research, she spent years living among Rohingya refugees and impoverished Bangladeshi host communities in the world's largest refugee settlement, examining how humanitarian aid policies shaped gender roles, economic

opportunities, and relationships between refugees and the local population. She has also studied community planning, water resources, and fishing livelihoods in coastal Mexico through a gendered lens, taught courses on gender and dryland agriculture in India, and researched climate change impacts on traditional water-sharing practices in Northern New Mexico,

As she begins her new role, Yasmin is excited to work alongside an amazing team and to learn from the women RSWR partners within each country. When she's not supporting grassroots women's groups, she enjoys hiking and camping with her dog Roxy, traveling, and exploring local food traditions.

PARTNERING WITH WOMEN IN COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

WE ARE CALLED TO THE RIGHT SHARING OF WORLD RESOURCES. FROM THE BURDENS OF POVERTY AND MATERIALISM INTO THE ABUNDANCE OF GOD'S LOVE, TO WORK TOWARD EQUITY AND LIVES OF DIGNITY THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS WITH OUR HUMAN FAMILY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

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Partner Feature: Farming in Sierra Leone

Did you know that women make up over half of the smallholder farmers in sub-Saharan Africa? According to agricultural economist Lesley Hope, these women struggle to obtain the necessary finances and resources to make their farming a successful livelihood. Without access to the capital needed to convert their crops into products easily sold at markets, these women can struggle to meet their basic needs.

Despite these systemic challenges, women farmers are often resilient, knowledgeable about local agricultural practices, and deeply connected to the community. The women in the Kamande Agricultural Project (KAP) in the Koinadugu District of Sierra Leone are prime examples of what women can accomplish when they come together to confront structural barriers. Formed in 2020, the Kamande Project applied for the Right Sharing program in 2022 and received a grant of about \$4,000 USD in early 2023. Since the time of the initial grant, 56 women have received loans from the revolving loan fund to start and expand their agricultural businesses.



KAP Group member Yamana stands with the machines used to process the cassava



KAP used group funds to purchase a machine capable of processing the cassava that is grown in their community. Now many of the women in the group are part of not only farming, but processing, packaging and marketing the products. The women of KAP grow several varieties of cassava that take different lengths of time to mature. When the cassava is ready to be harvested they dig up the tubers and plant. Cuttings from the plant's healthy stems are then planted and grow into a new plant. The group ensures nothing is wasted. The cassava peelings are dried and pounded with cocoa husks and fish skins to make chicken feed; juice from the tubers is evaporated to make laundry starch. Not only have these women overcome the many barriers confronting women farmers in Sierra Leone, they have grown sustainable businesses that uplift all in the community.

KAP Group member points to a sign outside their building that lists all the products they make from processing cassava

A New Chapter for a Good Friend

DEAR RIGHT SHARING SUPPORTERS.

I am writing to officially announce my retirement from RSWR. I began working for RSWR in 2007 and became Program Director in 2014. I have worked with five different General Secretaries and 12 different Country Coordinators. RSWR has been a wonderful place to work. I have always felt like my ideas and skills were appreciated and listened to. But the most



Sarah Northrop stands with all the RSWR Country Coordinators at the 2025 Consultation in Vihiga County, Kenya

important thing about my job has been that I have felt like I was helping the world be a better place.

All the people that I worked with over these years have been wonderful. I especially cherish the relationships I have forged with the RSWR Country Coordinator teams. They are

very dedicated to their jobs and committed to changing their communities, one Right Sharing supported group at a time. I will miss everyone, and I hope to continue to stay in touch with RSWR as a donor and supporter.

With warm regards, Sarah Northrop





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