

2023  
Annual Review

For Review Only

A Year of

Adversity  
Unity  
Support

**ORT** Impact  
Through  
Education

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# Executive Summary

In each of the past four years we have been beset by challenges and tragedies that we could never have anticipated. Sadly 2023 followed a similar trajectory for World ORT and our 200,000 beneficiaries worldwide.



**Robert Grey**  
World ORT Chair



**Dan Green**  
Director General & CEO

The year started with many of our programs, including summer schools and other activities, returning in-person for the first time since the Covid pandemic struck. The election of a new Board of Trustees and lay leaders in June gave us fresh impetus and renewed focus in our work.

We have seen our innovative education curricula adopted with great enthusiasm across the network, bringing new lessons and programs to students this year.

Our inaugural Global Citizenship program concluded with a celebratory event for students and their teachers, featuring the launch of a manifesto written by the students.

We are also looking forward to seeing our world-class Jewish Experience curricula reaching more students in more countries in 2024.

Despite these positives, the year was one of ongoing, serious challenges across our network, not least in Ukraine, where students, teachers and staff remain under the regular threat of violence after almost two years of deadly war.

We have worked hard to ensure students are as safe as possible while they continue their education in such trying circumstances. We have also extended our support for their families and teachers who endeavor to give the children a sense of normalcy despite everything they face.

And then of course, on October 7, the Jewish world changed dramatically and comprehensively as Israel suffered the deadly terror atrocity that constituted the worst attacks on Jews since the Shoah. The consequences have been felt in every corner of ORT's network.

Hundreds of our students and teachers in Israel were affected directly, either through the evacuation of World ORT's Kfar Silver Youth Village close to the Gaza border and the surrounding area, by their links to those killed, or by IDF service in the war that followed.

We are immensely proud of, and moved by, the response of World ORT Kadima Mada staff and our supporters worldwide. The show of unity among global Jewry has been one of the bright spots amid this entire horrific experience. We are deeply grateful to those who have helped us emotionally and financially in the final months of the year.

World ORT's international fundraising campaign to help provide urgent educational and psychological support has raised millions of dollars. This will enable us to help our beneficiaries as they process their trauma.

Your support will also assist the provision of vital services to meet the immediate needs of students and their families, support our staff and strengthen security measures now and for the future.

Rest assured, the ORT network has long been known for its resilience, particularly in times of war and tragedy for the Jewish people. We will continue to respond with the kindness, dignity and defiance that our predecessors and alumni have always shown.

At this difficult time we all pray for peace and the ongoing safety and security of our students, teachers and colleagues worldwide.

# Our Mission

A global education network driven by Jewish values and innovation, preparing people and communities for meaningful, self-sufficient futures.

# Our Values

Sustainability / Integrity / Innovation / Passion / Cooperation / Versatility / Excellence / Tikun Am / Tikun Olam

# Our Pillars

## Education for Life



Providing students with the skills to thrive through high-quality teaching and training.

ORT programs prepare students for careers in developing industries. As workplace opportunities rapidly evolve, ORT teaches new skills needed to gain and maintain expertise for employment in sought-after fields.

## Global Citizenship



Preparing students to lead socially responsible lives.

ORT students develop an increased understanding of moral and ethical issues beyond their geographic boundaries, allowing them to make better-informed choices for themselves and for society.

## Jewish Experience



Ensuring Jewish continuity by enriching Jewish education, identity and appreciation of Jewish tradition, values and culture.

ORT schools are the primary source of Jewish affiliation for many students and their families – providing a direct connection to our religion, history and culture.

# Our History

ORT has been transforming lives through training and education since 1880. From focusing on teaching 19th century Russian Jews essential trades and professions, we have evolved to provide 21st century skills that empower individuals and strengthen communities and Jewish life worldwide. The ORT network reaches 200,000 people, across 39 countries, in more than 40 schools, two universities, and vocational training programs.



# Education Department

The Education Department's approach was developed following feedback from around the network on the most urgent needs in our schools, universities and programs.

We learnt that our colleagues delivering Jewish education needed fresh ideas; that our schools and colleagues wanted greater confidence when working to future-proof their students' education; and that there was a desire to provide external initiatives alongside the development of local capacity.

In the following pages you will read more about our Three Pillars and the activities our Education Department have pioneered throughout 2023.

World ORT's Education Department, led by the team in London, is responsible for the management of our educational programs and projects worldwide.

Throughout 2023, our dedicated pedagogical experts worked to lead the network's approach to world-class, contemporary curricula and programs. We focused on a number of priorities developed after extensive consultation with our teachers and education leaders internationally.

Our priorities included:





WORLD  
ORT

Impact  
Through  
Education

# Education For Life

Providing students with the skills to thrive through high-quality teaching and training.

Today's schoolchildren will face a life of dizzying change. To make sure they are prepared, ORT is constantly working to update and improve the educational experience we provide, develop teacher skills and nurture potential leaders throughout our network.

ORT students have the opportunity to excel in projects including socially responsible entrepreneurship, innovation

and product development – which complement our strong foundation in STEM. The programs prepare them for careers in developing industries. We constantly strive to meet our students' fast-changing needs – providing vital resources and experiences they might otherwise never get to enjoy.

# Education For Life



## Taub Young Entrepreneurship Program

The World ORT Taub Young Entrepreneurship Program (YEP) competition is an opportunity for students to live the experience of designing a product or service that solves a social problem, with milestone presentations and pitches to judges throughout the course.

This year's YEP program in the southern hemisphere was won by a team from King David School in Johannesburg, South Africa, with a project to track the health of pets.

In the northern hemisphere, a plan to match digital nomads to unoccupied office spaces secured first place for a group of students from Colegio Olamí ORT in Mexico City.

The year-long YEP course simulates the real-world process of developing an initial idea through market research, analyzing risks and opportunities, designing a marketing strategy, manufacturing a product prototype, and finally presenting a business plan and sales pitch.



## LEAD Seminar

World ORT's LEAD seminar is no ordinary teacher training course. The annual leadership program gives outstanding professionals the tools they need to reach their potential and become ORT's educational leaders and senior managers.

This year's course took place at Madrid's Jewish Community Center and welcomed 21 ORT educators and professionals representing 16 countries.

Sessions looked at what motivates individuals and why people react the way they do to different challenges, the most effective ways to build a high-performing team, and role-playing activities such as coaching sessions and team-building exercises.

Pablo Alejandro Volosin, from Escuela ORT Argentina in Buenos Aires, said: "Being part of the ORT network allows us to pursue high standards in education. It is an opportunity to grow as professionals, understand our role and find resources to continue growing in the community."



## STEM Summer School

World ORT's annual STEM Summer School took place in Israel in July, creating a remarkable platform for 20 exceptional students with a passion for STEM fields. These hand-picked students from 12 countries developed their skills while working on university-level projects at Braude College in Karmiel.

During the two-week program, they dedicated their efforts to developing innovative ideas and presented them to their peers. Beyond the academic endeavors, they enjoyed moments exploring the beautiful landscapes of Israel and engaging in enriching Jewish experiences.

Isabella, a student from the Colegio Isaac Rabin in Panama, said: "I met really amazing people and the research was super interesting. I had so much fun and learned so much about Jewish and Israeli culture – it was incredible."



## Digital Skills Academy

Students from across Europe and Israel took part in the first in-person World ORT Digital Skills Academy summer school since the pandemic.

The group of 22 talented youngsters travelled to Sofia, Bulgaria, for two weeks of intensive studies and skill development. During the program, participants honed their video production, audio production, and digital photography skills. The students travelled from Bulgaria, Spain, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia.

The participants included three Ukrainian students after ORT Ukraine facilitated their departure from the war-affected country. It took more than 24 hours as they crossed thousands of kilometers by road and then rail from their home cities to Sofia.

One of the students, Polina, said: "The camp had an atmosphere of peace, mutual support and friendship. It was a place where dreams could come true."





## Preparing students to lead socially responsible lives.

Global Citizenship is an area of education introduced to the ORT network over the past two years – and in 2023 we saw the new curricula and programs flourish as they were welcomed by students.

Alongside a rigorous education which provides students with the knowledge and skills to succeed, our challenge is for ORT schools to inspire students to apply what they learn on a global scale and to be agents of positive change. Our Global Citizenship program comprises

an international component: training courses for teachers, youth forums, regular online events; with a local component: supporting schools with online courses, lesson plans and other learning resources.

This year's inaugural Global Citizenship program concluded with students launching their manifesto, representing the culmination of their work, but the beginning of the next phase of our development of this crucial area.

# Global Citizenship



# Global Citizenship



## Global Citizenship Manifesto

The first World ORT Global Citizenship Manifesto provides a snapshot of ORT students' concerns, thoughts and ideas around what Global Citizenship means to them.

Student ambassadors met online to complete six hours of training in governance and dialogue techniques to help build consensus. Three ambassadors from each participating school then conducted surveys among their peers, gathering insights on diverse social and environmental concerns as well as interpersonal issues such as mental health, identity and communicating with others.

By gathering completed surveys from more than 140 students globally, they were then able to bring their data and knowledge to a series of Youth Forums where they created responses which ultimately formed the manifesto document.

July's celebration event acknowledged their work and contribution to the future of the program and officially launched the manifesto.

Alex, a student at the ORT No. 134 'Dimcho Debelianov' Jewish School in Sofia, Bulgaria, said: "As a teenager you don't have a lot of power to do things, so attending a project and being an active part of this makes me feel really nice about myself. I'm doing something really useful."

## World Refugee Day

To mark World Refugee Day, more than 100 students from across ORT's school network – including in Panama, France, Spain, Mexico and Argentina – joined a special online session to hear three displaced women who have benefited from ORT's assistance, speak about their experiences of leaving home and arriving in a new country and having to adapt to carve out a new future for themselves.

A first-hand engagement with the lived refugee experience gave the students a wider lens of humanity, nurturing empathy and other humanistic values.

The students heard from two Afghan women: Sadaf, who had left six years ago and settled in Greece, and Mehreen, who had only left 18 months ago and who currently resides in Albania. Sofia, a young Ukrainian who has made her home in Bulgaria, also spoke of her experience.

## World Poetry Day & Water Day

The combination of World Poetry Day and World Water Day on consecutive days in mid-March provided the opportunity to bring students together to share water-themed poems and presentations.

The theme for this year's World Water Day event was Accelerating Change. Students joined from countries including Peru, Panama, France, Israel, Lithuania, Brazil and South Africa.

The group learned about the largest river basin in the world – the Amazon river – from students in Brazil; heard about water-borne diseases in the form of poetry from students in Peru; and the process of creating tap water in the Ile-de-France region from students at the Ecole de Travail ORT in Paris, France.



Ensuring Jewish continuity by  
enriching Jewish education,  
identity and appreciation of  
Jewish tradition, values and culture.

Our schools are the primary  
source of Jewish affiliation for  
many students and their families  
– providing a direct connection to  
our religion, history and culture.

Through hands-on classroom  
experiences, family activities  
and virtual get-togethers, even  
the youngest ORT students  
gain an understanding of their  
deep Jewish roots. Non-Jewish  
students at ORT schools also  
benefit by gaining an appreciation  
for Jewish practice and values,  
creating an atmosphere for future

understanding and tolerance.

World ORT provides the  
framework and the tools, as  
students enjoy the rituals and  
learn the story behind Passover,  
Chanukah and the High Holy Days  
– as well as many other festive  
and meaningful observances,  
such as Lag B'Omer.

The development of a new  
curriculum for ninth and tenth  
grade students continued  
throughout 2023.

# Jewish Experience



# Jewish Experience



## Developing Thinking Skills Through Jewish Texts

Developing Thinking Skills Through Study of Jewish Texts was due to be launched with a training seminar for teachers in Israel in November. The event was postponed due to the October 7 attacks but it is hoped it will now take place in 2024 instead.

A series of virtual training sessions was prepared by World ORT's Education Department covering tutorials for each curriculum unit, with live Q&A sessions for schools, and regular live check-in sessions to follow.

The new curriculum aims to ignite a lifelong love of learning for students through the introduction of a range of Jewish texts. With seven units of lessons, each building a specific set of thinking skills, the program is inclusive and suitable for all denominations of Judaism.

It has been received with enthusiasm by Jewish educators who are excited by this new approach, and we are delighted to offer ORT schools the opportunity to be part of this new way of learning.

## The B'nei Mitzvah Pilot Program

The B'nei Mitzvah Pilot Program launched successfully in March this year with an online teacher training seminar and more than 120 students participating

The three-month program focused on learning more about this meaningful milestone in Jewish life. Students twinned with another school in the network for cultural and collaborative learning. This allowed young people from different countries to share perspectives as they explored their journeys from childhood to adulthood together. Students also had the opportunity to explore their heritage through home learning activities with their families.


A series of eight lessons guided students to think about their own personal journey, their place in the local community and connections to the larger, global Jewish community. The year culminated with a celebration event at which students shared their learning experiences.

“

*The B'nei Mitzvah program was truly captivating and eye opening. It allowed for our pupils to see that they are not alone in the way in which they prepare for and celebrate their B'nei Mitzvah.*

*They really are part of a beautiful Jewish tapestry. It was a truly special experience for our Grade 6 students to do with their families. We look forward to the continued success and partnership with this amazing program and organization.*

Yael Fish, Teacher and Head of Jewish Life and Learning at Herzlia Weizmann Primary, South Africa”

A background image showing three children of Middle Eastern descent. In the foreground, a boy in a blue t-shirt with a World ORT logo holds a small Israeli flag on a stick with red pom-poms. Behind him, another boy in a maroon shirt also holds a flag. To the right, a girl in a light green shirt holds a flag. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

In the days and weeks that followed the October 7 terror attacks, the sheer horror of one of the darkest days in the country's history became clear to all.

The impact on World ORT Kadima Mada, our operational arm in Israel – was felt deeply. As 2023 drew to a close, Kadima Mada was assisting more than 4,000 students across more than 40 evacuation centers around Israel.

Our teams were providing counseling, psychological assistance and a range of physical therapies including sport and krav maga sessions.

# Israel at War



# Our Emergency Response



World ORT's Kfar Silver Youth Village sits just a few kilometers from the Gaza border. Many of the students from the village's high school live in the kibbutzim most desperately affected by the violence.

Around 60 boarding students who live at the village, and five madrichim, were on site on October 7. Thanks to the heroic actions of two coach drivers, it was possible to evacuate the students to safer areas in the north of the country.

Artem, who is 17, has previous experience of escaping violence – he moved to Israel last year from his home city in Ukraine after the outbreak of war. He now lives at Kfar Silver and on the morning when the Hamas attacks began, fled the village. "In that moment we had no idea where we were going or where we would be taken. Obviously it was very stressful," Artem explains.

Reflecting on the experience of twice being displaced by war, Artem says: "This is the harsh reality. Around half the students on the Na'ale program (for youths learning in Israel without their

families) at Kfar Silver are from Ukraine – the same thing happened to all of us. It is just horrible."

World ORT Kadima Mada's expert staff evaluated the mental health and emotional needs of all our students and teachers in the first weeks after the attacks. Students identified as being in greater need received immediate one-on-one support from our counselors, social workers, and psychologists.

Stress-relief activities included online workshops in subjects such as science, DIY, robotics, coding, and VR.

Shahar, a seven-year-old from a kibbutz in the country's far north, studied at a school for displaced children and took part in Kadima Mada's science program. He said: "I participate in the special school that they organized for us. I learned a lot. I have fun in classes and I want to have more science activities like this."

In November, Dan Green, World ORT Director General and CEO, returned to Israel to visit our staff and students across the country, just as in-person classes at

Kfar Silver slowly began to restart. He spent time with Amos Gofer, CEO of Kfar Silver, and Dr. Moshe Leiba, Chief Pedagogy and R&D Officer of World ORT Kadima Mada.

Dan said: "It was an incredibly inspiring, uplifting and positive experience for me. To see our students coming back to school was fantastic because there was so much joy in their faces." He paid tribute to staff "for the incredible work they have been doing – picking up the pieces, showing love and support and care for all of our students. I can't thank them enough".

The long-term impact of the war is clear for our students, teachers and their families. The focus has shifted to dealing with their psychological needs.

Our extra-curricular YOUNiversity courses relaunched in Dimona and Kiryat Yam and more than 340 students will benefit from dozens of permanent courses.

At Kfar Silver, by early December around 180 boarding students were back living on site – around 75 per cent of the total regular number of boarders.


Amos Gofer said: "The spirit is strong. Some staff lost dear family members so it is obvious they are not in a good emotional condition, but almost everyone else from the staff is back working in the village."

ORT schools globally have shown tremendous support for Israel since the attacks. Students came together to pray, sing the Hatikvah and light memorial candles while paying respect to those who lost their lives. World ORT hosted solidarity events for schools and supporters to come together online to show unity.

Dr. Leiba praised the "huge concern and love we are getting from all around the world – from students, from staff, from leaders, from everybody. I think this is what makes us strong".

Your ongoing contributions will enable us to provide vital services to meet the needs of students and their families, support our staff and strengthen security measures now and for the future.



A photograph of a woman with red hair, wearing a white shirt, hugging a young child with a shaved head and a black headband. They are both smiling. In the background, there is a crowd of people, including a man in a striped shirt and a young girl in a white shirt. The scene appears to be outdoors, possibly at a public event or gathering.

As we approach the second anniversary of the outbreak of war in Ukraine, ORT professionals, students and teachers continue to show their dedication to education in the most trying circumstances.

# Ukraine

## A challenging year



# Ukraine



In addition to ensuring our students can continue their education, our staff and supporters have provided dedicated assistance – organizing logistical, humanitarian, and financial aid for thousands of ORT family members.

At the start of 2023, around two-thirds of ORT Ukraine's 3,000 students were believed to be living in the country, with one-third displaced abroad.

Regular online learning continued as the disruption to education was extended into a fourth year since the outbreak of the Covid pandemic. The impact of this will be felt for many years, both by individual students and their schools.

In Kyiv, Chernivtsi and Bila Tserkva, in-person classes resumed for more than 1,300 students. Together with their teachers they benefited from the intensive psychological first aid training and trauma management World ORT helped facilitate in late 2022.



Supported by our international fundraising partners we were also able to deliver generators and other power provisions to our schools to help them through the harsh winter and the effects of Russian strikes on infrastructure.

In Kyiv, the ORT Simha School hosted what was known locally as an 'Unbreakable Point' – providing electricity, internet and other vital infrastructure during long power outages.

Based in the school's underground shelter it allows work to continue during the frequent air raid alerts in the capital. Beneficiaries are provided with constant light and electricity to charge cell phones and laptops, access the internet, make hot drinks and use other essential equipment.

As the year progressed, more than 150 people from our schools in Odesa and Zaporizhzhia returned to the cities after



months living in a hotel ORT procured to serve as an evacuation center in western Ukraine. While the move home did not reflect a significant improvement in safety in areas close to the frontlines, it showed the families' determination to return to some semblance of normalcy after more than 18 months of war.

The urgent needs of ORT Ukraine have remained consistent throughout 2023. World ORT continues to help thousands who require ongoing humanitarian support, while also working on significant infrastructure support and the vital work to deal with the longer-term, significant emotional trauma affecting teachers, students and their families.

It remains extremely difficult to predict what the situation will be in the coming year. Events in Odesa and Zaporizhzhia in the final three months of 2023 highlighted the extent of the challenge.

In October, a ballistic missile attack led to the destruction of the home of an English



teacher from our school in Zaporizhzhia. Her apartment was completely destroyed while she reviewed students' homework late at night, and she was pulled from the rubble by rescuers. She sustained cuts, severe psychological distress and was left homeless. The nightgown she was wearing at the time was her only surviving possession.

By early December, students at the Odesa ORT Jabotinsky School #94 were finally able to resume in-person classes following the building of a new shelter facility at the school. Hundreds of children returned in a hybrid format, alternating between in-person and online lessons to ensure that in the event of emergency the capacity of the shelter was not exceeded.

While we pray that 2024 brings better news for everyone at ORT Ukraine, World ORT remains realistic about the prospects for a speedy or peaceful resolution to the war – and both the ongoing needs and reality of life for our students and teachers nationwide.



# Around the World

Albania  
Argentina  
Belarus  
Belgium  
Brazil  
Bulgaria  
Canada  
Chile

Colombia  
Costa Rica  
Cuba  
Czech Republic  
Estonia  
Ethiopia  
France  
Ghana

Greece  
Guinea  
India  
Israel  
Italy  
Kyrgyzstan  
Latvia  
Lithuania

Mexico  
Moldova  
Panama  
Peru  
Russia  
Singapore  
South Africa  
Spain

Sri Lanka  
Switzerland  
The Netherlands  
UK  
Ukraine  
Uruguay  
USA





## Brazil

The sixth Scholas World Youth Encounter took place in Sao Paulo, with international students promoting tolerance and intercultural dialogue. Fifty ORT students attended from nine countries: Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Spain, South Africa, and Ukraine.

Participants were divided into two groups: one concentrating on graphic arts, and the other on theatre and body movement. In the workshops, they developed their skills and their capacity to better understand others.

Students heard from Jose Maria Del Corral, president of Pope Francis' Scholas Foundation, and Dario Werthein, former World ORT Chair of Trustees.



## Argentina and Mexico

Students from the Mecatrónica program at ORT Argentina enjoyed a series of great results at the 2023 Nadav Shoham Robotraffic Competition at the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology.

The event sees student robotics teams create intelligent cars which can run on smart roads. The teenagers build their team-work capabilities and gain exposure to high-tech multi-disciplinary robots and sensors as part of the popular program.

Robotraffic is a joint project organized by the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology with World ORT and the World Zionist Organization.

This year's winners list was dominated by teams from our schools in Argentina and Mexico.



## Bulgaria

Students from the ORT No. 134 "Dimcho Debelianov" Jewish School in Sofia took part in cultural exchanges with children from Colegio Olamí ORT in Mexico.

In January the Mexican school hosted a moving ceremony in memory of the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the Jews of Bulgaria. Children from Sofia spent time with Olamí ORT students of all school grades, as well as teachers and coordinators. Among the activities they participated in were sessions in the school's media center.

For the return visit, the Mexicans travelled to Sofia to see first-hand the history of the Jewish community and to learn together with their peers.

Bulgarian student Raya said the trip had "completely changed my mindset and gave me more knowledge".



## Lithuania

A special exhibition dedicated to the history of an ORT school in Vilnius opened at Lithuania's National Library to coincide with the city's 700th anniversary.

"A Window to the Future" provided a closer look at life at the ORT Technicum school during the inter-war period of the 20th century.

Documents from the National Library's Judaica Collection included research papers and photographs of the school's students, information about their studies and Yiddish textbooks written by teachers.

The ORT school opened in 1921 and was a key center of Jewish life in the city between the wars.



## Ethiopia

An initiative was launched to benefit young Ethiopian Jews who do not have the opportunity or community resources to learn basic skills and to experience the modern professional world of work.

ORT aimed to provide these young people with the tools needed for future employment in tech and other skilled industries.

World ORT Kadima Mada designed workshops and provided instructors to facilitate science and technology skills building. The program is part of the World ORT International Cooperation department's global aid work, and hoped to ultimately reach 300 Ethiopian Jewish students aged 14 to 21 in the town of Gondar. The students learn how to construct their resumes, prepare for job interviews, learn communication skills, and receive an introduction to innovation and entrepreneurship.

Our national fundraising organizations continued to rise to the global challenges we faced throughout 2023.

Each country carried out its own range of activities to raise much-needed funds for our work, as well as rapidly responding to the crisis in Israel after October 7.

We also remain indebted to the support of the Jewish Federations of North America and their professional and lay leaders for their unstinting support of ORT's operations worldwide.

# Fundraising Update



## ORT America

ORT America's Annual Meeting took place online in October, in the shadow of the attacks in Israel, and saw the election of new Chair Michael Perlmutter, and Dr. Louanne Smolin, Chair of ORT America's Executive Committee. It was also an opportunity to thank outgoing Chair Howard Lanznar for his many years of dedicated service.

One of the highlights of the year was ORT Michigan's annual Rub-a-Dub fundraiser in September which attracted more than 400 attendees and generated more than \$1 million. The 2023 event, which included the presentation of the Hermelin ORT Legacy Award to the Tapper family, had more than 70 sponsors, the most in its history.

ORT supporters also enjoyed an annual brunch in Ohio – for remarkably the 52nd year; the second ORT Florida golf outing; a series of lunch events in Chicago; a past presidents' reunion in Atlanta; an art auction and whisky tasting in Detroit; a dinner honoring the founders of the Honey from the Heart initiative; and even a house party.





## ORT UK

The focus of ORT UK's Annual Dinner highlighted the essential need for psychological and educational support for our beneficiaries in Israel.

More than 200 people attended, raising more than £500,000.

Dan Rickman, ORT UK CEO, said: "The evening's success was bittersweet, as the room was packed with our loyal supporters but we were united in both our solidarity with Israel and our heartbreak for the current situation."

The summer saw the return of the annual ORT UK Business Breakfast, with a panel of guests sharing their fascinating insights into careers in the football industry in Britain. Speakers included former Premier League footballer Freddie Ljungberg.

ORT UK also expanded their highly successful ORT JUMP program, helping more than 500 young people to navigate their career paths and gain essential employability skills.



## ORT Canada

Leading supporters of ORT Canada continued their generous backing of World ORT projects throughout 2023, including Shawna Goodman and Todd Sone Family Foundation, and George Fischer and his sons Ryan and Sean, backing projects at Kfar Silver. The Azrieli Foundation of Canada renewed its 'One Team' Camp at the village for Israeli and Bedouin girls for the second summer following 2022's success.

The flagship event of the year was due to be the ORT Montreal Ted Wise Casino Fundraiser in October. Taking place just a couple of weeks after the attacks in Israel, the team made rapid changes to their plans and instead ran an online information evening. This featured updates from Israel and around the network.

The successful ORT Toronto Charity Golf Fundraising events raised close to CA\$100,000. The ride for STEM cycling event on behalf of ORT Vancouver, raised over CA\$20,000.



## ORT Switzerland

In 2023, all efforts in Geneva were concentrated on fundraising for the emergency programs in Ukraine and Israel. The organization enjoyed success in attracting more donors and getting larger commitments. The flagship event was a lunch for larger donors, which heard live from Kfar Silver CEO Amos Gofer describing the aftermath of October 7 and the way their lives changed after that day. There was also a classical concert, very well attended, including by non-Jewish friends who recognize and value our inclusive approach to education.

In Zurich, the annual ORT Forum publication was sent to supporters in May with an additional request for support for shelters at Kfar Silver. This request was renewed following the atrocities later in the year.

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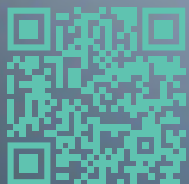
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