FEIN:04-3311745

ASHOKA TRUST FOR RESEARCH IN ECOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT, INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2023

ASHOKA TRUST FOR RESEARCH IN ECOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT, INC. D/B/A ATREE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Independent Auditor's Report	1
Statement of Financial Position	3
Statement of Activities	4
Statement of Functional Expenses	5
Statement of Cash Flows	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors ASHOKA TRUST FOR RESEARCH IN ECOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT, INC. 11 Richmond Road Belmont, MA 02478

REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of ASHOKA TRUST FOR RESEARCH IN ECOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT, INC., (hereafter referred to as "ATREE", or "the Organization"), which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2023, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets, functional expenses and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

OPINION

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above, present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of ATREE as of December 31, 2023, and the results of its operations and changes in net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

PURPOSE

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the management and board of directors of the Organization and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Menpane CPA Pc.

P Neupane CPA PC Medford, Massachusetts September 11, 2024

Ashoka Trust For Research In Ecology and The Environment, Inc. 11 Richmond Road, Belmont, MA 02478 Statements of Financial Position As of December 31, 2023

ASSETS

		<u>2023</u>
CURRENT ASSETS	<i>.</i>	202.255
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	393,277
Accounts Receivable (Net of Allowance)		0
Prepaid Expenses & Other Current Assets		0
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		393,277
FIXED ASSETS		
Property & Equipment (Net of Depreciation)		0
MARKETABLE SECURITIES		
Investment Fair Market Value		379,224
TOTAL LONG-TERM INVESTMENT		379,224
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	772,501
LIABILITIES & STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
LIABILITIES		
Credit Card Payable		3,150
TOTAL LIABILITIES		3,150
NET ASSETS:		
Unrestricted Net Assets		769,351
Temporary Restricted Net Assets		0
Permanently Restricted Net Assets		0
TOTAL NET ASSETS		769,351
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$	772,501

The accompanying notes are integral part of these financial statements.

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Ashoka Trust For Research In Ecology and The Environment, Inc. 11 Richmond Road, Belmont, MA 02478 Statement of Activities For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

		TEMPORARY	PERMANENTLY	<u>TOTAL</u> ACTIVITIES
	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	2023
SUPPORT & REVENUES				
Public Support and Other Revenues				
Special Event Proceeds	0			0
Less: Direct Cost of Benefit to Donors	0			0
Gifts, Grants and Contributions	1,134,469			1,134,469
Dividend and Interest Income	4,633			
Other Income	0			0
Total Public Support and Other Revenues	1,139,102	0	0	1,139,102
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES	1,139,102	0	0	1,139,102
EXPENSES:				
Program Services	1,367,234			1,367,234
Administrative	10,271			10,271
Fundraising	0			0
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,377,505	0	0	1,377,505
INVESTMENT INCOME (LOSS)	182,706			182,706
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(55,697)	0	0	(55,697)
NET ASSETS- BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	825,048	0	0	825,048
NET ASSETS- END OF THE YEAR	\$ 769,351	0	0_	769,351

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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AS HOKA TRUST FOR RESEARCH IN ECOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT, INC. STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

PROGRAM ADMINI-<u>FUND</u> **FUNCTIONAL** SERVICES **STRATIVE** RAISING EXPENSES 1,255,282 0 Gift & Grant Expenses \$ 0 1,255,282 Legal, Accounting & Professional 0 3,930 0 3,930 Travel, Transportation & Refreshment 37,260 0 0 37,260 Bank Fees 0 0 37 37 Consultation Fees 38,194 0 0 38,194 Margin Interest 0 7,451 0 7,451 Office Expenses 0 6,054 0 6,054 Registration, License & Permits 0 250 0 250 Occupancy (In Kind) 0 7,500 0 7,500 Project Expense 21,547 0 21,547 0 **Total Functional Expenses** 1,352,283 25,222 0 1,377,505

The accompanying notes are integral part of these financial statements.

Ashoka Trust For Research In Ecology and The Environment, Inc. 11 Richmond Road, Belmont, MA 02478 Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		<u>2023</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$	(55,697)
Adjustments to reconcile the above		
to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation Expense		0
Loss on Disposal of Property and Equipment		0
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities:		
Credit Card Payable		1,142
Net Adjustment		1,142
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities	\$	(54,555)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of Property and Equipment	\$	0
Change in Investment Value with Fidelity		(77,423)
Sale of Property and Prior Peirod Fixd Assets Adjustment		0
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Investing Activities	-	(77,423)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		0
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH BALANCES		(131,978)
Beginning Cash Balance after Prior Period Adjustment	_	525,255
Ending Cash Balance	\$_	393,277

The accompanying notes are integral part of these financial statements.

NOTE 1: NATURE OF ACTIVITIES & SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Incorporation & Nature of Operations

The Organization was incorporated in June 1996 under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 180 and qualifies as a tax-exempt not-for-profit corporation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. It has been classified as a public charity.

Principal Activity

The Organization was formed to provide and promote scientific and educational activities, services and support for advancing the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable development, protection of the environment, rural development and poverty alleviation both in the United States and throughout the world.

A) Form of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America (US GAAP). The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues, support, and expenses during the reporting periods. Significant estimates made in preparing the financial statements include allocation of functional expenses and valuation of in-kind contributions. Accordingly, actual results may vary from management's estimates. Revenues and gains are recognized when earned, and expenditures and losses are recognized when incurred.

The Organization has been utilizing office space at one of its executives' places. Estimated cost of use of the space for the year 2023 was \$7,500.

B) <u>Revenue Recognition</u>

Grants and contracts treated as exchange transactions are recognized as costs are incurred on the basis of direct costs plus allowable indirect expenses. Revenue recognized on these grants and grants for which billings have not been presented to, or collected from, the awarding agency is included in grants and contributions receivable (if any) in the accompanying statement of financial position. Amounts received in advance (if any) are recorded as refundable advances in the accompanying statement of financial position.

ASHOKA TRUST FOR RESEARCH IN ECOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT, INC. NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 1: NATURE OF ACTIVITIES & SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with a comprehensive basis of accounting other than GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

C) <u>Classification and Reporting of Net Assets</u>

Net assets, revenues, expenses, and gains and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets of the Organization and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

i. <u>Net Assets without Donor Restrictions</u>

Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed stipulations. Net assets received and expended within the reporting period are reported in the Statement of Activities as unrestricted support and revenue.

ii. <u>Net Assets with Donor Restrictions</u>

Net assets are subject to donor-imposed stipulations that may or will be met, either by actions of the Organization and/or passage of time. When a restriction expires, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the Statement of Activities as net assets released from restrictions. Net assets with donor restrictions whose restrictions are satisfied in the same year of receipt are treated as net assets without donor restrictions.

D) Contributions, Gains, and Other Support

Contributions are recognized when received from the donor. Contributions not restricted by donors are reported as increases in net assets not restricted by donors in the fiscal year in which the contributions are recognized. All other donor-restricted contributions are reported as increases in net assets restricted by donors depending on the nature of the restrictions. When a restriction expires, donor-restricted assets are reclassified to net assets without donor restriction. Unconditional promises to give by donors are recorded as pledges receivable and contribution revenue when promises are made, or donated items are received and are immediately available for use without restriction unless specifically restricted by the donor. Unconditional promises expected to be collected in future years are recorded at net realizable value.

Amounts that are received in advance of the Organization successfully meeting the conditions are recorded as a liability on the statement of financial position. Conditional promises to give are recognized when the conditions on which such promises depend are substantially met.

NOTE 1: NATURE OF BUSINESS & SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

E) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of reporting cash flows, cash equivalents include highly liquid assets with an original maturity of three months or less. Cash and Cash Equivalents consist of cash on hand, checking, and money market accounts.

F) <u>Use of Estimates</u>

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with US GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual amounts could differ from those estimates.

G) <u>Functional Expenses</u>

As required by the FASB Accounting Standards Codification, the Organization allocates its expenses on a functional basis among its program and support services. Expenses that can be identified with a specific program and support service are allocated directly according to their natural expense classification. Other expenses that are common to several functions are allocated by various statistical bases. Supporting services are those related to operating and managing ATREE and its programs on a day-to-day basis.

Supporting services have been sub-classified as follows:

Management & General - includes all activities related to ATREE's internal management and accounting for program services.

Fundraising - includes all activities related to maintaining contributor information, direct and indirect costs of special fund-raising events, distribution of materials, and other similar projects related to the procurement of funds for the Organization's programs.

H) Concentrations of Credit Risk

The Organization maintains its cash balances at various local financial institutions. Accounts at these institutions are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to the legal limits of \$250,000 per financial Organization. Financial instruments exposed to concentrations of credit risk consisted primarily of cash, cash equivalents, and pledges receivable.

I) Property and Equipment

Property and Equipment are stated at cost, net of accumulated depreciation. The cost of property and equipment is depreciated over the estimated useful lives of the related assets. Depreciation is computed on the straight-line method over the estimated useful asset lives.

J) <u>Advertising Costs</u>

Advertising costs, except for direct-response advertising, are charged to operations when incurred. The costs of direct-response advertising are capitalized and amortized over the period during which future benefits are to be received.

K) Concentration of Economic Dependency

The Organization derives a significant portion of its revenue from individual contributions and grants from governments and other not for profit organizations.

L) Uncertain Tax Positions

Under US GAAP, an organization must recognize the tax benefit associated with the tax position taken for tax return purposes when it is more likely than not the position will be sustained upon examination by a taxing authority. The Organization does not believe it has taken any material uncertain tax positions and, accordingly, it has not recorded any liability for unrecognized tax benefits. The Organization has filed for and received income tax exemptions in the jurisdictions where it is required to do so. For the year ended December 31, 2023, there were no interest or penalties recorded or included in the statement of activities. The Organization is subject to routine audits by a taxing authority, but as of December 31, 2023, there were no examinations in progress.

M) Fair Value Measurement

The Organization reports its qualified assets and liabilities in accordance with the Fair Value Measurements and Disclosure Standards and accounting principles generally accepted in the

NOTE 1: NATURE OF BUSINESS & SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

United States. These standards define fair value, establish a framework for measuring fair value, and expand disclosures about fair value measurements. This policy establishes a Fair Value framework that prioritizes the inputs and assumptions used to measure fair value. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy and a description of the valuation techniques used for instruments measured at fair value are as follows:

- Level 1- Inputs that reflect unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities as of the reporting date.
- Level 2- Pricing inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1, which are either directly observable or that can be derived or supported from observable data as of the reporting date.
- Level 3- Pricing inputs include those that are significant to the fair value of the financial asset or financial liability and are generally less observable from objective sources. These inputs may be used with internally developed techniques that result in management's best estimate of fair value.

A qualifying asset or liabilities level within the framework is based upon the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The Organization's qualifying assets or liabilities are recorded at fair value using Level 1 inputs.

NOTE 2: GRANTS/DONATION RECEIVABLES

Unconditional promises to give that are expected to be collected within one year are recorded at net realizable value. Unconditional promises to give that are expected to be collected in future years are recorded at the net present value of their estimated future cash flows. Conditional promises to give are not included in support until the conditions of the promise are substantially met. The Organization has established an allowance for doubtful accounts through a provision for bad debts, charged to expense, and represents management's best estimate of possible losses that may occur within the contribution receivable portfolio. ATREE had zero receivable with zero allowance for bad debt as of December 31, 2023.

NOTE 3: PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Physical property and equipment are stated on the balance sheet at cost at the date of acquisition or, in the case of gifts, fair market value at the date of donation. Depreciation is provided over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets on a straight-line basis. Useful lives of the assets ranging from three to ten years.

Disposal / Retirement

Upon retirement or sale, the cost of assets disposed of, and the related accumulated depreciation, are removed from the accounts and any resulting gain or loss is recorded as other income.

Classification

There was no property and equipment as of December 31, 2023.

Capitalization

Expenditures for maintenance and repairs are charged to expenses, whereas major betterments are capitalized. The Organization capitalizes property and equipment with a useful life of greater than one year for costs in excess of \$3,000.

The Organization did not have any capitalized assets as of December 31, 2023.

NOTE 4: DONATED MATERIALS AND CONTRIBUTED SERVICES

As required by the FASB Accounting Standards Codification ATREE maintains a policy whereby contributions of donated services that create or enhance nonfinancial assets or that require specialized skills, are provided by individuals possessing those skills and would typically need to be purchased if not provided by donation, are recognized as revenue on the Statement of Activities and reported as expenses on the Statement of Functional Expenses. The donated materials are valued at their estimated fair value at the date of receipt using industry-standard pricing values.

Contributed services are reflected in the financial statements at the estimated fair value of the services received if they (a) create or enhance nonfinancial assets or (b) require and are provided by individuals with specialized skills and, if not provided by donation, would typically need to be purchased.

The Organization has been utilizing office space at one of its executives' places. Estimated cost of use of the space for the year 2023 was \$7,500. This amount has been reflected as Occupancy (In Kind) on the accompanying Statement of Functional Expenses.

NOTE 5: ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED EXPENSES

Accounts payable and accrued expenses balance of \$1,142 on that accompanied balance sheet represents a credit card balance as of December 31, 2023.

NOTE 6: NET ASSETS

The Organization's net assets as of December 31, 2023, were as follows:					
		Without Donor With Donor			
		Restrictions Restrictions		<u>Total</u>	
Net Assets, Beginning	\$	825,048	\$	0	\$ 825,048
Revenues, gains and other support		1,321,808		0	1,321,808
Functional Expenses		1,377,505		0	1,377,505
Released during the year		0		0	0
Net Assets, Ending	\$	769,351	\$	0	\$ 769,351

NOTE 7: NOTES PAYABLE /LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

The Organization had liabilities of \$3,150 as of December 31, 2023.

NOTE 8: DEFERRED INCOME

The Organization did not have any deferred income during the year ended December 31, 2023.

NOTE 9: INCOME TAXES

The Organization is a nonprofit public benefit corporation that is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) and classified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as other than a private organization. Donors may deduct contributions made to the Organization within IRC Regulations. Contributions received qualify as tax-deductible gifts as provided in Section 509(a)(2). Income taxes have been reflected in the Organization's Federal Form 990, *Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax*. Tax returns are subject to examination by the IRS for three years after they were filed. Currently, the Organization is not aware of any such examinations.

NOTE 10: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Members of the Board of Directors contribute a considerable amount of time to the Organization in supervision and advising it on its activities. Members of the Board of Directors do not receive compensation or fees for serving as members of the board, and no amounts have been reflected in the Statements of Activities for these donated services.

The Organization had the following related party transactions during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023:

Contributions

The Organization received cash contribution of \$5,000 from its president during the year ended December 31, 2023. This amount is included in the gifts, grants, and contributions revenue in the accompanying statement of activities.

The Organization has been utilizing office space at one of its executives' places. Estimated cost of use of the space for the year 2023 was \$7,500. This amount is included in the contribution of revenue and occupancy expense in the accompanying statement of activities.

NOTE 11: FACILITY LEASE/OCCUPANCY

The organization does not have any lease for any brick-and-mortar office space as it functions out of a place belonging to one of its executives as mentioned on Note 10 above.

NOTE 12: FINANCIAL ASSETS CONCENTRATIONS

Financial instruments which potentially subject the Organization to concentrations of credit and market risk consist principally of the Organization's long-term investments and its cash balances.

Cash: The Organization maintains one bank account at one financial institution. Cash balances are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") up to \$250,000 per institution. As of December 31, 2023, cash balances maintained in bank accounts were below the FDIC coverage limit.

Government money market funds, mutual funds and marketable securities: The Organization had a total of \$389,907 in fair market value of investment assets with three different accounts with Fidelity Investments. These investment assets are not covered by FDIC legal insurance limit. Of

This total amount, investment in government money market funds of \$10,683 and investment in other mutual funds and marketable securities of \$379,224 have respectively been reported as Cash and Cash Equivalent and Investment Fair Market Value on the accompanying Statement of Financial Position. The value of these investment products is subject to fluctuation in market price of underlying assets. Below is the summary of market value of the financial assets with these three accounts:

Total	\$ 264,498	0	125,409	389,907
Margin Balance	(7,451)			(7,451)
Equity Stocks	178,287		59,258	237,545
Exchange Traded Products	12,307			12,307
Mutual Funds	70,672		66,151	136,823
Government Money Market	\$ 10,683			10,683
<u>Holdings</u>	Account 1	Account 2	Account 3	<u>Total</u>
Account	xx7012	xx8033	xx7047	

NOTE 13: REVENUE CONCENTRATION

The Organization received significant revenue from other not for profit entities and individuals during the year ended December 31, 2023. Should these grants be reduced or eliminated in the future, this could adversely affect the Organization's financial position. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, there were donors/grantors that contributed ten percent (10%) or more as detailed below:

Major Grantors: For the year ended December 31, 2023, the Organization earned total support and revenue of \$1,139,102 of which total revenue from gifts, grants and contribution was \$1,134,469. Out of these total gifts, grants, and contribution, 99.57% was granted/contributed by only three (3) granters/donors. While management believes the event is remote, should these grantors/contributors decide not to fund ATREE's future projects, ATREE would experience an adverse impact on its ability to finance ongoing operations.

NOTE 14: PAYROLL & RELATED

The Organization did not have any payroll expenses during the year ended December 31, 2023. All the work has been carried out by its executives on a voluntary basis.

NOTE 15: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Organization evaluates subsequent events through September 11, 2024, the date of this report. No subsequent events have been noticed that would impact on the accompanying financials statements.