

DIÉBEDO FARANCIS KÉRÉ WINS THE 2024 CRYSTAL AWARD FOR SOCIAL CHANGE ORGANIZED BY THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

[Diébédo Francis Kéré is one of the winners of the 2024 Crystal Award organized by the World Economic forum.](#)

[At the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos, they celebrate the enduring contributions to society of exceptional artists.](#) The cultural leaders receiving the 2024 Crystal Award are bridge-builders. They connect us to each other, they help us reflect on the human condition, and they provide visions of the world that can cut through the limitations of short-term or linear thinking.



The winners of the 30th Annual Crystal Award are: world-renowned architect and 2022 Pritzker Prize recipient Diébédo Francis Kéré; Ambassador for the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), advocate for wildlife conservation and environmental protection and Oscar-winning actor Michelle Yeoh; and Grammy Award winning guitarist, composer, and humanitarian Nile Rodgers.



[he website of the World Economic Forum underlines that Diébédo Francis Kéré receives the 2024 Crystal Award](#) “for his exemplary leadership in providing the Gando community the means towards a socially, economically, and ecologically sustainable future through projects that focus on education, health and the environment.

Kéré is a native of Burkina Faso and studied at the Technical University of Berlin. Parallel to his studies, he established the [Kéré Foundation](#) to support the development of his home village. In 2005, he opened the architectural office Kéré Architecture. His architectural practice has received national and international recognition, including: the Pritzker Prize in 2022; the Praemium Imperiale in 2023; and the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in 2004, awarded for his first building, the Gando Primary School in Burkina Faso.

Kéré has developed innovative construction strategies that combine traditional building techniques and materials with modern construction methods. His use of local materials, local knowledge and local technologies creates holistic and sustainable design solutions. Currently, he is working on the Benin National Assembly, the Goethe-Institut in Dakar, and a mausoleum for Burkinabè revolutionary Thomas Sankara in Ouagadougou. He has held professorships at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and the Swiss Accademia di Architettura di Mendrisio. Since 2017, he's been professor at TU Munich, and Yale University since 2019.



Kéré has witnessed the power of architecture as a tool for social transformation, from laying the bricks for a school building in my native Gando, to designing a new National Parliament for Benin. Regardless of wealth, we must be conscious of our environmental impact and strive to bring comfort and a sustainable future to all”.

This new prestigious award granted to Diébédo Francis Kéré will surely contribute to strengthening the work that this extraordinary architect is carrying out at international level and in many countries to promote a new sustainable architecture that produces new construction solutions investing in local knowledge and materials, adopting a strong social commitment with local communities and institutions.

To know more

[News in World Forum website](#)

[News release in the Wpold Economic Forum website](#)

[Cristal Awards 2024 presentation of Francis Kéré](#)

[Article in bestarchitecturemasters.com](#)

[Article in Africa news.com](#)

[Article in sophiaAfrica.eu](#)

[Article in stirworld.com](#)

[Kéré Foundation.](#)

[Studio Kéré Architecture](#)

[Kéré Foundation in Facebook](#)

[Article in Ideass.org 2021](#)

