

**Friends of  
the Earth  
International**

# interlinkages

january-february 2012



Welcome to the January-February 2012 edition of FoEI's electronic update Interlinkages.

The Spanish version of this Interlinkages will be sent out soon.

Thanks to Ronnie Hall for editing and designing this issue.

Questions? Contact [comms@foei.org](mailto:comms@foei.org)



interlinkages january-february 2012

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### foe groups

argentina, australia, austria, bangladesh, belgium, belgium (flanders & brussels), bolivia, brazil, cameroon, canada, chile, colombia, costa rica, croatia, curaçao, cyprus, czech republic, denmark, el salvador, england/wales/northern ireland, estonia, finland, france, georgia, germany, ghana, grenada, guatemala, haiti, honduras, hungary, indonesia, ireland, italy, japan, latvia, liberia, lithuania, luxembourg, macedonia (former yugoslav republic of), malawi, malaysia, mali, malta, mauritius, mexico, mozambique, nepal, netherlands, new zealand, nigeria, norway, palestine, papua new guinea, paraguay, peru, philippines, poland, scotland, sierra leone, slovakia, south africa, south korea, spain, srilanka, sweden, swaziland, switzerland, tanzania, timo-leste, togo, tunisia, uganda, ukraine, united states, uruguay

### foe affiliates

cee bankwatch, corporate europe observatory, corpwatch, earthlife africa, foe middle east, international rivers, mineral policy institute, peace boat, rainforest action network, world information service on energy

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## action alerts

### call on norway pension fund to divest in shell

Last month 28 Right Livelihood Award laureates wrote to Norway's Government Pension Fund asking it to divest all of its holdings in Shell due to the severe environmental harm caused by the company's negligence in the Niger Delta, Nigeria. Please join the laureates, including FoE's Nnimmo Bassey, in calling for the pension fund to act now!

Take action here: <http://action.foei.org/page/speakout/norway-out-of-shell?js=false>

Read the original letter written by the Right Livelihood laureates:

[http://www.rightlivelihood.org/petition\\_norway\\_shell.html](http://www.rightlivelihood.org/petition_norway_shell.html)

Find out more about the Right Livelihood Award: [http://www.rightlivelihood.org/award.html?&no\\_cache=1](http://www.rightlivelihood.org/award.html?&no_cache=1)

### condemn violence against foe guatemala

On 25 February the offices of FoE Guatemala/CEIBA and the National Network in Defense of Food Sovereignty (REDSAG) were broken into and computer equipment and information stolen. But money and valuable objects were not taken, indicating that the crimes were politically motivated. FoE has written to the Minister of the Interior expressing its concerns and demanding the authorities take the necessary steps to protect the property and physical integrity of the workers of FoE Guatemala and REDSAG. Protecting the rights of human rights defenders is an urgent and essential task. FoE also expects a transparent investigation into the incidents. Feel free to send your own e-mail or letter using the following addresses:

Lic. Héctor Mauricio López Bonilla

Ministerio de Gobernación

Dirección: 6ta. Av. 13-71 Zona 1 Guatemala, C.A.

Tel: 2413-8888 ext. 1621

e-mail: [kldivas@mingob.gob.gt](mailto:kldivas@mingob.gob.gt)

To read more, in English: <http://radiomundoreal.fm/Warning-and-intimidation>

And in Spanish: <http://radiomundoreal.fm/Aviso-de-profesionales?lang=es>

To send your own messages of solidarity: Natalia Atz Sunuc, FoE Guatemala, [natyceibauui@gmail.com](mailto:natyceibauui@gmail.com)

### demand lufthansa stop using bio-kerosene

German airline Lufthansa has recently been using bio-kerosene made from jatropha, an inedible plant. The company insists on claiming that flying on bio-kerosene is good for the environment, despite numerous studies claiming exactly the opposite. The jatropha used for Lufthansa's test flights was grown in Indonesia by small-scale farmers. A recent visit by FoE Netherlands/Milieudéfensie revealed that the plants are often being grown at the cost of food production, and that farmers are making a loss on the sale of the plants. As a consequence they are struggling to survive. Please write to Lufthansa and ask them to stop using bio-kerosene to fly their planes!

Take action now: [www.milieudéfensie.nl/english/earthalarm/132](http://www.milieudéfensie.nl/english/earthalarm/132)

Read FoE Netherlands' report on jatropha production in Indonesia: <http://milieudéfensie.nl/english/news/friends-of-the-earth-netherlands-demands-cessation-of-jatropha-investments>

Contact: Geert Ritsema, FoE Netherlands, [geert.ritsema@milieudéfensie.nl](mailto:geert.ritsema@milieudéfensie.nl)

### **one year on, where is sandra?**

17 February marked one year since the sudden disappearance of 26-year-old Sandra Viviana Cuellar Gallego, an environmental engineer and activist from Cali, Colombia. At the time of her disappearance, Sandra was on her way to the National University in Palmira, Valle del Cauca department. Her identity card and cell phone were found a few days later near the place where she was supposed to take a public bus. Political reasons for her disappearance have still not been ruled out. To try and step up the action FoE Colombia/CENSAT Agua Viva have organised a cyber action with the support of FoEI; nearly 2500 signatures have been collected so far. Please join Sandra's family, friends and colleagues in calling on the National Attorney General to provide an update on the status of the investigation and outline how she plans to proceed, one year on from Sandra's disappearance.

Take action now by adding your signature to the petition: <http://action.foei.org/page/speakout/find-sandra?js=false>

Contact: Jorge Sanchez, FoE Colombia, [direccion@censat.org](mailto:direccion@censat.org)

### **support communities protesting against el quimbo dam**

Communities are being violently evicted to make way for the proposed El Quimbo dam in Colombia, to be built by Italian transnational corporation ENDESA-ENEL. If it goes ahead the project will inundate about 8,250ha of some of the region's most fertile land. This will destroy the food security of hundreds of communities of fisher people, day workers, coffee growers, tobacco growers, cacao growers and artisanal miners living and working alongside the Magdalena River. National and international journalists and members of organisations such as FoE Colombia/CENSAT Agua Viva and International Peace Watch have been banned from the area. These communities need your help!

A FoEI cyberaction is planned and the addresses of the Colombian authorities you should contact will be circulated soon.

You can find out more here: <http://radiomundoreal.fm/Safety-Reasons?lang=es> and here [http://censat.org/index.php?option=com\\_chronocontact&chronofornname=quimboener2012en](http://censat.org/index.php?option=com_chronocontact&chronofornname=quimboener2012en)

For more information contact: Danilo Urrea, FoE Colombia, [agua@censat.org](mailto:agua@censat.org)

### **call on sasol to get out of climate change negotiations**

As part of FoEI's focus on the corporate capture of decision-making, FoEI is calling on Sasol to get out of the climate change negotiations and stop promoting false solutions to the climate crisis. African energy company Sasol is the world's leader in coal-to-liquid (CTL) technology - the most carbon-intensive way of making petrol and diesel, and Sasol's Secunda plant produces more carbon dioxide emissions than any other single source in the world.

To take action, go to: <http://www.foei.org/en/get-involved/take-action/call-one-of-south-africas-largest-polluters-to-get-out-of-the-climate-change-negotiations>

To download FoEI's new report on Sasol, part of the newly launched Corporate Capture series, go to: [www.foei.org/en/what-we-do/corporate-capture/exposing-the-corporate-capture-of-un-institutions](http://www.foei.org/en/what-we-do/corporate-capture/exposing-the-corporate-capture-of-un-institutions)

Contact: Lucia Ortíz, FoEI EJRN Programme Coordinator, [lucia@natbrasil.org.br](mailto:lucia@natbrasil.org.br) or Paul de Clerck, FoEI Corporates Campaign Coordinator, [paul@milieudefensie.nl](mailto:paul@milieudefensie.nl)



## looking ahead

### foei preparation for peoples' summit at rio + 20

We are approaching the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, also known as Rio+20, which will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 20-22 June. The 'Peoples Summit for Social and Environmental Justice against the Mercantilization of Life and Nature and in Defense of the Commons', will be held 15-23 June, at Aterro do Flamengo, Rio de Janeiro. This will be a space free of corporations, understood as a part of our struggles, organisation and mobilisation and not just another isolated moment or event. The Summit aims to be a space capable of strengthening the process of action, resistance and the construction of alternatives. Above all, it aims to denounce false solutions and the new green 'clothing' that capitalism is putting on. The intention is that no self-organized activities should be held during these moments: prior self-organized activities should seek convergences and bring contributions to the Assembly process.

There is an International Articulation Group (GA) composed of national and international networks and movements, which FoEI and FoE Brazil are both participating in. There are five working groups at the moment: methodology/peoples' assembly; mobilisation; official process; communications; and territory (infrastructure). There is also an Operational Secretariat.

Lucia Ortiz (FoE Brazil / International Coordinator of FoEI's EJRN Programme) is coordinating the FoEI work towards Rio+20. She will be facilitating the FoEI Rio+20 strategy group and the flow of information through the FoEI Rio+20 general list.

Together with Helen Wolfson (who used to work at FoE EWNI) she is also collating information about national groups plans and would be delighted if you could input to this discussion as soon as possible (if you have not done so already).

If you want to participate or join the listserve for more information, please contact: Lucia Ortíz, FoE Brazil, [lucia@natbrasil.org.br](mailto:lucia@natbrasil.org.br)

To request a questionnaire you can contact Lucia, or Helen Wolfson on [wolfsonhelen@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wolfsonhelen@yahoo.co.uk)



## international programmes

### un climate talks 2011: our assessment

As the climate talks at COP-17 in Durban headed into extra time last December we feared the outcome would not be a good one. Sadly our fears were pretty much realised: the noise of the vested interests drowned out the voices of ordinary people. COP-17 (28 November-9 December) resulted in:

- a new 'Durban Platform' which will delay climate action for a decade
- a substantial weakening of the Kyoto Protocol
- drastically insufficient targets for cutting greenhouse gas emissions, and
- the burden for action on climate change being shifted to developing countries

Durban also failed to make any progress on urgently needed, new and additional public finance for developing country climate action, or on adaptation measures to protect vulnerable communities from climate impacts. A Green Climate Fund was approved, but with no means by which to fill the coffers; it also included a provision that could allow multinational corporations and private financial actors to access the fund directly. In addition, Durban increased the likelihood of new opportunities for carbon trading, which is a destructive false solution to the climate crisis which locks in climate inaction, drives land grabbing and the displacement of communities, and could contribute to another global financial collapse. We can, however, take heart from the fact that thousands of people around the world took action to keep the issue of climate justice on the agenda. We made our voices heard in the negotiations, on the streets, and in the world's media.

Read our closing statement on the talks:

[www.foei.org/en/what-we-do/climate-and-energy/latest-news/2012/01/13/our-assessment-of-the-un-climate-talks-2011](http://www.foei.org/en/what-we-do/climate-and-energy/latest-news/2012/01/13/our-assessment-of-the-un-climate-talks-2011)

...and for all information about FoEI in Durban, including links to FoEI's publications, press releases, blogs, radio, photos and video go to: <http://www.foei.org/en/what-we-do/climate-and-energy/latest-news/un-climate-talks-2011-durban>

Contact: Sarah-Jayne Clifton, FoEI Climate Justice Programme Coordinator, [sarah-jayne.clifton@foe.co.uk](mailto:sarah-jayne.clifton@foe.co.uk)

### exposing the corporate capture of un institutions

FoEI has launched a series of briefings that aim to shed light on what we consider to be the central issue underlying a lack of governmental accountability towards ordinary citizens on environmental and sustainability issues. Particularly in the area of climate policy, government positions are being hijacked by narrow corporate interests linked to polluting industries and industries seeking to profit from the climate crisis. Briefings published so far focus on energy company Sasol, the International Emissions Trading Association, and mining corporation Vale. Sasol's Secunda plant produces more carbon dioxide emissions than any other single source in the world, yet Sasol officials were part of the host country's delegation to the UN climate talks in Durban, South Africa. Similarly, the International Emissions Trading Association (IETA) which calls itself the "leading voice of the global business community on emissions trading" plays an active lobbying role at UN climate talks, pushing for the expansion of carbon trading and to weaken standards under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). Brazilian mining corporation Vale was elected as the world's worst corporation in the 2012 'Public Eye Awards'.

To read more and download all the publications go to: [www.foei.org/en/what-we-do/corporate-capture/exposing-the-corporate-capture-of-un-institutions](http://www.foei.org/en/what-we-do/corporate-capture/exposing-the-corporate-capture-of-un-institutions)

Contact: Lucia Ortíz, FoEI EJRN Programme Coordinator, [lucia@natbrasil.org.br](mailto:lucia@natbrasil.org.br) or Paul de Clerck, FoEI Corporates Campaign Coordinator, [paul@milieudefensie.nl](mailto:paul@milieudefensie.nl)

### **foei participates in thematic social forum in brazil**

FoEI programme coordinators and activists including Lucia Ortíz (FoEI EJRN Programme/FoE Brazil), Isaac Rojas (FoEI Forests and Biodiversity Programme/FoE Costa Rica), Martín Drago (FoEI Food Sovereignty Programme/FoE Uruguay) and member group representatives from Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Guatemala, Paraguay, Sweden and United States participated in the Thematic Social Forum on 'Capitalist Crisis, Social and Environmental Justice' and in civil society preparatory meetings for Rio+20, that took place in Porto Alegre, Brazil, 24-29 January. The Forum was part of the process leading up to the "People's Summit for Social and Environmental Justice, against mercantilization of life and in defense of common goods" that will take place during Rio+20, 15-23 June. The Social Movements' Assembly that took place in parallel to the Forum agreed on steps for dealing with the challenges presented by the forthcoming Rio+20 conference, and its final declaration states that the solutions to the current economic, environmental and climate crises, which are closely linked, are "not to be found within the capitalist system".

To find out more: [www.radiomundoreal.fm/Social-movements-in-the-lead-up-to?lang=es](http://www.radiomundoreal.fm/Social-movements-in-the-lead-up-to?lang=es)

For a more detailed report of FoEI's activities at the Thematic Social Forum contact: Lucia Ortíz, FoEI EJRN Programme Coordinator, [lucia@natbrasil.org.br](mailto:lucia@natbrasil.org.br)



## member and affiliate groups

### **argentina: one family's tragic experience of land grabbing**

On 16 November 2011, Cristian Ferreyra, a member of CCCOPAL MOCASE-Via Campesina, was assassinated. Like others, he had been resisting attempted eviction by entrepreneurs who hire armed thugs to intimidate communities. As part of FoE Argentina's campaign on landgrabbing, and to understand the problems in this region better, they interviewed Cristian's mother who, despite her immense sadness, continues with the resistance. She explained that the bulldozers moved in to San Antonio in 2010, and into neighbouring communities in 2009, but their actions have been halted by the communities, at least for now.

Contact: Eduardo Sánchez, FoE Argentina, [educacion@amigos.org.ar](mailto:educacion@amigos.org.ar)

### **argentina: río de la plata development threatens key wetland**

The Argentinean media is advertising a 620ha luxury development project planned for the outskirts of Buenos Aires, to be funded by transnational corporation Techint. The only 'detail' is that it will disrupt a wetland area that is fundamental to the Río de la Plata area, and home to animals that are unique to Argentina. FoE Argentina is supporting citizens' struggle against this megaproject.

You can find out more and see photos here: <http://riberaconurbanosur.blogspot.com/>

Contact: Eduardo Sánchez, FoE Argentina, [educacion@amigos.org.ar](mailto:educacion@amigos.org.ar)

### **australia: hasselhoffs to health minister, regulate nano-sunscreens!**

On 18 January, FoE Australia activists dressed up as beach safety icon 'The Hoff' (American actor David Hasselhoff) to bring their concerns about the safety of nano-sunscreens to the office of the new Minister for Health, Tanya Plibersek. Skin safety experts and community groups have long called for new safety testing and labelling of sunscreens produced using nanotechnology. After years of government inaction, Friends of the Earth and the Health Minister's constituents called in The Hoff! The constituents passed on 1,000 postcards signed by people all over the country supporting new safety testing and labelling for nano-sunscreens.

For further information, please check here: <http://www.foe.org.au/articles/2012-01-18/hasselhoffs-health-minister-please-regulate-nano-sunscreens>

Contact: Cam Walker, FoE Australia, [cam.walker@foe.org.au](mailto:cam.walker@foe.org.au)

### **australia: magistrate supports gladstone harbour dredge protest in court**

On 9 November 2011, FoE Australia activist Derec Davies boarded and stopped one of the controversial Gladstone Harbour dredges. This gained national media attention and connected the dredging impacts to the Great Barrier Reef and the activities of Queensland's coal seam gas industry. In January, Derec faced a claim for A\$35,000 in damages in Court. But the magistrate stated "The courts are not in the business of closing down genuine protests." He then went on to discuss the merits of Gandhi, and noted the "dead fish in Gladstone" and associated discussion around coal seam gas (CSG) protest in the Scenic Rim Region of Queensland. There was no fine, no conviction, and the damages claim was thrown out. A great outcome!

Full details here: [www.foe.org.au/articles/2012-01-19/gladstone-harbour-dredge-protest-%E2%80%93-environmental-activist-challenges-court](http://www.foe.org.au/articles/2012-01-19/gladstone-harbour-dredge-protest-%E2%80%93-environmental-activist-challenges-court)

In addition, in early 2011, FoE Australia started to track, and then oppose new exploration licence (EL) applications for CSG. As a result of their campaigning, they have been pivotally involved in two companies deciding to walk away from further exploration for CSG, with consequences for six ELs across substantial areas of western Victoria. This was a great start to what could be a long campaign.

You can read more here: [www.melbourne.foe.org.au/?q=node/908](http://www.melbourne.foe.org.au/?q=node/908)

Contact: Cam Walker, FoE Australia, [cam.walker@foe.org.au](mailto:cam.walker@foe.org.au)

### **colombia: cajamarca communities resist angloashanti**

Hugo Cabieses, ex-vice minister of Peru, exchanged views about the Congo open-pit gold mining project with the communities of Cajamarca, Colombia, 22-23 February. Gold mining transnational corporation AngloAshanti is currently considering open-pit gold mining in Cajamarca, but the communities are strenuously resisting having this extractive model of development imposed upon them. They are fighting for their territorial sovereignty, regardless of national borders.

Read more here: [www.biosyecos.com/3edicion.php](http://www.biosyecos.com/3edicion.php)

Contact: Tatiana Roa, FoE Colombia/CENSAT Agua Viva, [coordinacion@censat.org](mailto:coordinacion@censat.org)

### **colombia: 'because life cannot be dammed'**

In response to the violent treatment of fisherfolk and campesinos opposing the El Quimbo hydroelectric project on 14 and 15 February, FoE Colombia/CENSAT Agua Viva is helping to organise days of action between 28 February and 7 March. The organisations, communities and the Living Rivers Movement (Movimiento Ríos Vivos), are united in their solidarity and their continuing support for life - 'Because Life Cannot be Dammed: No to Quimbo' (Porque la Vida no se represa: No al Quimbo).

You can follow the campaign here: <http://censat.org/articulos/10025-comunicado/10421-jornada-de-movilizacion-nacional-por-la-defensa-del-territorio-el-rio-magdalena-sus-comunidades>

Contact: Tatiana Roa, FoE Colombia, [coordinacion@censat.org](mailto:coordinacion@censat.org)

### **croatia: victory on the golf courses!**

FoE Croatia has been celebrating the abolition of the unconstitutional Golf Course Act that gave a green light to investors in golf courses and discriminated against local residents and landowners. The official explanation of why the law should be abolished used the same argument that FoE Croatia/Zelena Akcija Croatia has been using for years: that the law does not prevent abuses in the granting of permits, and fails to ensure environmental protection during the construction of golf courses.

To read more: [http://zelena-akcija.hr/en/programmes/biodiversity/activities/scandalous\\_law\\_on\\_golf\\_courses\\_is\\_no\\_longer\\_in\\_force\\_as\\_of\\_today\\_24\\_11\\_2011](http://zelena-akcija.hr/en/programmes/biodiversity/activities/scandalous_law_on_golf_courses_is_no_longer_in_force_as_of_today_24_11_2011)

Contact: Jagoda Munic, FoE Croatia, [jagoda@zelena-akcija.hr](mailto:jagoda@zelena-akcija.hr)

### **czech republic: next step towards climate bill**

After many weeks of long and hard negotiations, the third party in the governing coalition (from a total of four) announced their support for FoE Czech Republic/Hnutí Duha's proposal for a climate bill. This is very good news because this party together with the Social Democrats (currently in opposition) are hot candidates to create the next Czech government, in 2014 or earlier.

Contact: Martin Mikeska, FoE Czech Republic, [martin.mikeska@hnutiduha.cz](mailto:martin.mikeska@hnutiduha.cz)

### **czech republic: dramatic advertising campaign attracts media**

FoE Czech Republic/Hnutí Duha have launched an advertising campaign with over 130 advertisements in public transport areas in Prague. Big posters depict the top three politicians as they might look in the year 2030, making their apologies for not having cut dependence on oil imports (the Prime Minister), not having cut energy bills (leader of the Social Democrats) and not having developed a modern and efficient economy (Deputy Prime Minister/Minister of Finances). The posters got an amazing amount of media coverage, which the group linked to a letter-writing action on their website. The only downside was some caution on the part of the 'third party' mentioned above, who did not want to be perceived as immediately reacting to such an advertising campaign and therefore amended their position somewhat. But overall it was a useful tactic that means FoE Czech Republic can keep briefing media about long-term negotiations.

Contact: Martin Mikeska, FoE Czech Republic, [martin.mikeska@hnutiduha.cz](mailto:martin.mikeska@hnutiduha.cz)

### **el salvador: raising the alarm about toxic imports**

FoE El Salvador/CESTA has raised the alarm about recent proposals, stemming from the Regional Centre of the Basel Convention for Central America and Mexico and calling for El Salvador to import toxic materials such as persistent organic pollutants and incinerate them. FoE El Salvador argues that the import of toxic waste from other Central American countries is illegal under El Salvador's laws, unless those materials are going to be recycled.

To read more: [www.laprensagrafica.com/el-salvador/lodeldia/247103-analizan-plan-regional-para-toxicos.html](http://www.laprensagrafica.com/el-salvador/lodeldia/247103-analizan-plan-regional-para-toxicos.html) and

[www.diariocolatino.com/es/20120102/nacionales/98920/CESTA-advierte-sobre-incineracion-de-materiales-t%C3%B3xicos-en-el-pa%C3%ADs.htm](http://www.diariocolatino.com/es/20120102/nacionales/98920/CESTA-advierte-sobre-incineracion-de-materiales-t%C3%B3xicos-en-el-pa%C3%ADs.htm)

Contact: Ana María Vásquez, FoE El Salvador/CESTA, [comunicaciones@cesta-foe.org.sv](mailto:comunicaciones@cesta-foe.org.sv)

### **el salvador: biosafety law essential**

FoE El Salvador/CESTA is also calling for a biosafety law to protect the health of El Salvador's people and soils, following the Association of Agricultural Providers' call to "promote and democratize" biotechnology ostensibly in order to promote the food security of the population. El Salvador should apply the precautionary principle in accordance with the Cartagena Protocol, which El Salvador has been a member of since 2003. There is growing alarm about the potential use of biotechnology in the country, especially transgenic seeds. To read more:

[www.contrapunto.com.sv/ambiente/nota-piden-ley-de-bioseguridad](http://www.contrapunto.com.sv/ambiente/nota-piden-ley-de-bioseguridad)

[www.diariocolatino.com/es/20120220/nacionales/100564/Semilla--transg%C3%A9nica--atenta-contrala-calidad-de-vida-de-los-salvadore%C3%B1os.htm](http://www.diariocolatino.com/es/20120220/nacionales/100564/Semilla--transg%C3%A9nica--atenta-contrala-calidad-de-vida-de-los-salvadore%C3%B1os.htm)

Contact: Ana María Vásquez, FoE El Salvador, [comunicaciones@cesta-foe.org.sv](mailto:comunicaciones@cesta-foe.org.sv)

### **europa: organic farming dwarves gm crops, gm giant quits**

It's good news from Europe, as Germany-based company BASF decided to halt the development and commercialisation of genetically modified (GM) crops in the continent. FoE Europe's figures show that GM cultivation remains deeply unpopular in Europe, with the area of GM crops remaining at 0.1% of all arable land in 2011, whilst organic farming accounted for 3.7%.

Read more: [www.foei.org/en/what-we-do/food-sovereignty/latest-news/gm-giant-basf-leaves-europe](http://www.foei.org/en/what-we-do/food-sovereignty/latest-news/gm-giant-basf-leaves-europe)

Or download FoE Europe's factsheet on organic farming:

[www.foeeurope.org/GMOs/FoEE\\_factsheet\\_organic\\_farming\\_dwarves\\_GM\\_Feb2012.pdf](http://www.foeeurope.org/GMOs/FoEE_factsheet_organic_farming_dwarves_GM_Feb2012.pdf)

Contact: Mute Schimpf, FoE Europe, [mute.schimpf@foeeurope.org](mailto:mute.schimpf@foeeurope.org)

### **europa: stalemate on tar sands vote under fuel quality directive**

On 23 February representatives from European governments met to vote on plans to keep tar sands out of Europe, but intense pressure from Canada and the oil industry brought about a stalemate, according to FoE Europe. Abstentions and rejections from a number of European governments mean the final decision will be taken by the Environment Council in June. Although this is a further delay it holds open an opportunity for a more responsible decision by environment ministers in June.

You can read more here: [www.foeeurope.org/press/2012/Feb23\\_Stalemate\\_on\\_tar\\_sands.html](http://www.foeeurope.org/press/2012/Feb23_Stalemate_on_tar_sands.html)

Contact: Darek Urbaniak, FoE Europe, [darek.urbaniak@foeeurope.org](mailto:darek.urbaniak@foeeurope.org)

### **france: make built-in obsolescence a thing of the past!**

FoE France have been mobilising in several French cities, denouncing the built-in obsolescence of high-tech products. The environmental and social impacts of high-tech products are neglected when it comes to corporate marketing strategies, and FoE France's activists have been campaigning for companies to extend the 'life expectancy' of products, for products to be repaired rather than thrown away, and for unwanted high-tech goods to be donated to NGOs.

To read more: [www.amisdelaterre.org/obsolescence.html](http://www.amisdelaterre.org/obsolescence.html)

Contact: Camille Lecomte, FoE France, [camille.lecomte@amisdelaterre.org](mailto:camille.lecomte@amisdelaterre.org)

### **france: 'made without gmos'**

The fourth gathering of 'Made without GMOs' ('Faites sans OGM') took place in Vaucluse, in the south of France, 10-12 February, bringing committed people from various parts of the world together to consider one urgent priority: food sovereignty. We struggle against the same challenges in different parts of the world, but together we can preserve biodiversity, and build a free world in which man does not consume all the ecological space.

To read more: [www.amisdelaterre.org/Les-Amis-de-la-Terre-Vaucluse-a-la.html](http://www.amisdelaterre.org/Les-Amis-de-la-Terre-Vaucluse-a-la.html)

Contact: Bénédicte Bonzi, FoE France, [bnidictebonzi@yahoo.fr](mailto:bnidictebonzi@yahoo.fr)

### **france: success, sime darby palm oil mill plans 'postponed'**

FoE France's vegetable oil campaign has targeted the proposed palm oil mill project that Malaysia-based Sime Darby was planning to build in the south of France. If built this mill would link plantations in countries such as Liberia and Cameroon to the European market. FoE France supported the creation of a local collective of citizens, which eventually succeeded in destabilising the project: in December the company announced that the project had been officially 'postponed'. But FoE France will keep monitoring the situation in case Sime Darby comes back with any similar plans for mills along the Mediterranean coast. FoE France and FoE Liberia have also worked closely together, allowing a French journalist commissioned by FoE France to investigate carbon scams and the impacts of palm oil plantations on people. Their report and video are due to be released in March 2012.

Contact: Sylvain Angerand, FoE France, [sylvain.angerand@amisdelaterre.org](mailto:sylvain.angerand@amisdelaterre.org)

### **nigeria: fuel subsidy removal will punish the poor**

FoE Nigeria described the Nigerian government's decision to scrap the so-called fuel subsidies that enable poorer people to afford fuel as scandalous. The decision, which came into force on New Year's Day, shows a government that would rather punish the poor than confront the cabal they say exists in the petroleum sector, or displease the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank or other international agencies. FoE Nigeria is calling for an immediate reversal of the policy.

To find out more: <http://thewillnigeria.com/general/11555-Reactions-Trail-Subsidy-Removal-ERA-Rejects-Petrol-Price-Hike.html>

To read Nnimmo's blog on oil politics: <http://nnimmo.blogspot.com/view/classic>

Contact: Nnimmo Bassey, FoE Nigeria, [nnimmo@eraction.org](mailto:nnimmo@eraction.org)

### **south korea: new leadership elected**

FoE Korea/KFEM held an election to select its new leadership on 28 January. Hyeongcheol Yeom was elected as Secretary General and Jaeyeon Jang, Sijae I and Yeongseon Ji were chosen as co-representatives. The Secretary General participated in the 42 day sit-in at the Ipo Dam in Yeosu in 2010, to try to stop the construction of the 4-River project by the Korean government. The new leadership has a three-year term.

Contact: Hyunji Kim, FoE Korea/KFEM, [arqus@kfem.or.kr](mailto:arqus@kfem.or.kr)

### **south korea / bangladesh: collaborating on climate change**

Gwangju KFEM (FoE South Korea-Gwangju) gave US\$5,000 to FoE Bangladesh/Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA) to support their project on "Building the Adaptation Capacity of Local Service Providers and Communities in Climate Threatened Coastal Area". The project aimed to create awareness about the climate change threats faced by communities and local government agencies (service providers) in selected coastal areas namely Shemnagar (in the Satkhira district) and Koira Upazila (in the Khulna district). These areas are having to deal with an increased risk of being hit by natural disasters and are faced with a scarcity of food and potable water. Workshops for community people were held in November 2011, along with training workshops for local government agencies. Gwangju KFEM mobilised the project fund through an art fair and donations from its members for this specific purpose. This is a good opportunity to empower local people in Bangladesh to adapt to climate change and to enhance mutual collaboration between Gwangju KFEM and FoE Bangladesh. Gwangju KFEM is also open to collaboration with other FoE groups to overcome the environmental issues that we face.

Contact: Lee, Kyoung Hee, Gwangju KFEM, [reekh@kfem.or.kr](mailto:reekh@kfem.or.kr) or Taslima Islam, FoE Bangladesh, [tislam73@yahoo.com](mailto:tislam73@yahoo.com)

### **togo: strengthening fish farmers' capacity**

With support from the UN's CC DARE programme (Climate Change and Development – Adapting by REducing vulnerability) FoE-Togo held two workshops to strengthen the capacities of leaders from the fish farmers, and civil society organisations working with them at the grassroots level. The workshops took place on 9 and 10 February, in Kara and Atakpame.

You can find out more here: [www.amiterre.tg](http://www.amiterre.tg), and about the CC DARE initiative here: <http://ccdare.org/>

Contact: Kwami Dodzi Kpondzo, FoE Togo, [kwadodzi@yahoo.fr](mailto:kwadodzi@yahoo.fr)

### **togo: establishing 'publish what you pay' coalition**

As part of the process of establishing the Publish What You Pay (PWYP) Coalition in Togo, the Coordination of PWYP-Africa Region and FoE Togo held a capacity building workshop on the mission of PWYP in Togo, on 17 January.

You can read more here: [www.amiterre.tg](http://www.amiterre.tg)

Find out about the Publish What You Pay campaign, which focuses on transparency in the extractive sector, here: [www.publishwhatyoupay.org/](http://www.publishwhatyoupay.org/)

Contact: Kwami Dodzi Kpondzo, FoE Togo, [kwadodzi@yahoo.fr](mailto:kwadodzi@yahoo.fr)

### **united states: obama u-turn over keystone xl**

Although the Obama administration rejected the permit for the Keystone XL tar sands oil pipeline in January, TransCanada is attempting to circumvent this decision by splitting the project into two segments to be reviewed through separate regulatory processes. In an alarming about-face, the Obama administration has welcomed the announcement, stating that it will take every step to expedite the federal permitting process. The campaign to stop Keystone XL most definitely continues!

Follow FoE US's dirty fuels campaign on Twitter: [@foe\\_dirtyfuels](https://twitter.com/foe_dirtyfuels)

Contact: Kim Huynh, FoE US, [khuynh@foe.org](mailto:khuynh@foe.org)

Members of the FoEI ExCom at the University of Wageningen, the Netherlands. FoEI.

interlinkages january-february 2012



## secretariat, excom and chair

### announcing bgm and excom dates for 2012

FoEI's next Biannual General Meeting will take place in El Salvador. The preconference will be held on 31 October-1 November, and the BGM itself will take place 2-8 November. FoEI ExCom meetings will be held in Amsterdam (6-9 March), Rio de Janeiro (15-18 June) and just before the BGM (29-20 October).

### don't forget to send in your financial accounts

Please don't forget that all FoEI groups need to submit their financial accounts for the year 2010 by 31 March 2012. Please remember that this is an obligation for each of our members. This is what the FoEI by-laws state: "Every member organization must send a copy of its annual financial report from two years ago, before March 31st of each year. If a group does not work with a national annual report (e.g. a federation without its own resources), the ExCom must take a decision on the amount of annual subscription." The membership dues for 2012 must be paid by 1 May 2012.

If you have questions about the calculation of the fees, or to request a form for calculating them (in excel), please contact Wieke Wagenaar, FoEI IS, [finance@foei.org](mailto:finance@foei.org) or Grace Nijbroek [grace@foei.org](mailto:grace@foei.org). If you are sending in your accounts please send to both of these addresses.

### introducing foei's new communications coordinator

As of January 2012, Maarten van den Berg is FoEI's Communications Coordinator. A political scientist by training (University of Amsterdam, York University, Canada), Maarten has developed and directed communication and knowledge management strategies for a variety of organisations, most recently as Head of Knowledge and Communication of the Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy. After work, Maarten loves to cook and shares in the care of his son, Titus. Welcome, Maarten!

Maarten can be reached at [maarten@foei.org](mailto:maarten@foei.org), Skype: [foei\\_maarten](https://www.skype.com/en/contacts/foei_maarten)

### david hirsch appointed as foei's new international co-ordinator

Next month David Hirsch will be starting as FoEI's new International Coordinator. Dave is coming from FoE US, where he has worked since 1996. Starting as an intern he held several policy and management positions in the organisation and eventually became Managing Director of FoE US. In this position Dave represented FoE US at the 2010 BGM in Malaysia. Shortly after that he became a member of FoEI's Executive Committee. Dave says: "I'm extremely excited about joining FoEI. During my time at FoE-US, I've been fortunate to have met and worked with many amazing and inspiring people from across FoEI's regions. I look forward to getting to know and understand our member groups better and to learn about the challenges they face and the victories they've achieved." Congratulations, Dave!

You can contact Dave directly at: [DHirsch@foe.org](mailto:DHirsch@foe.org)

### **goodbye from phil!**

After three and a half years with FoEI as Website Coordinator, Phil has decided that the time has come for him and his family to relocate to the UK (in April), so that his young son can grow up closer to his grandparents and cousins. He says that FoEI has changed his life and the way he views the world, and that he has learned a huge amount about the struggle for environmental justice and community-based solutions. All of which he plans to put to good use back in the UK, where he will be working with the Environment Agency. Good luck, Phil!

If you want to contact Phil directly, you can do so on Facebook or at [philmarklee@gmail.com](mailto:philmarklee@gmail.com)

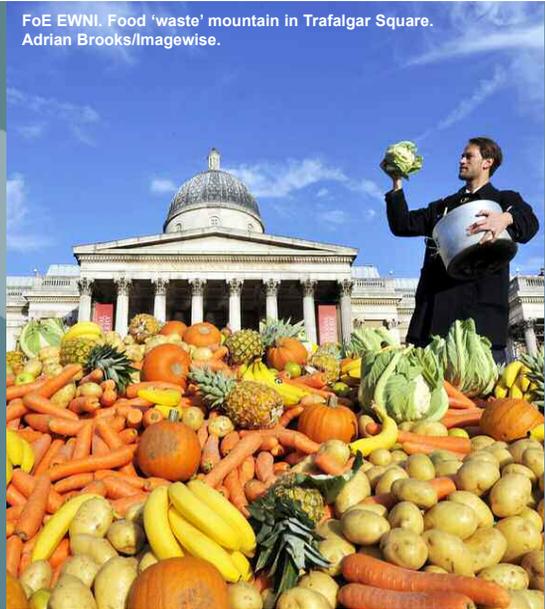
### **excom members speak at wageningen university**

On 5 March three members of the ExCom spoke at an event at the University of Wageningen, Netherlands, on Shell, seeds and saving the planet. The talk was part of a series organised by Otherwise, an organisation linked to the university that works on social justice and international development issues. Nnimmo Bassey (FoEI Chair/FoE Nigeria), spoke about the impact of Shell in the Niger Delta in his presentation 'A Shell-shocked nation'. Nnimmo also talked about the double standards of oil companies operating in Nigeria compared to places like the Gulf of Mexico in the US. Karin Nansen (FoE Uruguay) talked about the seed-sharing network in Uruguay that FoE Uruguay and the Organic Farmers Union set up in 2004. Finally Ricardo Navarro (FoE El Salvador) gave a powerful introduction to climate change highlighting its effects in El Salvador and beyond. He spoke of the work his group is doing with local communities to adapt to climate change. However, his main message was that, whilst technology can help, it is the economic system that needs to change. "Fixing things at the edges is like going from the lower deck to the upper deck on the Titanic. It will give you some time but the ship is still going down" he said to laughter and applause.

For more information contact: Maarten van den Berg, FoEI's Communications Coordinator, [maarten@foei.org](mailto:maarten@foei.org)

### **seeking new members of communications integration team (cit)**

The CIT still needs new members from the Africa and APAC regions. Are you a communicator who would like to get more involved on an international level? Please do get in touch at [comms@foei.org](mailto:comms@foei.org) if you are keen to get involved in terms of representing your region and supporting the federation's communications.



## communications

Here's an update on FoEI's recent publications, including those published towards the end of 2011:

### **memory, truth and justice for heroes**

Published in November 2011, this publication brings together stories from Africa, North America, Latin America, Asia Pacific, Central Asia and Eastern Europe, highlighting the heroism of those who have been killed and those whose rights had been violated, as well as those who are presently being oppressed because of their resistance to mining, oil and gas projects around the world.

Download: [www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/memory-truth-and-justice-for-heroes/view](http://www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/memory-truth-and-justice-for-heroes/view)

### **our climate, our say**

This community briefing on climate change was published in December 2011 and is available for download:

In English: [www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/our-climate-our-say/view](http://www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/our-climate-our-say/view)

And in Zulu: [www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/our-climate-our-say-zulu/view](http://www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/our-climate-our-say-zulu/view)

### **our climate is not for sale / changing the system not the climate**

These two documents were also published ahead of COP-17 in Durban, detailing the threat of carbon market expansion at COP-17 and calling for systemic change and climate justice

Our climate is not for sale: [www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/our-climate-is-not-for-sale-say-no-to-carbon-trading-expansion-at-cop-17/view](http://www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/our-climate-is-not-for-sale-say-no-to-carbon-trading-expansion-at-cop-17/view)

Changing the system not the climate: [www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/briefing-changing-the-system-not-the-climate/view](http://www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/briefing-changing-the-system-not-the-climate/view)

### **in the redd: australia's carbon offset project in central kalimantan**

Published in December 2011, this report was researched by campaigners in FoE Australia who visited Indonesia to examine the Kalimantan Forests and Climate Partnership, the world's first large scale REDD pilot project that was set up between Australia and Indonesia.

[www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/in-the-redd-australias-carbon-offset-project-in-central-kalimantan/view](http://www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/in-the-redd-australias-carbon-offset-project-in-central-kalimantan/view)

### **'how corporations rule' series**

Also launched in December 2011, this series of briefings aims to help shed light on the central issue underlying a lack of governmental accountability toward ordinary citizens on environmental and sustainability issues. In the area of climate policy and beyond, governmental positions have been increasingly hijacked by narrow corporate interests linked to polluting industries and industries seeking to profit from the climate crisis.

You can download the following documents:

'How Corporations Rule: Introduction' [www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/sasol-report/view](http://www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/sasol-report/view)

'How Corporations Rule 1: Sasol and South Africa's Climate Policy',

[www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/how-corporations-rule-sasol-and-south-africas-climate-policy/view](http://www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/how-corporations-rule-sasol-and-south-africas-climate-policy/view)

'How Corporations Rule 2: IETA lobby group ignores carbon market flaws' [www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/how-corporations-rule-ieta-lobby-group-ignores-carbon-market-flaws/view](http://www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2011/how-corporations-rule-ieta-lobby-group-ignores-carbon-market-flaws/view)

'How Corporations Rule 3: Vale'

[www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2012/how-corporations-rule-vale/view](http://www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/pdfs/2012/how-corporations-rule-vale/view)

### **brand new website for foe europe and european groups**

FoE Europe's new site is a place to keep up-to-date with news from FoEE's campaigns in Brussels and a platform where all FoE Europe groups can share news, successes and campaign developments. Young FoE Europe also have a new site: [www.youngfoee.org](http://www.youngfoee.org), which celebrates who they are, what they do and why they do it. FoEE would really appreciate it if you would help them promote the new sites by sharing them with your friends, supporters, and networks. They would also like to say a massive THANK YOU to everyone who has helped with FoEE's new website project, especially Gina in Hungary, Job in Netherlands, Martin in Malta, Marci in Hungary, Chris in the UK, and Phil at FoEI.

Friends of the Earth Europe's new website is now online at [www.foeeurope.org](http://www.foeeurope.org)

If you have comments you can leave them on FoEE's Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/FoEEurope>

If you spot anything that ought to be changed then please send this feedback direct to:

[francesca.gater@foeeurope.org](mailto:francesca.gater@foeeurope.org)

### **foe europe: banks fuelling food price volatility and hunger**

A new report from FoE Europe shows that European banks, pension funds and insurance companies are increasing global hunger and poverty by speculating on food prices and financing land grabs in poorer countries. The report analyses the activities of 29 European banks, pension funds and insurance companies, and calls on financial institutions to investigate, publish and reduce their involvement in food speculation and investments and land grabs. Download 'Farming Money: how European banks and private finance profit from food speculation and land grabs' here:

[www.foei.org/en/what-we-do/food-sovereignty/latest-news/european-banks-fuelling-food-price-volatility-and-hunger](http://www.foei.org/en/what-we-do/food-sovereignty/latest-news/european-banks-fuelling-food-price-volatility-and-hunger)

or here:

[www.foeeurope.org/publications/2012/Farming\\_money\\_FoEE\\_Jan2012.pdf](http://www.foeeurope.org/publications/2012/Farming_money_FoEE_Jan2012.pdf)

Contact: Daniel Pentzlin, FoE Europe Sustainable Finance Campaigner, [daniel.pentzlin@foeeurope.org](mailto:daniel.pentzlin@foeeurope.org)

FoE US activists deliver 'No to Keystone' messages to US senators. Lisa Matthes/Friends of the Earth.

interlinkages january-february 2012



## announcements

### seeking a new web and communications editor at the is

The International Secretariat is seeking a new Web and Communications Editor to work with FoEI members around the world to effectively implement FoEI's online communications and social media strategy. The successful candidate will have at least three years' experience in online communications, multimedia publishing tools and social media, and international campaign work. They also need to have excellent English writing and editing skills, and ideally be fluent in Spanish. FoEI is looking for a flexible, stress-resistant, creative and proactive individual who can motivate others with their enthusiasm! The position is open to anyone who has an EU work permit.

For more details go to: [www.foei.org/en/get-involved/vacancies](http://www.foei.org/en/get-involved/vacancies)

Please send your letter and CV to Wieke Wagenaar at [finance@foei.org](mailto:finance@foei.org) before 9am central European Time on 19 March 2012. Interviews will be held on 27 March.

### farewell to giselda castro

We are sad to report that Giselda Castro, the founder of FoE Brazil and Magda Renner's long-time partner in environmental struggles and pioneering the ecological movement in Brazil, has passed away aged 89. FoE Brazil especially want to express their thanks for her courage and inspiration.

Contact: Lucia Ortíz, FoE Brazil, [lucia@natbrasil.org.br](mailto:lucia@natbrasil.org.br)

### welcome to foe france's new director

Welcome to FoE France's new Director, Valérie Collin, who joined FoE France on 6 February. Valérie was previously Director of Planète Science, a popular education organisation. Although the challenges are big, her motivation and drive will give FoE France a lot of energy! You will probably meet her at upcoming European and international meetings, but in the meantime you can contact her here: [coordination@amisdelaterre.org](mailto:coordination@amisdelaterre.org) or by phone: +33 1 48 51 18 91.

### to cook a continent: discounted copies available for foe groups

FoEI member groups can buy copies of Nnimmo's book 'To Cook a Continent' for just €10 plus postage (also available free to African NGOs with limited funds). Nnimmo examines the oil industry in Africa, probes the roots of global warming, warns of its insidious impacts and explores 'false solutions'. He demonstrates that the issues around natural resource exploitation, corporate profiteering and climate change must be considered together if we are to save ourselves. Nnimmo suggests how Africa can overcome the crises of environment and global warming.

More information about the book can be found here:

[www.fahamubooks.org/book/?GCOI=90638100628980](http://www.fahamubooks.org/book/?GCOI=90638100628980)

Those who would like to purchase copies should contact [pauline@foei.org](mailto:pauline@foei.org), postage rates are €1.50 in the Netherlands, €2.50 in Europe, and €2.85 to the rest of the world.

If you are an African NGO requesting a complimentary copy please contact [info@pambazukapress.org](mailto:info@pambazukapress.org) directly.

### **argentina: notification of new governing council**

FoE Argentina has formally renewed its Governing Council:

President: Natalia Paola Salvático, [nataliasalvatico@amigos.org.ar](mailto:nataliasalvatico@amigos.org.ar) / [agua@amigos.org.ar](mailto:agua@amigos.org.ar)

Secretary: Laura Soledad Tentori, [lauratentori@amigos.org.ar](mailto:lauratentori@amigos.org.ar)

Treasurer: Eduardo Manuel Sánchez, [eduardosanches@amigos.org.ar](mailto:eduardosanches@amigos.org.ar) / [educacion@amigos.org.ar](mailto:educacion@amigos.org.ar)

Member: Laura Iñón, [lurainon@amigos.org.ar](mailto:lurainon@amigos.org.ar)

Member: Gonzalo Hernán Daprà, [gonzalodapra@amigos.org.ar](mailto:gonzalodapra@amigos.org.ar) / [difusión@amigos.org.ar](mailto:difusion@amigos.org.ar)

They hope for success in this new era of great challenges!

### **brazilian mining company vale wins world's worst corporation award**

Brazilian corporation Vale was elected as the world's worst corporation in the 2012 'Public Eye Awards', by popular vote. These awards are held every year to coincide with the World Economic Forum held in Davos, Switzerland, which is attended by world leaders.

More than 88,000 people voted and Vale got more than 25,000 votes. The Brazilian company won the 'popular' award while the 'global' award (voted by an internal experts panel) was given to British giant bank Barclays. The other competitors were Japanese electricity company Tepco, accused of the Fukushima nuclear disaster, South Korean electronics corporation Samsung, Swiss agrifood corporation Syngenta and US mining corporation Freeport McMoran.

Read more: [www.publiceye.ch/en/ranking/](http://www.publiceye.ch/en/ranking/)

And here, in English: [www.radiomundoreal.fm/Coming-up-to-the-surface?lang=es](http://www.radiomundoreal.fm/Coming-up-to-the-surface?lang=es)

And in Spanish: [www.radiomundoreal.fm/Salimos-de-la-sombra?lang=es](http://www.radiomundoreal.fm/Salimos-de-la-sombra?lang=es)

## March

### 6-9 March

FoEI ExCom  
Amsterdam

## June

### 15-18 June

FoEI ExCom  
Rio de Janeiro

### 15-23 June

'Peoples Summit for Social and Environmental  
Justice against the Mercantilization of Life and  
Nature and in Defense of the Commons'  
Rio de Janeiro

### 20-22 June

Rio+20  
Rio de Janeiro

### 24-27 June

FoEI cross-programme meeting  
Rio de Janeiro

## October

### 29-20 October

FoEI ExCom meeting  
El Salvador

### 31 October - November

FoEI BGM Pre-Conference  
El Salvador

### 2-8 November

FoEI BGM  
El Salvador

## foe international listserves

Up-to-date information about all the FoEI listserves can be found at <https://lists.foei.org>

## foe europe listserves

To subscribe to or find out more information about FoE Europe's listserves please send a message with your contact details to Stine Nielsen at [stine.nielsen@foeeurope.org](mailto:stine.nielsen@foeeurope.org).

## foei secretariat

Address for mail: PO Box 19199  
1000 GD Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
Visiting address: Nieuwe Looiersstraat 31  
3rd floor, 1017 VA, Amsterdam  
Tel 31 20 622 1369  
Fax 31 20 639 2181  
E-mail [foei@foei.org](mailto:foei@foei.org)  
<http://www.foei.org>

## international secretariat management team

### communications coordinator

**Maarten van den Berg**, [maarten@foei.org](mailto:maarten@foei.org)

### finance and personnel manager

Wieke Wagenaar, [finance@foei.org](mailto:finance@foei.org)

### international membership development coordinator

Erick Burke, [erick@foei.org](mailto:erick@foei.org)

### international programmes facilitator

Nina Ascoly [nina@foei.org](mailto:nina@foei.org)

### media coordinator

Niccolo Sarno, [media@foei.org](mailto:media@foei.org)

### office manager

Pauline Vincenten, [pauline@foei.org](mailto:pauline@foei.org)

### project officer and fundraising assistant

Marta Zogbi, [marta@foei.org](mailto:marta@foei.org)

### resource mobilisation coordinator

Paige Shipman, [paige@foei.org](mailto:paige@foei.org)

### technical support facilitator

Joukje Kolff, [joukje@foei.org](mailto:joukje@foei.org)

### web coordinator

Phil Lee, [phil@foei.org](mailto:phil@foei.org)

### international programmes and membership assistant

Elise Le Guil, [elise@foei.org](mailto:elise@foei.org)

### bookeekper

Grace Nijbroek, [grace@foei.org](mailto:grace@foei.org)

## foei ombudspeople

Otto Sieber, Switzerland  
Thuli Makama, Swaziland

## foe international executive committee

**Chair:** Nnimmo Bassey, Nigeria

**Vice Chair:** Karin Nansen, Uruguay

**Treasurer:** Jagoda Munic, Croatia

Ricardo Navarro, FoE El Salvador

Hemantha Withanage, FoE Sri Lanka

Elaine Gilligan, FoE England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Meena Raman, FoE Malaysia

Bobby Peek, FoE South Africa

David Hirsch, FoE United States

## foe africa

### consultative board

Bobby Peek (South Africa)

[bobby@groundwork.org.za](mailto:bobby@groundwork.org.za)

Thuli Makama (Swaziland)

[thuli.makama@gmail.com](mailto:thuli.makama@gmail.com)

Nnimmo Bassey (Nigeria) [nnimmo@eration.org](mailto:nnimmo@eration.org)

Noble Wadzah (Ghana) [kowadzah9@yahoo.com](mailto:kowadzah9@yahoo.com)

### secretariat

George Awudi (Ghana) [geobrigkwa@yahoo.com](mailto:geobrigkwa@yahoo.com)

## foe apac

### majelis

Hemantha Withanage (Sri Lanka)

Theiva Lingam (Malaysia)

Derec Davies (Australia)

Jeong Kim (South Korea)

Prakash Sharma (Nepal)

### convenor

Hemantha Withanage (Sri Lanka)

[hemantha@ejustice.lk](mailto:hemantha@ejustice.lk)

## foe europe

### executive committee

Andy Atkins/Elaine Gilligan (EWNI)

Oisín Coghlan (Ireland)/Ellie Cijvat (Sweden)

Georgina Gal (Hungary)/Bertrand Sansonnens (Switzerland)

Lawrence Sudlow/Liliane Spendeler (Spain)

Hester Schoute/Hans Berkhuis (Netherlands)

### secretariat

Magda Stoczkiewicz

Mundo-B Building, Rue d'Edimbourg 26

1050 Bruxelles, BELGIUM

Tel 32 2 893 1000 / Fax 32 2 893 1035

E-mail [info@foeeurope.org](mailto:info@foeeurope.org)

<http://www.foeeurope.org>

## foe latin america and caribbean

### excom

Isaac Rojas (Costa Rica) [isaac@coecoceiba.org](mailto:isaac@coecoceiba.org)

Karin Nansen (Uruguay) [urusust@redes.org.uy](mailto:urusust@redes.org.uy)

Lúcia Ortíz (Brazil) [lucia@natbrasil.org.br](mailto:lucia@natbrasil.org.br)

### secretariat

Mario Godinez (Guatemala) [tzikin.mario@gmail.com](mailto:tzikin.mario@gmail.com)

## international activities

### programmes and campaigns

#### economic justice: resisting neoliberalism programme

Lucia Ortiz, Brazil, [lucia@natbrasil.org.br](mailto:lucia@natbrasil.org.br)

Steering group:

Hemantha Withanage, APAC [hemantha@ejjustice.lk](mailto:hemantha@ejjustice.lk)

Bobby Peek, Africa, [bobby@groundwork.org.za](mailto:bobby@groundwork.org.za)

Grace Garcia Munoz, ATALC,

[graciagarcimunoz@gmail.com](mailto:graciagarcimunoz@gmail.com)

Karen Orenstein, US, [KOrenstein@foe.org](mailto:KOrenstein@foe.org)

#### corporates campaign

Paul de Clerck, Netherlands, [paul@milieudefensie.nl](mailto:paul@milieudefensie.nl)

#### forests & biodiversity programme

Isaac Rojas, Costa Rica, [isaac@coecoceiba.org](mailto:isaac@coecoceiba.org)

Steering group:

Shamila Ariffin, APAC, [shamila73@yahoo.com](mailto:shamila73@yahoo.com)

David Mutsitsa Kureeba, Africa, [kureebamd@yahoo.com](mailto:kureebamd@yahoo.com)

Eduardo Sanchez, ATALC, [educacion@amigos.org.ar](mailto:educacion@amigos.org.ar)

Bertrand Sansonnens, Europe,

[bertrand.sansonnens@pronatura.ch](mailto:bertrand.sansonnens@pronatura.ch)

Kate Homer, US, [KHomer@foe.org](mailto:KHomer@foe.org)

#### food sovereignty programme

Martín Drago, Uruguay, [martin.drago@redes.org.uy](mailto:martin.drago@redes.org.uy)

Kirtana Chandrasekaran, EWNI (also represents Europe)

[kirtana.chandrasekaran@foe.co.uk](mailto:kirtana.chandrasekaran@foe.co.uk)

Steering group:

Mariann Basse, Africa, [annybassi@yahoo.com](mailto:annybassi@yahoo.com)

Claudia Germonimo, ATALC, [cjeronomog@gmail.com](mailto:cjeronomog@gmail.com)

Eric Hoffman, US, [EHoffman@foe.org](mailto:EHoffman@foe.org)

Demetrio Carvalho, APAC, [maulapa@yahoo.com](mailto:maulapa@yahoo.com)

David Sanchez, Europe, [omg@tierra.org](mailto:omg@tierra.org)

#### climate justice and energy programme

Sarah-Jayne Clifton, EWNI, [sarah.clifton@foe.co.uk](mailto:sarah.clifton@foe.co.uk)

Steering group:

FoE Korea/FoE Nepal - names to be confirmed

Lucia Ortiz and Jose Elosegui, ATALC,

[lucia@natbrasil.org.br](mailto:lucia@natbrasil.org.br) and [jelosegui@gmail.com](mailto:jelosegui@gmail.com)

Geoffrey Kamese and Siziwe Khanyile, Africa,

[kamese@nape.org.uy](mailto:kamese@nape.org.uy) and [siziwe@groundwork.org.za](mailto:siziwe@groundwork.org.za)

Susi Schebarth and Asad Rehman, Europe,

[susann.scherbarth@foeeurope.org](mailto:susann.scherbarth@foeeurope.org) and

[asad.rehman@foe.co.uk](mailto:asad.rehman@foe.co.uk)

Karen Orenstein, US, [korenstein@foe.org](mailto:korenstein@foe.org)

#### resistance to mining, oil & gas

Romel de Vera, LRC/FoE Philippines

[meldevera@gmail.com](mailto:meldevera@gmail.com)

Steering group:

Reinford Mwangonde, Africa, [reinm@cfjmalawi.org](mailto:reinm@cfjmalawi.org)

Geert Ritsema, Europe, [geert.ritsema@milieudefensie.nl](mailto:geert.ritsema@milieudefensie.nl)

Gustavo Castro, ATALC, [guscastro@otrosmundoschiapas.org](mailto:guscastro@otrosmundoschiapas.org)

#### agrofuels campaign

Steering group:

Damien Ase, APAC, [dase@celcor.org.pg](mailto:dase@celcor.org.pg)

Michal Rosenoer, US, [mrosenoer@foe.org](mailto:mrosenoer@foe.org)

Kenneth Richter, Europe, [kenneth.richter@foe.co.uk](mailto:kenneth.richter@foe.co.uk)

Elias Diaz Pena/Simone Lovera, ATALC,

[ambiental@sobrevivencia.org.py](mailto:ambiental@sobrevivencia.org.py)

Mariann Basse and Daniel Ribeiro, Africa,

[annybassi@yahoo.com](mailto:annybassi@yahoo.com), [daniel@ja.org.mz](mailto:daniel@ja.org.mz)

### cross-programme projects

#### land rights, land grabbing and unsustainable consumption

Kirtana Chandrasekaran, EWNI, [kirtana.chandrasekaran@foe.co.uk](mailto:kirtana.chandrasekaran@foe.co.uk)

[kirtana.chandrasekaran@foe.co.uk](mailto:kirtana.chandrasekaran@foe.co.uk)

Romel de Vera, LRC/FoE Philippines

[meldevera@gmail.com](mailto:meldevera@gmail.com)

#### climate and biodiversity finance

Isaac Rojas, Costa Rica, [isaac@coecoceiba.org](mailto:isaac@coecoceiba.org)

Sarah-Jayne Clifton, EWNI, [sarah.clifton@foe.co.uk](mailto:sarah.clifton@foe.co.uk)

#### transformation

Sarah-Jayne Clifton, EWNI, [sarah.clifton@foe.co.uk](mailto:sarah.clifton@foe.co.uk)

Martín Drago, Uruguay, [martin.drago@redes.org.uy](mailto:martin.drago@redes.org.uy)

#### corporate capture of un institutions and governments

Lucia Ortiz, Brazil, [lucia@natbrasil.org.br](mailto:lucia@natbrasil.org.br)

Paul de Clerck, Netherlands, [paul@milieudefensie.nl](mailto:paul@milieudefensie.nl)

## Argentina Amigos de la Tierra

[Eduardo Sánchez]  
Av. Córdoba 5051  
C1414BAI, Buenos Aires  
ARGENTINA  
Tel 5411 4773 5947  
[amigosdelatierra@amigos.org.ar](mailto:amigosdelatierra@amigos.org.ar)  
[www.amigos.org.ar](http://www.amigos.org.ar)

## Australia Friends of the Earth

[International Liaison Office:  
Derec Davies and Marisol  
Salinas]  
PO Box 222  
3065 Fitzroy  
AUSTRALIA  
Tel 61 39 419 8700  
Fax 61 39 416 2081  
[ilo@foe.org.au](mailto:ilo@foe.org.au)  
[www.foe.org.au](http://www.foe.org.au)

## Austria Global 2000

[Christina Hirschbeck]  
Neustiftgasse 36  
A-1070 Vienna  
AUSTRIA  
Tel 43 1 812 57 300  
Fax 43 1 812 57 28  
[office@global2000.at](mailto:office@global2000.at)  
[www.global2000.at](http://www.global2000.at)

## Bangladesh BELA

[Syeda Rizwana Hasan]  
House no. 15/A Road no. 3  
Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205  
BANGLADESH  
Tel 880 2 861428  
Fax 880 2 8612957  
[belabangla@belabangla.net](mailto:belabangla@belabangla.net)  
[www.belabangla.org](http://www.belabangla.org)

## Belgium Les Amis de la Terre

[Ezio Gandin]  
Mundo Namur - 98, rue Nanon  
5000 Namur  
BELGICA  
Tel 32 81 390639  
Fax 32 81 390638  
[contact@amisdelaterre.be](mailto:contact@amisdelaterre.be)  
[www.amisdelaterre.be](http://www.amisdelaterre.be)

## Bolivia CERDET

[Ruben Cuba]  
PO Box 83  
Tarija  
BOLIVIA  
Tel 591 4 6635471  
Fax 591 4 6633454  
[guidodcf@yahoo.com](mailto:guidodcf@yahoo.com)  
[pilcomay@mail.cosett.com.bo](mailto:pilcomay@mail.cosett.com.bo)

## Brazil Nucleo Amigos da Terra

[Lucia Ortiz Childs]  
The CASANAT  
Rua Olavo Bilac 192  
CEP 90040-310  
Porto Alegre  
Rio Grande do Sul  
Brazil 90040-310  
Tel 55 51 3332 8884  
Fax 55 51 3332 8884  
[natbrasil@natbrasil.org.br](mailto:natbrasil@natbrasil.org.br)  
[www.natbrasil.org.br](http://www.natbrasil.org.br)

[lucia@natbrasil.org.br](mailto:lucia@natbrasil.org.br)

## Cameroon Centre for Environment and Development

[Samuel Nguiffo]  
PO Box 3430  
Yaounde  
CAMEROON  
Tel 237 222 38 57/ 996 57 98  
Fax 237 222 38 59  
[infos@cedcameroun.org](mailto:infos@cedcameroun.org)  
[www.cedcameroun.org](http://www.cedcameroun.org)

## Canada FoE/Les Amis de la Terre

[Beatrice Olivastri]  
260 St. Patrickstreet., Suite  
300  
K1N 5K5 Ottawa, Ontario  
CANADA  
Tel 1 613 241 0085  
Fax 1 613 241 7998  
[foe@foecanada.org](mailto:foe@foecanada.org)  
[www.foecanada.org](http://www.foecanada.org)

## Chile CODEFF

[Jenia Joffre]  
Ernesto Reyes 035,  
Providencia  
Santiago  
CHILE  
Tel 56 2 7772534  
Fax 56 2 2691978  
[administracion@codeff.cl](mailto:administracion@codeff.cl) [presidencia@codeff.cl](mailto:presidencia@codeff.cl)  
[www.codeff.cl](http://www.codeff.cl)

## Colombia Censat Agua Viva

[Tatiana Roa Avendaño]  
Diagonal 24 No 27A-42  
Bogota DC  
COLOMBIA  
Tel 57 1 244 24 65 / 244 05 81  
/ 337 77 09  
Fax 57 1 2442465 / 2440581 /  
3377709  
[infogeneral@censat.org](mailto:infogeneral@censat.org)  
[administracion@censat.org](mailto:administracion@censat.org)  
[coordinacion@censat.org](mailto:coordinacion@censat.org)  
[www.censat.org](http://www.censat.org)

## Costa Rica Asociacion

Comunidades Ecologistas la  
Ceiba / Amigos de la Tierra /  
COECOCEIBA  
[Isaac Rojas]  
Partado 12423  
1000 San Jose  
COSTA RICA  
Tel 2 506 223 3925  
Fax 2 506 223 3925  
[gavitza@ice.co.cr](mailto:gavitza@ice.co.cr)  
[www.coecoceiba.org](http://www.coecoceiba.org)

## Croatia Zelena Akcija / Green Action

[Jagoda Munic]  
Frankopanska 1 pp. 952  
1000 Zagreb  
CROATIA  
Tel 385 99 4813 096  
Fax 385 1 4813 096  
[zelena-akcija@zg.htnet.hr](mailto:zelena-akcija@zg.htnet.hr)  
[www.zelena-akcija.hr](http://www.zelena-akcija.hr)

## Curaçao Amigu di Tera

[Lloyd Narain]  
PO Box 4688  
Willemstad  
CURAÇAO  
[narain@interneeds.net](mailto:narain@interneeds.net)  
[www.amiguditera.com](http://www.amiguditera.com)

## Cyprus Friends of the Earth

[Savvas Zotos]  
PO Box 53411  
3302 Limassol  
CYPRUS  
Tel 357 25 347042  
Fax 357 25 347043  
[foecyprus@yahoo.com](mailto:foecyprus@yahoo.com)  
[www.foecyprus.weebly.com](http://www.foecyprus.weebly.com)

## Czech Republic Hnutí Duha

[Vojtech Kotecky]  
Pratele Zeme CR Udolni 33  
602 00 Brno  
CZECH REPUBLIC  
Tel 420 5 4521 4431  
Fax 420 5 4521 4429  
[vojtech.kotecky@hnutiduha.cz](mailto:vojtech.kotecky@hnutiduha.cz)  
[www.hnutiduha.cz](http://www.hnutiduha.cz)

## Denmark NOAH

[Kim Ejlersen]  
Norrebrogade 39/1  
2200 Kobenhavn N  
DENMARK  
Tel 45 3536 1212  
Fax 45 3536 1217  
[kimejler@post7.tele.dk](mailto:kimejler@post7.tele.dk)  
[noah@noah.dk](mailto:noah@noah.dk)  
[www.noah.dk](http://www.noah.dk)

## El Salvador Centro

Salvadoreo de Tecnologia  
Apropiada  
[Ricardo Navarro]  
Apartado 3065  
San Salvador  
EL SALVADOR  
Tel 503 2213 140  
Fax 503 2220 0479  
[cesta@cesta-foe.org.sv](mailto:cesta@cesta-foe.org.sv)  
[www.cesta-foe.org](http://www.cesta-foe.org)

## England, Wales & Northern

### Ireland Friends of the Earth

[Contact Mike Childs]  
26-28 Underwood Street  
N1 7JQ London  
UNITED KINGDOM  
Tel 44 207 490 1555  
Fax 44 207 490 0881  
[mike.childs@foe.co.uk](mailto:mike.childs@foe.co.uk)  
[www.foe.co.uk](http://www.foe.co.uk)

## Estonia Eesti Roheline

Liikumine  
[Jaanus Valja]  
Tiigi 8-24  
51003 Tartu  
ESTONIA  
Tel 372 7 422532  
Fax 372 7 422084  
[info@roheline.ee](mailto:info@roheline.ee)  
[www.roheline.ee](http://www.roheline.ee)

## Finland

Suomen Maan ystäväät ry  
[Riikka Leskinen]  
Kirkkotie 6-10  
20540 Turku  
FINLAND  
**Tel 358 45 886 3958**  
Fax 358 2 237 1670  
[toimisto@maanystavat.fi](mailto:toimisto@maanystavat.fi)  
[www.maanystavat.fi](http://www.maanystavat.fi)

## Flanders and Brussels

Friends of the Earth  
Vlaanderen & Brussel / FoE  
Flanders and Brussels  
[David Heller]  
Maria Hendrikaplein 5  
9000 Gent  
BELGIUM  
Tel 32 9 242 87 52  
Fax 32 9 242 8751  
[contact@motherearth.org](mailto:contact@motherearth.org)  
[www.motherearth.org](http://www.motherearth.org)

## France Les Amis de la Terre

[Martine Laplante]  
2 B Rue Jules Ferry  
93100 Montreuil  
FRANCE  
Tel 33 1 48 51 3222  
Fax 33 1 48 519512  
[france@amisdelaterre.org](mailto:france@amisdelaterre.org)  
[www.amisdelaterre.org](http://www.amisdelaterre.org)

**Georgia** *The Greens Movement of Georgia*  
[Mrs Ketevan Kiria]  
10a Nutsbidze str.  
0177, Tbilisi GEORGIA  
Tel/fax: 995 32 386978  
[info@greens.ge](mailto:info@greens.ge)  
[www.greens.ge](http://www.greens.ge)

**Germany** *BUND/FoE Germany*  
[Antje von Broock]  
Am Koellnischen Park 1  
10179 Berlin  
GERMANY  
Tel 49 30 27 58 64 0  
Fax 49 30 27 58 64 0  
[antje.vonbroock@bund.net](mailto:antje.vonbroock@bund.net)  
[www.bund.net](http://www.bund.net)

**Ghana** *Friends of the Earth*  
[Theo Anderson]  
Private Mail Bag  
General Post Office  
Accra  
GHANA  
Tel +233-21030-512312  
Fax 233 21 512 313  
[foe@foeghana.org](mailto:foe@foeghana.org)

**Grenada** *Friends of the Earth*  
[Joseph Antoine]  
PO Box 521  
Lucas Street  
St. George's  
GRENADA, WEST INDIES  
Tel 1 473 440 7192  
Fax 1 473 440 7192  
[foegda@caribsurf.com](mailto:foegda@caribsurf.com)

**Guatemala** *CEIBA*  
Km. 56.5 Carretera  
Interamericana  
Casa 1-265, Aldea Buena  
Vista  
Chimaltenango  
GUATEMALA  
Tel 502 7839 60 33  
Fax 502 7839 1033  
[ceibauno@gmail.com](mailto:ceibauno@gmail.com)  
[www.ceibaguatate.org](http://www.ceibaguatate.org)

**Haiti** *Haiti Survie*  
[Aldrin Calixte]  
Delmas 65, Rue Durandis #2  
Port-au-prince  
HAITI  
Tel 509 2137973  
Fax 2210172  
[hsurvie@yahoo.com](mailto:hsurvie@yahoo.com)

**Honduras** *Movimiento Madre Tierra*  
[Juan Almandares]  
PO Box 2035  
Tegucigalpa  
HONDURAS  
Tel 504 232 4204  
Fax 504 235 3387  
[almendarez.bonilla@gmail.com](mailto:almendarez.bonilla@gmail.com)  
[movimien@movimien-tomadretierra.org](mailto:movimien@movimien-tomadretierra.org)  
[www.movimientomadretierra.org](http://www.movimientomadretierra.org)

**Hungary** *Magyar Termeszettvedok Szovetsege*  
[Istvan Farkas]  
PO Box 123  
Ulloi u 91/b, III/21  
H-1091 Budapest  
HUNGARY  
Tel 36 1 216 7297  
Fax 36 1 216 7295  
[info@mtvsz.hu](mailto:info@mtvsz.hu)  
[www.mtvsh.hu](http://www.mtvsh.hu)

**Indonesia** *WALHI*  
[Muhammad Teguh Surya]  
Jl. Tegal Parang Utara No. 14  
12790 Jakarta Selatan  
INDONESIA  
Tel 62 21 794 1672  
Fax 62 21 794 1673  
[walhi@walhi.or.id](mailto:walhi@walhi.or.id)  
[www.walhi.or.id](http://www.walhi.or.id)

**Ireland** *Friends of the Earth*  
[Oisín Coghlan]  
9 Upper Mount Street  
Dublin 2  
IRELAND  
Tel 353 1 639 4652  
[oisin@foe.ie](mailto:oisin@foe.ie)  
[www.foe.ie](http://www.foe.ie)

**Italy** *Amici della Terra*  
[Laura Radiconcini]  
Via di Torre Argentina, 18  
00186 Rome  
ITALY  
Tel 39 06 6875308 / 6868289  
Fax 39 06 683 08610  
[info@amicidellaterra.it](mailto:info@amicidellaterra.it)  
[www.amicidellaterra.it](http://www.amicidellaterra.it)

**Japan** *Friends of the Earth*  
[Randal Helten]  
1F 3-30-8 Ikebukuro  
\*Toshima-ku\*  
171-0014 Tokyo  
JAPAN  
Tel 81 3 6907 7217  
Fax 81 3 6907 7219  
[info@foejapan.org](mailto:info@foejapan.org)  
[www.foejapan.org](http://www.foejapan.org)

**Latvia** *Latvijas Zemes draugi*  
[Janis Ulme]  
Margietas iela 16-3, Zemes  
Draugi c/o VIF LV-1966 Riga  
LATVIA  
Tel 37127225112  
E-pasts: [info@vak.lv](mailto:info@vak.lv)  
[janis.ulme@zemesdraugi.lv](mailto:janis.ulme@zemesdraugi.lv)  
<http://www.zemesdraugi.lv/lv/>

**Liberia** *Sustainable Development Institute (SDI)*  
[Silas Kpanan'AYoung Siakor]  
P. O. Box 5678, Duarzohn  
Village, Robertsfield Highway  
Margibi County, LIBERIA  
Tel 231 77 089947/ 206702  
[ssiakor@sdiliberia.org](mailto:ssiakor@sdiliberia.org)  
[www.sdiliberia.org](http://www.sdiliberia.org)

**Lithuania** *Lietuvos Zaliuju Judejimas*  
[Renata Perlibaite]  
I. Kanto 6  
P.O. Box 160, 44002 Kaunas  
LITHUANIA  
Tel 370 37 324241  
Fax 370 37 324201  
[zalieji@zalieji.lt](mailto:zalieji@zalieji.lt)  
[www.zalieji.lt](http://www.zalieji.lt)

**Luxembourg** *Mouvement Ecologique*  
6, Rue Vauban  
2663 LUXEMBOURG  
Tel 352 439 0301  
Fax 352 43903043  
[meco@oeko.lu](mailto:meco@oeko.lu)  
[www.oeko.lu](http://www.oeko.lu)

**Macedonia, f.y.r. of** *Dvizenje na Ekologistite na Makedonija/DEM*  
[Ruska Miceva]  
ul. "Vasil Gjorgov" BB, Baraka  
6, 1000 Skopje  
MACEDONIA, F.Y.R. OF  
Tel 389 2 3 220 518  
Fax 389 23 128 075  
[dem@dem.org.mk](mailto:dem@dem.org.mk)  
[www.dem.org.mk](http://www.dem.org.mk)

**Malawi** *Citizens For Justice(CFJ)*  
[Reinford Mwangonde]  
email: [reinm@cfjmalawi.org](mailto:reinm@cfjmalawi.org)  
Falls Estate, Sector 1, Plot  
#574, Lilongwe, Malawi  
Postal: Post Dot Net, Box  
X100 Crossroad, Lilongwe,  
MALAWI  
Tel 265 (0)1 727828  
265 (0)1 727822  
Cell 265 (0) 99 9 678 031  
265 (0) 88 4 376 359  
[cfjmalawi@yahoo.com](mailto:cfjmalawi@yahoo.com) and  
[remwa1@yahoo.com](mailto:remwa1@yahoo.com)  
[www.citizensforjusticemalawi.org](http://www.citizensforjusticemalawi.org)  
(under construction)

**Malaysia** *Sahabat Alam Malaysia/SAM*  
[Meenakshi Raman]  
21 Lintang Delima 15  
11700 Penang  
MALAYSIA  
Tel 60 4659 6930  
Fax 60 4659 6931  
[sam\\_inquiry@yahoo.com](mailto:sam_inquiry@yahoo.com)  
[www.foe-malaysia.org](http://www.foe-malaysia.org)

**Mali** *GUAMINA*  
[Souleymane Dembele]  
Hamdallaye Rue 42 Porte no.  
232  
B.P. 2744 Bamako  
MALI  
Tel 223-225910  
Fax 223-293134  
[guamina@buroticservices.net.ml](mailto:guamina@buroticservices.net.ml)  
[dembele\\_z@yahoo.fr](mailto:dembele_z@yahoo.fr)  
[www.promali.org/guamina](http://www.promali.org/guamina)

**Malta** *Moviment għall-Ambjent*  
[Martin Galea De Giovanni]  
PO Box 13  
CMR 1000 Valletta  
MALTA  
Tel 356 21342269  
Fax 356 21342269  
[info@foemalta.org](mailto:info@foemalta.org)  
[www.foemalta.org](http://www.foemalta.org)

**Mauritius** *Maudesco*  
[Rajen Awotar]  
63 Avenue Hironnelles  
Sodnac, Quartre Bornes  
MAURITIUS  
Tel 230 467 2565  
Fax 230 424 8500  
[maudesco@intnet.mu](mailto:maudesco@intnet.mu)

**Mexico** *Otros Mundos*  
[Gustavo Castro Soto]  
Calle Francisco I. Madero  
num. 49  
Barrio Guadalupe  
C.P. 29230 San Cristóbal de  
las Casas  
Chiapas, MEXICO  
Telephone 0052 (967) 631  
6643  
[guscastro@otrosmundoschiapas.org](mailto:guscastro@otrosmundoschiapas.org)  
[www.otrosmundoschiapas.org](http://www.otrosmundoschiapas.org)

**Mozambique** *Justica Ambiental*  
[Anabela A. Lemos]  
Rua Marconi #110 1 andar,  
Maputo, MOZAMBIQUE  
Tel 258 21 496668  
Fax 258 21 496668  
[ja@ja.org.mz](mailto:ja@ja.org.mz)  
[anabela@ja.org.mz](mailto:anabela@ja.org.mz)  
[www.ja.org.mz](http://www.ja.org.mz)

**Nepal Pro-Public**  
[Prakash Sharma]  
PO BOX 14307  
Gautam Budha Marga  
Kathmandu  
NEPAL  
Tel 977-1-268023  
Fax 977-1-268022  
[info@propublic.org](mailto:info@propublic.org)  
[www.propublic.org](http://www.propublic.org)

**Netherlands Milieudefensie**  
[Contact Mia Liesenmeijer]  
Postbus 19199  
1000 GD Amsterdam  
NETHERLANDS  
Tel 31-20-5507300  
Fax 31-20-5507310  
[mia.liesenmeijer@milieudefensie.nl](mailto:mia.liesenmeijer@milieudefensie.nl)  
[www.milieudefensie.nl](http://www.milieudefensie.nl)

**New Zealand Friends of the Earth**  
[John Whyte]  
PO Box 5599  
Wellesley Street  
1 Auckland  
NEW ZEALAND  
Tel 64 9 3609149  
Fax 64 9 3609149  
[foenz@kcbbs.gen.nz](mailto:foenz@kcbbs.gen.nz)

**Nigeria Environmental Rights Action**  
[Nnimmo Bassey]  
PO Box 10577 Ugbowu  
214 Uselu -Lagos Road  
Benin City NIGERIA  
Tel 234 52 880619  
Fax 234 52 600165  
Cell +234 803 727 4395  
[eraction@eraction.org](mailto:eraction@eraction.org)  
[www.eraction.org](http://www.eraction.org)

**Norway Norges Naturvernforbund**  
[Jan Thomas Odegaard]  
Postal address: Grensen 9 B,  
0159 Oslo,  
Norway  
Visiting address: Miljøhuset G9  
i Grensen 9 B, Oslo  
Tel 47 23 10 96 10  
Fax 47 23 10 96 11  
[naturvern@naturvern.no](mailto:naturvern@naturvern.no)  
[www.naturvern.no](http://www.naturvern.no)

**Palestine PENGON**  
[Abeer Al Butmeh]  
PO Box 565  
PARC Building  
Ramallah  
PALESTINE  
Tel 972 2 6565890/87  
Fax 972 2 5857688  
[outreach@pengon.org](mailto:outreach@pengon.org)  
[www.pengon.org](http://www.pengon.org)

**Papua New Guinea Center for Environmental Law and Community Rights / CELCOR**  
[Damien Ase]  
PO BOX 4373  
Boroko, National Capital  
District  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA  
Tel 675 323 4509  
Fax 675 311 2106  
[info@celcor.org.pg](mailto:info@celcor.org.pg)  
[www.celcor.org.pg](http://www.celcor.org.pg)

**Paraguay Sobrevivencia**  
[Oscar Rivas]  
Casilla de Correos 1380  
Asuncion  
PARAGUAY  
Tel 595 21 480 182/ 595 21 425 716  
Fax 595 21 480 182/ 595 21 425 716  
[coordina@sobrevivencia.org.py](mailto:coordina@sobrevivencia.org.py)  
[www.sobrevivencia.org.py](http://www.sobrevivencia.org.py)

**Peru LABOR**  
[Edwin Guzmán]  
Urb. Magisterial K-12  
llo  
PERU  
Tel 51 53 481816 / 481208  
Fax 51 54 781208  
[edwing@labor.org.pe](mailto:edwing@labor.org.pe)  
[www.labor.org.pe](http://www.labor.org.pe)

**Philippines Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center**  
[Jocelyn Matias Villanueva]  
41-B Mapagsanguni Street,  
Sikatuna  
Village, Quezon City,  
PHILIPPINES  
Tel 632 928 1372/632 436 1101  
Fax 632 9207172  
[lrcksk@info.com.ph](mailto:lrcksk@info.com.ph)  
[www.lrcksk.org](http://www.lrcksk.org)

**Poland Polski Klub Ekologiczny/PKE**  
[Urszula Burkot]  
Zarząd Główny ul.  
Romanowicza 2/410  
30-702 Kraków  
POLAND  
Tel 48 12 423 20 47  
Fax 48 12 423 20 98  
[urszulaburkot@wp.pl](mailto:urszulaburkot@wp.pl) or  
[biuro@zgpke.most.org.pl](mailto:biuro@zgpke.most.org.pl)  
[www.polskiklubekologiczny.org](http://www.polskiklubekologiczny.org)

**Scotland Friends of the Earth**  
[Fiona Brown]  
Thorn House 5 Rose Street  
Edinburgh  
EH2 2PR  
SCOTLAND (U.K.)  
Tel: 44 131 243 2700  
Fax: 44131 243 2725  
[reception@foe-scotland.org.uk](mailto:reception@foe-scotland.org.uk)  
[info@foe-scotland.org.uk](mailto:info@foe-scotland.org.uk)  
[www.foe-scotland.org.uk](http://www.foe-scotland.org.uk)

**Sierra Leone Friends of the Earth**  
[Olatunde Johnson]  
[Olatunde Johnson]  
P.M. Bag 950  
33 Robert Street  
Freetown  
SIERRA LEONE  
Tel 232-22-226577  
Fax 232-22-226577  
[foesl@sierratel.sl](mailto:foesl@sierratel.sl)

**Slovakia Friends of the Earth-CEPA**  
[Juraj Zamkovsky]Ponicka  
Huta 65  
976 33 Poniky  
SLOVAKIA  
Tel 421 48 4193718  
Fax 421 48 4193718  
[cepa@foe.sk](mailto:cepa@foe.sk)  
[www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa](http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa)

**South Africa GroundWork**  
[Bobby Peek]  
P.O. Box 2375  
Pietermaritzburg 3200  
South Africa  
Tel 27 33 342 5662  
Fax 27 33 342 5665  
[team@groundwork.org.za](mailto:team@groundwork.org.za)  
[www.groundwork.org.za](http://www.groundwork.org.za)

**South Korea Korea Federation for Environmental Movements**  
[Ms Hyun ji Kim]  
NuHa-Dong 251  
Jongno-gu  
110-806 Seoul  
KOREA  
Tel 82-2-735-7000  
Fax 82-2-730-1240  
[arqus@kfem.or.kr](mailto:arqus@kfem.or.kr)  
<http://english.kfem.or.kr/>

**Spain Amigos de la Tierra**  
[Elena Bonilla]  
C/Cadarso 16, Bajo E, 28008  
Madrid, SPAIN  
Tel 34-91-306-9900  
Fax 34-91-313-4893  
[gerencia@tierra.org](mailto:gerencia@tierra.org)  
[www.tierra.org](http://www.tierra.org)

**Sri Lanka Centre For Environmental Justice**  
[Hemantha Withanage]  
20A, Kuruppu Road, Colombo  
08, SRI LANKA  
Tel 941 1268 3282  
Fax 941 1268 3282  
[info@ejjustice.lk](mailto:info@ejjustice.lk)  
[hemanthaw@eureka.lk](mailto:hemanthaw@eureka.lk)  
[www.ejustice.lk](http://www.ejustice.lk)

**Swaziland Yonge Nawe**  
[Thuli Makama]  
PO Box 2061  
Mbabane  
Swaziland  
Tel 268 404 7701  
Fax 268 404 1394  
[yonawe@realnet.co.sz](mailto:yonawe@realnet.co.sz)  
[www.yongenawe.com](http://www.yongenawe.com)

**Sweden Miljöförbundet Jordens Vänner**  
[Ankin Ljungman]  
Box 7048  
S-402 31 Göteborg  
SWEDEN  
Tel 46 31 12 1808  
Fax 46 31 12 1817  
[info@mjbv.se](mailto:info@mjbv.se)  
[www.mjbv.se](http://www.mjbv.se)

**Switzerland Pro Natura**  
[Bertrand Sansonnens]  
Dornacherstrasse 192  
4053 Basel  
SWITZERLAND  
Tel 41 61 317 9191  
Fax 41 61 317 9266  
[mailbox@pronatura.ch](mailto:mailbox@pronatura.ch)  
[www.pronatura.ch](http://www.pronatura.ch)

**Tanzania Lawyer's Environmental Action Team (LEAT)**  
[Tundu A. M. Lissu]  
Mikocheni B, Mazingira Street,  
P.O. Box 12605,  
Dar-es-Salaam, TANZANIA  
Tel 255-22-2780859  
Fax 255-22-2780859  
[info@leatz.org](mailto:info@leatz.org)  
[www.leat.or.tz](http://www.leat.or.tz)

**Timor-Leste Haburas Foundation**  
[Demetrio do Amaral de Carvalho]  
Rua Celestino da Silva Farol  
Dili TIMOR-LESTE, PO Box  
390  
Tel: (670) 3310103, 670  
7232851  
[haburaslorosae@yahoo.com](mailto:haburaslorosae@yahoo.com),  
[maulapa@yahoo.com](mailto:maulapa@yahoo.com)  
[www.haburasfoundation.org](http://www.haburasfoundation.org)

## **Togo** *Les Amis de la Terre*

[Mensah Franco Todzro]  
BP 20190  
Lomé  
TOGO  
Tel 228 2221731  
Fax 228 2221732  
[adt-togo@amiterre.tg](mailto:adt-togo@amiterre.tg)  
[www.amiterre.tg](http://www.amiterre.tg)

## **Tunisia** *Association Tunisienne pour la Protection de la Nature et de l'Environnement/ATPNE*

[Ayachi Abrougui]  
12 Rue Tantaoui El Jawhari  
El Omrane  
1005 Tunis  
TUNISIA  
Tel 216 71959081  
Fax 216 71959295  
[ayachia@atpne.org](mailto:ayachia@atpne.org)

## **Ukraine**

*Zelenyi Svit*  
[Yuri Samoylenko]  
Kontraktova Square 4  
Kiev 04070  
UKRAINE  
Tel: 380 56 7781301  
Fax: 380 56 7781301  
[yuri.samoylenko@zelenysvit.org.ua](mailto:yuri.samoylenko@zelenysvit.org.ua)  
[www.zelenysvit.org.ua](http://www.zelenysvit.org.ua)

## **Uganda**

*National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE)*  
[Mr Muramuzi Frank]  
National Association of Professional Environmentalists  
P.O. Box 29909, Kampala  
Block 265,  
Plot No. 7138 Entebbe Road,  
Zana,  
Tel: +256 (0) 414 534453;  
530181  
[nape@nape.org.ug](mailto:nape@nape.org.ug)  
[fmuramuzi@nape.org.ug](mailto:fmuramuzi@nape.org.ug)  
[www.nape.org.ug](http://www.nape.org.ug)

## **United States**

Friends of the Earth  
[Karen Orenstein]  
1100 15th Street NW  
11th Floor  
Washington, DC 20005  
Tel: +1 202-783-7400  
Fax: +1 202-783-0444  
[korenstein@foe.org](mailto:korenstein@foe.org)  
[foe@foe.org](mailto:foe@foe.org)  
[www.foe.org](http://www.foe.org)

## **Uruguay**

*REDES*  
[Karin Nansen]  
San Jose 1423  
11200 Montevideo  
URUGUAY  
Tel: 598 2 908 2730  
Fax: 598 2 902 2355  
[redes@redes.org.uy](mailto:redes@redes.org.uy)  
[www.redes.org.uy](http://www.redes.org.uy)

## CEE Bankwatch Network

Na Rozcesti 6  
Prague 9, 190 00  
CZECH REPUBLIC  
Tel 420 2 74 81 65 71  
Fax 420 2 74 81 65 71  
[main@bankwatch.org](mailto:main@bankwatch.org)  
[www.bankwatch.org](http://www.bankwatch.org)

## Corporate Europe Observatory

Rue d'Edimbourg 26  
1050 Brussels  
BELGIUM  
tel: +32 (0)2 893 0930  
[ceo@corporateeurope.org](mailto:ceo@corporateeurope.org)  
[www.corporateeurope.org](http://www.corporateeurope.org)

## CorpWatch

2958 24th Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110  
USA  
Tel: +1-415-641-1633  
[pratap@corpwatch.org](mailto:pratap@corpwatch.org)  
[www.corpwatch.org](http://www.corpwatch.org)

## Blue Planet Project/Council of Canadians

700-170 Laurier Street West, Ottawa  
Ontario ON K1P 5V5  
CANADA  
Tel: 1 613 233 2773  
Fax 1 613.233.6776  
[anil@canadians.org](mailto:anil@canadians.org)  
[www.canadians.org](http://www.canadians.org)

## Earthlife Africa

c/o Earthlife e Thekwini  
PO Box 18722, 4014 Dalbridge  
SOUTH AFRICA  
Tel 27 826521533  
Fax 27 11 339 4584  
[bryan@earthlife.org.za](mailto:bryan@earthlife.org.za)  
[www.earthlife.org.za/](http://www.earthlife.org.za/)

## Ecopeace/ FoE Middle East

PO Box 840252 - Amman  
JORDAN 11181  
Tel 962-6-5866602/3  
Fax 962-6-5866604  
[info@foeme.org](mailto:info@foeme.org)  
[www.foeme.org](http://www.foeme.org)

## International Rivers

2150 Allston Way, Suite 300  
Berkeley, CA 94704-1378  
USA  
Tel: +1 510 848 1155  
Fax: +1 510 848 1008  
[info@internationalrivers.org](mailto:info@internationalrivers.org)  
<http://www.internationalrivers.org>

## Mineral Policy Institute

PO Box 6043  
Girrawheen  
Perth WA 6064  
AUSTRALIA  
Phone/Fax: +61 [0]8 9343 0151  
Media/Urgent: 0450 901 714  
[mpi@mpi.org.au](mailto:mpi@mpi.org.au)  
[www.mpi.org.au](http://www.mpi.org.au)

## Peace Boat

2F, 3-14-3 Takadanobaba  
Shinjuku-ku 169-0075 Tokyo  
JAPAN  
Tel 00-81-333638047  
Fax 00-81-333637562  
[pbglobal@peaceboat.gr.jp](mailto:pbglobal@peaceboat.gr.jp)  
[www.peaceboat.org](http://www.peaceboat.org)

## Rainforest Action Network

221 Pine Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
USA  
Tel 1 415 398 4404  
Fax 1 415 398 2732  
[rainforest@ran.org](mailto:rainforest@ran.org)  
[www.ran.org](http://www.ran.org)

## World Information Service on Energy

PO Box 59636, Ketelhuisplein 43  
1040 LC Amsterdam  
NETHERLANDS  
Tel 31-20-6126368  
Fax 31-20-6892179  
[wiseamster@antenna.nl](mailto:wiseamster@antenna.nl)  
[www.antenna.nl/wise/](http://www.antenna.nl/wise/)