

# annual report 2009

friends of the earth international

# 2009

FoEI Flood Action in Copenhagen, Christoffer Askman.



Barcelona climate talks.



**Friends of  
the Earth  
International**



FoE Belgium (Flanders & Brussels).

# our vision and our mission



## our vision

Friends of the Earth International is a worldwide grassroots environmental network campaigning for an ecologically sustainable, just and peaceful world. We are a vibrant, credible and effective federation, driving social transformation and securing sustainable, gender just and equitable societies.

Our strength comes from our solidarity, passion, and shared beliefs. We respect each other and value our diversity. We inspire and bring about change by living according to our values, and we learn from our experiences. In turn, we are inspired by successful campaigns and strengthened by the friendships and alliances we forge.

Our vision is of a peaceful and sustainable world based on societies living in harmony with nature. We envision a society of interdependent people living in dignity, wholeness and fulfilment in which equity and human and peoples' rights are realized.

This will be a society built upon peoples' sovereignty and participation. It will be founded on social, economic, gender and environmental justice and free from all forms of domination and exploitation, such as neoliberalism, corporate globalization, neo-colonialism and militarism.

We believe that our children's future will be better because of what we do.

## our mission

1. *To collectively ensure environmental and social justice, human dignity, and respect for human rights and peoples' rights so as to secure sustainable societies.*
2. *To halt and reverse environmental degradation and depletion of natural resources, nurture the earth's ecological and cultural diversity, and secure sustainable livelihoods.*
3. *To secure the empowerment of indigenous peoples, local communities, women, groups and individuals, and to ensure public participation in decision making.*
4. *To bring about transformation towards sustainability and equity between and within societies with creative approaches and solutions.*
5. *To engage in vibrant campaigns, raise awareness, mobilize people and build alliances with diverse movements, linking grassroots, national and global struggles.*
6. *To inspire one another and to harness, strengthen and complement each other's capacities, living the change we wish to see and working together in solidarity.*

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# hello friends around the world!

nnimmo bassey | friends of the earth international chair, nigeria

**Who we are, what we do and why we do the things that we do: these are the questions we set out to answer in this, our 2009 annual report. Should I start by saying who I am? Thank you. I am Nnimmo Bassey, Chair of Friends of the Earth International, and it is my honor to welcome you to our 2009 annual report. We hope you will find it an inspiring and energizing read!**

Although the struggles of peoples and communities across the world remain many and varied, it is clear that more and more of us are now joining hands to make a real and lasting difference to the world we live in.

Strong new links are being forged on the basis of a common agenda, founded on a shared desire for justice and sustainability. FoEI is committed to this collective effort, to resistance, mobilization and transformation. We work closely with allied social movements, such as La Via Campesina and the World March of Women.

In case you do not know us yet, we are a global grassroots environmental organization uniting 77 national member groups and some 5,000 local activist groups across all continents. The groups campaign together to improve the ability of peoples and communities around the world to secure sustainable livelihoods and to protect our environment for future generations. We work on the basis of solidarity, drawing our energies from our diverse backgrounds but pursuing a unified vision of the world we wish to live in.

Happily, this annual report shows the changes that people from so many different walks of life can bring about when they choose to walk together!

## what will you find in this report?

You can read more about who we are, and our vision and mission.

Find out how our Strategic Action Plan is shaping up, how we are strengthening FoEI and decentralizing it, how we are working with movements, building our strategic alliances and transforming ourselves into a learning organization, that builds on past experiences and current skills and knowledge.

What did we achieve in 2009? The answer is that together with our allies, we achieved a great deal! With so many groups, in so many parts of the world, working on so many issues, the list is long. There is only space in this report to describe some of the highlights of our international programs and campaigns (for more information about our campaigns please see our on-line annual report at [www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/annual-report/annual-report-2009](http://www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/annual-report/annual-report-2009)).

These highlights illustrate how we helped to foster international solidarity for crucial local and national struggles for environmental justice, and how we campaigned internationally to shift the balance of power, economically and institutionally, towards the needs of peoples and the environment.

Find out about our communications achievements throughout the year using words, images, art, film, video and music. Learn more about Real World Radio, and find out about our annual photography competition. Read about FoEI's media work.

And read about the amazing diversity, creativity and power of our member groups in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia Pacific, Europe and North America. Many of the activities of these groups on the ground have been supported by our Membership Support Fund.

Last but not least, you can see how our local, national and international work is supported by our generous funders and donors.



Ronnie Hall.



Nnimmo Bassey in Copenhagen.



Young FoE activists in Bonn.



FoE BGM in Honduras.

## about friends of the earth international

**Friends of the Earth International was founded in 1971 by four organizations from France, Sweden, England and the USA. Today's federation of 70 groups grew from annual meetings of environmentalists from different countries who agreed to campaign together on certain crucial issues, such as nuclear energy and whaling.**

In 1981, a small International Secretariat was set up, and in 1983 an Executive Committee was elected. In 1986, the annual meeting was hosted for the first time by an organization from the South, Sahabat Alam Malaysia/Friends of the Earth Malaysia. In 1985, a European coordinating body was established with an office in Brussels, Friends of the Earth Europe; in 2001, Latin American and Caribbean groups formed their own regional coordinating body; in 2006 Friends of the Earth groups in Africa formally established a coordinating body; and in 2008 the Asia Pacific region adopted a formal regional structure.

Friends of the Earth International is highly decentralized: we are made up of autonomous organizations that comply with the guidelines established by the federation. Friends of the Earth International is democratic: every two years there is a general meeting where the policies and activities of the federation are decided, and in which all members have an equal say. This Bi-annual General Meeting (BGM) elects an Executive Committee (ExCom), which meets several times per year. The ExCom employs and oversees the work of an International Secretariat in Amsterdam composed of some 20 staff and volunteers from all over the world.

There are now 77 Friends of the Earth member groups and 12 affiliates campaigning internationally, nationally and locally. We are united by the common conviction that creating environmentally and socially sustainable societies requires both strong grassroots activism and effective national and global campaigning.

## real world radio: voicing the concerns of thousands

Radio Mundo Real (Real World Radio) is Friends of the Earth's online multilingual radio service run by Friends of the Earth Uruguay/REDES. It was established in September 2003 to cover the protests at the World Trade Organization's 5<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference in Cancun, Mexico. The radio supports social movements, networks and organizations resisting liberalization.

Real World Radio produces a daily news report, which is syndicated to community radio stations around the world. The report is offered in a variety of formats, both audio and written, and CDs are distributed to radio stations in regions without good internet access. A newsletter with the most relevant news stories and features on specific themes is distributed to a list of subscribers - mostly organizations - and to several electronic lists. The different themes it covers have been organized to foster and facilitate interaction with FoE programs. New sections have also been created, such as the one for Peoples Affected by Climate Change.

In 2009, Real World Radio launched its new website, with a range of new features, including video transmission. It started a live show in English with correspondents from Asia and Africa. It also launched the site in French, in partnership with

colleagues from Friends of the Earth Togo, and with the help of a volunteer who reads the stories in French from its studio in Uruguay. It also updated its Italian site, and broadcast a special live show in Italian during the 'Peoples Forum for Food Sovereignty 2009' held in November in Rome, in parallel to the FAO World Summit on Food Security.

The radio collected community testimonies on the people's struggles and resistance to mining, agrofuels and transnational corporations engaged in genetic modification.

During 2009, the radio also covered several events organized by La Via Campesina, Friends of the Earth International and other organizations, at which it was able to interview activists, peasants and native peoples from around the world. An example of this was Real World Radio's coverage of the Peoples' Summit and the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal against Transnational Corporations, held in May in Madrid, in parallel to the Summit of Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the EU.

The radio also began coverage of the activities held parallel to the FAO's consultations on land grabbing, which began in Brasilia, and will continue in Burkina Faso and Rome.

Real World Radio decentralized its production. It was able to include many more voices from different countries in Latin America, Asia and Africa (specifically in Argentina, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Palestine and Togo) by creating a network of correspondents both from Friends of the Earth groups and from other organizations, all of whom are dedicated to community communications.



Radio Mundo Real



## sustainability school

The annual Sustainability School convened by Friends of the Earth Latin America and the Caribbean (ATALC) provides space for a new form of learning and information exchange in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In 2009, the Sustainability School moved to Costa Rica. 35 participants joined FoE Costa Rica/COECOceiba in the community of Juanilama, a rural settlement in the Northern Zone that is home to some 124 campesinos, who grow grains and manage a small forest reserve. The participants - who came from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay - enjoyed the generous hospitality of the community, staying with peasant families for the duration of their visit.

The Sustainability School's activities were developed collectively and the central theme was the defense of land. In this way, the five-day School aimed to integrate the realities - faced by communities across the region - in to ATALC's fights and campaigns, including on plantations, forests, biodiversity, food sovereignty, mining, climate change and free trade. A detailed and colorful report of the meeting was subsequently published, to ensure that the results of the school were accurately recorded and can be shared with others.

*with thanks to our funders:  
the isvara foundation*



FoE Costa Rica hosts sustainability school.

# network development

FoEI has been developing and implementing its current strategic plan over the course of the past four years. It incorporates a political framework, a strategic action plan, and numerous organizational development processes and activities, including those that enable us to analyze our effectiveness, and modify our future actions on the basis of what we have learned. As such, FoEI's strategic plan is a working document, not one that is written in stone: it is constantly being revised and refined, based on experience and on the ever-changing global and political context within which we work.

FoEI's overall strategy describes the strategic themes: resist, mobilize and transform. But it doesn't describe the specific political objectives that the federation as a whole is seeking to accomplish through these strategies; nor do the political discussions and outcomes of each of the individual programs.

In the end, FoEI is only as effective as the coordinated actions of its member groups: by increasing the level of clarity about our political goals and objectives we can engage broader and more diverse contributions from member groups and the regions.

We need to create more space for member groups to act internationally in their national and regional contexts, whilst not losing our political focus.

FoEI decided that an important next step would be to translate the overall strategic plan into a concrete strategic action plan (STAP) with specific political targets that the federation aims to achieve in the medium and short term.

Over the past four years, FoEI decided on the political framework for the different program areas, and engaged in several targeted campaigns. We also established a number of federation-wide network development teams.

## program integration team

At the end of 2008, FoEI's Honduras Biannual General Meeting (BGM) mandated the Program Integration Team (PIT) to take responsibility for the progress and development of FoEI's programs and campaigns, to ensure political coherence between them, and alignment with FoEI's strategic plan.

The PIT team met all program and campaign coordinators at a meeting in Oxford, UK, in 2009. This meeting was also preceded by an international campaigns skillshare, during which 35 FoEI campaigners came together over four days to share skills, experiences and ideas.

The skillshare increased our understanding of similarities in the way we work in different countries and regions. It also deepened our understanding of the complexity of our international campaigns – breaking through the myths of North-South divides to understand the nuances of political positions, and effective campaigning with communities.

We also learned more about the links between local and international struggles, particularly the practical implications of bringing our mission and vision to the national level.

## membership development team

2009 was a very exciting year for membership development. Member groups articulated key membership-related questions and then proposed and drafted a Membership Development Strategy (MDS) based on FoEI's vision, mission and values.

The MDS has brought greater clarity to FoEI's membership areas. Priorities are the revision of membership criteria; the strengthening and involvement of member groups in the international programs; evaluation; expansion of the federation; the organization of FoEI membership issues, including the formal delegation of membership issues to regions; and decision-making and conflict resolution.



FoE Croatia toxic action.



FoE EMVI local groups support FoE Paraguay.



FoE forest campaigners at Bonn climate talks.



In addition to the membership criteria themselves, we have developed a series of indicators of organizational capacity, in order to gauge the different obstacles our members face when trying to participate in FoEI programs.

Based on need, individual capacity building plans are to be developed by groups, and shared at the regional level, rendering FoEI more fully a learning organization. The MDS will be circulated for further consultation in the regions in 2010.

### communications integration team

The BGM in Honduras also agreed that the federation needed a communications strategy, and a team to ensure its implementation. The Communication Integration Team's main focus in 2009 was the drafting of this strategy, with input from international program coordinators, national communicators, regional meetings, and FoEI's Executive Committee.

The communications strategy has been created in order to provide clear and synchronized messages about the federation and our campaigns, so that we can better harness the power of all of our groups and campaigns and move to a higher level in terms of our credibility and impact as a global federation. The strategy includes a goal, objectives, main messages, key audiences, and important tools.

As with other areas of the FoEI strategic plan, we hope that groups will work to align their own communications strategies with the federation's strategy. The idea is that national communications strategies, regional communications strategies, and the FoEI communications strategy are mutually supportive. Groups are of course free to use the elements of the strategy that work best in their national context, and also to adapt other elements to fit their specific realities.

Each program and campaign also worked throughout 2009 to draft key communications messages that will be integrated into the overall communications strategy. The draft communications strategy is slated for adoption at the 2010 BGM.

### decentralizing foei

Decentralization is a key theme that has emerged from the strategic planning process. FoEI's commitment to decentralization stems from our grassroots nature and our commitment to helping to develop or strengthen social movements. For FoEI, the term decentralization refers to a process that allows all member groups to maximize their ability to participate in and lead the federation's organizational and political development. Supporting a more regional approach to mobilization will increase FoEI's overall capacity to reach out to the public.

FoEI has taken several successful steps to decentralize key functions while ensuring a strong international focus in all of our activities. Key recent achievements include ensuring that program strategies are rooted in local realities, and that program steering committees are regionally representative. Regional structures are also taking on regional capacity building projects, membership expansion, and to some extent resource allocation.

### learning within foei

FoEI is a learning organization. We are committed to ongoing learning, be it political, strategic or organizational. As the world changes, FoEI needs to change the way we campaign, the way we communicate, and the way we organize ourselves internally. Learning is not an option; it is a necessity for any organization that wants to be able to address the shifting environmental, social and economic challenges we face.

Learning within FoEI is happening through our network development teams, which are constantly being challenged to analyze the effectiveness of their activities, and adapt and sharpen their strategies in response.

### solidarity with social movements and strategic allies

In 2009, FoEI sharpened its understanding of its role in the broader political context of the different social movements. It is clear that FoEI is not a social movement itself: we are an international network of grassroots organizations. In the broader context, however, FoEI acts as a social change organization that aims to move a movement of people in support of our vision and mission. Strengthening our strategic alliances has become our most effective strategy for mobilizing people in support of a just and sustainable world.

The scope of FoEI's strategic alliance with La Via Campesina (LVC) expanded dramatically in 2009. The cooperation extends from the leadership of both organizations to the national and local levels, where member groups of both organizations campaign side by side. Working to establish a similar relationship with the World March of Women (WMW), FoEI has increased cooperation at the level of actions and campaigns.

FoEI also hosts solidarity missions. In July 2009, for example, following the coup by Honduran President Manuel Zelaya, FoEI also sent an international mission to Honduras, together with Via Campesina. The mission consisted of a delegation of Central American peasants and representatives of several international social organizations. They visited Honduras to offer their support and solidarity to national social organizations calling for the return of the democratically elected president; many of these organizations have also been key players in the Movement of Victims Affected by Climate Change in Central America.



The Elders with FoE Middle East.



Three steps one bow action Incheon FoE South Korea/KFEM.

# economic justice-resisting neoliberalism

The Economic Justice-Resisting Neoliberalism Program's objective is to develop sustainable societies by building people's power and dismantling corporate power, stopping corporate-led neo-liberalism and globalization, and challenging the institutions and governments that promote unequal and unsustainable economic systems.



FoE Europe financial crisis action.



Shell/Guilty action.

## international campaign highlights in 2009

FoE Angry Mermaid cartoon.



### un and oecd draft new rules on corporate behavior

Through the European Coalition for Corporate Justice (ECCJ), FoEI has helped to develop legal proposals for corporate accountability and to improve OECD guidelines. The OECD now plans to revise its guidelines for multinational companies. The UN has also adopted the Ruggie Framework for Business and Human Rights, in response to pressure from civil society groups including FoEI. The EU has also started research into improving protection for developing country citizens, against the negative impacts of EU-based business.

### new eu register tracks lobbyists

The EJRN Program also developed proposals for the EU and G-20 to regulate both EU lobbying and the financial sector. This included a campaign for the implementation of an EU lobby registry which has now been implemented (although it only calls for voluntary registration so far). FoE also convinced the European Commission that the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC) had falsified its lobby expenditure report, and the Commission temporarily suspended CEFIC as a result. Additionally, FoE won a case with the European Ombudsman concerning EU

officials that accepted gifts from companies they were supervising. The EU is now preparing new rules on conflicts of interest.

### call for suspension of eu-peru trade negotiations

In 2009, FoE's 'Global Europe' campaign called for the suspension of the EU-Peru trade negotiations, particularly over concerns about human rights violations. FoE also supported a delegation of representatives of Indigenous Peoples from Peru, Bolivia and Colombia, who toured European capitals to publicize the impacts of mining and biofuels. Although the negotiations have not yet been suspended, this collaborative campaign has so far resulted in a commitment from the European Commission that the Associated Agreement with Peru will not contain any provision which would be detrimental to the rights of indigenous people. On the other hand it will contain proposals that guarantee that trade and economic development respect the environment, as well as a binding human rights clause.

### exposing shell's big dirty secret

Persuading Shell to improve its business practices continues to be a priority. This has included support to FoE Nigeria to expose the harmful nature of gas flaring, which contributed to the Nigerian foreign minister publicly committing to enforcing the ban on gas flaring as of January 2010. FoEI also collaborated with several organizations to publish "Shell's Big Dirty Secret," which documents Shell's continued investment in the dirtiest forms of energy and its position as the world's most carbon intensive oil company. An OECD complaint filed by FoE Netherlands resulted in a commitment by Shell to improve its oil depot in the Philippines and communication with surrounding communities.

### shell settles out of court for complicity in murder of nigerian activists

In the US, the ShellGuilty campaign launched by FoEI, Oil Change and Platform London, finally saw justice done when Shell was forced to pay a US\$15.5 million out-of-court settlement for its complicity in the 1995 murder of nine Nigerian activists who opposed its gas flaring, under the US Alien Tort Statute.

# climate justice and energy

**FoEI's Climate Justice and Energy Program's overall objective is to build a diverse, effective and global movement for climate justice.**

## foei in copenhagen

FoEI took a team of 400 activists to Copenhagen, who variously engaged in lobbying and advocacy work, and organizing and participating in alternative events and daily mobilizations, including our hugely successful Flood for Climate Justice mobilization. One of the CJE Program's goals is to ensure that rich industrialized Annex I countries commit to needed emissions reductions, and to financing and transferring technology to help developing countries mitigate and adapt to climate change.

The joint efforts of FoEI and key allies helped to ensure that a number of governments, including Bolivia, officially voiced their concerns about the potential negative impacts of UNFCCC, World Bank and national policies to finance Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD).

We published a substantial number of policy proposals and analyses in the run-up to the COP-15 UNFCCC in Copenhagen, in December 2009. This included an ethical climate finance criteria matrix, which provided governments with a set of criteria for judging climate financing mechanisms proposed during negotiations.



FoE Finland flood action.



FoE Indonesia climate action.

FoEI in Copenhagen. Ronnie Hall.

YFoEE carbon trader action.

Anti-nuclear demonstration in Berlin.

FoEI in Copenhagen.



## foei and nigerians take shell to court in the hague

On 3 December the Netherlands-based court case against Shell got under way in The Hague. The case has been brought by three Nigerian communities and FoE Netherlands/Milieudefensie over oil pollution in Nigeria. Shell asked the court to rule that the Dutch court has no jurisdiction over Shell Nigeria, but on 30 December the court held that the Dutch court does have jurisdiction. Given that Shell has now lost this point, an important hurdle has been overcome, and the 'real' lawsuit can begin. This is the first time in history that a Dutch company has been brought to trial in a Dutch court for damages occurring abroad.

## third annual sustainability school and community exchanges a great success

The EJRN Program was also very successful in strengthening hundreds of community individuals and activists across the world, including through the Third Annual Latin American Sustainability School (see page 13), and community exchanges in Latin America. Many other publications and communications materials were published during the year.

## big ask climate campaign reaps rewards

A number of FoEI member groups in the global North have been very effective in persuading their governments to introduce binding national climate change laws, which will help to reduce those countries' carbon emissions. This was especially the case in Europe where France, Scotland and the UK passed climate change laws setting binding emissions reductions targets. It seems likely that similar laws will soon be passed in a number of other European countries including Austria, Belgium, Hungary, Ireland and Slovenia.

## monitoring world bank 'clean energy investment' and emissions trading

During 2009 we also continued to monitor and conduct advocacy around the World Bank's framework on 'clean energy investment' and the emissions trading schemes promoted by the international financial institutions (IFIs). In 2009, both the G-20 and the UN made agreements to phase out subsidies for fossil fuels, which will have a positive impact on the development and spread of renewable energy technologies.

## fostering and building links with social movements

In 2009, FoEI continued its close collaboration with key social movements, especially La Via Campesina, and the World March of Women, and the new Movement of Victims Affected by Climate Change in Central America (MOVIAC). New links with indigenous networks and movements were also fostered at key events during the year, and FoEI collaborated with many other networks including Climate Justice Now!, Asia Pacific Peoples' Solidarity for Climate Justice, and Climate Justice Action.



Nimmo Bassey and Henry Saragih of La Via Campesina at the Klimaforum in Copenhagen.

## gender

**FoEI's gender work focuses on deepening our understanding of why the feminist perspective is critical to the FoEI federation.**

Understanding gender issues can shed light on the ways in which the current neoliberal economic model affects men and women differently, both in terms of its social and environmental impacts. It also reveals the self-perpetuating nature of the patriarchal society. For FoEI, a fuller comprehension of the harsh realities faced by women in different countries and regions across the world will help us construct better and more effective campaign strategies, and change the way we ourselves act. A document on how to work from a gender perspective has already been completed and circulated internally.

### women re-sisters' testimonies

Gender campaigners also supported the production of video testimonies from 'Women Re-sisters', women resisting mining, some of which can currently be viewed on the FoEI YouTube channel. Friends of the Earth also participated in La Escuela de Formación de Dirigentas (a school for future women leaders) organized by the Coordinadora de Organizaciones del Campo (CLOC) and Via Campesina del Cono Sur, in Paraguay, in July 2009.

### supporting women with via campesina and world march of women

Together with allied social movements including La Via Campesina (LVC) and the World March of Women (WMW), we aim to support women to resist, transform and mobilize, both at the local and international levels, to bring about the world they want to live in.

### integrating gender analyses in foi programs

In 2009, we focused on integrating a gender analysis into our programs on Food Sovereignty and Economic Justice-Resisting Neoliberalism (EJRN), and to support the inclusion of a feminist perspective into the EJRN Program's analysis of the global financial crisis. FoEI was also invited to participate in WMW's Second Regional Encounter in the Americas, in August 2009, in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

### uruguay: investigating gender impacts

Friends of the Earth Uruguay/REDES has been particularly active in promoting FoEI's focus on gender, in terms of supporting the international coordination of this complex and cross-cutting issue, providing

conceptual contributions, and engaging actively at the national level. In June 2009, this included publication of a book that considers the impacts of forest monocultures and soya on rural populations, with a special emphasis on the consequences for human rights and gender relations. FoE Uruguay also drafted numerous papers on food sovereignty and gender concerns including a report on the role of rural women in the defense of food sovereignty, based on investigation and interviews with women from la Red de Grupos de Mujeres Rurales (the Network of Rural Women).

## international campaign highlights in 2009

### food sovereignty

**FoEI's Food Sovereignty Program aims to halt the corporate control of food, and stop the spread of genetically modified organisms: it defends the right of people to determine and control their own food systems.**

#### challenging high-level meeting on food security

In 2009, we attended the High-Level Meeting on Food Security in Madrid where La Via Campesina and FoE Spain's joint actions outside the conference got excellent coverage, and Henry Saragih from La Via Campesina was eventually invited to speak on behalf of civil society in the final plenary session. The response from the conference was striking: the applause was deafening, and the meeting ended without consensus on a new 'Global Partnership', in line with civil society proposals (although the official website is less clear about this outcome).

#### progress on food sovereignty at csd

The 17<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) also saw important progress on food sovereignty with the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food endorsing peoples' right to access land and define their own food policies, and the need for governments to support the least protected people and implement food production models that do not contribute to climate change. This position strongly echoes the positions of La Via Campesina and FoEI, although it does not yet go far enough.

#### challenging the biotech giants

The struggle for a GM-free world remains a priority for FoEI, and includes campaigns against soy monocultures, genetically modified (GM) food aid, and the dominant model of production. FoEI is campaigning to increase land available to family farmers and for rural agriculture. There have been strong FoE campaigns against GM crops in many countries, including in Europe, and in Mexico, Nigeria and Paraguay.

There has been a particularly marked impact in Europe, where European Commission efforts to allow two new varieties of genetically modified (GM) maize to be grown in Europe, and to force Greece,

Hungary and France to drop their national bans on a similar GM maize, were overturned by member states. Civil society organizations were clearly instrumental in this. In April, Germany banned Monsanto's GM maize MON810, a huge success for FoE Germany and other environmental and agricultural organizations who have worked hard for this outcome for many years.

In 2009, we published our annual research report on GM crops, "Who Benefits from GM Crops? Feeding the biotech giants, not the world's poor," which challenges the ability of GM crops to contribute to poverty reduction, global food security or sustainable farming.

#### new collaborative agribusiness campaign

FoEI is also starting to build a new global campaign challenging agribusiness, with La Via Campesina and the World March of Women. In 2009, this included regional food sovereignty forums in Paraguay and Nigeria. Together with Food and Water Watch and the European Co-ordination of La Via Campesina, we also produced a groundbreaking film, "Killing Fields: the battle to feed factory farms," which investigates the impacts of growing soy in South America to feed factory farms in Europe.

FoE EBNWI leads MMs into action on food.



Women in India with laptop.

## resisting mining oil and gas

**This is a new FoEI program, and groups are concentrating on planning joint campaign work and mapping FoEI's current work with communities.**

Some international activities are also underway however. In 2009, these included a number of actions against Canadian open-pit mines on 22 July, in countries including Australia, Canada, Mexico and Thailand, to mark the Global Day of Action Against Open Pit Mining. Another important event was the "Conference on Extractive Industries: Blessing or Curse? Impacts of the Oil and Gas Industry," held by FoE Europe in Brussels in October.

### bringing together successful national mining campaigns

Some FoEI groups already have established campaigns on mining, oil and gas, resulting in some important national developments and successes. In December 2009, for example, FoE Hungary celebrated the introduction of a landmark ban on the use of cyanide in mining. FoE Philippines has filed an Alternative Mining Bill, intended to introduce a new mining policy to regulate the exploration, development and utilization of mineral resources. Many FoE groups, including in Indonesia, Guatemala, the Philippines, Ghana, Hungary and Costa Rica, are also working on an on-going basis with local communities affected by mining.

### new media mining testimonies

Testimonies from mining communities also feature strongly in FoEI's new media projects, as do videos on tin mining in Indonesia, and oil pollution in Nigeria, both of which can be seen on YouTube. FoEI also embarked on an ambitious project to create a series of video testimonies by women affected by large-scale metal mining.



## water

Friends of the Earth member groups continue to work on issues related to water, defending water territories for the benefit of communities and biodiversity. We work together with local communities in protecting the right to water, and opposing privatization of water and 'development' projects that pollute rivers and that use large quantities of water. Finally, we mobilize the public to vote for new laws and regulations that keep water in the public domain and uphold water as a human right.



Kalyan Varm, FoEI photography competition winner.



FoE South Korea/Ulsan KFEM Save Whale campaign.



Colombian campaign for the right to water.



FoE Belgium (Flanders & Brussels).

The Forests and Biodiversity program's focus on strengthening and promoting sustainable local initiatives means that some of its key activities and successes occur at the national level.

### uruguay: stopped building of ence mill

For example, Friends of the Earth Uruguay/REDES successfully halted construction of the controversial pulp and paper mill proposed by ENCE who had been planning to invest US\$1,500 million.

### malaysia: lawsuit filed to save jerai forest

Friends of the Earth Malaysia filed a lawsuit to save a water-catchment forest on the Jerai mountain in Kedah from a quarry project that has been illegally approved by the state government.

### lobbying for cbd biodiversity targets

The Forests and Biodiversity Program is also focused on challenging and changing intergovernmental policies that already or potentially could contribute to the destruction of forests and biodiversity. For example, it participated in the Convention on Biological Diversity's High-level Working Group on the 2010 biodiversity target and post-2010 target(s), and successfully persuaded governments to incorporate a number of key paragraphs into the final 2010 Biodiversity Targets.

### challenging governments and business in unfccc and at world forestry congress

Collaborative side and parallel events during intergovernmental forums, including meetings of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations in Copenhagen, and the World Forestry Congress in Buenos Aires, were also successful in raising civil society's concerns and challenging government perspectives.

### stora enso video and photo exhibition

FoEI also produced a video about the performance of Finnish pulp and paper company Stora Enso in Uruguay, and a photo exhibition on the impacts of cellulose/logging corporations in the

## forests and biodiversity

**To strengthen and promote sustainable local initiatives for the protection and local use of forests and biodiversity. We resist and mobilize against destructive practices, actions and policies that destroy forests and biodiversity. We also work to build and strengthen a global movement for forests, biodiversity and the communities that depend on them, in the medium and long term.**

Southern Cone of South America, which was exhibited at the World Forestry Congress.

### looking to future at world social forum

The program also participated in the 2009 World Social Forum in Belem, Brazil, co-hosting a workshop on plantations, market mechanisms and false solutions, with the Global Forest Coalition; and published "Community-based Forest Governance: from resistance to proposals for sustainable use."



FoE groups at World Forestry Congress.

# international campaign highlights in 2009

## agrofuels

**FoEI's Agrofuels Campaign aims to stop the production, trade and consumption of agrofuels, by raising public awareness about its negative impacts on local communities and globally.**

In 2009, the campaign focused on strengthening local communities' defense of their territories, and exposing 'false solutions' to the climate and energy crisis. A prerequisite for this was compiling FoEI members' research, reports, and national and regional positions.

### **call for mandatory code of conduct for malaysian palm oil companies**

The Agrofuels Campaign integrates FoEI's ongoing campaign against deforestation caused by oil palm plantations. FoEI groups from Indonesia, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea joined forces to develop and propose a mandatory code of conduct for Malaysian palm oil companies operating in Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. They received positive responses from Malaysia's Human Rights Council and the Opposition Party, who accepted that Malaysian palm oil expansion has created adverse impacts.

### **uk advertising standards authority rules against malaysian palm oil council**

Friends of the Earth also filed a complaint with the UK Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) against the Malaysian Palm Oil Council for falsely advertising that palm oil is the "only product able to sustainably and efficiently meet a larger portion of the world's increasing demand for oil crop-based consumer goods, foodstuffs and biofuels." The ASA ruled that this statement was misleading, as was the Malaysian Palm Oil Council's claim that palm oil contributes to alleviation of poverty.



FoE Germany palm oil protest.



### **rspo grievance filed**

In November 2009, we also filed a grievance with the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) against the Malaysian Palm Oil Council, for violating the members' Code of Conduct and continuing to mislead the public and make unsubstantiated claims about the production, procurement and use of palm oil.

### **capacity-building on agrofuels, land rights and monoculture**

A process of capacity-building on agrofuels, land rights and monoculture was also initiated in Central America. We helped to coordinate different groups and communities wanting to work together on agrofuels. A video on Monocultures, Land and Agrofuels in Central America was created by FoE El Salvador with communities' support.

### **international mission gathers evidence in colombia**

FoEI also organized an international delegation to gather evidence on the impact of agrofuels in Colombia.

### **lost in palm oil broadcast**

Friends of the Earth's aim of reaching a broader public was also substantially achieved through the broadcasting of footage from our commissioned film, "Lost in Palm Oil."

### **analyzing and challenging eu biofuels policy**

Lobbying efforts in Europe remain focused on challenging the EU's target of 10% of all road transport fuel coming from 'renewable' sources by 2020, with a majority likely to come from agrofuels. Key to this is increasing Europeans' awareness of the impacts of agrofuels and about potential alternatives. This included the publication of "Biofuels: handle with care," an analysis of EU biofuels policy with recommendations for action, in November 2009.

**2009 was particularly notable because of the World Bank's suspension of its investments in oil palm plantation companies. A coalition of local and international NGOs, spearheaded by the UK organization Forest Peoples Program and including FoE Netherlands, had previously filed a complaint with the International Finance Corporation (IFC)'s internal watchdog, the Compliance Advisory Ombudsman office (CAO), about a series of loans to palm oil giant Wilmar International. A joint report by three NGOs (FoE Netherlands, Kontak Rakyat Borneo and Gemawan) had examined Wilmar's plantations in Sambas, West Kalimantan, Indonesia, and found that the company was working with dubious licenses, and was entangled in land rights conflicts and illegal logging activities. This complaint triggered an audit by the CAO, which concluded that the IFC had violated its own procedures, and that commercial interests had overruled the IFC's environmental and social standards.**

WFO Ministerial, Romie Hall

David Gilbert, Fobi photography competition winner

FoE Spain Collection

**Friends of the Earth Africa brings together groups throughout Africa to participate in international programs and develop initiatives to strengthen campaigning in the region.**

**FoE member groups in Africa are particularly active in community-based forest management; extractive industries and African peoples' need for access to clean renewable energy; food sovereignty and the struggle against GMOs; and the dangers of agrofuels expansion in the region.**



© FoEI

## member group highlights in 2009

### **africa: opposing land grabs, agra and non-ecological agriculture**

In 2009, Friends of the Earth Nigeria/ERA hosted a key conference on "AGRA, Land Grabs and Non-Ecological Agriculture." Enormous tracts of land in Africa are being turned over to transnational agribusinesses and others interested in maximizing profits by exporting agricultural products, including for agrofuels production. The Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), established by the Rockefeller Foundation and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is part of the problem: AGRA's supporters are pushing incessantly for the deployment of genetically modified crops in Africa. FoE Nigeria aims to unmask AGRA, unveil the scourge of land grabs in Africa, build communities' resistance and promote agro-ecological agriculture. The conference had a huge impact and also helped build support for FoE Nigeria's memorandum to Nigerian lawmakers on the draft Nigerian Biosafety bill, sent in December 2009.

*with thanks to our funders: hivos and the isvara foundation*

### **uganda: stopping flow of funds to bujagali dam**

The Ugandan government began building the Bujagali dam on the River Nile in 2007, even though the project had previously been delayed for over ten years for many reasons, including exorbitant project costs and its predicted economic and environmental impacts. The project is financed by the World Bank (WB), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the European Investment Bank (EIB), all of whom have overlooked and even ignored their own safeguard policies.

Friends of the Earth Uganda held meetings with the Bujagali dam developers, dam affected communities, civil society organizations, and the World Bank and the AfDB, to agree on mitigation, monitoring and evaluation measures. Together with other European NGOs, Friends of the Earth Uganda also submitted a complaint to the European Investment Bank.

The government agreed to protect the Karagala and Itanda falls to reduce the overall environmental damage caused by the Bujagali dam, and to compensate for the cultural loss that will be brought about

by the submergence of the Bujagali falls. The World Bank and other donors have agreed a disclosure policy and to set aside funds to support geothermal exploration and solar energy development in Uganda.

*with thanks to our funders: the dutch ministry of foreign affairs (dgis)*



FoE Nigeria.



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## malawi: calling for climate justice

Extreme climatic events are pushing Malawi's poverty-stricken people deeper into poverty, exacerbating food crises and malnutrition, and causing devastating loss of life and damage to property and infrastructure. Yet the Malawian government supports the sale of valuable agricultural land to provide 'offsets' which can be set against the emissions of wealthy northern countries. FoE Malawi began to promote the concept of climate justice, through dialogues, interviews and consultations, and it helped host meetings of the Malawi Civil Society Network on Climate Change (CISONECC) and local community consultations on pro-poor climate change resilience. These culminated in a people's national climate change strategy, and priorities for the international climate change negotiations, which were put to the Malawian government.

*with thanks to our funders: the isvara foundation*

## cameroon: monitoring fsc, tracking industrial plantations and illegal logging

In 2009, FoE Cameroon (working together with FoE France, and FoE Netherlands/Milieudefensie) continued monitoring the activities of a number of FSC-certified forestry companies in Central Africa's Congo Basin, one of the world's largest reservoirs of biodiversity, including SEFAC, Pallisco and Wijma. They found cases of non-compliance with FSC principles, issues affecting indigenous communities, and persistent non-compliance. Eventually the FSC responded, suspending both FSC certificates (those of Wijma and SEFAC) and FSC certifiers (Bureau Veritas, ICILA). The FSC's certification system has also been improved. For instance, Transformation REEF Cameroon (TRF) abandoned more than 20,000 ha of forest claimed by local communities, and has established a process for dealing with conflicts with local communities. Timber company Rougier has also requested advice for improving communication with communities, to develop conflict-prevention techniques.

FoE Cameroon is also monitoring the impact of industrial plantations in Cameroon, gathering evidence that clearly demonstrates the severe negative impacts that companies such as SOCAPALM (palm oil) and Hevecam (rubber) are having on the environment, and on indigenous communities living in the area. The companies' expansion plans are now on hold as a result.

A joint field visit to a concession being logged illegally was also undertaken by FoE Cameroon, FoE France and FoE Netherlands, together with representatives of European logging companies active in Africa, and timber buyers in Europe. The visit exposed illegal operations and their social and environmental impacts. The European buyers decided not to buy any more timber from companies that are unable to prove the legality of their operations.

*with thanks to our funders: the dutch ministry of foreign affairs (dgis)*

africa



## nigeria: financing gas projects, poisoning foods

Local women in the Niger Delta use oil companies' gas flare sites to dry a popular cassava-based food, kpokpo garri. The oil corporations count this as an economic benefit for the local people, and use it as yet another reason to justify their continued presence in the area. But food processed in this way is poisoned, and harmful to human health.

Friends of the Earth Nigeria/ERA, visited the Iwherekan, Uzere and Ozoro communities, all in Delta State. Campaigners spoke with women food processors, and held town hall meetings and consultations about the health impacts of using gas flares to dry food, with community women, farmers, fisher folk and traders. Friends of the Earth Nigeria also exposed the claims of the World Bank and its consortium that the proposed West African Gas Pipeline (WAGP) project would provide cheap energy, improve the environment, better the lot of the communities and promote regional development.

A detailed analysis of the data collected showed that the use of gas flares for food processing resulted in a wide range of health problems. The project succeeded in popularizing locally proven and traditional methods of food processing. It raised local communities' awareness of the environmental and social impacts of gas flaring, and the need for facilities for processing agricultural products. It heightened the struggle against gas flaring.

*with thanks to our funders: the dutch ministry of foreign affairs (dgis)*



Margaret Langa at South African Wastepickers' Convention.



FoE Nigeria Poison Foods campaign.

**The Asia Pacific region of Friends of the Earth is a very diverse region, encompassing groups from the global North and the global South.**

**Member groups from the region are very active in community-based struggles against mining and other extractive industries. They work hand-in-hand with indigenous peoples, peasant farmers, and fisherfolk to secure sustainable livelihoods and fight against vulnerability to “natural disasters.”**

## **Bangladesh: ship-breaking industry smashed?**

Bangladesh’s ship-breaking beaches are soaked in a toxic soup of hazardous substances, including oily wastes, asbestos, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), lead and arsenic. These toxins leak out of ships as they are being dismantled. The 1995 Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal bans the export of toxic waste. Yet many of these ships come from countries such as the US and the UK. They are illegally exported by owners seeking to cut costs.

Because the environment is so severely contaminated, and because of frequent fires, explosions and accidents, life for those in the ship-breaking industry is extremely hazardous and there are regular fatalities. It is estimated that, on average, one ship-breaking worker dies in Bangladesh every week. There are 20,000 men working in the industry, some as young as 14, and all are paid very little, housed in the most basic accommodation, and provided with little or no medical care.

In 2009, Friends of the Earth Bangladesh scored a resounding victory when the Bangladeshi High Court declared that all ship-breaking yards operating without environmental clearance - in other words all of them - should close their operations within a matter of weeks. This followed a writ filed by Friends of the Earth Bangladesh, challenging the entry of a Greenpeace-blacklisted ship, MT Enterprise.

Rizwana Hassan, Programs Director of Friends of the Earth Bangladesh and an advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, was awarded the 2009 Goldman Award for spearheading the legal battle to reduce the impact of Bangladesh’s ship breaking industry. She also received the United Nations Environment Programme’s Global 500 award for Friends of the Earth Bangladesh’s outstanding work.



Planting reeds in Masan Bay, South Korea.

## **member group highlights in 2009**

### **philippines: linking food sovereignty and the right to self-determination**

Friends of the Earth Philippines/LRC-KsK’s new food sovereignty campaign focuses on indigenous peoples’ and other rural communities’ loss of access to and control over their land and resources from a food sovereignty perspective. It seeks to link the food sovereignty discourse to existing peoples’ struggles for the right to self-determination and against resource extraction and energy projects.

A food sovereignty profiling tool has been developed for participatory community research into communities’ capacity to produce food and control their food production systems, as well as the threats posed by resource extractive and energy projects. Discussions with communities also highlighted the connection between resource extractive and energy projects, and threats to croplands, forests and water systems, agricultural biodiversity, indigenous food production systems, culture, and livelihoods.

*with thanks to our funders: the dutch ministry of foreign affairs (dgis)*

### **indonesia/sri lanka: asian peoples’ movement against the ‘asia destructive bank’**

Although the Asian Development Bank has established a Carbon Fund, a Renewable Energy Fund and a Climate Fund, its professed commitment to addressing climate change is completely undermined by the fact that ADB-backed projects have many negative social and environmental impacts, with many contributing directly or indirectly to climate change.

FoEI members in the Asia Pacific (APac) region published a report entitled, “Climate Impacts of the ADB’s Business: How the Asian Development Bank finances climate change.” This report includes three detailed case studies,

recommends climate justice as an alternative basis for sound and equitable development, and makes specific recommendations on climate finance. It was distributed during the official UNFCCC climate change negotiations and civil society meetings in Bangkok (October 2009) and Copenhagen (December 2009).

With a combination of hard-hitting campaigns, testimonies and a public tribunal, FoE APac was able to explain why these projects are not beneficial for people in the region. It was clear that FoE’s interventions during the ADB’s 42nd AGM in Bali (2-5 May 2009) successfully conveyed this growing resistance to ADB: this led to the Bank reviewing its climate financing schemes.

A key feature of the project during 2009 was the fact that it enabled FoE APac to help mobilize the new and growing Asian People’s Movement, which launched the campaign against the ‘Asia Destructive Bank’ during the ADB AGM.

*with thanks to our funders: the dutch ministry of foreign affairs (dgis)*



FoE Indonesia anti-REDD action.

## Bangladesh: assessing village common forests

Village Common Forest (VCF) is an ancient system of forest use and management practiced by tribal communities living in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) in South-east Bangladesh. The communities are highly dependent on the forests in the remaining VCFs, and work to ensure their streams and rivers continue to flow. However the Bangladeshi government is extremely reluctant to develop a legal framework that supports community forest management, and refuses to recognize VCFs officially.

The first step was to assess the current VCFs, particularly in Khagrachhari and also in Rangamati. Friends of the Earth Bangladesh interviewed tribal communities, spoke with a range of government officials and others, held four multi-stakeholder discussion meetings and compiled a video documentary recording people's testimonies.

The results were clear. Forest resources, including biodiversity, springs and aquifers are protected most effectively when local people's links to it are also protected. When these links are broken, exploitative practices spring up, degrading the forests and their biodiversity, and pushing those who were reliant on the forests into poverty. The communities and others are much more aware of their rights. The scene is now set for a strong campaign.

*with thanks to our funders: the sigrid rausing trust*

## Malaysia: pursuing citizens' rights in court

Government authorities and companies must abide by the law. If not it sometimes becomes necessary to resort to legal means to bring about change. Friends of the Earth Malaysia/Sahabat Alam Malaysia is currently engaged in two such cases.

One is to save a water-catchment forest on the Jerai mountain in Kedah from a quarrying project illegally approved by the

State Government. Clearing the mountain's forests has led to massive floods in several downstream villages, and the silting up of the communities' rice-fields and orchards. The community aims to halt the quarry, and rehabilitate the forests.

The second case concerns Malaysian company, Raub Australian Gold Mining. An outdated 10-year old environmental impact assessment (EIA) has been used to authorize current mining using cyanide and other toxic substances, but a very active local community has launched a legal action to secure a new EIA, which Friends of the Earth Malaysia is supporting.

In 2009, both cases involved the preparation of legal research, submissions and the filing of necessary documents in the High Courts, the Court of Appeal and Federal Court. Both also involved mobilizing and engaging communities, alerting the media, and building alliances. Both cases continue.

*with thanks to our funders: the dutch ministry of foreign affairs (dgis)*



FoE Australia Hazelwood action.



©FoEI.



South Korea campaign to save rivers.

asia pacific



## Australia: stopping the flow of agrofuels

The agrofuels sector is expanding rapidly, with so-called 'biofuels' being marketed as a clean, green solution to climate change and oil vulnerability. The Australian government is expected to look more and more to Asia for imports of agrofuels feedstocks, such as palm oil. However the production of agrofuels feedstocks can have serious social and environmental impacts and Friends of the Earth's long-term goal is to halt the expansion of the palm oil industry in the region.

In 2009 Friends of the Earth Australia initiated a project designed to develop a new national campaign in Australia, and develop a common understanding and shared regional campaign activities with other Friends of the Earth groups in Indonesia, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea.

FoE Australia hired project coordinators who initiated research and travelled to affected areas both within Australia and Indonesia, to get a better understanding of the real world impacts of agrofuels production, to strengthen links with regional campaigners, and to map future

activities. FoE Australia also succeeded in developing a clear and targeted national agrofuels campaign strategy, and built and strengthened relationships with Australian networks working on palm oil, deforestation issues and agrofuels.

Although this campaign is only in its infancy, there have already been some key successes. In particular, FoE Australia and partner groups in Australia have focused on halting the use of palm oil products in food manufacturing in Australia. In 2009 this resulted in several major food manufacturers agreeing to remove palm oil from food production. These included Cadburys (chocolate), KFC (Kentucky Fried Chicken) and Woolworths (Australia's biggest retailer).

*with thanks to our funders: the sigrid rausing trust*



Anislagan picket line. FoE Philippines.



Communities protecting territories. FoE Malaysia.



FoE Australia Hazelwood action.



South Korea Environmental Law Center

**Friends of the Earth Europe, based in Brussels, unites more than 30 national Friends of the Earth organizations with thousands of local groups.**

**Friends of the Earth Europe has five main program areas: Economic Justice; Climate and Energy; Food and Biodiversity; Resources, Consumption, and Waste; and Network Development and Capacity Building.**

**You can download FoE Europe's 2009 annual report here:**

[www.foeeurope.org/publications/2010/foee\\_annual\\_review\\_2009.pdf](http://www.foeeurope.org/publications/2010/foee_annual_review_2009.pdf)

## **exposing the real impact of agrofuels**

At the end of 2008 the EU adopted a mandatory 10% renewable energy target for transport, to be reached by 2020. In November 2009, Friends of the Earth Europe and a range of other European NGOs co-published "Biofuels - Handle with care", which analyzes the EU's new biofuel policy in detail.

This was followed by another publication, "Losing the plot," in December 2009, looking at jatropha, an agrofuel crop that can be grown on poor soil. There is mounting evidence that fertile land is actually being turned over to jatropha production, meaning that there is less land available to grow food.

FoE Germany/BUND, together with human rights and development NGOs, also delivered 10,000 signatures to the Colombian Embassy in Berlin, to protest against continuing human rights abuses in Colombia, which the expansion of the palm oil industry is fuelling.



FoE Scotland penguin action.



Young FoEE in action.

## **member group highlights in 2009**

### **new laws protect forests and biodiversity**

In 2009, Friends of the Earth Norway celebrated its 95<sup>th</sup> anniversary, as well as the adoption of Norway's new Nature Diversity Act. Friends of the Earth Switzerland/Pronatura celebrated similar successes, combining its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a favorable response from the Swiss parliament with respect to Pronatura's campaign for a new law to protect rivers.

In coalition with CEE Bankwatch Network, FoE Europe also launched a new map of 55 environmentally destructive and economically unsound infrastructure projects, worth a total of €23 billion, in the ten new member states of central and eastern Europe.

Other national successes included a decision to build a shopping centre in a green recreation zone in one of the biggest industrial cities in Ukraine, Dnipropetrovsk, being overturned; and the Spanish government promising to reduce the use of plastic bags by 50%.

### **resistance to gmos continues to grow**

Friends of the Earth Europe's 2009 report, "Who Benefits from GM crops? Feeding the biotech giants, not the world's poor," looks behind the biotech industry's spin and exposes the reasons why GM crops cannot, and are unlikely to ever, contribute to poverty reduction, global food security or sustainable farming. The report also exposes inconsistencies in European biotech lobby group EuropaBio's reporting: the group inflated the figures for GM crop cultivation by almost a quarter to mask an actual decline.

Germany's 2009 decision to ban the cultivation of Monsanto's genetically engineered corn MON 810 was a key highlight during the year. This was a major blow to the GM industry in Europe. Working in close alliance with farmers, consumers and citizens' groups, Friends of the Earth Germany played a key role in persuading German politicians to make this important shift.

Resistance to GM cultivation is also growing in Spain, the only European Union country with a substantial area of GM crops. On 17 April 2009, more than 15,000 people joined a protest in Madrid calling for "Agriculture and Food Free from GMOs" co-organized by Friends of the Earth Spain and consumer and farmers' groups and others. Friends of the Earth Spain also organized an action on the newly authorized GM potato, in front of the Spanish Parliament. In a further action in September, Friends of the Earth Spain's activists - dressed as Spanish maize - fled to the French Embassy in Madrid, fearing contamination from genetically modified maize varieties like Monsanto's MON 810 GM maize, which is banned in France but grown in Spain with little precaution taken against cross-contamination.

Working together with Food and Water Watch and La Via Campesina's European Coordination, Friends of the Earth Europe also produced a groundbreaking film "Killing Fields" revealing the hidden chain of destruction stretching from factory farms in Europe to the forests of South America.

## big ask climate campaign gets great response

National 'Big Ask' campaigns were a key priority in 2009. The Big Ask is directed at national governments, and aims to bring about real and immediate change by calling for binding national laws to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Friends of the Earth Scotland scored a resounding victory when members of the Scottish Parliament voted for a target to reduce greenhouse gases by 42% by 2020 – the most ambitious statutory target in the world. Many other European countries are considering similar legislation.

Friends of the Earth Europe and the Stockholm Environment Institute joined forces to prove that Europe can cut its domestic emissions by at least 40% by 2020, and 90% by 2050 (compared to 1990 levels).

Friends of the Earth Europe also had a strong presence at the UNFCCC climate negotiations in Copenhagen in December. Young Friends of the Earth Europe also mobilized more young activists, encouraging them to make their voices

heard in Copenhagen. They held four regional conferences in Malmö, Montpellier, Berlin and Dublin bringing together nearly 200 young people for training and action workshops in the run-up to the global climate talks.

Friends of the Earth's ability to mobilize people was amply demonstrated when ten thousand people turned out to dance Bollywood-style on the beach in Ostend, Belgium, for a film for our 'Big Ask' campaign, organized by Friends of the Earth Belgium and the Belgian Climate Coalition. Another successful Big Ask action saw four thousand people 'flooding' the Finnish parliament to call for a climate law, in the biggest environmental gathering in Finland's history. Friends of the Earth groups in Belgium, Spain and Austria also hosted a tour of climate witnesses, in advance of the Copenhagen negotiations.

A joint Friends of the Earth Europe and CEE Bankwatch conference on 'Climate Proofing EU Structural and Cohesion Funds' dealt with the climate impact of EU funds, programs and projects.

Four countries also enjoyed performances by the Energy Union tour in 2009. The tour combines climate and renewable energy messages with music from UK group Coldcut into a multimedia show. The tour began in Munich and toured through Pécs, Vienna, Budapest, Košice, Bratislava, and Graz before finishing in Berlin. It continues in 2010.

Friends of the Earth also rejects nuclear power as a solution to climate change. As part of a wide movement including environment organizations, trade unions and churches, 50,000 people marched through the streets of Berlin declaring that it's time to switch off nuclear power. It was the biggest antinuclear demonstration in Germany since Chernobyl, and sent a clear message to politicians that nuclear power is not a solution to energy security or climate change.



FoE Europe "penguin refugee camp."

FoE Poland collect signatures at Radiohead concert.

FoE Netherlands 'deal or no deal' action.

europe



## challenging corporate power and finance

In 2009 Friends of the Earth Europe published "Would You Bank on Them?", a damning analysis of the track records of members of the EU's High Level Group of financial 'wise men' responsible for helping to frame Europe's response to the meltdown in the financial sector.

In June, four European-wide civil society networks - the Alliance for Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Regulation (Alter-EU), the European Attac network, the Seattle to Brussels Network (S2B), and the European Coalition for Corporate Justice (ECCJ) (three of which Friends of the Earth is a member of) - ran a 'Pin down your candidate' campaign in advance of European Parliament elections. More than 350 candidates, 70 of whom were elected, pledged to work for a European Union that puts public interests before private profits.

September saw the publication of "Overconsumption: our use of the world's resources" a report questioning Europe's consumption of increasing quantities of the world's natural resources. This followed

on from a report published earlier in the year, which examined possible methods of measuring Europe's resource use.

In November, some of the 'worst' French companies were awarded Friends of the Earth France's *Prix Pinocchio du développement durable* (Pinocchio Prize for sustainable development) in a public ceremony.

In December, Friends of the Earth Europe and Friends of the Earth Latin America and the Caribbean (ATALC) co-published a report "Calling the EU's bluff" which questions who the real champions of biodiversity and traditional knowledge are in the negotiations to establish the proposed EU-Central America and EU-Community of Andean Nations Association Agreements.

As part of the European Coalition for Corporate Justice (ECCJ), Friends of the Earth Europe is also campaigning for reform of European law, so that victims of corporate abuse can seek justice in European courts, and European parent companies can be held liable for the behavior of subsidiaries around the world.

## challenging oil and steel giants

In May 2008, four Nigerian citizens, Friends of the Earth Netherlands and Friends of the Earth Nigeria filed a unique lawsuit against Anglo-Dutch oil giant Shell. On 3 December 2009 the case finally started at the court in The Hague. Shell asked the court to rule that the Dutch court has no jurisdiction over Shell Nigeria, but on 30 December the court ruled against Shell: the Dutch court does have jurisdiction. The case continues.

Friends of the Earth Europe also released a report 'ArcelorMittal: Going nowhere slowly,' in May 2009; and two further reports that demonstrate that Shell makes a colossal contribution to global climate change and dirty forms of energy, and has now become the most carbon intensive oil company in the world. They also published an overview of all forms of public money spent on the production and primary processing of fossil fuels (oil, gas and coal) since 2004, in France, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the European Union.

**Amigos de la Tierra América Latina y Caribe (ATALC – FoE Latin America and the Caribbean) has become a recognized body bringing forward a social-environmentalist perspective among social movements in the region, with a visible role in spaces like the Americas Social Forum.**

**ATALC groups also have sub-regional campaigns, such as the EU-Central American free trade negotiations; plantations and pulp mills in the Southern Cone; and the building of climate affected peoples' movements in Central America and the Andes.**

## **Uruguay: digging up the dirt on 'clean' development mechanism**

The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) project portfolio for Uruguay includes 33 activities, but Friends of the Earth Uruguay/REDES found that most people knew nothing at all about the CDM or its projects, in Uruguay or elsewhere, even though the CDM is one of a number of extremely damaging 'false solutions' to climate change.

Friends of the Earth Uruguay set out to close Uruguay's information gap, by studying and reporting on the activities of three CDM projects in Uruguay: Partial substitution of fossil fuels with biomass in cement manufacture, by Cementos Artigas; cogeneration and fuel change in the tannery operated by the Zenda-Branáa company; and the Fray Bentos Biomass Power Generation Project, by Botnia.

Friends of the Earth Uruguay published detailed information about the CDM, the Uruguayan process for approving and monitoring CDM projects, and an in-depth analysis of Botnia's Fray Bentos CDM

project. This report considers the operation of transnational companies in Uruguay and elsewhere, the environmental and social impacts of their projects, and who stands to benefit or suffer because of them. Radio Mundo Real also produced three radio reports, each focusing on one of the projects.

Outreach work enabled Friends of the Earth Uruguay to inform the Uruguayan population about these CDM projects; and communities also learned more about the ways in which climate change and associated false solutions impact on their everyday lives.

*with thanks to our funders: the Swedish society for nature conservation and the Dutch ministry of foreign affairs (dgis)*



FoE Argentina water and glaciers for life.

## **member group highlights in 2009**

### **el salvador: building movements against mining and mega-projects**

El Salvador signed the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) with other Central American countries and the US in 2004. This allowed transnational corporations such as Holcim, Monsanto and Pacific Rim to intensify their operations in the country, extracting the countries' natural resources for export.

Until recently there was little public debate in El Salvador about the role and interests of transnational corporations, and the negative impacts they can have. To reverse this trend, Friends of the Earth El Salvador/CESTA has been working with others to improve awareness and strengthen collective leadership in grassroots organizations. These include the Global Movement of Victims and Peoples Affected by Climate Change (MOVIAC); the El Salvador National Network of People Threatened and Affected by Dams and Canals; and the El Salvador Movement of People Affected by Lead.

In 2009, Friends of the Earth El Salvador, along with 16 groups from communities affected by megaprojects, prepared a legal proposal called *El Grito de las Víctimas* (The Scream of the Victims) that summarizes the communities' demands. The initiative contains proposals for reforms to El Salvador's Environmental Law, Public Health Code, and Municipal Code. It was presented to the Ministry of Environment and Strategic Affairs. The inhabitants of Cabañas have also been trying to stop the proposed El Dorado gold mine, which would have used water-intensive cyanide processing.

These collaborative grassroots campaigns have notched up a number of successes in the last two to three years, and mining permits have been halted until an in-depth study of the environmental impacts of gold mining has been undertaken. However, Canadian mining company Pacific Rim Corp has filed an investor suit against the Salvadoran government, under CAFTA. Disturbingly, these successes have also been accompanied by increasing repression in El Salvador, including the systematic assassination of mining activists.

*with thanks to our funders: the Dutch ministry of foreign affairs (dgis)*



Fourth Continental Summit of Indigenous Peoples and Nationalities of Abya Yala.

El Salvador movement building.

## chile: forests of truth

In 2009, Friends of the Earth Chile/CODEFF's *Bosques de Verdad* (Forests of Truth) campaign focused on direct contact with groups affected by plantations. They published a range of informative declarations, reports, press materials, news bulletins and audio-visual materials. This included a booklet on the social and environmental impacts of forest monoculture plantations, the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and the value of native forests as an alternative for real local development. Beautifully designed campaign materials were widely distributed, including at the World Forestry Congress in Buenos Aires, in October 2009. The group also participated in many regional fairs and community events in Chile, reaching out to people of all ages and genders.

FoE Chile also conducted a detailed survey assessing the state of the forest industry in Chile, and the impacts of monoculture plantations of exotic species on affected communities. This included field trips to identify and visually record the testimonies

of people affected by climate change. The group also strengthened its links with indigenous Mapuche communities in Molco and Lonkoche in the Araucanía Region. Mapuche representatives attended the Meeting of Peoples Living in the Forests in Buenos Aires, just before the World Forestry Congress, together with Friends of the Earth Chile.

*with thanks to our funders: the dutch ministry of foreign affairs (dgis)*

## brazil: challenging investors in brazilian agrofuels

In March 2009, the IDB's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and governors' annual meeting in Medellín, Colombia, provided an important campaign opportunity. Friends of the Earth Brazil and Friends of the Earth Colombia/CENSAT participated in the organization of the parallel public forum on behalf of Friends of the Earth International. They distributed Portuguese and English language copies of the report "New road to the same old place: the false solution of agrofuels,"

published by FoE Brazil, FASE and Terra de Direitos. This evaluates the sugar cane sector and associated investments in Brazil. The FoE agrofuels cartoon collection was also on display at the forum, and copies of it were distributed to the media.

In August, FoE Brazil and FASE also published an updated report on the sugar cane ethanol sector in Brazil, analyzing the changes in policies, actors and scenarios in the sector following the financial crisis. The report was presented at the Forum Against Agribusiness in Asunción, Paraguay, which was organized by ATALC and Friends of the Earth Paraguay/Sobrevivencia. FoE Brazil and other national groups and alliances also responded critically to Brazil's new agro-ecological sugar cane zoning plan.

The IDB's investments were also monitored throughout the year. In addition, the group tracked funds lent to Brazil by the World Bank for environmental and climate adaptation purposes.

*with thanks to our funders: the c.s. mott foundation*



School children visit Paraguay's parliament.

## latin america and the caribbean



### paraguay: challenging agribusiness, building people's food sovereignty

The rapid spread of industrial agriculture across Latin America is devastating indigenous peoples, local communities and the environment. The Southern Cone of Latin America is also a key region for the biotech industry. Indigenous peoples, local communities, and women in particular, are affected by the rampant spread of industrial-scale agribusiness. Civil society, in Latin America and elsewhere, is increasingly responding by resisting the spread of agribusiness, and working together to re-build food sovereignty.

To facilitate collaborative resistance Friends of the Earth Paraguay/Sobrevivencia provided the venue for and co-hosted a forum on food sovereignty, in Asunción, in August 2009. Many organizations worked together to make the forum possible, including FoEI, FoE Uruguay/REDES, Via Campesina and the World March of Women.

The forum followed on from and built upon the global Nyeleni 'Forum on Food Sovereignty' convened in Mali in February 2007. It provided another space for leaders

of different communities, movements and organizations to come together to generate resistance strategies, exchange experiences and testimonies, strengthen affected communities and women, and further develop and implement the concept of *buen vivir* ('the good life') in communities.

The Asunción forum also looked specifically at the agribusiness model, the soya-meat chain, the timber/cellulose-biofuels chain, and industrial fishing. It considered the critical question of gender, looking at the role of women, especially in protecting seeds and conserving water resources, and the impact that agribusiness has on them. It also focused on building a de-globalized agriculture and reconstructing national food markets through agrarian reform, food sovereignty, rescuing native seeds, and territories free of transgenic organisms and agro-toxins.

The forum was recorded and shared through multiple media, including video, photography and radio. Radio Mundo Real broadcast the event, and recorded interviews with many different participants.

*with thanks to our funders: the dutch ministry of foreign affairs*



FoE Paraguay anti-agribusiness forum.

FoE Chile at World Forestry Congress.



FoE US Naked Fraud protest.

## member group highlights in 2009

## north america



### united states: fighting forest carbon offsets

Deforestation and forest degradation in tropical forests account for nearly 20% of global greenhouse gas emissions. Forest protection policies are therefore a vital component of national and international climate policy. But many of the forest-related provisions in legislation such as the American Clean Energy and Security Act (also known as the Waxman-Markey cap and trade bill) will undermine domestic climate change targets.

This is because such provisions allow industries to purchase forest carbon credits from reduced deforestation projects abroad, instead of cleaning up their own act. They also fail to tackle the real underlying drivers of deforestation in tropical forest countries, meaning that deforestation will continue - it will simply take place somewhere else. Forest carbon offset projects can also result in serious negative impacts on indigenous peoples, who may be forcibly removed from their territories. To cap it all, forest carbon offset projects are fraught with technical difficulties, and have been avoided by governments in the past for precisely this reason.

Friends of the Earth US built a coalition with US-based organizations, which has been effective in reframing the climate debate to focus on what is necessary rather than what is seen as politically possible. This coalition also published analyses of climate policy, and drafted letters as well as lobbying collectively.

Friends of the Earth US also built relationships with environmental justice advocates whose communities stand to be impacted by increased pollution from regulated industries that purchase offsets instead of reducing their own emissions.

FoE US analyzed policies related to forest carbon and carbon trading, and provided detailed recommendations to policy-makers to improve the efficacy of US forest-climate policy, including on transparency, governance, human rights and environmental effectiveness. Campaigners addressed the Energy and Commerce Committee, and alerted the Progressive Caucus and the Congressional Black Caucus to serious flaws in the proposed climate bill. They also lobbied members of the US House of Representatives to limit the use of offsets in any carbon trading system, and prohibit the most problematic types of offsets.

FoE US also invited Sam Nnah Ndobe of Friends of the Earth Cameroon to meet with policy makers in both the House and Senate, and coordinated lobbying visits for Vicky Tauli-Corpuz, the Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, who met with Donna Lee, the lead US delegate on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD).

In 2009, publications included a report entitled "Subprime Carbon" which highlights how the financial crisis tells a cautionary tale about the risks of carbon trading; and another on offsets, "Dangerous Distraction." Through flash videos, online advertising, and e-mail alerts, the group also mobilized its members and activists to reach out to their members of Congress.

Friends of the Earth US also participated in several conferences on the failures of the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Fund (FCPF).

*with thanks to our funders:  
the isvara foundation*

**Our communications work is aimed at reaching out to and mobilizing people around the world so that they will join our movement for social and environmental change. In 2009 we continued to communicate our messages far and wide, using both traditional and new media (see pages 5 and 14). Our website continued to grow and attract new people, many of whom took part in our urgent cyberactions or signed up to our Voices of the Earth e-newsletter.**

We released many publications, materials and audiovisual resources to promote our campaign messages, samples of which are highlighted in these pages. In addition to those described elsewhere in this report we published our annual "Who benefits from GM Crops?" update focused on the myth that GM crops feed the poor. "Voices from the South for Climate Justice" includes testimonies from people in Central and Latin America impacted by climate change.

We also released a series of materials on "Financing Climate Justice" prior to the Copenhagen talks, where this controversial subject was on the agenda.

## website, media and publications



### website

In 2009 the Friends of the Earth International website received an average of 23,500 visitors a month with a total of 68,000 page views. This is an increase of 14% and 17% respectively on the year before.

Throughout the year the website hosted a number of urgent cyberactions inspiring thousands of people from around the world to take action, in the form of signing an online petition, sending a letter of solidarity or donating to a member group in need.

Our reports and newly restructured campaigns pages continue to draw visitors to the site keen to learn our take on topical environmental issues.

Voices of the Earth, our bi-monthly e-newsletter, has more than doubled its readership in the last year. Available in English, French and Spanish the newsletter highlights the work of the federation. At the end of 2009 it had 3,000 subscribers.

We are also reaching new audiences through social networks. Our FoEI group page on Facebook has 3,800 members who regularly comment on the items we post, and share them with their friends. On Twitter we have around 300 followers ranging from the media, other non governmental organizations and the general public.

During one of our biggest events last year, the Copenhagen climate talks, we fully utilized all the online tools available to us. Within hours of an event happening we were blogging, calling on our cyberactivists and Facebook fans to take online actions, providing high resolution photographs on Flickr, and uploading videos of the events on our YouTube channel.

### foei in the media in 2009

It was an exciting year in terms of media. We carried out two successful trainings for journalists and campaigners, and enjoyed a particularly impressive year in terms of media coverage around the world, especially in relation to our activities at the Copenhagen Climate Summit in December.

In 2009 hundreds of news items quoting Friends of the Earth messages were published and aired by a broad spectrum of media organizations, ranging from the world's leading newspapers and TV news programs, such as the Financial Times and CNN, through to alternative news sources including the IPS news agency and Indymedia.

Throughout the year, FoEI issued an average of three English-language press releases per month to journalists worldwide. Many were also disseminated in Spanish, and some were translated into other languages by our member groups.

The FoEI news and comments which obtained most coverage in the media were those related to climate change and food.

In December 2009, during the United Nations climate change talks in Copenhagen, FoEI's climate justice messages reached millions of viewers and readers around the world.

A selection of more than one hundred news stories quoting Friends of the Earth can be found online here: [www.foei.org/en/media/links.html](http://www.foei.org/en/media/links.html)

### partnership with ips news agency

In 2008, FoEI started working in partnership with the IPS news agency on a three-year project to increase awareness in Europe about major challenges to and achievements concerning sustainable development in the South.

Four main challenges are at the centre of this IPS-FoEI project: climate change; decreasing biodiversity; lack of food security and sustainable food production; and the effects of extractive industries.

As part of this project, IPS news agency, an international alternative news agency, publishes some 150 multi-sourced and independent news articles and features every year, concerning these four challenges.

During the three years that the project is running, FoEI is also organizing: three training workshops for communicators and journalists, to help impart better skills to at least 30 communicators and spokespeople from FoEI and other NGOs, and at least 30 European journalists; three seminars and public discussion fora on the four key challenges, to stimulate informed debate about good practice and policies relating to sustainable development; and the publication of thirty community testimonies allowing local communities to tell their own stories about their experiences of unsustainable development projects and policies, and the solutions they propose.

*This project was made possible thanks to the financial assistance of the European Union.*



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### community testimonies

For the past few years, Friends of the Earth International has been producing community testimonies in which people on the ground tell about their struggles and successes in their own words. Throughout 2009 we continued to build our online library of testimonies from community residents fighting for sustainable livelihoods and environmental protection, with original productions and by editing existing footage. During 2009, 140 new testimonies were uploaded to our website and to Youtube in our three languages (English, French and Spanish). Our radio team at Real World Radio also produced a series of testimonies in Spanish.



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### speechless: a wordless history of the world

Speechless is a cartoon book which condenses the whole of world history into a graphic and completely wordless narrative. Published in 2009 in association with New Internationalist and drawn by cartoonist Polyp, the book is a celebration of human resistance, ingenuity and bravery in the face of war, greed and environmental pillage. The unique format of Speechless has helped Friends of the Earth International groups to reach out to new audiences, including students and young people. It is being used by schools in some countries, and also by community organizations as there is no need for translation. With its clever use of symbolism, the book is a puzzle in itself, and has proven to be a catalyst for lively debate.

## new media and creative campaigning



### our biodiversity, our lives photocompetition and calendar

Friends of the Earth International ran its fourth annual photo competition in 2009 on the theme of “Our Biodiversity, Our Lives” to mark the occasion of the United Nations’ International Year of Biodiversity in 2010. More than 1,200 photos were received from 79 countries around the world, from amateur and professional photographers ranging in age from 11 to 73 years old. You can see the winning photographs here: [www.foei.org/en/resources/photographs/biodiversity-lost](http://www.foei.org/en/resources/photographs/biodiversity-lost)



© Prakash Hatvalne, FoEI photography competition winner.

### climate capsule delivers people’s messages to copenhagen

A multimedia Climate Capsule conveyed the voices of hundreds of people around the world to negotiators at the climate change negotiations in Copenhagen and the parallel Klimaforum09. These messages, collected by Friends of the Earth groups around the world, included graphic accounts of people’s experiences of climate change, and arrived in many different forms, including text, audio files, videos, photos and drawings. These were delivered to Copenhagen in the multi-media Climate Capsule, an artistic installation created by Friends of the Earth groups in Finland and Colombia, which included a floodwall, four sonic pipes with mp3 players and loudspeakers, flood-related textiles for walls and tables, a DVD, four mp3 audiotapes, banners, photos, drawings and pictures.



© foEI



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HIVOS

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the C.S. Mott Foundation

the Wallace Global Fund

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Their financial support has been crucial in strengthening our campaigns and our network.

About 12 percent of the funding for Friends of the Earth International comes from the membership dues paid by our member groups, and 1 percent comes from sales and donations. Member groups contribute a percentage of their income on the basis of their revenue from two years ago to the international network. This core funding is used to cover the operational costs of the Secretariat. 86 percent of our income is subsidies received from government agencies and foundations. These funds are granted to us for specific projects and campaigns and for our Membership Support Fund.

The Membership Support Fund seeks to pool resources and share them across FoE member groups for the following objectives: network development, capacity building, strengthening national campaigns, and increasing participation in international campaigns.

In 2009, €995,266 was distributed among 32 member groups from this fund for a range of projects including many of those described above.

We also distributed €106,142 to our regional groupings for regional meetings and capacity building.

Other areas of membership development are the facilitation of relationship building among member groups across regions; helping to overcome language barriers through timely translation; creating spaces for sharing experiences, such as exchanges and gatherings; and ensuring that member groups are really able to engage in the federation and don't fall off the map.



World Social Forum 2009, Ronnie Hall.

WTO Ministerial 2009, Ronnie Hall.

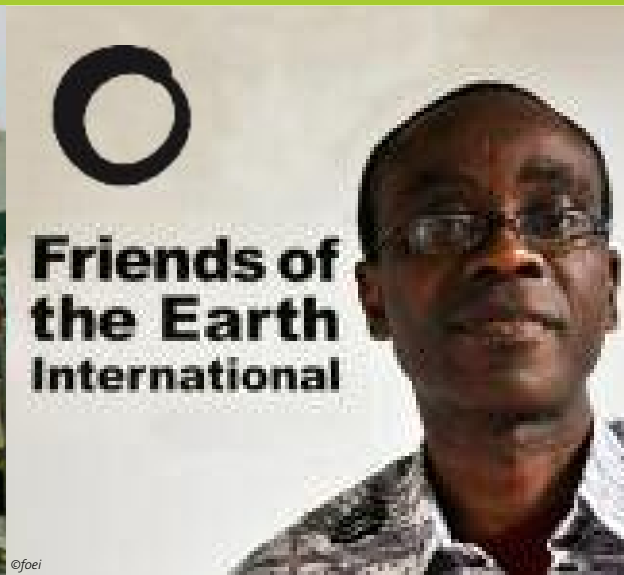
FoE Mexico Raribhead concert action.

World Social Forum 2009, Ronnie Hall.

Young FoE Europe.

## contact us

Climate change talks in Bangkok. Ronnie Hall.



FOE US at Shell/Guilt by action.

### there are friends of the earth groups in:

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, sri lanka, swaziland, sweden, switzerland, tanzania, timo-leste, togo, tunisia, uganda, ukraine, united states, uruguay.

### friends of the earth international affiliate groups:

cee bankwatch, corporate europe observatory, corpwatch, earthlife africa, friends of the earth middle east, international rivers, mineral policy institute, peace boat, rainforest action network, rainforest information centre, stichting de noordzee, world information service on energy.

Please visit [www.foei.org](http://www.foei.org) for more information about our members.

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