

# annual report 2002

friends of the earth international

# 2002



**Friends of  
the Earth**  
International

# mission statement

**Friends of the Earth International is a global federation of national environmental organizations that aims to:**

- *protect the earth against further deterioration and repair damage inflicted upon the environment by human activities and negligence;*
- *preserve the earth's ecological, cultural and ethnic diversity;*
- *increase public participation and democratic decision-making, both of which are vital to the protection of the environment and the sound management of natural resources;*
- *achieve social, economic and political justice and equal access to resources and opportunities for men and women on the local, national, regional and international levels;*
- *promote environmentally sustainable development on the local, national, regional and global levels.*

Friends of the Earth International has a democratic structure with autonomous national groups which comply with the guidelines established by the federation.

Friends of the Earth member groups are united by a common conviction that these aims require both strong grassroots activism and effective national and international campaigning and coordination. They see Friends of the Earth International as a unique and diverse forum in which to pursue international initiatives, taking advantage of the varied backgrounds and perspectives of the members.

By sharing information, knowledge, skills and resources both bilaterally and multilaterally, Friends of the Earth groups support each other's development and strengthen their international campaigns.



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# ten years down the road

ricardo navarro | foei chair, el salvador

**I remember the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. A noisy, enthusiastic multicultural bunch of Friends of the Earth activists attended, and I recall how we clung to our hopes that this unprecedented global meeting would further our campaigns to stop climate change, to save our seas, to halt the spreading of deserts, and to preserve biodiversity.**



I also remember how quickly it became clear that the Summit had been hijacked by corporate interests, and that our struggles for environmental and social sustainability were not going to be furthered by this meeting. Not only were the commitments taken by governments in Rio appallingly meager, but industry emerged victorious, having avoided any sort of regulations and formalizing its role as the new partner of the United Nations in the quest for sustainable development.

One image that has stayed with me all these years is the sight of Friends of the Earth's enormous inflatable chainsaw being spontaneously carried through Rio by street children, local people and FoE activists. The chainsaw, which bore the text "Stop the Chainsaw Massacre, Save the Rainforests", clearcut its way towards the US Consulate to emphasize the uncompromising role played by that government and its corporations in the negotiations.

Looking back, I am struck by two contradictory thoughts: how little has changed, and yet how much has changed in the past decade.

## **business more than usual**

At the 2002 Earth Summit in Johannesburg, Friends of the Earth was fully prepared for the dominant role that business would play, and we had few expectations that governments would embrace progressive environmental and social commitments.

In fact, with very minor exceptions, the official outcomes were dismal. Governments failed to set the necessary social and ecological limits to economic globalization. Existing commitments – already vastly insufficient – were reaffirmed, watered down, or trashed altogether. The insular, ignorant and corporate-backed US administration – together with the Japanese, Canadian, Australian and OPEC countries we now call the "axis of environmental evil" – betrayed hundreds of millions of poor and vulnerable people and their ecosystems around the world.

Expecting the Summit to flop, Friends of the Earth decided to focus our energies on exposing the role of corporations in environmental destruction and social injustice. In Johannesburg, our "Hear Our Voice" art installation featured a 6-metre high corporate giant and 6,000 locally-created sculptures making a plea for binding rules for business. We broadcast Radio Earth Summit, which gave voice to the marginalized people who are suffering under corporate-led globalization. And we held a "Green Oscars" awards ceremony to expose the companies with the most impressive greenwash tactics.

Despite the failure of the Earth Summit, we found inspiration in the growing wave of coordinated resistance to corporate-led globalization sweeping the planet. This is what has blossomed in the decade since the Earth Summit, and our joint campaigns for trade justice, rights for communities, the repayment of the ecological debt, and rules for big business are gathering momentum.

A world where the economy runs beyond the capacity of political institutions to regulate and control it is in a deep crisis, and can never be fully secure or at peace. We are determined to keep working towards the radical environmental action the world needs, because we know that another world is possible.

# history

Friends of the Earth International (FoEI) was founded in 1971 by four organizations from France, Sweden, England and the USA. Today's federation of 68 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, initially staffed by volunteers, was set up and rotated from country to country. By 1983, the organization had grown to 25 members, and an Executive Committee was elected to oversee the issues worked on between meetings.

In 1986, the Annual General Meeting (AGM) was hosted for the first time by an organization from the South, Sahabat Alam Malaysia (FoE Malaysia). At that time, the federation had 31 members from all over the world that were fully involved in the environment and development debate, and clearly recognized the need to change lifestyle and consumption patterns in the North.



In the meantime, in 1985, the European members of Friends of the Earth set up a regional coordinating body of their own, FoE Europe, with an office in Brussels. In 2001, FoE Latin American and Caribbean groups formed their own regional coordinating body, currently hosted by FoE Paraguay.

There are now 68 Friends of the Earth member groups campaigning internationally, nationally and locally to protect the environment and create sustainable societies. They are united by the common conviction that environmentally sustainable development requires both strong grassroots activism and effective national and international campaigning.

# structure

FoEI is highly decentralized: it is made up of autonomous organizations, many of which were established before joining the federation. FoEI 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.

The Bi-annual General Meeting (BGM) elects an Executive Committee (ExCom), which meets several times per year. This ExCom is made up of a Chairperson, directly elected by the BGM; a representative of the organization hosting the next BGM; and representatives of up to seven member groups.

Until June 2002, the ExCom was composed of the following: Ricardo Navarro (Chair, El Salvador), Tony Juniper (Vice-Chair, FoE England, Wales and Northern Ireland), Otto Sieber (Treasurer, FoE Switzerland), FoE Nigeria, FoE Paraguay, FoE Philippines and FoE Sweden. After June, FoE Nigeria and FoE Philippines were replaced by FoE Australia, FoE Colombia, FoE Indonesia, and FoE Sri Lanka.

The ExCom employs and oversees the work of a small International Secretariat in Amsterdam. In 2002, the Secretariat was composed of the following: International Coordinator: Marijke Torfs; Communications Officer: Ann Doherty;

International Campaign Coordinator: Mae Ocampo; Office Organizer: Annette Huiskamp; Financial Manager: Wieke Wagenaar; Financial Assistant: Ryan Blanca; Web Coordinator: Debra Broughton; Web Campaigner: Sisi Nutt; Media Coordinator: Niccolo Sarno; International Financial Institutions Programme Coordinators: Johan Frijns and Janneke Bruil; Biodiversity Project Coordinator: Simone Lovera; EIB Campaign Coordinator: Magda Stoczkiwicz. Volunteers: Junier Bolivar (Costa Rica), Ina Breman (Netherlands), Dawn Hsu-hua Ng (United States), Julie Ogle (United States), and Stephen Williamson (U.K.).

FoEI is a member of the Environment Liaison Centre International and of the World Conservation Union (IUCN). It has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) and all relevant UN bodies.



## financing and funding



**The backbone of the funding for FoEI activities is the membership dues paid by the 68 FoE member groups. FoE groups contribute one percent of their unrestricted income plus 0.1 percent of their restricted income on the basis of their revenue from two years ago to FoEI. Funds are also received from governments and foundations (for details see page 15).**

### membership support

The Executive Committee allocated the resources of the Membership Support Fund (MSF) in 2002 according to criteria that reflect the decisions of the General Meeting. These criteria include international campaign priorities, performance of the groups and the funding requirements established by the donor agency. Beyond that, the ExCom strives to obtain regional balance in allocating the grants, and to support those activities that meet the current needs of the network.

As a federation of independent organizations, the success of our campaigning is determined by the strength of the individual members groups and by the effectiveness of the coordination between them. Strong national campaigns are the basis upon which we build effective international advocacy campaigns. In 2002, FoEI supported the national campaign activities of FoE groups in Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Ecuador, Indonesia, Malaysia, Peru and Uruguay.

FoEI supported the activities of FoE groups in Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Indonesia and Paraguay to ensure more balanced campaign coordination between groups in the North and the South, to increase regional and international coordination activities and to facilitate policy discussions among groups in the network.

FoEI aims to garner broad public support for our overall goal of achieving environmentally sustainable and socially just societies by joining forces with other social movements. International campaigners and member groups alike built and strengthened alliances throughout the year, and participated in international events and social movement gatherings such as the World Social Forum to discuss common interests and plan joint international campaigns with farmers' movements, labour organizations, indigenous peoples' groups and other civil society organizations.

The most critical international meeting of the year, requiring our full attention, was the World Summit for Social Development/Earth Summit meeting in Johannesburg. FoEI supported the participation of our southern member groups at the official event as well as in

the surrounding NGO public fora. The FoEI Secretariat published "Clashes with Corporate Giants", highlighting 22 local campaigns for biodiversity and community. This publication was translated into Spanish and French and distributed widely among government representatives, journalists and NGOs. FoEI also funded the creation of an art installation by members of a local community in Johannesburg: a huge corporate giant dwarfing thousands of small "people".

Finally, FoEI used the membership support fund for the translation of campaign documents into the three official languages: English, Spanish and French. Language remains the most critical barrier to active participation by national member groups in international policy discussions. It is of the utmost importance that policy documents and internal debates are translated into the three official languages at different stages throughout the discussion process. This is not a luxury, but a necessity for the participation of Latin American and francophone African groups. As a result, translation absorbs a substantial part of FoEI resources and will continue to do so in the foreseeable future.

## foei general meeting 2002



The 2002 Bi-Annual General Meeting (BGM) took place from 12-16 June in the mountains of Beatenberg, Switzerland. It was preceded by an international congress on agriculture and biodiversity, organized by Pro Natura/Friends of the Earth Switzerland.

Six new associate members were admitted: CERDET from Bolivia, Movimiento Madre Tierra from Honduras, ProPublic from Nepal, Celcor from Papua New Guinea, Groundwork from South Africa, and Korean Federation for Environmental Movement (KFEM) from South Korea. Three new affiliate members joined the federation: the CEE Bankwatch Network, EarthLife Africa and the World Information Service on Energy (WISE).

The BGM identified five priority campaigns for the network in the coming period: Climate Change; Genetically-Modified Organisms; Trade; Corporates; and International Financial Institutions.



Children living near the route of the planned Baku-Ceyhan oil pipeline.



Demonstrations at the 2002 UN climate conference in Delhi.

## climate

**The FoEI Climate Change Campaign works to accelerate international action to stop dangerous climate change, to block the climate wrecking efforts of corporations and the Bush administration, and to hasten the transition towards a green energy revolution.**

Although 2002 was the second hottest year on record, the United States continued to undermine international efforts to address climate change. So Friends of the Earth took the US government to court on the grounds that its export credit agencies do not take climate change into account in the fossil fuel projects they fund overseas. Friends of the Earth also continues to play a lead role in developing litigation cases against the world's worst polluters.

In May, FoEI organized a conference to help Climate Action Network, a global network of 300 environment NGOs, reach a common position for the future of the international climate change regime. The consensus position that was reached involves putting equity and justice at the heart of the climate negotiations.

In October, campaigners participated in the eighth United Nations climate conference in Delhi to ensure that momentum is maintained while the world waits for the Kyoto Protocol to enter into force. Friends of the Earth helped to organize a parallel Climate Justice Summit

with climate-affected communities in India, and supported a march of 3,000 people carrying their messages to governments at the official negotiations.

In September, Friends of the Earth campaigned for the introduction of a global renewable energy target at the Johannesburg Earth Summit. These efforts were blocked by the United States and OPEC countries, so we have turned our attention to developing a strong commitment to renewables in the European Union and Latin America.

The Earth Summit also saw the launch of the international campaign against the planned 1 million barrel per day Baku-Ceyhan pipeline, which is a geo-political priority for the US and Europe. By stopping public subsidies for new big oil projects, we can drive up the cost of fossil fuels and expose the environmental, social and human rights impacts of fossil fuel dependency.

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## biodiversity



The Biodiversity Project (BDP) was initiated in 2001 as a joint project of FoEI's Genetically Modified Organisms, Forest, and Trade, Environment and Sustainability programmes. The project allows FoEI to combine grassroots activism and national movement-building on forest and agricultural biodiversity with international advocacy campaigns and awareness-building on the impacts of WTO negotiations, GMO contamination and other international developments. The project works closely with the World Rainforest Movement, a global movement of grassroots groups and NGOs working on forest conservation.

During its first two years, the Biodiversity Project produced two compilations of case studies on the impacts of corporate-led globalization on community efforts to conserve agricultural and forest biodiversity in 13 different countries and a briefing paper on the impacts of WTO negotiations on biodiversity. These publications were launched at a well-attended side event parallel to the sixth Conference of the Parties to the Biodiversity Convention in April.

At that conference, and at the Johannesburg Earth Summit where biodiversity was a main discussion item, FoEI campaigned to raise awareness of the impacts of corporate-led globalization on biodiversity and the need to address the underlying causes of biological and cultural diversity loss. FoEI published "Dirty

Deals: a compilation of case studies on corporate influence on global environmental negotiations" as a contribution to our call for binding rules for business, and "Clashes with Corporate Giants", which portrayed local communities and FoE groups all over the world defending their biodiversity against corporate destruction.

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## genetically modified organisms [gmos]



**FoEI's programme on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) looks at the impacts of genetic engineering on our societies, and particularly on agriculture. Our main goal is to stop the progressive release of GMOs into the environment and the food chain. Simultaneously, FoEI is promoting sustainable alternatives for agriculture in order to achieve food sovereignty, food security and food safety in both North and South.**

In 2002, the message that contaminated food aid is being dumped in poor countries spread further. Working with groups in Bolivia, Guatemala, and Nicaragua, Friends of the Earth discovered StarLink and other forbidden varieties of GMOs in food aid. Together with our Latin American partners, we announced the results of this citizen-based monitoring at the June World Food Summit in Rome. The groups issued a coordinated news release from Rome, Managua, Guatemala City, Washington DC and Cochabamba, Bolivia which generated global media coverage and fostered investigations in Bolivia and Nicaragua.

The GMO Programme arranged meetings for a citizen delegation from Nicaragua with key officials from the US Agency for International Development and the US Congress. Programme coordinator Larry Bohlen debated the chief scientist of the World Bank on the topic of GMO food aid on CNN.

After the Zambian government rejected food aid from the US that contained GM maize, FoEI advised Zambian famine relief groups on the production of a report and a

video on GMO alternatives. We also helped to deliver an appeal to northern countries for non-GMO food aid from Zambian religious, women's and famine relief organizations. The appeal and video were well received in many European countries.

In September, the GMO Programme arranged for Percy Schmeiser, the Canadian farmer being sued by Monsanto, to attend the Johannesburg Earth Summit, where he issued a warning about unsavory biotech company behaviour to millions of Africans through television, radio and print media.

Furthermore, the GMO Programme organized workshops for citizen advocates in Benin, Canada, Croatia, the Netherlands and Nicaragua, and published a Spanish version of the "GMO Contamination around the World" booklet. We co-released a 97-page report highlighting the threats posed by biopharmaceutical crops, warning the US government of the prospect of contamination four months before it actually happened in October 2002.

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## trade, environment and sustainability



Protests at the 2002 World Social Forum in Porto Alegre.

**Friends of the Earth International campaigns for fair and environmentally sustainable societies that meet people's needs. However, in order to campaign for sustainable societies, FoEI has also found it necessary to challenge neoliberal economic globalization, which works in the opposite direction, preventing sustainability.**

FoEI's Trade, Environment and Sustainability programme brings Friends of the Earth campaigners from all continents together to campaign on trade liberalization, with dedicated staff in Brussels, Geneva, Malaysia, the Middle East, the United Kingdom, the United States and Uruguay.

FoEI's trade campaigners challenge the global system as well as specific trade agreements and policies. They work with national groups to develop sector and country-specific case studies to show the negative impacts of free trade on the environment and people's livelihoods on the ground.

During 2002, FoEI developed and strengthened its campaign to stop the expansion of the WTO by challenging the EU's proposal to start new negotiations on investment and competition. In addition, we developed our capacity to track and challenge the WTO's GATS services negotiations, demanding an independent assessment of the social, environmental and economic implications and calling for the exclusion of key sectors relating to natural resources. In April, FoE Europe worked with other Our World Is Not For Sale (OWINFS) member groups to reveal and

analyze the content of leaked EU negotiating papers that demonstrated the real breadth of the EU's negotiating objectives.

Key activities during the year also included the World Social Forum 2002, where FoEI campaigned for fair and sustainable economies, and FoEI Vice-Chair Tony Juniper's participation in the WTO's 2002 NGO Symposium as a keynote speaker.

Throughout the year, we also focused on strengthening and broadening the alliances we work within. We joined a wide range of European civil society groups calling on European governments to fundamentally reorient the rules of the trade system, and we campaigned with and managed the finances of the OWINFS network.

Many civil society groups, including Friends of the Earth, were disappointed by the outcomes of the Johannesburg Earth Summit, where governments allowed the trade liberalization and corporate globalization agenda to dominate proceedings. Critically, no progress was made towards protecting the status of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) against trade rules.

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**FoEI's Forest Programme builds upon the national and local campaigns for the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of forests waged by more than 40 FoE groups all over the world. The programme incorporates a number of strategic international campaigns to conserve the world's forests as biologically and culturally diverse ecosystems. These campaigns promote sustainability in the areas of land use,**

**trade, and consumption and production patterns, taking into account the principles of equity, sustainability and gender balance.**

Friends of the Earth forest campaigners converged upon the sixth conference of the parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in the Hague in April. A new publication, "Fertile Resistance in Forests", showing the positive role played by civil society in opposing unsustainable forest policies and projects, was widely disseminated. Friends of the Earth welcomed the fact that the work plan that resulted from the meeting addressed some of the root causes of forest loss including overconsumption, lack of respect for Indigenous Peoples' land rights and corruption.

In cooperation with other members of the Global Forest Coalition, FoEI successfully campaigned for better coherence between the various international bodies involved in forest policy, such as the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Convention on Biodiversity and the Climate Convention.

We were also pleased with the historic agreement signed in April between the Indonesian and UK governments to tackle illegal timber trade. Friends of the Earth groups in both countries have had longstanding campaigns on this topic, and have exposed the British corporations profiting from the destruction of Indonesia's forests.

Forest campaigners were active in the Earth Summit in Johannesburg, as well as the preparatory meetings running up to this event. In Bali, Friends of the Earth succeeded in adding language in the official text about the need for Indigenous and community-based forest management. In addition, WALHI/FoE Indonesia organized a parallel Indonesian Peoples Forum, with workshops on forest-related issues.

In Johannesburg, FoEI organized a Forest and Forest Dependent People's day in coordination with the International Alliance of Tribal-Indigenous Peoples of the Tropical Forests at the World Sustainability Hearings, which formed one of the main events of the People's Earth Summit organized parallel to the official meeting. We also participated in the global caucus on community-based forest management.

In November, FoEI supported the publication by the World Rainforest Movement of two detailed case studies on how certification of plantations by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) has led to situations in which timber from plantations with negative social and environmental consequences, particularly for the surrounding communities, is now being sold as "sustainable timber".

In 2002, the Forest Programme strengthened alliances with other networks working on forests, including the Global Forest Coalition, the World Rainforest Movement, Ríos Vivos, Vía Campesina, and the International Alliance of Tribal-Indigenous Peoples of the Tropical Forests. Bio-regional cooperation was also strengthened, particularly in South America, leading up to the creation of the Latin American Network Against Plantations at the January 2003 World Social Forum

Synergy was also created within Friends of the Earth campaigns: with the trade and GMO campaigns within the biodiversity project, as well as with the climate campaign in joint work against carbon sinks and tree plantations.

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Los Altos valley and farm, Paraguay

## forests



The IFI programme of FoEI targets the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the regional development banks (the Asian Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank), the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the group of Export Credit Agencies (ECAs). FoEI is seeking profound changes in the way these institutions operate, the projects they finance and the role they play in upholding the neoliberal economic world order.

## international financial institutions [ifis]

international campaigns



Bakola Pygmy family living in the vicinity of the Chad-Cameroon pipeline.



Protests at 2002 World Bank meeting in Washington DC.

In 2002, FoEI continued its campaign for a complete phase-out of all public institution financing for socially and environmentally destructive oil, gas and mineral resource exploration projects. The campaign focused mainly on World Bank involvement in the sector. FoEI members monitored the ongoing Extractive Industries Review and participated in several of the meetings.

FoEI also directly supported the struggles of communities and organizations in Cameroon, Peru, Romania and Georgia against World Bank funded extractive industries projects. Representatives of these countries attended the World Bank annual meeting in Washington DC in September. FoE Cameroon used this opportunity to file a complaint with the World Bank inspection panel on behalf of communities affected by the Chad-Cameroon oil pipeline. Romanian community members present in Washington managed to convince the Bank not to finance the Rosia Montana gold mine.

FoEI continues to seek enhanced and effective civil society control over the international financial institutions. For this to happen, all IFIs should commit to establishing full information disclosure policies, adopting adequate safeguard policies (or in the case of the Export Credit Agencies, common and binding environmental guidelines), and installing independent and effective inspection mechanisms.

At the annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank in Shanghai, FoEI pushed for a revision of the ADB inspection mechanism and supported the communities filing claims with the panel. FoEI is now again at the forefront of NGO campaigns to hold the ADB accountable.

The European Investment Bank (EIB) continued to be a cause of concern, as it has adopted none of the minimum

arrangements mentioned above. The "No Reform, No Money" campaign used the scheduled capital increase for the EIB to push for major reforms in the areas of environmental policy, information disclosure, and the Bank's development mandate. While the capital increase went ahead, the campaign exposed the Bank's dismal practices to the public.

FoE member groups continued to pressure the Export Credit Agencies (ECAs) in their countries to adopt common environmental guidelines. Following an international ECA strategy meeting in March, FoEI concentrated on the role of ECAs in oil and gas financing, while national member groups continued to press for reforms within their own ECAs.

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## mining

**FoEI's Mining campaign explores the social and environmental consequences of large-scale mining and the unsustainable consumption model that lies behind such activities, and seeks the downsizing of the mining industry.**



FoE member groups enjoyed a number of successes throughout the year, including a moratorium on open pit cyanide heap leach gold mining in Costa Rica and the indefinite postponement of the controversial Jabiluka uranium mine in Australia.

FoEI co-organized a Central American meeting of communities and NGOs affected by mining in February in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. This meeting contributed greatly to the integration of anti-mining struggles in the region.

Mining campaigners participated in the Johannesburg Earth Summit and its preparations. We participated in an International Mining Workshop at the fourth preparatory meeting in Bali for the Summit, together with 74 representatives from NGOs and mining-affected communities. The statement resulting from this workshop, as well as the "Demands of the Women and Mining

Group", are the most comprehensive set of demands from mining-affected communities and organizations to date. Important theoretical work was completed on the need for the downsizing of the mining industry in Bali.

At the Earth Summit, Friends of the Earth mining campaigners exchanged experiences and points of view with African activists. We denounced the partnerships between industry, governments and NGOs, which would in effect put sustainable development in the hands of corporations.

Finally, we denounced the partnership forged by the World Conservation Union (IUCN) and the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) as a cynical attempt to greenwash the mining industry.

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## ecological debt

**FoEI is campaigning for the recognition and payment of the ecological debt, the result of decades of resource exploitation by the North in impoverished southern countries. This would include the reparation of environmental devastation caused by natural resource extraction and other unsustainable activities, the repatriation of cultural and natural heritage, and compensation for damage related to climate change caused by northern dependency on fossil fuels.**

In 2002, Friends of the Earth International's ecological debt campaign highlighted cases where ecological debt increased due to corporate-led globalization.

This was also a year for the network to strengthen alliances with other like-minded organizations and social movements. Membership in the Southern Peoples' Ecological Debt Creditors Alliance, launched by Friends of the Earth International in 2000, increased.

Friends of the Earth organized a side-event and held an action on Ecological Debt and the biotech industry during the April meeting of the Convention on Biodiversity in The Hague. We also organized a two-day conference on ecological debt during the

final preparatory meeting for the Earth Summit in Bali in June, as well as an Asia/Pacific Ecological Debt Conference in collaboration with Jubilee South. One of the positive outcomes of these conferences was the creation of an Asia/Pacific Ecological Debt Creditors Alliance.





corporates

**Friends of the Earth's corporates campaign aims to tackle issues around corporate power and control, corporate-led globalization and corporate accountability. The campaign supports local struggles against corporate forest, food, water, climate, and mining projects, and attempts to ensure that local, national and regional campaigns have a political impact at the international level.**

FoEI intensified our campaign for binding rules for big business throughout 2002, calling for rights for citizens and communities and liability for corporations. This initiative intends to ensure that communities have rights to hold multinationals to account for their bad practices, and that governments take international action to devise binding rules to end unsustainable activities. More and more social movements and activist groups took up this call as the year progressed.

In a major challenge to the global corporate sector, Friends of the Earth went into the January World Economic Forum (WEF) meeting in New York to deliver 1,200 personally addressed letters – one for each corporate participant – challenging them to support binding global rules for business.

FoE groups and communities around the world continued to confront socially and environmentally harmful corporate operations at the local level. A few of these struggles were profiled in "Clashes with Corporate Giants: 22 campaigns for biodiversity and community" which was released prior to the Earth Summit in Johannesburg.

*campaign coordinator 2002 matt phillips, foe england, wales and northern ireland*

*FoE's corporate giant art installation, surrounded by thousands of figurines representing the voices of those not heard at the Earth Summit in Johannesburg.*



## earth summit

**Friends of the Earth International was credited by the media and many fellow activists for running the most successful NGO campaign for the September 2002 World Summit On Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg, South Africa.**

FoEI was present with a strong lobby team at all preparatory meetings (PrepComs) for the Summit, calling for trade justice, a recognition of the ecological debt owed to the South, better global environmental governance, and binding rules for corporations. In all of our activities in the months prior to the Summit, Friends of the Earth spelled out one clear message to governments: "Don't let big business rule the world!"

In the run-up to the Summit, Friends of the Earth's six metre-tall inflatable corporate giant toured Europe to promote our call for binding rules for corporations. Postcards with demands to world leaders were collected at local actions in 12 countries.

In Johannesburg, Friends of the Earth, together with Corporate Watch US and groundWork/FoE South Africa, held a "Green Oscars" ceremony to reward corporations "acting green". Nominees were collected via a website ([www.earthsummit.biz](http://www.earthsummit.biz)) and BP won this year's grand prize for manipulating the climate and the public alike.

FoEI and BUND/FoE Germany created a special Earth Summit website ([www.rio-plus-10.org](http://www.rio-plus-10.org)) in four languages, which collected tens of thousands of messages to world leaders from people all around the world.

Radio Earth Summit ([www.radioearthsummit.org](http://www.radioearthsummit.org)) was a groundbreaking project for FoEI. The audio website contains first hand accounts from people whose livelihoods have been destroyed by corporations. The site, in English with French and Spanish versions, was heavily trafficked: radio stations, especially community radio stations, on every continent used its material.

Prior to the Summit, FoEI worked with artists and 15 local communities around Johannesburg to create a huge corporate statue dwarfing five thousand small figurines. The figurines represented the many messages FoEI had collected as well as those communities from around the world whose voices were not heard inside the official negotiations. This "Hear Our Voice" art installation was opened in a major ceremony on the day that world leaders arrived in Johannesburg, and speakers included UN Environment Programme director Klaus Töpfer.

FoEI's corporate giant was one of the most resounding images of the Summit and appeared in media around the world. By the end of the Summit, the figurines held signs reading "Betrayal" in 14 languages, summing up FoEI's assessment of the overall Summit results. The Summit fell way short on what is needed, especially on issues of trade, governance and ecological debt.

Nonetheless, FoEI's Earth Summit campaign was successful in alerting the world to the failure of the Summit. Furthermore, a window of opportunity for global rules for business was opened at Johannesburg. FoEI will work to build on this success in coming years.

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## communicating our message

### publications

The following are a few of the most important publications that Friends of the Earth International, Friends of the Earth Europe and FoE groups released in 2002. Many of our publications can be downloaded from [www.foei.org](http://www.foei.org) in English, Spanish and French: contact the FoEI Secretariat for more information: [www.foei.org](http://www.foei.org)

#### special mining and biodiversity issues of link



#### clashes with corporate giants:

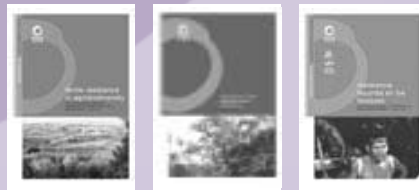
22 campaigns for biodiversity and community, friends of the earth international



**dirty deals:** cases of corporate influence over global environmental negotiations, friends of the earth international



**fertile resistance in agro-biodiversity, implications of wto negotiations for biodiversity, fertile resistance in forests** friends of the earth international



**sustainable production and consumption:** a global challenge. foe netherlands

**traversing people's lives:** how the world bank finances community disruption in cameroon. friends of the earth international

**food and farming:** time to choose. friends of the earth europe



**the world as a testing ground:** risks of genetic engineering in agriculture. hivos and friends of the earth international

**gmo contamination around the world:** second edition. friends of the earth international



**primer on the general agreement on trade in services** friends of the earth international

### [www.foei.org](http://www.foei.org)

The new FoEI website, featuring an interactive cyberaction centre, was launched in February 2002. Visitors to the site increased throughout the year, totalling around 25,000 per month by the end of the year. Our cyberactivist mailing list grew to include over 500 members who received e-mail notification of new actions. At the end of the year we began uploading our campaign activity pages, with maps highlighting the campaigns and struggles of groups around the world.

The groundbreaking FoEI Radio Earth Summit website ([www.radioearthsummit.org](http://www.radioearthsummit.org)) broadcast live interviews and updates from the World Summit for Sustainable Development, and the main site also began to incorporate audio features.

Work on a separate Spanish website continued throughout 2002, and the result was uploaded in early 2003.

# summary financial report 2002

## balance sheet 31 december 2002 [amounts in euro]

	2002	2001
<b>assets</b>		
Fixed assets	19.347	25.365
Liquid assets	491.490	453.437
Paid in advance	22.867	16.900
Accounts receivable	320.686	202.749
<b>total assets</b>	<b>854.390</b>	<b>698.451</b>
<b>current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	304.122	262.602
Donor grants balances	309.949	242.383
	614.071	504.985
<b>reserves</b>		
Accumulated surplus	202.859	160.913
Overseas recruitment fund		4.285
Reserve for relocation	15.000	15.000
Membership support for low-income FoE groups	22.460	13.268
	240.319	193.466
<b>total liabilities</b>	<b>854.390</b>	<b>698.451</b>

## statement of income and expenditure [amounts in euro]

	2002	2001
<b>revenue</b>		
Membership fees	253.111	252.988
Sales	912	1.655
Interest & miscellaneous (2)	28.340	32.926
Donor grants	1.233.628	893.144
<b>total revenue</b>	<b>1.515.990</b>	<b>1.180.713</b>
<b>expenditure</b>		
Staff costs & volunteer expenses	189.292	198.244
Office operations & communication	116.526	97.493
LINK & other publications	43.207	51.844
Annual General Meeting	30.318	46.117
Chair costs / international representation	15.156	18.156
Executive Committee	21.474	24.156
<b>activities</b>		
Campaign coordinators	164.642	180.609
Media and communication staff	61.855	
Membership Support Fund	393.125	229.577
Specific campaigns & projects	433.542	328.277
<b>total expenditure</b>	<b>1.469.137</b>	<b>1.174.471</b>
<b>unexpended result/accumulated surplus</b>	<b>46.853</b>	<b>6.242</b>

FoEI gratefully acknowledges financial support from Dutch donor agencies HIVOS, NOVIB, ICCO, and the joint NOVIB-HIVOS Biodiversity Fund; the Dutch Committee of the the IUCN; the Dutch Ministry for the Environment; the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation; the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation; Finnida; the Canton of Basel; the C. S. Mott, Ford, and Rockefeller Brothers foundations (United States); the Wallace Global Fund (United States); Gerling Foundation (Switzerland); the Ecological Foundation (United Kingdom); the JMG Foundation; Ben Goldsmith; the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL) in Switzerland; Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland; and Friends of the Earth Switzerland.

These figures represent the finances of the International Secretariat; thus, they reflect only a part of FoEI's overall work as member groups make substantial contributions to the federation's international campaigning activities.

## auditor's report

We have audited the abbreviated financial statements of "Vereniging Friends of the Earth International" (FoEI) in Amsterdam for the year 2002. These abbreviated financial statements have been derived from FoEI's 2002 Financial Report. In our auditor's report dated May 16, 2003 we expressed an unqualified opinion on this Financial Report. These abbreviated financial statements are the responsibility of the organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these abbreviated financial statements.

In our opinion, these abbreviated financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the Financial Report from which they have been derived.

For an understanding of the organization's financial position and results and for an adequate understanding of the scope of our audit, the abbreviated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Financial Report from which the abbreviated financial statements have been derived and our unqualified auditor's report thereon issued on May 16, 2003.

Amsterdam, May 16, 2003  
Dubois & Co. Registeraccountants

M. Karman



## contact us



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### there are foe groups in:

argentina, australia, austria, belgium,  
 benin, bolivia, brazil, bulgaria, cameroon,  
 canada, chile, colombia, costa rica, croatia,  
 curacao (antilles), cyprus, czech republic,  
 denmark, el salvador,  
 england/wales/northern ireland, estonia,  
 finland, france, georgia, germany, ghana,  
 greece, grenada (west indies), haiti,  
 honduras, hungary, indonesia, ireland, italy,  
 japan, latvia, lithuania, luxembourg,  
 macedonia (former yugoslav republic of),  
 malaysia, mali, malta, mauritius, nepal,  
 netherlands, new zealand, nicaragua,  
 nigeria, norway, papua new guinea,  
 paraguay, peru, philippines, poland,  
 scotland, sierra leone, slovakia, south  
 africa, south korea, spain, sri lanka,  
 sweden, switzerland, togo, tunisia, ukraine,  
 united states, and uruguay.

*please contact the foei secretariat for an  
 address list of foe groups*

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[julie ogle] united states

[daniel rankin] united kingdom

[stephen williamson] united kingdom

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**Friends of  
 the Earth  
 International**