In December 2011, Friends of the Earth International joined a crowd of 10000 people in the streets of Durban to call on climate negotiators to listen to the voice of the people. Credit: Luka Tomac

annual report 2011

Friends of the Earth International

Friends of the Earth International

Annual Report 2011

Friends of the Earth International is the world's largest grassroots environmental network with 76 member groups and over 2 million members and supporters around the world.

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 realised. 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 globalisation, neo-colonialism and militarism. We believe that our children's future will be better because of what we do.

Friends of the Earth has groups in: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium (Wallonia & Brussels), Belgium (Flanders), Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Curaçao (Antilles), Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, England/Wales/Northern Ireland, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Grenada (West Indies), Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia (former Yugoslav Republic of), Malaysia, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palestine, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Scotland, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Timor Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United States, and Uruguay.

Please visit www.foei.org for more information about our members.

FoEI Executive Committee
Chair: Nnimmo Bassey, Nigeria
Vice Chair: Karin Nansen,Uruguay
Treasurer: Jagoda Munic, Croatia
FoE El Salvador
FoE England, Wales and Northern Ireland
FoE Malaysia
FoE South Africa
FoE Sri Lanka
FoE United States

FoEI Secretariat
PO Box 19199
The Netherlands
Tel 31 20 622 1369/Fax 31 20 639 2181
http://www.foei.org

A detailed 2011 financial report is available for download at www.foei.org.

Design Boutique Books
Editing Ronnie Hall

FoEI wishes to thank our funders for their generous support:
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Matra Program
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs - DGIS - Fair, Green & Global Program
European Union - Human Rights Defenders Program
and support from our member groups
Evangelische Entwicklungsdienst (EED)
Isvara Foundation
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
Oxfam-Novib
Swedish Society for the Conservation of Nature (SSNC)

Friends of the Earth International

friends of the earth
international secretariat

P.O. Box 19199
1000 GD Amsterdam
The Netherlands
Tel: 31 20 622 1369
Fax: 31 20 639 2181
www.foei.org

Contents

4 Celebrating forty years of FoEI

5 Membership development: towards a stronger FoEI

6 Our 2011 programs and priorities

8 Our international programme activities

12 Linking the local to the global: highlights from FoEI around the world

20 Communications

Foreword

As I reflect on 2011, I am struck by what a turbulent yet ultimately inspiring year it turned out to be. The disaster that unfolded in Japan, in the wake of the country's strongest recorded earthquake and subsequent tsunami, was especially shocking to behold. It reminded me how impotent we are in the face of the planet's geophysical processes once they are unleashed, and how foolish we are to continue to play with the fire that is climate change. It grieves me that even though the lives of so many Japanese children have been blighted by Fukushima's invasive radiation, governments and corporations continue to champion highly risky technologies - including nuclear power, genetic modification, geo-engineering, nanotechnology and synthetic biology - as so-called 'solutions' to the interlinked environmental and economic crises that we face.

2011 culminated in what might be described as the nail in the coffin, at the UNFCCC's 17th Conference of the Parties, in Durban, when rich governments took a massive step backwards, reneging on their previous commitments to shoulder their responsibility for climate change, and refusing to commit to binding reductions with respect to their greenhouse gas emissions. Considering that all these events took place within the context of a global economic crisis affecting people's livelihoods and food supplies, the future seems pretty bleak.

Yet these ominous black clouds were accompanied by some silver linings that indicate a brighter future is still possible for all of us. In Friends of the Earth International we have been particularly inspired and energised by a series of world-historic, transformative events that could bring about a new approach based on people power. From the popular uprisings in Northern Africa and the Arabian Peninsula to the *indignados* of Europe, from the encampments of the Occupy movement to the student movements in Latin America and the UK, people from all over the world are calling for economic and socio-political justice.

These calls are beginning to take shape too, and Friends of the Earth International's member groups have been involved in collaborative people's campaigns that have resulted in some remarkable successes. To take just a few examples, anti-mining restrictions have been introduced in countries such as Argentina, Australia, Colombia and Costa Rica; Obama partially suspended the building of the controversial Keystone XL tar sands oil pipeline across the US; and communities in East Africa became much more confident about defending their land rights, and even using the courts to do so. In Europe we worked hard and very successfully with others to improve the transparency and accountability of European political institutions; and opposition to nuclear energy, industrial farming and GM crops went from strength to strength across the continent. Notably, at the global level, the World Bank, the World Trade Organization and the UN also agreed that subsidies promoting the use of biofuels should be eliminated.

In short, there is much to play for. We celebrated our 40th anniversary in the knowledge that our history of campaigning against transnational corporations and environmentally destructive economic policies has shown us that we must collectively attain economic justice in order to save the planet. We believe that the vast inequalities lived by the 99% today are the consequence of the globalised capitalist system, which subsidises dirty industry and invests in military expansion at the expense of securing healthy and just economies with strong social services.

We are committed to building a movement for a new and better world, built on solidarity, rather than competition and destruction. In our fortieth year we stood strong and proud with people around the world struggling for environmental justice and for the change we urgently need.

Nnimmo Bassey

Chair, Friends of the Earth International

Celebrating forty years of Friends of the Earth International

"When I went to my first meeting of Friends of the Earth International. I recall a babble of accents, a kaleidoscope of ideas, views and strategies. The spectrum of resources at our command ranged from modest to tiny. Could this small, motley crew help save the earth? But I also remember the words of a Japanese member tumbling out so fast we had to ask her to slow down. She was pleading passionately, not for an issue in her own country, but for Pacific islanders threatened by nuclear testing. Not just their crisis: ours, too. Citizens' groups such as FoEI can reach across geographical and cultural boundaries, to act together in a way that our governments have so often failed to do."

First FoEI Chair Mairi MacArthur in 'Save the Earth' by Jonathon Porrit, 1991.

Forty years ago, in June 1971, a small, dedicated and determined group of environmental activists from France, Sweden, the UK and the US met in Roslagen, Sweden, to support each other in tackling common environmental problems. This meeting was to be the first of many passionate intercultural exchanges of concerns and ideas over the next four decades: it resulted in the founding of Friends of the Earth International (FoEI), now an influential global federation with groups in 76 countries and over 2 million members and supporters around the world.

FoEI's first joint international campaigns were established in the early 1980s and focused on food and pesticides, acid rain, nuclear waste and tropical forests. These international campaigns were extremely influential. In fact many of the environmental campaigns of the 1970s and 80s, orchestrated by Friends of the Earth and other allies in the burgeoning environmental movement, were so successful that their results are almost taken for granted today. It now seems inconceivable, for example, that countries once dumped their nuclear waste at sea, and that there were no controls over even the most lethal chemicals that persist and bio-accumulate in people and in nature. Thanks to joined-up international campaigning, a raft of intergovernmental agreements regulating the disposal of wastes, and the use of chemicals such as pesticides and ozone-depleting substances, has been put in place since those early years. Environmental concerns are now considered to be part of the everyday political discourse in most countries.

In the course of the years FoEI's profile had shifted substantially, as southern membership had grown to more than half of FoEI's total membership over the previous decade. These new member groups from Latin America, Asia-Pacific and Africa were working closely with communities of affected people, and brought a strong perspective on sustainable development processes and strategies to the federation. The resulting in-depth analysis and discussion led FoEI to undertake a participatory strategic planning process over the course of three years, and resulted in a new vision, mission, set of core values and strategic plan. The idea that we need to work in solidarity with and learn from the people most affected by unsustainable development, together with our social movement allies, is now a key organising principle for Friends of the Earth International.

We need to understand local struggles and respond to today's challenges, including the unsustainable use of the world's natural resources, the impacts of the unfolding climate crisis, and the hunger, ill-health and environmental devastation driven by industrial food production. These are the key challenges that Friends of the Earth International, its member groups and its allies are now striving to overcome. We know a better world is possible.

In 2011, FoEI celebrated its 40th anniversary both within the network and with the public. We produced a range of materials, including a 40th anniversary logo, t-shirt and poster as well as:

- *40 years of struggles and successes*, a publication profiling member groups and the communities they work with around the world.
- *FoEI at 40 Briefing*, a short overview about Friends of the Earth International and feature some of our key achievements from the past decades.
- *40th anniversary FoEI film* based on interviews of many people from the federation.

Coverage of FoEI's 40th anniversary included a special programme on the BBC (radio and online) that reached 43 million people, and an article and online slide show on The Guardian's website, which is visited monthly by 39 million visitors.

Membership development: towards a stronger FoEI

A new FoEI Membership Development Strategy was adopted by the federation at the 2010 Biennial General Meeting. The FoEI Membership Development Team (MDT), tasked with steering capacity building efforts within the overall strategy, met in the end of February in Amsterdam. The team includes representatives from FoE Philippines, FoE Australia, FoE Costa Rica, FoE Brazil, FoE Sweden, FoE EWNI, FoE South Africa, FoE Uganda and FoE US.

Among other things, the Membership Development Team helped elaborate the FoEI member group self-assessment questionnaire, the key tool for identifying member group capacity and engagement in the FoEI network. The questionnaire also helps assess groups' needs specific to FoEI membership and environmental campaigning. MDT members presented and distributed the questionnaire to member groups at the 2011 regional FoE meetings. At the end of the year, the questionnaire responses were collected in preparation for analysis to take place in 2012. The questionnaire serves as key input for FoEI network development.

In early October, FoEI gathered thirty representatives from across the federation, along with allies from the World March of Women and Movimento Sem Terra, in Scotland to explore how to tap into FoEI's desire and potential for transformation. The meeting was designed to break through old ways of thinking. Participants were asked to explore their own assumptions and personal perspectives with each other. Our main objective was to maximise our potential to innovate, create and explore new ways of looking at transformation opportunities within the federation, as well as transformation of the external world. The group shared interesting cases of local transformation initiatives as a means of discussing the characteristics of transformation. They also discussed topics such as the role of youth in transformation, habits and behaviours within FoEI that undermine our potential to help create transformational change, and realisation of transformation within FoEI. The group made recommendations on a number of key initiatives for FoEI which will be taken up by the FoEI ExCom.

FoEI 40 Years T-shirts designed by Chilean artist Paulina Veloso

Our 2011 programmes and priorities

At the international level, FoEI focuses on five program areas, which are listed below. FoEI focused on three priority issues in 2011 that cut across FoEI programmes and are essential for meeting all FoEI objectives. By focusing on these cross-program issues, FoEI optimised the use of our resources in spite of a significant budget reduction.

Climate Justice and Energy

FoEI is striving for climate and energy justice, including by helping to build a diverse and effective global movement to stop climate change. Greenhouse gas emissions need to be reduced urgently and fairly. To do this we need a just transition of our economies away from fossil fuels and other unsustainable economic practices, and to build alternatives based on democratic and community control.

Economic Justice – Resisting Neoliberalism

FoEI exposes and challenges the undue influence of corporations and neoliberal policies and trade agreements that focus on market access while undermining people's needs, community rights and environmental justice. We work with social movements to promote initiatives to change the course of the economy in a dynamic, creative and constructive way.

Food Sovereignty

FoEI aims to build global food systems based on diverse, localised agroecological solutions that people determine and control themselves. We support small-scale peasant farmers resisting corporate powers that are destroying their livelihoods and bringing hunger and conflict to their communities. We work to safeguard GMO-free agriculture and to challenge corporate control of seeds and agricultural biodiversity.

Forest and Biodiversity (FB)

FoEI is calling for a halt to the social and environmental devastation caused by industrial monoculture plantations, industrial logging, and overconsumption as well as the commercialisation of forests and biodiversity. We work with local communities and indigenous peoples to preserve forests, and strengthen communities' rights and governance of forests.

In December 2011, Friends of the Earth International joined a crowd of 10000 people in the streets of Durban to call on climate negotiators to listen to the voice of the people.
Credit: Luka Tomac

Resisting Mining, Oil and Gas (RMOG)

FoEI supports communities resisting mining, oil and gas extraction projects which cause environmental disasters, land, air and water pollution, intensify social conflicts, and are often associated with severe human rights violations. We are calling on the world's governments to stop subsidising extractive projects, and redirect their support towards sustainable and equitable economic alternatives.

Priority issues

Land rights, land-grabbing and consumption

For centuries, communities have been intimidated to abandon – or forcibly removed from – their land in a seemingly endless battle to control natural resources. Today, these problems still occur and are manifesting in more direct and disturbing ways: multinational corporations occupy large swaths of community land that provides critical supplies for local populations in order to extract profitable resources – including crops for agrofuels, food, carbon offsets or minerals – for the benefit of often quite distant national and international elites. We have seen increased militarization and criminalization of communities who resist the appropriation of their communal lands. We have also witnessed severe environmental degradation and the destruction of natural commons for the longevity of communities. Friends of the Earth International is seeking to defend community territories, protect land rights and increase awareness of corporations' agendas, strategies, abuses and violations. FoEI is also challenging the current unsustainable consumptive patterns of elites and target specific commodities with the aim of significantly reducing their consumption.

Climate and biodiversity finance

Complex financial mechanisms are being proposed as business 'solutions' to climate crisis, deforestation and biodiversity loss. Volatile carbon markets have been proposed as a means of funding the UNFCCC's 'Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation' mechanism (REDD) and other action on climate change in developing countries; private sector finance is being targeted as a way of financing the supposed costs of protecting biodiversity. Yet this approach involves privatising and commodifying nature and may have extensive negative social and environmental impacts. Friends of the Earth International rejects these false solutions and promotes people's demands for concrete alternatives, including rich industrialised countries' repayment of their ecological and climate debt.

Hemantha Withanage of Friends of the Earth Sri Lanka at the Green Climate Fund rally in Durban, December 2011

Corporate capture

Governments and international public institutions such as the UN are increasingly advancing their corporate agendas, particularly in the areas of climate change and biodiversity. Greenwashing and lobbying are important elements of how companies are actually influencing public institutions. This campaign aims to expose the corporate strategies to manipulate governments and public institutions and highlight how this works against the public interest. Friends of the Earth International is aiming to shed light on what we consider to be the central issue underlying a lack of government accountability towards their ordinary citizens on environmental and sustainability issues. In the area of climate policy and beyond, government positions are being increasingly hijacked by narrow corporate interests linked to polluting industries and industries that are seeking to profit from the climate crisis.

Our international programme activities

Striving for food sovereignty and land rights

During 2011 we continued to work closely with our allies including La Via Campesina at the World Social Forum (WSF) in Dakar, at meetings of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), in Durban during the UNFCCC COP 17, and elsewhere.

In Dakar we co-organised and participated in eleven workshops relating to food sovereignty, and a key thematic assembly which provided an important space for participants to share proposals and strategies concerning land grabbing. The resulting Dakar Appeal Against Land Grabbing was subsequently submitted to the FAO.

We also engaged in civil society efforts around the FAO's World Committee on Food Security (CFS), in May/June and October, demanding that the CFS start to address consumption issues, and supporting a strong civil society document on food price volatility and investments in agriculture. The Dakar Appeal was used as the basis for a call to the G20 Agriculture Ministers' meeting in Paris, in June, to halt all land grabs and return lands to communities. Together with our allies we also released a statement criticising the voluntary Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment (RAI).

In July we held a 'Hunger in Africa' conference in Durban, South Africa, with participants from eleven African countries, and representatives from FoEI, FoE groups, La Via Campesina and farmers' groups, labour groups and landless peoples' movements. The conference focused on joint advocacy toward regional targets, promotion of school farming clubs, establishing and promoting indigenous seeds, alliance-building with the labour movement, and research and resistance to the so-called Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA).

In November strategies and plans were further developed at La Via Campesina's international conference 'Stop the Land Grab,' in Sélingué, Mali. FoEI's contribution included bringing an environmental justice perspective to the land grabbing debate, and linking it to mining. We continued to serve on the editorial board of the Nyéléni newsletter.

In Europe, we were involved in the Common Agricultural Policy reform process, advocating for food sovereignty in Europe and the countries it trades with, and an overhaul of Europe's dependence on imported soy protein and industrial livestock. We worked closely with the FoodSovCap network and Nyéléni Europe, producing briefings on food sovereignty and CAP reform, creating cyberactions aimed at the European Parliament, and releasing a video about the work of FoodSovCAP.

Food sovereignty programme publication 'Who benefits from GM crops?'

We also continued to urge governments to resist the cultivation of genetically manipulated (GM) crops. As EU Environment Ministers met to assess the legality of banning the cultivation of GM-crops on their territories, FoE Europe published a report on the economic effects of GM crops, concluding that the true environmental and economic costs of GM crops are being borne by farmers, consumers and taxpayers. FoEI's 2011 report on GM crops, *Who Benefits*, focused on pesticide use, increasing public and legal opposition to GMOs, and the biotech industry's move into breeding and attempting to release genetically modified animals.

We continued to campaign assiduously against plantations and land grabbing for agrofuels. In March we filed a complaint with the UK's Advertising Standards Agency (ASA) about a Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC) advert, arguing that it constituted a breach of the British Code of Advertising. Friends of the Earth groups and others also submitted a complaint about Unilever supplier IOI to the Round Table on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO). In addition, public opposition to agrofuels was underscored by a report published by ten agencies, including the World Bank, the World Trade Organization and the UN, stating that subsidies promoting the use of biofuels should be eliminated.

Relevant 2011 FoEI publications:

- *Jatropha: Money doesn't grow on trees*
- *Who benefits from GM crops? An industry built on myths*
- *For the land that feeds us: Struggles and achievements in building food sovereignty and local diversity*
- *Women and food sovereignty: Voices of rural women of the South*
- *Memory, truth and justice for heroes*
- *Holcim in Latin America: case studies*

Mobilising for climate justice

In 2011 we helped to build and support both the international and the African climate justice movement before and during the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP 17) in Durban. At the World Social Forum (WSF) in Dakar civil society united under the banner of the 'Climate Justice Statement Of Unity', participating in a key climate justice movement assembly, which we co-organised with others. This provided an important opportunity to develop deeper levels of agreement and coordination between movements and organisations.

We tracked the climate change negotiations throughout the year, with a FoEI team attending negotiations in Bangkok in April, and Bonn in June. Young FoE Europe, engaged in creative actions, lobbying and movement building around climate change negotiations, and worked with others to launch the 'Push Europe' campaign in April, demanding more ambitious climate targets from the EU. In May, FoE South Africa also hosted a FoEI strategy meeting on the corporate capture of political decision-making.

Immediately prior to the Durban summit, we participated in and promoted 'Dirty Energy Week: Challenging Climate Gangsters' with the tireless help of FoE South Africa, various members of FoE Africa, and many others. The conference was successful in creating a synergy amongst communities, NGOs and unions, who were united in their determination to expose the false energy solutions and carbon trading being proposed in Durban.

FoEI had a dedicated team of campaigners representing 27 different countries present in Durban, working tirelessly both outside and inside the negotiating halls. Given low expectations about the outcome of the summit, mobilising for climate justice was a key priority. We helped to organise and/or engaged in many different collaborative activities, actions and marches, including actions at the Occupy 'Speakers' Corner'; a host of seminars and workshops in the alternative 'C17' peoples' space; the big Global Day of Action demonstration where 12,000 marched in the streets of Durban to demand climate justice; the powerful inside Occupy action to press UN negotiators to act to stop the climate crisis; and the global peasant movement's march to celebrate 'Agroecology and Food Sovereignty day to Cool Down the Earth'.

On the policy level, our team lobbied negotiators to resist the push from the rich industrialised world to tear up existing commitments, and we campaigned to prevent the Green Climate Fund from becoming a 'Greedy Corporate Fund'. This included drafting a key policy letter to the Green Climate Fund Transitional Committee together with other allies, in which we demanded that the Fund serve the interests of ordinary people in developing countries and the environment, not multinational corporations and financiers. Our efforts with allies resulted in the advancement of an important safeguard – the potential ability of national governmental authorities to reject private sector projects financed through the fund, which will help protect against corporate abuse of the fund.

We also helped prevent the World Bank from being assigned the role of permanent trustee of the Green Climate Fund. Instead, an open, transparent, and competitive bidding process was mandated. The Fund also allows developing

countries to directly access funds, so that they will not be required to work through multilateral implementing agencies like the World Bank. FoEI also succeeded in preventing a decision to concretely expand carbon trading or create new carbon trading mechanisms (although the Durban outcome does still keep this door open for the future). The creation of new soil carbon offsets, which is part of the larger push to expand carbon markets, was also prevented.

Relevant 2011 FoEI publications:

- *World Bank: Catalyzing catastrophic climate change*
- *Our climate is not for sale*
- *Our climate, our say*
- *Changing the system not the climate*

Exposing corporate capture and financialisation of nature

Corporations are progressively intervening in UN processes with a view to furthering their own interests. Nowhere was this clearer in 2011 than in the UNFCCC climate change negotiations. The huge influence of corporate polluters and those with vested financial interests is the underlying reason why these climate negotiations were so disastrous. With the launch of several publications in Durban, FoEI helped to shed light on specific examples of how government positions are increasingly hijacked by narrow corporate interests linked to polluting industries and investors seeking to profit from the climate crisis.

FoEI has also campaigned to discredit and reject financial instruments - such as carbon markets and biodiversity offset mechanisms - that are being falsely presented as solutions to the climate crisis and biodiversity loss. This trend towards 'financialisation' is part of a broader move by governments to develop profitable and business-oriented 'green economies'. Banks, insurers and investors are being targeted by UNEP as the most desirable source of funding, despite their role in triggering the current global economic crisis. One particular concern focuses on proposals to use carbon markets as a source of finance for protecting forests through the UNFCCC REDD mechanism (Reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation). At Durban, FoEI released a detailed report

Members of Friends of the Earth South Africa (GroundWork) and Friends of the Earth Nigeria at the Global Day of Action in Durban, December 2011

focused on the world's first large scale REDD pilot project, an Australian carbon offsetting project called the Kalimantan Forests and Climate Partnership (KFCP). According to the report, the KFCP fails to take into account the rights of Indigenous and local forest dependent people. It is also failing to contribute to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions as palm oil firms involved are illegally clearing land in nearby areas, which are supposed to be under a deforestation moratorium. Finally, it allows Australian companies to carry on polluting while hiding behind offset credits from the REDD scheme. Community groups in the area have repeatedly expressed concerns that their rights are not being respected and that the project will not address the relevant drivers of deforestation. In June 2011, a statement signed by 25 mantir adat (custom keepers) from the Kapuas District called for the KFCP to be stopped. They raised concerns that the site for the project was decided between the Australian and Indonesian governments without local consultation; that no written assurances that land tenure rights would be respected have been given; that the project implementation is bringing unrest and internal conflict to the community; and that they were doubtful about the promises made by the project.

Critically the trend to "financialise" nature dominated preparations for the 2012 UNCSD Earth Summit, 'Rio+20', as big business began to pay increasing attention to this new and potentially lucrative sector. Unlike previous Earth Summit processes, there was little space for civil society to engage, even though the proposed 'green economy' agenda is already impacting the lives of peoples in the South. The principles of common but differentiated responsibility and historical responsibility were further areas of contention in 'Rio+20' negotiations during 2011, with some governments (ie US, EU, Japan and Canada) trying to delete reference to the twenty year-old principles and even entire paragraphs containing them.

To learn more about the financialisation issue and develop common strategies with allies, FoEI campaigners participated in a seminar in Paris. It was an important opportunity to understand the new trends and how they link to current campaigns, and to plan collaborative activities around Rio +20 and in other fora.

Relevant 2011 FoEI publications

- *How corporations rule: Introduction*
- *How corporations rule: Sasol and South Africa's climate policy*
- *How corporations rule: IETA lobby group ignores carbon market flaws*
- *In the REDD: Australia's carbon offset project in central Kalimantan*
- *Community rights, corporate wrongs*
- *Erratum to the Shell Report*

Linking the local to the global: highlights from Friends of the Earth around the world

Climate Justice and Energy

Fueling opposition to mega-energy projects across Africa

FoE groups and activists in Africa have been striving to prevent the worst excesses of energy and mining projects. During 2011, for example, FoE South Africa/groundWork, together with FoE US, continued to challenge Eskom's proposal to build one of the world's largest coal power plants in South Africa, with the aid of a US$3.75 billion loan from the World Bank. FoE South Africa and Earthlife also facilitated local residents' 2010 call for the World Bank's Inspection Panel to ensure that the project's substantial environmental and social risks are taken into consideration. In December 2011, a leaked Inspection Panel report revealed that the Medupi Power Plant does indeed represent major environmental challenges, and that the World Bank had not adequately addressed these impacts.

FoE Nigeria/Environmental Rights Action (ERA) continued its national campaign on 'oil politics', especially in Nigeria, which continues to be ravaged by repeated oil spills and gas flaring, and the violence that accompanies the oil industry's activities. December 2011 saw what may have been the country's worst offshore spill in more than a decade, from a tanker at the 200,000-barrel-a-day Bonga field. Nnimmo Bassey, the Director of FoE Nigeria and Chair of FoEI, published a new book on the oil industry in Africa, 'To Cook a Continent'.

In the run up to the climate negotiations in Durban in November 2011, FoE South Africa collaborated with others to organise civil society engagement in COP 17 (see pXX). They focused on exposing the South African government's corporate-led agenda of ramping up fossil fuel investments in the name of poverty reduction. The launch of a new book, 'Toxic Futures', was the first salvo in this campaign.

Call for a nuclear free world following Japanese earthquake and tsunami

FoE groups across Asia and in many other countries joined FoE Japan in calling for a nuclear free future, following the devastating earthquake and subsequent tsunami that engulfed the eastern coast of Japan in March. This disaster triggered

One of the many protests against nuclear energy in which FoE Japan has participated throughout 2011, here in Kouenji on April 10. Credit Matthias Lambrecht

a major accident at the Tokyo Electric Power Company's (TEPCO) Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, causing massive radiation leaks into the environment. Backed by FoEI, FoE Japan reacted by calling on their government to abandon its policy of promoting nuclear power technology to other countries and to take the lead in phasing out nuclear energy worldwide. They also campaigned assiduously to ensure the Japanese government took appropriate remedial actions, especially with respect to radiation exposure in children and the right to evacuate. This included launching a fund to facilitate the temporary evacuation of children in the worst affected area. FoEI raised more than 15,000 EUR to assist FoE Japan in their efforts.

Campaigning for national efforts to address climate change

In 2011 much of the efforts of FoE Europe and European FoE groups were focused on the UNFCCC's climate change negotiations, in the run up to COP 17 in Durban at the end of the year. Although the Durban talks failed to make progress, and FoE Europe joined others in sharply criticising the EU and other rich nations for not working in the interests of the world's 99%, FoE groups in Europe are having more success in pushing for change at the national level.

A key priority has been groups' 'Big Ask' campaign, which focuses on persuading national governments to introduce climate change laws. FoE Denmark/NOAH's 'Big Ask' campaign, for example, received a major boost when the new Danish government committed to passing a climate law. Similarly, FoE Spain had great success in pushing for climate change legislation, making more than 100 recommendations to the government, which subsequently approved 56 of them. In the UK, in response to a challenge from FoE (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) and two solar firms, the High Court ruled that the UK government's cuts to solar tariff payments were illegal, a decision which was upheld on appeal in early 2012.

Young FoE Europe were especially active around the ongoing climate change negotiations. They took a team of activists to the Bonn climate change negotiations, and, as governments were meeting in South Africa, they hosted a 'Durban in Brussels' week of workshops, discussions, actions and campaigning, for more than 50 young activists in Brussels.

Meanwhile, in Central America, FoE El Salvador/Centro Salvadoreño de Tecnologia Apropiada (CESTA) supported further development of the MOVIAC network (Movement of the Victims and those Affected by Climate Change). This included active support to community-based civil society organisations demanding better management of the existing

Youth took action in Bonn in June 2011 - asking the EU to commit to strong emission reduction targets, as it would provide millions of jobs for young people. Credit Marton Torok - Young FOE Hungary

dams on the Lempa river, and opposing the construction of any new dams, mining or other mega projects in the area. They also organised capacity-building courses for community representatives and training courses for journalists, and organised a field trip for 49 journalists to the Bahia de Jiquilisco, to witness the impact of climate change on a mangrove forest for themselves (which resulted in extensive press coverage).

Success in sight on tar sands, corn ethanol and nuclear power

In 2011, FoE US played an indispensable role in the fight to stop the Keystone XL tar sands oil pipeline. Their work throughout the year exposing favouritism and oil industry bias in the State Department's review process spurred media and congressional scrutiny that was pivotal in forcing President Obama's rejection of the pipeline permit in January 2012.

After four years of relentless campaigning, they also succeeded in erasing the biggest taxpayer subsidy for corn ethanol from the federal books, a US$6 billion per year giveaway for a fuel that is worse for the climate than petrol. This marked the first congressional defeat for the corn ethanol industry in more than 30 years.

Following the nuclear disaster in Fukushima, Japan, FoE US redoubled their efforts to prevent new reactor construction in the US. They successfully intervened in Iowa to persuade the state senate to abandon a bill that would have funded new reactors via an electricity rate hike, burdening consumers with the costs and risks while allowing a private utility to reap the profits.

Economic Justice – Resisting Neoliberalism

Holding companies accountable for violating human rights

In 2011, the UK government ruled that a BP-led consortium is breaking international rules governing the human rights responsibilities of multinational companies in its operations on the controversial Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline. Environment and human rights groups, including FoE Netherlands/ Milieudefensie and FoE (England, Wales and N Ireland) had filed an official complaint against BP eight years ago under the OECD's Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. They argued that the ruling puts the oil multinational in breach of its loan agreements, including a multi-million pound loan backed by UK taxpayers.

FoEI and others also accused Stora Enso of profiteering on the back of violations of environmental and labour laws and the criminal code in Latin America, during the company's annual shareholder meeting. In Bahia, Brazil, the public prosecutor accused Veracel (a joint venture of Stora Enso

FoE US action 'Circle the White House to Stop Keystone XL' in June 2011. Credit FoEI

and Brazilian company Fibria) of money laundering, tax evasion and corruption.

Taking on the business lobby in Brussels

In 2011 FoE Europe continued its efforts to expose and redress the ways in which business works to influence decision-making in European institutions, including through its participation in the ALTER-EU network. The 2011 'cash for influence' scandal, in which several Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) were caught accepting money for tabling amendments, was an example of the inappropriate and underhand relationships that can develop in the absence of appropriate regulation. FoE Europe and ALTER-EU reacted quickly, campaigning hard and successfully for a proper code of conduct. By the end of the year a new code was in place, forbidding MEPs from holding second jobs that involve lobbying the parliament's own agenda.

FoE Europe also helped persuaded the European Parliament (EP) to push the European Commission (EC) to revise its own Code of Conduct for Commissioners. The amended code includes a 'cooling off' period preventing exiting Commissioners from walking straight into jobs with companies that might benefit financially from their status and influence within the EC. The EC and the parliament also adopted an inter-institutional agreement to set up a joint lobby register, which will be a mandatory register in practice.

Together with the European Coalition for Corporate Justice (ECCJ), FoE Europe also handed more than 70,000 citizens' signatures to the European Commission (EC), calling on it to hold companies legally accountable for their social and environmental impacts around the world. The petition was accompanied by supporting pledges from 140 parliamentarians. Together they notched up another important success when the EC announced that it will indeed develop mandatory reporting by companies on their social and environmental impacts.

FoE Europe also challenged lobbying groups and companies directly. FoE Europe complained to the European Ombudsman that lobby group BUSINESSEUROPE had under-reported the scale of its lobbying activities. The complaint was successful and the Ombudsman closed the enquiry in April 2011. BUSINESSEUROPE subsequently confirmed that their updated lobbying figure was eight times more than that reported before the case began.

As part of its work on sustainable finance, FoE Europe also co-founded the first EU financial regulation watchdog 'Finance Watch' in 2011. Its mission is to counterbalance the profit-driven lobbying of the financial industry. With two groundbreaking reports on how to make banks sustainable, FoE Europe called for social and environmental criteria in lending and investment. Together with supporters they also sent around 65,000 emails to parliamentarians, urging them to tackle food speculation.

Exposing and challenging the economic model

FoE Colombia/CENSAT Agua Viva helped lead the federation's analysis of UNEP's proposed "Green Economy" agenda with publication of a new report, 'Green Capitalism'. The report considered the Interamerican Development Bank (IADB)'s strategy on climate change based on the concept of green capitalism. The IADB is seeking to support the extractive model and expand the energy matrix by responding to the environmental crisis with market mechanisms.

Food Sovereignty

Putting land grabbing on the map in Tanzania, Uganda and Mozambique

Land grabbing is an escalating phenomenon in East Africa. In 2011, FoE Mozambique/Justica Ambiental (JA!) researched and published a preliminary analysis of the phenomenon, 'Lords of the Land', finding that land grabbing by wealthy elites is being facilitated by numerous other factors including the institutional weakness of local government, the corrupt nature of community authorities and leaders, a lack of awareness about the benefits of the formal processes of land tenure, and the pressures created by poverty.

FoE Tanzania/Lawyers' Environmental Action Team (LEAT)'s campaign efforts focused on the impacts on rural communities in three regions: Tanga, Lindi and Coastal. They researched and published peoples' experiences; made a documentary; organised workshops, and meetings with local authorities and government representatives. Media coverage about the campaign reached an estimated five million people, 12.5% of the Tanzanian population. Affected people have become much more aware of their rights; they are now more reluctant to give their land away and if they do they are asking for more compensation. Communities also filed land grabbing-related cases against the Simba cement company and the Neema Economic Processing Zone. In addition, a member of parliament lodged a private motion on land grabbing issues.

In 2011, FoE Uganda/National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE) also supported three communities seeking to defend their rights and livelihoods. One of these campaigns was conducted by communities in the oil-mining region, Buliisa, opposing a proposal from Tullow Oil to run an oil pipeline through their land. The second took place in the Mabira forest, where communities opposed the government-supported land grabbing plans of the Sugar Corporation of Uganda. The third was in Kalanga, where communities

reported their grievances to district officials with respect to land grabbing by palm oil company Bidco. Together with FoEI, a video was produced, along with a cyberaction during COP 17. Meetings were conducted with local communities, other civil society organisations, and some government representatives, and media coverage reached some four million people.

Food sovereignty and fairer, greener farming in Europe

As Europe debated the biggest shake-up of farming for decades, FoE Europe called for radical reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) to make it fairer and greener, to protect family farming, and to reduce its impacts in Southern countries. FoE Europe released an analysis of the failings of the proposed reforms.

FoE Europe also continued its collaborative campaign for European agriculture to be free of genetically modified (GM) crops, scoring a big success when the European Parliament voted for substantially improved rights for national governments to ban GM crops in their territories. The European Court of Justice also upheld the rights of beekeepers to keep honey free from GM contamination.

FoE Europe groups continued strong campaigns to keep GM crops out of their national territories. At the beginning of the summer, for example, FoE Spain published the exact location of experimental GM crops in Spain. As a result of this they also found out that an Italian pharmaceutical company, Transactiva, wanted to cultivate rice with human genes. After some months of intense campaigning by civil society, the local authorities denied permission for the cultivation, even though the experiment had been given the go-ahead by the Spanish bio-security agency.

Similarly, in Germany, 22,000 people said 'no!' to genetic engineering, factory farms and export dumping in January, when agricultural ministers from around the world and agro-chemical corporations met in Berlin within the framework of the 'Grüne Woche' (Green Week). The summit was intended to promote industrialised farming and free markets and generate millions in additional subsidies for genetically engineered seed, chemicals and industrial food.

Land-grabbing and GM campaign successes in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay

FoE Argentina also achieved success in their efforts to prevent land grabbing and strengthen community management of territories, in collaboration with others such as La Via Campesina Argentina. In 2011, they identified three cases of land grabbing, relating to the Barrick gold mine in San Juan, soy monocultures in Santiago del Estero, and the Colony Park real estate development project in the Delta del Tigre just outside Buenos Aires. Together with their allies they successfully persuaded Argentina's Supreme Court of Justice to consider a request concerning the implementation of a 2010 law protecting glaciers, and halt the Barrick mine. In July 2011, the local authority in Buenos Aires also returned a negative decision regarding the Colony Park project's environmental impact study, stopping further development.

FoE Uruguay/REDES helped to establish an alliance against land grabbing and land concentration in the Mercosur region. This campaign has also been very successful: the executive branch of the Uruguayan government led an initiative to implement a progressive tax on establishments that are larger than 2,000 hectares, which was approved by the parliament. Collaborative efforts also led to the inclusion of land grabbing issues on the 2011 agenda of the Parlasur (Mercosur's parliament), which, was itself a significant success given Mercosur's focus on its economic growth.

The campaign against the spread of GM soy continues in Paraguay. In 2011, this included FoE Paraguay/Sobrevivencia and FoE (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) working together on a media strategy that included taking a journalist from a leading UK national paper to see the destruction caused by soy in Paraguay, and creating a photo gallery and video on the human cost of soy. This generated useful media coverage.

Forests and Biodiversity

Facilitating community-based management of forests, biodiversity and water in Latin America

Many FoE groups are engaged in creating real, new and sustainable alternatives, focusing on, for example, the community-based management (CBFM) of forests, water and seeds. In 2011 this included a community-to-community exchange programme in Costa Rica and Colombia and sharing experiences of CBFM in Paraguay and Argentina at a regional 'sustainability school' held in Paraguay. The community exchange allowed community representatives to learn about successful initiatives in different contexts, so that they can learn from them and repeat them in their own national context. In addition, numerous workshops with several local networks of civil society organisations were held, to exchange ideas and experiences, which contributed greatly to the spread of knowledge about CBFM initiatives.

FoE Colombia/CENSAT Agua Viva has also been focusing on promoting and strengthening existing models of local community-based water management, as an alternative to the privatisation model promoted by the Colombian government. This included supporting the formal establishment of the 'Red

Friends of the Earth Brazil setting up shop for the celebration of Biodiversity Day in May 2011. Credit Amigos da Terra Brasil

Nacional de Acueductos Comunitarios' (RNAC) in August 2011, a campaign which has had a considerable degree of success. In 2011 forty community-based water management initiatives were ready for negotiation with municipalities and departmental governments, and some municipalities have already incorporated this model of water management into their policies. In a bid to circumvent the pro-privatisation media in Colombia, Radio Real World broadcast a programme about the 'protectores del agua' (protectors of water), which was picked up by 36 community radio stations.

FoE Uruguay/REDES 's activities included promoting an alternative agricultural model. They worked intensively with others in the country, including the National Network of Local Seeds. They focused on agro-ecology and the recuperation, production and distribution of local seeds, with a view to making family farmers more independent, protecting the common genetic heritage and biodiversity, guaranteeing food sovereignty, and opposing land grabbing.

FoE Paraguay/Sobrevivencia focused on community empowerment to foster conservation and protection of the Yvyraty forest as a source of fresh water and biodiversity. They worked together with the community of the La Cordillera de Los Altos de Paraguay on a project that could be replicated in other ecosystems. This communitarian management and protection of the forest has had a direct impact on the quality and quantity of the water of the Pora basin, and is thus ensuring equitable access to high quality, sustainable water for two cities located near the forests.

Another exemplary model promoted by FoE Paraguay's activities during 2011 was the Water Council of the Pora Water Basin. Composed of municipalities, sanitation boards, environmental organisations and educational institutions, and aiming for the just distribution of high quality water for

everyone, this collective management process is also linked to the Yvyraty forest. The concept of Water Councils for Water Basins was promoted by the Paraguayan Ministry of Environment, and has also been taken up by UNESCO.

Defending forests and rivers in Brazil and Costa Rica

The theft of more and more of the developing world's land to grow or extract food, fuel and manufacturing resources, generally by wealthy elites for export to other countries, is having a devastating impact on rural and impoverished communities and the environment, including in Latin America.

In 2011, FoE Brazil and others in Brazilian (and international) civil society were engaged on all fronts, as the Brazilian government moved to reform forest laws protecting the Amazon in favour of large landowners; push through construction of a vast, new and precedent-setting hydroelectric dam on the Xingu river in the Amazon.

There were some notable campaign achievements. For example, the Belo Monte Dam proposal skidded to a legal halt for some months in 2011, when it was shown that environmental requirements had not been met. Similarly, although President Dilma Rousseff rejected the call to veto the amendment to the Forest Code, some amendments were at least made.

Getting to the underlying drivers of deforestation experienced in Latin America remains an important regional priority. In 2011, for example, FoE Costa Rica/COECOCEIBA's focused on challenging the prevailing model of pineapple monoculture and the expansion of tourism infrastructure, both of which are being driven by foreign companies and investment, in response to the economic incentives created by free trade agreements. The group worked hard to strengthen the resistance of communities suffering the impacts of these two industries, which resulted in a better understanding of both problems, and enabled communities' voices to be heard at the national level. As a result of FoE Costa Rica's efforts a proposal about genetically modified pineapple production was discussed by Costa Rica's National Commission on Biosafety.

Supporting indigenous and coastal fishing communities in Malaysia

In 2011, FoE Malaysia/Sahabat Alam Malaysia diligently supported indigenous communities wanting to use the courts to protect their rights and forests. In February two cases involving several indigenous communities affected by the Bakun Dam and a proposed pulp mill factory in Tatau won the right to appeal at the Federal Court. The Court of Appeal also ruled in favour of five Penans, in a landmark decision against a timber company, the Forestry Department and the Sarawak government.

FoE Malaysia has also been working to strengthen the capacity of fisher communities to advance their rights to sustainable fisheries resources and promote sustainable community-based initiatives. The communities learned how they could take action and engage in dialogue with government officials. Seven communities subsequently had meetings with government/policy makers and communities have also been able to present their demands and proposals. FoE Malaysia and Jaring (a network of coastal fishers that FoE Malaysia helped launch) also continued their work on advocating for and undertaking mangrove replanting. Community-based mangrove replanting has been shown to be highly beneficial: fishery resources have already been increasing in areas where mangrove has been replanted, resulting in increased income for the fishers.

Resisting Mining, Oil and Gas (RMOG)

Shell faces court case and OECD complaint

In 2009, four Nigerian victims, together with FoE Netherlands/Milieudefensie, started a legal case against Shell Nigeria and its parent company in the Netherlands. This is the first time in history that a Dutch company has had to appear before a Dutch court to account for damage caused abroad. In September 2011, the court in The Hague ruled on a request to inspect thirty internal Shell documents but decided not to grant FoE Netherlands and the Nigerian farmers access to them.

The case received major media attention when a 2011 UN Environment Programme report revealed that the Ogoniland region of Nigeria is even more severely polluted than feared. As the largest foreign oil corporation in Nigeria, Shell has a great deal of responsibility for this. The Dutch court case continues into 2012.

The Dutch parliament also held a hearing on Shell's activities in Nigeria, which included evidence presented by FoE Netherlands/FoEI. In May, a FoEI report spoofed Shell's annual report in order to call attention to the egregious climate, human rights and environmental impacts of the company's oil and gas operations. The 'erratum' highlighted 12 cases on five continents that expose Shell's complicity in human rights violations and widespread pollution.

In January FoEI, FoE Netherlands and Amnesty International also filed an official complaint against Shell, for breaching the OECD's Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises by using discredited and misleading information to blame the majority of oil pollution in its Niger Delta operations on saboteurs, in order to avoid liability for compensation.

Rejecting and ejecting mining companies in Central America and Colombia

FoE groups in Costa Rica and Colombia continued their work with communities struggling against the imposition of mining. In 2011 these collaborative efforts resulted in some important victories. FoE Costa Rica/COECOCEIBA, for example, was delighted to be able to report that after a 17-year campaign Latin America's first anti-mining law was finally passed: Costa Rica's Legislative Assembly approved a new law prohibiting open-pit mining throughout the country. This process would not have been possible without the struggle and resistance of local communities in the Northern Zone, and the support of many other organisations, politicians and even the national press. In November, the Supreme Court of Justice also annulled the mining concession granted to Canadian company Industrias Infinito (owners of the Las Crucitas mining project).

Similarly, FoE Colombia/CENSAT Agua Viva supported strong public opposition to a proposed gold and silver mine by Canadian mining company Greystar, which led to the company having to withdraw its open-pit mining proposal when it became clear the government would reject it on environmental grounds. The campaign to protect the sensitive Santurbán páramo ecosystem and the water it provides to two million people will continue to resist any further attempts to implement destructive mining operations.

FoE Guatemala/Asociación para la Promoción y el Desarrollo de la Comunidad (CEIBA) also supported local communities and indigenous peoples defending their territories, by strengthening the capacity of 80 community-based organisations to express their grievances concerning the negative impact of transnational companies in their areas. FoE Guatemala focused on increasing their capacity to become political actors recognised by municipal authorities and even at the national level, and this proved a successful approach, as demonstrated by the revocation of mining licenses granted to the Tikal Mining Company. Many municipalities were also instrumental in the organisation of a series of community consultations in which thousands of community members participated, rejecting the installation of mining and hydroelectric plants within their territories.

Resistance to mining continues in Australia

FoE Australia continued to employ resistance and legal strategies in a bid to stop mining, oil and gas projects destroying Australia's ecosystems and farmland. FoE Australia has been a leading force in communities' opposition to the roll out of coal seam gas (CSG) operations in Queensland, and the group is a key member of the national Lock the Gate Alliance. In 2011, six exploration permits for CSG in Victoria were 'surrendered' by mining companies. FoE Australia also pursued mining giant Xstrata through the courts, objecting to its proposal to open a huge coal mine at Wandoan, on the grounds that it would be one of the largest mines in the world. Friends of the Earth activists also halted dredging in Gladstone harbour, calling for an independent enquiry into the harbour's apparent ecosystem collapse.

In November 2011, Friends of the Earth Australia and local landowners staged a rally against the proposed Waratah Coal's Galilee Coal mine in Queensland. The mine will see total destruction of a Queensland Nature Refuge, paving the way for Queensland's 412 Nature Refuges to be mined.

Communications

During 2011 Friends of the Earth International programmes and projects achieved a remarkable degree of media coverage in major international, regional and national media outlets. Friends of the Earth spokespeople around the world had hundreds of interviews with print, online, radio and television outlets, which reported Friends of the Earth messages. Just some highlights of our 2011 media coverage include:

- Protesters in Berlin call for an end to factory farming, Press Agency Reuters on Deutsche Welle Online, 22 January
- Dutch Lawmakers Question Shell on Oil Pollution in Nigeria, The New York Times, 26 January
- 'We take risks, others pay the price' CNN, 23 February
- Biofuels targets are 'unethical', says Nuffield report, BBC News, 13 April
- Green groups accuse World Bank of fossil fuel binge, Business Green, 15 April
- GM soy: the high cost of the quest for 'green gold' , The Telegraph, 17 May
- Environmentalists protest at Shell's AGM, The Nation (Nigeria), 18 May
- Nigerian farmer helps put Shell in the dock, Radio Netherlands Worldwide, 19 May
- Global food crisis: The cost of soy - in pictures, The Guardian, 1 June
- World Bank Blamed for Fuelling Climate Chaos, In Depth News, 12 June
- Are biofuels the future of flight? , CNN, 24 June
- Niger delta oil spills clean-up will take 30 years, says UN, The Guardian, 4 August
- Leading NGOs lobby for guidelines to protect 'land grab' victims, The Guardian, 14 October
- GM crops a failure in developing countries, says Friends of the Earth - video
  The Guardian, 19 October
- Civil Society Groups Call for Action to Curb Land Grabbing, IPS, 25 October
- EU biofuel target seen driving species loss: study, Reuters, 16 November
- Google Earth Shows How Dams Could Worsen Climate Change,
  National Geographic News, 28 November
- Sceptics Question UN Climate Strategy, Al Jazeera, 8 December
- On climate change, the message is simple: get it done, Guardian, 14 December
- 'Modest' gains as UN climate deal struck, The Independent, 11 December
- At U.N. climate talks, delegates salvage last-minute compromise, The Washington Post, 11 December
- Reaction to UN climate deal, BBC World Service, 11 December
- Climate talks keep issue in focus, The Washington Post, 15 December

FoEI uses a diverse range of media to communicate our campaign messages, aiming to be as creative as possible in our dialogue with others. These include videos and animations produced by FoEI and our member groups; and the dynamic interaction between our radio, Real World Radio. Critically RWR broadcasts on issues that mainstream media will not. In 2011, to take just one example, Colombia's media resolutely refused to report on campaigns and campaign successes with respect to water privatisation. But in October, RWR's broadcast on the 'protectores del agua' (protectors of water) was picked up by 36 community radio stations. Real World Radio also published a series of interviews with friends from FoEI's different member groups to celebrate FoEI's 40th anniversary

www.foei.org

Friends of
the Earth
International