

friends of the earth international

# annual report 2012

mobilise. resist. transform



**Friends of  
the Earth  
International**

Friends of the Earth International is the world's largest grassroots environmental network with 74 member groups and over two million members and supporters around the world.

#### our vision

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.

#### our mission

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

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#### contents

<b>Letter from Jagoda Munić</b>	3
<b>2012 highlights</b>	4-9
<b>Our programmes in focus</b>	10-19
<b>Our federation</b>	20-21
<b>Our finances</b>	22
<b>Our executive committee</b>	23
<b>Our groups</b>	24



**Friends of  
the Earth  
International**

letter from

Jagoda Munić



Dear Friends,

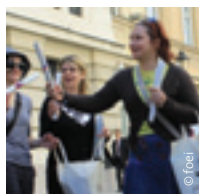
**After serving on the Executive Committee for eight years, it is my great honour to have been elected Chair of Friends of the Earth International. Filling the shoes of the inspiring leaders who have come before me is not an easy task, but I will do my utmost to build on their excellent work as FoEI forges ahead.**



Given the appalling trend of criminalisation of environmental activism, it seems only fitting that my first days as Chair were spent participating in a Friends of the Earth International mission to verify human rights violations against individuals and communities resisting environmental destruction in El Salvador and Guatemala. My travelling companions included delegates from eleven countries, from as far away as Spain, Sweden and the Philippines. We visited communities resisting gold mines owned by Canadian companies, as well as residents of Santa Cruz Barillas, Guatemala, who were imprisoned for resisting a hydroelectric dam owned by a Spanish company. FoEI has been supporting these prisoners for months, demanding withdrawal of the company from the area and calling on the Government of Guatemala to respect the Constitution and ensure the security of its citizens. Fortunately, a month after our visit we rejoiced in the news that justice had prevailed and the activists had been released.

This mission affirmed for all of us the importance of Friends of the Earth International's support to communities around the world, who are facing harassment, threats, imprisonment, even assassination simply for defending their territories, their livelihoods, and the health of our planet. FoEI is very pleased to have developed a new programme in 2012 to protect and mobilise in support of environmental and human rights defenders. Their personal struggle is our global struggle: it is the foundation of the global grassroots environmental movement that we are working tirelessly to build.

FoEI believes that solving the world's environmental and social problems requires fundamentally changing the global economic system. We know it's an enormous task but we know we are developing the right strategies and solutions to do it. FoEI was founded more than forty years ago to leverage the strength of local and national environmental movements by uniting across countries, continents and cultures. Under the Friends of the Earth International banner we are greater and stronger than the sum of our parts. It is that strength that propels us forward as we face the challenges ahead.



*In solidarity,*

**Jagoda Munić**, Croatia

Friends of the Earth International Chair

2012 highlights



in rio: a UN  
for the people!

On June 20, FoEI joined 50,000 people in a march through Rio de Janeiro. ©foei



FoEI organised and participated in dozens of workshops and actions during the Peoples' Summit. Our statement against business influence in UN decision-making - delivered to Ban Ki-Moon - was signed by more than 400 organisations.

In 1992 the world's governments met in Rio de Janeiro for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, known as the Earth Summit. There, they agreed to certain principles, which were to guide the world on a path towards sustainable development. Twenty years later, in June 2012, governments reconvened in Rio to evaluate and look towards the future. Friends of the Earth International was there to condemn the pitiful progress they've made towards reversing inequality and environmental decline. We called on world leaders to listen to the thousands of voices at the alternative Peoples' Summit, which demanded justice and transformation of the global economy and energy and food systems.

On June 20, we marched through the streets of Rio with 50,000 others to demand real action and to protest against the proposed sell-out of people and planet under the guise of the 'Green Economy'. At the Peoples' Summit, we organised and participated in dozens of workshops and public events, including a 'Toxic Tour' of nearby Santa Cruz, whose population of 20,000 is suffering from industrial pollution from a massive factory owned by multinationals ThyssenKrupp and Vale. Just a few miles away, Vale's logo was on display at the UN venue, as a sponsor of the UN Summit.

Friends of the Earth International chair Nnimmo Bassey delivered a statement to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon denouncing the unacceptable level of influence that business lobby groups and major corporations like Vale have on UN decision-making. The statement had widespread support with endorsements from more than 400 organisations worldwide.



FoE Brazil helped organise several actions, including a 'Toxic Tour' of nearby Santa Cruz.

Alongside the statement, we published *Reclaim the UN from corporate capture*, a collection of six case studies showing how private sector influence threatens UN policymaking. We offered recommendations on how to reorient the UN toward its original mandate of serving the public interest. Among other things, the report showed how the UN has worked closely with big business in developing and promoting the concept of the 'Green Economy'.

FoEI's campaign received much attention, including an Al Jazeera TV panel discussion, 'Inside Story: Have multinationals hijacked Rio+20?', featuring FoEI Chair Nnimmo Bassey. The Occupy movement adopted our statement as one of its top demands in Rio and the UN Global Compact issued a defensive public reaction. While the outcome of 'Rio+20' gives little cause for hope, our media outreach and awareness-raising helped prevent a wholesale adoption of the 'Green Economy' agenda, with countries preserving their ability to define their own vision of a truly fair and sustainable economy.



The Peoples' Summit march through Rio de Janeiro.

2012 highlights

# land, life and justice

FOEI's campaign against land grabbing has drawn attention to the plight of Ugandans like Fiona Nankya who have lost their land to plantations. © foei/jason taylor



Community representatives from affected communities across Liberia gather for a final-day photo at the conclusion of conference held in Bopolu City in November 2012.

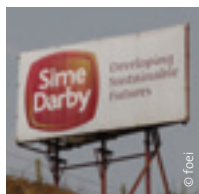
FoE Uganda has supported communities whose public lands have been cleared for plantation owner BISCO.

Since 2008 more than 200 million hectares of land has been taken from small farmers, fisherfolk, and other rural communities. Land grabbing is robbing communities of their means of survival and making way for environmental devastation, as companies and investors plough up forests and gouge the earth to establish mines and plantations. In close collaboration with our allies, FoE has helped put the issue of land grabbing in the international spotlight, campaigning against key drivers like agrofuels and unsustainable demand for raw materials, while supporting community struggles in defence of land rights.

In 2012, we focused the lens on Uganda and Liberia, drawing attention to the plight of communities who have been displaced to make room for palm oil plantations. Along with the report *Land, life and justice: how land grabbing in Uganda is affecting the environment, livelihoods and food sovereignty of communities*, we produced a film and photo documentary featuring the moving testimony of John Muyisa, who woke up one day to find bulldozers clearing his community's forests.

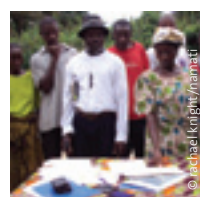
John's story echoes those of thousands of others. In Liberia, we supported communities who have lost their land as a result of concessions granted to Sime Darby, a Malaysian palm oil company. Building on reports by FoE Liberia (*Uncertain futures*) and FoE Europe (*Farming money*), which detail the local impacts of the concession and the role of European banks and private finance in facilitating land grabbing, FoE has called on banks and pension funds to stop funding land grabs.

Bringing international attention to these community struggles has fortified other national and local campaigns aimed at protecting territorial and resource rights. It has also informed our contributions in important international policy arenas, including the World Committee on Food Security. In May, we joined other civil society representatives at the Committee meeting in Rome in welcoming adoption of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests. The Guidelines included essential references to human rights in relation to land tenure, which we had advocated for.



Concessions to palm oil companies are forcing communities from their land.

Right: Community member signing MOU attesting to the harmonized boundaries of her community's land, Liberia.



John Muyisa. One day BISCO, a Kenyan company, arrived and told him that the land was now theirs and he would have to vacate it. Within days, bulldozers turned up and flattened the ancient forest and, with it, his coffee plantation. The company offered him one million shillings (€300) and one acre of land, later changed to three acres and no money, but he refused.

2012 highlights

# protecting and defending environmental activists

Friends of the Earth's delegation in Rio  
celebrates the return of Jeremias Vanjanhe. © foei





FoEI's solidarity mission to San Jose del Golfo, Guatemala supported communities resisting mining.

Before the Rio+20 Summit had even begun, FoEI was forced to swiftly organise to defend the rights of our colleague and friend from FoE Mozambique, Jeremias Vunjanhe, who was wrongfully denied entry into Brazil. For years, Friends of the Earth Mozambique has supported the struggle of families who have been displaced by a mineral coal extraction project owned by Brazilian company Vale, an official sponsor of the Rio conference. Fortunately, our international mobilisation was successful and six days later Jeremias endured the long flight back to Brazil to be greeted by a jubilant Friends of the Earth welcoming committee.

But only days later we were reminded of the severity of repression against people who dare to speak out against environmental injustice. Just after the Rio Summit ended, Almir Nogueira de Amorim and João Luiz Telles Penetra, leaders of a local fisherfolk association, were found murdered. The two had long been active in the struggle to defend their territory, particularly against construction of a gas pipeline by Brazilian oil company Petrobras. Both had taken part in the Peoples' Summit and the Toxic Tour.

FoEI's international delegation joined a demonstration in Rio to denounce the murders and express solidarity with the families and community of the victims. We added our voice to those of many others, demanding that the State of Rio de Janeiro and Brazil investigate the facts of the case and step up protection for threatened activists.

The cases in Rio are part of an alarming trend of increased violence and repression against people who act to defend the environment, rights and livelihoods. It is a persistent part of the context in which Friends of the Earth and our allies operate. To respond to this threat, FoEI has developed a federation-wide urgent response system, alerting and mobilising member groups to act in solidarity with individual environmental activists facing repression. Real World Radio, FoEI's web-based radio, has helped raised awareness of the trend, reporting on repression, intimidation and the murder of environmental activists in nearly 100 interviews and news items in 2012.

Our newly established emergency fund has already provided direct support to more than two hundred at-risk activists and family members. In Uganda, the Philippines and El Salvador we have supported training of FoE staff, community partners and activists, helping them to protect themselves and to know their rights, and the laws and mechanisms relevant to human rights defenders.



Delegates from FoE South Africa and FoE Scotland met with local communities of the West Bank and verified environmental damage caused by Israeli industrial, commercial and settlement activity during a FoEI solidarity mission to Palestine.



Santa Cruz Barillas community members display prison stamp.

Santa Cruz Barillas community activist, released from prison during FoEI's solidarity mission in Guatemala.

Our programmes in focus

# climate justice and energy

Drilling for shale gas.

© calvin tillman



UN climate negotiations and civil society protest in Doha.

The UN climate conference in Doha, like the Rio Summit, showed yet again that developed countries are not taking adequate action to solve the climate crisis. Instead, they continue to protect the interests of dirty energy corporations and support elites in developing the next potential energy 'cash cow': a global carbon market. In 2012, Friends of the Earth International focused on countering the carbon market spin and communicating the truth to the public, decision-makers and the media. Our demand for strong and binding emissions cuts and adequate climate finance was heard far and wide, reaching audiences across the globe via Al Jazeera, BBC World Service, the Guardian, Bloomberg and others. Meanwhile, we mobilised global actions against dirty energy, participating in a 24-hour "Twitterstorm" to pressure world leaders to cut fossil fuel subsidies and the Global Frackdown, a global day of action to ban fracking.

We continued to expose the World Bank and regional development banks financing dirty energy and the climate crisis. At the Inter-American Development Bank governors' assembly, Friends of the Earth distributed two reports, *Climate finance in Latin America and the Caribbean* and *World Bank Carbon Funds in Latin America*, to government representatives. The reports served as key inputs for the regional workshop, "Road to Rio +20 and Beyond", which involved Latin American social movements and other organisations.



Oil Installation (The Christmas Tree). Ikot Ada Udo, Nigeria.

In West Africa, FoE groups collaborated to raise awareness about the World Bank's role in supporting the West African Gas Pipeline. The construction of the pipeline, which transverses Nigeria, Ghana, Benin and Togo, is leading to land grabbing and environmental damage, including water and air pollution around pipeline facilities. In collaboration with groups in Ghana and Togo, FoE Nigeria organised a workshop with impacted communities, civil society groups and journalists, in order to learn more about the pipeline, World Bank policy, and strategies of resistance. The workshop generated extensive media coverage, prompting the West African Pipelines Company to commit to following up on community grievances.

FoE's climate justice and energy programme conducted a participatory evaluation and strategy development process in 2012. Looking ahead, the programme will prioritise building global links between communities resisting dirty energy and developing alternative energy solutions. Before the FoEI general meeting in El Salvador, FoE groups had the opportunity to share perspectives and strategies with more than 600 members of the Movement of the Victims and Peoples Affected by Climate Change (MOVIAC) at a conference focused on 'Climate change, Territories and Social Movements'.



FoE El Salvador and MOVIAC conference on climate change, territories and social movements.

Our programmes in focus

# forests and biodiversity

Communities from Grand Cape Mount walk into the plantation with communities from Gbarpolu County, which had 51 percent of its land mass allocated to the Sime Darby concession. Grand Cape Mount County, 2012. ©foei



Left: The town chief of Momblitaa, a town that falls directly inside Sime Darby's concession area, surveys his crops as he discusses his concerns over the arrival of the company, Momblitaa, Bopolu District, Buarpolu County, Liberia, 2012.

Crude palm oil tanker, Indonesia.

Corporations and financiers are seeking to create and expand financial markets derived from nature – including forests, biodiversity, and carbon – in order to reap profits while continuing to plunder the planet. Throughout the year, Friends of the Earth International worked to educate the public and policymakers about the emerging threat of ‘financialisation’ and speculation in nature. In Rio, we partnered with FoE France to publish *Nature is not for sale*, an introductory primer that explains what happens when you treat nature as a financial product, who is behind the idea, and why it must be stopped.

In 2012, we monitored development of the UN's proposed carbon offset scheme known as Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD). At the national level, FoE groups weighed in critically as countries develop administrative structures and policies in anticipation of REDD. FoE groups in Mexico, Brazil and the US worked together to scrutinise a California emissions offsetting proposal that would use credits from REDD projects in Chiapas and Acre. During the Governors' Climate Change and Forests Task Force meeting in Chiapas, FoE Mexico helped organise a week of events and workshops about REDD and related issues with more than 300 participants.

In Indonesia, we organised a tour of communities affected by the Kalimantan REDD pilot project. FoEI and other international delegates heard directly from communities about the lack of consultation, violations of rights, as well as exacerbated conflicts around questions of land tenure. Lessons from Indonesia fed into FoEI's participation in the UN Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) talks in India, which came on the heels of the tour. Working with allies in the CBD Alliance, we warned governments about the risks of financialisation schemes and the dangers of synthetic biology, and reminded them of the need to support community-based forest governance.

Our campaigns continue to take aim at the key drivers of deforestation and biodiversity loss like demand for oil palm and agrofuels. With studies such as FoE France and FoE Liberia's *Live or drive, a choice has to be made: a case study of Sime Darby operations in Liberia*, Friends of the Earth helped stop a planned Sime Darby oil processing factory in France. In Indonesia, intense campaigning by Friends of the Earth resulted in a resounding legal victory when the government revoked a permit given to a palm oil company which was found to be logging illegally in Aceh.



Communities from Buarpolu County discuss amongst themselves how they feel about oil palm plantations in an affected community conference held in Bopolu City, Liberia, in November 2012.



FoE El Salvador's Ecocentro uses agro-ecological methods to preserve agricultural biodiversity.



Land cleared for palm oil plantations in Indonesia.

Our programmes in focus

# food sovereignty

Family in Santa Cruz Michapa Municipality,  
El Salvador, which is collecting and preserving  
indigenous seed varieties. © foel/jason taylor



Right: FoEI is calling for investment in agro-ecological methods like those of Norberto Ambrocio, who promotes sustainable systems aimed at strengthening women working with cattle.

The global movement for food sovereignty – to which Friends of the Earth International proudly contributes – is growing ever stronger. People across the globe are waking up to the failure of the industrial agribusiness model, which is pushing small producers off their lands and out of business, inhibiting access to locally produced food, and destroying the environment. In 2012, an important milestone was achieved when the Latin America and Caribbean Regional Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations agreed to initiate a debate on food sovereignty, rather than the narrow concept of food security.

The strength of the movement was also visible in Europe, where 25,000 people braved the January cold to rally in Berlin for reform of the EU's agricultural policy. The demonstration was one of many Friends of the Earth food-related actions throughout Europe. In September we joined allies in demanding that the European Commission take measures against financial speculation in food, delivering more than 100,000 signatures of support. And as part of our campaign against agrofuels, FoEI published a detailed policy briefing demonstrating their harmful link to rising food prices and hunger. We applauded the European Commission for finally admitting that agrofuels compete with food and can lead to environmentally-damaging land use changes, and we insisted on tougher policy reforms.

On World Food Sovereignty Day, we criticised donor governments for pumping money into intensive farming and genetically modified (GM) crops at the cost of agro-ecological methods better suited to tackling hunger and protecting biodiversity. Our report, *A wolf in sheep's clothing: an analysis of the 'sustainable intensification' of agriculture*, demonstrated the weakness of another high-tech approach to food production driven by the profit-making motives of corporations rather than the needs of small farmers. With La Via Campesina and Combat Monsanto, we published *Combating Monsanto: grassroots resistance to the corporate power of agribusiness in the era of the 'green economy' and a changing climate*, which described frontline struggles against Monsanto and GM food in diverse corners of the globe. We celebrated success with German-based BASF's announcement that it would halt the development and commercialisation of GM crops in Europe.

Alongside campaigns of resistance, Friends of the Earth continued to show policy makers and practitioners the way forward with successful initiatives like FoE El Salvador's agroecological training centre and FoE Uruguay's native seed network, which has facilitated the preservation of native seeds and traditional knowledge in the country.



Indigenous maize which can tolerate drought conditions. Several FoEI groups support seed banks aimed at preserving native plant varieties.



FoEI Europe action against food speculation.

Our programmes in focus

# PALEIS VAN JUSTITIE

resisting mining  
oil and gas

Nigerian farmers and lawyer in case against Shell,  
in front of the courthouse in the Netherlands. © Pierre Crom/Milieudefensie





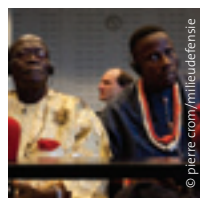
FoE England, Wales and Northern Ireland and FoE Indonesia are campaigning to stop environmental destruction from tin mining in Bangka, Indonesia.

As part of our efforts to resist mining, oil and gas, Friends of the Earth International drew worldwide attention to the massive destruction of communities and ecosystems in Nigeria brought about by Anglo-Dutch company oil giant Shell. At Shell's annual meeting, we delivered some 70,000 signatures to CEO Peter Voser demanding the company clean up its mess in Nigeria. In October, history was made when the company was forced to appear in a Dutch court to account for the damage it has caused to communities in Nigeria. The court case, which was covered by major international media outlets including CNN, BBC, the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal, was filed by four Nigerian farmers, in collaboration with Friends of the Earth groups in the Netherlands and Nigeria.

FoE England, Wales and Northern Ireland and FoE Indonesia teamed up to expose dangerous working conditions and environmental devastation on Bangka Island, where tin mining is destroying tropical forests, coral reefs and livelihoods. The campaign calls on phone manufacturers to help stop the devastation on Bangka Island and support rules to make companies reveal the impacts of their supply chains. In Central America, Friends of the Earth groups joined forces with allies in a concerted Mesoamerican movement against extractive mining. The movement focused its campaigning on closing down Goldcorp's Marlin mine in Guatemala, which has caused enormous social and environmental devastation and has been the site of repression, violence and human rights violations as verified by FoE's international delegation in November.



FoE Argentina is part of a national campaign to defend water and life against mining.



Top: Nigerian plaintiffs in the courthouse in the Hague.

Shell oil spill at Nunpoku, Nigeria.

Important victories in 2012 included Friends of the Earth groups securing local and national moratoria on fracking and unconventional gas exploration in parts of Australia and Europe. But struggles against extractive industries are often long, difficult and brutal. Many of the at-risk activists we have supported in 2012 – especially those in the South – have been engaged in mining-related conflicts. In the Philippines, at least 25 indigenous people and environmentalists have been killed under the present government, many in relation to extractive projects. Friends of the Earth International issued a statement demanding that the Philippine government stop these extrajudicial killings. Meanwhile, FoE Philippines launched a campaign for the Alternative Minerals Management Bill, which would lead to the adoption of sustainable, needs-based minerals management if passed into law.



Miner working at a tin ore mine in Tanjung Pesona, District Sunjai Liat, Bangka, Indonesia.

Our programmes in focus

# economic justice – resisting neoliberalism

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ArcelorMittal

Donated by ArcelorMittal.

© d. urbaniak/foee



March for justice for affected communities in Central America.

First Assembly of the Peoples' Summit.

Alongside our efforts to reclaim the UN from corporate capture and raise awareness about the dangers of putting a price tag on nature, Friends of the Earth International took aim at corporate wrongdoers, challenging impunity, corruption and undue corporate influence on governments in 2012.

We helped secure 21,000 votes to name Brazilian mining giant Vale as the 'world's worst corporation of the year' at the 'Public Eye Awards' in Davos, Switzerland. On the same day as the awards ceremony, we released another case study in our series, *How corporations rule*, describing how Vale contributes to climate change through its dirty mining activities while profiting from 'carbon offsetting' schemes that exacerbate the climate crisis. Alongside this, we raised media awareness about the company's human rights violations in Mozambique, where hundreds of families who have been relocated by the company continue to suffer from poor access to water, land and transportation.

We achieved an important result in our long-standing efforts to expose the negative impact of ArcelorMittal's operations in Liberia. We welcomed an announcement by the Government of Liberia that it would begin an independent and comprehensive audit of the County Social Development Fund, to which the company is obliged to contribute. Meanwhile, we called for strong transparency laws to require European oil, gas and logging companies to publish what they pay to governments for access to natural resources. We also called for transparency among members of the European Parliament, publishing an analysis of their declared financial interests and insisting on strict enforcement of ethics codes.



UN security forces overlooking the Nimba mine abandoned during the 14 year civil conflict in Liberia. The mine is now owned by ArcelorMittal.

In the United States, Friends of the Earth decried the secrecy of negotiations for a Trans Pacific Partnership agreement, a massive trade agreement that would threaten essential environmental protections and allow companies to avoid accountability and even sue governments for taking measures to protect the health and well-being of their citizens. In Uruguay, where tobacco giant Philip Morris is currently suing the government in such a case, Friends of the Earth has lobbied for the country's withdrawal from this type of investment dispute settlement provision. With trainings, seminars, public events and international outreach, we continue to build global awareness about the new generation of trade and investment agreements.



Activists from FoE Scotland outside headquarters of Cairn Energy to highlight the company's potential role in the destruction of the Arctic.

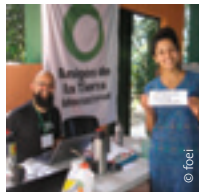


Peoples' Summit and action against Brazilian corporation Vale.

Our federation

building  
the movement

Friends of the Earth International 2012  
Biennial General Meeting in El Salvador. ©foei



Friends of the Earth International 2012 Biennial General Meeting in El Salvador.

Kirtana Chandrasekaran and Isaac Rojas, FoEI international program coordinators.

Friends of the Earth International recognises that in order to achieve our vision, we must build a movement with the strength to fundamentally transform our world. We know that our power lies in the strength of our member groups, and that as a federation we must invest in developing member group capacity. In 2012 FoEI's Membership Development Team, which consists of representatives of a diverse set of FoE groups from across all regions, developed and distributed an extensive self-assessment questionnaire aimed at improving our understanding of our diverse organisational structures, cultures and strategies, our common allies and targets, and our capacity for mobilising resources and building the environmental justice movement. At the annual regional meetings in May and June, representatives of the Membership Development Team facilitated regional analyses of the assessments and helped identify priorities and initiatives for strengthening our organisational capacity to effect change.

One such initiative was already under way in 2012, thanks to a special grant from the Dutch capacity-building organisation PSO. A FoEI peer learning programme brought four groups from the Asia-Pacific region together to exchange knowledge and develop collaborative work with respect to climate refugees. In Africa, FoE Liberia and FoE Togo visited FoE Nigeria to learn from each other's experiences in resisting destructive oil and gas exploration. Latin American groups participated in an experiential exchange project focused on intergenerational leadership and change agency, which took place during the international summit in Rio. The twinning program was a resounding success, with participating groups acquiring new skills and energy to take their campaigns forward.

In November, the federation came together for the Biennial General Meeting (BGM) in El Salvador. The BGM took place at FoE El Salvador's Ecocentro, a beautiful training centre where permaculture technologies are developed and put into practice. Among other things, the meeting afforded the occasion for federation-wide reflection on 'system change' as well as in-depth discussion of emerging issues and collective analysis of the member group self-assessment results. An inspiring pre-conference organised by FoE El Salvador and the Movement of the Victims and People Affected by Climate Change reinforced the importance of Friends of the Earth's commitment to acting in unison and in solidarity with the world's most vulnerable people to bring about environmental justice.



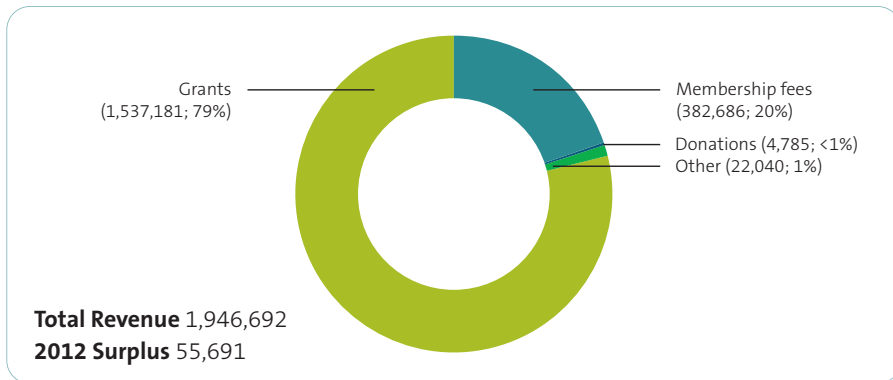
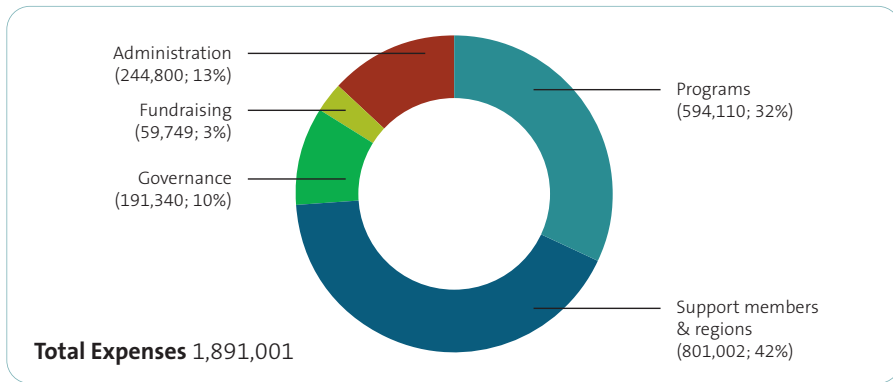
Fernando Costa, FoE Brazil, addresses communities during FoEI's international solidarity tour in Central America.



Lidia Ortiz, FoEI international program coordinator.



Amounts in Euro



FoEI international program coordinators.  
FoEI international secretariat staff.

FoEI's complete audited financial statement is available at [www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/annual-report/financial-statements-2012/view](http://www.foei.org/en/resources/publications/annual-report/financial-statements-2012/view)

**Friends of the Earth International wishes to thank our generous individual supporters and institutional donors:**

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation  
Climate Change Litigation Project Funds  
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Europe Aid  
Evangelische Entwicklungsdienst

Isvara Foundation  
Lee and Gund Foundation  
PSO  
Swedish Society for Nature Conservation

our 2012

## executive committee



Chair: **Jagoda Munić, FoE Croatia**

Vice Chair: **Karin Nansen, FoE Uruguay**

Treasurer: **Hemantha Withanage, FoE Sri Lanka**

**Tatiana Roa Avendano, FoE Colombia**

**Nnimmo Bassey, FoE Nigeria**

**Elaine Gilligan, FoE England, Wales and Northern Ireland**

**David Hirsch, FoE United States\***

**Ricardo Navarro, FoE El Salvador\***

**Bobby Peek, FoE South Africa\***

**Meena Raman, FoE Malaysia**

**Daniel Ribeiro, FoE Mozambique**

outgoing members\*

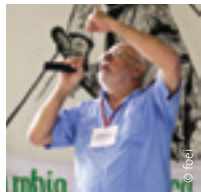
Ricardo Navarro, Nnimmo Bassey and Karin Nansen with FoEI secretariat staff and volunteers at Wageningen University, the Netherlands.



Top left: Newly elected FoEI Chair Jagoda Munić; with FoEI delegation on human rights mission to El Salvador and Guatemala.

Top right: Karin Nansen at the food sovereignty plenary of the Peoples Summit in Rio.

Chair Nnimmo Bassey received the 2012 Rafto Prize.



Ricardo Navarro at FoE El Salvador-MOVIAO conference.



Executive committee members at 2012 Biennial General Meeting.



Meena Raman with Asad Rehman (FoE EWNI) and Bertrand Sansonnens (FoE Switzerland).



Bobby Peek on FoEI solidarity mission to Palestine.

# Friends of the Earth groups around the world



## Africa

Cameroon  
Ghana  
Liberia  
Mali  
Mauritius  
Mozambique  
Nigeria  
Sierra Leone  
South Africa  
Swaziland  
Tanzania  
Togo  
Tunisia  
Uganda

## Asia - Pacific

Australia  
Bangladesh  
Indonesia  
Japan  
Malaysia  
Nepal  
New Zealand  
Palestine  
Papua New Guinea  
Philippines  
South Korea  
Sri Lanka  
Timor-Leste

## Europe

Austria  
Belgium (*Wallonia & Brussels*)  
Belgium (*Flanders*)  
Bulgaria  
Croatia  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
England, Wales and Northern Ireland  
Estonia  
Finland  
France  
Georgia  
Germany  
Hungary

Ireland  
Italy  
Latvia  
Lithuania  
Luxembourg  
Macedonia (*former Yugoslav Republic of*)  
Malta  
Netherlands  
Norway  
Poland  
Scotland  
Slovakia  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Ukraine

## Latin America and Caribbean

Argentina  
Brazil  
Chile  
Colombia  
Costa Rica  
Curaçao (*Antilles*)  
El Salvador  
Grenada (*West Indies*)  
Guatemala  
Haiti  
Honduras  
Mexico  
Paraguay  
Uruguay

## North America

Canada  
United States