

In Canada and around the world, Inter Pares is a long-term ally to local organizations and movements. Together with these counterparts, we are not just treating the symptoms of social problems, but attacking the roots of injustice by addressing its underlying causes.

By raising funds, offering organizational support, advocating for policy changes, and increasing public awareness, Inter Pares acts in solidarity with people who are looking to create a fairer world – to globalize equality.

In 2013, Inter Pares contributed more than \$4.7 million in financial support to more than 120 counterparts in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Canada. Here are some highlights from the past year of what was accomplished. For more photos, stories, and information, please explore our website, www.interpares.ca.



Hannah Chira of ACORD (left) and Jean Symes of Inter Pares (right) discuss peace-building in Kenya.

Africa *women's rights, economic justice, food sovereignty, legal reform*

- Over the last year, the Sudanese Organization for Research and Development (SORD) has worked tirelessly to establish a legal clinic assisting women facing situations of domestic and sexual violence. Committed lawyers are also documenting the experiences of survivors, particularly with respect to the justice system. This initiative complements SORD's ongoing efforts to raise public awareness about laws in Sudan that discriminate against women, to advocate for legal reform, and to work to institute a new national consti-

tution that enshrines women's rights.

- In March, Third World Network-Africa organized "Mining Reforms and Contracts Renegotiation," a public forum that brought together over 150 participants, including high-level government officials, the Ghana Chamber of Mines, mineworker unions, and other civil society organizations. Participants discussed how to change mining policies and contracts with foreign mining companies so that the benefits of extracting mineral wealth reach ordinary Ghanaians.
- In this second year of a three-year action-research project, Inter Pares worked with the West African food sovereignty coalition COPAGEN and Université de Montréal researchers to document the impact of landgrabs on local communities in Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, and Côte d'Ivoire.

- In Tanzania, Kenya, and 11 other African countries, the Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD) provided practical information on seeds, livestock, and markets to farmers. ACORD also conducted workshops on agricultural policy and how farmers can contribute their wealth of knowledge and understanding to make food systems work.
- In Guinea-Bissau, West Africa, Tinguena co-organized a national civil society forum on food sovereignty. The event gathered 87 organizations from across the country in a concerted effort to coordinate civil society strategies to confront national food insecurity. Tinguena also worked with 30 seed savers to build and improve local seed banks, and to encourage the exchange and dissemination of these seeds across the country.



Women's rights activists in Chiapas, Mexico.

Latin America *justice for war crimes, migrant justice, sustainable economic development, human rights promotion*

- In Guatemala, as part of its work within the "Breaking the Silence and Impunity Alliance," Women Transforming the World (WTW) is providing legal support to female witnesses in the first-ever criminal trial for sexual slavery and rape committed during the country's armed conflict. WTW accompanied 15 Q'eqchi' women survivors from the community of Sepur Zarco so that they could provide their testimony before Guatemala's High Risk Court.
- Mesoamerican Voices supported civil society efforts to develop a collective

response to the skyrocketing emigration rates affecting Indigenous communities in southern Mexico. The organization helped create 26 international migrant committees in the highlands region of Chiapas, in order to facilitate community access to state funding and programs for projects that reduce the causes and impacts of emigration.

- The Committee of Families of Disappeared Migrants (COFAMIDE) continues to build their experience, recognition, and influence on migration issues in El Salvador and Central America. During 2013, COFAMIDE worked to enlarge a DNA registry of missing migrants with the Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team, as well as the Foreign Affairs Office and Human Rights Ombudsman's Office of El Salvador. These developments have

- enabled COFAMIDE to more effectively locate and identify missing or killed migrants on behalf of their families.
- In the province of Angaraes, in Peru, SISAY provided training to four women's associations on sustainable economic development. A total of 206 women were trained in the production and sale of woven clothes as well as the marketing of these products, offering these women a new skill and a way to earn additional income.
- As part of a campaign to recognize and promote the important role played by human rights defenders in strengthening democracy and the rule of law, Project Counselling Service organized the National Award for the Defense of Human Rights of Colombia. The awards recognized the outstanding work of four brave individuals and organizations.



Over 2,000 Canadians rallied outside a Premier's gathering to demand renewal of the Health Accord.

Canada *food sovereignty, civil liberties, community control over resources, public health, corporate accountability*

- In 2013, the Canadian Biotechnology Action Network (CBAN) mobilized to stop the release of genetically modified (GM) alfalfa in Canada, which, if introduced, would lead to GM contamination and threaten the future of family farming in Canada. CBAN co-organized a Day of Action to Stop GM Alfalfa on April 9th, which rallied farmers and consumers in 38 communities across the country. You can watch and share their popular 3-minute animated video: <http://youtu.be/qkWfGXIU8gA>

- In April 2013, along with other organizations, the Ligue des droits et libertés (LDL) documented and publicized widespread police violence and rights violations during the 2012 Quebec student strike. In order to restore accountability and confidence in the State, the LDL recommended that the Quebec government launch an independent commission of inquiry on police violence and mass arrests. Instead, the Quebec government has launched a "special commission of examination," which the LDL and other rights advocates have sharply criticized.
- The Canadian Health Coalition (CHC), a broad-based national association that defends our universal healthcare system, is building a movement for a national drug plan, and highlighting the importance of a federal frame-

work to improve health care quality and funding. In 2013, the CHC held a major conference on the need for and viability of a pharmacare program, and mobilized thousands of Canadians to ask for a renewed Health Accord.

- The Maritimes-Guatemala Breaking the Silence Network (BTS) continued its work in Canada to promote accountability for Canadian companies operating overseas – accountable not only to shareholders, but also to the communities where they work. In 2013, BTS helped build this movement by delivering an introductory workshop on strategic corporate research to over 25 Atlantic-based organizations and individuals. They also coordinated a speaking tour on sustainable community economic and agricultural alternatives that reached more than 250 people.



Members of Nijera Kori's savings program in Bangladesh.

Asia *control over natural resources, popular education, access to law, women's health*

- Since 2011, the Kuki Women's Human Rights Organisation has conducted community workshops in Burma on the impacts of a planned hydropower dam. These plans included exporting 80% of the power to India and flooding an area double the size of Edmonton, displacing 45,000 people and depriving them of their farmland. In June 2013, Indian authorities cancelled the dam, citing local opposition as one of the prime reasons for their decision.
- In Bangladesh, Nijera Kori's local groups of landless people operate joint

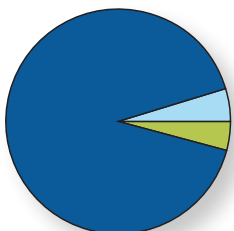
savings programs; the money is both for times of need and for investing in joint economic activities, such as building fish ponds or buying and renting out rickshaws. This year, 328 women's groups initiated projects through their group savings. In total, 2,911 Nijera Kori women's groups generated jobs for 7,207 women and shared profits of \$33,500.

- Likhaan, a Filipino women's health organization working in urban poor communities in Manila, treated almost 24,000 women. The services provided were largely related to reproductive health and family planning, and delivered by community health workers (CHWs). The CHWs are women from these communities who have been trained to provide health services to their peers. Additionally, as part of a mass educational campaign on maternal mortality, Likhaan distrib-

uted 3,580 booklets on safe motherhood practices in four different communities.

- Burma News International (BNI, a network of twelve media groups) works to create understanding about the country's different ethnic nationalities and regions. This year, BNI held the first-ever ethnic media conference, attended by government ministers, journalists, civil society and political parties. This was an important opportunity to influence media laws and policies in a country where ethnic news is extremely restricted. BNI also produced a guide, "Deciphering Myanmar's Peace Process," which details the country's complex landscape of peace negotiations and ongoing conflicts. The document has been invaluable for those working towards peace and democracy in Burma.

OUR SUPPORTERS In 2013, thousands of individual Canadians and many organizations took action for peace, justice, and equality by making financial contributions to Inter Pares. Without this support, our work would not be possible. We also acknowledge the generous financial contribution we have received from the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD).



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