

100

Sparks of Hope

CONTINUE MANDELA'S LONG WALK TO FREEDOM

100 Ideas for a Freer, Fairer World



100 Ideas for a Freer, Fairer World from 100 Sparks of Hope

“LET FREEDOM
REIGN. THE SUN
NEVER SET ON
SO GLORIOUS
A HUMAN
ACHIEVEMENT.”

— NELSON MANDELA

In 2018 people around the world have come together to mark one hundred years since the birth of Nelson Mandela – a man who positively changed the world forever. Mandela’s struggle, determination, courage and unbending principles inspired freedom fighters in his native South Africa and well beyond, in his day and through the generations. For his moral leadership and the courage to stand up for the freedoms that unite us, Mandela was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993 and was embraced as a global leader for all people.

Today we must continue to tackle the issues that prevent millions from realising their own freedoms. Nelson Mandela understood that the achievement of freedom requires solidarity and cooperation. He recognised that our world faces huge, interdependent challenges which can only be solved if leaders act responsibly, in concert with each other and in the interests of their people, rather than for short-term political gain. He showed the highest respect for grassroots communities, where many brilliant ideas are born, and from which great leaders are created.

When Madiba left prison in 1990 after 27 years of incarceration, he knew that the only way to build a free and just society was to act with what he termed “kindness and generous accommodation”. The Elders and partner civil society networks have committed themselves to this spirit through the

WalkTogether campaign. Launched in July 2017, WalkTogether has travelled across the globe in the lead up to Madiba’s 100th anniversary, shining a light on “Sparks of Hope”. These are civil society organisations working for the freedoms that unite societies - peace, health, justice and equality.

Celebrating 100 Sparks of Hope is the way The Elders chose to honour their Founder’s 100th anniversary. The Sparks of Hope have been at the heart of the WalkTogether movement and have inspired millions of people globally through social media and live events. Through their deeds and the values they demonstrate, each Spark of Hope organisation, in their own way, is continuing Mandela’s long walk to freedom. In the face of fear, conflict and despair in too many places in today’s world, they show that the way societies respond to challenges is a test of our values.

The Sustainable Development Goals agreed by all countries in 2015 provide an aspirational blueprint for the freer, fairer world Mandela strove for. The 100 Sparks of Hope are demonstrating in practice how to achieve them. Through the effort they make to work together in their communities, crossing divides in many cases, the 100 Sparks of Hope are lighting up the way forward. This book celebrates their stories and reflects 100 ideas for a freer, fairer world that they represent.

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“Courageous people do not fear forgiving, for the sake of peace.”

— NELSON MANDELA

“Without peace we cannot live our lives to the fullest. Without peace we cannot develop our communities. Without peace we cannot bring up our children and families. It is not something that you leave to governments to achieve alone. It is everybody’s responsibility to ensure that we live in a peaceful and harmonious environment.”

— KOFI ANNAN



“Peace is not just the absence of war or conflict. It’s living with freedom from fear and freedom from want.”

— MARY ROBINSON

“Peace is important because only then can one actually run a country properly and run a fair society.”

— MARTTI AHTISAARI





CREATE A PLATFORM AND KNOWLEDGE BASE TO CODIFY ARTS BASED PEACEBUILDING TECHNIQUES THAT CAN BE EMBEDDED IN PUBLIC SERVICES, AVAILABLE TO ALL.

Search for Common Ground, South Sudan

TRANSFORMING DIVISION THROUGH HUMAN ENCOUNTER

Differences are natural: without them, our society would not evolve, injustices would never be questioned, and relations would remain frozen. Too often differences become the source of violent conflict. Conflicts that escalate to 'win or lose' situations can often descend into violence. Conflicts are inevitable, violence is not. Conflicts can be opportunities to create progress, dialogue, understanding of others and can be a way to build trust.

South Sudan is the world's youngest nation, but it has been devastated by violence. Despite the 2015 peace agreement, violence between factions and ethnic groups has led to the deaths and displacement of 1.6 million people, with millions more suffering severe hunger and deep insecurity.

Since 2014, Search for Common Ground has been working in South Sudan to help communities transform the way they deal with conflict: moving away from adversarial approaches toward cooperative solutions. By partnering with local religious, political, and youth leaders, Search seeks to bridge the political and ethnic divide by helping people to identify and use non-violent solutions, offering a spark of hope in an otherwise bleak life.

Search uses participatory theatre to bring people together, getting people to discuss their experience of conflict from the point of view of the other, and empowering them to discover and pursue peaceful solutions that unite communities.

Search's theatre troupes in South Sudan collect stories from the communities before they perform, shaping each play for the community and its residents. During the performances, the public is encouraged to interact with the actors and discuss non-violent solutions to the problems presented on stage. In this way, people learn non-violent responses, and understand that peaceful solutions to their real world problems can be the norm rather than the exception. More than thirty performances have reached thousands of people already.

In South Sudan and around the world, Search continues to work with people at the centre of conflict, empowering them to choose collaboration and empathy over violence.

ESTABLISH CENTRES FOR POST-CONFLICT COMMUNITIES TO MEMORIALISE THEIR STRUGGLE AND FOSTER INTERGENERATIONAL LEARNING TO SUSTAIN PEACE.

District Six Museum

AN INSPIRING EXPERIENCE OF A COHERENT COMMUNITY

On the surface, the label 'spark of hope' might be an unusual way of thinking about a community which was destroyed under Apartheid. Despite widespread resistance on a number of levels, bulldozers obliterated the place known as District Six in Cape Town, South Africa, once it had been declared a 'whites only' neighbourhood in 1966. This was done under the provisions of the Group Areas Act, following the assignation of racial identities to all South Africans under the Population Registration Act.

11 February 1966 is the day that District Six was officially proclaimed a White Group Area. It is the day that the displaced community refers to as the beginning of the end of their lives as they knew it, having lived in a place that was once home to approximately 66,000 people, known across the country for their happy mixture of languages, religions, geographical places of origin, income levels, and types of employment. Although it was not the only diverse community, it was Cape Town's largest at the time, and its destruction sent many communities across the country reeling, fearing for their own futures.

A regularly repeated mantra among District Sixers is 'you can take the people out of District Six but you can't take District Six out of the people'. This has certainly been true. The spirit of District Six has so inspired people, that wherever they were moved to, they carried the inspiring memory with them, of what they had experienced as a coherent community, and continued to reference it in relation to the realities of their current lives.

It is this powerful memory that has inspired the formation of the District Six Museum. It has formed an important part of a very difficult and protracted land claim process. It continues to be a powerful pedagogical tool in raising awareness especially amongst young people, about the significance of the past and how it informs the present, illustrating what one of South Africa's great poets Don Mattera has used as the title of his autobiography: 'Memory is the Weapon'.

The Museum has been instrumental in turning the traumatic association of 11 February into something positive. It has structured acts of memory and

reclamation such as walks and other rituals of remembering, and creating symbols of renewal together with members of the displaced community, on this day each year. It has been a wonderful sign of hope that the late and great former president Nelson Mandela was released from prison on 11 February 1990, and made even more significant by his handing over the keys to the new homes of the first successful land claimants on 11 February 2004.

Signs of hope are located in the community's resistance, in their resilience in the face of destruction, and their dogged determination to build belief that memory is a true weapon in resistance a reconstruction.





**ENSURE PEACEBUILDING ACTIVITIES
INTEGRATE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF
SHARED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND
ENCOURAGE ECONOMIC COOPERATION.**

SAPCONE

○ NATURAL RESOURCES AS SOURCE OF PEACE AND PROSPERITY

Disputes over natural resources – such as land, fresh water, minerals or fishing rights – are wide spread around the globe and often trigger violence and destruction where there is weak governance, high levels of corruption, and ethnic and political division. However, if resolved peacefully, such disagreements can lead to progress and development.

The region around Lake Turkana, which lies between Kenya and Ethiopia, is populated by fishing communities who fish for their families and sell in the markets of Kenya and Ethiopia. The richness of the area, however, has led communities to fight over fishing rights for several years, leading to the death of many people, the destruction of fishing equipment and the crumbling of businesses. As climate factors deplete resources, there are concerns fighting could get worse.

Since 2015, SAPCONE, a Kenyan based non-profit organisation, has been working within the Lake Turkana region to assist fishing communities to manage natural resources and conflicts in order to build peace and protect human rights. In particular, together with USAID and Mercy Corps, they have implemented PEACE III, a project that established a cross border fishing committee consisting of representatives from Kenya and Ethiopia whose role is to conduct dialogues, set informal guidelines and create early warning and early response systems between the conflicting communities.

The impact of PEACE III project is extraordinary. Since the committee has been established, conflicts in the waters of Lake Turkana have gone down, and production and trade of fish have increased. This is due to the continuous trucks of fish commuting to and from the lake to buy fish, as well as to the direct links that SAPCONE established between fishermen and the World Food Program – which is now buying food supplies for the Kakuma refugee camp directly from fisher communities. Moreover, the increase of income that peace brought, not only serves to enable communities' members to send their children to school and pay for tuition fees, but the extra income has allowed them to form Village Saving and Loan Associations (VLSAs) of 10 fishermen where they contribute 5,000 KES (50 USD) per month to support members through the use of rotating funds.

This is the proof that when communities have strong local conflict management capacities they have not only greater stability and peace, but also better resilience to climate stressors and shocks. Understanding the close nexus between natural resources and conflicts is essential for a more peaceful and just world.

PROVIDE RESOURCES AND TRAINING TO BUILD A SUSTAINABLE NETWORK OF GRASSROOTS CONFLICT MEDIATORS, ENSURING ALL COMMUNITIES AND INTERESTS ARE REPRESENTED AND SERVED.

Iraqi Centre for Negotiation Skills and Conflict Management (IQCM)

DIALOGUE IS THE KEY TO CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND SOCIAL COHESION — — — — —

The road to a peaceful Iraq is fraught with challenges. Citizens are struggling to survive against a backdrop of political dysfunction, infighting and extremism. Hundreds of thousands have fled the most violent areas and are seeking safety elsewhere. Yet, the country's precarious development has left large communities of internally-displaced families without basic services, water, shelter, and proper hygiene facilities. Thus, many are struggling to build peaceful relationships and make lives in their new communities.

Since 2003, Mercy Corps have been engaged in Iraq to help Iraqis with the rebuilding of their country. In 2010, they established the Iraqi Centre for Negotiation Skills and Conflict Management (IQCM) to reduce violence across

Iraq and promote good governance, social cohesion and reconciliation through developing interest-based negotiation skills of local leaders and community members. The centre supports a nationwide network of over 1000 members including women and men, Sunni and Shia, Arabs and Kurds, Christian, tribal elders, religious leaders, government officials, politicians, and civil society representatives from every region of Iraq.

Through dialogue sessions, the IQCM ensures that people talk about their concerns, fears and interests to build empathy and understanding of each others' fears and concerns. Among the many conflicts that such sessions helped to solve, one example is between the Arab Sunni families and Yazidi families in the Ashti Camp in the Sulaimaniyah province.

The relationship between these two families, indeed, has always been shaped by high levels of threats and tension for many years. Dialogue has allowed these communities not only to coexist peacefully but also has ensured that 250 Yazidi students were able to go back to school and 350 new students were registered in the literacy centres that were initially boycotted due Sunni control over these institutions.

IQCM members from 2005 up to now documented 1500 disputes that were solved peacefully through using the absorbed skills. The network's diversity, their ability to solve problems and their willingness to put aside differences to build a better future, are powerful examples of the type of leadership that is poised for success in Iraq.





**BUILD THE VISIBLE
LEADERSHIP OF WOMEN IN
ROLES OF AUTHORITY TO
RAPIDLY SHIFT CULTURE.**

THE IDEA

Rien Sans Les Femmes

NO PEACE AND STABILITY WITHOUT WOMEN

Women are often the ones encouraging families and communities to change their actions and behaviour, and live in peace and cohesion. However, it was only in 2000 that the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 1325 which finally recognised the importance of women's participation and perspectives to building lasting peace.

Over the years, the government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has made an effort to increase women's participation in public institutions by adopting article 14 of the 2006 constitution, as well as by recognising international legal instruments such as the Convention for the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Mpoto Protocol. However, the implementation of such commitments is still weak and women's participation in decision-making in DRC remains low at all levels.

Rien Sans les Femmes ('Nothing Without Women'), a campaign supported by the Swedish government and International Alert, brings together almost 160 organisations who campaign to increase the number of

women candidates in elections and to enhance women's role in decision-making processes within the government and society. Solange Lwashiga, one of the partners in the movement, once said: "there won't be any peace, any sustainable development, without women in DRC." Indeed, empowering women as economic, political and social actors leads to more representative institutions and peaceful societies.

The campaign led to the mobilisation of an impressive number of women's rights organisations and individuals, whose collective voice obtained the passing of the women's rights and parity law in 2015 and the appointment of 40% women by the governor of South Kivu in the newly formed government in 2016. This not only provided women with a number of new protections and rights, but also enhanced a more sustainable peace in DRC and in the wider Great Lakes region.

Therefore, gender norms around which societies are built must be addressed together with the barriers and obstacles that prevent women's participation in public life. A culture of plurality and cohesion is the only way to ensure a lasting peace in post-conflict societies.

DEVELOP PRACTICAL PATHWAYS
TO BUILD YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACTIVE
ROLE IN IMPROVING CIVIC LIFE.

THE IDEA

Open Street Map

ACTIVATING YOUTH PEACE BUILDERS

The 2017 Global Peace Index shows that the world has become less peaceful over the last decade. This is largely due to the fact that, even in countries not currently experiencing violent conflict, situations remain fragile and insecurity causes daily stress. Increased marginalisation and inequality in these countries often leads people to engage in criminal activities or violent extremism, which further undermines stability.

Young people are often amongst the most marginalised and excluded groups. In Tunisia, young people, an active group in the revolution, face chronic underemployment, underdevelopment and political marginalisation. Their high hopes have turned to bitterness where youth inclusion is one of the most important, yet challenging, issues. To address this, International Alert is using digital tools to empower younger generations to address drivers of exclusion, with the aim of building durable peace.

Open Street Map combines dialogue and political participation through innovative digital community-mapping tools. The tools allow young people in the Tunis suburbs of Ettadhamen and Douar Hicher to convey their views directly to local and national authorities. By marking areas that require basic services, like rubbish collection points, young people have a meaningful role in supporting the government and their community. Open Street Map is an alternative to crime that also creates a platform for active citizenship that allows young people to gain confidence to be positive change makers in their society.

Open Street Map is not just about technology. It's true that mobile tech offers powerful tools that are becoming more accessible globally, but the involvement of young people is the key. As one of the young men taking part in the Open Street Map project said: "Of course we are not the answer for Tunisia. But we are part of the answer". Young people are becoming pioneers of peace in their communities and countries. By tackling the pressing need to address the challenges undermining their future, young people can be the key to building more equal, peaceful and prosperous societies.





INCORPORATE SAFE ENVIRONMENTS WITHIN REFUGEE AND HOST COMMUNITIES, WHERE CHILDREN LEARN NON VIOLENT TECHNIQUES FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION TOGETHER.

Basmeh and Zeitooneh

PEACE EDUCATION: WAR-TORN CHILDREN REGAIN HOPE

Over the past 6 years, several rounds of UN-led peace talks in Geneva as well as parallel talks in Astana, Kazakhstan, have failed to stop the fighting in Syria. The Syrian war is the deadliest conflict the world has seen in the 21st century: hundreds of thousands of people lost their lives and many more millions fled to neighbouring countries.

Since October 2015, International Alert together with Basmeh and Zeitooneh, an NGO that supports Syrian refugees and the communities that are hosting them in Lebanon, have been running peace education programmes to address some of the impacts war has on children and adolescents. "Many children have witnessed people holding a gun to someone's head. To have access to guns, without preparation or understanding, the availability of

weapons and society accepting it... We wanted to ensure that this was not 'normal'," says Elio, a clinical psychologist and psychotherapist who leads peace education classes in Beirut, Lebanon.

The project uses art and play therapy to foster peacebuilding values and build young people's resilience. Indeed, children who have been through so much face many challenges, which can continue to affect them into their adult life. Peace education gives children access to supportive role models and mentors, as well as physical and emotional safe spaces where they can feel physically secure. It allows them to express themselves freely, to deal with their grief and traumas, navigate and cope with the impact of war and displacement, and to experience some of the simple but vital pleasures of childhood.

For many young people, peace education represents a turning point to regain hope for the future and spread the message of peace. Providing safe spaces where younger generations can learn how to resolve conflicts through discussion and non-violent ways is, therefore, an effective way forward to counter violence and foster peace.

PROVIDE SAFE PLATFORMS FOR
SOLDIERS TO EXPRESS THEIR
EXPERIENCES AND GRIEF, TO ENCOURAGE
FORGIVENESS AND RECONCILIATION.

THE IDEA

Breaking the Silence

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS IN ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

Some of the most powerful voices for peace can belong to soldiers; men and women who know what conflict means, the impact it has on those who fight and the crucial line between legitimate self-defence and unwarranted aggression.

Breaking The Silence is a forum for such voices. The Israeli non-governmental organisation was founded in 2004 by a group of soldiers who served in Hebron, in the occupied Territories. In their own words, they *"have taken it upon themselves to expose the Israeli public to the reality of everyday life in the Occupied Territories. We endeavour to stimulate public debate about the price paid for a reality in which young soldiers face a civilian population on a daily basis, and are engaged in the control of that population's everyday life. Our work aims to bring an end to the occupation."*

Breaking The Silence collects and publishes testimonies from Israeli soldiers who have served in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem since September 2000, and holds lectures, meetings, and other public events which bring to light the reality in the Occupied Palestinian Territories through the voice of former combatants. They also conduct tours in Hebron and the South Hebron Hills region, with the aim of giving the Israeli public access to the reality which exists minutes from their own homes.

They not only provide soldiers with a unique way to give voice to their experiences, but they also break a vicious cycle of silence by stimulating courageous public conversations about the price the occupation and this conflict exacts on soldiers and civilians.

To date, the organization has collected testimonies from over 1,100 soldiers who represent all strata of Israeli society and cover nearly all units that operate in the occupied Palestinian territories. All the testimonies are meticulously researched, and all facts are cross-checked with additional sources.

In striving to bring home the realities of the conflict and occupation of the Palestinian territories to an Israeli public that too often prefers to look away, Breaking the Silence courageously defends the values of peace, human rights, truth and reconciliation.





SUPPORT AND SCALE NETWORKS OF WOMEN MEDIATORS, CONNECTED TO SHARE PRACTICES NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY.

Women Wage Peace

THE UNSTOPPABLE POWER OF WOMEN

Thousands of women, Israelis and Palestinians, marching together through the desert, dressed in white, holding banners, singing and dancing for peace is a sight that is hard to ignore. This is the aim of Women Wage Peace, an organisation bringing together thousands of religious and secular Palestinian and Israeli women from the political right, centre, and left to demand a political resolution to the conflict that has devastated the region for decades.

The movement was founded in the aftermath of the Gaza war in 2014, during which more than 2,100 Palestinians, mostly civilians, and 73 Israelis were killed. This occurred only months after the most recent round of negotiations, led by then US secretary of state John Kerry, fell apart. In recent years, neither Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas nor Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has made any indication towards negotiating a peace agreement.

After experiencing the devastating effects of the conflict and watching political leaders on both sides fail time and again to bring peace, the founders of Women Wage Peace believe it is time to take action and for women's voices to be heard. As Yael Triedel, an Israeli march participant stated, "We have to do it. No one else is going to do it for

us. The leaders didn't manage to do it so far, and it's our responsibility to make it happen." Huda Abuarquob, a Palestinian leader and Regional Director of Alliance for Middle East Peace from the West Bank city of Hebron, explained, they march "because women matter, because women are inclusive, because women gave so much trust to the leaders here and the leaders failed us".

Through raising awareness, sparking public discussion and organising marches and protests, they aim to build public support for a political agreement while exerting pressure on decision-makers. Their most recent triumph, a two weeks long Journey to Peace throughout Israel and the West Bank, ending in Jerusalem, attracted thousands of participants and gained significant international media attention. Women Wage Peace also demand that women are included equally during any peace negotiations, as mandated by UNSC resolution 1325.

With over 26,000 supporters in Israel and 40,000 overseas, this grassroots movement is growing rapidly with the potential to make a substantial impact in the journey to peace. Their most recent march was a stunning display of solidarity, hope and the incredible impact of women coming together and speaking out.

SYSTEMATICALLY CREATE IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCES
THAT ENABLE DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS
BETWEEN DIVIDED COMMUNITIES, TO HEAL THE
WOUNDS OF PAST CONFLICT FOR GOOD.

THE IDEA

Corrymeela

TRANSFORMING DIVISION THROUGH HUMAN ENCOUNTER

Northern Ireland endured armed conflict between 1968 to 1998. This period, often called “The Troubles”, was characterised by bombings, shootings and armed conflict between a range of state and non-state actors as well as sectarian and inter-factional murders. In 1998 the Good Friday peace agreement between the parties was signed, marking the end of the conflict.

2018 marks twenty years since the peace agreement was signed, but a significant reduction in violence alone, does not ensure lasting peace. Relations between Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland are still fractured, with communities remaining divided in many ways.

Corrymeela is Northern Ireland's oldest peace and reconciliation organisation. Corrymeela began before the Troubles and continues to work in Northern Ireland's post-conflict society to promote reconciliation and peace-building through the healing of social, religious and political divisions in Northern Ireland. Corrymeela's residential centre on the north coast of Ireland hosts 10,000 people a year, alongside a lived community of volunteers and staff. In addition

to hosting groups from the local community, Corrymeela's staff travel across Northern Ireland to work with schools and communities. They run group sessions using dialogue, experiential play, art, storytelling and shared community to help groups embrace difference and learn how to have difficult conversations. Ultimately, the work of Corrymeela is about creating a world where we learn how to live well together.

Corrymeela's programmes focus on four areas they believe are critical to the reconciliation process: tackling marginalisation, moving beyond sectarianism, addressing the legacies of conflict and public theology. Addressing Legacies of Conflict continues to be one of the most challenging and elusive issues at both political and social levels in Northern Ireland. There is no agreed narrative on the past and different people understand history and its impact on the present, in vastly divergent ways. One area where Corrymeela has made a significant impact is in the area of history teaching. Despite the lack of wider framework for addressing legacy issues, history teachers are expected to support young people to wrestle with the complexity of the past and its impact on the present.

Through the 'Facing our History, Shaping the Future' project, Corrymeela encourages students and teachers to explore issues such as identity and belonging, prejudice and discrimination and civic engagement. They use historical case studies where there has been deep-rooted violence, to encourage students to examine the causes from different points of view. In partnership with international NGO, 'Facing History and Ourselves' they focus on the events leading up to and including the Holocaust, the US Civil Rights movement and the 'Causes and Consequences of the Partition of Ireland'. This approach supports students' critical thinking both on historical episodes of violence and on how to build, nurture and sustain a healthy democracy in the present.

Through the 'Legacies of Conflict' programme, Corrymeela has worked directly with over 500 teachers, 2,500 young people and around 150 schools, and produced numerous resources to help facilitate difficult conversations about the past. Corrymeela believes that investing in the education system in Northern Ireland's 'post conflict' society is critical in building a shared future for all.





Refugees Welcome

MAKING REFUGEES WELCOME IN HOMES AROUND THE WORLD

The number of people seeking protection in Europe has grown considerably in recent years. During 2015, over a million refugees and migrants reached Europe, most fleeing conflict and persecution. Over the following two years, hundreds of thousands more made the perilous journey across the Mediterranean, arriving predominantly in Greece, Italy or Spain. Asylum systems and reception facilities in many European countries proved unable to cope with the scale and fluidity of this increased movement. Faced with domestic pressure, instead of welcoming those seeking protection, numerous countries imposed tighter legal and physical restrictions on access to their territory.

However, despite this toxic sentiment, many people within Europe remain committed to welcoming refugees and providing assistance to new arrivals in their countries. They decry the lack of resettlement places offered by their governments and the failure to provide adequate resources and appropriate housing to them when they arrive. Citizens themselves have decided to take action to fill the gap and make refugees welcome.

Refugees Welcome (Flüchtlinge Willkommen) was started in Germany by a young couple with the desire to offer a warm welcome to arriving refugees, rather than exclusion and segregation. Refugees Welcome is a website that matches people with a spare room, with refugees looking for a place to live. There are now Refugees Welcome groups offering this matching service in 16 countries across Europe and beyond.

Vincent, Mona and Alex offered their spare room in Berlin through Refugees Welcome and were matched with 24-year-old law student Mohamed from Syria. Mona explained how they came to the decision: *"This was a very easy way to help, but we felt we needed to do something."* Mohamed was initially nervous, *"In the beginning I was a little scared. What people do, what their culture is like. But then, a week or so later, we had already become friends."* The flatmates explain that they have received lots of cooking tips and good food from their Syrian flatmate. Alex said, *"What makes it so special is the cultural exchange and that you learn about another culture."*

By helping new arrivals find flatshares, Refugees Welcome offers refugees a chance to rebuild normal everyday life, smoothing the path of integration into a new country, culture and language. It also provides a platform for people in refugee hosting countries, appalled by the anti-refugee sentiment from their politicians, peers and the media, to stand up and say that refugees are welcome in their country and in their homes. This simple idea has resonated so well with communities in hosting countries around the world and has been so successful in matching refugees with flatmates, that it has already expanded worldwide. There are now Refugees Welcome groups in Poland, Canada, Australia, Italy and beyond, matching over a thousand people to date.

TARGET A PERCENTAGE OF PEACEKEEPING RESOURCES TO FUND ACCESSIBLE MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CARE FOR VICTIMS OF WAR AND REFUGEE COMMUNITIES IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES.

Syrian American Medical Society

PROVIDING CRITICAL RELIEF TO CONFLICT VICTIMS IN SYRIA AND BEYOND

Nearly half a million Syrians have been killed, over a million injured, and over 12 million - half the country's pre-conflict population – displaced, during the seven years of Syria's civil war. During conflict, medical services are critical, however health facilities in Syria are being systematically targeted. In April 2017 alone, there were 25 attacks on medical facilities, equivalent to one attack every 29 hours. Furthermore, the 6.3 million Syrian refugees living in neighbouring countries still require general medical care, and many host countries lack the capacity to provide it.

Since the conflict broke out, the Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS) has supported healthcare throughout Syria, sponsoring field hospitals and ambulances, training and paying the salaries of Syrian medical personnel, and sending lifesaving humanitarian aid and medical equipment to where it is needed most. They also support

Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries and beyond by providing critical psychosocial support, specialised and general care and physical therapy. Their teams work in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Greece. In November 2017, SAMS expanded its operations to Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh in response to the Rohingya crisis fleeing persecution and violence in Myanmar.

During SAMS medical mission to Jordan in July 2017, SAMS met many exceptional individuals who struggle with the lingering physical effects of the crisis in Syria. 12-year-old Hadeel lives in Al-Zaatari Refugee Camp. She was in her home in Syria when an airstrike caused the building to collapse and crumble on top of her. She survived four hours buried under the rubble, but had a traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury and was in a coma for nearly a month. SAMS volunteers Vickey Patel, a physical therapist and Dr Lydia Palmer, an occupational

therapist, worked with her towards her recovery. Patel focused on her legs and brain stem, and Dr Palmer focused on her arms, hands, and brain stem. This is only the beginning of Hadeel's recovery; she will continue to receive physical therapy to continue improving her condition.

Healthcare workers in Syria work under the ever-present threat of violence. In 2016, one health professional was killed every two weeks. This has driven much of SAMS work in Syria literally underground into underground and cave hospitals purpose built or modified to mitigate the risks from attacks. Nevertheless they continue to take on this vital work, providing urgent and lifesaving care to victims of violence and continued general medical care to those in need, to the Syrians remaining in Syria and those who have been forced to flee.



ESTABLISH REPLICABLE GRASSROOTS MECHANISMS TO GIVE VICTIMS OF WAR DIRECT INFLUENCE ON POST-CONFLICT REBUILDING PRIORITIES AND TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE PROCESSES.

African Youth Initiative Network

CREATING POWERFUL MOMENTUM FOR VICTIMS' PARTICIPATION IN TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE PROCESSES

Conflict between the rebel Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and Government of Uganda, plagued northern Uganda for over twenty years until 2006 when the majority of the LRA were driven from the country or captured. The conflict was characterised by the brutal murder and maiming of civilians. The LRA became notorious for their abduction of 60,000 children to serve as child soldiers and sex slaves, with tens of thousands still unaccounted for to date. In 2005, five LRA leaders were indicted for war crimes and crimes against humanity. As of 2018, one senior commander, Dominic Ongwen, is facing trial at the International Criminal Court (ICC).

The population of northern Uganda continue to struggle to rebuild, after over two decades of near complete destruction, and the reintegration of former soldiers - many of whom were abducted as children - has remained an on-going struggle. Despite the promise of "justice" being delivered through the ICC, many victims of atrocities are still suffering and wonder if the focus on this form of "justice" ignores their more immediate needs and concerns. Their questions remain: will they receive the medical and psychological attention they require, livelihood opportunities they need and answers to what happened to their loved ones who remain missing?

African Youth Initiative Network (AYINET), a Ugandan NGO founded by a group of young victims and survivors of war, aims to revitalise the post-conflict community. They believe community participation in Transitional Justice is central to attaining a peaceful, reconciled and just Uganda. For the last 13 years, AYINET has courageously raised the flag for peace and justice, promoting reconciliation in historically divided societies and has provided healing through surgical interventions for tens of thousands of war wounded. AYINET also works with young survivors to help them become compassionate and resilient problem solvers, promoting youth leadership for peace, justice, governance and human rights, making them the first generation to lay new foundation for national harmony peace and unity.

Seizing the crucial moment of the Ugandan government developing the National Transitional Justice Policy, AYINET organised the first ever National War Victims' Conference in Kampala, Uganda in May 2014. This provided a platform for dialogue, the aim of which is to ensure that Transitional Justice processes reflect the interests of the victims, taking into account their needs, promoting their sense of dignity and supporting their rehabilitation. During the conference, AYINET provided a platform for many war victims to speak their truth. Many argued that what victims and communities most need after the conflict had been neglected in current post-conflict projects and reparations.

One woman questioned the fairness of traditional justice since it was run predominantly by men and difficult for women to access. "How can women who are not educated, are not able to read or write, get help?" one asked. Another said immediate concerns like the education and health of their children needed to be addressed before the question of justice was acted upon. One participant spoke passionately about the limitations of truth telling. "I was abducted and raped, that is the truth," she said. "But what has been done? When my child, who I had in captivity, is hungry, what is the use of an amnesty?" Many also spoke about the need for healthcare, for both the physical and psychological trauma inflicted on them during the conflict.

AYINET identifies the needs of conflict victims by working directly with them, and respecting their wants and concerns. They have identified the need for free healthcare and psychosocial rehabilitation, youth reintegration and development, and the inclusion of victims' voices in transitional justice processes as key. They continue to work on the ground towards the rehabilitation of all victims of the conflict, including those who were abducted and forced into the LRA, in addition to advocating for the nationwide process of transitional justice to be inclusive and respectful of victims' interests and needs.



UEL - London, UK



People's Health Movement - Tanzania



SfCG – Rwanda



My Choices Foundation – Hyderabad, India



SfCG – Rwanda

“When we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give others permission to do the same.”

– NELSON MANDELA



Microjustica – Argentina



Rachel House – Jakarta, Indonesia

#WalkTogether and share a #SparkofHope

The Elders walked together in solidarity with Sparks of Hope in cities around the world. To celebrate the #WalkTogether movement Sparks of Hope organisations honoured Nelson Mandela's 100th anniversary by walking together in their communities and workplaces, showing their commitment to the kind of world Nelson Mandela envisioned.

From defending coastal environments in Chile, to fighting to decriminalise homosexuality in Kenya, and from providing free primary health care for impoverished refugees and migrants on the Myanmar-Thailand border, to asserting the dignity of displaced communities in South Africa, the 100 Sparks of Hope exemplify the wisdom of collective grassroots leadership.



SfCG – Morocco



My Choices Foundation – Hyderabad, India



Namati – Washington DC, US



Mentally Aware Nigeria – Nigeria

National Association of Youth Organisations

INCREASING YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN ZIMBABWE’S DEMOCRACY

Since gaining independence in 1980, Zimbabwe has experienced on-going low intensity conflict marked by periods of escalation and political violence. After nearly four decades of power, former President of Zimbabwe Robert Mugabe was ousted in an unexpected military coup in November 2017, and was replaced by his former deputy, Emmerson Mnangagwa. Mnangagwa confirmed that national elections would take place as scheduled, by August 2018, but has not addressed the issue of a meaningful security sector, media or electoral reforms to ensure free and fair elections.

Zimbabwe continues to face problems relating to corruption, human rights violations, unemployment and a stagnant economy and is now at a critical juncture to chart a new course towards a peaceful, prosperous and inclusive future.

The National Association of Youth Organisations (NAYO) is an umbrella body of youth organisations in Zimbabwe. Its members believe that youth have an integral role to play in the development of the nation and that by coming together, more can be achieved through the sharing of resources and strengthening of youth voices on a wide spectrum of societal concerns.

NAYO's campaign, #LeaveNoYouthBehind2018, focused on increasing youth participation in the August 2018 elections. In the 2013 elections, only 8.87% of 18-19 year olds and 19.55% of 20-24 year olds were registered to vote. Commonly reported reasons why young people did not register were lack of National Identification cards, lack of knowledge of the Zimbabwean political terrain, frustration in the voting process and lack of hope that it brings tangible changes, intimidation, lack of motivation and failure to understand the benefit of voting. Accusations of vote rigging, vote buying and electoral fraud have also led to mistrust in the election process and poverty makes young people vulnerable to being excluded; to manipulation and exploitation. Currently, about 70% of young people in Zimbabwe are unemployed.

NAYO is mobilising youth to vote in the upcoming elections and lobbying for the barriers to youth participation to be lifted. They are working to increase youth participation through mobilisation, civic and voter education and reaching out to youth to register to vote, while mainstreaming peace messages in the campaign to contribute to the creation of a non-violent environment before and after the 2018 elections. They also aim to increase inclusivity by translating information into various local languages and catering for people with various forms of disability. Alongside online campaigning, they organise events such as music festivals, voter hub door to door campaigns, road-shows and sports tournaments where young people can meet, educate each other and mobilise to register to vote.

They are currently petitioning the Parliament of Zimbabwe for the eligible age for holding public office to be lowered, as the current minimum age to become a councillor is 21 and to become President is 40. NAYO further denounced the proof of residence requirement, which frequently prevents young people from registering to vote as most young people don't own property. Their ability to provide proof of residence depends on their rapport with their landlord or, in the case of rural areas, their relationship with local leaders.

NAYO is both breaking down the barriers to youth participation in elections and tackling youth apathy towards voting and is encouraging a new political culture marked by tolerance, social cohesion and the active agency of youth. Their campaign engages directly with young people, providing vital registration information and mobilising them as more engaged and active citizens, committed to building a fairer, inclusive and more peaceful Zimbabwe.



THE IDEA

STRENGTHEN YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN DEMOCRACY BY REMOVING OBSTACLES TO VOTING AND OFFERING ONGOING VOTER EDUCATION AND LITERACY.



BUILD NETWORKS OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS WITHIN SECONDARY SCHOOLS THAT OFFER YOUTH A VOICE IN DECISION-MAKING, INCREASING RESILIENCE TO RECRUITMENT BY EXTREMIST GROUPS.

Search for Common Ground, Yemen

INCREASING YOUTH RESILIENCE TO CONFLICT AND EXTREMISM IN YEMEN

The ongoing conflict in Yemen has devastated the country, causing large scale damage and spurring a humanitarian crisis, with more than 22 million people in desperate need of aid and protection. It has also fractured the social structure, creating new lines of division (e.g. Sunni and Shi'a) while entrenching existing divides (e.g. north and south).

However, it is inaccurate to view Yemen as a country of widespread violence: many areas of the country maintain relative stability. The presence of areas relatively free of ground fighting, offer opportunities to promote community resilience to conflict and strengthen communities' abilities for effective and inclusive governance. Fortifying pockets of relative stability can prevent the spread of violence and provide hope to communities under siege.

In November 2017, Search for Common Ground (Search) began implementation of a Peace Education project in Yemeni Schools. To address the proliferation of violent extremist recruitment among Yemeni youth, Search is targeting both youth and

educators in eight secondary schools in Lahj and Aden (four in each governorate). The overall goal of the project is to increase the resilience of Yemeni youth to violent extremism. This is achieved through increasing secondary school teachers' knowledge on providing conflict sensitive and non-violent education for students, and by increasing individual youth capacity to resolve violence amicably and be positive agents of change.

Yemen's large youth population, combined with their visible involvement in the current conflict leads many in the community to see young people as a potential source of instability. Altering community perceptions of youth is central to their de-marginalisation and greater meaningful inclusion into the community. Real or perceived disengagement and marginalisation leaves young people vulnerable to recruitment to violent extremist groups and the use of violence more generally as a tool for influence and enacting change. Raising community awareness of youth as positive agents of change, instead of potential threats, is crucial to youth's greater community participation.

Qassim Al-Amman is a school teacher who became and mentor and peacemaker in his community. He took part in Search's 'Training of Trainers', an activity in which trusted local leaders refine their mediation, facilitation, and dialogue skills. *"I learnt how to facilitate community member agreements around a common understanding of a conflict."* He said. *"I learnt how we can build trust between conflict parties, and how we can motivate others to suggest solutions to resolve their conflicts."*

Central to youths' resiliency to violence and extremism is promoting both institutional and individual capacities to resolve conflict peacefully. Institutions serve to model acceptable behaviour and set norms for social engagement; this is even more pronounced in educational settings where youth are given instruction on becoming productive citizens. By empowering secondary education teachers through their Peace Education project, Search is creating strong role models and increasing the resilience of young people in Yemen.

Afrika Youth Movement

BUILDING AFRICA’S LARGEST YOUTH-LED MOVEMENT

Africa has the highest proportion of young people in the world - with over 60% of the population under 25 years old. Young people across Africa share many common struggles, such as high youth unemployment, marginalization and in many cases, living under repressive political regimes. The generational gap in leadership on the continent is massive and requires youth political participation and engagement in their country’s development, where they are often excluded.

Afrika Youth Movement (AYM) is a pan-African, decentralized youth-led movement that strives for the participation, development, and leadership of African youth to achieve their rights to peace, equality and social justice. Started by Tunisian and pan-African activist, Aya Chebbi, as a Facebook group in 2012, and launched in 2015, AYM is becoming one of Africa’s most influential youth movements with more than 10 000 members from 40 countries. This is a community of young activists, scholars, citizens and survivors providing a strong political collective youth voice in Africa’s youth and development debate and a bridge between North-South of the Sahara and Africa-Diaspora youth.

AYM created a ground breaking new model of youth forums on the continent called “AYM Youth Empowerment Forum” from Global Agenda to Africa’s Agenda.

The inaugural Forum, which was held on 20 March 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya, brought together 84 young changemakers of grassroots initiatives from 19 countries to lead and engage with the Global Goals and Agenda2063. The second forum was held on 22 April 2018 in Accra, Ghana.

The forum model was replicated into national forums; in Lagos engaging religious leaders, and Kampala engaging embassies and the private sector. The forums have also resulted in structured, gender-balanced, committed country-focused teams across the continent called “AYM Youth Hubs”. Four decentralised hubs in Uganda, Ghana, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Nigeria are already established and another 20 hubs across Africa are launching; where its members are building youth alliances, amplifying the voices of young people in vulnerable and disempowering contexts, changing narratives, and working on advocacy for youth leadership in decision-making at national as well as international spaces including the United Nations, African Union and other multilateral organisations where AYM is frequently organizing and speaking for African youth agenda.

AYM is a non-registered movement and operates for the last three years with no central bank account and a small volunteer “Power Team” of six activists from Africa and the Diaspora. Its funding model is based on maximising strategic

partnerships, members’ mobilisation through their organisations, and community fundraising. The forums are fully funded by its members with no external funding. AYM spaces have been transformative, inclusive, impactful and life-changing for its members.

AYM organises its members also in five committees, namely Agriculture, Health, Education, Gender, and Peace and Security. These committees facilitate online forums, run advocacy campaigns, and produce strategies and papers to affect policies. Each committee develops its strategy independently, presents its policy papers and recommendations in conferences and consultations. Examples in this regard include AYM committees on Health and Gender which are championing the Menstrual Hygiene Day every year (28 May) and organised #PeriodNotShame local actions to increase awareness about menstrual hygiene. In Mautu Community in Cameroon, AYM distributed sanitary pads to 654 girls, and in the Bongo district in Upper East Region in Ghana, it distributed sanitary pads and sensitised 272 girls of Nyaruga D/A Junior School. AYM also uses music and art to mobilise youth and produced a song “Afia Mama” for this campaign.



CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR GENUINE SOCIAL INTERACTION BETWEEN CHRISTIAN AND MUSLIM GIRLS TO EMPOWER THEM TO CHANGE PERCEPTIONS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

Search for Common Ground, Nigeria

GIRLS TAKE THE LEAD ON PEACE-BUILDING AND RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE IN NIGERIA

Nigeria, Sub-Saharan Africa's most populous country and its largest economy, faces several different conflicts, including an insurgency in the North East, ongoing ethnic and religious violence in the country's Middle Belt, and threatening militancy in the oil-rich Niger Delta.

Search for Common Ground (Search) has been working in Nigeria since 2004, using innovative approaches to promote peacebuilding in areas of tension and to encourage understanding across ethnic, religious and gender lines. Since conflicts in Nigeria often take on a religious dimension, as parties to a conflict identify with a religious group, Search works to promote interreligious tolerance and understanding between Christians and Muslims. They bring together key stakeholders to constructively work out their differences and jointly create strategies that promote tolerance, social cohesion, and religious freedom.

Search's work with youth has been focused on Jos, Plateau State, in the heart of the country's religiously diverse Middle Belt. It is here that

the mostly Muslim north meets the largely Christian south. The city is marred by violent clashes between these two religious groups, which peaked in 2010. The new generation has grown up with memories of this violence and in segregated communities with little interaction across religious lines. To address these issues and build youth capacity to be ambassadors for peace in their communities, Search has implemented a series of projects engaging youth across religious lines in peacebuilding.

Search, in 2012, brought Christian and Muslim girls together for a series of camps and supported them to design and implement community initiatives promoting peace and tolerance. These camps were expanded on to include boys in 2017. The impact of these camps goes beyond the youth who participate, as Search supports them in implementing peace initiatives that engage their communities and spread the message of interreligious collaboration and understanding.

"If we really want to be sure that the next generation will not carry on the present cycle of violence, then it is now to start." Explained Chom

Bagu, Search's Nigerian Country Director. The camps bring together equal numbers of Christian and Muslim participants, and allow them to discover that their counterparts' religious differences are minor, and that their similarities are far more important and meaningful. One participant in the Naija Girls Unite programme discussed how her opinions of Muslims, forged by her experience of conflict, had changed after taking part in the camp. *"I discovered that they are just the way that we are, no difference. Just that they pray on Friday and we pray on Sunday."* Another participant indicated that her camp experience had given her lessons that she could spread to the rest of her community. "When I came back from the camp, I decided to spread the news to my community that Christians are not evil. They should stop cursing the Christians, they should stop blaming them, it is not their fault."

Search supports the Nigerian youth to be the sparks of hope in their communities in the midst of the ongoing conflicts. Strengthening young people enables them to take on initiatives for peace and discard the polarising legacy of violence.



**ENCOURAGE DISAFFECTED YOUTH TO
ENGAGE IN CIVIC AND POLITICAL PROCESSES
THROUGH POP-CULTURE AND THE ARTS.**

Magamba Network

INSPIRING A NEW GENERATION OF YOUNG ZIMBABWEANS
TO STAND UP AND BE HEARD

Zimbabwe is a young country, with 62% of the population below the age of 25 years. But young people in Zimbabwe suffer from lack of freedom of expression, high unemployment and are often used as political tools. The upcoming elections in 2018 are a significant moment for the country during the transition towards a more peaceful, prosperous and inclusive future. Young people are now more hopeful than ever that they can play a central role in building it.

Magamba Network rose to inspire young people to be part of the change Zimbabwe needs. They decided to create change through fun, creative tools that speak to young people in a language they understand: from hip-hop to satire, from social media to innovation. They believe in a Zimbabwe with participatory democracy, strong alternative media and a thriving creative economy. They believe in being the change they want to create and are committed to social justice. Magamba's award-winning initiatives include Shoko Festival, Zimbabwe's longest-running festival of urban culture; Moto Republik, Southern Africa's first creative hub; the internationally acclaimed Zambezi News satire show, the weekly political news show The Week and the pioneering citizen journalism project, Open Parly. Magamba's newest initiatives include The FeedZW, a video news project focused on young people, and the Citizens' Manifesto, a platform that Magamba works on collaboratively with social movements to fight for a new Zimbabwe.

In response to mainstream media not engaging with or representing the views of young people, the B. The Media Project aims to allow young people to create their own narratives and tell their own stories. The B.The Media project focuses on inspiring and incubating a new generation of young citizen journalists who can speak truth to power.

Open Parly is one of the initiatives created from B.The Media. It empowers young people to participate in political processes by training young citizen journalists to report live with news and analysis from the Zimbabwean Parliament. Open Parly's website and Twitter provides young people with immediate access to information about parliamentary activities and invites them to respond by engaging with MPs in conversations on social media. The engaging youth reporters and their analytical assessment of Parliament proceedings, increases government transparency and accountability to young people. Open Parly has now also evolved into one of Zimbabwe's leading breaking news initiatives providing live coverage from demonstrations, press conferences and more. Open Parly is seen as one of the most important twitter handles to follow in Zimbabwe garnering over 5 million impressions per month on Twitter. Open Parly has also been central in campaigns such as #DataMustFall that forced government to keep mobile data affordable and #DearRita that pressured the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission to reverse a policy that would make it difficult for young people to register to vote.

The news and analysis that Open Parly provides is vital to motivate youth involvement in politics and the electoral process ahead of the upcoming elections. The Open Parly model is now being spread to other African countries.

Magamba Network has most importantly inspired a new generation of young Zimbabweans to stand up and be heard and be part of a positive movement to change Zimbabwe for the better.





EMPOWER CITIZENS TO USE DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE TO ENSURE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS LAW ARE UPHELD IN CONFLICTED TERRITORIES.

B'Tselem

EXPOSING THE REALITY OF LIFE IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Over 3000 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli security forces in the Occupied Territories since 2009. Almost 90% of these fatalities have occurred in Gaza. The Gaza Strip is in the throes of a manmade humanitarian disaster. A recent United Nations report stated that unless there are significant changes, the territory will become uninhabitable by 2020. Israel's continued blockade has left the 2.3 million people living in Gaza in a life of abject poverty with dire conditions and inadequate infrastructure. Some 80% of Gaza's residents depend on humanitarian aid, and about 60% suffer from food insecurity.

B'Tselem (The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories) works to end Israel's occupation, seeing this as the only way to forge a future in which human rights, democracy, liberty and equality are ensured to all. Founded in 1989, B'Tselem began by devoting most of its efforts to documenting human rights violations that come under Israel's purview as occupying power.

This included publishing statistics, testimonies, video footage and reports concerning human rights violations and their implications.

After over half a century of occupation, during which Israel's settlement and road-building policies in the Occupied Territories have created profound changes that indicate long-term intentions, it is clear that this reality cannot be viewed as temporary. Therefore, B'Tselem additionally speaks out to expose the injustice, violence and dispossession that lie at the very core of the occupation, challenging its legitimacy in Israel and abroad and helping to expedite its end.

Their recently launched campaign, "Sorry Commander, I cannot shoot" is a reaction to the recent use of live fire by Israeli soldiers against unarmed demonstrators at the Gaza border which killed 18 and injured hundreds of Palestinians. The campaign includes newspaper advertisements explaining to soldiers that they must refuse to open fire on

unarmed demonstrators. They explain that unjustified use of live fire could amount to wilful killing of civilians – which is a breach of international law. B'Tselem emphasised that the illegality of orders from commanders to use live fire "is not a question of form, nor is it imperceptible, or partially imperceptible." But it is "an illegality that pains the eye and outrages the heart, if the eye be not blind and the heart be not callous or corrupt."

The fearless work carried out by B'Tselem, from the field researchers in Gaza and the West Bank, to the office staff in Jerusalem and many Israeli and Palestinian volunteers, is shining a light on the realities of life in the Occupied Territories and holding up a mirror to Israeli policy. Through reliably and meticulously documenting human rights violations, they reveal the guise of legality under which Israel has held control over Palestinians for over fifty years, and the deplorable tactics that must be employed to sustain this occupation.

USE RELIGIOUS TEACHING AND TEXTS TO PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND BREAK THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

THE IDEA

The Voice of Libyan Women

USING RELIGIOUS TEACHINGS TO PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY IN LIBYA

For many, the February 17 Revolution in Libya in 2011, renewed the hope for equality and the realisation of human rights in the country, including women's rights. But in the years that have followed, as state institutions crumbled and insecurity prevailed, women continued to struggle to have their voices heard. Across the world women are blocked from leadership roles and positions of influence. This is particularly prevalent in post-conflict situations where despite UN Security Council Resolution 1325, urging countries to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels for the prevention, management and resolution of conflict, women continue to be excluded.

The Voice of Libyan Women was founded in 2011 to ensure that women were taking their rightful place as leaders among the movement to rebuild the nation. They wanted to build on the momentum that women working for equality during the revolution had gained, and ensure that they did not retreat from activism. At the beginning they focused on political and economic empowerment but found that their work wasn't reaching those who thought that their religious beliefs clashed with the ideas of women's rights.

Faced with this feedback, they opted for a different tactic, deciding to change their approach and messaging to incorporate Islam. By showing that Islamic texts teach not to harm others or oppress women, Voice of Libyan Women were able to open doors that were previously closed to them, which helped their messaging reach a wider audience.

Their first campaign was International Purple Hijab Day in support of action against domestic violence. The response was phenomenal; in their first year 17,000 people wore purple scarves, ribbons or ties to show their support. The Voice of Libyan Women directly challenged the argument they had heard so many times, that domestic violence is allowed in Islam. They used verses from the Quran and other Muslim scriptures exactly as they were written, to indicate that violence against women is in fact forbidden in Islam.

Voice of Libyan Women's next campaign was project Noor, meaning light in English, which used billboards, radio, television and social media to raise awareness of domestic violence and sexual abuse. Again, the Voice of Libyan Women used Islamic teachings against violence and interpretations of the Quran which emphasised the equality of women and men. This project has been so successful that many groups have requested it be replicated in their countries.

Despite facing considerable obstacles, ranging from direct opposition to dismissal and lack of support, the Voice of Libyan Women have been able to effectively challenge the prevailing narrative on women's rights in Libya. By working with religious leaders rather than directly opposing them, they have been able to reach people who hold considerable influence in the country, which never would have been possible without changing how they communicated their message. Their innovation has made progress towards changing the minds of those whose attitudes against women's equality were most entrenched.





OPEN NEW ARAB-LED FORUMS FOR DIALOGUE ON
THE DIFFICULTIES OF APPLYING INTERNATIONAL
HUMAN RIGHTS LAWS WITHIN ARAB STATES TO
RESOLVE LONG-STANDING CHALLENGES.

THE IDEA

Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies

STANDING UP FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY

The 2011 “Arab Spring” was a broad and spontaneous upheaval, which started in North Africa and spread to the Middle East, attempting to end decades of human rights violations and lack of freedoms, social justice and democratic participation. In many cases, the response to the large scale protests by Governments focused on security at the expense of human rights, and resulted in an increased crackdown on human rights defenders, civil society activists, and journalists. For human rights organisations working in many parts of the Arab world today, uncovering and publishing details of rights violations can be extremely dangerous. Many face censorship, smear campaigns, travel restrictions and judicial harassment.

Founded in 1993, the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) is an independent regional non-governmental organisation, which aims to promote respect for the principles of human rights and democracy in the Arab region. Through policy research, advocacy and human rights education, CIHRS helps improve the understanding of pressing human rights issues in the region, then coordinates and mobilises key players and civil society organisations to work together to make changes.

At the 37th session of the UN Human Rights Council in March 2018, CIHRS and its partners from throughout the region called on UN member states to take stronger action to ensure accountability for grave and widespread violations of human rights, including war crimes and crimes against humanity, taking place in Syria, Yemen, Libya, Palestine, and Egypt.

Speaking before the council on Libya, they condemned the lack of serious efforts by States and the unwillingness of the Libyan government and African Group to create appropriate mechanisms to address grave and widespread human rights violations in Libya, including credible evidence of the establishment of slave markets. As part of their efforts to increase visibility on the situation in Libya, CIHRS also organised a side event at the UN entitled “Libya under the Gun: The Urgent Need for Strong Action by the Human Rights Council.” The event was carried out in cooperation with Libyan and international Human Rights organisations. During the event, and for the first time at the UN, a documentary film was screened on the persecution and internal displacement of the Tawergha people in Libya. The film was created by a local Libyan activist and produced with the assistance of CIHRS as part of larger efforts to empower local activists through multi-media training.

CIHRS and its staff have come under significant threat in the region that they work and were forced to move their headquarters from Cairo to Tunisia in 2014 after receiving threats to their lives. Nevertheless they continue to do courageous work in difficult circumstances, standing up for human rights across the MENA region. Their expertise and influence help shape international understanding of human rights violations in the region and their support of local human rights defenders ensures that grave injustices cannot go uncovered.

I-Dare

ALTERNATIVE NARRATIVES TO HATE SPEECH AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Since the start of the Syrian conflict in 2011, more than 38,000 foreign fighters from over 80 countries have joined militant groups, including Daesh and al-Qaeda, in both Iraq and Syria. Experts estimate that between 3,000 and 3,950 Jordanians travelled to the conflict zone between 2011 and 2015, and that anywhere up to 1,500 have been killed. This ranks Jordan as the country with the highest ratio of foreign fighters on a per capita basis in the world.

In order to prevent violent extremism (PVE) and foster sustainable peace in Jordan, it is important to strengthen community resilience. Including young people in this is crucial. I-Dare works to develop skills, knowledge, attitudes, critical thinking and agency in young people.

I-Dare believes in youth as the catalyst for positive sustainable transformation. They run several projects to promote alternative narratives to hateful and violent content online, increase meaningful youth participation in peacebuilding and dispute resolution efforts, and Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE). I-Dare's approach can be summarised in three words; A.C.T.: Acquire, Create & Transform. The A.C.T. approach is all about providing the space and time for young people to acquire new knowledge, skills, attitudes and values in order for them to be able to create and lead their own initiatives and hereby, all of us are part of the

collective positive transformation. One of the tools promoted by I-Dare is the concept of 'Articipate' which enables effective youth participation through art-based methods including comics (Comicipate), theatre (Hekaya theatre: the theatre of difference), hip-hop and video making. Moreover, I-Dare creates platforms for young people to lead their own messages.

Their work in PVE and hate speech recognises the importance of a supportive environment around youth, community participation and in building and enriching alternative narratives to the stereotypes, racism, and discrimination often perpetuated in common discourse. In general, they emphasise the importance of encouraging critical thinking among young people, to support their intellectual independence and empower them to be able to critically assess any discourse, rather than simply feeding counter speeches to them. In this way they work to make youth resistant to violence and hate discourses.

I-Dare promotes dialogue, understanding dynamics and mechanisms of violence and hate, and pluralism throughout its efforts towards creating 'alternative narratives'. The alternative narratives knowledge hub encourages contributions from a cross-cultural community of young people – creating space for dialogue and providing contextual information

from different points of view. They encourage both written and artistic submissions providing alternatives to hate and violent content prevalent online. The hub includes multiple videos, blogs on topics such as "Who is the 'other'?", "Are our online identities authentic?" and "What is Pyramid of hate?".

Online activities are supported by offline activities such as Speak and Cook – where they gather young people, cook something together and talk informally about a topic such as cohesion, community dialogues and how to create an alternative narrative for strengthening community resilience. "They are informal dialogue sessions, that are not lectures. The aim is to establish dialogue in a new way." Explained an I-Dare youth worker. They also go into the streets with signs and placards to give out information to the public about their campaigns.

I-Dare is encouraging young people to be part of creating positive change in Jordan, by creating a platform for the voice and efforts of young active citizens. By using creative and engaging tools, they are spreading alternative narratives and encouraging critical thinking among young people, to prevent violent extremism, to strengthen community resilience, to promote positive peace and to embrace pluralism.



THE IDEA

PROVIDE RESOURCES TO SCALE YOUTH-LED ONLINE INITIATIVES REPLACING VIOLENT EXTREMISM AND HATE SPEECH WITH ALTERNATIVE NARRATIVES.

“Health cannot be a question of income, it is a fundamental human right.”

– NELSON MANDELA

“This SDG’s emphasis is on universality: all people should lead healthy lives. Universal Health Coverage is built on principles of equity and fairness, with health services allocated according to people’s needs and the health system financed according to people’s ability to pay. In so-called free markets, where people simply buy and sell health services, only rich people get access to expensive, life-saving treatments. This is unjust and unfair and threatens everybody’s health when poorer people can’t afford treatments.”

– BAN KI-MOON

“Great political leaders recognise the importance of Universal Health Coverage, not only in improving the health of their people, but also in stimulating economic growth and reducing inequalities in society.”

– GRO HARLEM BRUNDTLAND



“When the world’s citizens speak as one and demand access to Universal Health Coverage, governments will respond and we will truly be one step closer to UHC . And when we take steps towards UHC, we also take strides towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.”

– RICARDO LAGOS



GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT IN COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS, PARTICULARLY IN REMOTE COMMUNITIES, PROVIDES PROVEN ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND PRIMARY HEALTH GAINS.

Last Mile Health

PRIMARY HEALTHCARE FOR THE ‘LAST MILE’

Across the world, one billion people are unable to access the healthcare they need because they live too far from a health facility. This means that treatable diseases such as malaria or diarrhoea, and even childbirth can soon become life threatening.

Last Mile Health believes that no one should be denied access to healthcare because of poverty or distance. Their solution to this complex problem is simple: to train community members to become professional community health workers that provide primary healthcare to their neighbours.

In 2003, Liberia emerged from more than a decade of civil war. The country’s health infrastructure was devastated, with only 50 doctors remaining to treat a population of more than four million people. Last Mile Health was conceived by a small founding team who realised that the greatest health need was at Liberia’s ‘last mile’, those remote communities which lacked access to basic healthcare due to distance and poverty.

Last Mile Health’s community health workers receive training in infectious disease surveillance and response; maternal and neonatal health; family planning; first aid; care of common childhood illnesses; and support for adults with HIV/AIDs and TB. Community health workers are paid for their work, and mentored by nurse supervisors. Last Mile Health also works to strengthen the supply chain so that community health workers always have the medicines and tools they needs to provide lifesaving healthcare.

Last Mile Health is now supporting more than 430 community health workers who serve over 80,000 patients, most of whom were previously unable to access treatment at all. Working with the government of Liberia and partners to scale this community-based approach nationwide, Last Mile Health is helping to advance Liberia’s National Community Health Assistant Program, which aims to train over 4,000 community health professionals to serve 1.2 million people, ensuring that in the future, remote communities across the country can access the healthcare they need.





**BUILD PROACTIVE HEALTHCARE OUTREACH
SYSTEMS TO TREAT PRIMARY HEALTH ISSUES,
MONITOR HEALTH NEEDS AND OFFER EDUCATION
TO RURAL AND REMOTE COMMUNITIES.**

THE IDEA

Muso

HEALTH CANNOT WAIT: A PROACTIVE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

The human right to health care means that hospitals, clinics, medicines, and doctors' services must be accessible, available, acceptable, and of good quality for everyone, on an equitable basis, where and when needed. But in today's world, where you live matters more than ever.

The 2015 ILO report showed that 56% of people living in rural areas worldwide do not have access to essential health-care services, including clinics and doctors. Only in Africa, 83% of people living in rural communities have no healthcare provision and millions of people die every year from preventable and treatable diseases. Their deaths constitute one of the greatest injustices in our world today.

Most healthcare in the world is passive as doctors and community health workers (CHW) wait for patients to come to them. In 2005, a small group of Malians and Americans came together to address the injustices of health and poverty

they witnessed around them in Mali. They realised that to save lives in the world's poorest communities, a preventative and proactive healthcare system that removes barriers and brings care to patients is crucial. Thus, they founded Muso, a grass-root organisation that deploys CHW door-to-door to proactively search for patients and deliver packages of life-saving healthcare services in people's homes. These include family planning, new-born screenings, and treatment for children with malaria, diarrhea, and malnutrition.

In the communities of Yirimadjo, where Muso began serving one hundred people over a decade ago and currently serves over 175,000 people, the rate of under-five child mortality was 155/1000 at baseline. Three years after the rollout of Muso's health system, the rate of under-five child mortality was 17/1000: the percentage of children starting effective malaria treatment within 24 hours of symptom onset increased from 15% to 28%, and the percentage of children sick with a fever decreased by 15%.

The proactive health system is designed for simplicity, so that it can be easily used throughout the world despite the cultural, linguistic, geographical, and religious differences. Following the successful results in Yirimadjo, Muso brought the same healthcare model to the rural communes of Bankass, where they observed the same successful change in healthcare. Over 2016, the Muso team increased access to care in one rural site, Tori, tenfold, reaching a near-universal coverage steady state for Tori's 25,000 people within two months of opening.

The cost of weak health systems that are incapable of providing all people with the preventive services and treatments they need is steep. Building strong health systems is certainly not easy, but it is possible and, indeed, necessary. Muso's healthcare system not only creates healthy, productive, and resilient families, communities, and economies, but it taps the power of social networks, community leaders, and local women as communities take the lead to create lasting change.

DISTRIBUTED HEALTHCARE CLINICS, RUN BY TRAINED COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS, EVEN IN THE ABSENCE OF A WELL FUNCTIONING NATIONAL SYSTEM, VASTLY IMPROVES CHILD AND MATERNAL HEALTH.

THE IDEA

Hope Through Health, Togo

NO BIRTHPLACE CAN DENY YOU ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE

In today's world, 700 million people lack access to adequate healthcare. Only in Togo, over 5 million people – about 70% of the population – are unable to receive medical treatments due to a lacking functioning healthcare system able to deliver effective and quality treatments, particularly to women and children in need. Indeed, nearly one in ten children will not live to see his or her fifth birthday that is fifteen times the rate for developed countries.

Hope Through Health is the only international organisation providing life saving healthcare services in northern Togo. They believe that everyone deserves access to high quality healthcare regardless of the latitude and longitude of their birthplace. By implementing an integrated clinic and proactive community-based approach to health systems, they have demonstrated

that a better standard of healthcare is possible even in the world's poorest and most neglected communities. In this way, they have transformed the way primary healthcare is delivered and saves the lives of thousands of women and children.

Community Health Workers like Justine Bakeda are trained to identify and treat the leading causes of childhood illness. When she is warned of any case of fever, she immediately goes to the family's house, takes the baby's temperature and does a finger prick test for malaria. If the test is positive, she measures out the appropriate dose of medicine and explains to the mother how to give it to her baby. She then goes back the next day to check on the progress and, in case, refer the case to the health clinic for further care. "As a Community Health Worker, I see daily the impact of having

access to fast, quality healthcare. I am proud to be part of a solution that is improving my community. Children are no longer dying in large numbers, and mothers have hope that they will live through childbirth and be able to care for their children."

Hope Through Health's model proves that communities can transform the dynamics of healthcare delivery. Active community engagement not only leads to the delivery of more responsive healthcare services, but it also leads to a range of practical benefits, including decreased stigma, increased capacity and skills of local community members, greater patient engagement, increased information sharing, and higher staff motivation.





**BUILD CAPACITY BY EMBEDDING INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS IN
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' HEALTH MINISTRIES TO ROLL OUT
EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS AND PROVIDE THE
LONG TERM SKILLS TRANSFER NEEDED TO SUSTAIN THEM.**

Aspen Management Partnership for Health

EXPEDITING ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE IN RURAL AFRICA

Local community health workers play an integral role in delivering essential health services to the hardest to reach communities in the world. They have helped reduce child mortality by almost one-third, and help health systems prepare to respond to health crises like Ebola.

A growing number of governments now recognise the health, social and economic returns of investing in community health workers and are ambitiously trying to scale their own community health worker systems, but many lack the managerial, financial and strategic proficiency needed to mobilise large work forces. That's where Aspen Management Partnership for Health comes in. AMP Health is committed to making resilient community health systems the norm in Sub-Saharan Africa. They place experienced professionals in a country's Ministry of Health to help them accelerate their community health programs. Working with public and private-sector partners, AMP Health offers ongoing training, consulting and cross-country collaborations.

In July 2017, support from AMP Health led to the publication of the first-ever National Community Health Strategy in Malawi. Over the next five years, the implementation of this country-wide strategy will improve health outcomes, community ownership and the integration of health

services throughout Malawi. Throughout the process, the Malawi Federal Ministry of Health engaged over 500 community members and other stakeholders for their feedback and recommendations. The strategy ambitiously plans to reduce under-five mortality by 25% and maternal mortality by 20% and strengthen the community health system for the next generation. Along the way, the ministry learned key lessons to help other countries develop their own national community health strategies.

The National Community Health Strategy was "developed by all to be implemented by all for the benefit of all for the next generation. There are no beneficiaries and implementers, we are all in this together." AMP Health's work is vital to continue supporting community health activities. This is not only essential to improve Malawi's health outcomes, but to also support the country to achieve its commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 3 on Universal Health Coverage. Therefore, building a strong community health system is core to Malawi's development agenda.

PROVIDE RESOURCES AND CAPACITY TO CARE FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN WITH HIV/AIDS IN SAFE SPACES, WHERE THEY BENEFIT FROM WORK, EDUCATION AND HEALTHCARE, WITHOUT FEAR OF BEING OSTRACISED.

Homes of Hope

HOPE THROUGH HEALTHCARE FOR HIV-POSITIVE CHILDREN IN NORTHEAST INDIA

When the Carmelite nuns arrived in Dimapur, Nagaland 15 years ago to operate a free healthcare clinic, they anticipated the traditional barriers of providing healthcare services to the poor. However, they soon realised another challenge would mark their work in Dimapur. Sudden and varied diseases and death plagued family after family. A husband would die, and then his wife would become ill without clear explanation. The scourge of AIDS had come to Dimapur.

Eventually, Nagaland in Northeast India would have the unenviable distinction of having the highest HIV prevalence among all Indian States: 0.88%. Furthermore Dimapur district has the highest rate in the region at 1% of the population.

In the tiny building where the nuns began their work—only 20-by-20 feet—they offered support to a widow who had lost her husband to AIDS. Then another came accompanied by her young children, homeless, with nowhere to go. The community had rejected them due to their positive

diagnosis. The sisters knew they had to be the ones to care for them. With growing numbers of those affected by HIV, particularly HIV-positive orphans, they bought a small parcel of land with a tiny house and called it Chavara Home.

The Chavara Home was not an overnight success. The community initially rejected the presence of an orphanage for HIV patients and family members fearing they would contract the virus. Neighbours threw waste over the walls to discourage the sisters from staying. However, as the sisters continued to care for both adults and children, the local community slowly rallied around their work.

Today, Chavara Home is the only orphanage certified to care for HIV orphans in Nagaland, despite the high prevalence rate. Government support for medication can be limited and erratic; and hospital space even more so. Seeing the need to continue their care and support of the community, the sisters continue to provide selfless service to the HIV-positive children and adults they care for.

However, as the number of children grew and “temporary” buildings would eventually collapse, the Sisters struggled to maintain medication and proper housing and nutrition levels. Seeing not only the great need at Chavara House but also the presence of the sisters, Homes of Hope India, an NGO that supports Indian-run and –owned orphanages across India, stepped in. Homes of Hope is providing the financial support that allows the sisters to build a dormitory, assembly hall and sanitary facilities to continue their long-term commitment to the people and children of Dimapur affected by HIV.

Chavara Home and Homes of Hope India provide not only shelter, food and medication to the children and adults they care for, but a place of belonging and a reason to hope for the future.





INVEST IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF HEALTH TECH PLATFORMS
THAT ALLOW PATIENT INFORMATION TO BE STORED AND
ACCESSED FROM MOBILE PHONES, EMPOWERING HEALTH
WORKERS TO ACCELERATE HEALTH OUTCOMES.

THE IDEA

Possible

TRANSFORMING RURAL HEALTHCARE DELIVERY IN NEPAL THROUGH TECHNOLOGY AND INTEGRATED CARE

Health facilities are often out of reach and the lack of affordable, quality care leads to poor health outcomes and often catastrophic financial burden. This is true for 12 million people in Nepal where pregnant women go through pregnancies without access to prenatal care or the support of a trained health provider during childbirth; infants risk dying of preventable conditions such as diarrhoea, malnutrition, pneumonia, and congenital surgical conditions; and adults are subject to Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, which if left untreated, can lead to severe shortness of breath and poor quality of life.

Possible, a non-profit healthcare organisation operating in Nepal, believes that everyone, including the rural poor, deserves quality healthcare without financial hardship. They designed a model that is not driven by fee-for-service and provider-centric, but that it is rather patient-centric and targets the major drivers

of morbidity and mortality. As such, their model not only provides patients who require specialised care with free services in two government hospitals, but also trains Community Healthcare Workers (CHW) to meet patients in their homes and screen for pregnancy, infant malnutrition, and Noncommunicable Diseases at critical moments in their health.

Key to their model is an Electronic Health Record (EHR), which Possible has successfully implemented in a rural, low-resource setting. Healthcare providers use mobile phones technology to enter and access a patient's medical history, prescriptions, and lab results, wherever they are, from hospital to home. Real-time access to the EHR helps caregivers identify high-risk patients, and accurately diagnose and deliver care across a patient's lifetime. Take Apsara, a 24-year-old woman who lives in Nandegada and met with a CHW after being pregnant for the sixth time. Her previous five pregnancies resulted in her babies

dying within two months of delivery. The CHW counselled Apsara around prenatal health, diet and behaviour. She is now scheduled for a hospital delivery. For patients like Apsara, regular monitoring and birth planning are key to a safe pregnancy.

Through a unique cost-share partnership with the Nepal government and the momentous National Insurance Act introduced in October 2017, which Possible helped influence, they are on the path toward scaling their model and helping make healthcare a reality for many who have been left out. To date, Possible has witnessed dramatic results through its model, including a rise in safe institutional births from 30% to 93% in the catchment areas where it serves. Possible proves how it is possible to envision a future where everyone, regardless of location or income, can walk together and be guaranteed quality healthcare as a human right, not a privilege.

SCALE UP TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS TO MONITOR PATIENT CARE AND CONNECT PATIENTS WITH THEIR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS, EVEN IN REMOTE REGIONS.

Medic Mobile

PEOPLE DELIVERING HEALTHCARE DESERVE THE BEST SOFTWARE

The technology boom means that while many rural areas around the world lack basic health coverage, they have excellent mobile phone network coverage. This is the observation that medical student Josh Nesbit made whilst working for a summer in a rural hospital in Malawi. He witnessed patients who had travelled up to 100 miles to see a doctor, and health workers walking over 30 miles to deliver medical reports by hand. He noticed an opportunity for mobile phone-based technology to make a huge difference in the lives of rural Malawians.

Nesbit went on to co-found Medic Mobile, aiming to increase and improve the delivery of vital healthcare in underserved communities worldwide. By developing mobile-enabled services, Medic Mobile supports community health workers, staff at community clinics, ministers of health and others to monitor diseases, stay in touch with families, send emergency alerts to regional hospitals, and convey critical data to key decision-makers at health ministries. Medic Mobile now works across 23 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, supporting over 16,000 health workers.

In the Rwenzori Mountains of western Uganda, Kikanda Batelemao, a community health worker, had to travel the 35 miles each way from the small hospital where he works, to the remote mountain communities he serves several times a day to deliver health reports by hand. Medic Mobile has drastically reduced how often he must make this journey and improved his ability to care for his patients. One of his patients, Florence Mbambu is pregnant with her third child. With the use of the Medic Mobile app, Kikanda can register and track the progress of her pregnancy. The app will then send automatic reminders to her phone about vital prenatal care and her appointments at the hospital. Kikanda can inform staff back at the hospital of Florence's progress via the app and they are able to calculate important health information, such as her due date. Kikanda is then able to tell Florence when to leave her village to give her enough time to reach the hospital for her delivery.

Before Medic Mobile reached Uganda, only 28% of Ugandan women had prenatal care. That figure has now risen to 48%. Women are now far less likely to lose a child or suffer potentially life-threatening complications. For Florence, the

benefits are clear: "I pray that Medic Mobile should come to everywhere in Uganda," she says, "because it assists us women in giving birth to healthy children."

Medic Mobile's toolkit supports multiple languages and works with or without connectivity. Their tools run on basic phones, smartphones, tablets, and computers, supporting people doing critical work in communities, health facilities, and management offices. Through something as seemingly simple as an app, Medic Mobile are able to connect health workers, community members, doctors and administrators in order to strengthen the healthcare system and ultimately save lives.





THE IDEA

CREATE NETWORKS OF DOCTORS AND COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS, INTEGRATING HOSPITAL CARE WITH HOME CARE FOR VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES, TO IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES.

Partners in Health

GRANTING HEALTHCARE TO THE POOREST: AN ACT OF SOLIDARITY, RATHER THAN CHARITY ALONE

Lesotho is still home to some of the highest prevalence of HIV/ AIDS and tuberculosis (TB) in the world. The rate of HIV infection among adults is one of the highest in the world at 23%. And as it has taken its toll, the country has also suffered rising rates of maternal mortality, poor child health, and tuberculosis. These dual epidemics, coupled with limited infrastructure and difficult terrain, have posed significant challenges for both patients and healthcare workers, especially in the country's most rural districts. To reach health services, people struggle through harsh weather and mountainous terrain, walking an average of four hours to reach clinics. Without enough staff and resources, doctors struggle to cope.

Known locally as Bo-Mphato Litšebeletsong tsa Bophelo, Partners in Health began working in the country in 2006 at the invitation of the Ministry of Health. Operating in seven remote mountain communities, they train community health workers to regularly visit pregnant women at home to check on their health, and to accompany them to health centres for care before, during, and after delivering their babies. At the same time, they treat young children with HIV, tuberculosis, and malnutrition, and provide them immunizations, de-worming treatments, and vitamins.

Nkau is one of seven remote health centers across Lesotho that are involved in Partners in Health's Rural Health Initiative. The initiative began in 2006 as an effort to support HIV care, but over the years, it has expanded, adding services focusing on maternal health, children's health, and tuberculosis. For instance, the Maternal

Mortality Reduction Program, began in 2009, when at the time just 5% of the region's childbirths took place at a healthcare facility. Today, the facility-based delivery rate averaged 90% across the region. Safe childbirths are just a part of the personal care that Khasipe and her colleagues help deliver at Nkau, every day. Here, newborns get immunizations and other postnatal services, free of charge. Moreover, village health workers travel widely to visit new and expecting mothers in their homes. They advise pregnant women who live far from the clinic to come and stay in maternal waiting homes until their babies are safely born. They receive consistent prenatal care, and doctors can more easily identify medical complications as women approach their due dates.

By drawing on the resources of the world's leading medical and academic institutions and on the lived experience of the world's poorest and sickest communities, Partners in Health bring the benefits of modern medical science to those most in need of them and to serve as an antidote to despair. Building health systems that grant access to healthcare to the most remote communities is both a medical necessity but also a moral duty. It must be seen as an act based on solidarity, rather than charity alone.

ACTIVATE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION
PLATFORMS TO LIFT THE VOICES FOR THOSE
WHO ARE ALIENATED FROM DECISION MAKING
ON THE ISSUES THEY CARE ABOUT MOST.

Moms Rising

MOMS RISING TO PROTECT HEALTHCARE

Everyone gets sick, but not everyone has a chance to get better. No one should have to choose between staying in their home and paying their medical bills. No mother should have to choose between treating her own health condition and treating her child's. Yet these choices are faced by millions of American families every day. Access to healthcare is a right, not a privilege. .

MomsRising is an on-the-ground and online grassroots organization campaigning for healthcare that is accessible for all without incurring financial hardship. With more than a million members, they work to increase family economic security and end discrimination against women and mothers. They advocate for, among other things, paid family and medical leave, earned paid sick days, affordable childcare, an end to wage and hiring discrimination, breastfeeding rights, and a national budget that reflects the contributions of women and mothers. Through online and on-the-ground activism, lobbying and mass grassroots engagement, they aim to amplify women's voices, hold corporations accountable, and make political change.

MomsRising's campaign for Healthcare for All focuses on getting families the health coverage they need by supporting the Affordable Care Act and fighting against its repeal. They also support safety net programs such as Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

These policies are a literal lifeline for women across our nation like Jamie Davis Smith. Jamie's eleven-year-old daughter Claire has multiple severe disabilities. Before the Affordable Care Act (ACA), Jamie and her husband paid \$1,000 a month for a health insurance premium, in addition to numerous additional costs. Due to Claire's multiple pre-

existing conditions, the family had no choice but to pay whatever the insurance company demanded, as it was offered through Jamie's husband's employer, and without it they would be completely uninsurable. The cost of equipment, like a hearing aid and wheelchair, not covered by the private insurance, was staggering. Jamie had to leave her full-time job to care for her daughter, which left the family relying on a single income. Jamie applied for Medicaid as a last resort to avoid bankruptcy.

Medicaid has been a lifeline for Jamie and her family. But now that Medicaid and other safety net programs have come under attack by the current Administration, so has the lifeline for Jamie's family. Without Medicaid, Jamie says her daughter Claire wouldn't be able to live at home with her family.

Over 74 million Americans receive insurance through Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), including one in five children. MomsRising uses their platform to share stories of the life changing benefits provided by these programs and encourages others to speak out in support of them. Their petitions and open letters push for policymakers to support the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid and CHIP.

To date, MomsRising's efforts have achieved remarkable results. In the past ten years, they have helped pass paid family/medical leave in four states and paid sick days in over two dozen localities across the US. They are constantly and tirelessly working for change, with members in every state, proving that moms are powerful, and will not rest while healthcare remains unaffordable for so many American families. MomsRising members keep marching!





INVEST IN NETWORKS OF PAID COMMUNITY CARERS IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, TARGETING POOR AND ISOLATED CHRONIC ILLNESS SUFFERERS WITH HOME CARE.

City Health Works

TAKING INSPIRATION FROM AFRICA TO BRING HEALTHCARE TO THE PEOPLE OF HARLEM

In sub-Saharan Africa, community health workers have long formed the backbone of health systems, filling in gaps where doctors and nurses are scarce. But they are a relatively new concept to the people of Harlem, New York City. City Health Works, inspired by the experience of their founder, Manmeet Kaur, in South Africa, has brought the community health worker model to US soil and is challenging the way we traditionally think of healthcare.

City Health Works targets populations in poor communities struggling with multiple chronic illnesses such as diabetes, hypertension and asthma. Many of the patients they visit suffer isolation as a result of their conditions. City Health Works' locally hired Health Coaches come from the same community that they serve, they speak the same language and many have hand first-hand experience of the health challenges their patients face. Health Coaches visit patients at home, monitoring their conditions so that impending crises are picked up on before they require a visit to the emergency room. They are able

to assist patients to look at their entire lifestyle, including managing medication, diet and exercise, so that they can take care of themselves in the long-run.

For 62-year-old Ramon Jimenez, a month without being hospitalised is a huge triumph. Without ever having learned to effectively self-care or navigate the complex US healthcare system, he had been on a 20-year downhill spiral. He has heart disease, which has disabled him, meaning he can no longer work. He also has diabetes that was uncontrolled for years, leading to the amputation of both of his feet. His small living room is crowded with medical equipment, medication, a walking aid and a wheelchair. But in the month since he's been visited by Marisilis Tejeda – a health coach from City Health Works, things have markedly improved. She goes over his medication list with him, making sure he's taking it correctly and consistently. She also checks that he's properly limiting and monitoring sodium and fluids, essential for a patient with congestive heart failure.

She will also accompany him to any doctor's visits, to help him understand what they're saying and vice versa. For doctors, this is a vital service that bridges the gap between the hospital and home. "It unburdens us," said Dr. Gary Burke. "They come from the community, with a different perspective They speak the language. And they can look in the refrigerator."

50% of healthcare spending in the US is spent on 5% of the population. Responding to a health condition that has become critical, costs far more than providing effective support to manage the condition from its outset. For 50% of patients, City Health Works identified a medical issue that was unknown to their medical provider, before it became a crisis. City Health Works is therefore proving that community-based primary care not only saves lives but also saves money. Through their Health Coaches, they are reaching those who have previously been failed by the healthcare system, proving that a model that works in Africa can also work wonders in the USA.

COORDINATE CIVIL SOCIETY MOVEMENTS WITHIN COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONALLY, TO MAKE THE CASE FOR DIRECTING RESOURCES TOWARD UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE MORE POWERFUL AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL.

Tanzania’s People’s Health Movement

Tanzania is suffering from a healthcare crisis. Only 49% of births are attended by skilled health workers, and this drops to 30% for the poorest of the population. Largely preventable and treatable diseases such as malaria, pneumonia and diarrhoea cause the death of 270 under 5s every day. Chronic stock-outs of essential medicines are commonplace and user fees for healthcare services are high. Adding to this crisis is the significant shortage of key frontline health workers (merely 5.2 clinical health workers per 10,000 people) despite widespread unemployment among doctors and nurses in the country.

The primary cause of this problem is low levels of public health financing. Only 8% of the overall government budget is spent on health, with the majority being spent on urban hospitals which tend to benefit the better off. Meanwhile, a mere 15% of Tanzanians are covered by any formal health insurance, meaning a third of total health expenditure in the country is paid out-of-pocket by ordinary Tanzanians.

People’s Health Movement Tanzania (PHM) is campaigning to make the Right to Health real for all Tanzanians. They bring together health and human rights activists to engage in advocacy and policy dialogue with the common goal of transforming the Tanzanian health system. They are part of a wider network of People’s Health Movements in 70 countries around the world advocating for Universal Health Coverage. They support and learn from each other’s efforts, amplifying their voices and building a bridge between the local and the global.

Godfrey Philimon, the country coordinator for PHM describes the health worker crisis in his country. He says health professionals are being educated but not absorbed into the public health system. ‘Many are not employed due to governmental financial hardship’, he says. There has been too little focus on providing human resources for health by donors and the government. He says that ‘the most critical factor driving health system performance, the health worker, has been neglected and overlooked for too long’.

In fact, Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Tanzania would be relatively easy for the government to achieve. They have already committed to it, both through agreeing the Sustainable Development Goals and signing the UN General Assembly resolution on UHC in 2012. To put this commitment into practice, the health budget would have to be increased to around 15% of the total (from 8.1%) and resources would need to be allocated more efficiently and equitably. In particular, additional funds should be allocated to recruiting more health workers (especially community health workers); increasing health worker salaries; procuring generic medicines and commodities; and ensuring that health facilities have additional recurrent funding to replace user fees income.





THE IDEA

EMPOWER CITIZENS TO DEMAND THAT HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS PRIORITISE THEIR MOST PRESSING NEEDS AND ADVOCATE FOR HEALTH BUDGETS TO BE ALLOCATED ACCORDINGLY.

White Ribbon Alliance

MATERNAL HEALTH FOR ALL: TANZANIA’S CAMPAIGN FOR SAFE MOTHERHOOD

More than 30 women and 180 newborns die every day in Tanzania due to complications during pregnancy and childbirth and lack of quality healthcare. Health centres often lack critical infrastructure, equipment and medicines, and many are understaffed with insufficient training to care for emergency births. Out of the 700 health centres in Tanzania, only 17% provide Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care services (CEmONC). Women who suffer from birth complications must therefore travel many miles to a larger regional hospital which could provide emergency care. Complications such as eclampsia, ruptured placenta, severe bleeding or a breach birth become life-threatening to the many pregnant women living far from a well-equipped hospital.

White Ribbon Alliance Tanzania works to achieve safe motherhood for all with their campaign: ‘Zero Tolerance to Maternal Deaths. Be Accountable’. Through their campaign they found that although the Tanzanian government had committed to ensuring 50% of health centres provide CEmONC by 2015; the reality on the ground was far from this. In the Rukwa region which was surveyed, only one health centre was equipped to provide blood transfusions and only two were providing caesarean sections.

At 40, Judith was already a mother of five. She had experienced severe bleeding during the delivery of her last child and this meant she was predisposed to haemorrhage during her next birth. Referred to Dodoma Regional Hospital, she travelled far from her family to be close to the life-saving services while waiting weeks to give birth.

Judith had no option but to leave her 15-year old daughter in charge of her younger children, meaning she would fall behind in school. “Sometimes I cry when I think of my little girl performing all those adult responsibilities. She has to cook and take care of her siblings.”

To save the lives of women unable to access well-equipped hospitals and ensure that mothers like Judith don’t have to choose between their health and their children’s education, White Ribbon Alliance Tanzania advocated for the government to increase and ring-fence the CEmONC budget. Their advocacy efforts, made as part of a comprehensive campaign with partner organisations, led to significant changes to the Minister of Health’s 2017/2018 budget. The budget for maternal and new-born health was increased by 52.5% from the previous year. For the first time, it included specific targeted areas such as increasing the availability of oxytocin, magnesium sulphate and safe blood services for blood donation. In addition, the budget included plans to upgrade 150 health centres to provide CEmONC. When the Minister’s plan is implemented this year, 267 out of 700 health centres will provide CEmONC, which represents a substantial increase from 16.7% to 38%.

White Ribbon Alliance are making citizens aware of their rights and the government’s commitments so that they can demand better care. They are amplifying the voices of citizens and making policy-makers listen and respond to their needs. Their incredible achievements indicate the staggering impact of people joining together to achieve safe motherhood.

ENSURE THAT PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV ARE INTEGRALLY INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SERVICES AND POLICIES THAT AFFECT THEM.

National Empowerment Network of People living with HIV/AIDS in Kenya

PUTTING THOSE WITH 'LIVED EXPERIENCE' AT THE HEART OF HIV DECISION MAKING

Kenya is one of the highest HIV burdened countries in the world, with the fourth highest number of people living with HIV (1.6 million). At the peak of Kenya's HIV epidemic in 1993, 230,000 people were becoming infected each year.

In 2016, due to the rapid scaling up of HIV treatment and care over the past two decades, this has been significantly reduced to 62,000 per year. The number of AIDS-related deaths has also significantly been reduced. However, only 64% of adults and 65% of children in Kenya are receiving anti-retroviral treatment (ART) for their HIV, and although awareness of HIV and AIDS is high in Kenya, many people living with HIV face high levels of stigma and discrimination which prevent them from accessing HIV services.

The National Empowerment Network of People living with HIV/AIDS in Kenya (NEPHAK) was founded in the mid-1990s as a network of support and information sharing. It unites people living with HIV (PLHIV) and those affected by tuberculosis (TB)

and AIDS through post-test clubs, support groups, community based organisations, non-governmental organisations and networks. NEPHAK's purpose is to enhance the knowledge and skills of PLHIV and affected communities in Kenya to participate meaningfully in TB and HIV/AIDS response policy, decision-making, mainstreaming and programming initiatives.

NEPHAK Director Nelson Otwoma describes how children who are born HIV-positive and are on lifelong treatment are rarely told the truth about why they must take medication. This can cause teenagers to stop taking their medication when they find out about their HIV status. "A number of people who stop taking their medicines at some point are those whose parents or guardians had not told them about their status." He said. "These children end up knowing about their status when they are in their teens, and some of them also get the wrong information from their peers". Parents and guardians commonly conceal the truth from their children about the medication

they are being given by saying the medication is for TB, pneumonia or malaria instead of HIV. Others are told simply that the drugs were to keep them from getting sick. Otwoma and NEPHAK believe young people should be told the truth about their status from a younger age and that more awareness raising and education is needed to change attitudes towards PLHIV. "When you keep telling young people false things about their status and the medication, they will lose their trust in you and default on their medication" explains Otwoma.

NEPHAK believe that PLHIV should be at the heart of decision-making about tackling HIV. They also believe that in order for PLHIV to be able take this lead, their networks must be supported and funded. They see that all efforts aimed at responding to stigma and discrimination against PLHIV are bound to fail if they are not led by the very people who have experienced and confronted that stigma and discrimination.





PROVIDING FREE PRIMARY HEALTHCARE FOR NEWLY
ARRIVED MIGRANTS ALLOWS THEM A PRODUCTIVE
START TO A NEW LIFE, AND PROTECTS HOST
COMMUNITIES FROM COMMUNICABLE ILLNESSES.

THE IDEA

Mae Tao Clinic

FREE HEALTHCARE: A FRESH START FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

There are more refugees and migrants today than ever before. A quarter of a billion people have left their homes for new lives and a further 65 million have been displaced by war and persecution. Millions of migrants and refugees face danger and destitution – either on their journeys or at their destination and, as 86% of forced displaced people are hosted in developing countries, destination communities frequently find their resources overstretched. Denying refugees and migrant people access to basic healthcare forces them to use meagre resources for health services and increases the risk of communicable disease spreading.

Mae Tao Clinic is one place where healthcare is considered a human right and not a privilege. Since 1989, The Mae Tao Clinic has provided free primary healthcare for a mobile population of refugees and migrants, including services for reproductive health, immunization and HIV care. The patients reside along the Thailand-Myanmar border or make the dangerous journey across the border from Myanmar to Thailand. Reinforcing that health is a human right, people of all ethnicities and religions are welcome at Mae Tao Clinic – and because there are no fees to pay, newly arrived refugees do not face the prospect of restarting their lives in debt.

One patient, Di Poe Wah was born in the tiny village of Thit Moet Par, a community with no school or health clinic. He developed swellings on his feet and a fever. His mother's homemade traditional remedies did not work and she feared travelling to hospital in a far-away city, where she

would be unable to communicate in her own dialect. Di Poe Wah arrived at Mae Tao Clinic ill and malnourished, but after treatment, family health counselling and education, his prospects are positive. The family are determined that Di Poe Wah attends school when he's old enough, so that he can become a health worker, and perhaps save the lives of babies like himself.

Mae Tao Clinic takes an inclusive approach in assuring its community's well-being. The clinic runs a school for 900 migrant children and provides new-borns of undocumented mothers with birth registration. Mae Tao Clinic is one of the leading organizations on the border for strengthening the capacity of future community leaders in health, education and civil society. It engages both Thai and Myanmar Ministries of Health. As a community-based organization, it serves as a bridge between the 2 countries, providing services to populations that are not reached by either government programs.

In Thailand, the Universal Coverage Scheme, introduced in 2001, now covers 98% of the population. Thailand has seen a dramatic reduction in infant and child mortality, HIV infections, diabetes effects, and workers' sick days, as well as other economic, social and health benefits. However, this is a result of a 30-years process without internal conflict. With continued peace process and collaboration of healthcare professionals, policy makers and public support, Myanmar could achieve this too, ensuring that all of its people receive the quality healthcare they deserve.

INVEST IN THE BASIC HEALTH NEEDS OF POOR COMMUNITIES IN ALL COUNTRIES USING THE LEGAL AID MODEL, WHERE TRAINED PROFESSIONALS ARE SUPPORTED BY PUBLIC RESOURCES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THOSE WHO CANNOT AFFORD THEM.

THE IDEA

Remote Area Medical

THE FREE MOBILE MEDICAL CLINICS FILLING IN THE GAPS OF THE US HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

An estimated 28.2 million people in the United States are not covered by health insurance. For those who are covered, many are underinsured, without vision or dental coverage, and many avoid seeking medical treatment because of high deductibles and co-pays (additional fixed payments) under their insurance plans. This means millions of Americans suffer in pain from ongoing health problems or allow health issues to escalate because they cannot afford to seek treatment.

Remote Area Medical (RAM) was created in 1985 as a charity to deliver healthcare to the needy in Guyana, South America. However, it now functions predominantly to provide mobile medical clinics delivering free dental, vision, and medical care to those unable to afford it, though they live in one of the richest countries in the world, the United States. In

less than 12 hours, RAM can turn a stadium, school, or arena into a fully functional medical clinic, able to provide dental, vision, and general medical care to thousands. Families are so desperate for this care that they are frequently found sleeping in their cars up to 48 hours in advance to ensure a space in the queue for treatment. All of RAM's treatment providers are licensed dental, vision, and medical professionals who volunteer their time to care for patients in need.

Heather Wallace and her husband, James, are both in their 20s. In early June, they travelled the two hours from Knoxville, Tennessee, to a free RAM clinic in Chattanooga, Tennessee. They joined over 100 people who camped out in their cars overnight so they could get treated early in the morning. James earns about \$9 per hour working in hotels, and Heather earns a little less. Their jobs barely pay enough to cover food,

James said, and they don't come with health insurance or other benefits like dental care. It was because of Heather's toothache that they had travelled to the clinic. "Basically it's just like a nerve pain. Your whole body locks up; you have to stop for a second to try to breathe," she said. "And sometimes if it hurts bad enough, you might cry."

RAM is filling the gaps in America's healthcare system by providing humanitarian heroes to people in need. Their treatment can dramatically improve a patient's quality of life, providing thousands of pairs of prescription eyeglasses and much needed dental care. They also undoubtedly save lives through their work in detecting and diagnosing serious illnesses. Unfortunately, as long as the US continues to deny millions of their citizens access to healthcare, voluntary organisations like RAM must continue to exist.





SCALE THE CAPABILITY FOR CROWD-SOURCED LOCAL EVIDENCE COLLECTION TO BE USED TO INFORM REGIONAL AND NATIONAL HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS.

MamaYe – E4A

ENSURING MOTHERS AND BABIES SURVIVE PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH

Every day, around 830 women die from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth, and 99% of these deaths occur in developing countries. In Nigeria alone, 109 women die each day. The country has the fourth highest maternal mortality ratio in Africa and infant deaths are strongly linked to the care their mothers receive.

MamaYe-E4A believes that maternal and newborn health can be substantially improved when government, civil society organizations, the media and healthcare professionals come together to review and make decisions based on evidence. They work to make pregnancy and childbirth safer by ensuring that the right information reaches the right people and by promoting best practices to improve maternal and newborn health. MamaYe-E4A uses evidence to engage policymakers in improving allocation of funds to the health sector; to increase provision and availability of essential medical supplies; and in establishing functional blood banks. This Evidence is translated into a simple format scorecard displaying health sector performance and used by the State

Led Accountability Mechanism to advocate for policy makers to make better decisions. The scorecards have been used in a number of ways such as tracking availability of drugs, use of family planning, and monitoring of maternal and perinatal deaths.

MamaYe-E4A also supports communities to encourage pregnant women to deliver in safe health facilities by training key community members as Super Activists. In each State where MamaYe-E4A works, a launch event takes place where community members pledge their commitment to save the life of a mother and/or a baby. These inspiring supporters are then trained to become Super Activists.

Mr Bolaji Seriki from Lagos State is one of them. As a Super Activist, he identified the reason pregnant women and mothers were not able to access healthcare services in his community, was the long distance separating patients from the closest healthcare provider. Bolaji responded by donating a part of his house to be used as a community health post, where nurses and community health workers could provide services for women and children in the area.

MamaYe Super Activists encourage pregnant women to utilise health facilities for antenatal care and delivery, instead of relying on traditional birth attendants; they also engage the public in making positive contributions, such as encouraging blood donations for pregnant women. Roughly 26% of maternal deaths that occur due to bleeding in sub-Saharan Africa are directly related to lack of availability of blood for transfusion. MamaYe super activists advocate for voluntary blood donation in order to increase access to safe blood and to raise awareness on its importance for the survival of pregnant women and newborns. A database of voluntary blood donors who have pledged to donate blood is kept in areas without functional blood banks.

These efforts, alongside the reforms made by State governments have made huge strides towards safer childbirth in Nigeria. MamYe-E4A in Nigeria is part of a multi-country programme led across sub-Saharan Africa through a combination of evidence, action and accountability. By working together, MamaYe wants to ensure that maternal and newborn survival becomes a greater priority in the region.

INVEST IN IMMERSING ASPIRING HEALTH PROFESSIONALS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES DURING THEIR TRAINING YEARS, TO RETAIN THEM WITHIN THEIR PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEMS AND EMPOWER THEM TO IMPROVE HEALTH DELIVERY INEQUITIES.

Alliance for Improving Health Outcomes

PREPARING THE NEXT GENERATION OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TO PROVIDE HEALTH FOR ALL IN THE PHILIPPINES ○

Of the over 100 million people living in The Philippines, many still lack access to basic healthcare. The healthcare system in the country has often been described as “fragmented”, with large discrepancies between national health policy and what local government units budget for and provide on the ground.

Despite the government significantly increasing the budget for health in the recent years, and committing to Universal Health Coverage in 2010, the reality in the country is inconsistent services, with half the recommended amount of beds for the population size, and the majority of health services concentrated in cities and urban centres. Government health services are generally perceived as low quality, with long waiting times and worn out facilities and it remains the case that most health spending comes from the pockets of ordinary Filipinos. Another huge challenge for the Filipino health system is retaining its health workers. The country is a leading exporter of nurses and physicians, lured by better pay and working environment, yet it significantly needs more human resources for health on the ground.

The Alliance for Improving Health Outcomes (AIHO), a non-profit public health organisation, is working to change the course of the public health system in The Philippines. They believe that it is vitally important for future public health leaders and managers of the country to understand the root of health inequities and health system challenges

from the very beginning of their training. AIHO therefore aims to expose young professionals to the local health systems in their formative years. They find that when young professionals experience the reality of the Filipino health system early in their careers, they will be in a better position to solve public health problems. AIHO aims to provide these future leaders with an ample grasp of health service delivery in the grassroot level, the social determinants of health, and the policies and bureaucracy which affects the provision of health care to those in need.

AIHO conducts and sponsors organised community immersions for medical students during their summer break, coordinated with rural health officers and with specific learning objectives, in order for the students to explore all the dimensions of a health system. Mentored by consultants who have experience as municipal public health managers, AIHO is optimistic that through this method, these students will acquire a better systems thinking which they can apply in their future roles as public health leaders and advocates of the country.

By preparing the public health professionals of the future, and ensuring talent remains in The Philippines, AIHO is helping to build a more robust national healthcare system which can provide free healthcare for all. This would ensure no one would have to avoid seeking treatment because of high healthcare costs, or become indebted from ill health.





THE IDEA

PROVIDE RESOURCES, CAPACITY AND TRAINING FOR POOR COMMUNITIES TO ACCESS PALLIATIVE CARE WHERE HEALTH SYSTEMS DON'T CURRENTLY PROVIDE THIS.

Rachel House

MANAGING PAIN AND PROVIDING CARE FOR CHILDREN LIVING WITH HIV AND CANCER

Palliative care is an essential part of any healthcare system. Pain and symptom management and a loving, safe environment are invaluable for people living with serious illnesses and their families, especially children. In Indonesia, however, palliative care is almost unheard of, meaning those living with chronic and terminal illnesses have very little access to the pain management and support that could make their lives more comfortable. There are an estimated 700,000 seriously ill children across Indonesia, but less than one percent currently have access to palliative care or pain relief.

Rachel House was established in 2006 as the first purpose-built children's hospice in Indonesia. However soon after the unit began caring for terminally ill children, it became clear that after enduring years of pain and invasive treatments, what the children wanted the most was to go home and be close with their family and friends at the end of their lives. So the Rachel House nurses swapped their uniforms for helmets and began to travel the crowded streets of Jakarta to reach these children in their homes. Eleven years later, Rachel House has reached over 2700 children and families across greater Jakarta, and is recognised as the leading voice on children's palliative care services in Indonesia.

In addition to providing direct care to seriously ill children and their families, Rachel House also provides palliative care training for medical professionals and equips local community volunteers with palliative care skills and knowledge. This is part of their broader mission to build a palliative care ecosystem across Indonesia, which can ensure accessible care and assistance for all in need so that no child will ever have to live or die in pain.

Susi joined Rachel house in 2008 and was part of the first team of nurses trained in palliative care in Indonesia. Amid the steaming heat, and monsoon rains, Susi packs her stethoscope and nurse kit, and heads off on her motorbike. Normally, Susi visits two or three patients a day, spending a few hours with each of them and their families. One of Susi's typical patients is 9-year-old Rian*, in North Jakarta. He's HIV positive and lives with his grandmother, his

aunt, and her family. His mother died of AIDS four years ago, which isn't uncommon among Susi's patients. Susi helps Rian's grandmother understand his medication schedule and pain management alongside providing essential comfort and support. Patients who don't have access to anti-retroviral treatment to suppress the HIV virus persistently suffer from other infections, causing symptoms such as diarrhoea, fever, and coughing. This is tragically the case for most children living with HIV in Indonesia; only 17% have access to these life-saving anti-retroviral treatments. The average across the rest of Asia-Pacific is 47% "Palliative care plays a big role from the point of diagnosis to the end of life" Susi says, "It's not only physical, but also emotional, social and spiritual."

In Indonesia access to pain management is limited. For patients with terminal cancer, it is often vital. One of the cheapest and most effective painkillers recommended by the World Health Organisation is oral morphine. However it is difficult to access because a lot of healthcare professionals aren't yet familiar with it or how to use it. The barriers to accessing painkillers are also bound up with the stigma surrounding narcotics – a stigma that is prevalent throughout Indonesia. Teaching families and health professionals about pain management is therefore a vital component of Rachel House's work.

"While the scale of the challenge is enormous, our nurses, community volunteers and staff are passionate, committed and dedicated to provide care for those in need. Because every child, no matter their race, creed or illness, deserves to live free from pain and with joy and dignity," said Rachel House founder Lynna Chandra.

Ms Chandra said that Rachel House was determined to build an Indonesia-wide palliative care eco-system. "To help nurture the spark of hope into a brightly burning flame of joy, we are determined to educate medical professionals across every part of Indonesia to provide palliative care – because no child should ever have to live or die in pain," said Ms Chandra.

*Name Changed

Groundswell

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE MAKES VOLUNTEERS BETTER HEALTH ADVOCATES FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE

The health inequalities associated with homelessness are stark; people experiencing homelessness have a life expectancy 30 years less than the general population. Furthermore, health issues compound barriers to employment and training, further increasing the challenge of moving from homelessness to a stable life and independent livelihood.

Homelessness in the UK is rising. Since 2010 rough sleeping in the UK has risen by 37%. People experiencing homelessness on average experience worse health than the general population and face multiple barriers to accessing healthcare. These barriers mean treatment for health issues is often only sought when the need becomes critical, resulting in homeless people using A&E services more frequently – 38% of the homeless population has accessed A&E in the past six months.

Groundswell is a London based organisation which enables homeless people to take more control over their lives through supporting them to access healthcare services. They achieve this through the involvement of peer volunteers who have been homeless themselves. By tapping into the lived experience of homeless people, Groundswell is able to support those struggling to access healthcare.

Groundswell's peer advocates provide practical support, including reminding patients of appointment times, going with them to appointments and paying for transportation. They also work with the UK's National Health Service (NHS) to provide testing for homeless people for conditions including HIV, tuberculosis and Hepatitis B & C. The approach also benefits the volunteers themselves, who report feeling pride and a sense of achievement gained from helping others overcome the very same barriers that they themselves experienced, often moving into employment as a result of their volunteering. Working with their peer volunteers, Groundswell deliver training to healthcare professionals and work with them to improve the way health services are run.

James first met a Groundswell peer advocate after he had missed two appointments for a chest x-ray from the hospital. His hostel key worker referred him to Groundswell. He was apprehensive at first about going to the hospital in case he received bad news. At his first meeting with the Groundswell peer advocate, he soon realised the advocate was like him and wasn't judging him; instead they were there to support him. James went to his next appointment, with the advocate, and was told he needed some medication. Fortunately the problem was caught early enough that after taking the medication he quickly

recovered. Without this support, James was unlikely to have gone for the x-ray until his condition severely deteriorated, which would have meant a longer road to recovery.

Groundswell's peer advocacy reduces health inequalities and saves the NHS money. Their programme so far has achieved a 68% reduction in missed outpatient appointments resulting in an up to £60,000 reduction in related costs to the NHS per year. A further 42% reduction in unplanned care activity has created even more savings.

The peer element of the programme is crucial to its success, as peer advocates are able to form trusting relationships based on shared experience. They increase homeless people's confidence, knowledge and motivation to access healthcare. In turn Groundswell has found this helps homeless people to transition from homelessness and unemployment to a stable home and employment or further training. Groundswell also supports their volunteers to develop and grow through their Volunteer Progression Programme, which enables its formerly homeless volunteers to overcome employment barriers by providing training, support and coaching that builds their self-reliance and self-determination.



THE IDEA

BUILD NETWORKS OF PEER ADVOCATES TO SUPPORT VULNERABLE GROUPS IN URBAN COMMUNITIES TO ACCESS FREE HEALTHCARE SERVICES AS A MEANS TO REGAIN CONTROL OF THEIR LIVES.



BUILD PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE PREVALENCE OF MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES TO REMOVE SOCIAL STIGMA, AND ENCOURAGE MORE PEOPLE INTO TREATMENT, SO THEY CAN OVERCOME THE BARRIERS TO LEADING PRODUCTIVE LIVES.

Mentally Aware Nigeria Initiative

MENTAL HEALTH IS FOR ALL OF US: THE CAMPAIGN TO BUILD MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS IN NIGERIA

Mental health remains one of the most neglected areas of health in Nigeria. It is estimated that 20% of Nigerians suffer from some form of mental illness. However, only 3.3% of the government health budget goes towards mental health services, with the majority of this small allocation going solely to mental hospitals. The lack of access to comprehensive mental health services leaves many Nigerians suffering alone and in silence. This suffering is compounded by the heavy stigma attached to many mental illnesses in the country.

A lack of understanding of the causes of mental illness, modes of transmission and appropriate treatment often leads to the blaming of individuals for their mental illness or the perception that they are somehow a danger to society. The widespread belief in supernatural causation of mental illness also adds to the perception that the mentally ill should be avoided. Therefore, those suffering from mental illness must not only battle the symptoms of their illness but also the disadvantages created by societal reactions to it.

Mentally Aware Nigeria Initiative (MANI) aims to end the stigma associated with mental illness. Providing a community of acceptance, they create the opportunity for people to tell their mental health stories openly in an environment without fear. Their online awareness campaigns including “#NotaCharacterFlaw” and “#DepressionFeelsLike” aim to break stereotypes and assumptions through allowing sufferers to tell their

stories about the reality of mental illness. MANI aims to build understand among ordinary Nigerians that mental illness is an illness like any other, stating “We don’t ask people with broken legs or cancer why they have them; so why do we feel the need to ask a depressed person why?”

One of the ways to spread awareness is through contributors providing testimonies of their experience with a mental illness. One anonymous contributor described his life with bi-polar disorder. “Suffering from bi-polar disorder is like leading a double life” he explained. “On some days you wake up with absolutely no motivation to do anything, you don’t make contact with the outside world. Other days you wake up with a sudden rush of creativity.” He also described the toll his condition took on his life. “Bi-polar disorder is torturous because you can imagine great things you want to do, you can think of great things you want to do, then all of a sudden you find yourself in a dark place where you don’t even have the motivation to start.”

MANI, despite limited funding and the immense stigma surrounding the issue, have already achieved tremendous results as a civil society organisation, becoming the country’s largest and most active mental health organisation. The response that their online campaigning and public events have sparked indicates a tremendous interest in engaging with mental health issues among Nigeria’s youth. This provides real hope that changing the face of mental health in Nigeria is possible.

PROVIDE TRAINED PSYCHO-SOCIAL COUNSELLORS VIA MOBILE TEXT-BASED PLATFORMS TO INCREASE THE LIKELIHOOD OF YOUNGER GENERATIONS SEEKING THE SUPPORT THEY NEED AND TO REDUCE ESCALATING YOUTH SUICIDE RATES.

THE IDEA

Crisis Text Line

HELP IS ONLY A TEXT MESSAGE AWAY

Suicide rates have increased in nearly every US state over the past two decades, with half of states experiencing a more than 30% increase in that time. It is therefore a major public health issue.

Mental health disorders such as depression can lead to suicidal thoughts. As many as one in five teenagers suffers from clinical depression and suicide is the third leading cause of death for Americans between the ages of ten and twenty-four.

Crisis Text Line recognises that many people in crisis, whether suffering from depression, bullying, suicidal thoughts, abuse or other issues, feel unable to speak out loud about what is happening to them or how they are feeling. It is the first and only national 24-hour crisis-intervention hotline to conduct its conversations exclusively over text message.

For young people in particular, who make up the majority of Crisis Text Line's users, discussing or disclosing via text message can seem a lot less daunting than picking up the phone and having to speak out-loud to someone.

Anyone who contacts Crisis Text Line will receive a response from a real person – a counsellor on duty behind a computer screen. An average exchange takes place over a little more than an hour, longer if there is the risk of suicide.

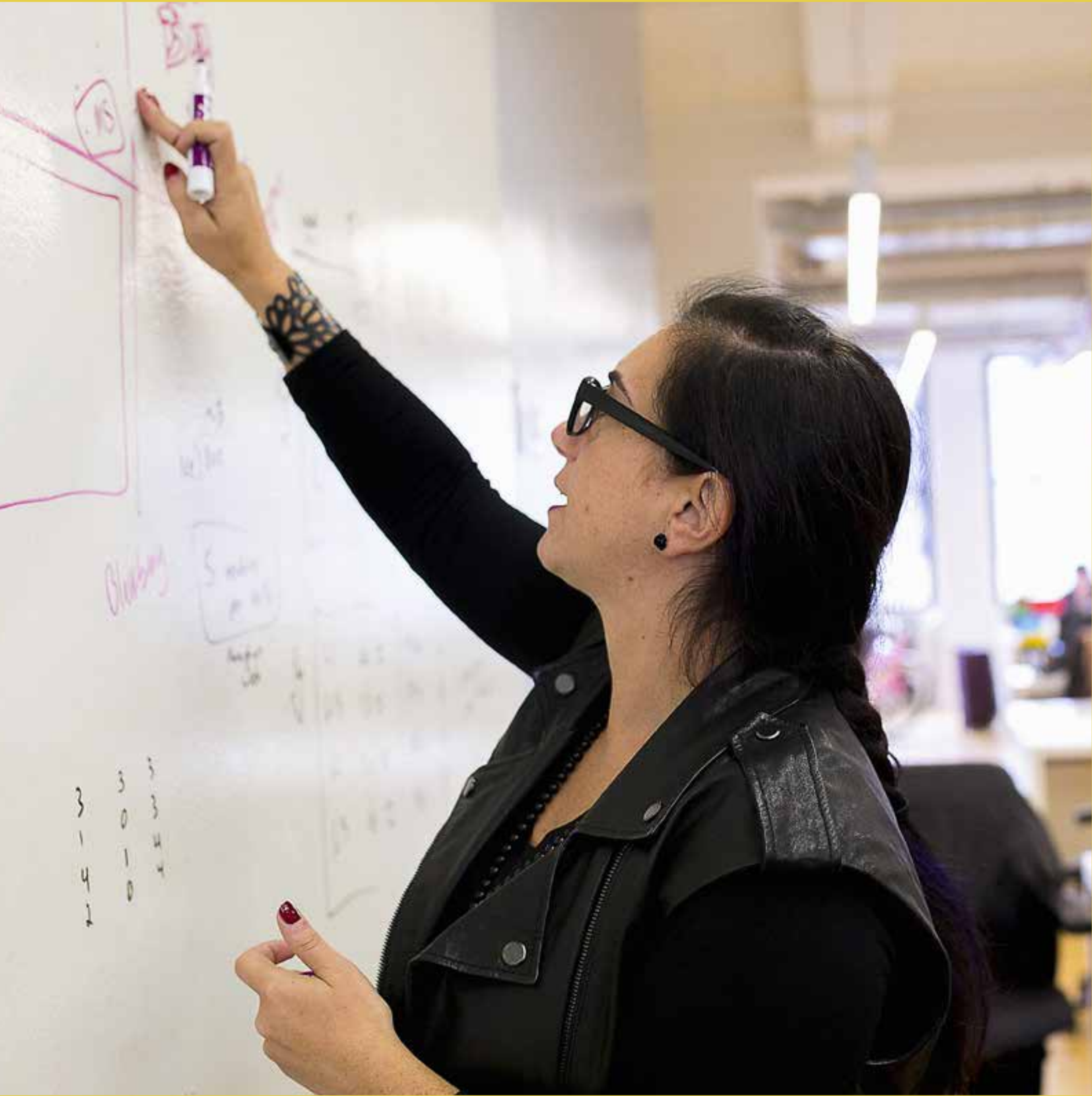
Counsellors are trained to put texters at ease and not to jump too quickly with solutions and instructions. They ask open-ended questions and avoid making assumptions or using language that a person might not know. Techniques that are encouraged include validation of feelings ("What a tough situation"); "tentafiers" ("Do you mind if I ask you . . ."); and empathetic responses ("It sounds like you're feeling anxious because of all these rumours"). They allow the texters to speak freely without trying to provide all the answers or probing with too many questions.

People feel compelled to contact Crisis Text Line for a variety of reasons, but however minor the prompt to reach out, having a stranger take them seriously can be invaluable to de-escalate their situation and reduce their feelings of anxiety. "A lot of times, when chatting with young people, it's clear that they just

need someone to listen to them," one counsellor said. "Sometimes it's obvious. They'll say, 'Thanks for listening. Nobody ever does that,' and at other times it's less explicit; they just want to get everything out, and they provide you with a very, very detailed account."

Each day, on average, Crisis Text Line instigates at least 25 active rescues of someone who's believed to be in immediate risk of suicide or homicide. During active rescues, the counsellor continues to engage the texter while the supervisor monitors the conversation and contacts the police.

The organisation collects anonymous data, to improve their service and study overall trends. This has already produced a unique collection of mental-health data. Such a wealth of data is new in the field and could prove extremely useful for public health professionals trying to understand the big picture of mental health issues and suicide in the US, and ultimately improve how the healthcare system is able to respond.





TO FIGHT THE DANGER OF ANTI-MICROBIAL RESISTANCE, REGULATE, TRAIN AND CERTIFICATE SELLERS OF ESSENTIAL MEDICINES IN HARD TO REACH COMMUNITIES TO DISPENSE APPROPRIATE DRUGS.

THE IDEA

Management Sciences for Health

REDUCING DRUG-RESISTANT INFECTIONS IN TANZANIA

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is one of the most serious and growing risks to human health and development worldwide. Modern medicine relies on being able to treat infectious diseases with antimicrobial drugs. But overuse of antibiotics in both humans and animals is leading to resistance to treatments for infectious diseases including tuberculosis, HIV, and malaria. We must act now to limit the future impact of drug-resistant infections.

People in rural Tanzania often have to travel long distances to access the country's healthcare system, so when they fell ill, many would buy antibiotics from poorly regulated local dispensers. These dispensers were only legally allowed to sell over-the-counter medicines, but many who were untrained and unqualified illegally sold prescription medicines of questionable quality and didn't counsel patients on how to use them. This encouraged overuse of antibiotics and the spread of antibiotic resistant infections.

That was until the government of Tanzania, its Pharmacy Council, and the international non-governmental organisation, Management Sciences for Health, introduced a program to improve how antibiotics and other essential medicines are dispensed. They set up a national program to accredit drug dispensing outlets and their staff. To become accredited, dispensers are trained to provide safe, quality medicines and referrals to a health facility for more complex care. They can better advise on medicine choice and on the correct dose and duration. Crucially, they can also tell a patient when drugs are not necessary.

Audensia owned the local drug shop in her community and joined the accredited drug dispensing outlet (ADDO) program as soon as it was introduced in her district in 2010. She emphasised how the training and accreditation improved how she was able to provide health services for her community, "My medicines dispensing skills have improved and I learned how to communicate with clients better. The accreditation

allows me to stock and dispense more medicines than I could before due to the laws. Also, my clients seem to trust my services more: I now have legal documents in the shop which signify recognition by the government; the conditions at the outlet are better; and, now I have a uniform, a white coat from the Tanzanian Food and Drug Authority."

The programme has helped facilitate access to essential medicines in hard to reach areas, and importantly, better regulated the dispensing of these medicines to help combat AMR. The initiative has been so successful that the model is being adapted in other countries in Africa and beyond.

THE IDEA ENCOURAGE AND CREATE SPACES FOR SELF-ORGANISED NETWORKS TO INSPIRE POOR AND OVERLOOKED COMMUNITIES TO EXERCISE COLLECTIVELY FOR SOCIAL AND PERSONAL GAIN.

GirlTrek

WALKING AS HEALTHCARE FOR THE MIND AND BODY

Morgan Dixon was a self-confessed workaholic. She suffered from depression, which only made her bury herself in her work more. It made her shy away from friendships and intimacy and not pick up the phone to her mother. When speaking to other women in her life, she found many were similarly struggling to dedicate time to self-care whilst juggling long work hours, studying and home life. It was walking that made Morgan finally slow down and reflect on herself and her life.

Morgan, together with her college friend Vanessa Garrison, founded GirlTrek out of concern for the health and lives of black women. They witnessed what they saw as a health crisis for black women in the US – many of their friends and relatives suffered from mental and physical health problems. In fact, more than 80 percent of black women in the US are overweight or obese, and black women die from heart attacks and strokes at higher rates than other

women. Vanessa saw the cause of the problem as women “not feeling like [they] are worth taking enough time to care for and exercise your own body.” They decided to start a movement, seeing walking together as a radical act of self-care with the power to make a change. In 2010, they challenged friends and families to walk with them and GirlTrek was born.

GirlTrek inspires women to walk to heal their bodies, inspire their daughters and reclaim the streets of their neighbourhoods. They also aim to re-establish walking as a healing tradition in black communities as a tribute to those who walked before them. GirlTrek is now the largest health non-profit for black women and girls in the US, with over 80,000 members nationwide and groups hosting regular walks in 16 states.

Members of GirlTrek speak of the life-changing effects of joining a local group and taking part in regular walks. “It’s a lifeline for people,” said Kartessa Bell, a volunteer

neighbourhood captain. “Since they’ve been walking, I’ve seen people growing more confident.” For Teresa Thames, stumbling across the GirlTrek Facebook group led her to join. “It wasn’t about looking good or weight loss or fitting into a certain type of clothing,” she recalled. It was, “I want you to love yourself enough to invest in 30 minutes a day, to walk yourself to freedom.”

GirlTrek has achieved participation levels that no other health initiative aimed at black women has ever achieved. This is likely due to the lack of focus on bodyweight or weight-related health risks – there is no fat-shaming or scare tactics. Instead, GirlTrek focuses on the positive aspects of walking for mind and body and the historic significance of walking as a way of protesting injustice. As founder Vanessa so clearly states: “We are not a workout group. We are an army of women who are sick and tired of being sick and tired.”





THE IDEA

TARGET RESOURCES AT PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY TO COMBAT THE LIFESTYLE CHOICES THAT INCREASE THE LIKELIHOOD OF NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PREMATURE DEATHS.

The People's Health Foundation

THE FIGHT AGAINST NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES IN MYANMAR

Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) kill 41 million people each year, equivalent to 71% of all deaths globally. 14 million people die 'prematurely' from NCDs, between the ages of 30 and 70. NCDs are the result of a combination of genetic, physiological, environmental and behavioural factors, but tobacco use, physical inactivity, the harmful use of alcohol and unhealthy diets all increase the risk of dying from a NCD. The main types of NCDs are cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes. Although sometimes thought of as 'diseases of affluence' over 85% of premature deaths from NCDs occur in low- and middle-income countries.

The People's Health Foundation, is an NGO that strives to improve public health in Myanmar, with a focus on NCDs. They campaign for increased health warnings on tobacco products, bans of cigarette advertising and increased tax on tobacco to reduce smoking and its associated health impacts. In Myanmar, 43.8% of adult men smoke and 62.2% chew betel quid and/or tobacco. The People's Health Foundation promote healthy living, through healthy eating, increased exercise and going smoke-free.

In September 2017, the Ministry of Health and Sports launched a campaign in collaboration with the People's Health Foundation, to educate the public on the harms of chewing betel quid. The slogan of the campaign clearly indicates what is at stake: Avoid betel chewing, so you don't regret your life choices. TV and radio spots illustrating the harm from betel chewing were shown on national TV and

radio, and during movie screenings. It is a hard-hitting campaign, with testimonials of patients suffering from oral cancer as its cornerstone. This approach has proven effective in India and Thailand.

The People's Health Foundation acknowledges that harmful habits established over many years don't change overnight. They see the campaign and the banning of betel chewing in government offices, schools and hospitals in May 2016 as important first steps. But betel quid chewing remains a national health problem that merits a long-term approach combining education, regulation, enforcement and economic alternatives. A sample of people from different regions, ages and genders were surveyed after the campaign to gauge how effective it was, and their responses will be used to help design the next campaign. According to the research, 87% of people interviewed expressed concern about the effect of smokeless tobacco on their health while 84% said they remembered the campaign. Another 62% stated that they are trying to quit.

By raising public awareness and collaborating with the government to improve public health policies, the People's Health Foundation are working to prevent people developing NCDs from their lifestyle and to reduce the number of premature deaths from NCDs in Myanmar. Their evidence based advocacy approach is having a great impact by educating the people of Myanmar on health risks and providing solutions for how to avoid NCDs.

“Let there be justice for all.
Let there be peace for all.”

– NELSON MANDELA

“Working for access to justice is all of our responsibility. There is no peace without justice. There is no development without justice. Through the Sustainable Development Goals, all countries have committed to the goal to achieve peace, justice and inclusive societies. This is the jewel of all of the goals. Within that goal is the commitment to achieving equal access to justice for all. This notion of equality before the law and equality under the law is critical if we are to meet the challenges faced by societies around the world.”

– HINA JILANI

“Justice needs to be accessible to every group in society, if it is to truly serve all the people, and not just a privileged elite. I know through bitter experience that when democratic rules are ignored, judicial independence is crushed and the rule of law is accessible only to those who can afford it, the people who suffer most are those who can least afford to lose. Injustice erodes the integrity of institutions and destroys citizens’ faith in politics and democracy.”

– RICARDO LAGOS



Namati

EMPOWERING ACCESS TO THE RIGHT TO HEALTH

Of the 7.6 billion in the world, over four billion live outside the protection of the law. The legal empowerment movement is trying to rectify this injustice. Legal empowerment is about putting the power of the law into the hands of people who previously knew little about their rights, or who saw the law as something to fear. It can trace its roots back to 1950s South Africa, when grassroots advocates known as “community paralegals” began to help people resist apartheid.

Today legal empowerment programmes across the world provide concrete solutions to deprivation and injustice, such as a lack of access to healthcare. It is a gross injustice when people suffer needlessly or die due to a lack of access to simple treatment or necessary drugs, purely because they are unaware of their right to access healthcare.

In Matimani village, in rural Mozambique, Angelina’s 17-month-old baby, Bento, tested positive for HIV. She was sent home from the clinic with no treatment for her son – the nurse said that given his CD4 count, he did not qualify.

Hortência, a community paralegal, visited Angelina at her home a month later as part of her community awareness activities and heard about the situation. Knew that government policy and the treatment protocol for young HIV-positive children had changed. Bento should have been given medicine immediately because he was under five.

Hortência went with Angelina to see the HIV counsellor at the clinic. The counsellor had no idea that the national protocol had changed. Hortência then called the medical director of the district hospital – and within two days an HIV clinician visited the clinic, briefed all staff on the new policy and put up a poster informing patients of the changes. Bento started his antiretroviral treatment immediately. Hortência very likely saved his life. Research shows that in developing country settings, 50 per cent of HIV-positive children under-two die if they do not receive treatment.

Angelina is forever grateful for the support that the community paralegal provided. “I was really worried,” she says. “But I didn’t know what to do. I thought it

was normal to just wait. But now I have told my family and friends about the story and about Hortência. I have spoken about it in the community.”

Over the past five years Namati and its partners have worked with more than 65,000 clients to secure basic rights to healthcare and citizenship and to protect community lands and enforce environmental laws. Namati also convenes the Global Legal Empowerment Network, connecting over 5,000 individuals and 1300 groups from 150 countries. Together, they are building a movement to bring justice everywhere.



The Guerrilla Foundation was a winner of the 2017 CIVICUS Nelson Mandela-Graça Machel Innovation Awards in the Brave Philanthropy category.



THE IDEA

EMPOWER GRASSROOTS ACTIVISTS WITH GREATER AUTONOMY ON THE DIRECTION OF FUNDING TO SUPPORT MOVEMENT BUILDING AND SYSTEMIC CHANGE.

The Guerrilla Foundation

BRAVE MOVEMENTS NEED BRAVE FUNDERS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Activists and grassroots movements are essential catalysts for social change. Their tireless efforts to stand up against injustice and demand accountability have throughout history forced those in authority to take notice of societal problems. However these movements, despite their ability to spark a decisive change, are often seen as less than ideal causes for philanthropic funders who frequently opt for more risk-averse grantmaking decisions with outcomes that are easier to predict and measure. Activist-led movements then are often reliant solely on crowdfunding and their members pouring their energy and time into the cause without much material support and resources.

One foundation, amid an emerging group of progressive funders, is a little different; aiming to shake up the status quo for philanthropy and divert funding to bold campaigns & big picture activism.

The Guerrilla Foundation helps activists and grassroots movements who are tackling major issues and aiming to bring about systems change. Their grantmaking can give a movement the boost it needs to build capacity, develop

skills and organise on a larger scale. They give grants to new projects twice a year and are funding eight new organisations this Autumn 2017 including: The Rules, New Economy Organisers Network, The Red Line Campaign and Gastivists. The movements they fund work across a diverse range of pressure points, however they horizontally embody the progressive values of equity, democracy as well as social and ecological wellbeing.

One of Guerrilla Foundations recent grantees is the Ministry of Space, a self-organised Serbian collective behind the ongoing grassroots campaign Don't Let Belgrade D!own. The Balkan activists have formed a broad and fast-growing movement, organising actions of mass civil disobedience & citizen awareness against corporate takeover of the city, privatisation of public spaces, and environmentally unsustainable urban projects. Similarly a Guerrilla grant allowed the Rights to Housing Caravan, an initiative of the Portuguese anti-gentrification collective Habita!, to travel across the country and spotlight that the right to adequate housing is a fundamental human right for the experience of all economic, social, political and cultural rights. Both of

these organisations are members of yet another Guerrilla grantee, the European Action Coalition for the Right to Housing and to the City, which is a convergence network between movements from different cities of several European countries fighting for the respect of fundamental housing rights. This set of initiatives illustrates the Foundation's prioritisation of grassroots collaboration across borders, of developing activist capacities that are useful in local movements without being blind to the transnational context of policy-making and higher level advocacy.

The Guerrilla Foundation ultimately envisions a world where there is little need for philanthropy because the affliction of inequality has been healed. The current state of affairs sees vast amounts of resources accumulated, ever increasingly, within the hands of a few. By providing funds for participatory models of grantmaking such as FundAction, as well as grassroots movements and activists the Guerrilla Foundation aims to shift philanthropy towards a more imaginative, risk-taking, bottom-up paradigm that more effectively responds to emergent societal needs.

SUPPORT ROBUST, SECURE PLATFORMS TO GIVE VOICE AND INTERNATIONAL EXPOSURE TO JOURNALISTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS WHERE FREE SPEECH IS SUPPRESSED.

Al Badaiah

A LIGHT IN THE DARK OF EGYPT'S 'DIGITAL BLACK HOLE' ○ — — — — —

Egypt is one of many countries in the world where freedom of expression, association and assembly are commonly suppressed. Those wishing to speak freely about the political situation in their country face arrest, prosecution and imprisonment on charges such as inciting or participating in protests, disseminating “false rumours”, defaming officials and damaging morality. Censorship of material that is critical of the government is also commonplace, often in the name of the “fight against terrorism”.

As of August 2017, some 130 websites have been banned by the Egyptian government under allegations of “supporting terrorism” and “spreading lies”. Banned websites include news organisations, such as Al Jazeera and the websites of human rights groups including Reporters Without Borders, who had spoken out about the issue, describing Egypt as “one of the world’s largest prisons for journalists.” Faced with this unprecedented wave of censorship, Egyptian online media are trying to resist the suppression of their material and overcome the serious attack on freedom of expression and information.

Khaled Elbalshy and the Al Badaiah online newspaper are one such force that is boldly and relentlessly pursuing the cause of free speech, despite facing judicial and online harassment. Elbalshy is the chief editor of the Al Badaiah newspaper, which specialises in covering social conflicts and political prisoners. Al Badaiah is one of the many news websites that is blocked by the government in Egypt. Therefore users may only access it via a VPN or by reading the article on a third party host such as Facebook. Elbalshy tries to do everything he can to make sure the articles can be accessed in his country, but the crackdown on VPN providers and block on his own website has meant the number of Egyptians who can access Al Badaiah articles is falling. There is also a risk that access to social networks such as Facebook and Twitter could soon be curtailed.

Elbalshy refuses to give in, however, and seeks every platform available to shine a light on violations committed by the Egyptian government. He is an active human rights campaigner, who established the Front to Defend Journalists and Freedoms which has helped to secure the release of several journalists from detention. He himself

has been subject to judicial harassment; on 21 March 2017, he and two other members of the Egyptian Journalists Syndicate Council, were given a one-year prison sentence, suspended for three years, which he is planning to appeal. The case was considered by human rights groups as punishment for the Syndicate for its role in defending its members and freedom of the press. It can also be seen as a personal punishment for Elbalshy who had been subject for many kinds of harassment by different governments.

Elbalshy and the Al Badaiah website remain sparks of hope in Egypt’s ‘digital black hole’; shining light on the truth that the government is so keen to suppress and informing those inside the country and across the outside world about the injustices that journalists and civil society members are facing.





THE IDEA

PROVIDE FUNDING AND CAPACITY TO EMPOWER POOR COMMUNITIES TO HOLD POLLUTERS ACCOUNTABLE FOR ACTIONS THAT IMPACT NEGATIVELY ON PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

Asociación Civil por la Igualdad y la Justicia (ACIJ)

JUSTICE FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN ONE OF THE MOST POLLUTED PLACES ON EARTH

In July 2004 a group of residents living in “Villa Inflamable”, one of the worst-polluted informal settlements in the Matanza-Riachuelo river basin in the province of Buenos Aires, Argentina, filed a lawsuit against the Argentinian Government, the Government of the city of Buenos Aires and 44 businesses for damages to their health suffered as a result of the pollution of Matanza-Riachuelo River.

The case reached the Supreme Court of Argentina and its landmark ruling generated one of the most important socio environmental cases in Latin America. The first step towards access to justice for all is for everyone to know and be able to use the law. But protection of the law remains out of reach for 4 billion people– more than half of the world.

The people of the Matanza-Riachuelo river basin in Argentina live in one of the most polluted places on earth. Many suffer from severe health problems associated with the polluted air, water and soil. The river has served as Buenos Aires’ dumping ground for the last two centuries, with residents and businesses – including tanneries, chemical plants and factories – using its waters to drain away their waste. 90,000 tons of heavy metals and other harmful substances are currently dumped into the river every year. This profoundly affects the more than five million people who live in the river basin, where many reside in squatter settlements lacking basic services such as clean water, sewage and safe housing. Dangerous levels of arsenic, chrome, mercury and lead are found in the river basin. Residents suffer from diarrhoea, respiratory problems, skin-diseases, cancer, allergies and anaemia and blood samples often show alarmingly high levels of lead.

For more than 1,500 families living in Villa Inflamable, industrial pollution affects every aspect of their lives. Their homes are precariously built on top of soil contaminated with toxic waste, and their water sources are contaminated too. Most of the residents

of Villa Inflamable felt they had no power to change their horrendous living conditions, or halt the on-going polluting by industrial factories in the area.

In 2004, a group of health professionals and residents of Villa Inflamable filed a lawsuit in defence of their rights of living in a suitable habitat. They were supported by many different civil society organizations who helped the process gain momentum. By 2008, a landmark ruling was made: the government and city authorities were sentenced not only to clean the river basin, but to also prevent future environmental harm, remove industrial pollution, clean up landfills, clean riverbanks, expand clean water networks, construct working sewage sanitation systems, put together an emergency health plan and inform the public about the measures taken.

The Supreme Court, acknowledging the right to a healthy environment, set an important precedent in environmental law and laid the foundations of so-called ‘environmental citizenship’. However, ten years after this judicial ruling, implementation remains a challenge.

The Civil Association for Equality and Justice (ACIJ) helped the people of Villa Inflamable to understand and use the law to achieve their rights. Currently, ACIJ continues to work with them, assisting with legal cases and training leaders in rights and advocacy. They advocate to the Supreme Court on behalf of Villa Inflamable, to ensure that the implementation process was inclusive, so that the people of Villa Inflamable’s future was not defined without their participation.

Ten years on, it is clear that more work is required to ensure that the legal decision is translated into sufficient action, to protect the rights of Villa Inflamable’s residents to safe living conditions, and the rights of all the people of Buenos Aires to a clean environment. ACIJ continues to work with the residents of Villa Inflamable towards this goal.

The Awakening

SAYING NO MORE TO “HONOUR KILLINGS” IN PAKISTAN

Violence against women and murder in the name of “honour” remains widespread in Pakistan. In most reported cases, the harshest punishments on grounds of “honour” come from male-dominated *jirgas*, tribal and village councils. In most cases it is a woman's own relatives who will carry out the sentence and murder her to punish behaviour they deem unacceptable. Although often seen as a vestige of traditional, rural culture, so called “honour killings” have recently shocked the country's largest cities: Karachi and Lahore.

In August 2017, a young Karachi couple were killed with electric shocks by family members because their decision to elope violated “honour”. In the same month, a man in Lahore decapitated his wife for refusing to leave her job as a factory worker. There are no credible figures to indicate the true scale of “honour killings” in the country because murders often go unreported or disguised as suicide or natural deaths by family members. Where cases do make it to court, prosecutions are rare. This complete lack of justice means men are allowed to continue to abuse and murder their wives, sisters and daughters without repercussion and women continue to live in fear.

“The Awakening” is a women-led, rights-based organisation that works in Malakand Division, northern Pakistan. They provide legal aid and psycho-social counselling to women who are survivors of domestic violence and run a free hotline for women in danger. They raise awareness on legal rights for women and tirelessly lobby local leaders on the issue of honour killing, co-pioneering the first ever women “*jirga*” (a traditional assembly of leaders).

17-year-old Seema was a victim of horrific domestic violence by her husband in 2016. Her husband attacked her after a dispute, cutting off her nose and imprisoning her in a room for 20 days until she escaped to her parents' house. “The Awakening” team provided Seema with free legal aid and supported her to take her case to court. Her husband was found guilty and sentenced to five years in prison. Seema said she hoped the ruling would encourage other women suffering from violence to raise their voices against the abuse. “I was hopeless at that time. I had lost one of my body parts and I will never be able to see myself in the mirror again” she said. “I am very thankful to the Dastageer Legal Aid Center Swat of “The Awakening” that they encouraged me and provided free legal aid and assistance”.

Accessing justice through the legal system is often a lengthy and costly process. Women living in Swat District, where “The Awakening” focuses its work are predominantly impoverished, uneducated and have little power against their male relatives. They are in a legal void, which makes them extremely vulnerable to abuse. “The Awakening” works tirelessly to ensure that women are able to escape abusive situations. However the issue of “honour killings” persists.

“The Awakening” recorded 50 “honour killings” in Swat District during 2017, a marked increase from the year before. They continue to lobby stakeholders about this issue, demanding proper legislation against “honour” killings and the extension of pro-women laws to PATA (Provincially Administered Tribal Areas of Khyber PakhtunKhwa) across the district.





BRING ALL SECTORS TOGETHER TO
VALUE CONSERVATION OF AREAS OF
UNIQUE BIODIVERSITY AND BUILD
EQUITABLE ADMINISTRATION PLANS
FOR THEIR SURVIVAL.

THE IDEA

Agrupación Defensa y Conservación Maule Mataquito

DEFENDING THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT FROM
EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES

The region of Maule, Chile is a place of incomparable natural beauty. Near the town of Putú are breath taking sand dunes and wetlands, natural spaces that are attractive to hikers and bird watchers. More than 120 species of bird coexist there, including the Chilean Flamingo, Black-necked swan and Snowy-crowned Tern. But the sand dunes of Putú and neighbouring wetlands are both under threat by mining companies seeking to extract iron.

In 2009, an Australian company made a bid to mine in the region. In response, the local community of Putú mobilised, forming the Agrupación Defensa y Conservación Maule Mataquito (Maule Mataquito Defence and Conservation Group) to protect the area and its natural resources. However, the threats from extraction failed to cease. They began a process of citizen organising and empowerment, raising awareness of the threats that mining posed to the region and encouraging others to take up the fight against extraction.

By 2014 the organisation had managed to block the mining initiative and by working together with the regional authority of the Ministry of the Environment and Local Government they were able to generate a proposal to grant a national category of protection to the dunes and wetlands of Putú, which would designate them as local and regional heritage and ecological landmarks. Alongside their proposal to the government, the

Maule Mataquito Defence and Conservation Group began a programme of environmental education, believing that future generations must understand the value of the region for the wildlife that inhabit it. Each year, they celebrate World Wetlands Day, combining local gastronomy, artistic and musical traditions with recreational activities, and educational visits and birdwatching guide to the wetland complex.

After many years of work, in February 2018, the group heard news of a stunning victory, the dunes and wetlands of Putú had been officially designated a protected nature sanctuary by the Ministry of the Environment. This news was proof that the group's efforts to oppose mining in the region, and educate and mobilise the local community had paid off. The Maule Mataquito Defence and Conservation Group continue to work in environmental education, community based tourism and in the conservation of natural heritage, speaking up for the value of preserving nature in Chile. With help from a grant from the Global Greengrants Fund, they are making a documentary to educate local communities about the threats mining poses to the region. Their objective now is to work with land owners, communities, NGOs and the local authority to build an administration plan for this new protected area, and ensure a sustainable future for the area.

SECURE RESOURCES FOR LEGAL EMPOWERMENT
OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO ADDRESS THEIR LAND,
WATER AND CULTURAL RIGHTS AND TO PROTECT
THEIR LIVELIHOODS AND WAYS OF LIFE.

THE IDEA

IMPACT

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF KENYA’S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

There are roughly 14 groups in Kenya who self identify as indigenous peoples, and they can be roughly categorised as either hunter-gatherers such as the Ogiek, Sengwer and Sanya or pastoralists including the Endorois, Maasai and Samburu. As Kenya continues to develop, outside forces come into contact with indigenous communities more frequently. This has significantly affected, and in many cases threatened, their way of life. One particularly pressing issue is displacement from ancestral land and resources in the name of development, national security, wildlife conservation and environmental protection. The rights of indigenous people are often marginalised or overlooked by more powerful actors in pursuit of development or conservation goals.

Since being established in 2003, IMPACT has been at the frontlines of indigenous peoples’ struggle for recognition, rights, representation and territorial and cultural resources in Kenya. IMPACT works with communities to defend their land rights, to address historical injustices, and to prevent the exploitation of resources. Communities bring their concerns directly to IMPACT who then advises them on the best way forward. In some cases, this involves providing legal support and seeking financial resources to enable communities to file legal claims to protect their rights.

IMPACT has been involved in resolving several legal cases that have benefited hundreds of indigenous people. IMPACT assisted the Lekiji Community who were facing threats of displacement from nearby ranch owners. With IMPACT’s assistance, the Lekiji Community received a favourable ruling from the court, resulting in the

protection of the land rights of over 400 families. IMPACT also remains involved in on-going legal cases, such as the Lake Turkana Wind Power Project case. To make way for what is promised to become the largest wind farm in Africa, a group of about 1,200 indigenous people have been resettled without adequate consultation. IMPACT continues to battle for indigenous ways of life to be respected in this case.

Another ongoing legal case concerns a proposed dam on the Ewaso Ngiro River. Over 3 million people, mostly nomadic communities and their livestock, depend on the river for survival, and the dam would instead divert water to the proposed Isiolo Resort City. To protest this proposition and raise awareness of the issue, IMPACT Kenya leads Camel Caravans across the arid landscape, using a nomadic tradition to highlight the injustices facing nomadic communities.

The founder of IMPACT, Johnson Malih Ole Kaunga, has argued that traditional means of livelihood are treated as inferior and “primitive” and indigenous peoples’ culture is being criminalised to justify the displacement of indigenous groups from their ancestral lands. Indigenous groups’ voices and rights should not be marginalised by the national government, powerful elites, multinationals and the development sector. IMPACT continues to fight for their voices to be heard.





PROVIDE LEGAL AID SERVICES TO ASSIST MIGRANT WORKERS IN REDRESSING EXPLOITATION BY EMPLOYERS AND AUTHORITIES, AND TO RAISE AWARENESS OF WORKERS' RIGHTS.

Kav LaOved

THE POWER OF LEGAL AID TO SUPPORT VULNERABLE AND MARGINALISED WORKERS

Migrant workers represent an extremely vulnerable population group within Israeli society. For those employed in low-paid sectors such as caregiving, housecleaning and agriculture, rights violations are common, including payment below minimum wage, unpaid or insufficient overtime, termination due to pregnancy, denial of health, pension and severance benefits and long working hours. For refugees and asylum seekers the situation can be even worse.

The government has been openly hostile towards this section of the population, 90% of whom are from Eritrea and 10% from Sudan. In the spring of 2017 the government announced that they would take 20% from asylum seekers' salaries, which they can only access when they depart Israel, in a bid to get them to leave the country. This situation worsened in early 2018, when the government gave asylum seekers a stark choice: deportation to an undisclosed third-party country, or an indefinite jail sentence. Refugees and asylum seekers awaiting decisions on their status often turn to exploitative employment characterised by physical labour, long hours, and salaries many times below minimum wage.

It is within this context that Kav LaOved – Worker's Hotline (KLO) endeavours to defend workers' rights and the enforcement of Israeli labour law, which is designed to protect every worker in Israel, irrespective of nationality, religion, gender and legal status. They support vulnerable workers in Israeli society, through individual assistance, legal and procedural support, public advocacy, cooperative partnership with governmental bodies, and human rights-educational efforts. The organization represents workers from several sectors – in particular those working under minimum wage – such as migrant workers, agricultural workers, hourly and temporary workers, refugees and asylum seekers and Palestinians working in Israel.

Jon* is a refugee from Eritrea. He fled his country and came to Israel in 2010. The journey, which was long and arduous, included passing through the Sinai Peninsula, which is known for its cost to human lives. When he first arrived in Israel, he lived with a large group of people in one cramped room, and like everyone who had just arrived he wanted to start working so he could support himself. At first, Jon worked for employers who took advantage of

him. They made him work long hours (without receiving overtime pay) and often without breaks. One month, he didn't receive his pay check. When Jon visited KLO, he worked with a paralegal volunteer, who helped him recover the pay he was owed. Jon continued to visit KLO several times after that with similar issues. Wanting to help others, he decided to begin volunteering with KLO, serving as a translator and a one-stop "know-your-rights" resource for other members of the Eritrean community.

Since its founding, KLO has used multiple avenues to raise workers' awareness of their labour rights, including workshops, lectures and one-on-one consultations. Over two years, 3,250 workers have participated in workshops in English, Hebrew, Thai, and Arabic about their rights and Israeli labour law. Using the law to advocate for workers' rights and recover the earnings/compensation due to them, KLO opened 7,000 individual cases for workers and helped them recover over \$10 million in 2017. Together they are addressing the injustices that many migrant workers face every day and fighting for their right to equal treatment.

*Name changed to protect identity

DEVISE COMMUNITY BASED SAFE ENVIRONMENTS TO BRING SURVIVORS, PERPETRATORS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT TOGETHER TO AGREE HOLISTIC APPROACHES TO TACKLE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS.

My Choices Foundation

TAKING ON INDIA'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EPIDEMIC

While India is making strides towards gender equality in many areas, it has yet to shake the harsh reality that it is the most dangerous place on earth to be a girl.

Violence against women is widespread and remains a topic of national concern – particularly when shockingly brutal cases of violent attacks in public spaces come into the public eye. However in India, as in the rest of the world, the majority of violence against women is perpetrated by a women's own partner, making her home in fact the most dangerous place for her to be. Recent studies show that 27% of women across India report experiencing intimate partner violence within the past year. This rises to 59% in some states. As these statistics are self-reported, the reality could be even higher. Three out of every four women who are abused not only never seek help, but don't speak to anyone about the abuse they are facing. This means that crimes against women remain largely unreported to authorities and perpetrators are allowed to continue with impunity. The acceptance of domestic violence can even extend to the authorities; there are numerous instances where police refuse to register a woman's complaint.

My Choices Foundation takes a multi-stakeholder approach to tackling this epidemic, working with victims of abuse, perpetrators and the police to both intervene in abuse cases and prevent future ones. They train and hire local women as 'PeaceMakers' to work within their own communities and provide counselling, rights education, and basic legal aid to victims of abuse. A PeaceMaker can also provide counselling to the perpetrator of abuse. It is important to work with the perpetrator, because it is them, not the victim, who requires behaviour-change to find non-violent ways of expressing emotion and handling disagreement.

Sarojini is a domestic violence survivor. After enduring 15 years of abuse from her husband, she felt that ending her life was the only option. Upon visiting a counselling centre run by My Choices Foundations she said, "I opened up for the first time about the abuse I was enduring since the second day of my marriage." After hearing her story, the counsellor invited her to visit some safe homes, so that if she needed to make an emergency exit from her home and her husband, she had somewhere safe to go. When the time came to escape Sarojini was prepared, she didn't hesitate,

taking her two daughters to the safe house. Sarojini's life was saved when she took the brave step of leaving her husband. In her own words, she lived "to see my daughters become strong, confident and happy women" who "no longer experience daily stress from being witnesses to abuse."

My Choices Foundation now run five Counselling Centres, with more scheduled to launch. 209 PeaceMakers have been trained as paralegals and counsellors and 4,359 cases of domestic violence have been successfully managed and peacefully resolved. They have also made impressive strides towards systemic change, through their official partnership with the police in Secunderabad, Telangana. The police now divert their domestic violence cases to Counselling Centres for assessment and legal counselling.

By working with all stakeholders, My Choices Foundation are tackling violence against women from all sides – working to ensure that women can live lives free from violence, abuse and exploitation and will no longer have to be afraid in their own homes.

**"IT
ALWAYS
SEEMS
IMPOSSIBLE
UNTIL ITS
DONE."**

– NELSON MANDELA

My
Choices



THE IDEA

EMPOWER SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE
IN CONFLICT ZONES TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST
PERPETRATORS SECURELY, AND END THE CULTURE
OF IMPUNITY FOR CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN.

Pilier aux Femmes Vulnérables Actives

COMBATTING IMPUNITY IN A COLLAPSED STATE

The Democratic Republic of Congo is often described as the epitome of a collapsed state; torn by complex conflicts on regional, national and local levels. Rebel factions have been fighting the government, fighting each other, attacking civilians and been subjected to infighting in varying degrees of intensity since the country’s independence.

The vast country’s richness in natural resources including diamonds, gold, copper, cobalt, cassiterite (tin ore) and coltan, has funded and prolonged conflicts. Violence has been particularly frequent in the Kivu regions where targeting civilians is common. The current security situation in South Kivu means human rights violations are committed with impunity: murder, arbitrary arrests, torture, sexual violence, recruitment and use of children in armed groups and the collection of illegal taxes by military and rebel combatants continue throughout the chaos of conflict. Sexual violence by both government forces and rebel militia groups is documented to be widespread, with many historical crimes not yet addressed.

Pilier aux Femmes Vulnérables Actives (PIFEVA) is currently operational in eight territories of South Kivu. Since its creation in 2004, PIFEVA has implemented various projects to care for victims of sexual violence and monitor, document and report on the human rights situation. PIFEVA runs legal clinics where legal literacy and counselling sessions are held. PIFEVA paralegals and attorneys assist victims of sexual violence with cases in civil and military courts. The organization also seeks to end impunity through awareness raising and advocacy work.

Sexual violence remains unpunished in South Kivu for several complex reasons, according to PIFEVA. These include the inability of authorities to prevent sexual violence and protect survivors in times of armed conflict, the reluctance of victims to report sexual violence due to fear of reprisals, ignorance of the right to legal recourse, the persistence of discrimination against women and the poverty of the majority of survivors who are unable to take their case to court. While PIFEVA cannot change the security situation in South Kivu, they are able to educate women on their rights to legal recourse and provide the funds and support to get them successfully through a court case. They can also care for their psychological wellbeing as survivors.

One survivor said, “I did not trust the Congolese police and judicial institutions for lack of information, but thanks to PIFEVA, I benefited from legal and judicial support since the filing of my complaint until the conviction of the person who raped me by the Uvira District Court in South Kivu. The legal information that was provided to me at the legal clinic PIFEVA also allowed me to know the process of access to justice in case of rape and any other violation of human rights.”

A total of 12,137 people, most of whom are victims of sexual violence, have benefited from PIFEVA’s legal clinics. Despite facing intimidation and threats from those who would rather PIFEVA stay quiet about these issues, their staff continue to survey, document and report on human rights abuses – stepping in where possible to bring perpetrators to justice.

ADVOCATE FOR POLICY IN THE MIDDLE EAST TO PROTECT MARGINALISED LOW-PAID WORKERS FROM ABUSIVE EMPLOYMENT PRACTISES AND PENALISE EXPLOITATION BY EMPLOYERS.

Project 189

JUSTICE FOR EXPLOITED MIGRANT WORKERS

Two-thirds of Kuwait's population are migrant workers. Travelling predominantly from South and South-East Asia, most migrate to Kuwait to work in construction or as domestic workers. Migrant workers are vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.

Under the *kafala* or sponsorship system in Kuwait, their legal residence and immigration status is tied to their employer and in 95% of the cases their employer takes away their passport. This makes escaping an abusive or exploitative employer extremely difficult. Even where laws exist to protect migrant workers, many are not able to exercise their rights, because they are unaware of them or have no way to claim them. The majority of construction workers are charged illegal recruitment fees and the majority of domestic workers do not know that they are entitled by law to have 1 day off a week. As a result, exploitative situations are common, forced labour is widespread and many female domestic workers in particular face multiple forms of abuse. Migrant workers have little access to justice or redress, facing multiple barriers if they wish to hold their abusers to account in a court of law.

Project 189 works to protect, promote and improve the rights of migrant workers in Kuwait. They create awareness campaigns to promote migrant workers' legal rights to the general population and deliver training to migrant workers on their legal rights. They also provide pro-bono legal representation in court, legal advice and translation services in addition to providing transportation to offices to support cases and/or complaints. They have so far provided legal advice to approximately 200 migrant workers and have helped free victims of trafficking and exploitation.

Through their project 'SARA' (Social Accountability for Recruitment Agencies) Project 189 worked directly with recruitment agencies and employers in Kuwait to strengthen adherence to international labour standards for domestic workers. The project included awareness raising workshops with 75 employers and the production of an online resource hub for domestic workers. There is a huge challenge ahead to change the attitudes of employers, as the workshops revealed practices such as withholding passports, long working hours, lack of a weekly day off, or preventing workers from going out was the norm and strongly justified.

By working directly with migrant workers and their employers, Project 189 can make a substantial difference to the working conditions of individuals while also changing wider attitudes through raising awareness of migrant workers' rights. Project 189 also connects migrant workers, creating a space for people to socialise, develop skills and discuss their hopes and dreams. Their recent photography project allowed domestic workers to learn basic photography skills and discuss their past and dreams for the future. As one participant Charito said, "Living far from my family is not easy. Despite all the hardship and trials, I am still here, standing alone, with my courage and inspiration to make my dreams come true."

The life of a migrant worker will always carry the hardship of living far away from loved ones. Many domestic workers watch their employers' children grow up while missing the milestones in their own children's childhoods. But this hardship is unnecessarily increased when migrant workers have to suffer inhumane working hours, confinement indoors and in some cases verbal and physical abuse. Project 189 works tirelessly to ensure that migrant workers are treated with the respect and decency that they deserve, so that they can achieve their dreams.



MAKE CITIZENSHIP AND IDENTITY RIGHTS ACCESSIBLE FROM BIRTH, TO ENSURE NO-ONE IS EXCLUDED FROM VITAL SERVICES AND WIDER SOCIETY.

MicroJustice Argentina

WITHOUT AN ID, ACCESSING JUSTICE IS IMPOSSIBLE

An estimated 1.1 billion people around the world are prevented from accessing legal and social protections because they lack a secure legal identity. People without a secure legal identity are often socially, economically and politically excluded. A person without an ID cannot access health, education or justice. They cannot report a crime or travel or rent a property. They have no inheritance rights. They cannot vote, work legally, or claim retirement or social benefits.

In Argentina, hundreds of thousands of “invisible” people do not have an ID card and in many cases, not even a birth certificate. They are unable to receive social assistance, such as child allowance, access regular medical care or graduate from school. When a child is born in Argentina, the birth must be recorded within the first 40 days at the local civil registry. Although the law was changed in 2009 to make registration free and available at the hospital, many people are unaware of the importance of registering a birth, or that the law has changed. For those giving birth outside of hospital, the steps to register the birth may be unknown of and complicated for diverse reasons.

MicroJustice Argentina works to facilitate access to justice for all. One of the most vulnerable groups they work with, are those without a legal identity. Their Identity Programme involves assisting people without ID cards to go through the process of applying for one. They report that “invisible” people are often hard to identify, but once they start talking to community

members and gaining trust, the scale of the problem becomes clear. In collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior and a network of other NGOs, they helped create a plan of action whereby each organisation would run Documentation Days in different provinces with support from local government to help register “invisible” people.

Over just two days in June 2017 the MicroJustice Argentina team travelled to Perico Jujuy for a Documentation Day in conjunction with the local ministry. They were able to serve more than 500 people in those two days – assisting them to apply for or renew their ID cards. This would allow adults and children alike to apply for education. One of the most moving cases they encountered was Marta, who at 68 years old had never had an ID card. She said, “I did not have ID and it was not worth anything. Now I’m going to go to primary school”.

MicroJustice Argentina is facilitating access to education, healthcare and justice through identifying the “invisible” and assisting them to overcome the obstacles that leave them powerless. Through legal empowerment workshops in communities on the Right to Identity, Family Law and Gender violence they ensure that communities are aware of their legal rights and know how to address a violation. They continue to work with and lobby the government to make the registration of undocumented individuals easier for everyone.

USE TECHNOLOGY TO EMPOWER ALL PEOPLE TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST STATE VIOLENCE, BY PROVIDING TOOLS FOR VALID EVIDENCE COLLECTION, AND RE-BUILD TRUST THAT JUSTICE SYSTEMS WORK FOR ALL.

THE IDEA

Nossas

THE PHONE-BASED SERVICE ENABLING CITIZENS TO MONITOR STATE VIOLENCE AND ACCESS JUSTICE

At least 4,224 people were killed by police officers in Brazil in 2016. While some police killings result from legitimate use of force, others are extrajudicial executions. The numbers are increasing, with roughly 26% more people killed by police in 2016 compared to 2015.

This has fuelled cycles of violence and poisoned the public's relationship with the police. Police officers become targets for reprisals – 437 police officers were killed in 2016, the majority while off duty. In Rio de Janeiro, one fifth of all homicides last year were police killings. Three quarters of those killed by police were black men. The Rio police report nearly all such killings as legitimate acts of self-defence in response to attacks by suspected criminals. However, in reality, extrajudicial killings are common: police kill unarmed men, men who are fleeing and men who have already been detained.

Nossas is drawing attention to this tragedy in Rio, and giving citizens the power to collect evidence and speak out about police brutality. Their project, DefeZap allows users to send anonymous videos of state

violence to a team of professionals who can forward the cases onto state control bodies. The DefeZap team monitors the progress of the complaints, preserving the secrecy of the complainants' communications, and keeping them informed about the progress of the cases. Through the simple tools of WhatsApp and Defezap.org, citizens are able to collect evidence and report on cases of state violence instantly using the phones they carry in their hands every day. The incredible civic network that Nossas has created in Rio, is allowing formerly politically disillusioned youth to participate in social activism and politics. Their social network also disperses easy to understand information, such as: "Tutorial on how to film approaches in safety" and "Translating rights from "legal" to Portuguese".

In February 2016, DefeZap received a video showing the police tossing the body of a young man into the back of a pick up truck. The man in the video was Igor Silva, just 19, killed by police in Maré, Rio. The video indicated that the police had failed to call emergency medical services and had moved his body, tampering with potential evidence. It directly refuted

the story provided by the police—that Silva had died while being taken to the hospital after being wounded in a shootout. Nossas forwarded the video to the public prosecutor in hopes that the office would investigate the case. Once an inquiry was opened, they also forwarded the video to a number of national and international media outlets that reported on the case so they could correct their previously published stories. This helped to reverse the mainstream media narrative that all civilians killed by police are dangerous armed traffickers who deserved to die.

In a year and a half of operation, DefeZap has already received more than 4,400 messages, with more than 300 instances of state violence, generating 139 official investigation and control procedures, which are in progress. Three have already had positive results in securing justice. Guilherme Pimentel, a coordinator at DefeZap says appalling videos of police violence and wrongdoing are often shared on social media, provoking outrage, but without consequence. Through DefeZap, he aims to ensure access to justice for all the people of Rio.





#WalkTogether - Johannesburg, South Africa



#WalkTogether - Cape Town



Mentally Aware Nigeria - Nigeria



Maharishi Institute - Johannesburg, South Africa



Namati - Washington DC, US



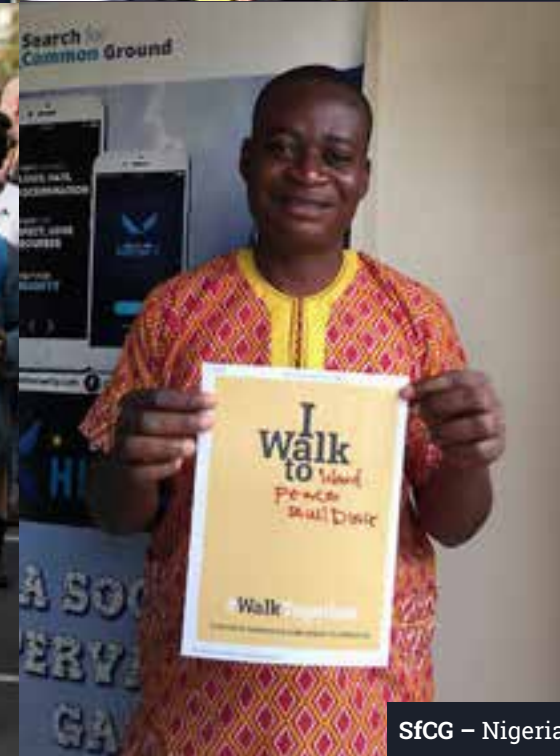
#WalkTogether - Bonn, Germany



Frontline Defenders - Dublin, Ireland



#WalkTogether - Community groups in South Africa



SfCG - Nigeria

"In a world that can be shrouded in darkness for many people, we need sparks of hope; courageous organisations working for peace, health, justice and equality. Walk together with us. Help to highlight one hundred ideas for a freer and fairer world."

- LAKHDAR BRAHIMI



SfCG - Rwanda



Rachel House - Jakarta, Indonesia



My Choices Foundation - Hyderabad, India



#WalkTogether at Skoll World Forum - Oxford, UK



#WalkTogether - Cape Town, South Africa



#WalkTogether - Cape Town, South Africa



DISRUPT THE CULTURE OF SILENCE SURROUNDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN PATRIARCHAL SOCIETIES, BY PROVIDING FREE LEGAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT AND SHELTER IN CENTRES STAFFED BY WOMEN.

The Women's Law Centre

THE WOMEN BRINGING JUSTICE TO VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN MOLDOVA

Domestic and gender-based violence is a deeply rooted problem that exists in every country of the world.

In Moldova, approximately 63% of women have suffered from at least one form of violence from their partner, while 40% were physically abused. Recent research indicates that 28% of men and 18% of women surveyed agree that a woman should tolerate violence in order to preserve the family. Shockingly, 41% of men and 19% of women affirm there are times when a woman should be beaten up. These perceptions lead to only 8% of women suffering abuse from their partners reporting it to the police. Few women feel comfortable discussing it with friends or relatives. In addition, oftentimes women are economically dependent on men and are unable to break the circle of violence. This makes them live with suffering and fear.

The Women's Law Centre (WLC) is a non-governmental organisation established in 2009 to provide pro bono legal and psychological support to women who

survived domestic and gender-based violence and to advocate for better national laws on domestic violence. A number of female lawyers from the Republic of Moldova who had the courage to speak out about domestic violence established the organisation. During 2017, the WLC provided assistance to 465 beneficiaries, of whom 186 were women with young children.

Mrs. Lidia, aged 78, recently reached out to WLC to thank the staff for their assistance in helping her escape an abusive situation at home. She had previously lived with her 43 year old son, who was a heavy drinker. As he was unemployed, he would demand money from his mother to pay for his alcohol, and if she refused, he would beat her and threaten her with death or sexual aggression. In fear of her son and without wanting to trouble her relatives, she used to sleep on the street or at the railway station. Mrs. Lidia reached out to the WLC after confiding in her daughter. The centre helped her file for a protection order against her son, so that he would no longer be able to live in the house.

However, when her son refused to leave the house and continued to abuse his mother, she was placed in an emergency domestic violence shelter. The WLC team filed complaints to the police about her son's violating the protection order and he was finally arrested and sentenced to a year and 8 months of imprisonment. Mrs. Lidia reports being well now, taking care of her garden and feeling safe.

The WLC is a tremendously brave organisation, which is run by women for women. It is an act of courage to raise the issue of domestic and gender-based violence and gender equality in an environment with strong patriarchal culture and prevailing stereotypes about the roles of men and women. Despite facing intimidation, the WLC team continue to speak out and provide vital services to vulnerable women.

Corporación Justicia y Libertad

DEFENDING WORKERS’ RIGHTS IN THE PALM OIL INDUSTRY

Palm oil is everywhere – in our foods, cosmetics, cleaning products and fuels. Its low market price and useful properties in food processing means the food industry now uses it in half of all supermarket products. Palm oil plantations currently cover more than 27 million hectares of the Earth's surface – an area the size of New Zealand. Rainforests and human settlements have been replaced by palm oil plantations, which contain almost no biodiversity. This not only has negative consequences for the environment and local wildlife, but has also led to large-scale displacement of local communities. As plantations replace forests that communities depend on for livelihoods, many have found little choice but to become workers in palm oil plantations.

Palm oil work is extremely physically demanding, requiring lifting and balancing heavy 12-meter long iron poles to reach the tops of trees. In Colombia, Latin America's biggest palm oil producer, workers often report dangerous working conditions. Injuries are common, the hard task of cutting and lifting clusters of palm fruit damages workers’ shoulders and backs, forcing many to retire at a young age. Workers also face intimidation and retribution when trying to organise for their rights in labour unions. Over one hundred social leaders and human rights defenders have been reportedly killed in Colombia in 2017, many of these union organisers.

Corporación Justicia y Libertad is a non-profit organisation working in the Magdalena Medio region, where armed conflict has hindered access to justice for those suffering human rights abuses. In the absence of a state presence in rural

territories, they have undertaken the challenge of supporting people fighting for their rights, particularly through supporting plantation workers’ trade unions. The total number of workers in the Colombian palm oil sector is estimated between 120,000 and 180,000 of which, only 40% have a direct contract with the palm oil company. This leaves the remaining 60% unprotected. Corporación Justicia y Libertad works to formalise these labour relations, ensure pension rights and sick pay, and create mechanisms for the peaceful resolution of conflict between workers and employers.

Through giving legal advice to different unions in the region, Corporación Justicia y Libertad's main objective has been to achieve fair employment contracts, eliminate any other means of indirect contracting and to promote and defend the trade union as a space of advocacy for the right to decent work. Their efforts have achieved the formalisation of more than 1,400 workers contracts from different companies in the region. One trade union organiser said of their work, “Through the Corporation, our organization has undertaken training processes that have allowed our union bases to be less vulnerable and we have undertaken strategic legal actions to achieve our objectives”.

Providing legal advice and supporting unions ensures that palm oil workers have some power against the multinational companies that employ and often exploit them. This has lead to improvements in their working conditions and a better enforcement of labour rights.





THE IDEA

**EDUCATE, CONSULT AND CONNECT
INDIGENOUS GROUPS WITH DECISION MAKERS
DETERMINING ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND
LAND USE IN THE AMAZON BASIN.**

Movimento Ipereg Ayu

THE MOVEMENT PROTECTING INDIGENOUS LANDS FROM DESTRUCTIVE DAMS

The Amazon holds the largest volume of water of any river in the world. Spanning the width of Brazil, and with tributaries in Peru, Bolivia, Venezuela, Colombia and Ecuador, it provides life to the world's largest tropical rainforest, thousands of unique species and countless communities of people.

The government of Brazil has long seen the potential of harnessing the power of the Amazon and its tributaries to generate electricity, but the vast Hydro-electric dams constructed for this purpose can have detrimental impacts on the local environment and indigenous communities living in the river basin. Hydro dams flood large areas of land, displacing the people that used to live there from their homes and livelihoods. Brazil has already flooded large areas of the Amazon by constructing numerous hydro dams and currently generates 70% of its electricity from hydropower. Brazil's government had planned to expand this development, opening half the Amazon basin to hydro dams, but indigenous and environmental groups are standing up to this injustice.

Movimento Ipereg Ayu and Associação Pariri and other Munduruku associations are resistance movements, formed by the Munduruku people of the Brazilian Amazon. Ipereg Ayu means "I am strong, I know how to protect myself", and the movement

helps members of their community to stand as one against common threats and in favour of sustainable, culturally appropriate development. They work to demarcate traditional territories, protect indigenous lands from illegal logging and mining, and create platforms for the Munduruku people to exchange experience and knowledge.

In 2016 the Munduruku movement came together to resist the proposed São Luiz do Tapajós dam. If built, the dam would have been the country's second largest and would have flooded an area the size of New York City, home to 820,000 people. An estimated 13,000 Munduruku people would have been displaced. Brazil's constitution protects indigenous communities from being forcibly removed from their lands, but for the Munduruku to qualify for protection, their land rights needed to be officially recognised by the government.

Movimento Ipereg Ayu alongside many other groups and organisations within the Munduruku community organised thousands of community members and activists to march, with support from Global Greengrants Fund and CASA Socio-Environmental Fund among others. Their initiatives were also supported by their neighbours from Montanha e Mangabal, a traditional community of 'ribeirinhos' (river bank people), living by the Tapajós River. Together, they raised awareness of the potential risks associated with the dam project and demanded the

government recognise Munduruku rights to their ancestral territory. Their demonstration of solidarity and strength, combined with international pressure, achieved incredible results: Brazil's Government Agency on Indigenous Affairs defined 170,000 hectares as indigenous land. Three months later, the Brazilian Government cancelled the license for the dam.

In 2018, Movimento Ipereg Ayu, Pariri, and other indigenous and riverine communities continue to push for the protection of indigenous and environmental rights. Despite their important achievements, the Munduruku people and their neighbours continue to face major threats, including the resurgence of plans to build the Tapajós mega-dam after renewed interest from international investors, a series of new dams planned on the Tapajós' tributaries and the threat of illegal gold mining which would contaminate surrounding rivers. For protesting against these activities, Ipereg Ayu and other indigenous activists face intimidation, threats and even suppression by the national guard.

However their movement is powerful, and by working together with others across Brazil and around the world towards a common goal, their achievements are a demonstration of the power that grassroots groups can have when challenging their fate in the face of powerful interests.

Women’s Justice Initiative

ASSISTING ISOLATED INDIGENOUS WOMEN TO ACCESS JUSTICE AND IMPROVE THEIR LIVES

Over 40% of the population of Guatemala are indigenous peoples, of which 75% are living in poverty. Indigenous peoples in Guatemala were repressed for centuries following Spanish colonisation. During the counter-insurgency campaign of the 1980s, 80% of the 200,000 people killed were indigenous peoples, in what has since been named a genocide.

Indigenous Guatemalans continue to suffer the impact of this legacy today. Many are unable to access land for farming – 1% of agricultural producers control 75% of fertile land. Many struggle without a legal identity, which restricts their ability to access services like healthcare, education or the justice system. Guatemala faces some of the highest levels of violence against women and girls in the region, having the third highest femicide rate globally. Furthermore, many institutions in Guatemala do not operate in, or cater for, indigenous languages, leaving communities isolated.

Indigenous women shoulder the double burden of discrimination for being born both female and indigenous. They are less likely to finish school, more likely to suffer illness and unlikely to be able to access family planning services.

The Women’s Justice Initiative (WJI) improves the lives of indigenous Guatemalan women and girls through education, access to legal services, and gender-based violence prevention. WJI works in rural Maya communities in Guatemala where women face extreme poverty and have little or no access to social services, making them especially vulnerable to violence, inequality, and discrimination. They provide free legal services directly to women by bringing lawyers and paralegals to communities and by providing bilingual Mayan-Spanish resources. They advise on a range of legal issues, including domestic violence, property rights, inheritance, and family law. They also run women’s rights education programmes for women and adolescent girls to give them the tools to better protect their rights.

The WJI Legal Services team was able to help 41-year-old Magdalena and her family gain their legal identity. Magdalena is a mother of six who gave birth to all of her children at home. Giving birth outside of a hospital means women must travel to register their children with the national registry within 60 days. Nearly 50% of indigenous women in Guatemala give birth at home. Unfortunately, Magdalena could not afford the registration costs (approximately \$6.85 per child) so none of her children had legal identities. Without this, none of her six children were enrolled in school, could read or write, or receive medical attention when they were ill. As adults, they would face serious barriers to employment. The Legal Services team helped the family request birth certificates from community midwives and the local health centre, identify witnesses required for registration, accompanied them to complete the formal registration process, and covered all costs incurred during the process. WJI secured legal identification for Magdalena and her children over just four months.

Everyone has the right to an identity, and without one, many people are unable to exercise their basic rights as a citizen. Without a legal identity, an individual cannot marry, study, vote, receive social security and health benefits, participate in government development programs, and obtain formal, dignified work. WJI is doing vital work to help women and their children gain their legal identities so they can assert their rights as Guatemalans. By working with the local community and improving access to justice for indigenous women and girls, WJI is breaking the cycle of gender-based violence and inequality in rural Guatemala.



THE IDEA

INVEST IN TRAINING AND BUILDING PARALEGAL NETWORKS TO REACH REMOTE COMMUNITIES, ENSURING ALL PEOPLE CAN ACCESS THEIR RIGHTS AND THE JUSTICE SYSTEM.



◦ Campaign for Migrant Worker's Justice

COMBINING LEGAL TOOLS AND PUBLIC CAMPAIGNS TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MIGRANT AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

The vast majority of agricultural workers in the United States, approximately 78%, are migrant workers from Mexico and Central America. Despite being the backbone of the food industry, they continue to be the some of the lowest paid, least protected, and unhealthiest workers in the United States. Agricultural workers are largely excluded from laws that protect other workers. Their right to collectively bargain isn't protected, they have no right to overtime pay, small farm workers are not entitled to receive minimum wage and children as young as twelve are legally allowed to work in the fields.

If workers wish to address their exploitation at work, they face many barriers to making complaints. Many are undocumented and their immigration status makes them vulnerable to threats of deportation. In addition, language barriers and residence in isolated housing, without access to transportation, provides further barriers to accessing legal recourse. Agricultural workers seeking to make civil legal claims are often impeded by long and expensive processes, which are difficult to navigate and often take years to process. As many migrant workers move frequently for seasonal work, this option

can prove impossible to see through. Their vulnerable situation, combined with barriers to organising, making complaints or taking a case to court, leaves agricultural workers trapped, unable to challenge their employers or fight for their rights.

Campaign for Migrant Worker's Justice (CMWJ) works in the US states of Ohio and North Carolina, as well as Mexico to empower migrant workers to address legal violations and unfair working conditions. Since 1980, CMWJ has been training workers on their legal rights, the legal system, and assisting bringing legal claims to court. CMWJ recognises that despite a handful of legal cases being successful each year, employers continue to break the law and exploit their workforce, as the compensation they are forced to pay by the court barely dents the amount they can gain from continually exploiting their workforce. Therefore, CMWJ also uses other approaches to maximise their impact. They publicise rights violations and flaws in current legal protection and enforcement, as a way to build toward broader change and creating pressure to resolve specific legal violations.

During a community training session, where common workplace violations were explained to workers, a group came forward to CMWJ with a complaint of wage theft. After identifying that thousands of dollars were not being paid, CMWJ sent a letter to their employer, requesting a meeting to resolve the issue. Immediately, the employer began to threaten to call immigration on the migrant workers who made the complaint. A lawsuit was filed in federal court, which began to move slowly. During this time, CMWJ staff began to research the purchasers of the vegetables grown by the employer, organise public actions and notify local press. The additional pressure of having reporters, purchasers, and the general public outraged at the employers behaviour, lead the employer to seek a quick resolution of the claim, agreeing to pay all of his employees for lost wages. This occurred within three months and was settled before the first court date, rather than taking years to move through the courts.

Through combining traditional legal training and support for lawsuits with research, corporate campaigning, collective bargaining, and public actions, CMWJ has been able to create pressure for vital long-term change.

PROVIDE FREE LEGAL AID TO ENSURE INCARCERATED MIGRANTS, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN, REALISE THEIR RIGHTS TO FAIR TREATMENT AND EQUALITY UNDER THE LAW AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS.

The Florence Project

STANDING STRONG IN THE WAKE OF INCREASINGLY HOSTILE US IMMIGRATION POLICIES

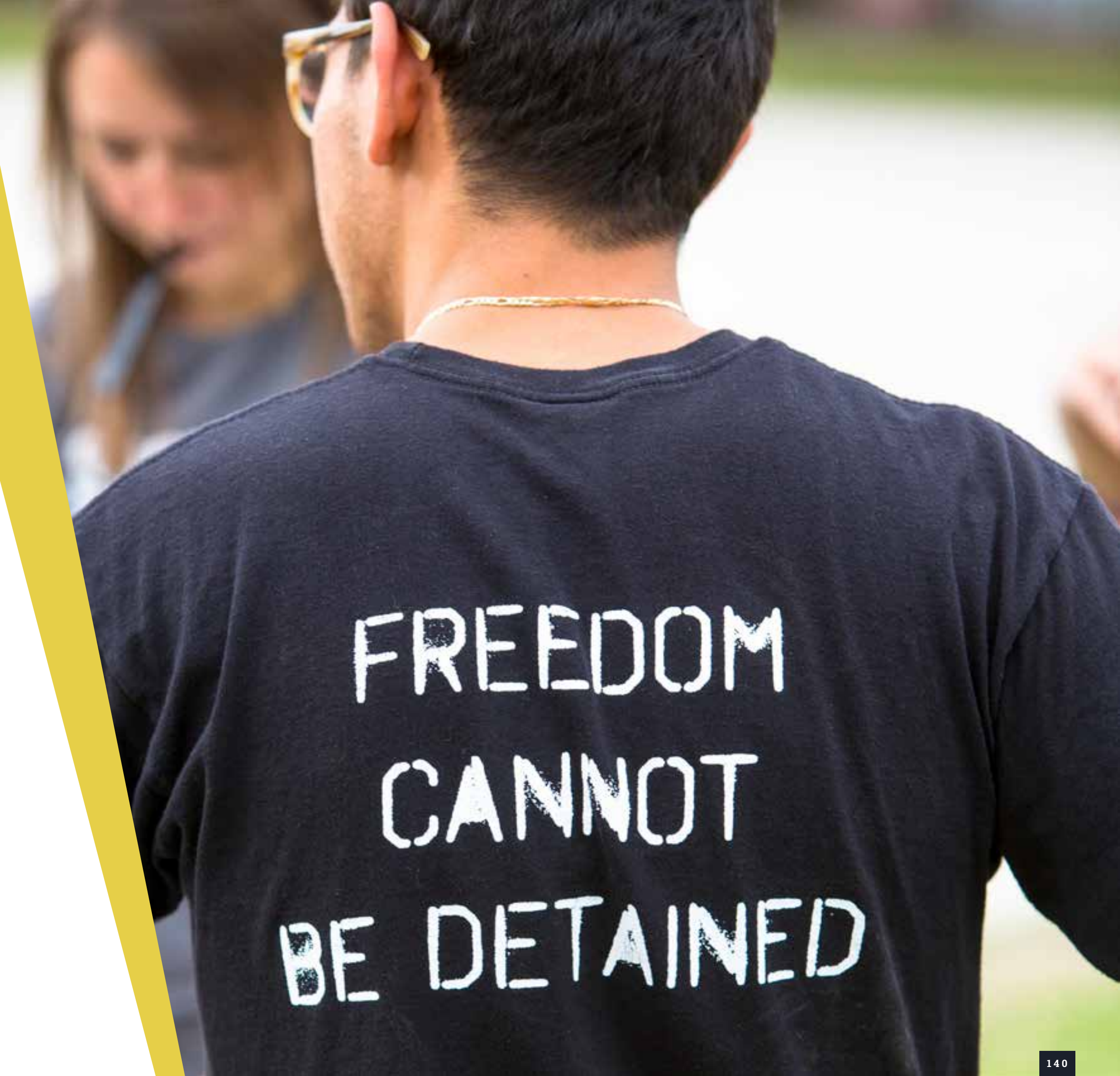
More than 1,500 children have been separated from their parents at the US-Mexico border since October 2017, and a new policy calling for criminal prosecutions of all those who cross illegally is likely to increase that number drastically. It follows several other hard line immigration policies from the Trump Administration, including the travel ban on arrivals from seven majority Muslim countries and the promise to end DACA and with it the protection of nearly 800,000 individuals ("Dreamers") who arrived in the US as children.

The United States has historically treated immigration violations as civil, rather than criminal offenses, so parents have not typically been separated from their children when they cross the border. However the new policy would have all immigrants face criminal charges, meaning their children could be separated from them at the border and placed into protective custody to be processed separately as unaccompanied minors. This practice has gained momentum in the last two months, particularly in Texas and Arizona, where many families from Central America seek to cross. The majority of apprehended migrants are from Honduras and El Salvador, two countries overwhelmed by violence, with children commonly targeted for recruitment by gangs.

The Florence Project provides free legal services to men, women, and unaccompanied children in immigration custody in Arizona. Although the government assists all other defendants through public defenders and legal aid attorneys, it does not provide attorneys for immigrants fighting their cases. As a result, an estimated 86% of detainees go unrepresented, unable to source or afford a lawyer. The Florence Project strives to address this inequity through direct service, partnerships with the community, and advocacy and outreach efforts.

During 2017, the Florence Project secured asylum for over 70 unaccompanied children in Arizona, who had fled violence or persecution in their home countries and sought refuge in the US. Carlos, who grew up in El Salvador, was one of these successful cases. As a teenager, Carlos was repeatedly targeted by gang members who tried to recruit him on his way to school. They threatened to harm him and his family when he refused, and he and his parents were afraid to go to the police, fearing they would tell the gang members. Carlos began living in constant fear of being attacked or murdered, something that he had seen happen to others in his community. It was no longer safe for him to go to school and he felt he had no choice but to travel alone through Guatemala and Mexico to the US border, hoping he could reach his grandmother who had lived in the US for many years. Thankfully, Florence Project attorneys represented Carlos in his asylum case. After nearly a year of legal preparation, and many sleepless nights, Carlos was granted asylum. He was able to spend Christmas with his grandmother, free from the fear and threats that followed him everywhere in El Salvador. He now attends a Phoenix public school, and enjoys learning English.

The Florence Project works to ensure that all immigrants facing removal have access to counsel, understand their rights under the law, and are treated fairly and humanely. Despite the challenging circumstances they are facing and renewed hostility towards refugees and migrants in the US, they continue to increase access to justice among this vulnerable group.





THE IDEA

PROVIDE YOUNG PEOPLE WITH THE TOOLS TO DEMAND CLIMATE JUSTICE THROUGH LEGAL ACTION AND ADVOCACY TARGETING GOVERNMENTS AND CORPORATIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR INACTION.

Earth Guardians

THE YOUNG ACTIVISTS STEPPING UP TO DEFEND THE PLANET

Global temperature rise, shrinking ice sheets, sea level rise, extreme weather events and ocean acidification all indicate the unequivocal fact that our climate is changing rapidly. This unprecedented climate change is caused by increased levels of greenhouse gases, as a result of human activity since the mid-20th century. It is already causing devastating effects to the planet and the people who live there. Without immediate action to reduce emissions, these effects will continue to intensify, grow ever more costly and damaging, and increasingly affect the entire planet.

The potential future effects of global climate change include more frequent wildfires, longer periods of drought and an increase in the number, duration and intensity of tropical storms while rising sea levels will leave many places uninhabitable.

Despite indisputable evidence that current climate changes are caused by human activity, some global leaders have been reluctant to make the changes necessary to put the planet and its people before profits – continuing to back industries contributing to global warming.

Earth Guardians refuse to accept this lack of action and in some cases, blatant disregard for the planet and future generations. They are growing a resilient movement with youth at the forefront by empowering young people to become leaders and amplifying their impact. Their mission is to protect the planet for future generations, believing that their age doesn't define their ability to create change. Their young team began by teaching young people about political participation and activism, organising local public actions to raise awareness of environmental damage. They have since grown to include a network of thousands of engaged young people in "crews" on six continents. Earth Guardians give young people the tools and encouragement to make measurable change in their communities.

Several teenagers from Earth Guardians are currently suing the Trump administration for violating their constitutional rights by failing to act on climate change. The 21 young people brought the lawsuit against the Obama administration in 2015 and despite attempts by both administrations to dismiss the case, it will go to trial on October 29th, 2018. Members are also involved in local cases of environmental

action, which have had incredible results, including a landmark court victory against fracking in Bolder, Colorado. Six teenagers from Earth Guardians sued the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC), arguing that the state regulatory agency is legally bound to put public health and safety first when permitting oil and gas developments – not to balance the needs of the public and industry, as COGCC and the state argue. The court ruled in their favour, meaning the commission can no longer decide to prioritise oil and gas development over the health and safety of Coloradans.

Legal actions are just one of Earth Guardians' tools for creating change. As youth director, Xiuhtezcatl Martinez says, "From the streets to the courtroom, the voices of the younger generation will be heard, and the legal system is a tool for our resistance. Small wins build up to create massive change." Their activism, campaigning and direct actions also draw attention to violations of environmental rights and inspire young people to work towards positive changes in their own communities around the world.

LEVERAGE INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE TO PROTECT AND SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AT RISK IN THEIR HOME COUNTRIES.

Front Line Defenders

PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS
AT RISK AROUND THE WORLD

Human rights defenders are active in every part of the world, standing up to injustice, brutality and oppression and challenging dictators, destructive multi-national corporations, religious conservatives and oppressive regimes. Defenders work in many different ways to protect rights, including documenting and publicly exposing human rights abuses, supporting survivors of abuse and campaigning to champion the rights of others.

What many human rights defenders have in common however, is that because they are speaking out or working against powerful people, corporations or institutions, they are threatened or targeted with defamation, criminalisation and violence. Many are in serious danger because of their work. In 2017 alone, 312 human rights defenders were killed. Thousands more were detained, presented with fabricated charges, subjected to lengthy, expensive and unfair legal processes and, in some cases, sentenced to long prison terms.

Front Line Defenders works to protect human rights defenders at risk, people who work, non-violently, for any or all of the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). The organization addresses the protection needs identified by HRDs themselves, providing rapid and practical support to at-risk defenders including: grants to pay for the practical security needs; provision of training and resource materials on physical and digital security and protection; international advocacy on behalf of defenders at immediate risk; campaigning and visibility work and capacity-building; rest and respite; temporary relocation for emergency situations and an emergency 24 hour phone line.

On 18 May, Kurdish journalist and human rights defender Nurcan Baysal received the 2018 Front Line Defenders Award for Human Rights Defenders at Risk in Europe & Central Asia. Baysal is a Kurdish human rights defender and journalist from Diyarbakir, in the Kurdish region of Turkey. As a direct result of her work documenting human rights violations in the region, Baysal has attracted the enmity of nationalists and pro-government groups and individuals. She receives death threats and abusive messages via email, social media and telephone messages on a daily basis.

In January 2018, she was detained and charged because she tweeted messages calling for peace and condemning the Turkish government's military incursion in Afrin and in February 2018; in a separate case, she was found guilty of demeaning the Turkish security forces in an article that she wrote in 2016 that documented criminal actions of the military. Sentenced to a 10 month jail term, she was released on the condition that she not repeat the offence within five years.

Front Line Defenders recognises the importance of international visibility as protection for human rights defenders. "As governments and corporations work to delegitimise and defame human rights defenders' peaceful work, activists around the world tell us that international visibility and recognition is a critical protection tool," said Executive Director Andrew Anderson. "The Award demonstrates that these defenders have the support of the international community, that their sacrifices have not gone unnoticed, and that we stand in solidarity with their unrelenting bravery."





EXPOSE MODERN DAY SLAVERY AND USE
INTERNATIONAL COURTS TO CHALLENGE THE IMPUNITY
SURROUNDING THIS INJUSTICE AGAINST COUNTRIES
THAT FAIL TO ACT ON IT VOLUNTARILY.

THE IDEA

Initiative for the Resurgence of the Abolitionist Movement

EXPOSING SLAVERY IN MAURITANIA

In 1981, Mauritania became the last country in the world to make slavery illegal. Despite this change in the law, tens of thousands – mostly from the minority Haratine or Afro-Mauritanian groups – still live as bonded labourers, domestic servants or child brides.

Estimates indicate that as many as 20% of the population is enslaved, with one in two Haratines forced to work on farms or in homes with no possibility of freedom, education or pay. However, the government denies the existence of slavery in Mauritania and anti-slavery activists are regularly harassed and detained.

The Initiative for the Resurgence of the Abolitionist Movement (IRA-Mauritania) works to eradicate slavery. It is the largest organisation of its kind in the country, with members across Mauritania who regularly mobilise to protest slavery and state-endorsed discrimination based on race, caste and gender.

Their founder and president, Biram Dah Abeid has been targeted several times for his work against the culture of impunity regarding slavery in Mauritania. In 2014 he was imprisoned for 18 months alongside his colleague on charges of “illegal assembly and rebellion”. In 2016, 13 other members of IRA-Mauritania were arrested and sentenced for participating in protests. This judicial harassment of members of IRA-Mauritanie is part of a pattern of judicial harassment against human rights defenders in Mauritania.

The government refuses to authorise IRA-Mauritania as a legitimate NGO, restricting their ability to generate funds and advocate freely. Despite this hostility towards them, which makes operating extremely difficult, IRA-Mauritania’s rallies and occupations have secured several arrests of slave owners and subsequent freeing of slaves. Abeid believes the noise caused by these tactics has pushed many slave owners to release their slaves out of fear of being publicly exposed.

As human rights defenders at risk, IRA-Mauritania has received international attention and support and received several awards for their brave work such as the 2015 Human Rights Tulip Award and the 2016 James Lawson Award from the International Center for Nonviolent Conflict. This has helped raise awareness of the issue among the international community. However, international anti-slavery activists and journalists attempting to enter the country are regularly denied entry or expelled, keeping the extent of the practice relatively hidden from view. Within the country, the fight against slavery in Mauritania is on-going, and IRA-Mauritania is at the forefront.

Fossil Free

HELPING ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS LEAD THE GLOBAL ENERGY TRANSITION

The burning of coal, natural gas, and oil for electricity and heat is the largest single source of global greenhouse gas emissions. Fossil fuel combustion and industrial processes have contributed to 78% of the 90% overall increase in CO2 emissions since 1970.

Research shows that 80% of fossil fuel reserves need to stay in the ground for us to stay below 2°C of warming. But with the demand for energy increasing across the world, the desire for ‘development as usual’ continues to come into conflict with the pressing need to decrease emissions in order to tackle climate change.

With achingly slow progress at the national and international levels, the divestment movement is taking a different approach to take on the industry that is the largest contributor to climate change. They are an international network of campaigns and campaigners working toward freeing communities from fossil fuels. They target public and private institutions, encouraging them to put their money where they mouth is, and commit to divesting from the harmful industry and invest instead in climate change solutions. Through this means they are accelerating the transition to a zero-carbon economy.

What started as a student-led movement on university campuses, has now grown to involve 893 institutions and nearly 60,000 individuals from across 76 countries who have pledged to divest and reinvest. The approximate value of the institutions divesting is now an incredible \$6.15 trn. Institutions that have committed to divest include local governments, philanthropic foundations, universities, NGOs, pension funds and faith-based organisations.

Fossil Free is the organising branch of 350.org that focus on divestment, and unites a huge network of divestment campaigners, connecting and supporting local groups around the world who demand: a fast and just transition to 100% renewable energy for all; no new fossil fuel projects anywhere; not a penny more for dirty energy.

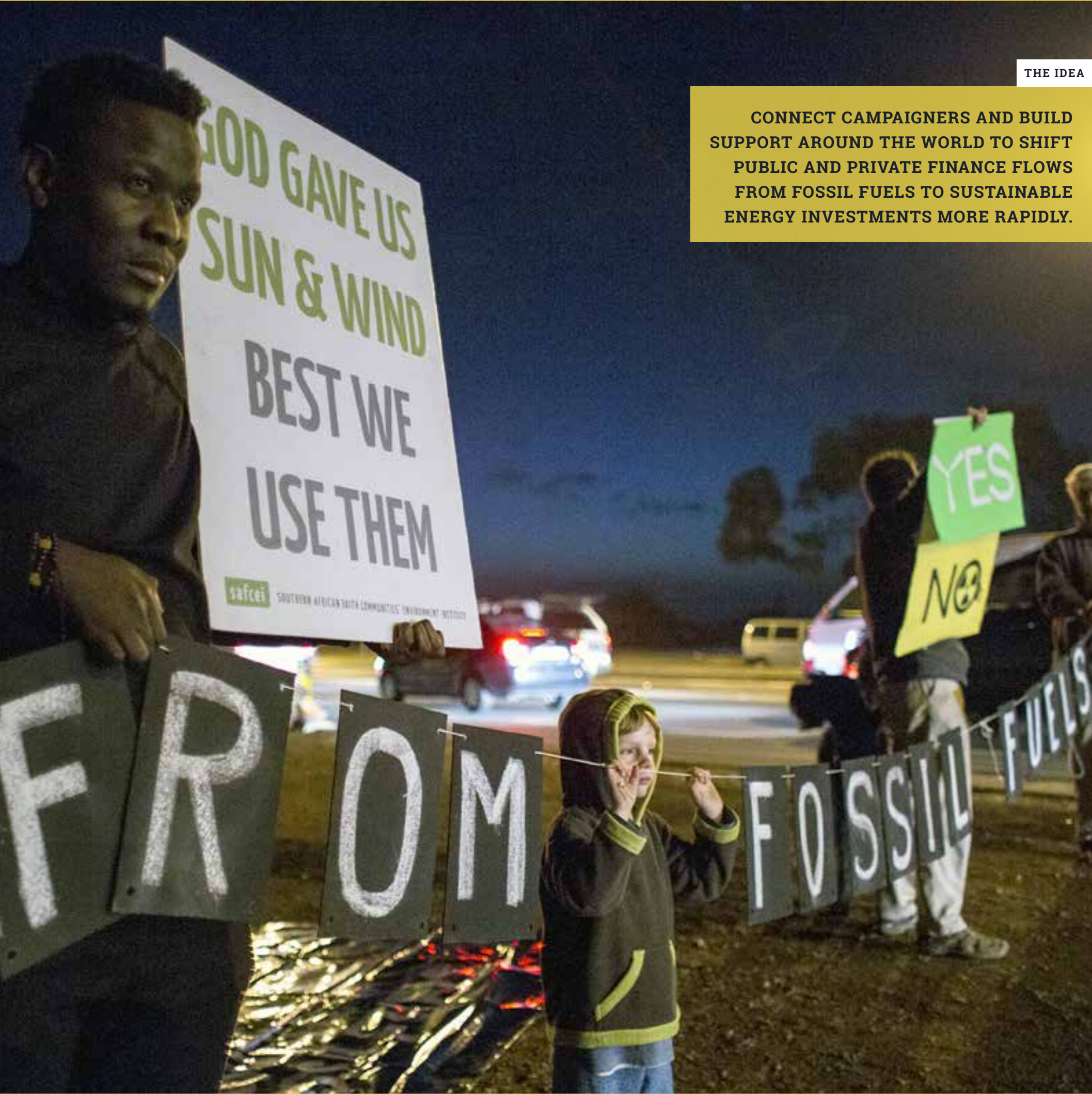
In January 2018, after more than five years of inspiring and creative campaigning from the climate movement, New York City announced plans to freeze new investments in fossil fuels and divest its pension funds. The announcement came just a month after New York State called on the state employee retirement system to divest. Combined, the city and state pension funds are worth \$390 billion, making this the largest pension coal,

oil and gas divestment in the world. This was a major win for New Yorkers, campaigners and undeniably, the planet. As 350.org founder Bill McKibben stated: “The dam has broken: after years of great activism, New York has taken a massive step towards divesting from fossil fuels. Coming from the capital of world finance, this will resonate loud and clear all over the planet. It’s a crucial sign of how fast the financial pendulum is swinging away from fossil fuels.”

Fossil Free and the divestment movement has mobilised broad sectors of society around the moral imperative to align their values with actions, and stop funding the fossil fuel companies that have known their responsibility for causing climate change for decades, yet failed to change. Recognising that divesting is not the sole answer, they campaign for investment in climate solutions, encouraging organisations and individuals to fill the \$5.2 trn renewable energy investment gap in order to meet the Paris climate goals and lead the global energy transition.

THE IDEA

CONNECT CAMPAIGNERS AND BUILD SUPPORT AROUND THE WORLD TO SHIFT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FINANCE FLOWS FROM FOSSIL FUELS TO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY INVESTMENTS MORE RAPIDLY.





PROVIDE LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR
THE POOR TO ACCESS THEIR RIGHT
TO RECONSTRUCTION SUPPORT
FOLLOWING NATURAL DISASTERS.

THE IDEA

Forum for Nation Building Nepal

GIVING EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS THE TOOLS
TO REBUILD THEIR LIVES

It has been almost three years since twin earthquakes struck Nepal, killing over 9,000 people and destroying over half a million homes. Despite billions of dollars being pledged to humanitarian relief and the rebuilding effort, progress to rebuild homes and infrastructure has been fraught with delays and difficulties. Money dedicated to rebuilding homes has been slow to reach families, with only 12% distributed as of 2017. This is partly down to political and economic challenges in Nepal, including an economic blockade and four changes in government during the post-disaster period. It has therefore been difficult for Nepalese people to access the relief services promised to them by their government.

Forum for Nation Building (FNB) Nepal was established in 2013 by a group of young people who wanted to make a difference in their country's development. They work towards development that is inclusive for everyone and that ensures no one is left behind. Nepal is a vastly unequal country, with economic wealth concentrated in the capital Kathmandu and vast disparity between the wealthy minority and the impoverished majority. FNB used legal empowerment to help rural and marginalised communities access the resources they need and deserve.

After the earthquake, FNB began a project to provide free legal aid to people affected by the earthquake in Sindhupalchowk, Gorkha and Bhaktapur districts, to help them to access the government services provided to earthquake victims and to support the government in their reintegration programs. In addition to losing their homes, many people lost all their possessions in the earthquake, including citizenship cards and land and title deed documents. This created further barriers to accessing government services and reconstruction grants in the aftermath. FNB assists citizens to reapply for these essential documents. They found that many people did not know about the legal provision, which ensures their right to a government grant and loan to help them rebuild their home. In Gorkha district alone, 15,245 earthquake victims have filed grievance forms stating that they were not on the list of victims that would receive support. GNB has reached a further 8,000 people through 92 community mobile legal clinics to ensure that their grievances are heard.

By providing information about the services available, and assisting people to apply for reconstruction support, FNB is making an impact to ensure that the rebuilding of Nepal includes everyone. Their young network of lawyers and law students are committed to creating a more equal Nepal.

ENSURE THERE IS CLEAR REGULATION ON NATURAL RESOURCE USE THAT EXPLICITLY RESPECTS THE LINKS BETWEEN HUMAN RIGHTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

Earth Rights International

SHIFTING THE BALANCE OF POWER IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

Natural resources have the potential to create vast wealth for the country in which they are found, but this does not always translate into prosperity for the majority. In many cases, local elites capture natural resource wealth before it translates into broader societal benefits. In other cases, the wealth does not stay in the country at all, continuing the cycle of inequality in the global economy.

The process of extracting natural resources can have further devastating consequences for the host communities living near the project site and for the surrounding environment: Forced displacement and pollution-related health hazards are common in natural resource projects. While some corporations prioritise having strong relationships with local communities, this is not always the case. All too often, corporations get involved in projects that lead to human rights abuses in hidden parts of the world because they think no one is watching, and that these victims have no recourse.

EarthRights International (ERI) uses the law to shift the balance of power in the global economy. They defend people and the environment, taking on large corporations that violate rights around the world. ERI conducts investigations and creates advocacy campaigns to expose the links between natural resource exploitation and human rights abuses. They train emerging civil society leaders with information and tools to more effectively demand their rights, in addition to training advocates, lawyers and judges in human rights and environmental law, and legal strategies to enforce these laws. Finally, when all else fails, they take perpetrators of rights abuses to court. They have challenged some of the world's most powerful corporations and won.

Barrick Gold Corporation, the largest gold mining company in the world, operates the Porgera mine in Papua New Guinea. For decades, security guards at the mine have systematically committed acts of violence against the local population. Numerous human rights investigations

alleged that hundreds of women and girls living near the mine have been brutally raped by the mine's security guards and local men and boys have been beaten, shot, and killed. These investigations also concluded that the mine has devastated the local environment and destroyed traditional lands. ERI represented a number of survivors of rape and family members whose relatives were killed by Barrick security guards, leading to a negotiated settlement with the company that resolved the survivors' claims.

Unfortunately, the abuses at Porgera are not unique. Numerous communities around the world face enormous challenges when seeking recourse for human rights abuses committed by large, politically-connected corporations. EarthRights International works to shift this balance of power and ultimately disincentivise the violation of human rights by large corporations. They provide hope to human rights defenders around the world, providing a path to recourse and exposing injustices to the rest of the world.





THE IDEA

BRING LOCAL COMMUNITIES, GOVERNMENT AND TECHNICAL EXPERTS TOGETHER TO ENFORCE THE LAW, AND RESTORE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT AREAS OF BIODIVERSITY IN INDONESIA, CURRENTLY EXPLOITED BY ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING LOGGING, POACHING AND AGRICULTURE.

HAKA

GUARDIANS OF ENDANGERED WILDLIFE, LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND THE CLIMATE

The Leuser Ecosystem on the island of Sumatra in Indonesia is the last place on earth where orangutans, rhinos, elephants and tigers co-exist in the wild. Over 35 times the size of Singapore, this ancient ecosystem is globally recognised as one of the richest expanses of tropical rainforest found anywhere in Southeast Asia, and is one of Asia's largest carbon sinks.

Despite the Leuser Ecosystem having a protected legal status as a National Strategic Area for its Environmental Protection Function, prohibiting any activities that reduce this function, including cultivation and infrastructure development, its deforestation has continued at an alarming rate. Indonesia now has the highest deforestation rate in the world and Sumatra has the worst deforestation rate in Indonesia. Poor forest governance, weak law enforcement and destructive government policies are currently failing the Leuser Ecosystem. Illegal palm oil and other plantations, logging, mining, road development, encroachment and fires are increasingly destroying its integrity. These problems combine to create the ideal conditions for human-wildlife conflict and rampant poaching.

HAKA is one of the vital guardians of Aceh's environment and community, fighting to protect and restore the irreplaceable Leuser Ecosystem and its unique biodiversity. They believe a stronger and healthier Aceh can be created through an empowered civil society whose members contribute to the wellbeing of the province. Local community participation in land-use planning decisions allows the traditional wisdom of sustainable forest management to be used in the design of socially and environmentally responsible policy. HAKA therefore works in collaboration with grassroots organisations, local communities, NGOs, technical experts and government agencies to give the community access to the tools and knowledge to be involved in planning decisions. This results in long-term change and ensures conservation is fully socialised and supported.

In Tamiang district in the south east of Aceh, over 4,000 hectares of protected forest had been illegally destroyed for oil palm plantations over recent decades. These plantations destroyed a Sumatran elephant migration route from the south to the north of the Leuser Ecosystem, replacing it with a monoculture of oil palm native to Africa. This fragmented Sumatran elephant populations and caused human-wildlife conflict, while also removing the flood protection the forest had provided, compromising the safety and livelihoods of local communities in the area.

HAKA supported local organisations and community groups working with regional government and district police to restore this critical forest. After much work behind the scenes, the first 1,000 hectares of palm oil plantation was cleared, ready for restoration of the forest. Thousands more illegal oil palms are now being marked for destruction. After this monoculture is removed, the forest can regenerate quickly under the watchful eye of HAKA's patrol teams and can begin to provide a critical habitat for elephants and orangutans once again. In just five short years the first 1,000 hectares were fully restored.

Through collaboration with local groups and local government, HAKA is making a huge difference in Aceh province to retain and regrow the Leuser Ecosystem. Deforestation in the province last year (2017) fell 18% from 2016 – a trend they attribute to better law enforcement and intensified campaigning about the importance of protecting the unique Leuser Ecosystem. Other positive developments include a government block on oil palm planters clearing peatlands, however many operators continue to clear these vital areas with impunity. HAKA continues to tirelessly work and campaign against future threats to the ecosystem, from road projects and planned hydropower and geothermal plants. To protect the people of Aceh, endangered species and the vital role of the Leuser ecosystem in capturing carbon, HAKA remains a courageous guardian.

THE IDEA
EMBED TRAINING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND JUSTICE
WORKERS INTO JUSTICE SYSTEMS TO OVERCOME
EMBEDDED INEQUALITY AND FULLY RECOGNISE THE NEEDS
AND CULTURAL RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES.

Level

LEVELLING BARRIERS TO JUSTICE FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN CANADA

Canada's history of colonialism, the legacy of residential schools and continued systemic racism, have resulted in indigenous communities facing the harshest consequences of unequal access to justice. In Canada, indigenous youth are more likely to live in poverty, drop out of high school and be involved in the criminal justice system compared to non-indigenous youth. Compounding this, many Canadian justice professionals are ill equipped to represent indigenous communities due to a lack of cultural awareness and humility.

Level is a Canadian charity that disrupts prejudice, builds empathy, and advances human rights. The organisation pursues its mission through youth outreach, human rights research and advocacy, and by training the Canadian justice sector to recognise and respond to systemic discrimination.

Level's Indigenous Youth Outreach Program advances reconciliation by building understanding and trust between the justice sector and indigenous communities. The First Nations, Métis and Inuit youth participants are empowered through fun and collaborative justice education and mentorship activities led by volunteer legal professionals. Throughout the

three-to-six month long program, students participate in mock trials, sentencing circles, and field trips that expose them to the justice system in a positive and inspiring way. Uniquely, the program acknowledges colonial legacies, honours indigenous practices and customs, and promotes multi-directional knowledge sharing between the volunteers, indigenous youth, and other stakeholders including Elders, knowledge keepers and judges.

One grade 6 student who took part in a mock trial during the program said: "The best part was getting to stand up and be the defence lawyer for the accused. I was a little bit nervous but got comfortable when I spoke". Taking part also encouraged her to think about her future career, "I thought a long time ago that I wanted to be a lawyer and I know I need to get a great education. We practiced in the class a lot so I got used to it. It is something to try and do. It was fun".

Level is committed to learning from and walking with indigenous communities to co-create a better and more inclusive justice system, and to empowering indigenous youth to reach their full potential.



Equality

“For to be free is not merely to cast off one’s chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others.”

– NELSON MANDELA

“We need to change the development systems which enrich the very few and leave millions and millions of human beings behind. We also need to change the social norms, the traditions, which devalue a woman simply because she is born female. At a personal level, we need to recognise the humanity which is in each human being, and which we call in Africa, ‘Ubuntu’; I am because you are. In that sense we are all equal.”

– GRAÇA MACHEL

“We must have two objectives. On the one hand we must act so that more and more people leave the condition of poverty. And at the same time we must fight against inequality. If we don’t have more equal societies and more equal distribution of the wealth and income that is generated in the world, then we will see more and more conflicted societies.”

– ERNESTO ZEDILLO





THE IDEA

ENGAGE THE RURAL POOR IN BUILDING HUMAN CENTRED SYSTEMS THAT MEET THEIR NEEDS AND EMPOWER THEM TO LEAVE POVERTY FOR GOOD.

Proximity Designs

EMPATHY CREATING GENUINE SOCIAL IMPACT

Proximity Designs, a social enterprise based in rural Myanmar, proves that empathy and design can be used to identify opportunities for creating genuine social impact. They have been designing and delivering innovative products and services that boost productivity and incomes for rural families since 2004.

By living alongside Myanmar smallholder farming families, Proximity aims to discover unmet needs and opportunities that can be addressed with affordable and tailored products. Using a human-centred design approach, Proximity has created a line of small-plot irrigation technologies, farm advisory services and rural financial services that provide pathways out of poverty for Myanmar’s most vulnerable farming families.

Human-centred-design methods use empathy as a core approach for creating innovative solutions that can effectively address people’s needs. Proximity Designs demonstrates that having an intimate and empathetic relationship and understanding of people’s needs, can create impact.

Today, Proximity Designs makes and delivers a full range of products from irrigation systems to farming credit, and has the ability to deliver them to 80 percent of the country’s rural population who make \$2 per day or less. U Seine Khine is one of the many farmers whose life was changed by investing \$20USD in a Proximity foot powered water pump. On a typical day he used to hand carry up to 6 tons of water to his small plot, spending 8-9 hours on irrigation per day and seeing little return from his sales. With the purchase of the irrigation product, U Seine was able to double his annual net income and allocate his time more productively.

Proximity Designs is a prime example of how innovation lies in the ability to understand and listen to people’s needs. Empathy is key to tearing down barriers leading to inequality and opening the path toward innovation and affordable solutions.

Girls Not Brides

ACHIEVING EQUALITY THROUGH ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE

Every minute of every day, 28 girls are married before the age of 18. The pressures facing girls to marry young can often come from their own families due to the poverty they face and cultural tradition. But child marriage is not an exclusive issue of any country, religion or culture; it is happening across the world and can take many forms.

The consequences, however, are universally devastating – when a young girl becomes a bride, she is denied the right to an education, making her far more vulnerable to a life of poverty, ill-health and abuse. Child brides are forced into sexual activity when their bodies are still developing, and decisions about safe sex and family planning are out of their control.

Girls Not Brides is an organisation comprising of over 800 member organisations from more than 95 countries, all committed to ending child marriage and enabling girls to reach their potential. Members are based throughout Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas – from Burkina Faso and Nepal, through to Lebanon, the USA, Brazil and everywhere in between.

Aracely from Guatemala was married aged 11. Her husband left her when she was 4 months pregnant saying the child wasn't his. "When I realised I was pregnant, I was distressed. We called [my husband] but he never answered and he never came. During the time I was pregnant he didn't give me any money." Pregnancy at an early age not only deprives a girl of education, as she is often forced to drop out of school, but also seriously puts a girl's health at risk. Complications during pregnancy or childbirth are one of the leading causes of death for adolescent girls in the developing world.

Over the past six years Girls Not Brides has helped stimulate unprecedented action to end child marriage. Once a taboo subject with little political or public recognition, child marriage is now recognisably on the international agenda. Legal and policy frameworks have been strengthened in many countries, and there are now national strategies to abolish child marriage in 13 countries with a further 12 countries developing them. By connecting hundreds of grassroots organisations across the world, Girls Not Brides also creates a platform for them to learn from each other, share experiences and therefore do their work better.



CREATE NEW LEARNING ECOSYSTEMS THAT EMPOWER YOUNG PEOPLE TO FIND CREATIVE ROUTES TO EMPLOYMENT IN ROLES FIT FOR THE ECONOMY OF THE FUTURE.



Guyana Animation Network

EQUIPPING THE YOUTH OF GUYANA FOR THE DIGITAL AGE

In the Caribbean, youth unemployment rates are among the highest in the world. Guyana, the fourth smallest country on mainland South America, has some of the highest rates of youth unemployment in the Caribbean region. However literacy rates and school enrolment rates are high among Guyana's youth, meaning there is an abundance of educated young people looking for opportunities.

The Guyana Animation Network (GAN) is powered by the youth of Guyana. Its founder Jubilanté Cutting created the organisation at the age of just 19. GAN helps young people and freelance artists in Guyana to develop skills in digital media and animation in addition to providing business exposure and networking opportunities for content creators and local animation studios. GAN aspires to create the conditions necessary for Guyanese people from all backgrounds to capitalise on the

opportunities available in animation and digital media. They also aim to contribute to the development of the Guyanese industry so that it driven by its people and can become globally recognised. Valuing collaboration and sharing opportunities, the GAN is an active and supportive network whose participants help each other achieve success.

GAN has become instrumental in inspiring young people to get involved in ICT, digital media and animation. Their digital painting summer camp trains 50+ people each year with participants from aged 6 to 35. GAN built on this momentum through launching their first Girls in ICT Interschools Initiative this year, with the theme: 'Educate, Enhance, Empower'. Through the initiative, GAN aimed to break down the stereotype that careers in ICT are not for women, by highlighting examples of women in ICT projects around the world and the range of opportunities available to them.

Taught basic skills and given access to the relevant technologies to practice them, they then had the chance to design innovative products and services which would be entered into an interschool competition. 11 year old, Rebekah expressed her enthusiasm after taking part in the programme, saying "Girls might think that males are dominant in everything but it's not [true]! It's not [true] because girls also have a brain...we have one too!"

GAN are providing creative opportunities for the youth of Guyana; facilitating networking for budding professionals and inspiring the next generation of young animators. Their brilliant founder has built a vibrant, active network of over 80 registered members, over 190 student beneficiaries and 50 public and private local and overseas corporate connections in only 18 months. This indicates the power of youth taking charge to shape their own futures.

CONSIDER PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES IN ALL ASPECTS OF SOCIETY AND PUBLIC SERVICES, SO THAT THEIR NEEDS ARE FULLY INTEGRATED AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE VALUED.

THE IDEA

Ethiopian Centre for Disability and Development

AN INCLUSIVE ETHIOPIA FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

According to the World Health Organisation, there are an estimated 15 million people living with disabilities in Ethiopia, representing 17.6% of the population. For many, the inaccessibility of built environments is a major obstacle to participating actively in society. In addition to physical obstacles, people with disabilities are held back by attitudes and mistaken assumptions about them and their abilities. For these reasons, people with disabilities in Ethiopia are often unable to find a means of sustaining a living and 95% are estimated to live in poverty.

The Ethiopian Centre for Disability and Development (ECDD) works collaboratively with other organisations to promote and facilitate “disability inclusive development” in Ethiopia. Their aim is to make Ethiopia inclusive to people with disabilities rather than separating them from society by confining them to specialist facilities. This approach ensures people with disabilities can be integrated in mainstream schools, universities, healthcare services and workplaces. Their projects, conducted in collaboration with relevant organisations, focus on mainstreaming disability issues and people with disabilities into existing community development programmes, increasing vocational skills training opportunities for youth and adults and increasing the accessibility of mainstream schools and healthcare facilities.

ECDD’s Inclusive Training and Employment Program (ISTEP), supported by USAID Ethiopia, helps people with disabilities find and secure employment. Few employers in Ethiopia will consider employing a candidate with a disability, so ECDD decided to tackle the issue by

both educating employers and supporting prospective employees. To better prepare prospective employees, ISTEP worked with vocational colleges and universities, training approximately 750 instructors and support staff to provide skills and training for people with disabilities. With support from ISTEP, nearly 300 people with disabilities were enrolled in training in areas including food preparation, construction, metal works and making leather products. ECDD also helped job seekers with disabilities to be stronger candidates by helping them to prepare resumes and get ready for interviews.

88 of the enrolled trainees obtained jobs after their training, 168 secured internship placements and 93 received support to start their own individual or joint businesses. ECDD also trained 95 human resource managers in creating inclusive employment practices. Lukas Zida, an ISTEP beneficiary who is now a high school counsellor said, “before I began work, people did not want to even shake my hand, as if my blindness would pass on to them. But the situation changed after I got employed – there was a complete change of attitude. I feel my pride restored and feel respect in the community because of what I have achieved.”

ECDD was conceived and created by people who have experienced living with disabilities in Ethiopia, and they maintain majority governance by people with disabilities and their family members as one of their core values, alongside gender equality. They aim to break boundaries, challenge stigma and ultimately create an inclusive Ethiopia, where people with disabilities exercise the same rights and have access to the same services and opportunities enjoyed by others.



**DIRECT CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY AND PRACTISES
TO REMOVE RACIAL BIASES FROM CRIMINAL JUSTICE
SYSTEMS TO OVERCOME EMBEDDED INEQUALITY.**

Equal Justice Initiative

CONFRONTING INJUSTICE IN THE AMERICAN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

The United States has 5% of the world's population, yet nearly 25% of global prison population. The US incarcerates more of its citizens than any other nation in the world. The increase in the jail and prison population from less than 200,000 in 1972 to 2.2 million today has led to unprecedented prison overcrowding and put tremendous strain on US state budgets.

Mass incarceration has had devastating consequences for people of colour: at the beginning of the 21st century, one in three black boys, and one in six Latino boys, was projected to go to jail or prison in his lifetime. Racial bias continues to pollute the criminal justice system in the US at every level. African Americans are arrested at 2.5 times higher rates, half as likely to be released on bail and six times more likely to be incarcerated. In the states where the death penalty still exists, African Americans are again, more likely to receive it.

The Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) is committed to ending mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the United States, to challenging racial and economic injustice, and to protecting basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American society. In addition to providing legal representation to people who have been illegally convicted, unfairly sentenced, or abused in state jails and

prisons, they provide re-entry assistance to formerly incarcerated people. EJI also use their powerful voice to campaign and lobby against the death penalty and excessive punishment in the US. They are committed to changing the narrative about race in America, producing groundbreaking reports and organising public events and displays. In April 2018, they will open a National Memorial for Peace and Justice and a Legacy Museum named "From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration" in Montgomery, Alabama, to tell the history of racial injustice in the city and across the US.

Anthony Ray Hinton walked out of prison a free man in April 2015, after spending 30 years on death row for a crime he did not commit. With the help of EJI, he became the 152nd person proven to be innocent and exonerated from death row since 1983. Mr Hinton was sentenced to death for two murders, based solely on the assertion, subsequently proven to be incorrect, that his mother's gun was the murder weapon. The prosecutor in his trial had a documented history of racial bias and said he could tell Mr Hinton was guilty and "evil" solely from his appearance, while claiming without evidence that the bullets used in the murders matched Mrs Hinton's gun. Mr Hinton's then attorney failed to hire a qualified firearms examiner to challenge this claim and Mr Hinton

was convicted. For sixteen years, EJI attorneys petitioned state officials to re-examine the evidence, but they failed to do so. A new trial was finally ordered after EJI managed to get Mr Hinton's case to the United States Supreme Court, where his conviction was overturned, based on his original attorney's deficient representation. For his new trial, the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences tested the evidence and confirmed that the bullets used in the shooting cannot be matched to Hinton's weapon. Mr Hinton was finally granted his freedom.

Through challenging racial injustice both inside the courtroom and out, EJI is forcing Americans to come to terms with the long-term impacts of slavery on their nation and how its legacy has manifested itself in the mass incarceration of African Americans across the US. Equal Justice Initiative has won major legal challenges eliminating excessive and unfair sentencing, exonerating innocent death row prisoners, confronting abuse of the incarcerated and the mentally ill and aiding children prosecuted as adults. They have won reversals, relief or release for over 125 wrongly condemned prisoners on death row. They continue to work towards a justice system that is fair and equal for all.

You are standing
on a site where
enslaved people
were warehoused.

Africans Rising

FOR PEACE, JUSTICE AND EQUALITY

In 1884, during a process commonly known as the ‘Scramble for Africa’, European powers negotiated their claims to African land, which were then formalised and mapped – demarking the countries we know today. Europeans sought to legitimise their control over the continent, its people and its natural resources and by 1900 European states had claimed almost 90% of Africa’s landmass, abolishing the local autonomy of African people. The effects of oppression under colonialism, the exploitation of natural resources and slavery left Africa an artificially divided continent, economically dependent on others and often at war with itself.

Africans Rising is a product of more than two years of consultations and Africa-wide dialogues amongst social movements, NGOs, social justice movements, intellectuals, artists, sports people, cultural activists environmentalists and others. The process that started out as the Africa Civil Society Centre in October 2015, with the support of Actionaid International and CIVICUS, evolved into the Africa Civil Society Initiative in May 2016. Since August 2016, this assemblage of civil society groups has been known as Africans Rising for Justice, Peace and Dignity.

During the Validation Conference of this movement in Arusha 272 people from 44 African countries (and the diaspora) gathered to shape the fundamental values of Africans Rising, aiming to finish the journey of the destined African liberation. They created and pledged their support to ‘The Kilimanjaro Declaration’, which stands against political and economic corruption, celebrates Africa’s promising youth and diaspora, and commits to a citizen-owned future.

What has grown since, is a self-identifying collective of social movements, NGOs, popular social justice efforts, intellectuals, artists and activists from across the continent and the African diaspora, working together for peace, justice and dignity. Africans Rising amplifies the messages of campaigns for social, economic, environmental and gender justice across Africa. Their broad areas of work include: improving accountability and ending corruption, fighting for women’s rights and freedom of expression, expanding space for civic and political action, and raising awareness about environmental justice.

One vital strand of Africans Rising’s work is providing support to individual activists. One way they do this is through running an Activist-in-Residence programme for activists, human rights defenders and civil society leaders. These brave change-makers often face challenges, barriers and intimidation when trying to fight inequality and injustice. This can leave them feeling exhausted, isolated and ready to give up. “African activists are having to work under increasingly difficult conditions – from trying to achieve goals with ever-shrinking resources to dealing with ever-increasing attempts to obstruct and silence them”, Muhammed Lamin Saidykhan, Africans Rising Coordinator, affirms.

Africans Rising aims to bring together activists to take a break, step-back and re-energise. The “Activist-in-Residence” (AiR) Programme offers activists the space and time to reflect, and through their interaction with others, imagine new approaches to their work. Together, activists working in different contexts and on issues across disciplines, can devise new methods to push for structural and systemic change. The 2017 programme included human rights defenders from Benin, Burundi, the DRC, Kenya, Liberia, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia and Uganda advocating for, among others, the rights of women, children, LGBTIQ communities, refugees, people with albinism, and against corruption.

As a catalysing movement with a united civil society as the vanguard of such a movement for justice, peace and dignity, Africans Rising supports and co-creates actions, and events throughout the year, with African Liberation Day (Africa Day) on the 25th of May being the annual apex organising moment. This year, they are working to tell more stories of African unity and reflect on a greater social, political and economic integration of the peoples of Africa, through supporting and connecting movements and activists, to amplify the voices of people struggling for justice, peace and equality across Africa and its diaspora. They are building pan-African solidarity and ensuring that the wealth of the rich continent is shared among all Africans, not concentrated in the hands of a narrow political and economic elite.



THE IDEA

LEVERAGE NETWORKS TO STRENGTHEN THE VOICES OF ORDINARY PEOPLE IN AFRICA, CREATING SPACE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY TO BE HEARD ON COMMON CHALLENGES AND TO ASSERT THE DIGNITY AND RIGHTS OF ALL AFRICANS.



THE IDEA

GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE PUBLIC PLATFORMS TO BE HEARD ON THE LOCAL POLITICAL, CIVIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES THEY CARE ABOUT.

Children’s Radio Foundation

RADIO HELPS YOUNG PEOPLE ACROSS AFRICA GET THEIR VOICES HEARD

Radio is a popular communication channel around the world, even in the digital age of television, social media and the internet. This is particularly the case in Africa where even though internet coverage is still low in many countries, 90% of people have access to a radio. Radio has the power to reach remote areas and is the only regular form of media in some isolated communities. It also has the power to lift the voices of the marginalised, disenfranchised and disempowered. Radio programmes can tell human stories, which connect people across divisions and create empathy.

The Children’s Radio Foundation uses radio to create opportunities for youth-led dialogue, participation, leadership, and active citizenship in communities across Africa. They aim to create opportunities for young people to shape their own futures and strengthen themselves, their families, and their communities. They train youth reporters and help them to start up radio programmes in different radio stations reporting on topics of their choice. Some topics discussed include HIV, environmental activism, LGBTI issues, street child experiences and teenage pregnancy.

Patou Izai is an LGBTI activist in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). In 2011, when feeling isolated after coming out to his family, Patou founded Jeunialissime, an advocacy group in Kinshasa that works to fight stigma and discrimination faced by LGBTI youth. The Children’s Radio Foundation works with Jeunialissime to use radio as a tool for dialogue and activism in the LGBTI community. Jeuniafrica was the first-ever LGBTI radio show broadcast in DRC, which is also distributed online via social media to a wide audience in DRC and beyond. Jeuniafrica has helped its young reporters escape social isolation and be open with one another about their true thoughts and feelings. One reporter said, “Jeuniafrica is the only place where I can talk openly with people who have the same sexual orientation”. Through doing so, she believes she can “help other lesbians to open up about their sexuality”.

Presenting and producing a radio show gives young people a platform for their voices to be heard. It tells them that their opinions and interests matter and that people will listen to what they have to say. In addition to learning the technical skills of radio production and soft skills of verbal communication, the experience engenders a sense of self-belief and self-worth that is invaluable when growing up. Children’s Radio Foundation has trained 864 youth reporters in six countries across Africa so far and their programmes have a combined 9.3 million weekly listeners.

SCALE AND SYSTEMISE THE BUILDING OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY MICROSYSTEMS, RUN BY RURAL WOMEN, CREATING JOBS AND IMPROVING THE HEALTH AND ECONOMIC WELLBEING OF COMMUNITIES.

Loja de Energias

SOLAR ENERGY SAVES TIME, MONEY AND CREATES OPPORTUNITIES FOR INCOME GENERATION IN MOZAMBIQUE ○ — — — — —

Only 24% of the population of Mozambique have access to electricity. This falls to only 6% in rural areas. Increased access to electricity improves education, health, comfort, protection, and productivity. It simplifies daily household tasks, such as cooking and cleaning, creating more time for education and work. It also increases security after dark, and elongates the time available for studying, working or leisure. Building the infrastructure needed to provide electricity from Mozambique's national grid to rural areas is difficult and expensive. Luckily there is another way to generate electricity that is transportable, cheap and environmentally friendly.

Loja de Energias is an initiative created by entrepreneur Gilda Monjane who identified a gap of access to reliable electricity in certain rural areas of Mozambique. Loja de Energias facilitates access to solar energy in these communities. The initiative aims to take affordable, reliable and clean energy sources closer to marginalised people living in off grid areas. It helps to reduce the particular difficulties that people, particularly women, living in rural areas face in their daily life. So far, they have

trained and helped 42 entrepreneurs (30 women and 12 men) to set up 'energy selling points' or small energy shops. The energy shops sell solar home systems, which provide energy for lighting, charging phones and other electrical items. They also sell energy saving light bulbs and some sell solar refrigerators. The initiative, in addition to facilitating access to electricity to members of the community, offers employment for women that used to perform unpaid jobs. Their main objective is to offer more lighting hours for households, schoolchildren and businesses, decrease sexual assaults to women and contribute to improved nutrition through households saving money on kerosene.

Moamba District, Maputo is one of the many communities that felt the benefits of solar energy. Maguaza, the chief of the locality, described the widespread change. "Today we no longer use oil lamps or candles to light our homes at night. It has helped many families". With the solar panels, the community can recharge mobile phones and computers, allowing children and teenagers to continue education for longer. As one student Agostinho, who is now taking a distance-learning course, said, "Before it was impossible to think about taking

a distance course, even to study was difficult at night". Families remember times when they felt forced to use firewood during the night to light up inside the house, which put their health at risk due to smoke inhalation. Others spoke of the danger of houses burning down from using candles or homemade lamps. Although they have to contribute some money to buy the solar panels, most residents reasoned that the initial investment was worth making, because the battery panel could last up to more than six years and then be renewed.

By providing access to cheap, clean and reliable energy, Loja de Energias has improved the lives of multiple communities. Women in particular have felt the benefits, as their burden of housework and firewood collection has been lessened. Many livelihood opportunities have also been created for the women and men who now run "energy shops" across Mozambique. In recognition of their achievements, Loja de Energias has won several awards for sustainable development and breaking gender inequality. It is incredible what a difference a simple light can make to spark hope across a community.





THE IDEA

ATTACK THE ROOT CAUSES OF ECONOMIC INEQUALITY THROUGH PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE EXPLICIT REFORMS REQUIRED TO SUSTAIN ADVOCACY EFFORTS.

The Equality Trust

TACKLING WEALTH AND INCOME INEQUALITY IN THE UK

The UK has the seventh highest level of income inequality out of 30 countries in the developed world. While the top fifth of the population earn 40% of the country's income, the bottom fifth earn only 8%. Wealth is even more unequally divided in the UK than income: the 1,000 richest people have as much wealth as the poorest 40% of households. Wealth is also unevenly spread across Great Britain. An average household in the South East of England has almost twice (183%) the amount of wealth of an average household in Scotland.

Inequality affects all aspects of society, including health, crime, social mobility, economy and wellbeing. People in less equal societies are less likely to trust each other, less likely to engage in social or civic participation, and less likely to say they're happy.

The Equality Trust works to reduce economic and social inequality in the UK. They campaign for government policies that will reduce inequality at a national, local and individual level and raise public awareness on the impacts of inequality and how to take action to address it. Through their network of local groups, they encourage everyone to join their movement to demand a fairer UK, and provide materials for activists to get involved.

One of The Equality Trust's key campaigns is for UK employers to disclose their top-to-bottom pay ratio. Their recent research highlights the sheer scale of extreme pay inequality, as two thirds of FTSE 100 CEOs are paid over 100 times the average UK salary.

They advocate for legislation to require pay ratio reporting and for workers to be represented on the committees who decide executive pay. Another key campaign is for the progressive taxation of income and wealth. Recent research found that Britain's poorest households pay a greater proportion of their income in taxes than the richest, which The Equality Trust denounces as evidence of a broken, regressive tax system.

Through conducting and disseminated research, lobbying and campaigning and supporting local activist groups, The Equality Trust is not only spreading awareness of UK inequality, but they are mobilising the public to work towards solutions. With 18 affiliated regional groups across the UK, people dedicated to overcoming inequality can link up with others to lobby their local MP or take direct action in their area. Their support packs for activists help passionate individuals target key decision-makers, and those who influence them, so that action is taken to reduce inequality. They believe in the necessity of a large social movement demanding a fairer UK, which the government and big businesses cannot ignore.

Breakthrough

INSPIRING YOUNG CHANGE MAKERS TO FIGHT INEQUALITY

Women in India face violence and discrimination every day as a result of harmful attitudes and assumptions around their role in society. One in three girls are married as children, 92% of women have experienced sexual harassment and an incident of domestic abuse is reported every five minutes. A stark indicator of how boys and men are valued more than women and girls in society is the prevalence of gender biased sex selection. This has led to a sex ratio of 919 girls to 1000 boys across the country, predominantly through sex selective abortions.

Breakthrough seeks to make discrimination and violence against women and girls unacceptable everywhere and in all its forms, including domestic violence, sexual harassment in public spaces, early marriage, and gender-biased sex selection. Through a mix of social media, pop culture and multimedia campaigns, they challenge the deeply held cultural norms that they see as the root of the problem.

In addition to mass media and online campaigns, billboards and TV adverts across India, Breakthrough goes into the communities where discrimination

and violence are occurring every day to engage with girls, boys, men and women to challenge their perceptions and together, find solutions. They particularly focus on school age children from 11 to 18 – empowering girls to aspire to finish education, delay marriage and dream of a more equitable future. They focus on creating youth clubs called Gang of Stars where girls and boys learn about their rights, negotiation skills, and take action against gender-based discrimination and violence. They recognise the power of storytelling, whether this is through media campaigns or on the ground theatre workshops, to challenge assumptions about gender that contribute to girls and women having less worth, opportunity, and agency than boys and men.

In communities, Breakthrough India shows thought-provoking videos through the use of “video-vans”, which provide mobile outdoor cinemas that can easily move from village to village. They also put on plays in schools or in public areas to inform people about violence against women, and the ways to eradicate it. After these screenings or performances, members of the organisation discuss the sensitive topics covered in the art performances. Their long-term goal is to

create an enabling environment where girls are valued, safe spaces are created for them and the community support their dreams and endeavours.

After participating in a Breakthrough programme at his school, Ajay (name changed), decided to use the lessons he had learnt about gender discrimination to make a change in his own family. He found he could clearly relate what he had seen in the session to how his parents treated him and his sister differently at home. He found, for example, that he was never punished for coming home late whereas his sister was often beaten if she did. Ajay's determination to make change bore results, and he was able to convince his father that him and his sister deserved equal treatment. Ajay became an agent of change by raising his voice.

Breakthrough is boldly challenging the roots of inequality by focusing on the attitudes and assumptions that create harmful behaviour. Their storytelling tools of immersive theatre, film and social media campaigning invite people to challenge their beliefs and engrained behaviour and become active change makers for equality.





THE IDEA

IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND VALUE OF
EDUCATION SYSTEMS IN ALL COUNTRIES
THROUGH SUPPORTIVE NETWORKS OF TEACHERS
RAISING SYSTEM-WIDE STANDARDS.

SeeBeyondBorders

EDUCATION IS THE FIRST STEP, SCHOOL IS THE FIRST STOP

Only 35% of children in Cambodia attend grade seven. The majority leave education to begin work at just 12 years old. Even though education is free, the cost of keeping a child in education is too high for many families, as children could bring in much needed extra income by working or by helping out at home so that their parents can work longer hours.

In Cambodia the education challenges faced by many developing nations are compounded by the legacy of the Khmer Rouge, whose rule in the 1970s wiped out almost a quarter of Cambodia’s population, dismantled the education system and targeted educated people including teachers. Decades on, Cambodia now has a very young population, 50% are under 22, with not enough teachers (average class size is 45 students) and poor quality teaching due to ‘rote learning’ (memorisation based on repetition) being the traditional teaching method.

SeeBeyondBorders takes an integrated approach to get to the root causes of education challenges in Cambodia, improving the quality of teaching and learning in schools and improving access for students. They provide in-service professional development for teachers, improve school facilities and tackle the barriers to school attendance. Their lead programme uses a ‘teach the teacher’ approach. This involves training groups of teachers to improve their professional knowledge, practice and engagement. Some of these teachers then go on to become mentors to other teachers at their school, spreading their knowledge and skills. This allows SeeBeyondBorders to maximise their impact and longevity, creating a supportive

network of teachers who are invested in their own development and therefore provide better education. Their practical interventions to remove barriers to education include health and hygiene education to decrease school absence due to illness, and the provision of bicycles and small conditional cash payments to the families of vulnerable students in low-income families, so children can get to school instead of having to drop out and work.

Voeut Savin, a Teacher at Svay Chek Primary School became a mentor teacher through SeeBeyondBorders. “When I first started teaching, I didn’t care about teaching quality, technique or good classroom management, I just followed the lesson books”. She said. “I have noted now that to be a good teacher you need to focus on quality and ways to make it better and get all students to understand the lessons easier”.

SeeBeyondBorders has developed an innovative approach in Cambodia by fostering support between teachers, head teachers, parents and students. Their success has been recognised by the Cambodian Minister of Education as offering an “exciting opportunity for teachers across the country to be part of a genuinely collaborative and supportive network”. Despite their small size, SeeBeyondBorders has had huge impact, and their approach has the potential to forge sustained, long-term change in communities.

Education is the first step on the road to tackling inequality and school is the first stop.

INVEST IN LOCAL, DECENTRALISED SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SCHEMES IN POOR COMMUNITIES, DESIGNED AND RUN BY TRAINED WOMEN AND GIRLS, TO OVERCOME ENERGY GAPS, CREATE SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND ADVANCE GENDER EQUALITY.

Green Girls

GIRLS TURN WASTE INTO ENERGY AND LEARN ABOUT TECHNOLOGY

Only 60% of people have access to electricity in Cameroon, and this falls to less than 20% in rural areas. Access to clean cooking fuels and technologies is also limited, meaning firewood remains the primary source of energy for most households, despite being expensive and damaging to health and the local environment. Lack of access to reliable, clean energy is also a significant barrier to development and gender equality, because women predominantly shoulder the burden of collecting firewood and doing the cooking, while they are forced to spend a significant proportion of household income on expensive energy.

The youth organisation Green Girls has found an innovative way to solve many of these problems at once. They simultaneously work to advance gender equality, increase access to affordable, sustainable energy and manage waste effectively. They achieve this by training girls in Cameroon how to generate energy from alternative sources including waste and the sun. This training gives girls valuable skills to enter the renewable energy sector while promoting STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) in an aim to close the gender gap in this sector and create renewable energy solutions for families, schools and communities.

While working for an NGO aiming to advance girls' education in Nigeria, Green Girls' young founder Monique Ntumngia was confronted with the reality that a lack of reliable energy, for light in particular, was one of the key barriers to girls' learning. On her return to her home country Cameroon, she decided to make a change through increasing access to energy, and founded Green Girls.

Since its creation the Green Girls Organisation has trained 672 girls from 23 communities in Cameroon, created over 30 Green Girls clubs, carried out over 100 solar installations and provided over 3000 households with affordable local biogas. The organisation ultimately aims to replicate its model across Africa.

Biodigesters, needed to convert waste into energy and solar installations, have been installed in several communities in Cameroon. Green Girls runs 'Green Girls clubs' to teach girls how they work and how to maintain them. They have had a huge impact on students' education. "We could not study well during such blackouts that sometimes last for over a week. We have been suffering even though we are blessed with a clean energy source in our backyard," said Magdalene Lum, a student at the University of Buea. "The new energy from our human waste will supply us electricity constantly and cheaper," she said. The biodigester system protects households and schools from the hardships created by volatile energy prices, which could fluctuate dramatically throughout the year. "The biogas we generate provides a constant supply of the energy the school needs, unlike the hydroelectricity that regularly goes on and off," said Peter Nke, principal of Baptist High School Buea.

The knock-on effects of Green Girls' work are numerous for communities and the environment. The use of biogas reduces reliance on firewood, which helps slow local deforestation. The process also curbs air pollution from pit latrines and open defecation. The energy creation process is cheaper and more reliable, leaving families and schools with extra money to spend on education and healthcare. Lastly Green Girls is teaching schoolgirls to think innovatively, giving them the tools to think of creative solutions to local problems.





“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

— NELSON MANDELA



“The symbolism of this Peace Park fills me with awe. Each of these 100 tiny trees represents one of the 100 courageous civil society organisations that The Elders have selected around the world, which we call ‘Sparks of Hope’. These trees are tiny, and some of your organisations are tiny, yet resilient and mighty in strength and courage. Together they make an entire park, with an impact that will grow over time. And over the next 100 years, they will become giants.”

— GRAÇA MACHEL AT THE OPENING OF THE SPARKS OF HOPE PEACE PARK, 17 JULY 2018

The Sparks of Hope Peace Park is a permanent legacy to honour 100 Sparks of Hope in Johannesburg, South Africa. It was opened in July 2018 by The Elders to celebrate Nelson Mandela’s 100th Anniversary.



CONNECT OPPRESSED LGBT GROUPS TO A LARGER GLOBAL MOVEMENT
TO CREATE INTERNATIONAL PRESSURES THAT HELP TO ASSERT THE
PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS LAWS AND CONVENTIONS.

All Out

EMPOWERING LGBT ACTIVISTS AROUND THE WORLD

In 70 countries across the world it is illegal for LGBT people to express their love, attraction or identity. In many more, even where there are no explicit laws criminalising them, LGBT people face appalling discrimination and exclusion. In some countries, powerful religious and political forces regularly incite hatred and violence against LGBT people, creating an environment of hostility and fear. Those responsible for attacks on LGBT people often enjoy impunity, protected by powerful institutions.

All Out is a movement for love and equality. They use the power of digital technology to fuel LGBT activism across the world. By partnering with local organisations and networks they connect thousands of ordinary citizens so that they can take action on, or donate to, campaigns for LGBT rights. Their collaborative efforts raise the volume of local, national, regional and international campaigns.

In Chechnya, Russia, being openly gay can be a death sentence. In April 2017 as part of a 'gay purge' by authorities, more than 100 men were arrested under suspicion of being gay. There were reports of people being tortured, beaten, and forced to share information about other gay men in the region. At least six people died during the purge but the official response from Chechen

authorities was that "gay people do not even exist in Chechnya." All Out, in collaboration with the Russian LGBT Network, immediately launched a campaign to demand Federal Russian authorities immediately investigate these atrocities and bring to justice all those responsible. After international pressure, Russian authorities finally declared the initiation of a federal investigation into the situation.

Several activists working alongside All Out to deliver a petition in Moscow were arrested and detained. They were released with a fine. Since the first reports of arrests and torture in Chechnya were received, All Out has helped raise funds to support the Russian LGBT Network in the evacuation of 119 LGBT people, 98 of whom have already left Russia. This is because life in Russia still isn't safe for them.

Ibrahim* is one of the many who fled to Russia after the 'purge' began. When he was 15, his family found out that he is gay. For three years they tortured and abused him. They drugged him, beat him, and gave him electric shocks to try to "cure" him from being gay. During the 'purge' in 2017, his boyfriend, who worked for the government told him he was on the list of targeted men. Shortly after, his boyfriend disappeared and no one heard from him again. Ibrahim fled to Russia where he awaited relocation to a safer country.

All Out has also helped raise funds for LGBT people fleeing persecution and living temporarily in Russia. Their partner organisation Stimul provides secret and safe temporary housing, while LGBT refugees work towards getting relocated to a safer country.

Recognising the potential of people power, and the millions of LGBT rights supporters around the world, All Out brings cases of injustice to the attention of the public and gives them concrete ways to make a difference. Their petitions and campaigns give cases of injustice international attention, and their collaboration with LGBT support groups on the ground gives supporters the channels to make a huge difference by donating money where it is needed. They have created a network of thousands of people of all sexual orientations and identities from across the world and turn solidarity into action. Together they are building a world in which nobody has to choose between their family or their freedom, safety or dignity because of who they are or who they love.

*Name changed to protect identity



Callisto

PROVIDING TRAUMA-INFORMED OPTIONS FOR REPORTING SEXUAL ASSAULT ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES

Sexual assault and harassment are far too common and often never reported. The process of reporting can feel isolating — or worse, retraumatizing — and comes with its own set of personal and professional risks.

An estimated 20% of women, 7% of men, and 24% of trans and gender nonconforming students are sexually assaulted during their college career. Less than 10% of college assault survivors report to administrators, local police, campus security, or other authorities. Those who do report, report an average of 11 months after their assault, making it hard to conduct an investigation. These investigations are not challenging because of an unknown perpetrator - 85% of college survivors know their assailant - but rather because investigators are not sure whether to believe that an assault actually took place. Only 6% of assaults reported to police end with the assailant spending a single day in prison, meaning that over 99% of them will not face serious consequences for their actions. This means there is practically no deterrent to sexual assault in the United States.

Callisto, a tech-nonprofit founded in 2016, envisions a world where survivors receive the support they need, where perpetrators are held accountable, and the cycle of sexual assault is broken. Callisto's digital platform is survivor-centric to the core; placing places survivors needs first by allowing them to disclose on their terms and giving them a safe place to explore their options.

The breakthrough feature of Callisto is the opt-in matching tool. Callisto gives survivors three options:

- 1. Create a time-stamped record and hold it for later reporting,
- 2. Report directly to their campus authorities, or
- 3. Enter into matching where they can name their perpetrator and be notified if another victim names the same person.

The matching option provides survivors with another level of support, giving them the chance to proceed with their reporting options together, increasing the odds they will be believed when seeking justice.

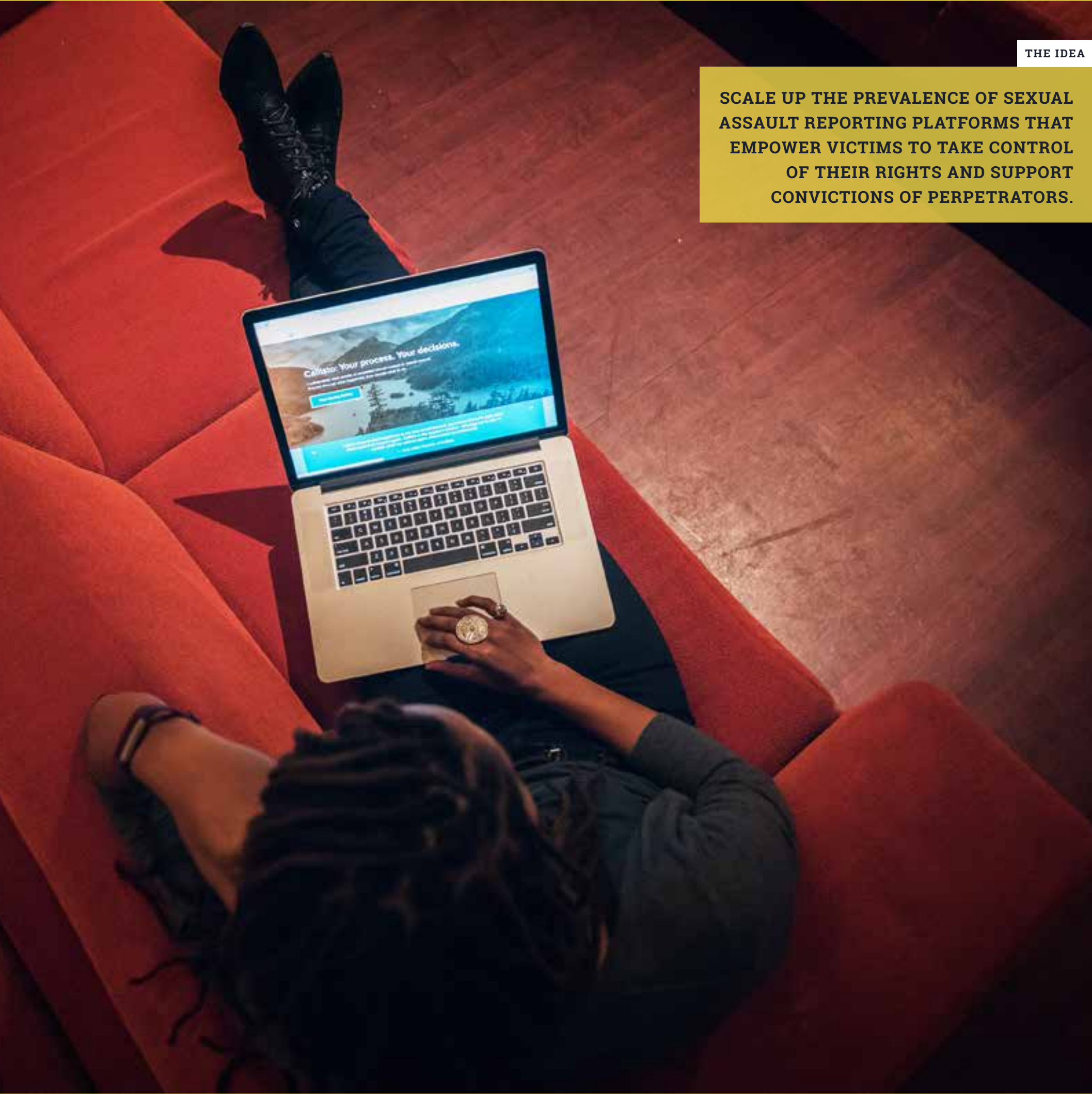
Jess Ladd, the founder and CEO of Callisto, is herself a survivor. She describes the process of reporting as more traumatic than the incident

itself. Ladd explains that survivors of sexual assault feel the burden of proof is on them, and they are often made to feel on trial: "What people ask is not, who did it, but are you sure that it happened?" Additionally, Ladd found that having someone else document your experience down for you — through the evidence collection interview process - left open the possibility for human error that could ultimately be used to question the credibility of the survivor. Ladd created Callisto as a way to collect evidence earlier and more accurately while making the reporting process feel safer for survivors.

In the last three-years, Callisto has grown to 13 campuses, supports over 150,000 students, and rapidly expanding. Rather than creating separate websites for every institution, Callisto wants to create a centralised database for every victim in the United States where they can learn about their options for taking action, save timestamped records of what happened to them, and safely connect with other victims of the same perpetrator. Through this unique approach, they are making huge strides to overcome the epidemic of sexual assaults in the United States.

THE IDEA

SCALE UP THE PREVALENCE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT REPORTING PLATFORMS THAT EMPOWER VICTIMS TO TAKE CONTROL OF THEIR RIGHTS AND SUPPORT CONVICTIONS OF PERPETRATORS.



EMPOWER LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN RESOURCE RICH AREAS TO ENFORCE REINVESTMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE BY EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES.



Centre for Natural Resource Management

STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITIES OF COMMUNITIES TO RESIST DESTRUCTIVE MINING

Zimbabwe is a country rich in natural resources, including gold, platinum, chrome, coal and diamonds. However what appears to be a blessing of precious resources has in reality proven to be a curse for the majority of people living in surrounding communities.

Corruption involving the ruling elites and mining corporations is a defining characteristic of mining in Zimbabwe, with the positive impacts felt far away from mine sites whilst surrounding communities are left poorer and worse off than those with no mineral wealth at all. Mining has led to land grabbing, water grabbing, pollution and displacement and the exploitation of mine workers is systematic and widespread. Despite the mining industry generating billions of dollars in diamonds, many of Zimbabwe's people remain in poverty.

The Centre for Natural Resources Governance (CNRG) is building a movement throughout Zimbabwe by bringing together affected communities and increasing their capacity to conduct direct non-violent action in resistance to destructive mining. CNRG also works to promote mining alternatives with a major focus on promoting food security in communities affected by mining, with the belief that alternative livelihood options will also liberate communities to resist destructive mining. They continually advocate for greater transparency and regulation in the mining sector, including effective taxation so that wealth generated by mining can become a stable source of financing for development of the entire country.

One of the communities empowered by CNRG is Hwange, situated about 700KM west of Harare. For five years, the Hwange Colliery Company Limited (HCCL), Zimbabwe's largest coal mining company, has failed to pay its workers salaries owed to them or the benefits entitled to widows of its workers.

A group of women, including female workers, spouses and widows joined together in 2013 to demand salaries be paid. However they were met with violence and assault by security forces, which forced them to cease attempts at demonstrating. In December 2014 CNRG began working with the women in Hwange, conducting capacity building workshops to make a case for women's unpaid labour as well as sharing non-violent strategies for direct action. CNRG facilitated exchange visits between the women of Hwange and women from other mining-affected communities and ensured their participation in feminist training schools organised by WoMIN regional alliance. Thus a new and vibrant movement was born in Hwange.

HCCL still has not paid its current and former workers their outstanding dues and has reneged on its promise to settle the arrears in instalments multiple times. Workers today are owed upwards of \$5,000 each. In January 2018 a group of Hwange women pitched a tent at the entrance to the HCCL offices, where they remain camped until the company pays what it owes to their families. HCCL tried to engage the police to disperse the women, but the police refused, citing the women's right to peaceful protest. They also took the case to court, who again refused to act, ruling the demonstration legal and allowing it to continue. CNRG continues to support the women in their protest, until they and other workers are paid the salaries owed to them.

CNRG is standing up to corruption in Zimbabwe and standing in solidarity with mining communities and mine workers. They are a powerful voice against pervasive inequality, asking why a country that has generated over \$15 billion from diamond mining alone, remains in such abject poverty.

GUARANTEE THE LIVELIHOODS OF LOCAL SUBSISTENCE COMMUNITIES BY STRENGTHENING POLICY AND PROVIDING RESOURCES TO ENFORCE LIMITATIONS ON FISHERIES, FORESTRY AND LAND INTENSIVE INDUSTRIES.

Pakistan Fisherfolk Forum

FISHERFOLK FIGHTING INEQUALITY: ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION AND UNFAIR DETENTION IN PAKISTAN

Overfishing, environmental pollution, urbanisation and industrial activities have all depleted the main source of income for fishing communities in Pakistan. For the nearly 400,000 fisherfolk in the country and their families, this has made life precarious. Furthermore, for those fishing in the disputed territory between India and Pakistan and along the invisible Arabian Sea border, the risk of detention is high. Indian and Pakistani forces regularly detain each other's fishing vessels and crews for alleged illegal fishing within each others' territorial waters. Local fishermen, who cannot clearly see the border, are frequently detained, their boats seized, and many are kept in prison for years.

Pakistan Fisherfolk Forum (PFF) is a rights-based organisation working for the betterment of fishing communities through strengthening their collective voice and representing them in the face of threats to their way of life. Their advocacy and policy based work emphasises creating and maintaining sustainable fishing practices and protecting the local environment.

In November 2017, PFF marked World Fisheries Day with a rally in Karachi. During the rally, hundreds of fishing community members, including men and women, demanded an end to illegal occupation of water reservoirs, overfishing in sea, river and lakes and sea pollution, which have far reaching negative implications on the marine life, small scale fisheries and indigenous fishermen. PFF chairperson Muhammad Ali Shah drew attention to the denial of water bodies to local fisherman who had previously fished there, "Out of a total 1,209 inland water bodies, more than 500 have been illegally occupied by local landlords who exploit poor fishing communities". He also expressed concern over the frequent detentions of fishermen by Indian authorities and how the industrialisation of the fishing industry affects small-scale fisherman - key concerns of local fishing communities.

PFF is drawing attention to the plight of small-scale fishermen in Pakistan, and ensuring that their rights and the rights of the local environment are not forgotten in the name of industrialisation and development. They have been extremely successful in mobilising large numbers of people around common issues, standing up to the wealthy and powerful against exploitation and inequality.





PROVIDE TRAINING AND RESOURCES WITHIN HEALTH, JUSTICE AND EDUCATION SYSTEMS TO IDENTIFY, PROTECT AND CARE FOR VICTIMS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE.

Bobbi Bear

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

In South Africa, as many as one in three young people have experienced some form of sexual abuse in their lives. Reported cases of child sexual abuse have increased by 400% in the past 9 years. The poorly functioning police service combined with an overwhelmed social development service, mean that many cases of child abuse end up unreported, delayed, or de-prioritised over cases deemed more serious. Others cases are abruptly dismissed by the criminal justice process. Perpetrators are therefore rarely held accountable for their actions and, as a result, children remain vulnerable to further abuse.

Bobbi Bear works in Amanzimtoti, Kwa Zulu Nata, to break this cycle. They rescue and uphold the rights of sexually abused children while aiming to minimise their risk of HIV infection. Recognising that the typical process of collecting evidence from sexual abuse victims was re-traumatising for children and often unsuccessful, Bobbi Bear designed a toy bear as a non-threatening means for child victims to communicate the nature of the abuse,

which could cross all language barriers. The illustrations made on the bear can then be used as evidence to assist the criminal justice process. Through this method, Bobbie Bear are able to assess the HIV/AIDS risk of child victims at the point-of-rescue, and intervene quickly to minimise the risk of infection.

In addition to rescuing, providing shelter and on-going counselling and therapy to child victims, Bobbi Bear helps to sensitively prepare them and their families for testifying in court. With the aim of discovering cases of abuse earlier and preventing escalation, Bobbi Bear conducts outreach in schools to educate teachers and staff about sexual abuse so that they are better able to identify and support potential victims.

"It's hardly ever a stranger." Says Bobbi Bear founder Jackie Branfield, "It's often a family member, a neighbour, a teacher, a pastor, which is why it's so hard for children to report." It is through participating in other activities organised by Bobbi Bear, that many children have disclosed their abuse to staff or

volunteers. During their support group every Saturday, children eat and play together, but Child Safety Officers are always on hand if any child wants to talk privately about abuse. This is also the case during their school outreach programmes, where many children have come forward after a session to disclose the abuse they are experiencing at home.

Bobbi Bear works to respond to abuse both in the short and long term. They ensure children are removed from harmful situations and are kept safe, while collecting evidence in a non-threatening way. They then continue to support survivors of abuse through therapy and counselling, while working to secure convictions of perpetrators in order to end impunity and the cycle of abuse. Their education and outreach programmes aim to identify children suffering in silence and raise awareness among adults working with children on how to respond effectively.

*Name changed to protect identity.

Campaign for Female Education (Camfed)

IMPROVING GIRLS' EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO UNLOCKING THEIR POTENTIAL

Girls are still more likely than boys to never set foot in a classroom, despite the tremendous progress made over the past 20 years. The number of girls out of primary school has almost halved since the year 2000, but work is still to be done to ensure girls are not excluded from education. Sub-Saharan Africa has the highest rates of both girls and boys out of primary school – 22.8% and 18.4% respectively. This rises significantly to 61.3% of girls and 53.6% of boys out of upper secondary school. Education is not freely available to everyone and poverty is the greatest barrier to accessing it.

Camfed supports girls in 5,745 government partner schools across 146 districts in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Ghana, Tanzania and Malawi to access school, succeed, and become leaders of change in their communities. Since 1993, the organisation's community-led education programmes have supported the education of more than 2.6 million children. The girls Camfed supports typically come from households surviving on less than \$1.25 a day, lacking the funds for direct and indirect school going costs. Resulting issues such as hunger, illness, or early marriage (a cause and effect of girls' exclusion, often seen as a way to secure a girls' future and remove her dependence on the family) make it difficult for girls to attend school regularly, learn, or study effectively at home. These issues are compounded by the physical distance to school, with long walks—or the need to seek accommodation close to schools—leaving girls vulnerable to abuse, including sexual abuse. Additionally, under-resourcing of government schools in rural areas severely compromises the quality of education they can provide. An academic curriculum that lacks relevance to young people's reality, coupled with outdated pedagogy, also serves to undermine girls' participation and self-esteem. The learning crisis created by these circumstances contributes to pressure on girls to drop out of school.

Camfed partners with schools, communities and education authorities to tackle these barriers to marginalised girls' school access, retention, progression and completion, and not only supports girls and young women through school, but also on

to new lives as entrepreneurs and community leaders. To complete the "virtuous cycle," and create sustainable change, graduating students become Camfed Association (CAMA) alumnae, many of whom return to school to train and mentor new generations of students. CAMA, the largest network of its kind in Africa, offers peer support, mentoring, training and leadership opportunities for young women. CAMA members are now at the forefront of Camfed's programme, and make up 25% of the organisation's executive team, including its Executive Director – Africa, Angeline Murimirwa.

Girls like Melody*, a secondary scholar in Zambia, benefit from Camfed's financial support, mentoring by CAMA members, and the community support networks Camfed builds to make sure girls are protected, respected, valued, and grow up to turn the tide of poverty. Before being identified for this support, Melody's chances of finishing secondary school were remote and she was at risk of becoming a child bride. Having lost her father at three years old, the family was left with no stable source of income, and Melody's mother struggled to provide for her four children.. Despite these challenges, Melody was determined to stay in school, and had her sights set on going to university in order to become a journalist. She says, "Education is very important because my mum keeps telling me that when you educate a girl child, you educate the whole nation... I think that as well!"

For Melody, the best thing about becoming a Camfed scholar was having everything she needed to stay in school and learn. "If I had not been selected as a Camfed scholar, by this time maybe I would have been married, because of the challenges I was facing" she said. With Camfed's support, Melody's dream of becoming a journalist, and setting up an orphanage to help others, has been revived. "My future now is bright because I am able to go to school... [It] is just waiting for me so I can reach it, and find it."

*Melody's name was changed to protect her identity



THE IDEA

BUILD NATIONAL SYSTEMS TO PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY, FREE EDUCATION FOR ALL GIRLS, INCLUDING MECHANISMS FOR ALUMNI TO SUSTAIN THE VALUE OF EDUCATING GIRLS WITHIN LOCAL COMMUNITIES.



Child Rights and You (CRY)

KEEPING CHILDREN IN SCHOOL AND OUT OF EMPLOYMENT IN INDIA

Incredible progress has been made to increase access to primary education in India, and the number of children out of school has dropped from 16% in 2000 to just 4% in 2015. The Indian Constitution ensures all children within 6-14 years have the right to free and compulsory education and prohibits employment of children below 14 years in hazardous occupations. However, the most recent National Census (2011) indicates that there are close to 10.1 million child labourers in India, in the age group of 5 to 14 years. Many of these children are engaged in manual work including cotton growing, matchbox and lock making, mining and stone quarrying and tea growing.

CRY (Child Rights and You) is an Indian non-profit organization that believes in every child's right to a childhood – to live, learn, grow and play. For 4 decades, CRY through its 850 initiatives has worked with parents and communities to ensure lasting change in the lives of more than 2,000,000 underprivileged children, across 23 states in India. They work to ensure children in CRY-supported projects have access to free and quality education and primary healthcare so as to reduce the rate of child malnutrition. They also work towards creating childhoods that are safe from violence, abuse and exploitation and make sure children's voices are heard in issues that affect them.

Naturally, working to eradicate child labour from Indian childhoods is one major area of intervention for CRY. For instance, many residents of Kotra district in Rajasthan, plagued by poverty, migrate to nearby states like Gujarat to work, including hundreds of children. CRY, alongside their local partner Kotra Adivasi Sansthan, are attempting to curb the problem of child labour through creating Child Activity Centres. The centres not only help re-enrol school dropouts and enhance retention but also reach out to children to bring out their voices and make them aware of their rights.

Eleven year old Sona is one amongst the hundreds of child labourers from Kotra district who benefited from the programme. She shares how she had no choice but to drop out of school: "I miss my father. I was about seven when he passed away. And everything kept on getting tougher. Some days we would eat just once in the whole day. My mother goes away for days. She goes to the big nearby cities where she works as a farm labourer. I was good in studies but had to drop out when I was in second standard. It was not possible to work at home and then go to school. In the next few years I also started going to the cities with my mother. I started helping her out in the farms and most of the time would help in the potato cultivation."

Sona's story changed when the Child Activity Centre opened in her village. "It's a centre for children who have had to drop out from school. The teachers

came to my house so many times. They convinced my mother and me that I should learn and not earn at this age. My brothers and sisters too supported my journey back to school. At the centre, the teachers helped me to bridge the gap in studies and I was very fast in picking up. I am now studying in the sixth standard. And I am very happy."

As Puja Marwaha, the Chief Executive of CRY, suggests, "Being engaged in work leaves these children with no time to study, play or explore other opportunities to realise their potential. When a child goes to school, she has the opportunity and the premise to break away from the cycle of poverty. A child engaged in labour is the very death of that possibility. Every single child in school is one less child labourer in the making. Every child labourer thus rescued, is an opportunity waiting to blossom."

In a nation of the size and diversity of India, inequities are deeply rooted in gender, caste, class, ethnicity and religion. CRY's rights-based approach ensures that entitlements are available to all children without any discrimination. They provide the bridge between Child Rights advocates around the world and grassroots organisations on the ground, supporting these smaller organisations with funds and skill development to achieve far-reaching impact on a large scale, so that children are free to experience the joy of childhood.

SCALE AND SYSTEMISE FOOD REDISTRIBUTION SCHEMES TO DIRECT UNWANTED FOOD PRODUCTS TO THOSE IN NEED, REDUCING FOOD INSECURITY AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF FOOD WASTE.

Food for All Africa

REDUCING FOOD WASTE AND HUNGER IN GHANA

Each year 1.3bn tonnes of food, about a third of all that is produced, is wasted. Meanwhile, 815 million people worldwide go to bed hungry - suffering from chronic undernourishment.

In Ghana, food wastage is high, an estimated 45% of food produced goes uneaten, lost along the food supply chain. Meanwhile 3 out of 5 street children in Ghana are out of school due to lack of regular meals.

Food for All Africa works to recover and redistribute food in Ghana, reducing waste and feeding those who need it most. It is the first community food bank in Ghana. The initiative began after founder Elijah Amoo Addo, who was working as a chef in Accra, Ghana, discovered a homeless person recovering leftover food from bins and street vendors to distribute to others on the streets. He was inspired then to leave his job and a chef and devote himself to making a difference.

Food for All partners with smallholder farms, food manufacturers, restaurants and supermarkets to source surplus edible food. They then collect, sort and store the food, ready for distribution among beneficiary organisations such as schools, hospitals, orphanages and vulnerable communities. To expand their work further, they created “Virtual Food Banking” which links up beneficiary organisations with the closest participating retail stores for the daily collection of fresh produce, bakery goods and other essential products. Their mobile app and web service also helps reach more people, by connecting vulnerable communities to surplus food.

Alongside their vital, day-to-day work, Food for All are looking to make long-term nationwide change to combat food waste and reduce hunger. Over the past year, they have been working on a National Food Donors Encouragement Bill to help simplify the process for businesses within Ghana's food supply chain to donate their excesses.

Food for All Africa recovers up to \$5,700 worth of food each month from businesses within the food supply chain. “We realised that it's not as if they don't want to donate. The willingness is there—they want to give. It's more the stress they have to go through in giving,” Amoo Addo says. Food for All makes the vital connection between food wasters and those in need. They aim to expand this successful initiative across West Africa.





ENSURE ACCESS TO QUALITY HIGHER
EDUCATION IS ACCESSIBLE FOR YOUNG ADULTS
DISADVANTAGED BY HISTORICAL INEQUITIES
IN LIVING AND EDUCATION STANDARDS.

THE IDEA

The Maharishi Institute

○ HELPING EVERY STUDENT REACH THEIR POTENTIAL,
REGARDLESS OF FINANCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

South Africa has one of the most unequal education systems in the world – with the gap in attainment between the top 20% of schools and the rest, wider than in almost every other country. The system is divided by wealth and in many cases race; a legacy of the Bantu Education Act of 1952, which set out to ensure white students received a better education than black students.

One of Nelson Mandela's first public policies after becoming president was to expand access to schooling – but the quality of education for the majority of South Africans, and in particular for poor South Africans remains low. Despite comparatively high investment in education by the government - 6.4% GDP - overall performance is lower than many poorer countries including Zimbabwe and Kenya. 47.9% of university students do not complete their degrees and black students have the highest dropout rate, 1.5 times higher than white students. This means only 5% of young black South Africans successfully complete university.

The Maharishi Institute in Johannesburg works to tackle this inequality head on. In 2007 it became the first free University in South Africa. The Institute aimed to increase access to higher education and focused on applied skills that would help students enter the workforce in areas such as management, business and IT. Now the Maharishi Institute provides students financial access to qualifications through partner institutions via distance learning. They support the distance learning experience through self-development programmes, high quality learning facilities and career support services. They crucially provide work experience, which is invaluable for young people looking to enter the job market.

By encouraging students to reach their full potential, Maharishi Institute works to not only improve skills and knowledge, but also confidence and self-worth. Their focus is on student's wellbeing, creates a low-stress learning environment, while still achieving incredible academic results. Believing every student has potential, if only they had the opportunity to reach it, Maharishi Institute works to help underprivileged young people achieve their dreams, regardless of their financial circumstances.

ENGAGE MEN DIRECTLY TO CHANGE THE CULTURAL NORMS THAT PREVENT WOMEN FROM REALISING THEIR FULL PARTICIPATION IN SOCIETIES.

Rwanda Men's Resource Centre

TAKING ON TOXIC MASCULINITY IN RWANDA

Societal attitudes about what it means to be 'male' or 'female' shape how boys and girls grow up into men and women. Those who do not fit into societal expectations of how a man or women should think and behave, can be excluded, oppressed or ridiculed. This causes many men and women to change their attitudes and actions over time, in order to fit more easily into the world. These societal expectations, often called 'femininity' and 'masculinity' have harmful and polarising consequences for everyone. Dominant masculinity in many cultures encourages male violence, dominance and absence of emotion, while encouraging female subservience, chastity and caregiving.

While gender equality programmes around the world are dedicated to freeing women from the confines of 'femininity', so they may go to school, achieve equal pay and run for positions of power, there are less dedicated to freeing men from the confines of masculinity, so that they may freely express their emotions without violence and escape the burden of being the sole provider and protector.

The Rwanda Men's Resource Centre (RWAMREC) was created by 9 men who recognised the problems of gender inequality in their society, particularly violence against women, 90% of which

was perpetrated by men, and that all discussions about gender equality were dominated by women, failing to engage men or address the central role of masculinity. They created RWAMREC to promote positive masculine behaviours and practices for men's health and well being; engage men in ending men's violence against women and children and themselves; and support women's empowerment in all spheres of life.

They assert that men are naturally loving, caring and believe in non-violent, non-abusive, and non-controlling means of solving problems and conflicts. RWAMREC conducts sensitisation and education programmes, media campaigns, public lectures and mentoring to engage men and youth in Gender based violence (GBV) prevention, positive masculinity and positive attitudes towards women in daily life. Their school outreach programs against GBV aim to involve as many teenage boys as possible, focusing on techniques that encourage them to confront their peer's attitudes about sex and violence.

"Usually when you talk about the gender issue, people consider it's a women's issue. But you can't achieve gender equality if men aren't on board," said Fidèle Rutayisire, chairman of RWAMREC, "It's easier for men to be changed by peers rather than by women."

Their MenCare programme teaches expectant and young fathers about parenting, reproductive and maternal health and couples communication. When Theoneste Nibatuze participated in the programme, he soon took his lessons home and began helping with housework, much to his wife's surprise. He washed dishes and socks that he previously left in the basin for her to clean. He even pounded and cooked cassava and added vegetables and peanuts to meals to add nutrients for his pregnant wife. At first his wife was uncomfortable with this change, and was challenged by her sister and mother-in-law. But eventually the changes became a long lasting part of their family life. Nibatuze has now bonded more with the family. If he is away, his son asks for him. "Now he is enjoying the care of both parents," he said.

RWAMREC is making huge strides to reduce violence against women, by engaging with men and teaching non-violent solutions to conflict. By encouraging men to empathise with women and share responsibility of unpaid labour, they are creating happier and healthier family life.





THE IDEA

CHANGE CULTURAL NORMS IN ALL COUNTRIES AND DIASPORA COMMUNITIES PRACTISING FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION BY CONVENING SURVIVORS TO EDUCATE GIRLS ON ITS HARMFUL CONSEQUENCES.

Safe Hands for Girls:

THE SURVIVORS COMMITTED TO ENDING FGM BY 2030

3 million girls and women around the world are at risk of undergoing female genital mutilation (FGM) each year. 200 million women and girls across the world are already affected, including 503,000 in the US and 700,000 in Europe. FGM can cause serious physical and mental health effects, both immediately after the procedure and for the rest of affected women's lives. Despite increased awareness of the harms of FGM around the world, resulting in the introduction of new laws banning FGM in several countries in the past decade, FGM remains pervasive, as the law alone is not enough to ensure it's elimination.

Safe Hands for Girls was founded in 2013 to help end FGM, provide support to women and girls who are survivors of the practice and address its lifelong, harmful physical and psychological consequences. Founder Jaha Dukureh is a survivor of FGM, and a tireless advocate against the practice. She brought the issue to the attention of President Barack Obama in 2014 after starting a petition, and to the President of The Gambia in 2015 while filming for a documentary about her experience. This influenced the Gambia's decision to outlaw FGM in 2015, one of her greatest achievements.

Working in both The Gambia and the US, Safe Hands for Girls creates greater awareness of FGM and other forms of violence against women through education and advocacy. Over time their mission has evolved to address other forms of violence

against women and abuses of women's rights that prevent many women from reaching their full potential. They are one of the few survivor-led organisation working in this area and are youth focused, empowering young people to end FGM in a generation.

Safe Hands for Girls visits schools across The Gambia to educate students on the consequences of FGM, training them to be Youth Leaders in the campaign to end FGM by 2030. One student, after receiving an education session on FGM spoke about the importance of knowing FGM's potential consequences. "Those who are doing this act do not know the negative effects of it. For us as future leaders, when we are taught about the negative effects, we know to avoid it. We won't do it to our children in the future."

FGM is both a driver and symptom of gender inequality. Harmful social expectations of what it means to be a girl drive FGM and girls who have undergone FGM are more likely to drop out of school, have health problems and complications during pregnancy. By entering communities and encouraging open dialogue, Safe Hands for Girls are able to gain a better understanding of attitudes and beliefs surrounding FGM and therefore identify key obstacles to ending the practice. By both supporting survivors and preventing future suffering, they are working towards the elimination of FGM by 2030 and a more equal world.

ALLOCATE PUBLIC SERVICES AND SOCIAL SECURITY TO RECOGNISE UNPAID CARE WORK UNDERTAKEN BY WOMEN.

Young Urban Women’s Movement

LESSENING THE BURDEN OF WOMEN’S UNPAID CARE WORK IN URBAN GHANA

It is estimated that by 2030, 60% of the global population will live in urban areas. One of the main causes for increasing urban populations is rural to urban migration, especially in contexts of declining opportunities for income in rural areas. However for many people, this does not necessarily mean an increase in the standard of living.

Experiences of urban migration are diverse. While there are possibilities for increased income, this is largely in the informal economy, particularly for women, and can expose them to new risks and vulnerabilities. For many, the reality includes low wages, delay or non-payment of wages, long working hours, deadline pressure, precarious or non-existent job security and medical insurance, sexual harassment, health and safety hazards, use of intimidation tactics and violent measures to quell dissent.

Young Urban Women's Movement focuses on young women's rights to decent work and sexual reproductive health in Accra and Tamale in Ghana. Through empowerment, campaigning and solidarity, they seek to increase women's control and autonomy over their life choices, and to challenge gender norms that perpetuate inequality. The group provides solidarity for young women in urban areas and builds their confidence to find and share their voices regionally, nationally and internationally. They also work with young women to identify strategies or solutions for more immediate redress of their problems - for example, how they might be able to protect themselves from sexual and economic exploitation and how they might 'cooperatise' childcare as an interim solution.

One key issue for working women in urban Ghana, and indeed the rest of the world, is the burden of unpaid care work. This work includes nurturing homes and communities through child care, cooking, cleaning, shopping and other care activities, as well as child bearing, caring for household

members (such as children, the elderly and workers). These tasks support the productive economy - allowing it to function – and take significant time and energy without being compensated through pay. In order to decrease the burden of this work, the Young Urban Women's Movement advocates for increased investment in technology that decreases the time spent on care work, increase provision of public services such as childcare and elderly care and importantly social change within families and communities to redistribute care work equally between genders.

Indicating the power of bringing women together to discuss the problems they face and giving them the space to identify solutions which can then be brought to the attention of those in power, the Tamale Chapter of Young Urban Women's Movement generated headlines in Ghana this International Women's Day. They undertook an advocacy march demanding that Ghana's Affirmative Action Bill be passed into law. This bill would ensure that 40% of women at all levels would be given opportunity to participate in decision-making processes.

To date, the Young Urban Women's Movement has mobilised over 1000 young women, in 40 groups, whom have all been trained on; leadership, communication, advocacy, livelihood opportunities, sexual and reproductive health, unpaid care work, sexual harassment, labour act, women's rights, human rights and decent work. Many women have also received training in tailoring, hairdressing and IT skills through the group. Incredibly, 50-60% of women taking part in the movement have reported reductions in their unpaid care work. Importantly, many young women, inspired by taking part, have taken part in radio discussions and public discussions about women's unpaid care burden, decent work, women friendly sexual and reproductive services and teenage pregnancy – spreading the word across the region.



ORGANISE AND EMPOWER WOMEN WORKING IN THE INFORMAL SECTOR TO BUILD THEIR LEADERSHIP, COLLECTIVE STRENGTH AND VISIBILITY, AND ASSURE THEM ACCESS TO SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL SERVICES.



Self Employed Women's Association

ORGANISING TO BUILD COLLECTIVE STRENGTH AND FIGHT POVERTY

More than 60% of the world's employed people are working in the informal economy. The proportion of informal economy workers is far higher in Africa (85.8%) and Asia (68.2%) than in the Americas (40%) and Europe (25%). Many different types of employment belong under the broad umbrella "informal", including a range of different occupations: for example, domestic workers, home-based workers, street vendors and waste pickers.

Work in the informal economy is often characterised by small or undefined workplaces, unsafe and unhealthy working conditions, low or irregular incomes, long working hours and lack of access to finance, training and technology. As workers in the informal economy are not recognised, regulated or protected under labour legislation, they often lack social protection and many remain trapped in poverty.

Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA), is a trade union of poor women workers from the informal sector. SEWA works towards their members achieving 'full employment' at household level and self-reliance. This means ensuring they have access to childcare, healthcare, shelter and nutrition in addition to improving their organisational strength and leadership. SEWA's main objective is to organise women workers, to improve their bargaining skills through their collective strength so they can have work security, income security, food security and social security and thus, fight against poverty.

SEWA was founded by Ela Bhatt in 1972, as a response to the work needs of poor, self-employed head-loader women in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. Now, SEWA organises women in over 135 different trades. The uniqueness of SEWA lies in its joint action of Union and Cooperatives. SEWA's organizing builds the collective strength so that women become the owners and managers of their own economic institutions. On these lines, through their own initiative, hard work and commitment, SEWA members have built over a hundred institutions aimed at getting "full employment". Today, the SEWA movement has spread from Ahmedabad, Gujarat to 16 Indian states and neighbouring South Asian countries including Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal.

As one of the largest organization of women workers in India, SEWA works on voice, visibility and validity of the informal sector women workers through constructive struggle. Some of the constructive developments instrumented by SEWA include the Street Vendors Act 2014, ILO's Home Workers Convention and a new state government social security card called U-win for unorganised sector workers.

The urban members of SEWA mostly consisted of Head-loaders, street-vendors and waste-pickers. Most of these members faced 2 major problems: lack of working capital and non-ownership of assets owing to which, a major portion of their meagre income went towards interest on working capital and rent on trade equipment. The formal banking sector was not responsive to the special needs of these informal sector women workers and hence, responding to the special financial needs of its members and freeing them from the vicious cycle of

eternal debt, SEWA started its – "The SEWA Cooperative Bank" in 1974. Since then it has been providing banking services to poor, illiterate self-employed women and has become a viable financial venture. The term microfinance came much later, but the activity of including the 'micro person' of society in financial services was started by SEWA Bank by recognizing the viability of their small enterprises, and by tailoring banking norms to the needs of the poor micro-producer.

In 2010, SEWA began working with Sri Lankan women to help them develop their own organisation of informal workers, particularly for those affected by conflict. SEWA trained a group of Sri Lankan women and helped set-up two centres in the war affected rural and urban areas of Batticaloa. Through these centres trainings in food processing, garment manufacturing, enterprise, leadership and value-chain are being extended to many more conflict-affected poor women workers. SEWA also helped these workers to form the first cooperative society in Sri Lanka for war affected self-employed women: Women's Self-Employed Development Cooperative society (WSDCSociety). The WSDCSociety has since extended its reach to affected women in Trincomali and Ampara districts.

The scale of SEWA's growth across India and South Asia indicates the strength of their organizing and their approach of continuous constructive struggle that leads to strengthening the collective power of informal women workers and building of Women's leadership. Under this women's leadership, SEWA is paving the path for women's right to decent work and through it peace building.

National Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission

FIGHTING TO DECRIMINALISE HOMOSEXUALITY IN KENYA

Homosexuality is illegal in 33 of Africa's 56 states. In Mauritania and parts of Nigeria, it's a crime punishable by death and in states including Gambia, Sierra Leone and Tanzania it could mean up to life imprisonment. For the most part, the criminalisation of homosexuality in Africa is a direct result of colonialism, with much of the anti-homosexual legislation introduced by European states and remaining unchanged.

In recent decades, often due to religious influence, some states have created new laws against homosexuality, even declaring it "un-African". Kenya's colonial-era law criminalises same-sex sexual acts, which are punishable by 14 years in prison and many members of Kenya's LGBT community face harassment, threats and sometimes violence.

Founded by six young legal advocates, The National Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (NGLHRC) to promote and protect the equality and inclusion of LGBTIQ individuals and communities in Kenya, and advance their meaningful participation in society. They began their work by conducting a nine-month study to understand the needs and priorities of the LGBTIQ community in Kenya. They found that current punitive criminal laws against

expressions of same sex intimacy were a major barrier to equality. In effect, these laws convey to Kenyan society that LGBTIQ persons "are criminals," and should be treated as such. This has allowed for on-going and unfettered discrimination of the community.

NGLHRC works to achieve policy and legal reforms towards equality and full inclusion of sexual and gender minorities through strategic litigation, legal clinics, research and documentation and urgent action missions. They also work to build the LGBTIQ movement in Kenya through positive events and activities and encourage political and civic participation of LGBTIQ individuals and communities through lobbying and support to LGBTIQ political aspirants.

In March 2018, they achieved a ground breaking victory, winning a landmark case to end the forced anal examinations of men accused of same-sex relations in Kenya. NGLHRC filed a constitutional challenge after police arrested two men in Kwale County in February 2015 on charges of homosexuality, and subjected them to forced anal exams, HIV tests, and Hepatitis B tests at Mombasa's Madaraka Hospital. NGLHRC contended that forced anal testing is cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment that can amount to torture. The Independent Forensic

Experts Group has found that the exams, which are based on long-outdated 19th century medical theories, are both medically worthless and a severe violation of medical ethics.

"With this ruling, the judges are saying that we all deserve to be treated with dignity and afforded our basic rights, as enshrined in the Kenyan Constitution," said Njeri Gateru, head of Legal Affairs at NGLHRC. The victory also provided hope for similarly favourable rulings in their upcoming court cases. In 2016, NGLHRC, along with the Gay and Lesbian Coalition of Kenya (GALCK) and the Nyanza Rift Valley & Western Kenya Network (NYARWEK), filed a constitutional challenge to sections 162(a) and (c) and 165 of Kenya's penal code, which criminalise consensual same-sex relations. The groups contend that these colonial era laws prohibiting violate the rights of LGBT Kenyans and others to privacy, equality and non-discrimination. A ruling is expected in the coming months.

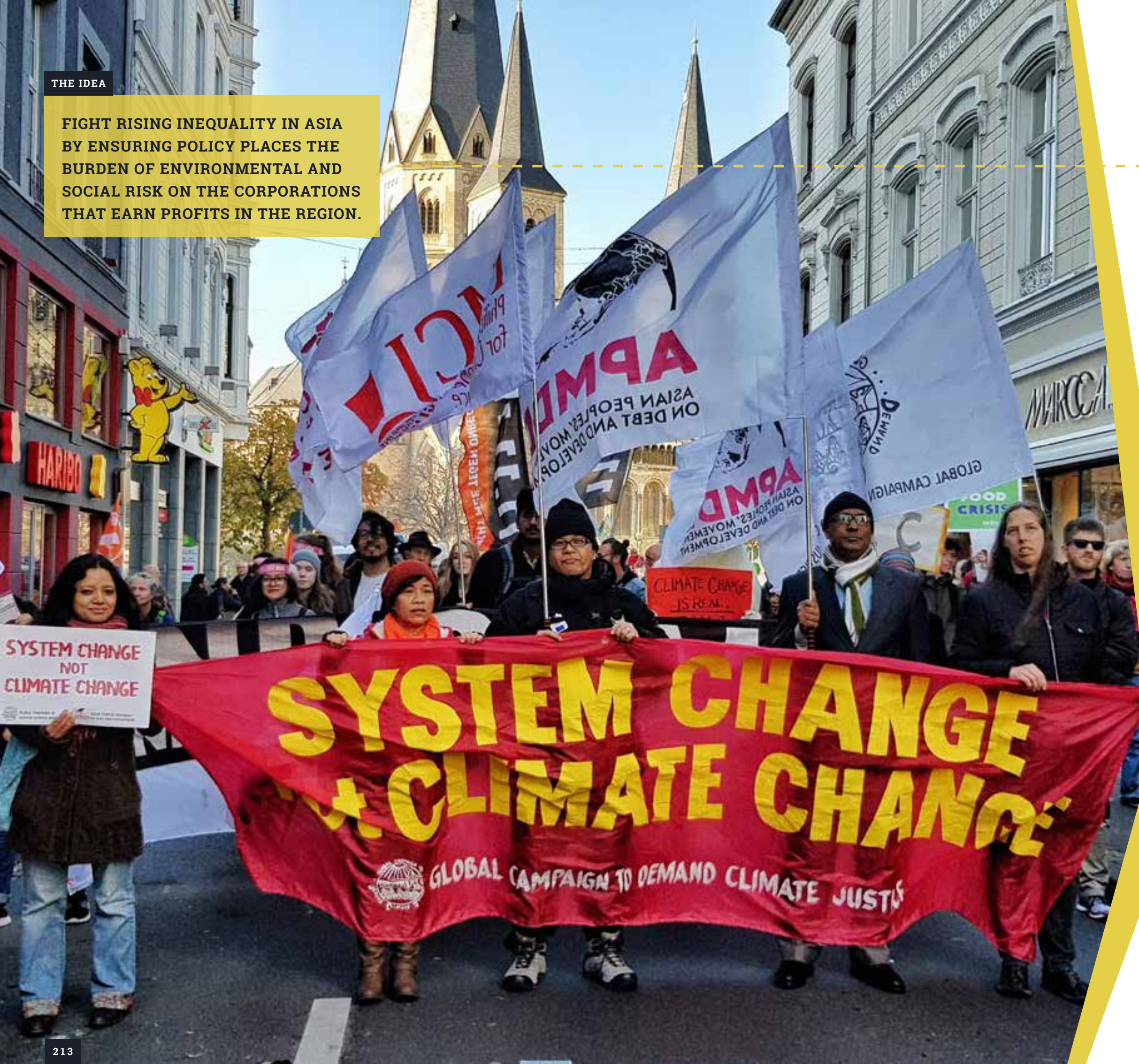
NGLHRC are making incredible progress to repeal the laws that criminalise LGBTIQ people in Kenya. By working to change the law, they are promoting equality and inclusion for all of Kenya's LGBTIQ community.



THE IDEA

REVIEW LEGISLATION THAT CRIMINALISES SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS TO ENSURE ALL PEOPLE HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS UNDER THE LAW.

FIGHT RISING INEQUALITY IN ASIA BY ENSURING POLICY PLACES THE BURDEN OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISK ON THE CORPORATIONS THAT EARN PROFITS IN THE REGION.



Asian People's Movement on Debt and Development

RESISTING INEQUALITY AND CLIMATE INJUSTICE

Inequality in Asia and the Pacific is on the rise. Since the early 1990s, the region has experienced a tremendous socioeconomic transformation, facilitated by strong and sustained economic growth. Unfortunately, the gains from this remarkable performance have not always benefited those most in need. As a result, many countries in the region have experienced a widening of existing inequalities, accompanied by increased environmental degradation. In 2017, the net worth of the region's billionaires was more than seven times the combined GDP of the region's least developed countries (LDCs). Income and wealth inequalities are strongly linked to other dimensions of inequality, such as access to education, health care, finance, clean energy and water and sanitation.

Environmental degradation is also closely linked to inequality. Low-income countries in Asia are more exposed to environmental degradation such as air pollution, which claims an estimated 4 million lives per year in the region. Vulnerability to climate change and its negative effects has intensified especially for the poor. Natural disasters cause disproportionately greater impacts on poorer countries and households and therefore exacerbate inequalities among countries, but also between the rich and the poor.

Economic growth alone cannot overcome these problems. Tackling high inequalities requires fiscal policy interventions to support progressive investment in essential public programmes, such as health care and education. The Asian People's Movement on Debt and Development (APMDD) points out that it also necessitates reining in privatisation and the commercialisation of essential services. It also calls for a shift towards economic paradigms that do not privilege corporate profit and instead democratise control over economic resources and give priority to people's needs and rights.

The Asian People's Movement on Debt and Development (APMDD) is a regional alliance of peoples' movements, community organisations, coalitions, NGOs and networks across Asia that advocates people-centred development, economic and environmental rights, climate justice, and gender justice. For the APMDD, there is urgency to the struggle against inequality and climate injustice – it is, very simply, a matter of survival for poor peoples and for the planet itself.

In May 2018 they joined other civil society activists to protest outside the Asian Development Bank (ADB) as they held their annual Board of Governors' meeting. They demanded that the ADB end their "anti-poor and anti-development" strategies across Asia and the Pacific in response to the bank's latest corporate strategy, which they argue ensures that the private sector profits while environmental and social impact assessments are neglected. They criticised the bank's major role in the privatisation of basic services such as water and power in The Philippines and its role in the introduction and continued financing of coal-fired power plants, which devastate the environment and contribute to climate change.

APMDD coordinator Lidy Nacpil described the problem, "Today, we have an avalanche of coal plant projects being railroad; with ADB leading the growth of Philippines' dirty energy through its million dollar loans for projects like the Korea Electric Power Corporation's 200-MW coal-fired power plant in Cebu and the rehabilitation of Masinloc Power Partners Ltd.'s 600-MW coal-fired thermal power plant in Zambales province."

The APMDD stresses the need to uphold the 2015 Paris Agreement, signed by nearly 200 countries all parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), with a commitment to keep the increase in global warming temperature below 1.5 degrees Celsius.

"Achieving or failing to achieve the 1.5 degrees mark will determine who will survive, how many islands will sink, who and how many will have food and shelter, [or] what new diseases will threaten life," said a joint statement signed by the APMDD and its members and allies.

APMDD is boldly taking on inequality, recognising that a transformation in the international financial system is necessary in order to truly overcome it. By challenging the dominant development paradigm and rejecting the kind of growth that is destroying the planet and creating further inequality, they are striving towards a healthier and more equal world.

EMPOWER SMALL-SCALE FARMERS AND SUSTAINABLE AGRO-ECOLOGY, ENSURING THEY CAN ACCESS LAND AND MARKETS, TO BUILD EQUALITY AND FOOD SECURITY INTO THE GLOBAL SYSTEM.

IRPAD

CHAMPIONING SMALL-SCALE, RESILIENT, SUSTAINABLE FARMING IN MALI

The failings of the current dominant food system are clear. Current production methods, characterised by the use of petrochemicals and modern machinery on large-scale, mono-crop, intensive farms, cause severe pollution and land degradation.

The distribution of food is inequitable and unjustifiably wasteful - some 815 million people across the world are currently undernourished, despite the world producing more than enough to feed the entire world population and food production increasing each year. Against the backdrop of climate change, resource shortages and urbanisation, establishing global food security is a key challenge of our time.

Power in the agricultural system is concentrated in the hands of few corporations. Just three companies - Monsanto, DuPont (Pioneer) and Syngenta - control 53% of the global commercial market for seeds and 1% of all farms control 65% of the world's agricultural land. Furthermore, millions of small-scale farmers remain impoverished as the result of unfair competition between large, world market-oriented agricultural companies and small family farms.

Agroecology is now recognised as holding a crucial role as an alternative model to sustainably feed the world. Agroecological concepts are primarily based on traditional and local knowledge, and its corresponding cultures. It involves harnessing natural processes to control pests and build soil fertility rather than using artificial pesticides and fertilisers, and planting a diverse range of crops to boost the sustainability of the farming system as a whole. Agroecological practices include integrating trees with livestock and crops, producing food from forests, growing several crops together in one plot and using locally adapted and genetically diverse crops and livestock.

IRPAD sees agroecology as key form of resistance to an economic system that prioritises profits over sustainability. Supporting small-scale farmers in Mali, they recognise that the various forms of small-scale food production based on agroecology generate local knowledge and promote social justice, as well as nourishing identity and culture and reinforcing the economic viability of rural areas in the country. As a "think and do tank" they conduct research and advocacy in the field of agriculture, livestock farming, and fishing in Mali.

One key area of advocacy for IRPAD is on the rights of small producers over the diverse range of seeds that they traditionally use and share among each other. Patents on seeds and crop varieties restrict what small farmers can do with their seeds, despite them having used and swapped seeds among each other for years and building crop diversity through local networks. IRPAD convened a multi-stakeholder consultation process in September 2017, aiming to promote peasant seed and formalise its use while recognising the rights of the farmers who use them. It was highly successful and received extensive media coverage.

IRPAD is publically rejecting the attempt to wean farmers off traditional seeds and towards patented varieties, which are expensive to buy and require high-inputs to grow effectively. They champion small farmers and traditional methods, which are better for farmers, the local environment and are more resilient to extreme events such as price shocks and natural disasters.



“The real makers of history are the ordinary men and women; their participation in every decision about the future is the only guarantee of true democracy and freedom.”

– NELSON MANDELA

The Sparks of Hope platform was built by the **#WalkTogether** campaign partners in collaboration with The Elders.

CAMPAIGN PARTNERS:



OTHER ORGANISATIONS HAVE GENEROUSLY SHARED THEIR KNOWLEDGE TO HELP SOURCE SPARKS OF HOPE:



The Elders are immensely grateful to all partners and collaborators. They also wish to thank the many individuals, journalists and civil society organisations that have taken part in **#WalkTogether** events around the world, and have spread the word in mainstream media and on social media. This has been a vital collective effort to create a movement together, raising the profile and importance of courageous Sparks of Hope.



“2018 affords us a chance to reflect on Nelson Mandela’s legacy. Throughout the long years of Mandela’s struggle, he never abandoned hope – and nor did he ever concede his principles or compromise on his commitments. When Madiba founded The Elders in 2007, he gave us a specific mandate: to “support courage where there is fear, foster agreement where there is conflict, and inspire hope where there is despair”.

– KOFI ANNAN

Kofi Annan (1938 – 2018)

Kofi Annan’s dedication to building a world that Nelson Mandela would be proud of underpins the WalkTogether campaign. He was a true champion of the movement and in celebrating Madiba’s 100th anniversary in July 2018, he walked together with his fellow Elders, activists, politicians, members of civil society and Sparks of Hope and said, “Every athlete knows that the key to success is not just individual effort but teamwork, support and dedication. This is why we walked together today. Collectively, we are the sum of our parts; we are a movement, and when we speak with one voice, our call for justice cannot be ignored.”

A founding member of The Elders, Kofi Annan succeeded Archbishop Desmond Tutu as Chair in May 2013. He played a vital role in leading The Elders’ work, and was a voice of great authority and wisdom in public and private, most recently on visits to South Africa and Zimbabwe in July 2018.

As the seventh Secretary-General of the United Nations from 1997 to 2006, he was a constant advocate for human rights, development and the rule of law. The first Secretary-General to reach the post from within an organisation he served for over 40 years, Kofi Annan had a life-long commitment to the cause of peace and was known for his staunch opposition to military aggression.



100 Ideas for a Freer,
Fairer World

