

Annual Report 2024



**mobilise
resist
transform**

Friends of the Earth International is the world's largest grassroots environmental federation, with more than 70 national member groups and millions of members and supporters around the world.

Our vision

- A peaceful and sustainable world based on societies living in harmony with nature.
- A society of interdependent people living in dignity, wholeness and fulfilment in which equity and human and peoples' rights are realised.
- A society built on peoples' sovereignty and participation.
- A society founded on social, economic, gender and environmental justice, and free from all forms of domination and exploitation, such as neoliberalism, corporate globalisation, neo-colonialism and militarism.
- We believe our children's future will be better because of what we do.

Our mission

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

Cover: Africa Renewable Energy Exchange participants at the South Durban Community Environmental Alliance (SDCEA) office as part of a visit to a community renewable energy project. © Lara Taylor.

Friends of the Earth International – 2024 Annual Report. **Coordination:** Caroline Prak and Lucas Swiegot. **Editing:** Miles Litvinoff. **Contributions:** Loreto de Amunátegui, Nina Ascoly, Nerisha Baldevu, Myra de Bruijn, Michelle Chan, Sam Cossar, Kirtana Chandrasekaran, Bareesh H. Chowdhury, Martin Drago, Laura Hieber, Dave Hirsch, Nele Marien, Lise Masson, Leticia Paranhos Menna de Oliveira, Beatrice Olivastri, Isaac Rojas, Sara Shaw, Danilo Urrea, Wieke Wagenaar, Hemantha Withanage. **Special thanks to:** José Elosegui, Ghislaine Fandel, Olivia Ronsain. **Design:** Zelda Mauger. **Spanish translation:** REDES / Friends of the Earth Uruguay.

Foreword from the chair

Multiple intersecting crises continued to afflict our shared and precious planet in 2024 – the hottest year on record. Intensifying injustice and violent conflicts compounded the climate and biodiversity emergencies. Democracy was under threat as elites and corporations grew wealthier and more powerful. As ever, people who cause least harm suffered most: Indigenous Peoples, low-income and marginalised communities, rural dwellers, women, girls and infants. For another year, Gazans endured some of the most senseless and brutal ill-treatment.

Few if any truly just and sustainable solutions were achieved this year at scale.

But there is still a world to fight for. Friends of the Earth International, our member groups and allies, human rights and environmental defenders, and grassroots social movements everywhere know that we have only one choice. We must challenge and oppose injustice and false solutions wherever they occur, while championing the system change and more harmonious planet we know is possible.

These pages will inform you about our activities and achievements during the year. We have scored important victories but also experienced setbacks. This is the nature of our work. Read about the progress we made in our four major international programmes on Economic Justice and Resisting Neoliberalism, Climate Justice and Energy, Forests and Biodiversity, and Food Sovereignty in 2024. Get to know what



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we focused on this past year in our four regions – Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia Pacific, Europe – and in Canada and the United States. Find out about our cross-cutting work of internationalist solidarity, membership development and promoting gender justice, and about our international communications including our Real World Radio journalism.

People and planet need Friends of the Earth's long-sighted, tenacious, participatory and holistic campaigning and advocacy more than ever.

To those who are already part of our movement, let's redouble our collective efforts in 2025!

To others who may be reading these words, join and work with us!

Hemantha Withanage

Friends of the Earth International Chair

→ foei.org/who-are-friends-of-the-earth/organisation

Economic Justice and Resisting Neoliberalism

Our aims:

- Reduce corporate impunity through national regulation and a UN Binding Treaty.
- Win significant victories against and weaken the current trade and investment regime.
- Support groups to promote our economic transformation agenda.



Ending the plastics crisis

Tackling the plastics waste trade, corporate power and unbridled production, a global movement has taken shape in the struggle against the plastics crisis.

At UN negotiations for a [global Plastics Treaty](#) in Busan, South Korea, in November 2024, over 500 Friends of the Earth International and [KFEM \(FoE South Korea\)](#) activists made a human sign spelling out “[End Plastic](#)”. Our mobilisation followed other actions by FoEI member groups worldwide in 2024. We sent a clear message: the world needs a treaty that confronts the full scale of the plastics crisis, addressing pollution at every stage including the continuing waste trade.

In 2025, we’re looking to what we expect to be the last round of negotiations to secure an ambitious and binding Plastics Treaty.

For the Binding Treaty on transnational corporations and human rights

The 10th session of negotiations, held in December 2024, for a [UN Binding Treaty](#) to hold transnational corporations (TNCs) accountable for their human rights violations was a critical step in the fight against corporate power. The negotiations made progress towards the rights and protection of victims, affected people and communities, and the future treaty’s ability to make TNCs liable throughout their value chains.

“The unbridled activities of TNCs bleed communities, our lands, environment and native peoples. Corporations continue to violate human rights around the world with impunity. A legally binding, effective and strong Treaty must guarantee us: the right to access justice and redress, allow TNCs to be judged by independent judges for their crimes committed anywhere on the planet, guarantee protection for those affected and their defenders.”

Pablo Fajardo

UDAPT / Friends of the Earth Ecuador

Alongside the [Global Campaign to Dismantle Corporate Power](#), we brought the voices of communities affected by corporate crimes to the international stage, centring the true protagonists of the treaty. This was despite attempts by the intergovernmental working group’s chair and the TNC lobby to derail and undermine the process.

Looking to 2025, FoEI will continue to hold the line against the influence and lobbies of TNCs and the states backing them.

→ foei.org/what-we-do/economic-justice-and-resisting-neoliberalism

Climate Justice and Energy

Our aims:

- Shift and influence the global narrative to better reflect our radical, feminist vision of climate justice.
- Advance a feminist just transition towards a people's energy system and dismantle the current dirty energy system.
- Undermine and block the rise of corporate-led false solutions, like carbon markets, offsetting, nature-based solutions, and techno-fixes like geoengineering.



FoEi and allies at the Global Day of Action during COP29, Baku, Azerbaijan, in November 2024.
© FoE International.

Palestine liberation and climate justice

The [Climate Justice and Energy](#) (CJE) programme also elevated [Palestine solidarity](#) at the climate COP29. Having Abeer Butmeh from [PENGON](#) ([FoE Palestine](#)) join the delegation was a huge privilege and opportunity to support and amplify their work. Through this solidarity work, FoEI connected the dots between climate justice and Palestine liberation.

Our activities and communications at COP29 alongside the wider climate justice movement included presenting strong demands and positions for [an end to the genocide in Palestine](#) and on the environmental impacts of the war. We called out complicity – especially on the part of Northern governments financing and supporting Israel's genocide and war while refusing to deliver much-needed climate finance.

This was a key contribution and achievement as the struggle for Palestinian liberation intrinsically links to all struggles for justice, including for climate justice.

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"Peoples and lands are sacrificed to protect the profits of powerful elites and big corporations. It is now more important than ever for climate policy to reflect the exceedingly strong ties between climate change, corporate impunity and colonialism. We demand a ceasefire now, an end to the genocide and a free Palestine. There is no climate justice without Palestinian liberation."

Abeer Butmeh

PENGON / Friends of the Earth Palestine

Scaling up renewables in a just and fair way

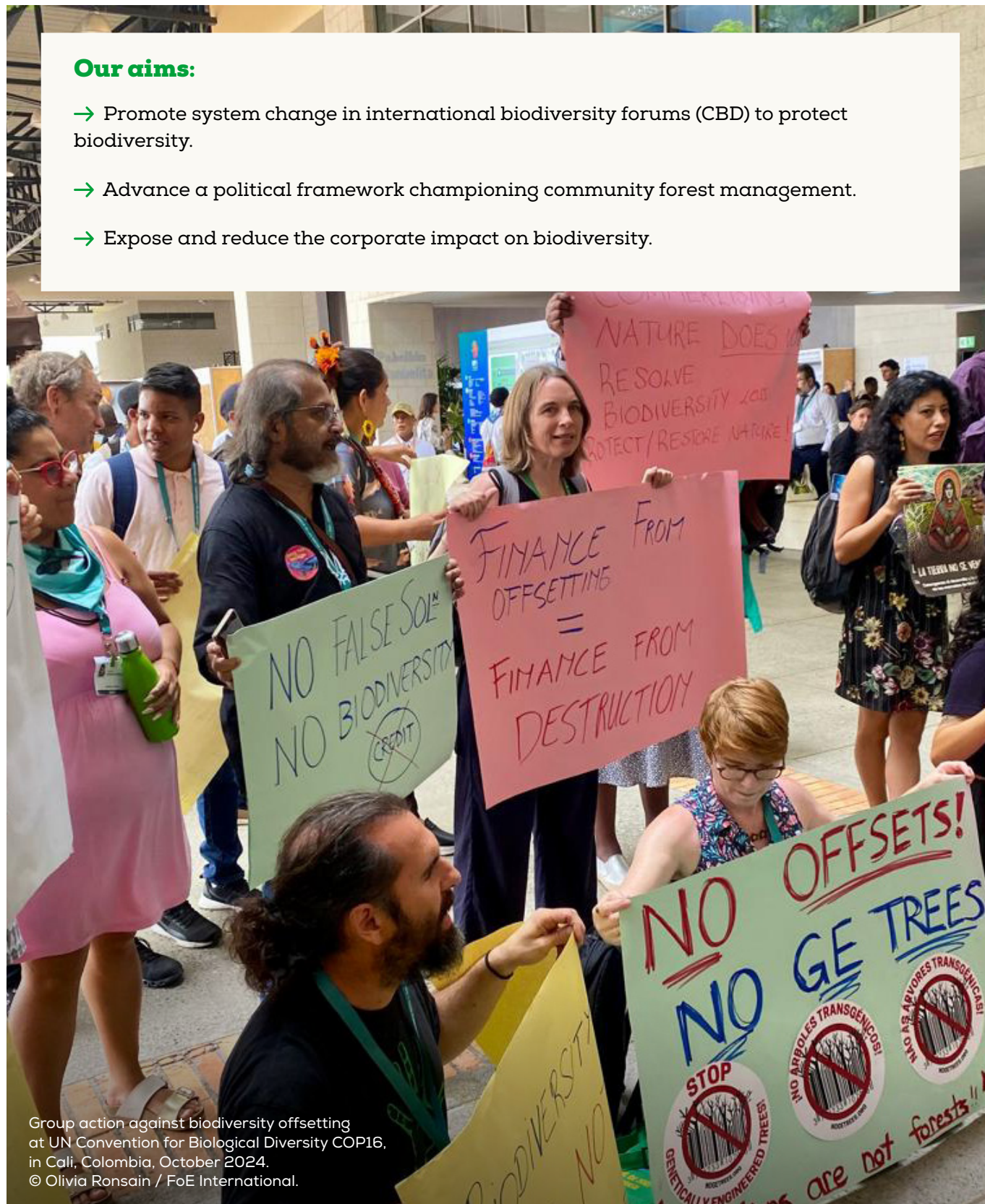
Throughout the year, the CJE programme continued their work on [scaling up renewables](#) in a just and fair way – putting people and justice at the forefront – with global co-learning and skill sharing. We deepened our knowledge of the growing impacts of minerals extraction for the energy transition and supported successes such as [community-owned solar](#) projects. We made inroads into fighting big polluters by supporting [climate litigation](#) and exposing [dirty energy](#) projects.

We also continued to fight false solutions in the [UN climate talks](#), supporting regional capacity building to campaign on the ground and through research such as the second part of our [Bank of Evidence](#) on geoengineering.

Forests and Biodiversity

Our aims:

- Promote system change in international biodiversity forums (CBD) to protect biodiversity.
- Advance a political framework championing community forest management.
- Expose and reduce the corporate impact on biodiversity.



Group action against biodiversity offsetting at UN Convention for Biological Diversity COP16, in Cali, Colombia, October 2024.
© Olivia Ronsain / FoE International.

Promoting rights, countering financialisation and offsets

In 2024, the [Forests and Biodiversity](#) programme fought against the [financialisation of nature](#) and promoted real grassroots solutions for biodiversity conservation and respect for the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs).

We have been deeply concerned by the growing corporate and government interest in biodiversity offsetting, especially since its inclusion as a finance option in the [Global Biodiversity Framework](#). To document the danger of these schemes that normalise the idea that nature can be degraded in one place and compensated elsewhere, we published the [Biodiversity Market Mirage](#) report and promoted it during the [Convention on Biological Diversity COP16](#), in Cali, Colombia, in October 2024.

Along with allies, we launched a strong campaign at the COP that featured a [sign-on statement](#) backed by 300 organisations and included successful webinars, press conferences and side events. We also coordinated a major action against biodiversity offsets, drawing significant media attention.

The advance and defence of IPLCs' rights and their role in biodiversity conservation lie at the heart of the programme's work. During COP16, we published our report on [IPLC rights, forests and biodiversity](#), including policy recommendations on conservation measures such as [community forest management](#). Our member groups also advocated for [system change](#) and IPLC rights.

A key victory at COP16, after years of campaigning, was the [creation of a subsidiary body](#) for IPLCs and Afro-descendants and the adoption of a work plan for this.

Gender justice, forests and biodiversity

As every year, 8 March, International Women's Rights Day, is fundamental to Friends of the Earth International's agenda. In the framework of our work for gender justice and the dismantling of patriarchy, we published testimonies of women from the federation and from our allies – "[Continuing the feminist struggle in the face of attacks on democracy](#)". One testimony, from [Environmental Rights Action](#) (FoE Nigeria), addresses how patriarchy and other forms of oppression link to the struggle for democracy and for forests and biodiversity.

Food Sovereignty

Our aims:

- Strengthen the global food sovereignty movement.
- Advance food sovereignty and agroecology as key pathways to environmental, social, gender and economic justice.
- Expose and resist agribusiness power and all forms of oppression including gender, race and class.



Local resident of the municipality of Namaacha, Mozambique. © Amelia Collins / FoE International.

Acting together for food sovereignty, global justice and system change

Food sovereignty and agroecology are key pathways to build environmental, social, gender and economic justice. With this vision, Friends of the Earth International has contributed to the lobbying and advocacy work of the [International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty](#) working group on land and territories for the realisation of the Second International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development in 2026.

Our participation in the Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples' Mechanism's [working group on global food governance](#) has strengthened long-term campaigning. This has resulted in a [UN Committee on World Food Security](#) series of multilateral meetings on policy coordination for global food crises.

FoEI's involvement in the [Nyéléni process](#) at regional and global levels has done much to advance movement building for system transformation. Together with [La Via Campesina](#) and the [Hoodwinked in the Hothouse coalition](#), we have enlarged the space of exchange on climate justice, food sovereignty and false solutions.

Exposing and resisting agribusiness power

FoEI continues to expose corporate-promoted false solutions and how they prevent food sovereignty and perpetuate systems of oppression, while responding with our counter-narrative of food sovereignty as the justice-centred solution. In 2024, our [Food Sovereignty](#) and Forests and Biodiversity programmes launched the report [False Solutions. Real Profits: Agribusiness' Tactics Uncovered](#) to document the characteristics and expose concrete examples of false solutions.

Who defines the future?

The UN Summit of the Future in New York in September 2024, which threatened to be [a mechanism for corporate capture](#), was a central theme for FoEI throughout the year, especially for the Food Sovereignty programme. [FoEI's Real World Radio](#) produced two audiograms in May and in September, before the Summit and during the meeting of social movements fighting for a peoples' multilateralism.

Denouncing and resisting multistakeholderism

As a member of the [People's Working Group on multistakeholderism](#) we have denounced and resisted multistakeholderism's advance. Our work with allies – including an [open letter about the Summit of the Future](#), the webinar ["What kind of multilateralism and global governance do we want?"](#), and the encounter ["A New Multilateralism for the People and the Planet"](#) – was key in our lobbying, advocacy and movement-building to counter neoliberal globalisation, corporate capture and the far right, and to build an effective multilateral system for all peoples and the planet.

Regional highlights

A look at 2024 across our global federation, featuring achievements from Africa, Asia Pacific, Latin American and the Caribbean, Europe, and Canada and the United States of America.



Closing of the Latin American and Caribbean Day of Peoples' Integration in Foz de Iguazú, Brazil. © Radio Mundo Real.

Latin America and the Caribbean

In 2024, [Friends of the Earth Latin America and the Caribbean](#) (ATALC) continued its movement-building work to advance people power and peoples' sovereignty through political actions and processes in alliance with other regional social movements and organisations from different countries. Below, we highlight two activities as examples of our work.

Proposals to advance towards a peoples' integration

Along with other organizations that are members of the [Continental Platform for Democracy and against Neoliberalism](#), ATALC contributed to the construction of the Latin American and Caribbean Gathering for a Peoples' Integration that took place from 22 to 24 February in Foz de Iguazu, Brazil. More than 3,300 social movement delegates from the region gathered to develop a roadmap for collective political action. The proposals for advancing a peoples' integration are framed within the defence of democracy and regional integration, freedom of movement – regional citizenship and migrants' rights – work and rights for all in times of accelerated transformations, just transition and energy sovereignty for integration, food sovereignty, and confronting the climate crisis with environmental justice.

This space of popular articulation for regional integration was a moment to reassert peoples' unity, and for mobilisation and action to highlight proposals to confront the offensive by the various strategies of colonial, neocolonial and imperialist

domination pushed forward by global capital interests through the agenda of transnational corporations and free trade agreements.

Political advocacy to promote the adoption of an ambitious and effective UN Binding Treaty

With the participation of ATALC national organizations and structures, and along with allied movements like the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas (TUCA) and the [World March of Women](#) (WMW), we conducted political advocacy activities in Colombia at different levels and through various political convergences and alliances. We highlight our participation and contributions to the National Campaign *Project of the Century: Justice in the face of corporate power* is organised by Colombian organisations – some of which are members of the Global Campaign – as a political-pedagogical process, and the development of a proposed national law on Human Rights and Transnational Corporations.

We actively participated in preparation and holding a public hearing in the National Congress, furthering a key dialogue with Colombian institutions and national and international parliamentarians about the process and promotion of the UN Binding Treaty. We also held meetings with ministers and high-level government and state officials in Colombia, who committed to promoting the treaty through their various political and diplomatic channels.

Africa



8th Maputo Workshop on Corporate Impunity and Human Rights, in Maputo, Mozambique, August 2024. © Babawale Obayanju, ERA / FoE Nigeria.

Working for a just and sustainable energy system

[groundWork](#) (FoE South Africa) hosted a series of [Africa Renewable Energy Exchanges](#) to identify and share best practices. The webinars culminated in an in-person conference held in Durban, South Africa, in August 2024. The conference aimed to produce a report that serves as a resource on best practices for critical minerals extraction, community and socially owned renewable energy projects, and the recycling of renewables-related waste streams.

Our discussions on good practices in renewable energy and extractive industries focused on case studies from Madagascar, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Togo and Zimbabwe. The exchanges highlighted critical challenges arising from the exploitation of mineral resources, including human rights abuses and environmental degradation, while also outlining effective methodologies to promote community rights and sustainable livelihoods. Central to this is the role of social movements in advocating for environmental justice, gender equality and sustainable practices in the face of increasing [energy poverty](#).

Community engagement and participatory approaches are essential to the success of renewable energy projects, particularly for women, who disproportionately bear the brunt of energy poverty and resource exploitation. This underlines the need for gender-sensitive policies and initiatives that ensure the equitable distribution of benefits. Our webinar and conference outcomes also address the pressing issue of end-of-life electric vehicle batteries, calling for innovative recycling and waste management strategies within a circular economy framework.

Our African exchanges and conference produced soon-to-be-published actionable recommendations for strengthening community engagement, regulatory frameworks, and localised renewable energy production, aiming to foster social, economic and environmental

Countering corporate power

In 2024, [Justiça Ambiental](#) (FoE Mozambique) held its eighth Maputo workshop on corporate impunity and human rights. This annual gathering builds space to discuss the power imbalance involved in transnational corporations' ability to take governments to court and to arbitration and the lack of robust mechanisms whereby affected people, civil society and governments can bring TNCs to justice. Participants continue to emphasise the importance of a UN Binding Treaty on Transnational Corporations and Human Rights among other tools to stop corporate impunity.

equity and resilience. The forthcoming report and its case studies will provide a roadmap for achieving sustainable development that prioritises the needs and rights of marginalised populations, while contributing to the continent's transition towards renewable energy.

Asia Pacific

Solidarity with Palestine action during Friends of the Earth APAC regional meeting in Tokyo, Japan, July 2024.
©Hanae Takahashi / FoE Japan.



Solidarity with Palestine

During the annual general meeting of [FoE Asia Pacific](#) (APac) in Tokyo in July 2024, we held a protest jointly with [FoE Japan](#), and allies from Japanese peace movements, in front of the Japanese Prime Minister's office, calling for the Japanese government to recognise the State of Palestine, to push for an immediate ceasefire, to stop the weapons trade with Israel, and to support international proceedings to hold Israel accountable for its crimes.

This took place after FoE APac, led by Chair of Friends of the Earth International Hemantha Withanage, Ayumi Fukakusa of FoE Japan, and Rasha Abu Dayyeh of PENGON (FoE Palestine) [delivered a letter](#) with the same demands to the Japanese Prime Minister's office. Less than a week later, the Japanese government imposed asset-freeze sanctions on four Israeli settlers.

Climate Justice Now!

FoE APAC and FoE Japan co-organised, and FoE representatives spoke at a day-long symposium at Hosei University, Tokyo, entitled "[Climate Justice Now! Japan's Role towards Achieving a Just and Equitable Transition in Asia Pacific](#)".

The symposium comprised three sessions: the first on climate impacts and the loss and damage suffered by countries across the region; the second on the regional propagation of false solutions; and the third a panel on the just transition and Japan's potential regional role in this.

This was an important conversation, as many FoE APac member groups are working on issues related to Japanese finance, trade, policies and corporations. This was also a milestone event for FoE APac in bringing discussion of Japanese influence in the region to a Japanese audience. The symposium was attended by over 100 members of civil society, academics and journalists.

Ending plastic

In November 2024, in the lead-up to the fifth session of the UN Plastics Treaty Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-5), more than 500 FoEI, FoE APac and KFEM (FoE South Korea) activists sent a bold message to governments with their human sign – spelling out the words "End Plastic" with their bodies. Local and international media reported this action. This followed a campaign across FoE APac countries that sent similar human sign messages calling for an ambitious treaty. While INC-5 failed to deliver the treaty, FoE APac continues to build its joint advocacy on plastics.

Europe



"Powerful Encounters" team and show at the European Parliament, Strasbourg. © FoE Europe.

The political backlash against environmental and climate ambition materialised in Europe in 2024 with hard-right forces prominent in EU institutions and the media. In FoE Europe we nonetheless strengthened our network and alliances and achieved key wins.

Bridging the gap between institutions and people

[FoE Europe](#) played a vital role in publicly foregrounding climate, environmental and corporate accountability issues. We engaged with media and decision-makers, emphasising [our demands](#) for environmental justice and for [people over profits](#) with crucial evidence on corporate capture of EU laws.

We helped amplify grassroots organisations' voices through webinars, trainings, meetings and materials such as our "conversation compass" for activists. This way, we contributed to bridging the gap between EU institutions and citizens, ensuring the fight for [climate justice](#) remains a collective effort.

Blocking a climate action killer

Major polluting energy corporations have used the little-known [Energy Charter Treaty](#) (ECT) for decades to block climate action. FoE Europe has exposed the scandals resulting from this harmful treaty. Our powerful campaigning, including mobilisations and touring our giant inflatable dinosaur [ECT-Rex](#) across the continent, has helped make the treaty a thing of the past.

Over a million people signed our petition, and 400-plus civil society organisations joined our statement against the ECT. As a result, countries including France, Germany, Spain and the UK announced their exit, [followed by the EU](#) greenlighting its withdrawal, acknowledging the treaty's incompatibility with climate objectives.

Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence: tug-of-war for justice

After a prolonged process and massive corporate and conservative political resistance, the EU adopted the [Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive](#). The law includes important provisions on corporate liability, access to justice, and an obligation for companies to implement Paris Agreement-aligned climate transition plans. This legislation should empower citizens to seek justice and hold businesses accountable, including for their greenhouse gas emissions – unfortunately it has been considerably [watered down](#) in 2025.

Addressing energy poverty

[Energy poverty](#) rose to the top of the political agenda following the EU-wide energy price crisis. With the [Right to Energy Coalition](#), we advocated for both immediate crisis responses and long-term solutions. Our work ranged from bilateral meetings with MEPs and European Commission officials to a five-day public forum and a photography exhibition, “[Powerful Encounters](#)”, with a positive and empowering perspective on the fight against energy poverty. Featuring diverse people across Europe, we launched the exhibition at the European Parliament and have taken it to six countries.

→ friendsoftheearth.eu

Canada and United States

Canada: wins on glyphosate and climate; campaigns on plastics and dental amalgam

Canada is the world's fifth largest pesticide user. The government department of Health Canada is required to fully understand the potential health and environmental impacts of risky pesticides like glyphosate before approving their sale and use. However, Health Canada granted the glyphosate-based herbicide Mad Dog Plus renewals in 2022 without transparently assessing new science on its risks.

After [FoE Canada](#) and allies [went to court](#) to insist the law requires an up-to-date assessment of glyphosate, [the court ruled](#) that Health Canada's approval of glyphosate-based pesticides was scientifically unsubstantiated.

The court gave Health Canada six months to reach a new decision.

FoE Canada [successfully intervened](#) in seven Ontario youths' legal appeal that the province has a duty to protect them from climate change. We urged the court to take into account the existential, urgent and irreversible nature of climate change and relevant international law (precautionary principle, sustainability, intergenerational equity, environmental justice). The appeal court overruled the lower court's decision to dismiss the case, emphasising the application of international environmental law, and ordered a new hearing. The case will go to Canada's Supreme Court in 2025.

FoE Canada is working at federal level to urge Canadian government leadership in reducing [plastic whole-lifecycle pollution](#), including banning single-use plastics and controlling the international plastic waste trade.



Friends of the Earth Canada, Ecojustice and fellow plaintiffs at the Mad Dog glyphosate hearing, in Toronto, Canada.

We are also campaigning for a domestic ban on the use of [dental amalgam](#) – approximately 50% mercury and a neuro – and reproductive toxin – ahead of COP6 of the [Minamata Convention on Mercury](#).

→ foecanada.org

United States: action against toxins, GMOs, fossil fuels and geoengineering

[FoE United States](#) achieved major victories for our food and agriculture campaigns in 2024. Thanks to our policy advocacy and litigation, Vermont and California states now regulate seeds coated with neonicotinoids, a harmful neurotoxin. And after years of corporate campaigning with indigenous allies, US consumers rejected the expansion of GMO animals into our food system, and a GMO salmon company shuttered its last facility.

In 2024, the Biden administration announced a pause on all new liquid natural gas export terminals, effectively putting more than 20

LNG projects on hold. In California, we joined a coalition to successfully bring about laws to better protect communities facing the hazards of fossil fuel extraction. And internationally, a group of countries began following through on a [COP26 fossil fuel pledge](#), and cut fossil fuel funding up to \$15 billion – a nearly two-thirds decrease compared to years prior.

FoE US also launched a campaign to stop the false promises of geoengineering. Working with local groups, we were able to suspend solar and marine geoengineering experiments in California and Massachusetts; meanwhile the Convention on Biodiversity continued to uphold its [geoengineering moratorium](#).

→ foe.org

Internationalist Solidarity System

As a global federation, Friends of the Earth International is stepping up the fight for environmental justice and internationalist solidarity by protecting defenders of territories and upholding peoples' collective and individual human rights. We respond swiftly to violations and mobilise internationalist support for threatened peoples and communities.



Solidarity action by Friends of the Earth
England, Wales and Northern Ireland,
2024. © FoE EWNl.

Around the world, civic space is shrinking as far-right governments and corporations increasingly criminalise and attack social movements and suppress peoples' rights. This repression manifests through legal restrictions, media manipulation, corporate influence and direct violence, often under the guise of security, economic development or environmental policies.

In Africa, militarisation and corporate control over natural resources drive forced displacement and economic marginalisation, with restrictive legal reforms intensifying these issues. The Americas see judicial systems weaponised against defenders, while corporations pressure states to suppress peoples' struggles through legal harassment, misinformation and violence. Asia Pacific experiences a combination of regressive laws, "free trade" agreements, and greenwashing tactics that justify land grabs and undermine local economies, leading to displacement and financial distress. Meanwhile, in Europe, repression takes the form of legislative crackdowns, far-right violence and corporate lobbying, disproportionately targeting migrants and progressive movements.

A common thread across regions is the corporate capture of state institutions, reducing

accountability and democratic participation. This global trend underscores the urgent need for internationalist solidarity, deeper political analysis, and strategic collective action to protect civic space, peoples' sovereignty and communities' rights.

This year we have focused on carrying out a collective analysis of trends and strategies involved in the criminalisation of social movements and of peoples' rights defenders.

Alongside this, we have continued supporting struggles all around the globe, such as in [Argentina](#), Indonesia and [Mozambique](#).

Internationalist solidarity with Palestine

The early 2025 ceasefire agreement suggested that a crucial first step might have been taken towards bringing an end to the war, loss of lives and widespread suffering in Gaza. Yet for the people of Palestine, the short-lived ceasefire did not end the genocide or ecocide. At the time of writing, in May 2025, despite the international outcry, ceasefire calls have been ignored or exploited. Aid convoys have been blocked or attacked, truces violated, and destruction continues with impunity. Gaza faces famine, mass displacement and the obliteration of entire communities. The erasure of the Palestinian people and their land is ongoing.

PENGON (FoE Palestine) is working closely through FoEI's ISS and with other allies such as Via Campesina and the World March of Women to [mobilise all our member groups and allies](#) to put pressure on their governments to cease arms sales to Israel, halt economic relationships with Israel and Israeli companies, and consider cutting diplomatic ties. Part of our strategy is to showcase [the environmental impact of the war](#) and the Israeli occupation. We continue to [raise funds to support PENGON's work](#) in delivering desperately needed resources to the Palestinians in Gaza.



December 10th
International Human Rights Day

Abeer AL Butmeh | PENGON - Friends of the Earth Palestine

RWR Friends of the Earth International

We are shown irreversible devastation wreaked on Palestine

FoEI highlighted its support for Palestine on 10 December 2024, Human Rights Day. Listen to our Real World Radio podcast, "[Don't stop talking about Palestine](#)".

Strengthening our member groups

In 2024, the Membership Development Team supported the consolidation of FoEI member groups through political formation and solidarity visits.

Grenada

In December 2024, the ATALC MDT organised a support visit to [FoE Grenada](#), which provides vital environmental justice leadership in the face of climate catastrophes. Our visit followed the devastation caused by [Hurricane Beryl](#). ATALC delegates spent time with FoE Grenada visiting locations around the island, meeting local communities and gaining understanding of the work and challenges facing the group and how to better support them to engage in the region's and the FoEI federation's work.

India

[FoE India](#) hosted a four-day [youth workshop](#) in Tamil Nadu state in September, supported by solidarity funding from FoEI federation members. Youth from across South India came together to discuss land rights, social justice, livelihoods and environmental conservation, exploring the history of land struggles and issues like community displacement and corporate land grabbing. Insightful discussions, interactive sessions, resistance songs, theatre and exposure visits enabled participants to reflect on the intertwined political struggles of gender, caste, class and land rights.

Regional AGMs: regional strengthening

The FoEI federation's regional structures and spaces provide key opportunities for member groups to exchange experience and views, discuss the changing political context, and build regional political perspectives and strategies that inform our



Youth workshop hosted by Friends of the Earth India.
© Media Collective, FoE India.

international plans and activities. These regional cross-programme and cross-structure encounters help consolidate and renew our work in such areas as [Pathways to system change](#), [gender justice and dismantling patriarchy](#), and [internationalist solidarity](#).

In 2024, each FoEI region organised an annual general meeting (AGM) hosted by a member group, where we worked on common themes of building regional strategies, including for membership growth. FoE Africa met in Ghana and held a two-day ecofeminist school for members before the AGM. FoE ATALC met in the Ecuadorian Amazon, hosted by our new full member group [UDAPT](#) (FoE Ecuador). FoE Asia Pacific met in Japan, alongside a regional symposium on false climate solutions. FoE Europe met in Malta, where delegates visited the future site of [FoE Malta](#)'s crowd-funded environmental centre on Comino Island.

Gender Justice and Dismantling Patriarchy

Mapping our policy

All FoEI member groups, regions, and governance and internal structures are covered by our commitment to [gender justice and dismantling patriarchy](#). After adopting our zero-tolerance [Policy on violence and sexual harassment](#) as a membership criterion at the 2023 Biennial General Meeting (BGM) in New Orleans, USA, the federation began in 2024 to assess how member groups are implementing the policy and any related needs and challenges.

We are undertaking this mapping across our regions with support from consultants. The results will inform a report to the federation at our next BGM at end-2025, as well as FoEI's political formation strategy at all levels (national, regional, international). We plan to review the policy and its implementation every two years.

Enhancing intersectionality

Working together across FoEI federation programmes, regions and structures enriches our intersectional approach to gender justice and to dismantling patriarchy and systems of oppression. Our aim is for all the federation's political analysis, positions, proposals and activities to visibly include feminist perspectives on social, economic and environmental justice, climate justice, the just transition, food sovereignty, biodiversity and community forest management.

The incorporation of this work across our federation amplifies women's voices and diversities, enhances our common understanding of feminist leadership-building and enriches our political perspective.

Communications and Real World Radio



Action for International Women's Rights Day organised by Friends of the Earth Africa. © FoE Africa.

Promoting our work and identity

FoEI's Communications team continued to promote our federation's distinctive work and identity throughout 2024. Through press releases, public statements, news, reports, videos and podcasts, we articulate our united conviction that environmentally sustainable and socially just societies require strong grassroots activism, internationalist solidarity, gender justice, and opposition to patriarchy, racism, militarism, and all forms of oppression and violence.

We speak truth to power and expose false narratives, misinformation and disinformation. In 2024, we maintained our intersectional approach in the face of continuing threats to democracy and shrinking civic space.

In March 2024, for International Women's Rights Day, we elevated the voices of three women fighting for environmental justice. Rita Uwaka of [Environmental Rights Action](#) (FoE Nigeria), Joolia Angelica Demigillo of the [Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center](#) (FoE Philippines) and Karina Moraes of the [World March of Women Brazil](#) spoke about "[Continuing the feminist struggle in the face of attacks on democracy](#)". Real World Radio covered their testimonies in [a podcast](#).

We published an important position statement by FoE Africa in July, "[Fighting energy poverty means embracing a just transition](#)". The statement combats the illusion that exploiting fossil fuels on the African continent will bring significant energy or development to Africans. African leaders, FoE Africa asserts, should demand payment of ecological debts to enable African countries' climate change adaptation and mitigation and their transition to clean and socially owned renewable energy.

On 10 December, Human Rights Day, we expressed solidarity with comrades in Palestine and reaffirmed that "[Ceasefire in Gaza is a Human Rights Day imperative](#)". Highlighting the messages of FoEI member groups and allies, from FoE Landes in France and FoE Brazil to allies [FIAN](#) and La Via Campesina, we emphasised that

there can be no climate justice without Palestine's liberation.

→ foei.org/friends-of-the-earth-international-news

Real World Radio highlights

One of the highlights of [Real World Radio](#) (RWR) in 2024 was the podcast "Intensive care: treatment for system change", which we produced to promote the FoEI [Pathways to system change](#) report.

On the eighth anniversary of the murder of Berta Cáceres in Honduras, we made a special podcast to remember Berta, the fighter of the Lenca Indigenous People and [COPINH](#) (the Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras), which Berta formerly led.

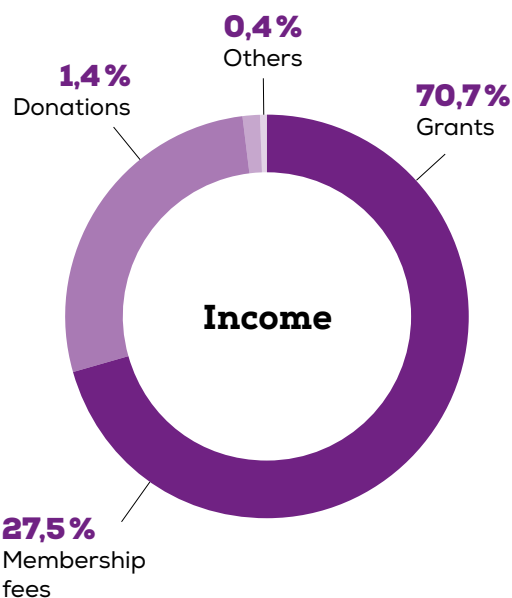
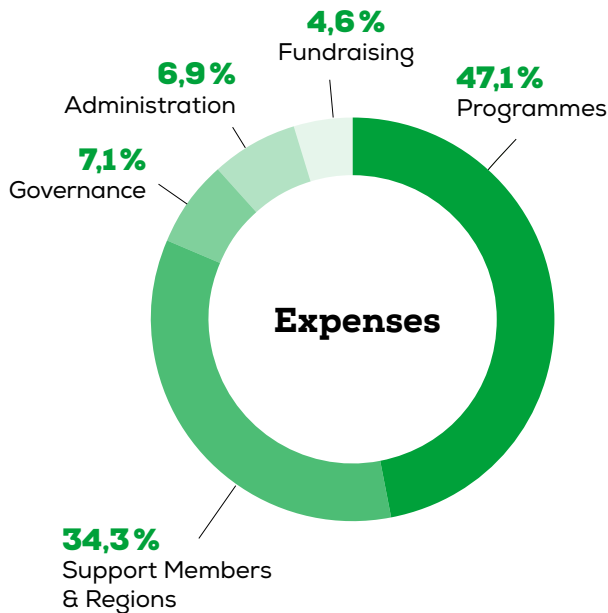
The Chevron (ex-Exxaro) case and its destruction of the Ecuadorian Amazon continue to be an important focus of FoEI's Economic Justice and Climate Justice programmes. RWR covered the issues in various ways throughout the year.

In October 2024, FoEI was present at the UN Convention on Biological Diversity COP16 in Colombia, an important moment for the federation's Forests and Biodiversity programme. RWR's contribution included reporting on the COP and the evaluation video at the end of negotiations. In November, we were also at the UNFCCC COP29 climate change meeting in Azerbaijan and produced video interviews with representatives from Africa and Asia.

FoEI suffered the loss in 2024 of a very dear federation colleague, Nur Hidayati (Yaya) of [WALHI](#) (FoE Indonesia). RWR produced a podcast to honour her memory.

→ rwr.fm

Our finances



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

DGIS: Fair, Green & Global Alliance

DGIS: Green Livelihoods Alliance

Isvara Foundation

Swedish Society for Nature Conservation

Bread for the World

Pro Natura / Swiss Church Aid

Energy Transition Fund, a sponsored project of Rockefeller Philanthropy advisors

Top Fund (CS Fund)

European Climate Foundation

Daidone Foundation

New Venture Fund (Forge)

Global Greengrants Fund

European Union - FFPA

Cultures of Resistance Network Foundation

Plastic Solutions Fund

Waverley Street Foundation

Friends of the Earth International's complete audited financial statements are available at foei.org/friends-of-the-earth-internationals-annual-reports

Total expenses: € 3 885 390

Total income: € 3 967 264

Surplus: € 81 875

Our structure



Executive Committee

The current "ExCom" was elected during our Biennial General Meeting in November 2023. It consists of the following Friends of the Earth members from national groups:

Hemantha Withanage

Chair - Friends of the Earth Sri Lanka

Lucia Ortiz

Vice Chair - Friends of the Earth Brazil

Bertrand Sansonnens

Treasurer - Friends of the Earth Switzerland

Emma Jayne Geraghty

Friends of the Earth Ireland

Avena Jacklin

Friends of the Earth South Africa

Anabela Lemos

Friends of the Earth Mozambique

Theiva Lingam

Friends of the Earth Malaysia

Wanda Olivares

Friends of the Earth Argentina

Mai Taqueban

Friends of the Earth Philippines

International Secretariat

The International Secretariat, based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, supports the federation with coordination, monitoring and evaluation, fundraising, financial management, capacity building and communications.

Dave Hirsch

International Coordinator

Nina Ascoly

International Programmes Facilitator

Caroline Prak

International Communications Director

Wieke Wagenaar

Operations Manager

Loreto de Amunátegui

Internationalist Solidarity System Facilitator

Myra de Bruijn

Regional Programmes Facilitator

Natalia Carrau

Gender Justice & Dismantling Patriarchy Facilitator

José Elosegui

Real World Radio Coordinator

Ghislaine Fandel
Communications Officer
Magdalena Ferrin Pozuelo
International Fundraising Officer
Mara Hotiu
Events Coordinator
José Maria Iglesias
International Programme Officer
Food Sovereignty
Fieke Jagers
International Programmes Officer
Climate justice and energy
Hesti Maharini
Financial Grant Manager
Sophie Manson
Membership Development Officer
Tasleem Mazhar
EU Project Manager
Willie Meester
Human Resources Officer
Paola Palladino
Digital Comms Officer
Ewa Pintera
EU Finance Manager
Kaetlyn Roberts
International Programmes Officer
Food sovereignty; Forests and biodiversity
Olivia Ronsain
Programme Communications Coordinator
Charlotte Sluiters
Bookkeeper
Laura Wu
International Fundraising Officer

International Programme Coordinators

Climate justice and energy
Kirtana Chandrasekaran
hosted by FoE Scotland
Sara Shaw
hosted by FoE EWNl
Lise Masson
Advocacy Officer
hosted by FoE EWNl

Forests and biodiversity
Nele Marien
hosted by FoE Flanders and Brussels
Isaac Rojas
hosted by FoE Costa Rica

Food sovereignty
Martin Drago
hosted by REDES/FoE Uruguay

Economic justice and resisting neoliberalism
Leticia Paranhos Menna de Oliveira
hosted by FoE Brazil
Sam Cossar
hosted by FoE Australia

Membership Development Team

Kokou Amagadze
FoE Africa
Chloe Aldenhoven
FoE Asia Pacific
Elaine Gilligan
FoE Europe
Karin Nansen
FoE Latin America & the Caribbean

Regional Facilitators

Nerisha Baldevu
FoE Africa
Bareesh H. Chowdhury
FoE Asia Pacific
Magdalena Tancau
FoE Europe
Danilo Urrea
FoE Latin America & the Caribbean

Internationalist Solidarity System Focal Points

Finnian Murtagh
FoE Europe
Alice Portal
FoE Europe
Chalani H. Rubesinghe
FoE Asia Pacific
Natalia Salvático
FoE Latin America & the Caribbean
Danilo Urrea
FoE Latin America & the Caribbean

Friends of the Earth Groups around the world

Africa	Asia Pacific	Europe		Latin America & Caribbean	Canada & the US
Cameroon	Australia	Albania	Finland	Argentina	Canada
Ghana	Bangladesh	Armenia	France	Brazil	United States
Liberia	India	Austria	Georgia	Chile	
Mali	Indonesia	Belgium	Germany	Colombia	
Mozambique	Japan	(Flanders & Brussels)	Hungary	Costa Rica	
Nigeria	Malaysia	Belgium	Ireland	Curaçao	
South Africa	Nepal	(Wallonia & Brussels)	Latvia	Ecuador	
Tanzania	Palestine	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Luxembourg	El Salvador	
Togo	Papua New Guinea	Bulgaria	Malta	Grenada	
Uganda	Philippines	Croatia	Netherlands	Haiti	
	South Korea	Cyprus	North Macedonia	Honduras	
	Sri Lanka	Czech Republic	Norway	Mexico	
		Denmark	Poland	Paraguay	
		England, Wales & Northern Ireland	Scotland	Uruguay	
		Estonia	Slovakia		
			Slovenia		
			Spain		
			Sweden		
			Switzerland		

**mobilise
resist
transform**

www.foei.org

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