



WORLD RAINFOREST MOVEMENT

Annual Report | 2020



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Who We Are

The World Rainforest Movement has existed since 1986, when it was founded by activists from around the world. Its main goal is to strengthen the global movement in defence of forests in order to fight deforestation and forest degradation.

WRM believes that this goal can only be achieved by fighting for social and ecological justice, by respecting the collective rights of traditional communities and the right to self-determination of peoples who depend on the forests for their livelihoods.

For this reason, WRM's actions are oriented to support the struggles of indigenous peoples and peasant communities in defence of their territories.



Women from Chiapas, Mexico

Our Principles

The WRM Secretariat team's commitment is to learn from communities how best to support and strengthen their struggles.

- We work with grassroots organizations that have a deep knowledge of the complex realities in which they operate;
- We base our partnerships on mutual trust and on shared perspectives and political analysis;
- We believe that community struggles are strengthened when there is an exchange of experiences between communities and community activists;
- We seek to understand the structural causes of forest destruction, from a local and community standpoint;
- We believe that exposing exploitation and abuse by forest destroying actors is a key to strengthening resistance and understanding and acting against the causes of forest destruction;
- We consider it essential that the information, research and analysis produced by the WRM be accessible for community activists and village leaders;
- We emphasise the specific relation that women have with forests and the importance



of their role in collective processes of organisation, struggle and resistance against the threats to their territories; in the production and strengthening of knowledge and culture; in family and community life, and in the transformation towards power structures that ensure meaningful involvement by all community members.

Our Main Areas of Work

- Expansion of monoculture tree plantations for the production of timber, cellulose, palm oil, rubber or biomass. This expansion has posed a major threat to communities in tropical forest areas and beyond.

- Impacts of industries that extract timber, minerals, water and fossil fuels from forest territories, and of the infrastructure that supports this exploitation.

- Initiatives that are presented as “solutions” but in fact only exacerbate forest loss and climate change. These include certification of forest management concessions, monoculture tree plantations, carbon and biodiversity offsets, environmental compensation programmes, among others.

- New trends related to corporate tactics and national and international policies that facilitate the appropriation of community forests.

- Local struggles and resistance strategies of movements, organisations and communities in the defence of their territories and forests.

- The differentiated impacts that women face when their lands are encroached and appropriated: sexual violence, harassment, persecution and deprivation of livelihood, among others.



Monoculture tree plantation in Mozambique



Foreword

The COVID-19 crisis has impacted the work of the WRM International Secretariat in numerous ways. For example, the international face-to-face forest related conferences, where policies are developed to supposedly halt deforestation, had to be suspended. This means there were no major changes or breakthroughs we can report on. However, the lobby of governments and governmental forums, carried out by corporations in tandem with major international conservation organisations and the financial sector, has not stopped at all, on the contrary.

This means that while forest-dependent communities have faced all kinds of negative impacts, due to the pandemic and the restrictive measures and economic crisis provoked by it, the owners of corporations whose businesses are linked to the extractive industries, for example, have benefited economically from this global health crisis. They have even received new forms of support from governments to expand their territorial control, and considerably more than in so-called 'normal' times. Moreover, during lockdowns, various governments classified extractive industries as being 'essential', thus putting workers at risk. Using the excuse of the economic crisis resulting from COVID-19, governments have relaxed any further environmental legislation or have simply sped up the approval of new destructive projects. Due to the restrictions imposed, often these

projects have faced less or no resistance by social movements and communities due to the difficulties in organising mobilisations and/or accessing information about these projects. Such a scenario motivated WRM to produce a special bulletin entitled "Covid-19 and Forests" to report about this state of affairs.

The COVID-19 crisis, besides having become one more challenge among the many faced by forest-dependent communities in the Global South, also contributed to the fact that in 2020 there was no significant reduction in the alarming rates of tropical deforestation in Asia, Africa and Latin America. And given the on-going land grabbing by extractive industries, in various countries the situation has deteriorated even further.

What has also advanced more strongly and become more sophisticated are the initiatives adopted by the corporate sector to present itself as supposedly "green", such as the "zero net" initiatives pushed for by big oil corporations in particular. Once again, such initiatives divert the attention - in particular in the case of the oil, gas and coal industries - from the fundamental need to urgently end the extraction of these fossil fuels.

At least four more developments in the global context present new challenges for communities that depend on forests as well as on other ecosystems:



1- REDD+ is evolving into a new concept that is gaining momentum: “Nature Based Solutions” (NBS), also referred to as “Natural Climate Solutions”. The big international conservation NGOs and the corporate sector, especially the oil and mining industries, are strongly promoting this new distraction from the real causes of deforestation, climate chaos and loss of biodiversity. The new concept, besides its enticing name that, in contrast to REDD+, does not refer to ‘bad’ things such as ‘deforestation’, benefits from the absence of any clear definition and is applied by a wide spectrum of actors who use the term to refer to any activity involving carbon in the atmosphere being captured in the biosphere. This includes “forest restoration” or “reforestation” initiatives for which several international plans, such as the Bonn Challenge, have been launched in recent years. Nevertheless, these initiatives pose a significant threat for communities, as they promote industrial tree plantations, erroneously labelled as “planted forests” according to the internationally hegemonic forest definition of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

2- The conservation industry is orchestrating a campaign to double the amount of land globally declared as protected areas to 30% of the world’s surface by 2030. This demand has become one of the main agenda points of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The proposal has received an unexpected boost following

the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the discourse with respect to the need to “conserve” forest ecosystems in order to prevent new virus pandemic outbreaks. However, once again the discussion places the blame for deforestation on forest-dependent communities, while ignoring the real culprits of the problem.

3- The promotion of nature-based “solutions” that, together with the targeted 30% increase in protected areas, opens the door for new investment opportunities for the financial investment sector, interested in presenting itself as “sustainable” or “green”.

4- The EU increased its target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from 40 to 55% by 2030 and expand the use of what it defines as ‘renewable energy’. This target is fostering a rush on lands in the Global South for the expansion of plantations for biomass and biofuels. It also tends to speed up the process of extraction of minerals and metals, including rare metals, to ensure the production of batteries, electric cars, charging points, wind turbines, solar panels, and so on, needed for such a ‘transition’.

To make matters worse, the discussions at the global level to mitigate climate chaos are not about reducing and stopping the dominant extractive model, but about false solutions to perpetuate it for yet a longer period, so that oil corporations can continue to increase their profits. Once again, these plans and trends represent tremendous challenges for



communities and their struggle to defend their lands, forests and livelihoods.

The challenges are particularly big for women inside these communities, which are constantly afflicted by practices of neo-colonialism and structural racism. Gender policies put in place by, for example, oil palm corporations or international climate finance initiatives like the Green Climate Fund, do not even begin to address the structural oppression that women face in patriarchal societies, trapped as they are within this model of oppression.

And forest-dependent communities and support groups in many places still face the challenge of isolation and lack of resources and information.

Based on these reflections, we firmly believe that support from (inter-) national groups willing to build longstanding relationships of trust, and working alongside grassroots groups in processes to strengthen community resistance against the pressure on their lands, continues to be extremely relevant.



Solidarity in action during the Covid19 pandemic.



Solidarity in action during the Covid19 pandemic.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020

Building Resistance & Solidarity

- As part of WRM's collaborative work in support of a network of groups in Brazil, regarding regions where industrial tree plantations have been set up and/or where plantation expansion is projected, **a national and international action alert was organised to expose the donation farce of the tree plantation companies in Brazil during the first months of the COVID pandemic.** [The letter denounced](#) how the companies used the dramatic situation "to do 'humanitarian marketing', including greenwashing, making donations that clean up both their real perverse image, as well as the way they benefit from public money and governmental incentives to continue appropriating territories, depleting their natural resources and destroying socio-biodiversity". The letter received support from more than 105 organisations.



- In West and Central Africa, WRM continued taking part in the facilitation team of the Informal Alliance against Industrial Oil Palm Plantations. The Alliance, set up in 2016, is a growing network of and space for community activists and grassroots NGOs to exchange experiences, undertake mutual learning and build solidarity between Alliance members from several African countries.

In 2020, the Alliance organised a virtual annual meeting which included a specific women's meeting. This was attended by groups of community members from different areas where communities face industrial oil palm plantations in Cameroon, Gabon, the Ivory Coast, the Republic of the Congo, DR Congo, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria and Uganda. The virtual meetings created the possibility to significantly increase the participation of activists and community members. More than 100 participants from the different countries were able to connect with each other.

- In Latin America, a region where in the coming years most of the global increase in the production of pulp and therefore of tree monocultures can be expected, the network against Tree Monocultures (Spanish acronym, RECOMA), which WRM is also part of, has continued its work to expose the plans of the industry as well as their impacts; the [Network](#)



[organised a live webinar](#) on 21st September, the 'International Day of Struggle against Monoculture Tree Plantations'. The event brought together members from six countries, who exchanged information about the current situation and resistance experiences in their respective countries. The network also disseminated [a declaration denouncing the impacts of industrial tree plantations](#) in the context of the pandemic.



Recoma's webinar

- WRM helped to expose the investment company Arbaro Fund, its activities and the problems created in some of the countries where it already operates. The company plans a 75,000 hectare expansion of industrial tree plantations in seven countries in the Global South, through funding received from the Green Climate Fund. WRM contributed to the start of a networking process in Sierra Leone, Ghana, Uganda, Ethiopia, Peru, Ecuador and Paraguay, as these are the countries where Arbaro plans to invest in.

Exposing the Actors Responsible for Forest Destruction and Land Grabbing

-In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, WRM exposed the role of European development finance institutions (DFIs), which since 2011 have been channelling funds to the oil palm company Plantations et Huileries du Congo (PHC)-Feronia. The company's presence in the area has been marked by abuses, the murder of community activists, land grabbing and other rights violations, affecting in particular the grassroots communities located in and around the areas that Feronia took from them in the past. The communities, with support provided by the local organisation Réseau d'Information et d'Appui aux ONG nationales (Support and Information Network for National Organisations –RIAO), along with a coalition of organisations in Europe, submitted a complaint that was accepted by the complaint mechanism of the German, Dutch and French development banks.

In January 2020, a **field visit took place** to support the communities in their preparation for the mediation process, initiated as a result of the aforementioned complaint. WRM together with RIAO and a coalition of international organisations, organised a visit to nine communities along with a series of capacity building workshops with villagers.



Also in January, the communities reported an **important victory**: they successfully took back control over some parts of their territory, which they claim was stolen from them by the company in the past with the full support from the colonial government at that time.

In June 2020, Feronia Inc. declared bankruptcy. The restructuring of the company and the renegotiation of the Feronia-PHC debt obligations that followed could have been a unique opportunity for European development banks to start making amends for all the years of injustice towards the communities. But they were not interested. WRM and RIAO published [an article in the WRM Bulletin about this issue.](#)



Village of Bokala-wamba, within the Lokutu oil palm plantation concession area of the ex – Feronia company, Tshopo Province, DRC

- In Brazil, and together with local and national groups that oppose the expansion of industrial tree plantations, WRM supported local struggles against **Suzano**, one of the biggest pulp and paper companies in the world that has operations in several Brazilian

states. The company is responsible for **multiple violations of community rights and the destruction of territories**. Suzano is also the first Brazilian company that **has received a permit to plant transgenic trees on a commercial scale, a risky technology with numerous unpredictable consequences**.

In February 2020, together with Forum Carajás, Friends of the Earth Brazil, MIQCB (Interstate Movement of women that work with and depend on Babassu nuts), and a Working Group from the Imperatriz University, WRM **visited several communities that are reclaiming their lands taken over by Suzano**.

In September 2020, WRM received an e-mail from the investment division of the HSBC bank in the USA, requesting more information regarding accusations against the Suzano company. This was a reaction to the fact that Suzano had emitted so-called sustainability-linked bonds. In conjunction with the Rede Alerta contra o Deserto Verde (the Green Desert Alert Network), which fights against the monoculture tree plantations of Suzano and other companies in the country, we produced an open letter in response, **exposing the violations of community rights and the destruction of grassroots community territories by the company**. [The letter urged HSBC to stop investing in Suzano.](#)

In December, together with the Movement of Landless Rural Workers (MST) -the biggest social movement in Brazil struggling for agrarian land reform and opposing the



land grabbing by, for example, large-scale plantation companies, WRM organised **an action alert that helped to suspend for 90 days the eminent eviction of 130 families** from a land occupation site inside an area that Suzano claims for its own.

– In Ghana, together with the national organisation Youth Volunteers for the Environment (JVE), WRM **exposed the damage caused by the land grabbing of a company called African Plantations for Sustainable Development (APSD)**. The company, without the communities' consent, received a large-scale concession of 33,000 hectares to establish a biomass timber plantation, of which 9,000 have already been covered with eucalyptus trees.

One of the company owners is the Lorentzen family company, founded by the Norwegian businessman Erling Lorentzen (1923-2021), who in 1967 set up Aracruz Florestal (today known as Suzano), that holds one of the worst records of violations of rights of indigenous and other communities in Brazil. The company is also part owned by the Africa Renewable Energy Fund (AREF), which is managed by a British company called Berkeley Energy. The AREF receives money from public banks that claim to invest in "development": the African Development Bank (AfDB), the CDC from the UK and BIO from Belgium. WRM and JVE organised a **series of visits to the communities that are being threatened by these plantations to learn about their impacts on the livelihoods of community**

members, and also to discuss the members' concerns and how both JVE and WRM can be supportive to the community resistance struggle. The findings of the visits were [documented in a Bulletin article](#).



Ghana

- Within the framework of 21st September, the International Day of Struggle against Monoculture Tree Plantations, WRM and a group of organisations from Mozambique and Tanzania launched [a letter to denounce and expose the plans orchestrated by the African Development Bank and WWF Kenya to expand industrial timber plantations in ten African countries](#). The letter -produced by the groups Justiça Ambiental, ADECRU and Missão Tabita from Mozambique, the SUHODE Foundation from Tanzania and WRM- was supported by more than 730 members of Mozambican grassroots communities facing plantations on their lands, and 120 organisations from 40 countries. It was submitted to relevant authorities in the countries where such plantations are



planned, as well as to the World Bank and other Northern actors interested in investing in monoculture tree plantations in Africa.



Mozambique

- In Gabon, together with the grassroots organisation Muyissi Environment, WRM documented and exposed the **negative impacts in that country of the industrial oil palm company OLAM, particularly in relation to its zero deforestation pledges**. Olam is supposedly committed to “zero deforestation” although it is responsible for the large-scale deforestation of forest areas, heavily impacting on communities’ livelihoods. The findings were published in a report that describes this history and raises the voices of the communities, particularly of women. The report helped to fill an information gap about the impacts on the ground of new so called “zero deforestation” policies.

The report had a strong impact. Both, the company and the Minister of Environment of Gabon replied to the publication in an interview that [was published by Mongabay](#). An [article](#) was also distributed through the WRM Bulletin.

- In Uganda, in collaboration with the organisation Witness Radio, WRM provided support to the **communities struggling to get at least part of their lands returned from the UK-based New Forests Company (NFC) that promotes large-scale tree monocultures in Uganda**. Fifteen years ago, more than 10,000 people were forcefully evicted from their lands in the Mubende region. Although a process was implemented 10 years ago to compensate the communities for the loss of their lands, it only offset some of the damage done and only benefited part of the families evicted from their lands. Community members who did not receive any land in compensation are now starting to reclaim those lands that were taken from them. This comes at a crucial moment because the Ugandan government wants to scale up industrial tree plantations in the country in the years to come. Furthermore, despite the conflicts that still persist, several European funding agencies, along with the HSBC bank and the World Bank continue investing in the company. A series of visits took place to different communities who have been displaced and are still living in refugee camps. [An article describing the situation was published in the WRM Bulletin and on the Radio Witness website.](#)

–In 2020, a tree plantation investment company called the **Arbaro Fund** (a Luxembourg-based private equity fund) received more than USD 25 million from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) for the expansion of industrial tree plantations in seven countries in the Global South. WRM organised an action alert to try to prevent the



Board of the GCF from approving the funding request. [The action alert](#) received a massive support from 133 organisations and 101 individuals from 56 countries. The funding was nevertheless approved. Before applying for those USD 25 million, Arbaro had already secured USD 60.2 million, including USD 30 million from public banks (“development banks”). With the USD 25 million of public money from the GCF, Arbaro hopes to secure even more money in the future and create 75,000 hectares of industrial tree plantations in Sierra Leone, Ghana, Uganda, Ethiopia, Peru, Ecuador and Paraguay.

– In Thailand, WRM organised [an action alert to express solidarity and support](#) as well as to highlight the **long-standing struggle of the “Women and men human rights defenders (W/HRDs) of the Khao Lao Yai-Pha Jun Dai Forest Conservation Group”**. This group has been battling for more than 25 years to get their forest back from a mining company called Thor Silasitthi Co. that started operating inside a forest area in the Dong Mafai Sub District of Nong Bua Lamphu Province. During the mobilisation, community activists as well as a human rights activist supporting them all received death threats.

– In Uruguay, WRM [supported a letter](#) drafted by Uruguayan civil society organisations aimed at denouncing in Finland the impacts at the economic, political, environmental and societal level of UPM activities as well as the implications for relations between Uruguay and Finland.



Thailand

Producing Information and Analysis on Forests Policies and New Trends

During 2020, WRM has produced and disseminated relevant information about the trends affecting forests and the livelihoods of forest-dependent communities. The information has focused mostly on the expansion of large-scale tree monocultures and protected areas.

The following materials were produced and widely distributed during 2020:

- On 21st March, the United Nations (UN) International Day of Forests, [a critical message](#) was disseminated. It exposed how the main policies of the UN related to forests and biodiversity actually allow for large-scale deforestation and the destruction of biodiversity.



- WRM published a [Swahili version of the booklet *What could be wrong about planting trees?*](#) The new push for more industrial tree plantations in the Global South. The material was produced in 2019 and [launched in early 2020](#). The publication aims to alert community groups and activists about the corporate push for a new round of industrial tree plantation expansion in the coming years. It reveals why planting trees on such a large scale can be extremely detrimental, in spite of seductive marketing campaigns claiming that these plantations will or could be a “solution” to the climate emergency.



Ni jambo gani linaloweza kuwa baya kuhusiana na upandaji miti?



Swahili version of the booklet *What could be wrong about planting trees?*

- In March, WRM released a [special bulletin that critically analysed and exposed the conservation NGOs or ‘industry’](#) as those who are mainly behind the new push for protected areas. WRM also joined Survival International and a group of organisations who [submitted a](#)

[letter to the CBD](#) to try to stop the plans under discussion of expanding protected areas as part of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. Furthermore, on the eve of the UN Biodiversity Summit, that took place on the 30th September, [we disseminated messages on social media](#) alerting about the huge risk of increasing protected areas.

WRM has continued its contribution of producing critical information about REDD, showing how it is a failure for communities, for forests and for the climate. At the same time, WRM has provided support to communities opposing these approaches.

One such approach is the REDD Early Movers (REM) programme of the German development bank KfW, which has been implemented in the Brazilian states of Acre and Mato Grosso. In 2020, KfW continued to channel funds to Brazil, in spite of an alarming increase in deforestation. WRM supported the networking process in the Amazon region, including between Acre and Mato Grosso, to exchange information with the objective of strengthening the resistance to such approaches. During 2020, WRM helped to set up and participated in a virtual meeting with about 25 participants from Acre and Mato Grosso, but also other Amazon states where REDD is on the agenda of the state governments, such as Pará and Maranhão. Participants were able to jointly discuss issues related to REDD, deforestation, as well as the Covid-19 crisis and how it affects forest-dependent communities and peoples,



and their resistance struggles. Following this event, WRM published several articles in the bulletin describing the situation around REDD and deforestation in the Amazon, including the article [Deforestation in the Amazon, and the REDD+ Money that Keeps Coming to Brazil](#).

The second relevant approach and funding source for REDD+ project in 2020 was the funding provided by the Green Climate Fund to national governments. In the same way as the REDD Early Movers programme, the GCF is funding REDD+ initiatives with a “results-based” approach, meaning that governments applying for funding must show a reduction in deforestation rates in a particular region during a given period of time.



Nicargua

During 2020, WRM organised, in consultation with groups in Indonesia, Colombia and Nicaragua, [two open letters](#) addressed to the GCF to denounce and try to halt the approval of REDD+ type projects presented by the governments of these three countries.

Although the funding was approved in all these cases, the action alerts helped to publicly expose the projects and raised awareness about the failure of the REDD+ approach. For example, the letters showed how governments manufacture the “results” where the payments are based on their own interests, obviously presenting positive “results” while deforestation in the aforementioned countries is still rampant. The letters received significant media coverage from [REDD Monitor](#), [Climate change news](#) and [Mongabay](#), among others, and contributed to fostering discussions at the national level in the respective countries. More than 150 organisations from different countries supported the two letters.



WRM Bulletin: A tool to defend people's struggles for their forests

WRM published six issues of its bulletin in 2020. All of them are available in English, Spanish, French and Portuguese. Some of the articles are also published in bahasa Indonesia. Besides the articles about general issues, the bulletin covered stories from 22 countries. More than 40 organisations and activists have contributed to the bulletins.

WRM 2020 bulletin issues at a glance:

- Bulletin 248 – [January/February 2020. Communities Resisting Deforestation and Greenwashing Tactics.](#)
- Bulletin 249 – [March/April 2020. Protected Areas feed corporate profiting and destruction.](#)
- Bulletin 250 – [May /June 2020. COVID-19: An Alibi for more Oppression, Corporate Control and Destruction of Forests.](#)
- Bulletin 251 – [July/August 2020. Green Capitalism Expanding on Communities and Territories.](#)
- Bulletin 252 – [September/October 2020. Development Banks: Financing Dispossession and Exploitation.](#)
- Bulletin 253 – [November/December 2020. Crime, Power and Impunity in Forests.](#)



Strengthening feminist perspectives in the struggles for the forests

During 2020, WRM contributed to raising visibility for the fundamental role that women play in leading resistance struggles against violent threats to their territories, communities and forests. At the same time, WRM made efforts to denounce how extractive industries operate in a patriarchal and racist way, reinforcing an economic system that besides being capitalist and built on colonialism, is also patriarchal and racist.

- On 8th March, International Women's Day, [WRM released a compilation of articles](#) from earlier produced WRM bulletins that helped to expose, from a feminist perspective, the existing links between the patriarchal and capitalist system and the extractive industries.



Brazil

- Furthermore, new articles about this issue were published in the WRM Bulletin:

- [Women, Territories and Land Ownership. Reflections from Women in Mexico on Why We Want Land](#)
- [Patriarchies in the Forests in India: Communities in Peril](#)
- [Brazil: Against Covid-19, Feminist Economics in the Countryside and the City](#)

- As part of the process to reinforce the participation of women in the Alliance against Industrial Oil Palm Plantations in West and Central Africa, two activities were organised: a virtual meeting with the participation of 90 women from different countries and a [video to denounce the violence and sexual abuses](#) that thousands of women living in and around industrial oil palm plantations face on a daily basis. The video was released on 25th November, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. It is available in English, French, Portuguese, Spanish and Indonesian.



WRM Structure and Financial Overview

Stichting World Rainforest Movement (WRM) is a Dutch foundation registered in 1999 at the Dutch Chamber of Commerce under number 34118798. The legal address of Stichting WRM is Vuile Riete 12 in Linde (Dr.), the Netherlands.

The Board members of the Stichting WRM, responsible for governing legal and financial-administrative issues, are:

- Larry Lohmann, Chairman
- Ivonne Yáñez, Treasurer
- Silvia Ribeiro, Secretary
- Premrudee Daoroung, Member

The Uruguayan Education Ministry has granted the Stichting WRM registered in the Netherlands permission to function in Uruguay, where the office of the WRM International Secretariat is located. In Uruguay, the Foundation is registered under the name of “Fundación Movimiento Mundial por los Bosques Tropicales”, with the fiscal registration number (RUT) 00215767260016.

In 2016, WRM was granted ANBI in the Netherlands. The acronym stands for "Algemeen Nut Beogende Instellingen" and the status is granted to foundations registered with the Dutch Chamber of Commerce whose mission and activities are deemed by the Tax Service to overwhelmingly serve the common good.

The **WRM International Secretariat** is a team of seven people located in different countries. Its office is in Uruguay and its International Coordinator is Winfridus Overbeek. The International Secretariat team receives input and guidance for its activities from the WRM Advisory Committee; from biannual WRM strategy meetings with WRM allies from different continents; and from regular interaction between the team and hundreds of community organisations, social movements, NGOs and indigenous peoples' organisations in countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The **WRM Advisory Committee** consists of the following members:

- Godwin Ojo, Environmental Rights Action/ Friends of the Earth Nigeria (Nigeria)
- Hendro Sangkoyo, School of Democratic Economics (Indonesia)
- Larry Lohmann, The Corner House (United Kingdom)
- Premrudee Daoroung, Project SEVANA South-East Asia (Thailand)
- Shalmali Guttal, Focus on the Global South (Thailand)
- Silvia Ribeiro, ETC Group (Mexico)
- Tom Goldtooth, Indigenous Environmental Network (USA)
- Ivonne Yáñez, Acción Ecológica (Ecuador)



WRM’s Remuneration Policy

The members of the Dutch WRM Foundation Board and WRM Advisory Committee, as well as any volunteers WRM might work with, do not receive any form of salary or honorarium for the activities they carry out for WRM. They can however request reimbursement for costs incurred for participation in WRM meetings, such as transport and accommodation expenses.

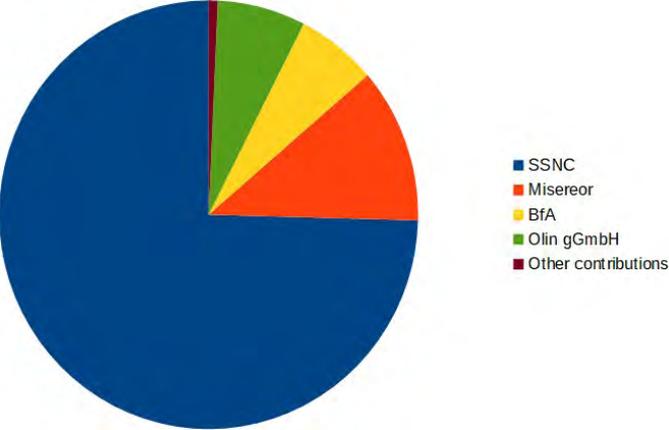
Only WRM International Secretariat staff and the international coordinator of the organisation receive a salary or honorarium. Individuals hired for short-term, specific activities, such as carrying out case studies, can receive an honorarium, based on a contract clearly describing the tasks to be carried out and the remuneration agreed.

Funding

In 2020, WRM core activities were funded by **SSNC** (Swedish Society for Nature Conservation) from Sweden, **Misereor/KZE** from Germany and **Bread for All** from Switzerland. For specific activities, WRM received support from **Olin gmbH** from Germany. WRM partners with GRAIN in a joint project in support of communities in West and Central Africa where foreign investors are expanding industrial oil palm plantations.

The total income for the year 2020 was **USD 245,968** split among the different funding sources as follows:

Funding source	Amount in USD	Percentage
SSNC	183,264	74.5%
Misereor	28,872	11.7%
BfA	15,271	6.2%
Olin gGmbH	16,794	6.8%
Other contributions	1,767	0.7%



WRM 2020 Annual accounts have been audited by the firm Auditores Asociados in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing issued by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC). A summary of the Annual audit is [available here](#). It includes a summarized version of the Notes to the financial statements.



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