

THE OAKLAND INSTITUTE

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



The Oakland Institute

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

The COVID-19 pandemic has taken over a million lives, crippled national economies, and exacerbated the already staggering level of inequality globally – leaving the most marginalized further disfranchised. The Indigenous, migrant workers, small holder farmers and people of color are most impacted, crushed simultaneously by the worsening pandemic of racism, fascism, climate crisis, and injustice. In the face of these threats, we hold firm to the four principles that drive our work: courage, rigor, agility, and accountability.

The murder of George Floyd, driven by the confidence of impunity that has allowed violence against communities of color in the United States of America for centuries, catalyzed millions of Americans to rise up, collectively expressing outrage and demanding an end to racism and violence against Black and Brown communities. These goals form the foundation of the Oakland Institute's mission as we work to dismantle power structures and ideologies that prop up inequity and corruption abroad and are the same ones enabling white supremacy and oppression here in the United States. To win in our struggle for global social, economic, and environmental justice, white supremacy and institutionalized racism has to be dismantled. In the United States, we proudly stand with the Movement for Black Lives demanding that we defund the police and invest in communities. Around the globe, we stand together with land defenders and communities rising up against neo-colonialism and theft of their natural resources. Enough is enough.

In the coming pages you will read about our work alongside communities around the world in their struggle to defend their life and land rights and the victories our efforts have helped secure. Our financial independence remains fundamental to our work – we do not accept any government or corporate funding. Instead, our work is made possible by a community of private funders and individual donors who believe in us.

We are proud of what you have helped us accomplish over the last 16 years. Our 2019 Annual Report highlights some of these accomplishments. We hope you're as excited to read it as we are to share it with you.

In solidarity,



Anuradha Mittal





Who We Are / What We Do

The Oakland Institute is an independent policy think tank bringing fresh ideas and bold action to the most pressing social, economic, and environmental issues of our time. We do this by combining meticulous research with creative communications strategies and advocacy campaigns to bring change around the world. Our work often starts at the invitation of local communities to assist their struggles. We are proud to work strategically and collaboratively with these partners!

Hold Powerful Actors Accountable

Our work holds governments, corporations, and international institutions accountable for their actions and policies. We do so through publishing reports based on rigorous research and analysis, international advocacy campaigns, testifying at Congressional and Senate hearings, as well as at the United Nations and much more.

Dismantle False Solutions

The Institute's research and advocacy exposes and debunks the false solutions put forward by governments and corporations to fight hunger, climate change, and bring about development.

Strengthen Land Rights and Livelihoods

In partnership with impacted communities, we research and document threats to land rights, livelihoods, and natural resources, and develop communications and advocacy campaigns to support and elevate these struggles in the international arena.

Support Sustainable Farmer-led Food Systems


We support sustainable farmer-led, agroecology-based food systems and work to build a farm economy from the bottom up. Our research is bringing forward blueprints and evidence of what these systems can look like and what policy changes are needed for them to flourish.

Stand by our Partners in the Face of Criminalization

The Legal Defense Fund that we started in 2015 to support land rights defenders continues to assist individuals and groups defending their livelihoods and the planet.

Elevate People's Voices

Underlying all our work is our strong commitment to elevate the voices of farmers, pastoralists, fisherfolk, Indigenous Peoples, and communities who are marginalized and repressed in the name of development. We believe that the poor are the experts on poverty; the oppressed are the experts on human rights; and peasants and rural communities are the experts on agricultural development.



2019-2020 Highlights

Holding the World Bank Accountable

In a major victory, the World Bank's 2019 *Enabling the Business of Agriculture* (EBA) Report dropped its new land indicator after the release of "*The Highest Bidder Takes It All: The World Bank's Scheme to Privatize the Commons*," sparked global outrage. Our report denounced the unprecedented aggressive attack on land rights the indicator posed as it prescribed governments to become land brokers and transfer public and customary lands to private ownership and put land into its "best use." The land indicator ignored the fact that billions of rural poor live and work on these lands, which are essential for their livelihoods while representing ancestral assets with deep social and cultural significance. Alongside Our Land Our Business – the 280-member strong coalition – we remain committed to ending the entire EBA program.

Exposing Failure of Agro-Industrial Parks in DRC

Our investigation revealed how the establishment and collapse of the Bukanga Lonzo agro-industrial park pilot project in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) resulted in numerous land rights violations and human rights abuses, pollution, and health hazards, misspent funds, as well as embezzlement and corruption. *The Bukanga Lonzo Debacle* ignited a campaign not just against a failed project, but a failed development paradigm – promoted and supported by the World Bank and the African Development Bank – that prioritizes industrial agriculture over the rights, well-being, and livelihood of local communities.

Revealing the Failed Promises of the Gibe III Dam Ethiopia

How They Tricked Us: Living with the Gibe III Dam and Sugarcane Plantations in Southwest Ethiopia confirmed that even under new national leadership, the situation facing Indigenous communities in the Lower Omo region is dire. The Bodi, Mursi, and Kwegu communities have lost essential farm and grazing lands and are facing acute hunger as a result. They are being pressured to give up pastoralism and adopt sedentary lifestyles in resettlement sites that are riddled with failed promises and abuse. Our call to Prime Minister Dr. Abiy Ahmed to take action to urgently address the issue was widely echoed in international media and supported by Ethiopian and international academics and NGOs.

Dismantling False Climate Solutions in Uganda

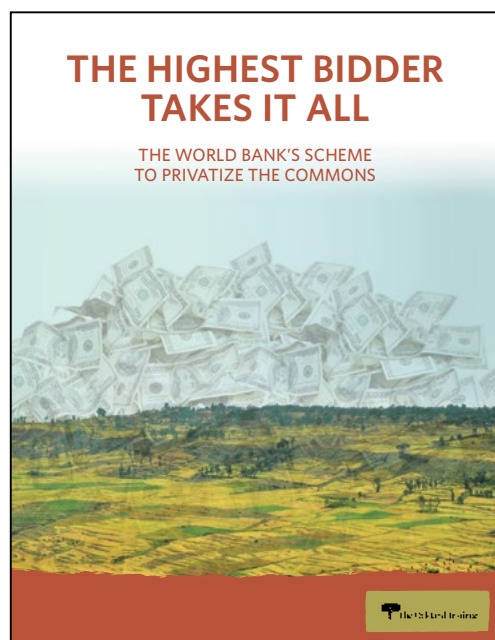
Following several publications and years of advocacy, our campaign against the establishment of pine plantations in Uganda by the Norwegian firm Green Resources led the Swedish Energy Agency to terminate its purchase of carbon credits from the company. While efforts to mitigate climate change are absolutely essential, the displacement of farmers and their livelihoods cannot be justified by the plantation's alleged beneficial impact on climate – especially when planting non-native pine trees that are harvested to be sold as timber. Our work continues to counter such false solutions to the climate crisis that allow European countries to exploit the Global South in the name of climate action while continuing with business as usual.

Shattering the Silence on Indigenous Human Rights Crisis in Nicaragua

While Nicaragua is seen as exemplary in granting land rights to Indigenous communities, our report *Nicaragua's Failed Revolution*, shattered this notion, detailing the incessant violence facing the Indigenous communities in the Caribbean Coast Autonomous Regions, while providing in depth information about the actors involved – foreign gold mining firms, national and international actors in logging and cattle ranching industry, as well as prominent Nicaraguan officials. The widespread media coverage and advocacy campaign following the report has shattered the silence around ongoing human rights crisis facing the Indigenous and brought it into the spotlight.



Holding the World Bank Accountable



Our report, *The Highest Bidder Takes It All: The World Bank's Scheme to Privatize the Commons*, denounced an unprecedented, aggressive attack on land rights by the World Bank through its Enabling the Business of Agriculture (EBA) project, which promoted large-scale industrial agriculture at the expense of farmers, pastoralists, and Indigenous Peoples. Through the EBA, the Bank recommended that governments formalize private property rights, ease the sale and lease of land for commercial use, systematize the sale of public land by auction to the highest bidder, and improve procedures for expropriation in order to put land to its “best use.” It ignored the fact that billions of people live and work on these lands, which are essential for their livelihoods while representing ancestral assets with deep social and cultural significance.

Our findings generated outrage around the world and were echoed by senior United Nations officials, policy think tanks, and NGOs in Europe, Asia, and Africa. Following the release, the World Bank delayed the 2019 publication of the EBA, which provides the Bank's policy prescriptions to governments on agriculture, for almost a year. In a major development, the Bank eventually dropped the new land indicator in the 2019 EBA

report. Instead, it paid heed to our demands by recognizing the importance of customary land rights by announcing that safeguards to protect these rights should be “a development priority.” This is a major victory for billions of family farmers, pastoralists, and Indigenous Peoples around the world who rely on land for their livelihoods, as well as for the 280-plus civil society organizations who have joined our campaign to push back against the World Bank policies.

“I tip my hat to the entire Oakland Institute team for this great victory, which is reminiscent of David's against Goliath.”

— Frédéric Paré, Former Coordinator of Quebec's Food Sovereignty Coalition



A Unique Investment Opportunity!

This innovative project will dramatically increase agricultural production in one of the most fertile countries in the world.

Exposing the Failure of Agro-Industrial Parks in DRC



In April 2019, we released *The Bukanga Lonzo Debacle: The Failure of Agro-Industrial Parks in DRC*, detailing the failure of the pilot agro-industrial park project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and why the government should abandon its plan to establish 21 similar parks covering over 1.5 million hectares. The DRC government spent close to US\$100 million of public funds on the project that resulted in numerous land rights violations and human rights abuses, pollution and health hazards, misspent funds, charges of embezzlement and corruption.

The report highlighted the role that the World Bank and the African Development Bank played as key drivers, designers, and financers of agro-industrial parks in the country. Despite the fact that the parks go against DRC's own agricultural policy and the will of farmers and their organizations, the two Banks promoted a misleading narrative about farmers being backward and the need for

agriculture to evolve to the Western-industrialized model. The report debunked the fallacies of this storyline and outlined an effective policy based on DRC's own agriculture goals.

Congolese civil society has extensively used the report in its communication and advocacy efforts. More importantly, the release created momentum that in part led to the creation of a campaign called *Nos terres, Notre Héritage Sacré*, a coalition of over 20 civil society organizations in DRC, including farmer groups, religious, human rights, and environmental organizations. In May 2019 the coalition released a joint declaration calling on the World Bank to immediately end its promotion of agro-industrial parks and to instead support family farmers in DRC. We have echoed these calls in subsequent joint letters to the World Bank and African Development Bank and continue to collaborate with members of the coalition for further research, publications, and advocacy.

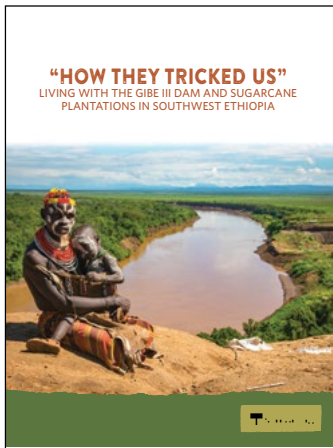


"I continue to follow your work closely and am always so impressed with what you do. I often tell people about Oakland as a strong example of an organisation that uses high quality research to press for radical change."

– Lucy Hovil, Senior Researcher, International Refugee Rights Initiative,
and Senior Research Associate, International Refugee Law Initiative, University of London



Exposing Failed Development Model of Gibe III Dam



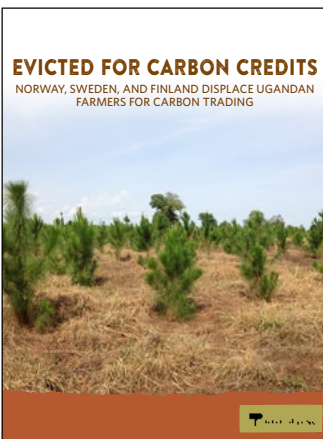
For years, the Oakland Institute has raised alarm about the threats that the Gibe III Dam and sugarcane plantations pose to the local Indigenous population in Ethiopia. Our report, *How They Tricked Us: Living with the Gibe III Dam and Sugarcane Plantations in Southwest Ethiopia*, revealed the impact of the dam and large-scale plantations on local communities in Lower Omo. The loss of essential farmland and grazing land has resulted in acute hunger following the dam's blockage of the annual flood – a natural event that the inhabitants of the valley have relied on for centuries for cultivation. Communities allege being tricked into leaving their ancestral land by the government's false assurances of a controlled flood to compensate for the loss, which has not happened. People were pressured to give up pastoralism and adopt sedentary lifestyles. However, resettlement sites offered to communities are riddled with failed promises and abuse. Plots are not big enough to feed families, ripened crops have been ploughed over, communities have been forced to dig their own irrigation canals under perilous conditions, and promised

key services – schooling, health care, grinding mills, food aid, and electricity – have either failed to materialize or been woefully inadequate.

We had hoped that “change might now be possible” with a new Prime Minister committed to peace and respect for human rights. However, the repression and extreme violence showed by the Ethiopian military has continued since Abiy Ahmed became Prime Minister. In October 2019, Ethiopian security forces undertook major operations to disarm two local tribes in Lower Omo Valley – the Mursi and the Bodi – because of incidents related to the sugarcane plantations. The disarmament operation led to indiscriminate killings of civilians, mass detentions as well as horrific abuses including rapes, beatings, and various forms of humiliation by security forces. We continue to monitor the situation and call on Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed to take urgent action to remove military personnel from the Lower Omo area and ensure immediate measures to protect and provide assistance and redress to the local population.



Dismantling False Climate Solutions



Since 2014, the Institute has exposed the wrongdoings and campaigned against Green Resources, a Norwegian forestry plantation and carbon credit company operating in Uganda. Our early investigation revealed that thousands of villagers had been evicted from the land they relied on for their food and livelihoods to make way for the forestry plantation – all in the name of climate change mitigation.

In 2019, we released *Evicted for Carbon Credits: Norway, Sweden, and Finland Displace Ugandan Farmers for Carbon Trading*, bringing forward irrefutable evidence that Green Resources forcibly evicted villagers around their plantation – despite earlier denials from the company and its financiers. The exposé documented the plantation's destructive impact on the local population as well as the flawed audit commissioned in 2017 by the Swedish Energy Agency – Green Resources' only carbon credit buyer. Company documents released with the report – including letters threatening the local villagers, corroborated the Institute's previous findings.

In March 2020 The Swedish Energy Agency (SEA) announced termination of its agreement to purchase carbon credits from the Norwegian forestry company, Green Resources – finally recognizing the devastating impact the company's plantation has had on local communities in Kachung, Uganda. This was a victory over six years in the making!

NFA
National Forestry Authority
Plot 10/20 Spring Road, P.O. Box 70802 Kampala, Uganda. Tel: 011-264 035, 031-264036 Fax: 011-264 032

NOTICE

You have been illegally cultivating / grazing / residing / operating in KACHUNG Central Forest Reserve in KACHUNG sector ADOK Zone without statutory and contrary to Section 32 of the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act, 2003. You are also illegally taking forest produce, which includes ADOK. You are hereby instructed to vacate the said Central Forest Reserve within 120 days with effect from date of receipt of this notice. You are warned that failure to heed this notice will lead to prosecution in the courts of law and eviction from the Central Forest Reserve.

Issuing Officer
Name: JEDUBICA IMUL
Signature: ADOK
Title/Position: ADOK
Date: 7/4/2020

Official Stamp

EVICTEE
Name: JEDUBICA IMUL
Signature: ADOK
Title/Position: ADOK
Date: 7/4/2020

WITNESSES
Name and Signature (Sub-County Chief):
Name and Signature (LC3 Chairman):
Date: _____

Official Stamp

Duplicate: Resident District Commissioner _____ District (Please specify)
Tripartite: The LCS Chairperson _____ LC 1 (Please specify)
Quadruplicate: To remain in the Book

KACHUNG PLANTATION PROJECT
P.O. BOX 386, LIRA

23/03/2009

M. Eir George
Apel "B" Village
Adok Parish

RE: ILLEGAL CULTIVATION ON FOREST LAND

We have confirmed that you are still digging in the forest reserve where we have planted trees despite the fact that last year you pledged not to continue cultivating in the reserve.

This is to warn you to **STOP** the practice immediately. We shall not be held responsible for any damage on your crops during the course of our activities in the forest reserve. Your cooperation on this matter shall be appreciated.

Yours truly,
Alfred Macmill
Project Manager/KFP

Cc Chairman LC1 Apel "B"
Cc Chairman LC11 Adok Parish
Cc Parish Chief Adok
Cc Chairman LC111 Agwata Sub-County
Cc Sub-County Chief Agwata
Cc OC Police Agwata Station

NFA
National Forestry Authority
Plot 10/20 Spring Road, P.O. Box 70802, Kampala, Uganda. Tel: 011-264 035, 031-264036 Fax: 011-264 032

NOTICE

You have been illegally cultivating / grazing / residing / operating in KACHUNG Central Forest Reserve in KACHUNG sector ADOK Zone without statutory authority and contrary to Section 32 of the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act, 2003. You are also illegally taking forest produce, which includes ADOK. You are hereby instructed to vacate the said Central Forest Reserve within 60 days with effect from date of receipt of this notice. You are warned that failure to heed this notice will lead to prosecution in the courts of law and eviction from the Central Forest Reserve.

Issuing officer
Name: SANTER EBONG
Signature: ADOK
Title/Position: ADOK
Date: 18/03/2009
Official stamp

EVICTEE
Name: SANTER EBONG
Signature: ADOK
Title/Position: ADOK
Date: 18/03/2009

WITNESSES
Name and Signature (Sub-County Chief):
Name and Signature (LC3 Chairman):
Date: _____

Official Stamp

Duplicate: Resident District Commissioner _____ District (Please specify)
Tripartite: The Chairman _____ LC 1 (Please specify)
Quadruplicate: To remain in the Book

The New York Times

**Report: Nicaragua Government
Failing to Protect Indigenous**

abc NEWS

**Report: Nicaragua government failing to
protect indigenous**

A new report says Nicaragua's government has failed to enforce laws that protect its indigenous peoples and their communal lands, and is even actively promoting illegal land grabs and granting concessions to mining and timber companies

Washington Post

The American

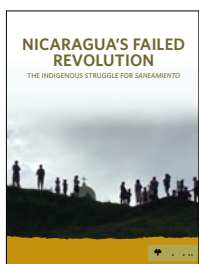
**Report: Nicaragua government
failing to protect indigenous**

**The
Guardian**

**Nicaragua is promoting illegal land
grabs in indigenous territories - report**

More than 40 members of indigenous communities have been killed since 2015, and many say settlers have been responsible

Shattering the Silence on Human Rights Crisis Facing the Indigenous in Nicaragua



Nicaragua's Failed Revolution detailed the incessant violence facing the Indigenous communities in the Caribbean Coast Autonomous Regions and uncovered the foreign gold mining firms, national and international actors in logging and cattle ranching industry, as well as the prominent Nicaraguan officials driving this violence.

Whereas much international attention is directed to the threats on the peoples and forests in the Brazilian Amazon, the so-called socialist Ortega government has not only failed to enforce legal protections of Indigenous land, but actually plays an active role in the colonization and exploitation by transnational firms. Official government documents obtained by the Institute revealed an offer to potential investors of over 7.1 million hectares of land for mining concessions (60 percent of the country) and over 3.5 million hectares for forestry projects (30 percent of the country).



“We are facing a human rights and eco-cultural crisis...the situation is really bad, we live it everyday. What we have learned from this report is even worse: the government has sold much more land than we knew, government officials are involved in illegal land sales...this report is a ray of sunshine telling the world the truth of our situation. We continue to work for full land and human rights as Indigenous and Afro-descendant people in Nicaragua.”

– Lottie Cunningham, 2020 Right Livelihood Laureate and Founder of the Center for Justice and Human Rights of the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua (CEJUDHCAN)



CONFIDENCIAL

Régimen promueve “etnocidio” en el Caribe, con invasión de territorios indígenas

AP

Report: Nicaragua government failing to protect indigenous

By CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN April 29, 2020

DIVERGENTES

Etnocidio en Nicaragua: La violenta embestida de los invasores que desplaza a los indígenas en la Costa Caribe

Le Monde

Coronavirus : au Nicaragua, les violences se multiplient contre les Indigènes

L'ONG Oakland Institute accuse le président Daniel Ortega de profiter de la pandémie pour accélérer l'invasion par les colons des territoires des communautés autochtones.

“*Nicaragua’s Failed Revolution* is powerful, timely, and revelatory.

A superb piece of investigative journalism presented in a printed format that clarifies facts and commemorates the anguish and bravery of these activists and their besieged community.”

– Gar Smith, A Project Censored award-winning journalist and winner of the World Affairs Council’s Thomas More Storke International Journalism Award



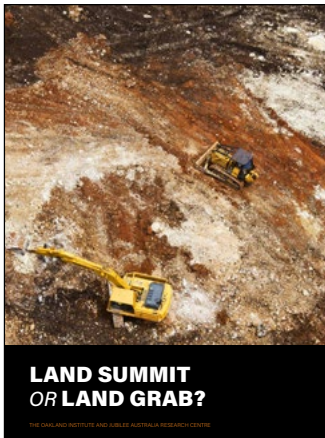
Based on extensive field research, *Nicaragua’s Failed Revolution* provided first-hand testimonies from members of communities who have been subjected to intense violence, including murders, kidnappings, burning of homes, and other intimidation, linked to land invasions. The report revealed the complicity between Nicaraguan government officials and foreign companies as they dispossess the Indigenous, driving them into hunger and disease and creating a stifling map of confinement.

The report, also released in Spanish, generated millions of media impressions, including coverage in the *New York Times*, *Guardian*, *Le Monde*, *Washington Post*, *ABC News*, and *Mongabay*, among others. Following the release, the Institute hosted a webinar alongside partners from the Center for Justice and Human Rights of

the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua (CEJUDHCAN) and the Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL) and shared the report findings with media and civil society while corresponding with United Nations officials, US Congressional committees, Canadian Parliament and the European Union. The advocacy campaign will continue until the demands of the Indigenous communities in Nicaragua are met.

Paintings by Abner Hauge, inspired by photographs taken during field visit to Indigenous communities in the RACCN, Nicaragua.

Halting the Privatization of Customary Land in Papua New Guinea




Our work with civil society in Papua New Guinea (PNG) to ensure land rights continues to influence the national conversation and yield results. In the wake of a so-called “Land Summit” in May 2019, orchestrated by the PNG government, we released a joint report with Jubilee Australia, exposing how the summit represented the latest attempt by the government to open the country’s customary lands to multinational corporations and commercial banks for logging, mining, and industrial agriculture.

The informal economy and the agriculture sector in PNG depend heavily on the maintenance of the customary land tenure system. *Land Summit or Land Grab?* detailed the myriad of commercial and productive activities, even for the export market, that can be developed without destroying land rights of the communities. Instead of devising new schemes to steal customary lands from their owners so that foreign businesses and banks can profiteer, the report called on the PNG government to focus on local initiatives that

will help maximize the benefits for the national economy and the people. Its timely publication was crucial to challenge the narrative pushed by governments in PNG and elsewhere that privatizing customary land is a necessary step towards development.





Updates from the Field

Kilombero Valley, Tanzania

Kilombero Plantation Ltd (KPL), the Tanzanian subsidiary of the Guernsey-registered Agrica Ltd., went up for sale after defaulting on loans from several financial institutions. Heralded as the “best in class” player in the field of socially responsible agribusiness investments in Africa, KPL had received support from several development institutions, including the Norwegian Investment Fund for developing countries (Norfund), the UK’s Department for International Development (DfID), and the US-based Capricorn Investments. Our 2015 report, *Irresponsible Investment: Agrica’s Broken Development Model in Tanzania*, exposed the flawed development strategy and the heavy toll of KPL’s rice plantation in Tanzania’s Kilombero Valley on the local farmers. The end of KPL’s operations represents a victory for the local communities – evicted from their land and homes and the farmers engaged in contract farming with KPL who drowned in debt and bankruptcy.

Loliondo, Tanzania

We continue our international advocacy in support of Maasai pastoralists in Loliondo, Tanzania amidst the growing intolerance of dissent and authoritarianism in the country. Closely monitoring the situation and remaining in contact with partners on the ground, we have released a number of public statements, condemning the disastrous “Four Zone Resettlement Plan” that threatens the continued survival of the Maasai and President Magufuli’s decision to constrict the ability of individuals and NGOs to file cases against the government in the African Court on Human and People’s Rights. Our advocacy resulted in communication around the situation from several UN Rapporteurs to the Tanzanian government. We continue to monitor and support the Maasai’s legal case, which is currently before the East African Court of Justice and correspond with UN offices about the situation as it continues to unfold.

Pujehun, Sierra Leone

Building from our past work on the devastating impact that SOCFIN’s 18,000-hectare industrial palm oil plantation inflicted on the Malen Chiefdom in southern Sierra Leone, we have remained active in ongoing advocacy campaigns in support of these communities. Following a series of violent incidents in the SOCFIN plantations in early 2019, security forces responded with a brutal crackdown, killing two people, beating dozens, arresting 15 people and forcing over a hundred to flee their homes. Against this background, working together with a coalition of thirty-four Sierra Leoneans and international CSOs, we urgently demanded that the state of Sierra Leone immediately release imprisoned land rights activists, provide relief to the internally displaced peoples from the Malen Chiefdom, redress the human rights violations and abuses suffered by the Malen communities, and hold SOCFIN and other responsible actors accountable.





USA

America's working poor have faced intensifying hardship over the past two years. From proposing crippling cuts to food assistance, ratcheting up vicious crackdowns on immigrants, selling off public lands while disregarding the climate catastrophe and bailing out corporate interests instead of essential frontline workers who have been severely afflicted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Trump Administration has stoked inequality, racism, and injustice in the United States. Through our solidarity work with the farmworkers and essential workers, we remain committed to challenging government policies that serve wealthy interests at the expense of the most marginalized communities and the environment.



India

On August 5, 2019, a presidential order amended the provisions of Article 370 of the Indian Constitution that allowed the state legislature of Jammu & Kashmir a separate constitution to govern its citizens. This was followed by the passage of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Bill by the Indian parliament that further diluted the political autonomy of the state by dividing it into two union territories – Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. Most notably, this included the revocation of Article 35A, that was added to the Indian Constitution under Article 370 in 1954. Article 35A permitted the state assembly of Jammu & Kashmir to define “permanent residents” of the state, thus ascertaining who could retain the right to own property and land. This unilateral move in a disputed territory shows the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government's utter disregard for preserving peace in South Asia. Worse still, this supposedly democratic decision was passed under the shadow of a gun – the residents of the state suffered a continuous curfewed shutdown, additional army deployments, and a complete communications blackout in the valley of Kashmir – a situation that persisted months after the decision.

Denial of forest rights of Indigenous and traditional forest dwelling communities in India has spanned centuries. In 2006, the Forest Rights Act (FRA) sought to correct this injustice. However, it has rarely been implemented effectively. Now it faces the danger of being upturned altogether as the Supreme Court of India hears a petition that challenges the FRA's constitutional validity. In November of 2019, over 5,000 joined

a rally organized by Bhumi Adhikar Andolan – an umbrella group of land rights organizations and people's collectives across India – demanding the effective implementation of the FRA and its mandate of recognizing both the individual and community rights of Indigenous and traditional forest dwelling communities.



Organizational Overview

Team

Abner Hauge, Multimedia Strategist
Amy Woloszyn, Designer
Andy Currier, Research Associate
Anuradha Mittal, Executive Director
Elena Teare (2019), Jr. Research Associate
Elizabeth Fraser (2019), Senior Policy Analyst
Frédéric Mousseau, Policy Director
Heather Harris, Accountant
Janhavi Mittal, Research Associate
Takahiro Noguchi, Creative Technology Director

Contributing Fellows

Kristen Lyons
Josh Mayer
Victor Menotti

Intern Scholars

Jessie Green
Katherine O'Neill
Naomi Maisel

Board of Directors

Anuradha Mittal
Atul Sharan
Carol Johnson, Treasurer
Carolyn Purcell
Elsadig Elsheikh, Vice-chair & Secretary
Jeff Furman
Lewis Gordon, Chair
Sonja Swift





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Atul Sharan

Barbara or James Kalbach

Bea Calo

Bonnie Rukin

Brian R. Hicks

Bruce Campbell

Camille Tischler

Carol Black

Carol Johnson and Mark Bichsel

Carolyn McSherry

Celine Havn

Cheryl McDaniel

Claire Lichtenfels

Craig McCaleb & Sudia Paloma-McCaleb

Daisy Deomampo & Michael Heimbinder

Daniel Drake

Daniel Roemer

Debbie Tenenbaum

Diana Bohn

Diane Waddell

Dominic David-Vincent

Don and Laura Santina

Edward Allard

Eileen M Wampole

Elizabeth Fraser

Elizabeth Robinson

Fidelity Charitable:Sara Pines

Gerald D. Rape

Giovanni Dallari

Gwyndaf Jones

Harriet Hungate

Heather Blackie

Herbert Behrstock

Jane F Rissler

Janet Wylde

Jean C. Norris

Jeanne E Koopman & Steven G Henn

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Jennifer Kirby

Jerry Greenfield

Jerry Mander

Jim Diamond

Joan P Mencher

John H Rodgers

John Suter

Jonathan Fox

Jonathan Jensen

Josephine Borgeson

Katy Mamen

Kenneth Ruby

Lea Koesterer

Leslie M. & Wesley W. Ingram

Linda Ray

Lori Wallach

Lyle Funderburk

Marcia Ishii-Eiteman

Margaret S Zeigler

Marlene Halverson

Martha Katigbak Fernandez

Mary Beth Brangan

Mary Gilbert

Michael Gasser

Middle Ninfa Farm

Monica Mehta

Neeta Dhawan

Obok Okello Akway

Patrick Oliver

Paul C Wise

Paul Moss

Paul W Beach Jr

Paul Wasserman

Quinton James

Rajasvini Bhansali

Ramonia Hall

Rezene Tesfamariam

Rick Beaumont

Robert Peeks

Robert Townley

Rose Leather

Roger Stoll

Rubian Moss, CPA

Ruth Katz

Sarah Hobson

Sinu Fogarizzo

Steven Mark Randazzo

Stolyavitch Fund

Sudia Paloma McCaleb

Sushil Raj

Susy Greuter

Suzanne Llewellyn

Sylvie Montembault Jamal

Thierry Carton de Tournai

Tommy Edholm

William Ambrose

Yoseph Tafari

Zachary Winestine & Joanne Pawlowski

Foundations and others

11th Hour Project / Schmidt Family Foundation

Advised Fund of the Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Altman 2011 Charitable Lead Annuity Trust

Ben & Jerry's Foundation

Clif Bar Family Foundation

Domitila Barrios de Chungara Fund, an advised fund at the Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Environmental Defenders Fund of RSF Social Finance

Heimbinder Family Foundation

Howard G. Buffett Foundation

Montclair Presbyterian Church

Presbyterian Hunger Project

Sigrid Rausing Trust

Swift Foundation

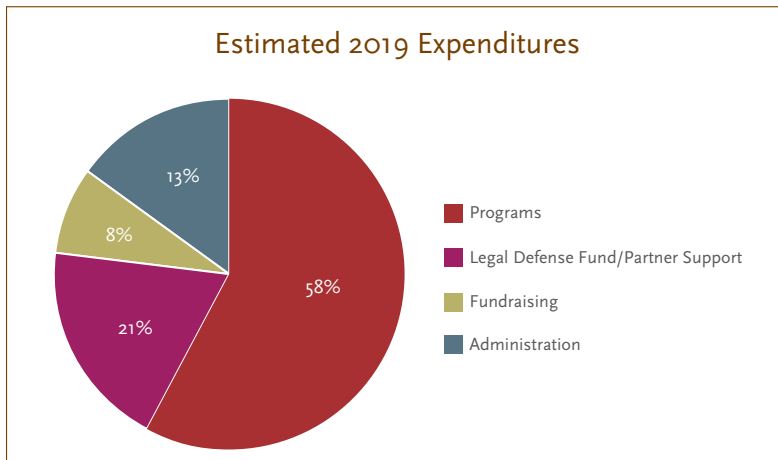
The Blackie Foundation Fund at RSF Social Finance

The Cold Mountain Fund at RSF Social Finance

Tikva Grassroots Empowerment Fund

Wei Zhang & Peter Rasmussen of the Don and Lore Rasmussen Fund of the Tides Foundation





Financial Statements

As this chart shows, 79 percent of every dollar raised goes directly to our programs and legal defense fund.

For detailed information on the Oakland Institute's finances, please see our annual 990 forms at: www.oaklandinstitute.org/about/annual-reports

Photo credits:

Miskitu villagers on the banks of Rio Coco. November 2018 © The Oakland Institute

Oakland Institute Executive Director Anuradha Mittal speaking at McDonald's worker protest June 2020 © Brooke Anderson

Protest against illegal logging in Pomio, PNG, 2011 © Paul Hilton / Greenpeace

River Coco, Nicaragua © The Oakland Institute

Highland scene in Amhara, Ethiopia © The Oakland Institute

Screenshot from the Agroparks, website agroparksdrc.com

Christian Bosembe, Host of Congo Buzz TV, presenting the findings of The Bukanga Lonzo Debacle:

The Failure of Agro-Industrial Parks in DRC September 2020

Omo River, Ethiopia 2016 © The Oakland Institute

Mago Park, on Mursi territory © The Oakland Institute

"No grazing" sign at Green Resources' plantations in Uganda © Kristen Lyons / The Oakland Institute

Eviction notices sent to community members in Kachung, Uganda © The Oakland Institute

Illustrations by Abner Hague inspired by photos taken by field visit to the RACCN, Nicaragua

Bulldozer flattens area cleared of trees in West Pomio © Paul Hilton Greenpeace

A ship waiting to load logs in Turubu Bay, East Sepik © The Oakland Institute

Maasai herders with their cattle inside the Ngorongoro Conservation Area © The Oakland Institute

Socfin plantation protest in Sierra Leone

"Solidarity with Essential Workers" © Melanie Cervantes, Dignidad Rebelde

Rajkumari Bhuiya from the Bhuiya Adivasi community in Dhuma village, also from Sonbhadra, displaying the traditional bow and arrows her community uses to defend their land. © The Oakland Institute

Board Meeting Zoom Call October, 2020 © The Oakland Institute

Bodi tribe warriors posing on a bulldozer near Hana Mursi © The Oakland Institute



Support Our Work

Since 2004, the Oakland Institute has supported the struggles of communities around the world for their land and livelihoods. In the face of repression, corruption, and injustice we raise the voices of the most impacted, reframe the debate, and mobilize for change. Please support our work by making a tax-deductible donation. These donations allow us to be bold: we research critical issues, run campaigns, and provide the essential advocacy and support that sparks action and ensures accountability. We ensure our independence by not accepting any government or corporate funding. With your support, we can continue to win major victories on behalf of pastoralists and fisherfolk, the Indigenous, and smallholder farmers.

To donate, please go to www.oaklandinstitute.org/donate or send a check payable to The Oakland Institute to: PO Box 18978, Oakland, CA, 94619

Onwards!

