



# WORLD RAINFOREST MOVEMENT

Annual Report | 2017



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## Who We Are

The World Rainforest Movement (WRM) is an international initiative that aims to contribute to struggles, reflections and political actions of forest-dependent peoples, indigenous, peasants and other communities in the global South. WRM is part of a global movement for social and environmental justice and respect for human and collective rights.

WRM was set up in 1986 by activists from different parts of the world in response to the ongoing destruction of forests in the global South and excessive consumption of tropical timber products in the global North. It has supported forest peoples who have been resisting the enclosure of their territories by different economic interests and extractive industries (including, in addition to timber, pulp, oil palm, minerals, dams, oil, etc.) – an enclosure that in many cases is endorsed or tacitly supported by big conservation NGOs.

From the beginning, WRM's informal alliances with community groups, social and environmental justice organisations and social movements have been based on trust and shared political analysis of the direct and underlying drivers of forest loss and a commitment to prioritize the strengthening of community struggles in our joint work.

## Our Mission

WRM's main mission is to **support struggles that defend the collective rights and self-determination of indigenous peoples and peasant communities who live in and with the forest over their territories, lives and cultures.**

The WRM Secretariat has based its work on what it has learned from communities who live with and from the forest in Africa, Asia and Latin America. WRM has found that it is when rights of such communities are respected on the ground, and where women are meaningfully involved in decision-making, that forests have the best chance of being protected.

WRM understands territories not as physical spaces or land only, but as the totality of relations, customary rules, histories, animals, plants, human and spiritual beings and all their components that permit the reproduction of life and cultures.

For WRM, it is important to highlight the role of women in these struggles, not only because of the differentiated and usually more severe impacts they suffer from deforestation and other activities, but also because of their crucial participation in organizing collective resistance.



# Foreword

Networking is a crucial tool for WRM. One of the activities with which we started 2017, for example, was a networking exercise with activists from Southeast Asia to produce a special WRM bulletin issue about this region. Networking helps WRM to build and expand its broad array of contacts of local organizations, social movements and activists, who interact regularly with the WRM Secretariat team.

At the same time, WRM considers creating spaces for connecting local activists and communities, including women, in different areas, countries and continents as an increasingly important aspect of its networking. One reason is that local activist groups and community leaders, committed to and active in community struggles, are most often those who are less connected with other groups. Although networking among groups is a common phenomenon in many countries, it mostly happens only among bigger non-governmental organizations, based in urban areas, with relatively more resources; and where communication is easier. However, networking tends to be more difficult for those facing forest destruction and landgrabbing in remote areas, especially when it requires crossing political borders. It is these places that WRM most wants to connect with in order to support local movements and their own networking efforts.

Second, sharing experiences at the local level is extremely important as a way of learning collectively about the strategies and tactics corporations use and about their constant experiments with new jargon. For example, biotechnology and genetically-engineered trees are presented to the public in Chile as environmentally friendly, “efficient” and productive. Industrial oil palm monocultures in Africa are presented as “sustainable” and “certified”. And REDD+ in the Amazon is claimed to be a way to “keep the forest standing”, and promote “sustainable forest management”. Although they are in a good position to understand what goes on behind this kind of jargon and what the impacts are on the ground, local activists also need wider networking in order to build their own resistance tactics and strategies.

Third, there is a huge interest in exploring new forms of alliance-building. Local movements especially are keen to explore ways to build a more inclusive, horizontal and grassroots democracy. Communities are exploring ways of strengthening autonomy-building food sovereignty, banning agrotoxins and practicing small-scale diversified agriculture for local markets as ways of facing continuing attempts at land grabs. What forms these initiatives take will be strongly influenced by networking and exchange of experiences and reflections.





Finally, as WRM recently learned in Southeast Asia, local activists often talk not only about the need to connect better, but also to reconnect. When local movements come together, they perceive, in spite of language barriers, many similarities, and when they dive into their histories and cultures they often uncover a legacy of previous connections and exchanges, including around the importance of forests in their lives, that were interrupted by colonization and the creation of national territories and borders. While the extractive industry's commodities pass freely in huge volumes across national borders, people tend to be forced into separation and isolation. Despite new technologies, they have lost many connections that they once had.



Reconnection can inspire and strengthen local activists and communities in their efforts to resist land- and forest-grabbing and build a stronger movement to defend their territories and a different future than the one that big corporate players have in mind. WRM hopes to continue supporting them in these efforts.



Winfridus Overbeek  
WRM International Coordinator



## WRM's Policy Plan

WRM's policy plan is based on the following core activities:

- Providing support to forest-dependent peoples' attempts to combat deforestation and secure their territories.
- Analyzing the direct and underlying causes of deforestation.
- Critically assessing "solutions" to the forest and climate crises that are presented in official processes at the international level.
- Sharing the results of our analysis and research so that they become subjects of further discussion and development by a broad array of local organizations, movements and communities.



### How Do We Make Our Work Accessible to Our Broad Network of Allies?

The [WRM website](#) and [WRM's electronic bulletin](#) are available in four languages: English, French, Spanish and Portuguese. Additional information including [booklets](#), [briefings](#) and [videos](#), among others, complement the information shared through WRM's bulletin; most of this information is also available in several languages. In addition to English, French, Portuguese and Spanish, some materials are also available in Swahili, Lingala, Bahasa Indonesia and other languages.

Responsibility for implementing the WRM policy plan rests mainly with the WRM international secretariat team. The secretariat team receives input and guidance on implementation of the policy plan on a regular basis from:

- The WRM Advisory Committee;
- Participants in biannual WRM strategy meetings, in which a number of WRM allies from different continents participate;
- Hundreds of community organizations, social movements, NGOs and indigenous peoples' organizations and activists in Africa, Asia and Latin America, who interact regularly with the secretariat team.





# Highlights of WRM's Work in 2017

## Networking in West and Central Africa

In the last 15 years, countries from West and Central Africa have been facing a rapid expansion of industrial monoculture oil palm plantations. Under the false promise to bring “development” to local communities, corporations, backed by governments, have been granted millions of hectares of land under concessions for plantation expansion.

Working together with GRAIN and other international and local organizations, WRM continued its collaborative activities in the region in 2017 in order to build and **strengthen an informal alliance of community activists and groups against the expansion of industrial oil palm plantations over communities’ land**. WRM and its allies also kept working to highlight **the role women play** in resistance struggles to defend their territories.

This is an important result of a process initiated in 2013, when several activists and organizations from the region met for the first time in Nigeria to exchange experiences around the expansion of industrial oil palm plantations in their countries. At the meeting, many people raised the need to continue organizing such exchanges and, more generally, to strengthen collaboration among local resistance networks. In 2016, in Mundemba, Cameroon, WRM co-organized a second regional meeting with more than 40

participants, mostly community or local NGO activists from the West and Central African region. It was at this meeting that the informal alliance started to take shape.

During 2017, first in Gabon, and later, in Porto Loko in Sierra Leone, further collective discussions about the importance and priorities of the informal alliance were held and some principles and activities were agreed upon for the coming years in order to strengthen further this collaboration among local resistance networks.

The **workshop in Gabon** was organized by the Gabonese NGOs Brainforest and Muyissi Environnement, GRAIN and WRM, and took place in Mouila, in the Southwest of the country, in **February 2017**. Community people from about 10 different villages around Mouila affected by the OLAM’s large-scale monocultures participated, as well as local NGOs and a few international participants from Cameroon and Sierra Leone, to share experiences.

The activity included collaborative analysis to understand better oil palm expansion in Gabon and the tactics and strategies of the companies; a field visit to two communities affected by OLAM plantations; and discussions of strategies and proposals from the communities. It was the first time that these communities had been able to come together



to discuss their problems and challenges, and reflect on how to face the on-going expansion. The meeting also facilitated a conversation among international and Gabonese activists of how to build and strengthen further the informal alliance to face oil palm expansion.

In **August 2017**, a second workshop took place in **Port Loko, Sierra Leone**. Organized by the Sierra Leone Network on the Right to Food (SILNoRF), Women’s Action for Human Dignity (WAHD), Bread for All and GRAIN, in addition to WRM. It was another step in the strengthening of the informal alliance of community and local activists against industrial oil palm expansion. The workshop also created a space for people from all four regions of Sierra Leone itself to come together to share experiences regarding the tactics oil-palm companies are using to expand in the country and methods for organizing themselves better to resist the process. The meeting featured participation from activists from Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Liberia, Guinea and Ghana.

### **Women Are Fundamental In Resistance Processes**

From the beginning of the process that resulted in the creation of the informal alliance on oil palm, special attention has been given to women – not only because women suffer disproportionately the impacts of the establishment of oil palm plantations and deforestation because of the roles women play in the current patriarchal capitalistic system,

but also because women are fundamental pillars for resistance struggles. Despite this reality, most of the time women’s voices are not heard or are even silenced.

In **July 2017**, WRM accompanied members of the organisation Réseau des acteurs du développement durable (RADD) on a visit to the Littoral region of **Cameroon** as part of follow-up activities from the women's workshop on corporate strategies in Mundemba in 2016. RADD is an organisation based in Yaounde and is focused on supporting women in developing economic activities from processing traditional crops and fruits.

Among the priorities identified by the women in the Mundemba workshop in 2016 were activities to show the importance of continued cultivation of traditional oil palm varieties and to document violence practiced against them by company guards and the police due to the presence of industrial oil palm and rubber plantations. In July 2017, WRM was present in community visits to Mbonjo I and II, Bomono and Souza, all in the Dibombari Commune and surrounded by plantations held in concession by Socapalm (SocFin / Bolloré).

The visits showed that the results of the expansion of large-scale monoculture plantations have been disastrous for local communities and in particular for women, who suffer sexual violence and abuse in and around plantations. Women also have to face dispossession of farmlands (with its subsequent impact on food sovereignty and





the family economy), criminalization of the traditional use of palm oil, and contamination of water sources. All of this directly and disproportionately affects not only women, due to their role in their communities and nuclear families, but also children.

The workshops in Gabon and in Sierra Leone in 2017 also created special spaces for women to exchange with and learn from each other. In Sierra Leone, the activity was preceded by a **two-day women's workshop** during which only women, mainly from Sierra Leone, exchanged experiences and planned joint actions, as well as issuing a declaration. Once again opening space for women participants, this workshop strengthened their voices within the following general workshop as well.

### **Networking in Latin America**

In Latin America, WRM participates actively in the **Latin American Network Against Tree Plantations (RECOMA)**, which has focal-point organizations in 13 countries.

2017 was an important year for RECOMA and in particular for the Chilean focal point, OLCA. At the beginning of 2017 huge fires burned more than 500,000 hectares of land, forests and monoculture tree plantations. Once again, there were attempts to blame Mapuche Indigenous communities for the fires. Due to these fires and given the role and the responsibility of the plantations industry, as well as considering the Tree Biotechnology Conference of the International Union of

Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) that would take place in Chile in June, several activities were organized.

First, in **March 2017**, together with the International Stop GE (Genetically Engineered) Trees Campaign and OLCA, a 10-day **visit to Chile** was organized. The visit aimed at strengthening links with and among communities affected by the mega-fires. But it was also an opportunity to link with several Chilean organizations to exchange ideas and plans regarding the IUFRO Biotechnology conference.

Chile is – together with Brazil – a key country in Latin America in terms of research taking place around GE trees. The WRM-supported activities in March were thus also an important opportunity to prepare protest activities during what was essentially a pro-plantation industry meeting. During WRM's 10-day stay in Chile, several open meetings and public events with students and civil society organizations were also organized in Santiago, Concepción and Temuco. Aware that Brazil had authorized the commercial use of GE eucalyptus already in 2015, WRM facilitated the participation in Chile of three activists from Brazil involved in struggles against genetically-engineered trees.

Second, in **June 2017**, WRM collaborated in a week of action aimed at strengthening the movement against monoculture tree plantations and GE trees in Chile. This was organized by OLCA, the Chilean focal point





of RECOMA, in opposition to the IUFRO conference. This was an important venue for action in view of the fact that IUFRO’s biennial conference provides a platform that facilitates links between tree biotechnology companies, monoculture plantation companies and biotechnology university centers, all of which work hand in hand to advance GE-tree technology. This year, the conference was held in the Bío Bío region, which hosts one of the biggest monoculture plantation thrusts in the country. Indigenous Mapuche and other communities in Chile, together with national and international groups, opposed the conference and [denounced](#) GE trees as deepening the already-proven harmful consequences of industrial eucalyptus and pine plantations, which have been heavily criticized in Chile for increasing the likelihood and severity of the fires that periodically burn or threaten entire communities.



Chile

In **Brazil**, meanwhile, WRM continued to strengthen local networking and alliance-building in Acre and Mato Grosso among

indigenous and non-indigenous communities and local organizations (CIMI, FASE, MST, CPT, Via Campesina, among others) to support movement-building against the “green economy” and its mechanisms, especially jurisdictional and individual REDD+ projects (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation). WRM attended and helped organize workshops, participated in field visits, and supported and helped disseminate declarations denouncing these false solutions to deforestation.

One of WRM’s contributions during 2017 was a **workshop on “What is REDD+?” for a meeting in the state of Mato Grosso, featuring an exchange between grassroots activists from Acre and representatives of indigenous, quilombola and traditional pantaneiros communities from Mato Grosso.** In Acre, a jurisdictional REDD+ programme has been under way for several years, while Mato Grosso is just now starting such a programme. Both programmes are supported by the German development bank KfW.

Also in Brazil, WRM continued to work with local organizations and activists to denounce large-scale monoculture tree plantations. Mato Grosso do Sul is one state that has recently witnessed a huge expansion of industrial tree plantations. WRM initially visited the region in 2011 and has been providing support ever since. In 2017, upon a request from local activists, WRM visited the region once again, participating in a **four-day field visit to communities living near plantations to learn**



from peasants and indigenous communities about the impacts of plantation expansion. After the field visits, WRM joined a seminar at the Federal University of Mato Grosso do Sul Organized on the occasion of the September 21st International Day of Struggle Against Monoculture Tree Plantations, the seminar was an opportunity to share findings from field visits and raise awareness of the impacts of the plantations.

### Networking in Asia

Based on the results of the regional meeting in Thailand at the end of 2016 described in our last annual report, WRM coordinated, in 2017, a collaborative initiative among activists and organizations from Southeast Asia to produce jointly a **written tool focusing on the region’s forest struggles**. The effort resulted in the publication of a special issue of the WRM bulletin.

[The issue](#) contained contributions from Focus on the Global South, based in Thailand; The Northeastern Land Reform Network from Thailand; Indigenous Perspectives from India; WALHI and the School of Democratic Economics from Indonesia, the Bruno Manser Fund from Switzerland; and GRAIN. In addition to being published in English, Spanish, Portuguese and French, the bulletin was also translated – as suggested by WRM’s regional collaborators – into Bahasa, Thai, Khmer and Burmese. It exposed large-scale investments and climate conservation initiatives that destroy forests and people’s territories in India

and Malaysia; forest conflicts in Thailand; new policies in Myanmar that promote indigenous rights under threat; and the struggles against massive land concessions in Cambodia and the ecological destruction associated with them. The bulletin also laid out some of the similarities among the different countries and their peoples, highlighting the artificiality of the construction of “Southeast Asia” and its national territories and borders, and the need of the people to reconnect again to overcome the consequent isolation and separation.

### “Plantations are not Forests”

WRM continued to focus much of its campaigning against large-scale monoculture tree plantations on two particular days: March 21st and September 21st.



Sierra Leone

March 21st, the first of these days, is proclaimed by the FAO as the International Day of Forests. However, the FAO still includes commercial tree monocultures in its definition of “forest”. In so doing, this UN institution is





undermining the lives of millions of people from around the world whose livelihoods depend on forests and whose territories are invaded and threatened by these industrial monocultures.

On **March 21 2017**, hundreds of organizations from around the world [sent a letter](#) to the FAO demanding, once again, that its forest definition recognize the diversity that characterizes forests and exclude monocultures from this definition. Although FAO reacted to the letter, it did not take any significant step to start a process of changing the definition. However, in October 2017, the FAO Commission on Food Security (CFS) put on its agenda a policy process to discuss the relation between ‘sustainable forestry’, food security and nutrition. Invited by Friends of the Earth International (FOEI), WRM supported the CSM (Civil Society Mechanism) in its intervention inside this process. As a result, FAO’s erroneous forest definition was denounced during the negotiations of the country governments. One result of the process was a decision by CFS to organize in the near future a specific meeting on the impacts of monoculture tree plantations on food security and nutrition.

**September 21st** is the date we celebrate the International Day of Struggle Against Monoculture Tree Plantations. Launched in 2004, in Brazil, by the Alert against the Green Desert Network, this campaign day is an occasion for organizations and social movements make more visible their struggles

against this threat to their livelihoods and territories.

In September 2017, [five short videos](#) showing why industrial tree plantations are not forests were released by WRM in four languages: English, Spanish, Portuguese and French. The first was about the impacts of large-scale tree plantations in general. The other four focused on specific topics: oil palm, pulpwood, impacts on water and certification.

**RECOMA** meanwhile produced and [disseminated the statement “For Life and Water, NO More Monocultures!”](#). Simultaneously, **women’s organizations from West and Central Africa** launched the [petition “Stop All Forms of Abuse against Women in Large-Scale Monoculture Tree Plantations”](#). The petition was supported by hundred of activists and organizations around the world and in March 2018 was presented to national authorities and institutions promoting oil palm plantations, such as the European Union and the United Nations.

In addition, in Sierra Leone, nearly 200 women affected by SocFin’s industrial oil palm plantations organized a [demonstration](#) to urge national authorities to take action against the company for grabbing their lands. There were also actions in Cameroon, Gabon, DRC and Mozambique, information about which WRM helped to disseminate. These actions constituted one more step in strengthening alliances and solidarity among the participating groups.



# Lists of Publications in 2017

## [What Do Forests Have to Do with Climate Change, Carbon Markets and REDD+? \(including a booklet + seven flipcharts\)](#)

WRM produced a series of seven flipchart posters (below) and the booklet *What Do Forests Have to Do with Climate Change, Carbon Markets and REDD+?* to help community activists explain why REDD+ is not really about forests, but rather about industrialized countries' and corporations' attempts to delay the end of their use of petroleum, coal and gas. Different flipcharts explain, for example, why carbon in a forest is not the same as the fossil carbon in petrol or coal when it comes to climate change; why it makes a difference for climate change where a carbon emission is reduced, and why REDD+ is a bad deal for the climate, forests and forest peoples.



## [Swahili Edition of Industrial Tree Plantations Invading Eastern and Southern Africa](#)

In the context of emerging global trends connected with escalating climate change, growing economic disparity, and increasing land degradation, including the loss of biodiversity and water resources, this joint briefing focuses on various internal and external factors determining changes in the extent of land under industrial tree plantations in 11 eastern and southern African countries: Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe; Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda; South Africa, Swaziland and Lesotho; and Madagascar.



## [Portuguese version of Industrial Tree Plantations' Impacts on Water](#)

This briefing is a tool aimed at supporting local communities that suffer from the negative impacts of large-scale monoculture tree plantations on the local water that they depend on. With this briefing, we put at the service of local communities a tool that combines the empirical evidence of communities with scientific evidence that reinforces what communities already have been saying.







## WRM Bulletin

In 2017, seven issues of the bulletin were published. Each issue, published in four languages, takes several months of preparation and is the result of a collaborative effort with activists, organizations and social movements from different countries, depending on the focus of the issue. Bulletin production helps us to disseminate and share WRM's own analyses; to strengthen and increase joint collaboration with organizations contributing to the bulletin; and to showcase local and national situations and voices that need visibility and exposure. All articles remain on-line and continue being accessed, often years after publication. The WRM often also produces "bulletin compilations", which put together relevant articles of one topic from several bulletin issues. These compilations are mostly printed and distributed during workshops, meetings or other events that WRM secretariat members attend. Bulletin issues published in 2017 can be summarized as follows:

**[Issue 228](#) | January 2017. *UN Paris Agreement on Climate Change: Promoting Tree Plantations and Opening the UN Carbon Market to REDD+.***

"What does the UN Paris Agreement mean for forests and forest peoples?" was the central question for all articles in this bulletin. Some articles explored why the UN Agreement does not mention the words fossil fuel, petrol or coal even once. Others looked at

how forests are included in the Agreement and who benefits from initiatives referring to the explicit inclusion of REDD+, as well as how the Kyoto Protocol's offset scheme – the Clean Development Mechanism – connects to the Paris Agreement. The mislabelling of plantations as forests and the promotion of industrial plantations as a result of the Paris Agreement were also highlighted in this bulletin.



**[Issue 229](#) | February/March 2017. *Southeast Asia: Connecting People Resisting Large-Scale Investments and Conservation Initiatives.* (Also available in Thai, Bahasa, Burmese and Khmer)**

This was the third WRM bulletin to be focused on a specific region during the years 2016-2017. The first one (Bulletin 224) looked at what is driving land grabbing in the Congo Basin. The



second (Bulletin 226) was dedicated to how people resist a colonial past that violently persists across Central America. This time, the focus was on the region commonly referred to as Southeast Asia. It contained articles from Northeast India, Thailand, Myanmar, Malaysia, Indonesia and Cambodia, as well as an overview article about the region. In all of these bulletins, WRM aimed to draw attention to resistance struggles in regions particularly affected by forest destruction. The idea was not only to give visibility to specific situations and community struggles, but also to support the often challenging processes of networking and movement- building among community organizations, activist groups and social movements in particular countries and across official borders.

**[Issue 230](#) | April/May 2017. *Communities Resisting the Devastating Consumption Pushed by Corporations.***

This bulletin did not focus on individual consumerism, though it is surely important. Rather, it probed what is behind industrial production processes. Seeking to answer this question, it identified another kind of consumption, one that is massive and destructive: corporate consumption. Because of its impacts, corporations seek to hide this consumption through public relations and advertising, with “green” labels, offset projects or certification schemes. Corporate or industrial consumption also reveals just how central consumption is to the accumulation of capital.

**[Issue 231](#) | June 2017. *Resistance Struggles and Women's Voices Confronting False Solutions and the Destruction of Territories.***



This bulletin put together stories in which women are protagonists. These included stories about an anti-mining struggle in El Salvador; the violence of mining industry expansion in The Philippines; the local impacts of a Public Private Partnership (PPP) with a multinational agribusiness company — OLAM — in Gabon; the popular movement of rubber tappers in Brazil (written by the first female president of a Brazilian Rural Workers’ Union); the new frontiers of extraction in Venezuela; spaces for Amazonian and Andean women’s dialogues at the VIII Pan-Amazonian Forum; and resistance after the forest fires in Chile.

**[Issue 232](#) | July/August 2017. *Biodiversity Compensation: Expansion of Industrial Extraction and Land Grabs***

This issue focused on one of the key strategies that industries (especially extractive industries) use to enable their own expansion within the framework of the so-called “green economy”: biodiversity offsets. With articles





from Brazil, Gabon, Madagascar, Colombia, Laos, South Africa, Kenya, Panama, together with a reflection on Asian Development Bank policies, this bulletin raised an alert for forests and forest-dependent people everywhere. Biodiversity offset projects incur double destruction, exploitation and domination: on the one hand, of lands affected by industrial activities, and on the other hand, of lands targeted for offset projects. Both generally entail severe social and cultural destruction.

**Issue 233 | September 2017. *Struggles for Land, Forests and Life: No to Industrial Tree Monocultures!***



Here WRM once again contributed to the International Day of Struggles against Monoculture Tree Plantations (September 21st). The issue provided a space for voices to be heard that are usually silenced by forms of repression and structural violence and racism that have been imposed since colonial times.

**Issue 234 | November 2017. *Traps, Dilemmas and Contradictions of the Discourse of "Rights"*.**



This bulletin asked whether and how the widespread debate about “rights” in the forests might be conducted in a way that does not serve dominant economic and political ends. If we understand “rights” as emerging from multi-dimensional and multi-layered social struggles, then they cannot be reduced, as they often are, to a tick-box exercise in due diligence reports or a public-relations component of destructive development projects. How to ensure that the granting of certain rights to certain groups does not entrench historic power imbalances, bias and injustice? In other words, how to prevent legitimate struggles for rights from being depoliticized?



# 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 the Stichting WRM is Vuile Riete 12 in Linde (Dr.), the Netherlands.

The Board of the Dutch WRM Foundation, responsible for governing legal and financial-administrative issues, is composed as follows:

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

The Uruguayan Education Ministry has granted the WRM Foundation 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 number (RUT) 00215767260016.

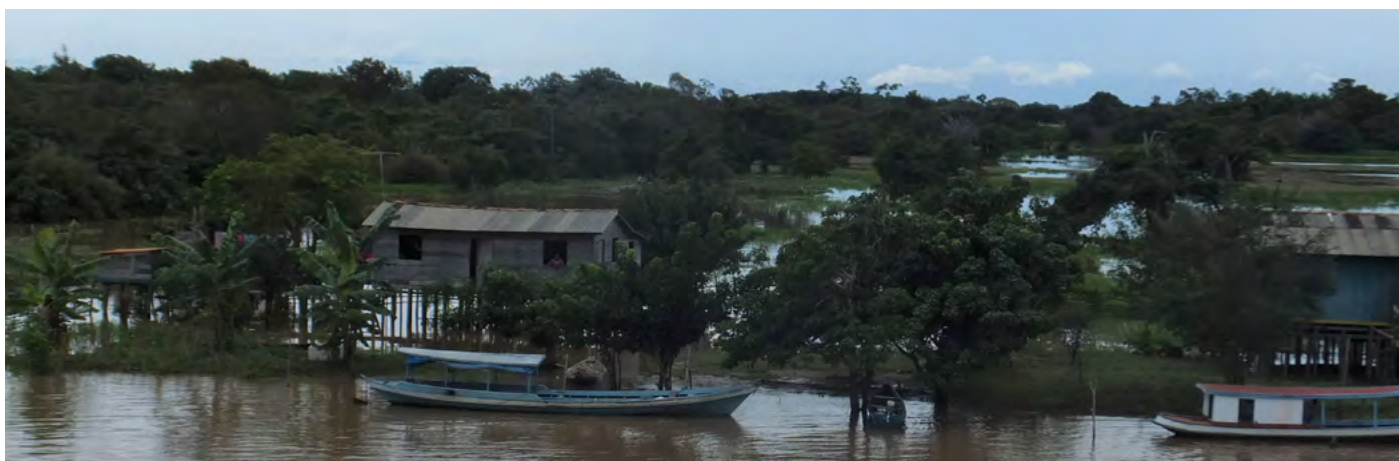
In 2016, WRM was granted ANBI in the Netherlands. The acronym stands for "Algemeen Nut Beogende Instellingen" and the status is granted to foundations registered with the Dutch Chamber of Commerce whose mission and activities are deemed by the Tax Service overwhelmingly to serve the common good.

The **WRM International Secretariat** is a team of eight 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 organizations, social movements, NGOs and indigenous peoples' organizations in countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The **WRM Advisory Committee**, meanwhile, consists of:

- 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 Yanez. 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 for the activities they carry out for WRM. They can request reimbursement for costs incurred for participation in WRM meetings, such as transport and accommodation costs.

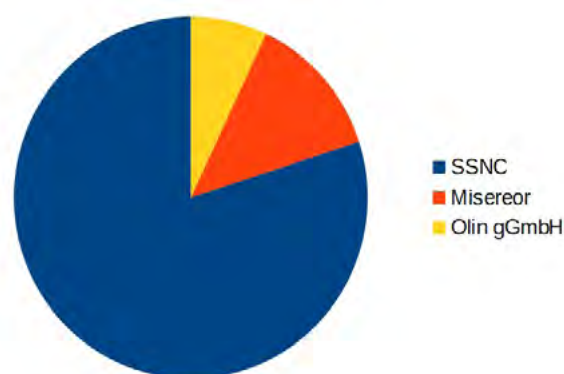
Only WRM international secretariat staff and the international coordinator of the organisation receive a salary based on a legal contract. Individuals hired for short-term, specific activities, such as for carrying out case studies, can receive an honorarium, based on a contract clearly describing the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

## Funding

In 2017, WRM core activities were funded by **SSNC** (Swedish Society for Nature Conservation), and **Misereor**. For specific activities, WRM received support from **Olin gmbH**, while the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation Brazil office (**FRL**) directly funded costs related to WRM activities in Brazil. Both funders are organisations with main offices based in Germany. WRM partners with GRAIN in a joint project in support of communities in regions and countries in Africa where foreign investors are expanding industrial oil palm plantations.

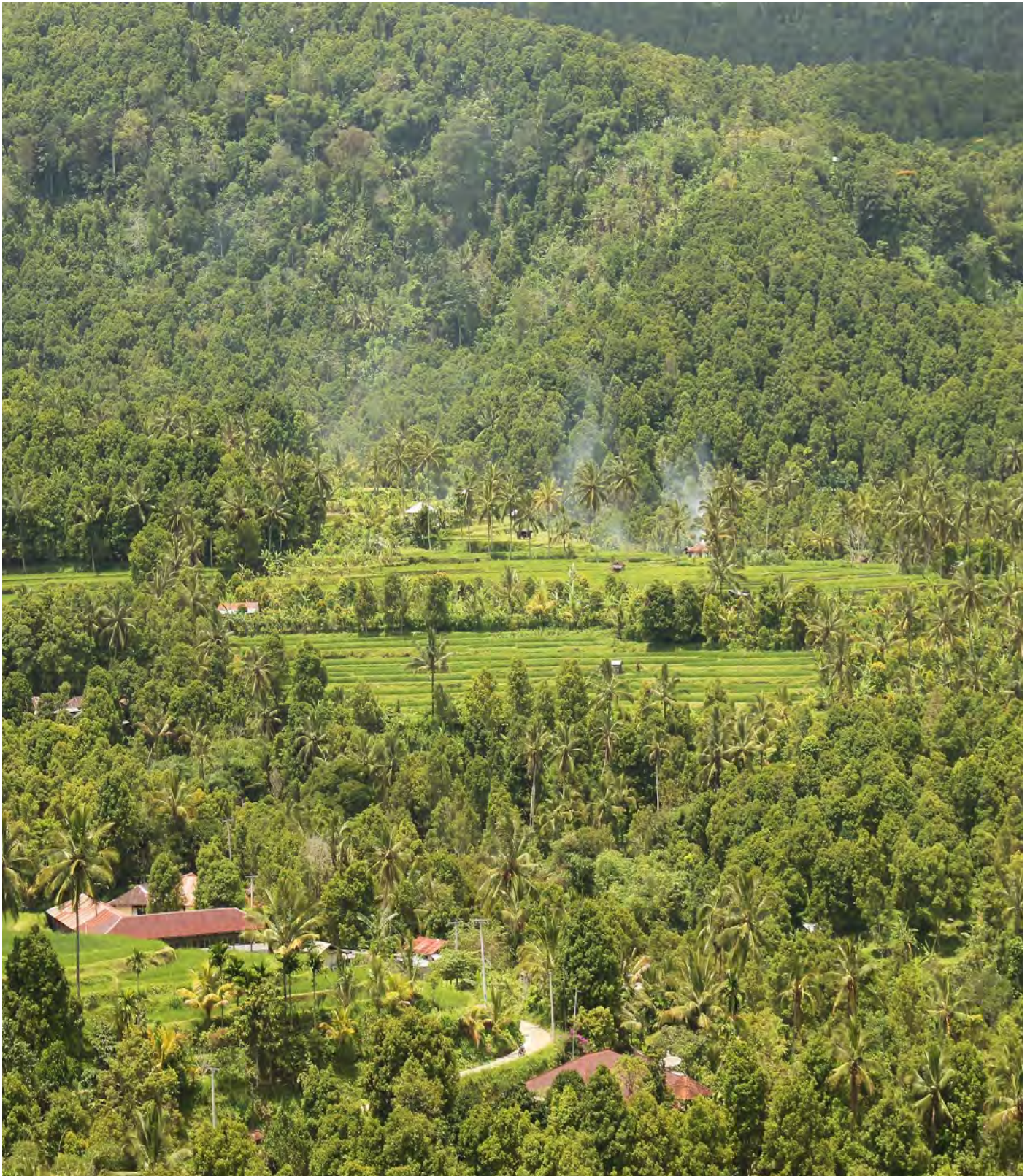
The total income for the year 2017 was USD 222,199, split among the different funding sources as follows:

Funding source	Amount in USD	Percentage
SSNC	176,914	80%
Misereor	29,544	13%
Olin gGmbH	15,691	7%
Reserved Funds	50	0%



WRM 2017 Annual accounts have been audited by the firm Auditores Asociados following the International Standards on Auditing issued by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC). See a summary of the Annual audit at: <http://worm.org.uy/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Summary-WRM-Annual-Audit-2017.pdf>





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