

TRADE JUSTICE

Corporate “Free-Trade Agreements”: It’s not only the TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) – it’s also the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and the Trade in Services Agreement (TISA). These are “partnerships” only between the biggest multinational corporations and compliant governments (such as the Obama administration). They are all being negotiated in secret. They are not about trade, but about entrenching the power of investors against democratic control and regulation. If approved, these pacts will entrench the industrial agriculture model of production across the globe and thwart local and regional sustainable systems. The agreements pay lip service to “environmental issues” while making it more difficult for popular movements and governments to implement policies to combat climate change.

2014 Highlights

In conjunction with the Washington Fair Trade Coalition, CAGJ helped organize a well-attended international day of action in January at Westlake Mall, and continued to bring the secret negotiations to public awareness all year by supporting bannering, light projections etc.

Through the newsletter, classroom and community meetings, CAGJ members helped educate the broader progressive movement about how these trade agreements threaten the goal of global food sovereignty.



John Fawcett-Long and Ross Kirschenbaum represent CAGJ at the January 2014 protest against the TPP at Westlake Mall.

Looking forward to 2015

We hope to defeat Fast-Track for all new NAFTAs! We will mobilize our membership and allies to oppose attempts to railroad these agreements into law. We’re taking our research on the links between trade, climate and agricultural issues to the broader food justice movement to increase action on this critical issue. We will continue research and analysis on trade and food sovereignty, how our global partners view things, and what truly fair trade agreements might look like.

2014 BY THE NUMBERS



FINANCIALS

2014 was an unusual year for CAGJ, as we managed funds for a special project - the Africa-US Food Sovereignty Strategy Summit. The AGRA Watch Reserves reflects grants received in 2013, but spent in 2014 on the Summit. Summit expenses (integrated below) totaled \$43,640. Despite the roughly \$22k shortfall reflected in our 2014 Financials, we ended the year with \$25k in our accounts due to starting the year strong. In 2015 staff will focus on ensuring another strong SLEE fundraising dinner, and will work to increase Monthly Sustainer income. We are excited to see the pay-off from critical infrastructure improvements in 2014 - a new database and website (to be launched April 2015)!

Income		Expenses	
Fundraising Event	\$22,050	Personnel	\$67,853
Contributions	\$14,000	Organizing	\$24,640
Sustainers	\$9,150	Administration	\$12,078
Grants	\$12,250	Fundraising	\$2,192
Merchandise	\$2,100		
AGRA Watch Reserves (2013)	\$25,200		
Total	\$84,750	Total	\$106,763

GET INVOLVED IN 2015!

CAGJ is run by our volunteer members and there are many ways to plug in! Here are just a few:

- Become a Member by signing up to contribute financially and/or with volunteer hours!
- Stay informed about upcoming opportunities by signing up for our monthly e-mail newsletter, project listservs, and connecting with us on Facebook and Twitter.
- Attend a meeting, event or action - check out the calendar on our website.
- Volunteer in the office or at an event.

CAGJ provides hope! I believe in alternatives to our broken food system and CAGJ offers solidarity and solutions to get us there.
-- Maria Elena Rodriguez

THANK YOU SUPPORTERS!

Volunteers

Bill Aal
Rachel Anderson
Kidan Araya
Nimotalai Azeez
Claire Bach
Christopher Baum
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Bob Spivey
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Christina Leal and Mary Ann Schroeder standing with Familias Unidas por la Justicia at weekly picket to call on PCC customers to boycott Driscoll's.

Interns

Nimotalai Azeez
Claire Bach
Andrea Baron
Margaret Campbell
Monica Chan
April Clements
Chelsey Dambro
Hannah Gallagher
Paul Gentsch
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Loki Fish Co.
Real Change
RSF Small Planet Fund,
RSF Social Finance
UFCW Local 21

This organization walks the talk - the leadership and membership practices its ideals. CAGJ is very inclusive and effective at both grassroots and worldwide organizing.

-- Janet Stecher

FOOD JUSTICE PROJECT

2014 Highlights

Solidarity Campaigns

Small-scale Food Producers: Stop GE Salmon

Our SLEE keynote highlighted the key role of fisherfolk in our food system and our action at SLEE was a petition to Costco to reject GE salmon. We worked in solidarity with Friends of the Earth, local fisherfolk, labor, and tribal groups to further develop the Costco campaign.

Farmworker Justice: Familias Unidas por la Justicia

We supported the Familias Unidas por la Justicia (FUJ) campaign for justice at Sakuma Bros. Berry Farm located in Skagit Valley. In July, working with Community to Community and FUJ, we helped form the Seattle Farmworker Solidarity Committee to coordinate Seattle boycott work. We've helped coordinate weekly pickets at grocery stores around Seattle, and distributed over 5000 leaflets.

Food Chain Workers: Making Change at Wal-Mart

We supported the Making Change at Wal-Mart campaign locally in solidarity with UFCW Local 21. In November, CAGJ took the lead in organizing the Black Friday action at Wal-Mart in Bellevue, WA.

Right to Good Food: Got Green?

CAGJ supported Got Green's planning phase for a new "food gap" campaign. We joined Got Green and other activists at the NW Social Forum to build the regional food sovereignty movement, and CAGJ's team was the 2nd largest fundraiser for Got Green's annual Earth Day Green-a-thon fundraising event.

Food Justice Everywhere: Stop the TPP and Fast-Track

See highlights under Trade Justice!

Teach-Outs

In June, we held a Teach-Out to learn about the Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands. In October, we held a one-day Food Sovereignty Tour for several of the participants of the Africa-US Food Sovereignty Summit, visiting Marra Farm, Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands (with guests from Familias Unidas por la Justicia), and Jubilee Biodynamic Farm.

Educate for Action

We gave 11 workshops, reaching 350+ attendees from a variety of communities and backgrounds. We held a Train-the-Trainer workshop for eight new educators in June and reached out to dozens of potential workshop hosts in the community.

Our Food, Our Right (CAGJ's book & zine)

We collaborated on an "Our Food, Our Right" potluck, discussion, cooking and reading event with Community Kitchens Northwest in March. In April, we partnered with Central Co-op to promote the book through a reading and cooking demonstration.

Looking forward to 2015

Solidarity Campaigns

Supporting frontline food justice and sovereignty work provides some of the most direct, systemic ways we can engage and mobilize our members and the public. We'll continue to work in solidarity with local fisherfolk, labor, environmental groups, and Pacific Northwest tribal groups against GE Salmon. Along with ongoing picket support, we plan to support Familias Unidas por la Justicia and the Sakuma Bros. Farm/Driscoll's Berry boycott in a variety of ways. To oppose new trade agreements, we will focus on building the base of trade justice activists in the local food justice community.

Educate for Action

We will continue to hold workshops and reach out to new communities to educate, learn from, and mobilize people for food justice & sovereignty. We're excited to have 3 new facilitators looking to join us in 2015 - more are welcome! A new workshop on the Trans-Pacific Partnership is also being developed, and we expect to hold at least 10-15 workshops again in 2015.

Streamlining the Food Justice Project

In order to simplify, engage better and involve more activists, we'll be moving Teach-Outs to become a part of our "Educate for Action" program area in 2015. And as CAGJ's book is no longer an active project, we'll be retiring it as a "program area" of FJP. We will continue to make sure the book is available and stocked at local stores, donate copies to the food sovereignty movement, and sell it directly online and through events.

AGRA WATCH

2014 Highlights

Africa-US Food Sovereignty Strategy Summit

2014 was a dynamite year for AGRA Watch! We saw our dream of the Africa-US Food Sovereignty Strategy Summit come to fruition! During the meetings, 8 African and 14 US-based organizations shared the context of their work, the challenges they face, and the strategies they have adopted to resist corporate interventions and to build resilient, agroecological agriculture and food sovereign communities. Laying the groundwork for future work together, the Summit launched new collaboration between grassroots US-based and African groups fighting for a sustainable, agroecological future. AGRA Watch's own John Fawcett-Long presented an analysis of years of research which was very well received by everyone in attendance; look for the published report in early 2015.

The group has already taken action on the GM Banana, a project funded by the Gates Foundation for Ugandan markets by organizing a jointly developed Open Letter to the Gates Foundation. Together we are also building a campaign to stop the G8 Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition.

Taking Action and Raising Awareness

In April, AGRA Watch members quickly leapt into action after finding out the Foundation was holding an event titled "Food for Good." Aware of the Foundation's push for industrial agriculture and pro-corporate policies in Africa, AGRA Watch volunteers and allies organized our own campaign titled "Good for Whom?" to challenge and bring attention to the Foundation's policies and practices that exacerbate the problem of hunger.



Million Belay, Mariam Mayet and Elizabeth Mpofo, keynote speakers at Town Hall Seattle event during Summit.



AGRA Watch Summit participants Mariann Bassey and Marcia Ishii-Eiteman meeting farmworker leaders from Community to Community and Familias Unidas during Northwest Food Sovereignty Farm Tour.

March against Monsanto

In May, CAGJ organizer and membership coordinator co-chair, Matt Canfield, was invited to speak at Seattle's March against Monsanto rally. Matt was a crowd favorite, inspiring and motivating the group. Connecting the local struggle for GMO labeling with the GMO crops that the Gates Foundation is foisting on African nations, Matt helped prepare the annual rally for its march to the Gates Foundation, an emerging symbol of undemocratic, industrial agriculture.

Community Education

In January we held a successful Community Meeting inviting members of the public to learn more about AGRA Watch and the Gates Foundation's push for industrial agriculture in Africa. In March we held an event focused on biopiracy and seed sovereignty with one of our members, activist scholar Carol Thompson, who was visiting from Northern Arizona University.

Looking forward to 2015

Deepening Our Analysis

In 2015, we plan to publish a larger analysis of the Gates Foundation and our upcoming research.

Mobilizing Seattlites

We will host educational events on biopiracy and philanthrocapitalism, and work to build bridges with teachers and others concerned with the Gates Foundation's approach.

Building our Movement

After the summit, we organized international coalitions around the GM Banana (a crop being funded by the Gates Foundation for Ugandan markets) and the G8 New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition. We are looking forward to strengthening these coalitions to continue our struggle!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: JOHN FAWCETT-LONG

John is a long-time member of Community Alliance for Global Justice. A coordinator of Food and Agriculture Day during the 1999 WTO protests, John helped organize the regional grassroots response to the WTO. Fifteen years later, John was one of the core organizers of the 2014 Africa-US Food Sovereignty Strategy Summit.

How did you get involved in organizing the WTO Food and Agriculture Day?

I showed up at an event that the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP) organized here in Seattle. At the time I was the coordinator of the Western Sustainable Agriculture Working Group and I didn't know much about the WTO or international issues. It sounded like a big deal and I had a lot of connections to grassroots groups in the region, so I raised my hand and said, "I wanna help." They ended up hiring me on a part-time basis to be the local organizer.

What happened on Food and Agriculture Day?

On Food and Agriculture Day, we had several speakers. Anne Schwartz (from Tilth Producers), Vandana Shiva, Mark Ritchie (the former director of IATP), Ralph Nader, Walden Bello, and others at Methodist Church in downtown Seattle. We filled the church completely. Then we had a rally. We marched down north of Pike Place Market to Steinbrueck Park, where we had more speakers. At the WTO events, there was a daily paper that listed what was going on. I co-wrote an article with an attorney at Earth Justice and we spoke at different events, so it was well publicized. We had farmers from all over – from Korea, France, and other places. One of the more animated groups was the French contingent. One of their leaders was Jose Bové, who surreptitiously brought big blocks of cheese to Seattle. On a different day he and one of the leaders of the National Family Farm Coalition (NFFC) gave an anti-WTO talk.

How were you involved in the Africa-US Food Sovereignty Strategy Summit?

My main role was to take the research on Gates' Agricultural Development Program and summarize it and present it to Summit participants.



When did you get involved with CAGJ?

I knew about CAGJ for a while and volunteered at SLEE a couple of times. In 2010, Ben Burkett, the President of NFFC gave the Keynote at SLEE on the Farm Bill. The next day I worked with some others to form the Northwest Farm Bill Action Group and I was really involved with that. About a year and a half ago I got more seriously involved with AGRA Watch.

Why is CAGJ important to you?

The great thing is that when the WTO was being organized in 1999, there was no real organization that someone could point to that works on trade issues from a grassroots, progressive perspective. There wasn't the Washington Fair Trade Coalition, there wasn't CAGJ. And now there is. That's a big accomplishment. That was a great outcome of the WTO because we're organized.

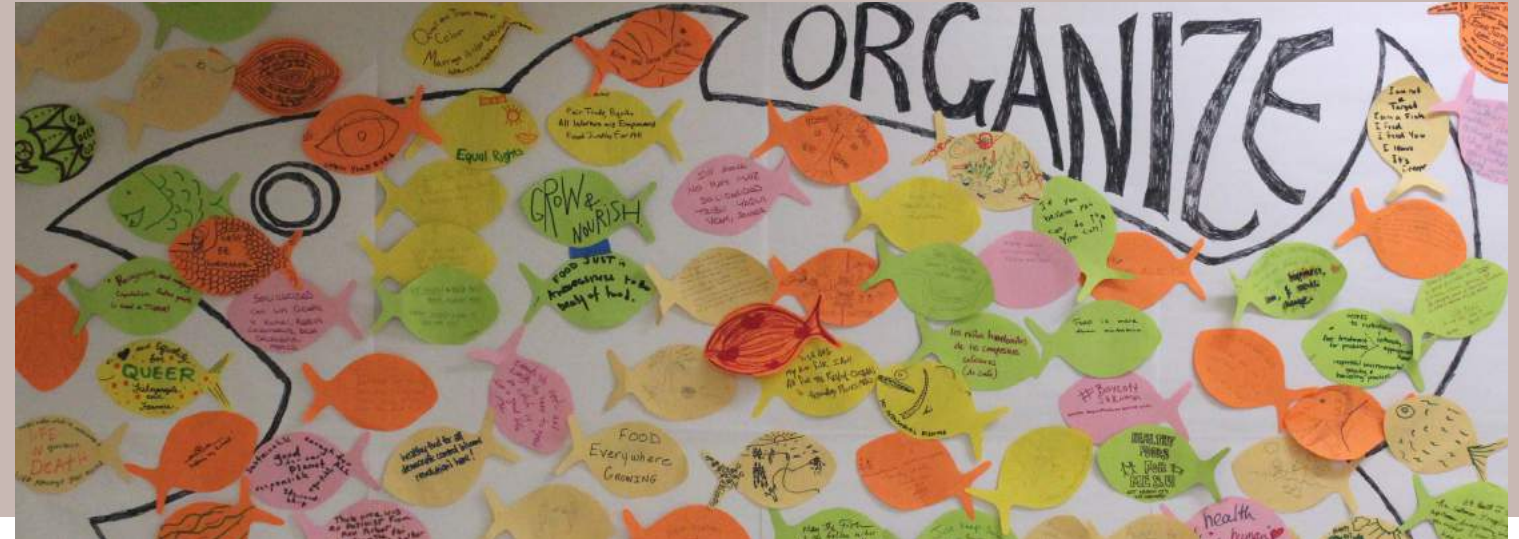
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2014 COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ANNUAL REPORT FOR GLOBAL JUSTICE



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Celebrating fisherfolk and food justice at the 2014 Strengthening Local Economies Everywhere (SLEE) Dinner

You are Invited!

Strengthening Local Economies Everywhere Dinner
Saturday, August 1, 2015
University Christian Church
Tickets \$40 - \$100 sliding scale

Solidarity tickets are available.
Contact us to get involved in organizing this year's dinner!
slee@seattleglobaljustice.org

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The past year has been a powerful reminder that the fight for racial justice continues. After the police-shooting deaths of Eric Garner and Michael Brown, the #BLACKLIVESMATTER protests sent a new generation of activists to the streets demonstrating the fight for justice is far from over. In Seattle, CAGJ has worked to raise issues relevant to this struggle in our own community and as we reach out into the world.

CAGJ has and will continue to stand up to the newest free trade beast: The Trans-Pacific Partnership. Working closely with our allies in the food and agriculture world, CAGJ has mobilized street actions, conducted workshops, and has strategically engaged new partners in the fight against the TPP.

Focusing on food and agriculture as a window into these racial and economic dynamics, CAGJ has continued to support Familias Unidas por La Justicia, the farmworkers organizing in Skagit Valley for a union contract. A group of over 200 families, Familas is comprised of indigenous Oaxacans who have worked in Washington State for over a decade, some families contributing three generations of labor to Sakuma Brothers Farm. Yet, like all farmworkers, the twin forces of agribusinesses and immigration law have collaborated to make sure that they provide cheap labor without the protections given to most American workers. CAGJ has been out on the streets of Seattle picketing to raise awareness of their boycott of Sakuma Brothers Berry Farm and Driscoll's Berries, one of the largest berry growers and processors in the region, and the main purveyor of Sakuma berries. Yet, the work does not stop there.

CAGJ has also fought against these same dynamics--exploitation and expropriation--through our struggle against the Gates Foundation's agricultural development programs in Africa. This year, CAGJ mounted our biggest event ever: The Africa-US Food Sovereignty Strategy Summit. The culmination of years of planning, the Summit included African and US participants to discuss philanthrocapitalist intervention in Africa, which has aimed to incorporate small-scale farmers into the global food market where they have been unable to compete. By engaging in international organizing, CAGJ has been at the forefront of confronting this complex form of neocolonialism that includes powerful foundations, multi-national corporations and the US government. During the Summit, our African guests spoke before 400 audience members at Seattle's Town Hall. As a result of the Summit and the public event, we are poised to strengthen our voice both at home and across the world.

CAGJ has also provided on-going leadership to address the structural causes of these workers' exploitation--the trade agreements that facilitated their forced migration.

With your continued support, CAGJ, Seattle's home for local and global movement building, will continue to agitate, educate and organize for social and economic justice.

CAGJ LEADERSHIP

Steering Committee

- Bill Aal, AGRA Watch
- Matt Canfield, Membership
- Abie Flaxman, Co-Chair
- Ross Kirshenbaum, Food Justice Project
- Chris Iberle, Food Justice Project
- Reid Mukai, Co-Chair
- Michael Righi, Co-Chair
- Saba Samadani, AGRA Watch
- Emma Zheng, Treasurer

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- Phil Bereano
- Shana Greene
- Derek Hoshiko
- Lucy Jarosz
- Nancy Kool
- Sarah Luthens
- Marina Skumanich
- Viki Sonntag

Staff

- Heather Day, Executive Director
- Danielle Friedman, Organizing Director

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