

## AGRA Watch Current Organizing

- Collaborating with African farmer networks and other groups to coordinate campaigning and organizing locally, nationally, internationally
- Local direct actions
- Co-organizing US-African agroecology exchanges of farmers and farmworkers
- Campaigning against Gates Foundation's genetically engineered banana project
- Researching Gates Foundation and AGRA funding and international activities with the US and African governments and international organizations
- Participating in international conferences, including United Nations meetings, related to food and development; organizing panel events with colleagues from Europe, Asia, and Africa
- Researching Gates Foundation funding of public and land-grant university research in Global North
- Leading local workshops to build more critical perception of the corporate-driven high-tech model of agriculture

## Accomplishments

- Created new networks of solidarity and cooperation with African partners
- Organized multiple actions outside of the Gates Foundation headquarters in Seattle, covered regularly by TV, radio and print media
- Published op-eds and contributed our research to major articles in The Nation, Third World Resurgence, YES! Magazine, the Guardian, Seattle Times
- Exposed the Gates Foundation's \$23.1 million purchase of Monsanto stock as well as numerous other connections to Monsanto
- Hosted the Africa-US Food Sovereignty Strategy Summit in October 2014
- Exposed secret meeting in London in 2015, funded by the Gates Foundation, designed to gain control over African seeds
- Organized panels with African partners at the United Nations Convention on Biodiversity Meetings in Nagoya (2010) and Cancun (2016)

After a half century of the chemically-based so-called "Green Revolution," there is still a global food crisis.

*It's time for sustainability and democracy in agriculture.*

## Organize and Take Action with AGRA Watch!

- Join the AGRA Watch listserv to receive info, articles, and updates.
- Come to an AGRA Watch event!
- Help AGRA Watch spread awareness of these issues
- Intern and volunteer with us! We are seeking organizers, researchers and bloggers.

# AGRA Watch

## Exposing the Gates Foundation and AGRA

Promoting Food Sovereignty and Agricultural Sustainability in Africa



### Connect With Us

[facebook.com/AGRAWatch](https://facebook.com/AGRAWatch)

[facebook.com/cagjseattle](https://facebook.com/cagjseattle)

[www.cagj.org/agrawatch](http://www.cagj.org/agrawatch)

AGRA Watch Blog:

[agrawatch.wordpress.com](http://agrawatch.wordpress.com)

Sign up for CAGJ E-newsletter:

[cagj.org/get-involved](http://cagj.org/get-involved)

[agrawatch@cagj.org](mailto:agrawatch@cagj.org)

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE FOR GLOBAL JUSTICE  
606 Maynard Ave S, Suite 102 Seattle, WA 98104  
206-405-4600

"You come. You buy the land. You make a plan. You build a house. Now you ask me, what color do I want to paint the kitchen? This is not participation!"

— Simon Mwamba, East African Small-Scale Farmers' Federation at a forum on AGRA

**The Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)** is a multi-million dollar initiative of the Rockefeller and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundations to increase production of major food crops through Western-style plant breeding and energy intensive inputs. AGRA is part of a system that reduces farmer self-determination and food sovereignty, and secures Africa as a resource pool for the Global North.

Through programs like AGRA, the Gates Foundation supports high-tech, profit-driven agendas of transnational corporations and foreign policy actors that undermine communities' abilities to produce sustainable and culturally appropriate food sources. The Gates Foundation is a prime example of "philanthrocapitalism" – the fostering of market capitalism under the guise of benevolent charity.

Most of the Gates Foundation's grants towards African agriculture have gone to promote an industrial model and corporate-controlled seed that they claim will be higher yielding, more resistant to climate change, and of higher nutritional value. Yet, many of these grants have gone to large universities in the US and Europe for high-tech, market-based research and development. While the Gates Foundation purports to have given out a small number of grants for agroecological projects, our research debunks this claim.

**AGRA Watch** is a campaign of the Community Alliance for Global Justice, a Seattle-based organization working to strengthen the global food sovereignty movement. CAGJ is a member of the US Food Sovereignty Alliance. Our objective is to challenge the dominant development ideology pushed by governments, corporations, and philanthropic bodies.

AGRA Watch works closely with partner organizations in African civil society to challenge the Seattle-based Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in their support of the biotech industry and market-based industrial agriculture development. Our Seattle location gives AGRA Watch a unique advantage for challenging the Gates Foundation. AGRA Watch supports African-initiated programs rooted in agroecological and indigenous farming practices, social equity, and food sovereignty.

By facilitating the exchange of information concerning sustainable and healthy agricultural policies and practices across continents, we connect global movements to those in our local community.

## A Global Movement for Food Sovereignty



**Can Sustainability Feed the World?**

**YES!**

**"Feeding the world" is less about yield than it is about the rights and power of small-scale farmers to build agricultural systems that work for them and their communities.**

### RETHINKING DEVELOPMENT

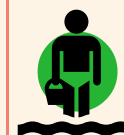
African civil society has long demanded fairer policies from the Global North: an end to colonialism, repeal of unjust agricultural subsidies, and forgiveness of debt. Africans have challenged genetic engineering and corporatization; they define development according to their own priorities, resources, cultures, and expertise. We in the Global North must recognize that we have much to learn from African farmers and food sovereignty activists.

## GLOSSARY



### PHILANTHROCAPITALISM

The attempt to use philanthropy to achieve market capitalist goals. Its advocates often expect financial returns or secondary benefits over the long term from their investments in social programs. Philanthropy becomes another part of the engine of profit and corporate control.



### AGROECOLOGY

Agroecology is a science and practice defined in the daily lives of millions of families worldwide. It represents both a form of agricultural production and a process for organizing and building community self-determination. There are many highly productive agroecological methods that promote biodiversity and have been adapted to diverse growing conditions.



### FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

"Food sovereignty is the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems."

— Declaration of Nyéléni - Selingue, Mali - 2007