



Resistance



Resilience



Power



Grassroots
INTERNATIONAL

FUNDING GLOBAL MOVEMENTS FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

Grassroots International in 2017

4,700 gifts from more than 2,700 supporters

24,000+ online activists participated in advocacy campaigns

151 grants for \$2.7 million in 23 countries, including Puerto Rico

250+ million people engaged with our global partners

RESISTANCE

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RESILIENCE

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Together, we nearly tripled our impact this year!

Strong global networks among grassroots organizations are the key to resistance, resilience and the power to create worldwide democracy, sustainability and justice.



CONNECTING HOPE AND RESILIENCE

Resistance. Resilience. Power.

These interconnected strands of movement building form the core of Grassroots International's approach to social change and drive the work of peasant farmers, Indigenous Peoples, women and social movements we support around the world.

Resistance feeds the struggle, towards liberation and freedom.

Resilience has always been part of our central belief that organized communities can respond to threats and oppression with collective strength, flexibility and long-term sustainability.

Power of the people and power of their solutions drive change. Grassroots International supports frontline movements that challenge the root causes of oppression, injustice, inequality and climate change.

This annual reports celebrates the resilience, resistance and power of grassroots movements and community-led solutions. It also celebrates the communities of donors, funders and activists who stand in solidarity with those on the frontlines of social change.

Together, we have a lot to celebrate in 2017:

- Awarding more grants than ever before in our 35-year history: 151 grants worth more than \$2.7 Million
- Surpassing our Climate Justice Initiative campaign goal, to fund more than \$570,000 in climate solutions worldwide.
- Significant growth in our support for grassroots feminist work, recovery, learning exchanges and global peasant solidarity.
- Expanding our own internal capacity by welcoming in two new staff and five new board members
- Strengthening global solidarity and alliances for climate justice, food sovereignty and human rights
- Building stronger collaborations with other progressive funders and donors to better support and promote social movements, grassroots solutions and systems change

While we celebrate the resilience, resistance and power of our global partners, Grassroots International also acknowledges the journey we have been on, together with our supporters, for the last 35 years. Through the decades, we have adapted to political shifts while maintaining our core commitment to global justice and people-led social change. We remain resolved to provide political solidarity and financial support to build grassroots power, resistance and resilience.

With deep gratitude,

Leticia Alcantar
Board Chair

Chung-Wha Hong
Executive Director



RESISTENCE

Standing strong in defense of human rights

For us in the MST, solidarity is key to our resistance. Along with peasants around the world, we are building this international alliance we call La Via Campesina. We study together, we face the same menaces in our territories and we struggle together.

DÉBORA NUNES AND RAFAEL SORIANA,
LANDLESS WORKERS MOVEMENT (MST),
BRAZIL

When peoples' organizations challenge the power of those who would take their land, water and seeds, they often suffer harsh repression. From Palestine to Honduras, activists face harassment, threats, arrest, violence and death. Grassroots International works with and supports organizations which document human rights abuses and defend the people's civil and resource rights and which defend Mother Earth as a whole.

Israel jails food activist—again

At midnight, on May 24, 2017 Israeli forces entered the home of Abdul-Razeq Farraj and took him away as his family looked on. Abdul-Razeq is the Administrative Director of Grassroots International partner, the Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC). He has spent 16 years in Israeli jails for his activism and is now being detained without charge.

UAWC supports people in Gaza and the West Bank in meeting their own food needs in the face of relentless repression, encroachment and attacks by Israeli settlers and the government of Israel. Their work has earned the United Nation's Equator Prize as well as the U.S Food Sovereignty Prize.

In May, 1,500 Palestinian prisoners conducted a 40-day hunger strike to protest the

use of solitary confinement, restricted family visits and inadequate medical care. Another Grassroots International grantee, the Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Organization, reports that there Israel holds 6,300 Palestinian political prisoners, including 300 children.

Popular movements push back against violence in Brazil

Grassroots International's partners, the Landless Workers Movement (MST), the Popular Peasant Movement (MCP) and the Movement of People Affected by Dams (MAB) are among hundreds of popular organizations that have joined the national umbrella Frente Popular Brazil to defend their democracy. Under the right-wing Temer government, peasant farmers, Indigenous Peoples and rural activists have suffered relentless attacks. Dozens have died.

Débora Nunes of the MST says that the acute threat to peasant farmers in Brazil is part of a global struggle against the privatization of land, water and forests. To prevail, she says, peasant organizations must bring many sources of resistance together through international alliances like La Vía Campesina, one of Grassroots International's global partners.

The Landless Workers Movement (MST) was one of the main organizers of a demonstration in May, 2017 that brought 200,000 people to the capital, Brasília, to demand Temer's resignation and an end to his anti-democratic agenda.





Honduras is the world's deadliest country for environmental and land activists

END LETHAL US AID TO HONDURAS

Since the US-backed coup in Honduras in 2009, political murders have surged once more since November 2017, in the weeks before and after the right-wing government claimed victory in a highly suspect election, which Grassroots International partners consider to be an electoral coup. Now more than ever we need to continue to build solidarity with the people of Honduras. Grassroots International is coordinating with allies to organize support for the Berta Cáceres Human Rights in Honduras Act, which would suspend all US government military assistance to Honduras until human rights violations end and its perpetrators are prosecuted.

**As the Zapatistas say:
Be Zapatistas wherever you are.
As people in the US, we can support
the voices of Hondurans and their
self-determination fights and engage
in our own self-determination.
We are part of that as Grassroots
International. In these tough times
we need to be bolder and give
bolder as well.**

SAM VINAL,
FILMMAKER AND GRASSROOTS INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEMBER

Human Rights Defense Grants

23 grants – \$225,406 (Partial list below)

Argentina

Lavaca Cooperative – Communication seminar: Nature, Life and Human Rights

Brazil

Landless Workers Movement-Pernambuco – Human rights defense
Social Network for Justice and Human Rights – Human rights education, advocacy and legal defense in support of rural social movements in Brazil; Fact Finding Mission in MATOPIBA region – South Piauí

Dominican Republic

Foundation for Cultural Interchange among the Peoples of the Caribbean – Improving the living conditions of migrants in the border zone north of the island

Observation Center on Migration and Social Development in the Caribbean – Identifying stateless persons to establish their rights as Dominican citizens

Reconoci.do – Strengthening the organizational and advocacy skills of the children of Haitian immigrants in the Dominican Republic

Haiti

Haitian Human Rights Platform – Promotion and defense of human rights in Haiti through communication and advocacy work

Support Group for Refugees and Returnees – Project to support the reception and reintegration of children expelled from the Dominican Republic

Honduras

Black Fraternal Organization of Honduras – Security for human rights defenders in Honduras

Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations in Honduras – Strengthening Lenca human and resource rights

Mexico

Mixe Peoples Services – Territory and Community Wellbeing: Towards the effectiveness of the fundamental rights of Indigenous Peoples; Territorial reconstitution and defense of Indigenous rights

Otros Mundos – Support and analysis for legal cases of Gustavo Castro and Berta Cáceres

Palestine

Ensan Center for Democracy & Human Rights – Legal Aid

Palestinian Centre for Human Rights – Protection of Palestinian land and property rights and women's rights

Stop the Wall Campaign Stop the Wall – Ending Israeli violations of international law and achieving Palestinian human rights



RESILIENCE

Providing seeds and tools

Agroecology is a path for better relations between women, men, young children and the elderly. Agroecology must be an alliance between the countryside and the city, it must be part of the social movements for structural changes against racism and for the end of violence against women

JANAIANA STRONZAKE, A MEMBER
OF THE LANDLESS WORKERS
MOVEMENT, BRAZIL

Your support for Grassroots International reaches farmers who provide food and a healthy environment for their families, for their communities—and for our planet.

Grassroots International's Sustainable Livelihoods grantmaking supports democratic control of local food production and vital resources such as land, water and seeds. We focus on projects that promote gender justice, support biodiversity and environmental protection and draw on and protect local wisdom and culture.

Haitian farmers rebuild food sovereignty

Our partner, the Peasant Movement of Papaye (MPP) is determined to transform rural Haiti. Today, the nation grows and gathers only 20% of the food it consumes. The members of MPP envision a Haiti that feeds itself with sustainable agroecology.

The agroecology vision represents a radical break with centuries of exploitive agriculture in Haiti. Small farms replace massive plantations. Farmers grow food for the nation, not sugar or coffee for export. They improve the soil and use sustainable fertilizers and pest control techniques.

MPP helps farmers minimize their water use while also expanding community water systems that deliver and store water closer to homes and fields. In 2017, MPP planted more than 50,000 trees and distributed solar lamps

and energy-efficient stoves to reduce charcoal use and deforestation. MPP has planted more than 30 million trees in Haiti.

Thanks to agroecological training for women, youth and men, farm families in Haiti's Central Plateau are feeding themselves sustainably. What's more, they are building power toward a future in which all of Haiti will be able to do the same from its own restored soil.

Learning exchanges share knowledge and support

Grassroots International partners, grantees and allies gathered in Chiapas, Mexico to share their wisdom and experiences as food growers. Discussions of heirloom seeds and agroecology were inseparable from talk about political struggles and organizing. No matter where they lived, participants have had to defend their rights to land, water and seeds from corporate control.

Grassroots International also co-organized learning exchange with African and Latin American social movements in Brazil. A community event in Chelsea, MA, brought local organizers in the Boston area together with Central American activists to share experiences and build solidarity around common struggles.

The We are the Solution (WAS) Campaign, a Grassroots International grantee, trains rural women like Famara Diedhiou in agroecology and leadership across five West African nations.





In September, 123 people representing social movements and communities from 11 nations gathered in Chiapas, Mexico for our largest-ever learning exchange, hosted by our ally DESMI and co-organized with our sister organization, Thousand Currents.



Reforestation is the key to restoring soil and water resources for Haitian farmers. The Peasant Movement of Papaye has planted 30 million trees over the last 40 years.

Sustainable Livelihoods Grants

22 grants – \$380,806 (Partial list below)

Brazil

Landless Workers Movement-Pernambuco – Agroecology for food sovereignty and as an instrument for empowerment and social inclusion

Landless Workers Movement-National – National agroecology training program

Popular Peasant Movement – Creole seeds project

Burkina Faso

National Federation of Producer Organizations of Burkina Faso – Building knowledge of agroecological practices and expanding We Are the Solution Campaign.

Support Network for Rural Female Citizens of West Africa and Chad – Consolidation of women's achievements in agroecology

Guatemala

Peasant Unity Committee – Women-led agroecological gardens

Guinea

Guinean Association for the Alleviation of Women's Workload – Building rural women's capacity in agroecology

Guinean Association for Food Security and Sovereignty – Advocacy and dissemination of agroecological practices on family farms

Haiti

Haitian Platform to Advocate Alternative Development – Advocacy and capacity for Haitian peasant agriculture, food sovereignty and solidarity economies

National Congress of the Papaye Peasant Movement – Support for farmers' organizations to strengthen structures, promote goat farming and agroecology and lessen impacts of climate change

Peasant Movement of Papaye – Support for agroecology to defend food sovereignty in the Central Plateau

India

Tamil Nadu Women's Collective – Ensure clean water and safe food for Dalit women farmers

Mali

National Coordination of Peasant Organizations of Mali – Training of women food processors in the management of cooperative units

Palestine

Friends of Freedom and Justice – Family farms in Bil'in

Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees – Enhancing the livelihoods of marginalized female headed households in the Al-Mughraqa area in the Gaza Strip

Union of Agricultural Work Committees – Women's empowerment: economic empowerment through enhancing women's access to local and international markets; Supporting vulnerable farmers in Eastern Rafah; Supporting youth farmers

Senegal

Association of Young Farmers of Casamance – Advocacy, capacity-building and popularization of agroecology

Union of Meckhé Peasant Groups – Building rural women's capacity in agroecology



POWER

Building global movements

It is only through SOLIDARITY with one another and engagement with all sectors – popular movements, women's movements, peasant movements, youth movements – that we will transform our environment, protect life and preserve our rights and sovereignty in the places where we live.

RICOT JEAN-PIERRE, PLATFORM
TO ADVOCATE ALTERNATIVE
DEVELOPMENT, HAITI

Grassroots International donors, partners and allies stand together with a powerful worldwide force for social and economic transformation: millions of people, united through social movements and peoples' organizations around the world with shared vision of justice.

We accompany and stand together with community-based movements building national, regional and global networks of solidarity and support. Grassroots International is proud to be part of the decades-long project of weaving resilient peoples' organizations into a powerful global movement for food sovereignty, resource rights and dignity for all.

International collaboration boosts anti-dam movements

In rural areas around the world, hydroelectric dams do catastrophic damage to people who rely on rivers for fishing, farming, food-gathering and commerce. Dam builders and their financiers can reap huge profits—but only if they can shift these huge environmental and social costs to vulnerable communities. That's a major reason that developers target remote rural sites, frequently in predominantly Indigenous, peasant and Afro-descendant communities.

Over many years, national anti-dam movements, like Grassroots International's Brazilian partner, the Movement of People Affected by Dams (MAB), have grown into highly effective movements by uniting isolated



The catastrophic 2015 Fundão Dam failure in Brazil killed at least 30 people and wiped out 600 homes. The surviving people of Barra Longa still wait for reconstruction and compensation.

communities, sharing knowledge and working together to block dam projects, change regional and national policies and advocate for those harmed during and after dam construction.

More recently, anti-dam activists in Central and South America have joined forces across the Western Hemisphere through the Latin American Movement of People Affected by Dams (MAR). With three more countries joining the alliance last year, and with a seed grant from Grassroots International, MAR now works in 13 nations: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, México, Panamá, Paraguay and Perú.

Last year, Grassroots International supported two MAR learning exchanges to build power in the burgeoning movement. Through advocacy and education efforts on water rights, dams and anti-dam movements, MAR members have been able to increase their skills in organizing and advocating across the hemisphere.



People from 13 countries have joined hands to resist dam projects which devastate rivers and ecosystems and which prey upon rural and Indigenous People throughout Latin America

Movement Building Grants

87 Grants - \$2,027,124 (Partial list below)

Argentina

The Dawn – Strengthening social movements' communications in Latin America and the Caribbean

Brazil

Association of Settlement Areas in the State of Maranhão – Struggle for the human right to food, education and citizen participation

Communication Cooperative Ltd. – Support for Brasil de Fato & Rádio Agência Brasil de Fato Paraná

Evergreen Feminist Organization – World March of Women participation in the Continental Meeting for Democracy and Against Neoliberalism

La Via Campesina-South America – Participation in the 7th International Conference of La Via Campesina

Landless Workers Movement-National – Women, Power and Agroecology in the Amazon Region; Training to strengthen social movements and popular organizations

Landless Workers Movement-National – Haiti-Brazil agroecology learning exchange

Landless Workers Movement-Maranhão – Base Organizing - Strengthening youth leadership and self-organizing in agrarian reform encampments and settlements

Latin American Institute on Agroecology, Education, Training & Research on Peasant Agriculture -Training and communications initiatives to combat agrottoxins

Movement of People Affected by Dams – Organizing communities in the Paraíba River watershed

Movement of People Affected by Dams in Latin America – Building a united front across Latin America against hydro-electric dams

Popular Peasant Movement –Biodiversity and creole seeds seminar

Guatemala

Peasant Unity Committee – Strengthening community organizing to defend the right to water and the protection of rivers in the south coast of Guatemala

The Women's Sector – Strengthening the strategic capacities of the Women's Sector Political Alliance

Haiti

Dessalines Brigade – Support for the Dessalines Internationalist Solidarity Brigade in Haiti

Haitian Platform to Advocate Alternative Development – Strengthening farmers' capacity to defend agroecology and advocate for climate justice

Peasant Movement of Papaye – Strengthening capacities of peasants in the Central Plateau to the consequences of the climate crisis; Participation in 7th International Conference of La Via Campesina

Honduras

Black Fraternal Organization of Honduras – Defense of the Garifuna ancestral territory in response to the impacts of climate change

Council on the Integral Development of the Peasant Woman – Strengthening La Via Campesina's Women's Commission and Global Campaign to End Violence Against Peasant Women in Central America

Honduran Social and Popular Movement Platform – Strengthening Honduran social and popular movements
La Via Campesina-Honduras – Defending peasant and Indigenous Peoples' right to land and territory

Mali

World March of Women – Movement building: strengthening women's organizing and their struggles for food sovereignty in West Africa

Mexico

Center for the Study of Change in the Mexican Countryside – Promotion of agroecology in Mexico

Enlace Civil – Building autonomy, strengthening political participation and empowering autonomous Indigenous communities in Chiapas

Union of Organizations of the Sierra Juarez of Oaxaca – The Resilience of Zapotec communities in the face of climate change

Mozambique

World March of Women – Building the global feminist movement: World March of Women International Secretariat

Nicaragua

Association of Rural Workers-La Via Campesina – Central America training and leadership development of peasants and Indigenous Peoples; Global Campaign for Agrarian Reform

Nigeria

Health of Mother Earth Foundation – Resilience for resistance

Palestine

Stop the Wall Campaign –Together for a #Worldwithout Walls

Union of Agricultural Work Committees – Participation in 7th International Conference of La Via Campesina

Senegal

Fahamu – Building a rural women's movement for food sovereignty, agroecology and gender justice in West Africa

Uganda

Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa – Agroecology learning and strategy revision event

United States

EcoHermanas – Black Dirt Farm Collective & Earth Seed Land Cooperative – Afroecology Encounter/ Deep South training of trainers

Grassroots Global Justice Alliance – General support
Indigenous Environmental Network of Turtle Island – General support; No Dakota Access Pipeline

La Via Campesina-North America – General support for North American Regional Secretariat

Mississippi Association of Cooperatives – Southeastern agroecology and food convening

National Family Farm Coalition – General support

Zimbabwe

La Via Campesina-International – Forging the links between food sovereignty and climate justice; participation in the global alliance on the future of food second international dialogue

450 peasant leaders from around the world met at the International Conference of La Via Campesina, held in Derio, a town in Basque Country, last July.



Grassroots initiatives expand funding for frontline movements

Partnerships

Grassroots International forms long-term partnerships based on shared vision and analysis, political solidarity, deep dialogue and funding support.

Partnership is our sustained, multi-year commitment to:

- Provide dollars for their work for sustainable livelihoods, human rights and movement building
- Amplify our partners' campaigns and stories to inspire and engage more people in the United States in support of social justice
- Facilitate our partners to share learnings, develop alliances and build a stronger movement for global justice.

As the challenges of climate change and increased repression of social movements become more acute, we must find ways to intensify our responses. Grassroots International has developed several special initiatives to focus attention and support on critical issues. Our unique knowledge of social movements and our deep relationships with grassroots organizations has attracted dramatically increased funding and solidarity.

Climate Justice Initiative surpasses goal

Our two-year Climate Justice Initiative (CJI) boosted efforts by key social movements on the frontlines of the struggle to stop the worst impacts of climate change in the Global South and develop innovative resilience and resistance. Surpassing our original goal by nearly 50 percent, we raised over \$570,000 to support 23 climate justice organizations working on a variety of approaches including: promoting agroecological farming, stopping planet-warming mega-projects, protecting riverways and water and building non-extractive local economies.

Donors make a remarkable gift of solidarity

Thanks to the generosity of anonymous donors, Grassroots provided \$1.5 million to support global pleasant solidarity movements, including food sovereignty and agroecology training, organizing schools, and learning exchanges, particularly in Brazil and between Brazilian movements and those in Haiti, Africa and other parts of Latin America. These are all the more essential as Brazilian social movements—such as our partner organization, the Landless Workers Movement—face threats, violence and criminalization at the hands of the right-wing government that took over through what amounts to an administrative coup.

Allies join to support grassroots climate action

Grassroots International helped launch an ambitious new collaborative, the Grassroots Climate Solutions Fund, over the last year with three ally organizations, Thousand Currents, Global Green Grants Fund and Urgent Action Fund. Together, we aim to raise \$10 to \$15 million in new funding for climate justice over the next five years and to invest that funding in grassroots climate justice movements around the world.



Emergency response – Mexico, Haiti and Puerto Rico

Grassroots supports community-led recovery in disaster areas

In the wake of the devastation of the hurricanes Maria and Irma sweeping through the Caribbean, and the earthquake in Mexico, Grassroots International raised more than \$160,000 to date for relief, just recovery and long-term, sustainable rebuilding. In Haiti, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, the funds provided were used for immediate needs such as food, water, medicine, solar lamps and emergency shelter, as well as to relaunch food production.

Longer term rebuilding work includes the provision of seeds, farming supplies, instruction in agroecological farming, food sovereignty brigades to rebuild homes and farms and other activities to boost the climate resilience of farmers. Emergency funding also supported movement efforts to raise awareness about the root causes of the catastrophe and to build greater self-determination through popular education workshops.

In Puerto Rico, Grassroots International provided a \$10,000 grant to Boricuá, a farmers' organization and member of La Vía Campesina, to support small farmers through food sovereignty solidarity brigades, to rebuild their homes and livelihoods and to resume growing food. We also made solidarity grants to the Movement of Popular Agroecology (MAP) and rural Mutual Aid Centers, the Feminist Collective in Construction and Casa Pueblo. Casa Pueblo is organizing an energy sovereignty effort in the center of the island.

Rethinking Aid Grants 14 grants – \$165,455

Dominican Republic

Center for Sustainable Development – Protection of stateless or at-risk persons in the Dominican Republic

Movement of Dominican-Haitian Women – Humanitarian aid and support to vulnerable groups

Haiti

Haitian Platform to Advocate Alternative Development – Hurricane Matthew emergency response; Hurricane Season emergency response

Hands Together for Liberation and Community Advancement – Hurricane Season Emergency Response; Support after Hurricane Matthew

Peasant Movement of Acul du Nord – Hurricane Season emergency response

Peasant Movement of Papaye – Hurricane Season emergency response

Tet Kole Ti Peyizan Ayisyen – Hurricane Season emergency response

Mexico

Mixe Peoples Services – Supporting Indigenous groups in Oaxaca after earthquake and floods

Union of Organizations of the Sierra Juarez of Oaxaca – Supporting Indigenous groups in Oaxaca after earthquake and floods

Puerto Rico

Boricua Eco-Organic Agriculture Organization – Just recovery and sustainable relief for Puerto Rico

Casa Pueblo – Just recovery and sustainable relief for Puerto Rico

Feminist Collective in Construction – Just recovery and sustainable relief for Puerto Rico

Movement of Popular Agroecology – Just recovery and sustainable relief for Puerto Rico

**We as Puerto Ricans and communities of color
in the US need to stand up in solidarity and
work heart-to-heart and side-by-side with the
people of Puerto Rico, toward a Just Recovery.
It is our duty to be part of the struggle with them!
We need to follow the lead of the courageous
Boricuas organizing on the ground for a
people's project, a project of life, with
self-determination and a political
orientation to decolonize Puerto Rico.**

JOVANNA GARCIA SOTO,
SOLIDARITY PROGRAM OFFICER FOR LATIN AMERICA AT GRASSROOTS INTERNATIONAL



35 Years of Resistance, Resilience and Power

Since 1983, Grassroots International donors and funders have supported \$44,300,000 in cash grants and material aid support to our global partners'

1983

1983 Former Oxfam America staff members form Grassroots International in response to the Israeli invasion and US shelling of Lebanon.

1984 West Bank and Gaza programs established to support the struggle for Palestinian rights.

1985 South Africa program launches to support anti-Apartheid struggle.

1985 The Donkey Project in Eritrea brings grain to areas in hunger; Program in the Philippines supports pro-democracy movement and struggle against US military bases.

1991 Support to Haitian organizations resisting the new military regime that ousted the democratically elected Aristide government.

1994 Launch of Mexico program to counter the newly implemented NAFTA free trade agreement.

1998 Grassroots International first partners with vibrant Brazilian social change movements.

2002 Grassroots International's first global partnership with La Via Campesina.

2006 In the wake of the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), Mexico program expanded to Mesoamerica supporting two of the most significant social movements in the region: Indigenous Peoples and peasants.

2010 Grassroots International is a founding member of the US Food Sovereignty Alliance.

2011 Grassroots International and allies pressure pension giant TIAA-CREF to divest from companies profiting from the Israeli occupation.

2012 At the urging of Global South partners, Grassroots International joins the Climate Justice Alliance.

2014 West Africa initiative moves resources to women-led farmers and agroecological organizations confronting the rise of industrial agriculture and land grabs.

2016 The Climate Justice Initiative launched to provide extra and targeted support for movements and organizations on the frontline of climate change impacts and putting forward grassroots solutions.

2017

2017 The World March of Women becomes a global grantee partner

Thank you, Alice and Dan

"They go where other organizations are politically unwilling to go." That's one of the things that Dan Klein has liked best about Grassroots International from its earliest days. Dan visited Eritrea in the 1990s with his friend, Grassroots International founder Dan Connell. While other aid agencies were unable or unwilling to help address famine in the Horn of Africa in the 1980s and recovery efforts in the 1990s after the war for independence, Grassroots used its knowledge of on-the-ground organizations in Eritrea to mobilize effective support for peasants and local NGOs to rebuild and fight hunger.

Alice Rothchild, Dan's wife, says, "I like their focus on the root causes of poverty—like lack of water. They are a solid relief organization. They do what they say and they don't spend a large amount of money on themselves. I love that there are a lot of women in leadership roles at Grassroots—and that the staff is multiracial and multicultural. It's unusual for an organization to walk the talk like this."

Alice and Dan have both been lifelong activists in the Boston community. They helped revive the historic labor-oriented Boston Workmen's Circle as a Center for Jewish Culture and Social Justice, helping families teach progressive values and activism to their children. Alice has been a pioneer in advocating for Palestinian rights, particularly health as a human right. She works with many Jewish and Palestinian organizations and accompanied the 2017 Grassroots International delegation to Palestine.

Grassroots International supporters like Alice and Dan are valued donors—but so much more. They are friends, fellow activists and allies in the long struggle for social justice. We are proud to have had their support over our 35-year history.



Thank You!

During 2017, in the face of injustice, threats and oppression, the Grassroots International network of supporters, partners and allies resisted. In response to climate change and climate-related disasters, you redoubled your work and support. And through your efforts, joined to those of millions of others, our movement for justice is more powerful than ever!

We are honored to have you with us on this journey.

And we are excited about the work to come. Here are a few ways you can continue to build our powerful movement in 2018.

As a donor

- Join our monthly sustainer program
- Donate stock
- Give a gift in someone's honor or memory
- Include Grassroots International in your will or insurance policy
- Host a house party or other fundraiser

Donations are tax deductible and secure. Grassroots International earned the Better Business Bureau's coveted Seal of Approval and the seal of excellence from Independent Charities of America.



As a Legacy Circle member

Grassroots International and our partners are in the struggle for the long haul—to create a more just and sustainable world and to build global movements for social change.

By including Grassroots in your will, retirement plan or insurance policy, you help support the grantmaking and advocacy efforts that infuse life into global activism for land, water and food rights.

As an advocate

www.GrassrootsOnline.org/subscribe

Become an activist for food sovereignty, climate justice and the human rights to land and water. Join the Grassroots International online activist network. Sign up on our web site to receive updates and alerts, as well as e-newsletters.

As a volunteer

We need volunteers to help with mailings, events, translations and social networking. To find out more, contact info@GrassrootsOnline.org, or call 617.524.1400.

As a friend

Follow us on:



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Director of Development and Communications

Lydia Simas

Solidarity Program Officer for Special Projects

2017 Volunteers

It takes a village to keep all the work going. Grassroots International owes a world of thanks to the volunteers listed below who are part of our village.

Nithyani Anandakugan	Mike Martin
Nicola Barbesino	Eric Niermeyer
Julia Broomer	Christina Obolenskaya
Jena Doyle	Ezgi Ozkok
Jessica Farrell	Alexis Raitt
Allison Kaika	Lydia Ruddick-Schulman
Dennis Keeler	Madeline Weir
Megan Li	Rachel Wyon



"Thank you for offering an opportunity for me to learn about topics of gender, race, climate justice, food sovereignty, public health and global human rights. The environment you foster, the perspective you promote and the work you do has opened my eyes to the need for and possibility of attaining sustainable change for resource and human rights."

Note from Mike Martin, a Grassroots International volunteer in 2017. Mike is now a Peace Corps public health specialist in Paraguay.



Financial Report for 2017

November 1, 2016 through October 31, 2017

As a public foundation, Grassroots International continues to work only through the generosity and boldness of its supporters. During 2017, those individuals and foundations rose to the challenge of the times, enabling Grassroots to step up critical support to dynamic grassroots movements. This is the third successive year of growth, and in 2017 Grassroots provided more than \$2.7 million in cash grants to sustain and strengthen those movements— nearly triple previous year. With an eye on efficiency, Grassroots devoted 80 percent of spending to grants, education, and program activities.

Grassroots International does not seek or receive US government funding in order to remain an independent and outspoken advocate for the human rights to land, water, and food.

Statement of Support, Revenues and Expenses

For the year ended October 31, 2017

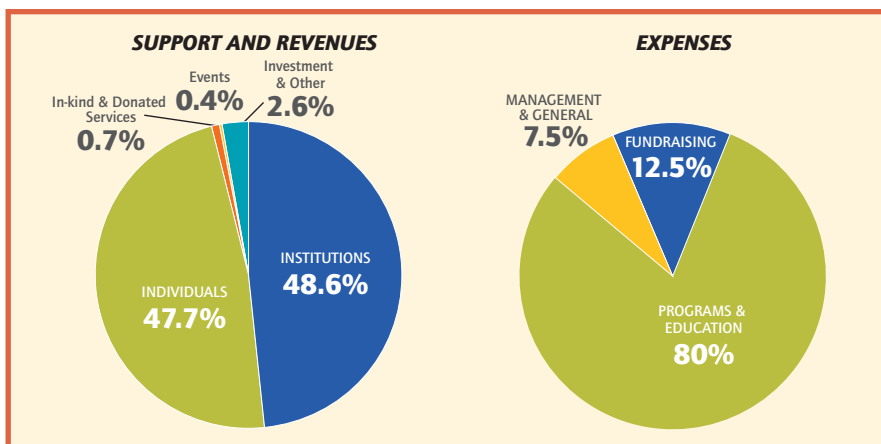
	Without Donor Restrictions		With Donor Restrictions	FY 2017 Total
	Undesignated	Board-designated	Restrictions	
Support and Revenues				
Institutional grants & contributions, including from donor advised funds	\$ 520,881	-	\$ 1,703,570	\$ 2,224,451
Individual contributions	672,879	-	1,508,872	2,181,751
In-kind gifts (software)	25,188	-	-	25,188
Donated professional services	6,288	-	-	6,288
Special events	-	-	19,800	19,800
Investment and other income	103,758	-	16,500	120,258
<i>Sub-Total</i>	1,328,994	-	3,248,742	4,577,736
Net assets released from program restrictions	3,159,428	-	(3,159,428)	-
Total Support and Revenues	4,488,422	-	89,314	\$4,577,736
Expenses				
PROGRAM SERVICES				
Grants	2,850,172			2,850,172
Humanitarian/social justice program	481,403			481,403
Education	135,704			135,704
<i>Total program services</i>	3,467,279			3,467,279
SUPPORT SERVICES				
Management and general	325,439			325,439
Fundraising	542,327			542,327
<i>Total support services</i>	867,766			867,766
Total Expenses	4,335,045			\$4,335,045
Change in Net Assets	153,377	-	89,314	242,691
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	196,090	691,864	393,496	1,281,450
Board designation of assets	(50,000)	50,000	-	-
Net Assets, End of Year	299,467	741,864	482,810	\$1,524,141

Balance Sheet

As of October 31, 2017

Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 255,515
Grants and pledges receivable	24,673
Investments - securities	1,363,862
Prepaid expenses and other	21,991
Fixed and other assets, net	37,007
Total Assets	\$1,703,048
Liabilities and Net Assets	
LIABILITIES	
Grants Payable	70,073
Accounts payable & accrued expenses	108,834
Total Liabilities	\$178,907
NET ASSETS	
Without donor restrictions	
Undesignated	299,467
Board-designated	741,864
With donor restrictions	482,810
Total Net Assets	\$1,524,141
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$1,703,048

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Grassroots International Institutional Supporters NOVEMBER 2016 – OCTOBER 2017

Grassroots International is deeply grateful for the generosity of the funders listed below, as well as those who wish to remain anonymous, who contributed \$250 or more. Their commitment, along with individual donors, nourishes global movements for a more just and sustainable world. Thank you!

Annenberg Foundation	Dominican Sisters of Springfield Illinois	Morgan Stanley Global Impact Funding Trust, Inc.	SEIU 509
Ansara Family Fund at the Boston Foundation	Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation	New England Biolabs Foundation	Sierra Club
Atkinson Foundation	Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund	New Society Fund	Sisters of Saint Dominic
Ayco Charitable Foundation	First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington	New Visions Foundation	Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia
Paul and Edith Babson Foundation	Foundation for a Just Society	New World Foundation	Sisters of the Divine Savior
Benjamin Fund	Gerald and Roberta Franklin Charitable Foundation	Normandie Foundation	Small Planet Fund of RSF Social Finance
Bernard, Johnson & Co.	Franklin Conklin Foundation	NoVo Foundation	Social Justice Fund Northwest
Berry Foundation	G. Fredrick Charitable Foundation	Ralph E. Ogden Foundation	Solidago Foundation
Boston Foundation	Greater Houston Community Foundation	Omaha Community Foundation	Stansbury Family Foundation
Broder Family Foundation Inc.	Illinois Prairie Community Foundation	Pathstone Federal Street	SWF Immersion Foundation
Brooks Family Foundation	ImpactAssets	Peterffy Foundation	T. Rowe Price Program for Charitable Giving
Cahn Fund for Social Change	Ing Foundation	Pettus Foundation	Thanksgiving Fund
Calvert Social Investment Foundation	The Jersey Foundation	Pilot House Associates LLC	Tides Foundation
CarEth Foundation	La Colombe Holdings	Presbyterian Hunger Program	Tikva Grassroots Empowerment Fund of the Tides Foundation
Casey & Family Foundation	Lawson Valentine Foundation	Proteus Fund	Triple Bottom Line Foundation
Chorus Foundation	Libra Foundation	Racine Dominican Mission Fund	United Church of Christ
Code Pink	Loring, Wolcott & Coolidge Office	Harold K. Raisler Foundation	United Methodist Committee on Relief
Commonwealth Charitable Fund	MACKCUT	Rochester Area Community Foundation	Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program
Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines	Genevieve McMillan-Reba Stewart Foundation	Seymour and Sylvia Rothchild Family 2004 Charitable Fund	Vermont Community Foundation
Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County	Merrill Lynch Trust Company	Samuel Rubin Foundation	Whitman Institute
Community West Foundation	Harvey L. Miller Family Foundation	Saint John's Abbey	Josephine C. Wilkinson Family Charitable Lead Trust
CSP Charitable Foundation Trust		Salomon Family Foundation	Winky Foundation
Cultures of Resistance Network		Seattle Foundation	
DaVinci Direct			

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The Chorus Foundation: radical philanthropy for climate justice

Farhad Ebrahimi, the Founder and President of the Chorus Foundation, considers the wealth he inherited to be a "byproduct of an extractive economy." His foundation works for a just transition to a regenerative economy in which such concentrations of wealth and the resulting damage to the planet would not be possible. And, because that work is so urgent, Chorus will spend its entire principal by 2024.

In 2017, the Chorus Foundation and Grassroots International partnered to

Farhad Ebrahimi, Founder and President of the Chorus Foundation.



challenge others to take a similarly self-critical look at the relationship between concentrated wealth and climate justice. As part of the donor organizing component of the Climate Justice Initiative, we engaged donors in education and dialogue about the root causes of climate change and about effective responses rooted in social justice. Now, participants are changing their giving – and speaking up to influence others.

"Grassroots International's focus on individual donors is a godsend," says Farhad. "Individuals can take bigger risks. Institutions are much more rigid. Grassroots has the contacts and cultural competence to work with progressive donors. We're grateful that we've got Grassroots International as such great friend and that we have learned so much from them."

Our Mission

Grassroots International works in **partnership with social movements** to create a just and sustainable world by **advancing the human rights to land, water and food** through global grantmaking, building solidarity across organizations and movements and advocacy in the United States.

GLOBALIZING JUSTICE: Our Vision

Grassroots International envisions a world in which a **universal commitment to the health and well-being of the earth and all its peoples**, fueled by successful global movements for economic and climate justice, has transformed production practices, consumption patterns and economic and social relations to ones based on **sustainability, equity and the rights to land, food, and water**.

Our partnerships recognize that change is successful only when people in their own communities organize to confront the root causes of their problems.

The principles that guide our work

- The people most affected by the problems should pose the solutions.
- Small farmers and other small producers like fishers, foresters and pastoralists are better for the land, for the community and for the planet than big agriculture that relies on chemicals, promotes genetic engineering and gobbles up resources.
- People are more important than profits.
- Long-term partnerships and long-term development are critical to making long-term change.
- Informed and committed donors can help support global movements to bring about a more just and sustainable world.

