Resistance

Resilience

Power

Grassroots International
Funding Global Movements for Social Change
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

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


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 report 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

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.

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

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, Brasilia, to demand Temer’s resignation and an end to his anti-democratic agenda.
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
- Reconocido – 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
- 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

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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.

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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 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
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-Mughrara 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
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 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.

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.

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

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 agrotoxins
Movement of People Affected by Dams – Organizing communities in the Paráiba 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 Papayé – 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 #WorldwithoutWalls
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.
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 Via 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.

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

Rethinking Aid Grants

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

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
The World March of Women becomes a global grantee partner

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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.
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:

Thank You!

Grassroots International Staff

Yulissa Arce
Solidarity Program Officer – BEA Fund

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Donor and Online Communications Coordinator

Malkah Feldman
Strategic Philanthropy Manager

Jovanna Garcia Soto
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Claire Gilbert
Solidarity Program Officer for the Middle East

Chung-Wha Hong
Executive Director

Jonathan Leaning
Institutional Giving and Communications Coordinator

Sara Mersha
Director of Grantmaking and Advocacy

Opal Mita
Administrative Coordinator

Chris Morrill
Communications Associate

Orson Moon
Director of Administration and Finance

Mina Remy
Solidarity Program Officer for West Africa and Haiti

Carol Schachet
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 Niemeyer
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.
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**

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<th>With Donor Restrictions</th>
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<td>1,328,994</td>
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<td>3,248,742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from program restrictions</td>
<td>3,159,428</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(3,159,428)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support and Revenues</strong></td>
<td>4,488,422</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>89,314</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Expenses</strong></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PROGRAM SERVICES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>2,850,172</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,850,172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanitarian/social justice program</td>
<td>481,403</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>481,403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>135,704</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>135,704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total program services</strong></td>
<td>3,467,279</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,467,279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUPPORT SERVICES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>325,439</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>325,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>542,327</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>542,327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total support services</strong></td>
<td>867,766</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>867,766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>4,335,045</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,335,045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Change in Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>153,377</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>89,314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</strong></td>
<td>196,090</td>
<td>691,864</td>
<td>393,496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board designation of assets</td>
<td>(50,000)</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets, End of Year</strong></td>
<td>299,467</td>
<td>741,864</td>
<td>482,810</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Balance Sheet
**As of October 31, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Assets</strong></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$255,515</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and pledges receivable</td>
<td>24,673</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments – securities</td>
<td>1,363,862</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses and other</td>
<td>21,991</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed and other assets, net</td>
<td>37,007</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>$1,703,048</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Payable</td>
<td>70,073</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable &amp; accrued expenses</td>
<td>108,834</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>$178,907</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without donor restrictions</td>
<td>299,467</td>
<td>691,864</td>
<td>393,496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board-designated</td>
<td>741,864</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With donor restrictions</td>
<td>482,810</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$1,524,141</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$1,703,048</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Support and Revenues
**INDIVIDUALS 47.7%**
**INSTITUTIONS 48.6%**
**IN-KIND & DONATED SERVICES 0.7%**
**INVESTMENT & OTHER 0.4%**
**EVENTS 2.6%**

### Expenses
**MANAGEMENT & GENERAL 7.5%**
**FUNDRAISING 12.5%**
**PROGRAMS & EDUCATION 80%**
**INDIVIDUALS 47.7%**

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**SUPPORT AND REVENUES**

**EXPENSES**
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 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.