

October 2013



THINK GLOBAL

Act locally with the

World Development Movement



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News bites

Climate justice

- Dirty Energy Month takes place from 11 October – 11 November.

Food sovereignty

- No final decisions were taken at the 4 September triologue meeting but food speculation regulation will be discussed again at an October meeting in Brussels.

Inserts

- Carbon capital Indonesia pack: Film, action cards and leaflets (*groups only*)
- Carbon capital Indonesia leaflet and action card (*activists*)
- Tricky questions for 'bringing extraction back to the banks' action (*groups only*)
- WDM staff chart (*groups only*)
- Debt week action sheet
- Jubilee Debt Campaign speaker tour leaflet

Letter from the activism team

Dear friends,

Dirty Energy Month takes place this month from 11 October – 11 November. In that time we will see a Carbon Capital speaker tour take place at nine places across the UK and lots of actions outside HSBC banks. Nine groups have ordered action packs and we're hoping more will do so as the month goes on. It would be great if you could let us know when your actions are taking place so we can add it to the global Dirty Energy Month website <http://reclaimpower.net>

We're really excited to have Maya Williams join the activism team as a regional organiser. Maya is based in Bradford and will be supporting groups in the north of England. If you are based in the north, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Maya (contact details are below).

We have had quite a few staff changes in the WDM offices and so we have included an updated staff chart with this issue of *Think Global*. As ever though, feel free to contact the activism team in the first instance.

Happy campaigning!



Sarah Reader
Groups officer

Who's who in the activism team

With various changes to the activism team, we thought it would be useful to clarify who does what and who groups and activists should go to.

For material requests and events enquiries

Ralph Allen, events assistant: ralph.allen@wdm.org.uk or 020 7820 4900.

For group queries, advice and support

- In Scotland: **Jane Herbstritt**, campaigns assistant (based in our Edinburgh office) jane.herbstritt@wdm.org.uk or 013 1243 2730.
- In the north of England: **Maya Williams**, regional organiser for the north (based in Bradford) maya.williams@wdm.org.uk or 079 5421 4325.
- In the rest of the UK: **Sarah Reader**, groups officer sarah.reader@wdm.org.uk 020 7820 4900. Sarah can also help all groups with website queries.

For area representatives

Katharine Talbot (back from maternity leave in November) katharine.talbot@wdm.org.uk

James O'Nions and **Katharine Talbot** will be job-sharing the role of senior activism officer. They will manage the team as well as leading on major national events and strategy.

Action checklist

Groups

Climate justice

- Take action during Dirty Energy Month: Organise an action outside HSBC or a Carbon Capital film night.
- Collect signatures for our new action card 'Piling on the pressure' and get people to add a piece of coal to the pile.
- Share our film and report about mining in Indonesia – available from the WDM website.

Food sovereignty

- Continue lobbying your MEPs on MiFID and collecting signatures on the Bankers Anonymous action cards.

Offline action of the month

Sign our new action card 'Piling on the pressure' and add a piece of coal to send to HSBC. Order some more cards to give to friends and other groups by emailing sam.lund-harket@wdm.org.uk or calling Sam at 020 7820 4900. If you want to join us to deliver the coal in December, you can also contact Sam.

At your next meeting

- Organise an action or event as part of Dirty Energy Month
- Watch the short film about mining in Indonesia
- Consider organising a film night using our new film pack about alternatives to the current food system
- Take part in the photo petition about debt: Take a picture with the 'a debt should not be paid if...' sheet (with your message) and upload it to Facebook or Twitter (hashtag #notourdebt) or send it to events@jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk See page 12 for more information.



Meet Nick, WDM's new director

We're organising a series of informal regional meetings for local groups, members and sympathisers to meet Nick Dearden, WDM's new director. This is a chance to ask questions and have a dialogue with him about taking the organisation forward in the next few years. Dates so far are:

London: Monday 30 September, 6.30pm

Glasgow: Thursday 10 October, 7pm

Oxford: Tuesday 12 November, 7.30pm

Watford: Thursday 14 November, 7.30pm

Venue details can be found at www.wdm.org.uk. If you'd like to hold a meeting with Nick, contact Sarah: sarah.reader@wdm.org.uk

Campaign update: Climate and energy justice

- Dirty Energy Month is taking place from 11 October to 11 November. People around the world will be calling for an end to dirty energy projects.
- Take action during Dirty Energy Month: Bring the extractives back to your local HSBC.

Dirty Energy Month

This month, Dirty Energy Month, also called 'Reclaim Power; a month of action on energy' is taking place with actions planned across the world. Thanks to everyone who has let us know about what you've got planned during the month. If you haven't told us what your group is doing, please let us know so that we can add it to the global online action map, which will list all the actions taking place across the world. It's always inspiring for people to know who else is taking action in solidarity, so we want to ensure we've listed as many as of the events as possible.

If you want to order a 'Bring the extraction back to the banks' action kit, please contact Sam on sam.lund-harket@wdm.org.uk or call us at the office. You can read more about the packs in the stunt briefing we sent with last *Think Global*.

We've also included a Q&A for groups on why we're targeting HSBC with this *Think Global*. HSBC aren't the only ones funding dirty energy – and over the course of the campaign we will be focusing on different targets.

Indonesia: report and film

As this *Think Global* is going to press, we're just finalising our 'Banking whilst Borno Burns' report about how the UK finance sector is bankrolling the destruction of communities and climate change in Central Kalimantan, Indonesia. This will be available online from the start of October, after we have done a media release. At the same time as releasing the report, we will also be releasing a short film – there are two versions of this, a shorter one that will be used online, and a longer version that we've included in this *Think Global*.

We've also included a series of materials with this *Think Global*:

- Leaflets about the UK's financing of coal mining in Indonesia
- DVD with three short films (one on WDM's research trip to Borneo, a short film we made about alternative economies, and one about the kind of energy justice solutions that our allies are seeking)
- Action card (see below for more details)
- Also available online from 1 October is WDM's latest report – please let us know if you want us to send you a copy.

You can use these films and other materials to host a film and discussion night. This could be a great way to introduce new people to your group and could be a good follow up activity after a speaker tour event, or following on from a stall during Dirty Energy Month. We know we have also sent you a film kit for the food campaign, but with the cold winter nights closing in, it's the perfect time of year for film nights!

Pile on the pressure: new action targeting HSBC

As we mentioned in last month's *Think Global*, we are launching a new action for you to use on stalls, timed with Dirty Energy Month and the launch of the Indonesia report. While this looks like a ordinary action card, there's a bit of a twist: for every person that fills in a card, we will add a piece of coal to the pile we deliver to HSBC. We will make the delivery in December, with an army of Father Christmases delivering the coal - playing on the story of naughty children getting coal in their stockings at Christmas. Please get as many as you can filled in, and return them to us by the end of November.

We'll also be inviting people to join us in delivering the coal, we'll let you know more in the next *Think Global*.

Other Dirty Energy Month activities

As well as WDM's speaker tour and the 'bringing extraction back to the banks' actions, a number of other organisations are planning events.

These include:

- **Global frackdown day** (19 October): Young Friends of the Earth is organising an action against fracking. They will be sending a message to a high profile figure involved in the fracking industry. For more information please email info@youngfoe.org.uk.
- **350.org speaker tour** with US author Bill McKibben. Events will take place in Edinburgh (30 October), Birmingham (31 October) and London (1 November) and will feature messages from Naomi Klein and Archbishop Desmond Tutu among others.
- The launch of People and Planet's **Fossil Free UK campaign** in university campuses across the country
- Operation Noah launching a church focused divestment campaign

We've been working with these different groups to coordinate activities and will be putting a list of activities on WDM's website soon.

Share Action training on pensions

As mentioned in last month's *Think Global*, our friends at Share Action are planning a series of workshops to help you understand the role that pensions play in fossil fuel finance. This ties in perfectly with the Carbon Capital campaign.

To find out more, or to get involved with this training, please contact jo.beardsmore@shareaction.org (travel subsidies are available).

Delivery of Vince Cable cards

Kirsty Wright, WDM's climate campaigner and Sarah Reader delivered nearly 2000 action cards calling on Vince Cable to make the finance sector report on the real carbon footprint of its investments. Mandatory carbon reporting will come into force on 1 October. We will be releasing a new report on UK funding of Indonesian mining projects to coincide with this. A big thanks to all groups and activists who got these action cards signed.



Kirsty and Sarah with nearly 2000 action cards to Vince Cable at the Department for Business Innovation and skills.

Campaign update: Food sovereignty

- No final decisions were taken at the 4 September triologue meeting but food speculation regulation will be discussed again at an October meeting in Brussels.
- Groups can continue lobbying their MEPs or using Bankers Anonymous action cards.
- Consider if you want to organise a film screening this autumn on food sovereignty and changing food prices and order your film pack now.
- WDM's food campaign team is now working on developing the new agribusiness campaign.

European legislation update

On 4 September, negotiators from the European parliament, European commission and the Council of Ministers met in Brussels to discuss how to regulate food speculation. Just before the meeting started, some members of WDM's campaigns team joined other European campaigners to hold a stunt outside the meeting. Most of the MEPs involved in the negotiations turned up and listened to our concerns and claimed to be committed to strong legislation.

Food speculation was discussed during the meeting, but no final decision was taken. Instead, officials at the commission will draft a compromise text to be discussed at a later meeting. The meeting is scheduled for 9 October but this is not confirmed yet. We will keep you updated when we know more.

WDM group members in the north west of England should be aware that Arlene McCarthy has recently been promoted to be the lead MEP on the legislation for the Labour ('Socialists and Democrats') political group in the parliament, making her particularly influential.

A final agreement on the full piece of legislation (which covers a number of other issues as well as food speculation) is expected at the end of the year or early 2014.

Current food speculation actions

Food speculation will have limited time for discussion during the trialogue process however keeping up pressure during the whole negotiation phase is still useful as any gains in strengthening



WDM staff join our European allies in Brussels for the food speculation stunt.

the rules could be conceded later on as other topics are discussed.

If your group wants to continue lobbying MEPs – whether by email or meeting them in person – then this will still be helpful to let negotiators know that the public want strong regulation. We've heard they are feeling the pressure again!

You can find the following resources on the local groups' pages of the website:

- 'Talking points for meeting MEPs' document – useful bullet points for face-to-face meetings
- MEP briefing – can be emailed or sent to MEPs
- Template lobby letter if you want to write to your MEP

If you have specific questions about lobbying your MEP, please feel free to call or email the office to speak to a member of the food team.

If you prefer spreading the word locally, the 'Bankers Anonymous' action cards are still live, and can be used for local stalls or stunts. To order

more, contact Dan in the office at dan.iles@wdm.org.uk on 020 7820 4900.

Alternatives to food speculation

Winning the campaign to regulate food speculation is a first and important step to prevent banks from excessive speculation which has been driving high food prices. However, the futures markets are not used by millions of small farmers and food producers across the world and do nothing to tackle the root causes of food price changes.

There are more democratic ways of protecting people from food price changes which are already being put into practice by the global movement for food sovereignty. We have produced a film package for groups to use this autumn which will explore some of these positive alternatives which are helping food producers and consumers tackle the issue of food price volatility. Local groups can organise film events around these films and start a discussion about food sovereignty and ideas to tackle changing food prices.

The pack includes:

- Films
- Briefing on positive solutions to tackling food price volatility
- Discussion questions
- Flyers to promote your event

If you would like a film pack, please contact ralph.allen@wdm.org.uk or call 020 7820 4900 to order.

New campaign development

Over the next few months, the food campaign team at WDM will continue to monitor developments on MiFID during its final stages of negotiation but we will also be developing the new food campaign targeting agribusiness.

We are currently in the research phase to develop the campaign strategy and demands and hope to launch the new campaign in early 2014. We will keep you updated with our progress.



Events

Dirty Energy Month

When: 11 October – 11 November

Where: Across the world

From 11 October to 11 November activists all around the world will be taking action as part of 'Dirty Energy Month'. People will be calling for an end to dirty energy projects that destroy communities as well as the climate, whilst offering little energy access for people whose lives are affected by these projects.

Scandalous Edinburgh plc

A walking tour

'Scandalous Edinburgh' is an entertaining and informative walking tour of Edinburgh's financial district that will look beyond the grand facades and expose how these 'esteemed' banking and finance institutions are fuelling environmental destruction and human rights abuses around the world. Designed to show first hand the 'dark energy secrets' of some of the UK's biggest banks, pension funds and insurance companies, these tours will bring you history, anecdotes, eye opening information and possibly even a song or two. Dress warmly and prepare to be scandalised! The tour will last around two hours.

Tour dates:

- Saturday 5 October, 3.30pm
- Wednesday 9 October, 3.30pm followed by the Take One Action film festival screening of 'Powerless'
- Wednesday 16 October, 3.30pm
- Saturday 26 October, 11am, followed at 2pm by global finance workshop as part of the Edinburgh World Justice Festival

Tickets for the tours are £5/£3 concessions.

To book a place on one of the tours, go to: www.scandalousedinburgh.eventbrite.com or phone 0131 243 2730.

Take One Action film festival

The annual Take One Action film festival, which uniquely links audiences, films, campaigners and communities on issues of global concern, takes place in Edinburgh and Glasgow from 27 September – 12 October. As part of the film festival, WDM will be supporting a screening of the film 'Powerless', described by the New York Times as "a jarring glimpse at India's energy crisis through one town: Kanpur and its more than 3 million residents, at least 400,000 of whom are without electricity." The film will be followed by a panel discussion, featuring WDM's new director Nick Dearden.

When: Wednesday 9 October, 6pm.

Where: Edinburgh Filmhouse.

Joking for justice

When: Thursday 17 October, 7.30pm

Where: Leicester Square Theatre, London

Cost: £20

WDM's annual comedy night returns to the Leicester Square Theatre for its fourth outing.

The line-up features top British comedy acts Arthur Smith, Ava Vidal, Kevin Eldon, Holly Walsh, Sara Pascoe, Catie Wilkins, Earl Okin, Ria Lina, Daniel Simonsen, James Dowdeswell, Amadeus Martin and David Morgan (MC).

The heretic's guide to global finance

When: Saturday 26 October, 2pm – 4.30pm.

Where: St Columba's-by-the-Castle, 4 Johnston Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2PW

WDM Scotland will be hosting this free, informative and inspiring workshop for anyone who'd like to get to grips with how global finance works and find out what we can do to make it work for the common good. Led by Brett Scott, ex-banker and author of 'The heretic's guide to global finance: hacking the future of money.'

CARBON CAPITAL

WDM SPEAKER TOUR 2013

October will see WDM's Carbon Capital speaker tour hit the road. **Yasmin Romero Epiayu** from Fuerza de Mujeres Wayuu in Colombia and **Hendrik Siregar** from JATAM mining advocacy network in Indonesia will join WDM speakers at different events over the course of two weeks.

St Albans

Sunday 20 October • 3pm • The Chapter Room, Old Deanery, St Albans Abbey Cathedral

With **Yasmin Romero Epiayu** and **Sam Lund-Harket**.

Nottingham

Monday 21 October • 7pm (refreshments from 6.30pm) • Friends Meeting House, 25 Clarendon Street, Nottingham, NG1 5JD

With **Yasmin Romero Epiayu** and **Kirsty Wright**.

Portsmouth

Wednesday 23 October • 7pm • The Hub, Dennis Sciama Building, University of Portsmouth, Burnaby Road, Portsmouth PO1 3FX

With **Hendrik Siregar** and **Hannah Griffiths**.

London

Thursday 24 October • 7pm • University of London Union (ULU), Malet Street, London WC1E 7HY

With **Yasmin Romero Epiayu**, **Hendrik Siregar**, **Nick Dearden** and **Andy Higginbottom** (Colombia Solidarity Campaign)

Reading

Friday 25 October • 6.30pm • Reading International Solidarity Centre, 35-39 London Street, Reading RG1 4PS

With **Yasmin Romero Epiayu** and **Alex Scrivener**.

Glasgow

Monday 28 October • Venue details tba

With **Yasmin Romero Epiayu**, **Hendrik Siregar** and **Liz Murray**.

Newcastle

Tuesday 29 October • Venue details tba

With **Hendrik Siregar** and **Kirsty Wright**

Sheffield

Wednesday 30 October • 7pm • Quaker Meeting House, 10 St James Street, Sheffield S1 2EW

With **Hendrik Siregar** and **Kirsty Wright**.

Kendal

Thursday 31 October • 7pm • Quaker Meeting House, Stramongate, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 4BH

With **Hendrik Siregar** and **Alex Scrivener**.

WDM volunteers

WDM is currently recruiting volunteers of all shapes and sizes! Whether it's data entry, campaigning, filing or research (and many things in-between) there's a role for you in the office. Remote volunteering is also an option. If there's a project related to WDM's aims that you'd like to set up but are in need of some office space and equipment, we may be able to find you a seat in our friendly London office.

If you are interested or would like to find out more, please email Effie volunteer.coordinator@wdm.org.uk

If you would like find out more about WDM's view on internships and volunteering you can find our statement on the WDM website.

Groups

Groups update

Cambridge WDM held a screening of Growing Change with a 'bring and share' meal.

Calderdale WDM held a Growing Change screening with Incredible Edible. Forty people attended including some potential new members.

Bolton WDM held a talk with Ivan Lewis, the shadow secretary of state for international development.

Stephen Pennells from **Manchester WDM** spoke at the Chester World Development Forum.

Cardiff WDM have been doing some great lobbying of Kay Swinburne, MEP for Wales. The group handed in a petition with over 800 signatures.

Eddy Richardson from **Brighton and Hove WDM** had a letter about fracking and dirty energy republished in the Sussex Express.

Our brand new **Newcastle WDM** group held their first meeting. They will host a leg of the Carbon Capital speaker tour and are planning an action.

Bromley WDM held a stall at Farnborough Fair.

Worthing WDM held a Carbon Capital stall which was reported in the Worthing Express.



Leeds WDM get people to play a game on their food speculation stall

A member of **North and East London WDM** did a talk to the Ethical Society which has been printed as a summary in the Ethical Record. This is distributed to about 500 people around the country.

Leeds WDM held a food speculation stall at the Chapel Allerton Arts Festival.

Maya Williams, WDM's new regional organiser for the north of England has visited the **Rochdale WDM** group. She will soon be visiting the **Calderdale, Bradford** and **Rotherham WDM** groups. If you would like to arrange a visit from Maya you can email her on maya.williams@wdm.org.uk



Worthing WDM hold a Carbon Capital stall

Partner updates

Week of action against illegitimate debt 8-15 October

As the world's most powerful lenders gather in Washington at the annual meetings of the World Bank and IMF, join debt campaigners around the world in opposing the payment of unjust debts.

We'd like you to:

1. Take the piece of paper enclosed with this issue of *Think Global*: 'A debt should not be paid if...'
2. Fill in the description. Maybe you think a debt is not legitimate if it was run up selling weapons to dictators? Or that a debt is illegitimate if it was created by bailing out reckless banks? Or that it is illegitimate if its payment means that people of the debtor country will fall into destitution?
3. Take a picture of yourself, your group, your family or friends holding up the paper
4. During Debt Week, upload it to Facebook or Twitter and use the global hashtag #notourdebt
You can also send it to Jubilee Debt Campaign at events@jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk

By the end of Debt Week we hope to have loads of images from right around the world, showing how people feel about debt and demanding a change in the way debt is talked about. We need to convince people that many debts are not legitimate, to show why they should be cancelled.

If you can't take a photo you can still take part by writing a message on twitter and/or facebook with the hashtag #notourdebt.

New materials

Food

- BRIEFING: Collective solution to changing food prices.
- FILM PACK: Whose food? Our food! Includes discussion guide.

Carbon Capital

- REPORT: Banking while Borneo Burns.
- LEAFLET: Injustice in Indonesia.
- ACTION CARD: Pile on the pressure (targetting HSBC).
- FILM PACK: Carbon Capital film pack, includes WDM's film about mining in Indonesia.

Lobbying for a just world

As debates around the Scottish independence referendum increase, with just a year to go until the referendum itself, WDM has been working with other members of NIDOS (the Network of International Development Organisations in Scotland) to develop a set of policy proposals on the themes of economic justice, debt, trade, aid, food, water and climate change. The aim of the policy document is to ensure that these important issues are brought into the debate and given the time they deserve, whatever the outcome of the referendum. NIDOS member organisations, including WDM, will be using the policy document to lobby politicians from all parties during the coming year, and it has also been submitted to the Scottish government officials who are working on the independence white paper due for publication in November.