GLOBAL RESPONSE

Environmental Action & Education Network

ANNUAL REPORT 2004

(September 1, 2003 - August 31, 2004)

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

This has been a difficult year for the world and the environment. Non-profit organizations like Global Response and the causes we represent are buffeted by widespread international conflict and economic dislocations. These challenges are not cause for resignation, but rather reinforce our resolve to fight for those hardest hit by counterproductive global forces, especially indigenous communities facing environmental threats.

In June 2004, Global Response launched its 100th international letter writing campaign since 1990. Our global network of 6,500 citizens joined forces with a community in Indonesia taking on the world's largest gold mining company, Newmont. Our 100th campaign has already brought hope to the people who live along a bay where Newmont has been dumping its mine waste for seven years.

This year we also celebrated four major campaign victories, keeping our success rate at an impressive 43 percent. This annual report summarizes Global Response's accomplishments in partnership with communities from the South Pacific to the Arctic, from Africa to the Americas. During the year, we gave our campaigns higher profile by participating in the World Social Forum in India and in the NGO meetings with World Bank and IFC presidents in April, where the focus was on indigenous peoples' rights and the Bank's approach to extractive industries.

The current political and economic climate has presented many challenges for Global Response. We enter the new fiscal year with a leaner budget and reduced staff, but continued confidence in our mission, our network, and our grassroots partners around the world. Our work has never been more effective or necessary. Please join in the fight for environmental protection, environmental justice and a better future.

— David Harwood

Photo: David Silver and Darlene Lorrain

What difference can a letter make?

These children in Buyat Beach, Indonesia, may suffer health problems and economic losses because for 7 years Newmont Mining Company dumped toxic mine tailings into the waters of Buyat Bay. A Global Response letter-writing campaign persuaded officials from Newmont's Denver headquarters to meet directly with Buyat Bay residents and respond to their demands for environmental clean-up, health care and compensation.

GLOBAL RESPONSE empowers people of all ages, cultures, and nationalities to protect the environment by creating partnerships for effective citizen action. At the request of indigenous peoples and grassroots organizations, Global Response organizes international letter-writing campaigns to help communities prevent many kinds of environmental destruction. Global Response involves young people as well as adults in these campaigns to develop in them the values and skills for global citizen cooperation and earth stewardship.

Global Response issues printed and e-mail ***Actions*** to an international network of environmental organizations and to our letter-writing membership in 100 countries:

- ***Global Response Actions*** for adults
- ***Eco-Club Actions*** for high school students and clubs
- ***Young Environmentalist's Actions*** for elementary school students, families, teachers, and classrooms. ***A Teacher's Packet*** accompanies the ***YEA***.

Do the *write* thing!
Join Global Response
Visit www.globalresponse.org

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P.O. Box 7490 • Boulder, CO, USA 80306-7490 • (303) 444-0306 • Fax (303) 449-9794• e-mail: action@globalresponse.org • www.globalresponse.org

ACTION IMPACTS

Global Response members in 100 countries participated in these Global Response Action Campaigns during the 2004 fiscal year. For the full texts of the Action Alerts, please visit the Campaigns Index at www.globalresponse.org

NEW CALEDONIA #6/03 — Create World Heritage Site to Protect Coral Reef

The world's longest continuous coral reef surrounds the islands of New Caledonia, providing protective habitat for over 15,000 marine species, 800 of which are found only in these waters. Canadian mining giant Inco wants to build two nickel mines and a processing plant on traditional lands of the Kanak indigenous people. The Kanak commissioned an independent environmental impact study which confirmed their fears: Inco's projects threaten the life of the reef system as well as the forests. Our letters urged France to nominate the reef for protection as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. *Requested by the New Caledonia Customary Senate, the Kanak Agency for Development, and Mining Watch Canada.*

Impact France did not nominate the New Caledonia reef in 2004, but Kanak communities continue to protest Inco's plans and devise new strategies for protecting the reef.

"[The INCO mine] will be the destruction of a way of life,"
– Regis Vandegou, Kanak Customary Senate

UGANDA #7/03 — Stop World Bank Funding for Bujagali Dam

In spite of the recommendations of the World Commission on Dams, the World Bank is promoting construction of a $530 million dam at Uganda's Bujagali Falls. Global Response letters supported Ugandan environmental and eco-tourism organizations who want to protect the famed falls at the source of the Nile. We urged the Bank to help Uganda develop renewable energy options, especially geothermal power, that would make electricity more affordable and accessible to the majority of Uganda's citizens. *Requested by the National Association of Professional Environmentalists (Uganda) and International Rivers Network.*

Impact In addition to the letter campaign, Global Response gathered hundreds of petition signatures at the World Social Forum in India, and Program Director Paula Palmer presented the signed petitions to James D. Wolfensohn at World Bank headquarters during a meeting with NGOs in April 2004. To date, the dam project is effectively "on hold," but the Bank is still looking for a corporate partner to build the dam.

RUSSIA #1/04 — Protect Whales and Fishery from Oil Development

Shell Oil Company's offshore oil development at Sakhalin island threatens the only known feeding ground for the critically endangered Western Gray Whale, as well as one of the world's last wild salmon fisheries. At the request of Russian environmental organizations, Global Response members urged the U.S. Export-Import Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) to withhold funding for Shell's Sakhalin II project until the company takes adequate steps to protect the whales and salmon habitat. *Requested by Sakhalin Environmental Watch (Russia), Pacific Environment (USA), and CEE Bankwatch Network (Europe).*

Impact In April 2004, under intense pressure, Shell suspended its plans to lay pipelines directly through the primary feeding habitat of the Western Gray Whale—a significant first step toward meeting four key demands we made in our letters. In September, a Shell-contracted vessel ran aground at Sakhalin Island, spilling 200 tons of heavy fuel oil and diesel into the coastal waters. Global Response activated the email "Quick Response Network" to promptly demand a clean-up and redesign of the Sakhalin II project.

"Global Response letters give grassroots activists in Russia needed moral support to continue their important fight."
– David Gordon, Pacific Environment

QRN EMERGENCY ACTIONS

This year, Global Response issued 30 email alerts to our *Quick Response Network (QRN)*. Of these, 13 were **Emergency Actions** requested by partner organizations including Amnesty International, Survival International, the Nicaragua Network, the International Campaign for Bhopal, and the Sierra Madre Alliance, among others. During the year, we celebrated five **Victories!** in these email campaigns.

Seventeen of the email alerts were **Follow-up Actions**, offering additional support for previous campaigns. These included, for example, campaigns to stop IDB funding for the Camisea Gas Pipeline project in Peru, to protect the Saemangeum wetland and critical migratory bird habitat in South Korea, to support Honduras' second March for Life and guarantee the safety of the marchers, and to stop colonization and deforestation of Ogiek traditional forests in Kenya.

To receive action alerts and campaign updates by email, please join the *Quick Response Network* at www.globalresponse.org

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO #2/04 — Protect Rainforest and Indigenous Rights

The World Bank is shepherding a process that amounts to carving up DRC's forests and doling them out to multinational logging companies. At the request of Congolese NGOs representing the 35 million people who depend on DRC's forest resources for their livelihoods, Global Response supported their demand to participate in making the decisions that affect their lives and their forests. *Requested by CENADEP, National Center for Development and Popular Participation, Democratic Republic of Congo, and the Rainforest Foundation UK.*

Impact In response to international pressure, World Bank President James D Wolfensohn met via video conference with representatives of the Twa ("Pygmy") indigenous group. He assured them he will make sure the Bank's program promotes human rights and sustainable forestry practices.

INDONESIA #3/04 — Clean Up and Compensate for Mining Damages

Since 1996, Newmont Mining Company has dumped tailings from its Minahasa Raya mine into the ocean at Buyat Bay. Local residents report alarming rates of death and disease among the human and marine populations, which may be caused by exposure to arsenic, mercury and other toxins in the tailings. They want Newmont to address their health needs, economic losses and environmental degradation before it closes the Minahasa Raya mine this year. Global Response urged Newmont and Indonesia's Environment Minister to respond to community demands and to stop the practice of "submarine tailings disposal." *Requested by Indonesian Mining Advocacy Network (JATAM) and Earthworks.*

Impact In direct response to our letter campaign, Newmont's executives met for the first time with the residents of Buyat Bay and heard their grievances. Global Response advisor Dr. David Silver helped facilitate this meeting, where Newmont agreed to finance an independent study of health problems in Buyat communities.

"Before Newmont came here, from fishing we could build homes, pay school fees and save up money. Since Newmont dumped the tailings in Buyat… the sea, which is our source of life, has become a source of disaster. That is why the community calls Newmont 'Newmonster.'"

– Anwar Stirman, resident of Buyat Pante

ECUADOR#4/04 — Support Shuar and Achuar Peoples vs. Oil Development

For five years, the Shuar and Achuar peoples have prevented oil explorations in their territories in Ecuador's Amazon rainforest. But Texas-based Burlington Resources refuses to take "no" for an answer, and Ecuadorian government officials are threatening to use military force in favor of the company. Global Response members urged Burlington and the president of Ecuador to respect indigenous peoples' right to self-determination and free, prior and informed consent. *Requested by the Federación Interprovincial de la Nacionalidad Achuar del Ecuador (FINAE), Federación Independiente del Pueblo Shuar del Ecuador (FIPSE), Federación Interprovincial Centros Shuar (FICSH) and Amazon Watch.*

" I appreciate each one of the Global Response members very sincerely for your unconditional support. I hope the transnational companies and our government pay attention and treat us with respect."

– Santiago Kawarim, Shuar representative

New Victories! in Past Global Response Campaigns

PERU #6/02 — Stop Camisea Gas Pipeline

Our letters to the U.S. Export-Import Bank helped persuade bank directors to reject loans for the Camisea Gas Pipeline. In a victory letter, our international coalition partners (Amazon Watch, Institute for Policy Studies, Friends of the Earth and Oxfam America) wrote: *"This is a significant victory. Global Response was instrumental in mobilizing international action at critical points throughout the campaign."*

INDONESIA #4/02 — Stop Financing Forest Destruction

In response to a four-year campaign, Citigroup adopted an environmental policy that sets a new standard for the financial services industry.

"Thanks sincerely to all of the Global Response members who helped to make this victory possible. On this day…grassroots activists have held sway over one of the largest companies in the world and achieved tangible commitments that will have a vast effect on endangered ecosystems worldwide."

– Ilyse Hogue, Global Finance Campaign Director, RAN

RUSSIA #7/02 — Protect Tunkinskii National Park

Global Response helped convince the Russian government to reject a proposal to build an oil pipeline through Tunkinskii National Park to China. David Gordon, campaign director at Pacific Environment, wrote: *"We consider Global Response an essential resource. Thousand of letters pouring in from around the world can have an astounding effect."*

PERU #4/01 — Stop Gold Mine Expansion

Global Response organized four rounds of letters to help citizens of Cajamarca, Peru, stop Newmont's Yanacocha Mine from expanding onto Mount Quilish – the region's source of drinking water. In September 2004, after protests shut down the city for 2 weeks, Peru withdrew Yanacocha's permit for mining on Mount Quilish.

"This act makes history because the just demands of the people have been heard by the authorities. The struggle for the defense of our rights doesn't stop here; now we have the opportunity to begin to build a democratic history in a framework of dialog and agreement."

– GRIFIDES, Peru

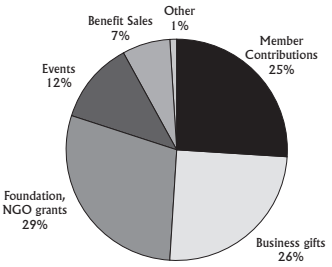
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

September 1, 2003 – August 31, 2004

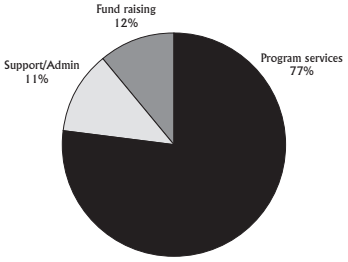
Global Response makes a few dollars go a long way—and their impacts are felt around the world. Global Response is a 501c(3) organization; all contributions are tax-deductible. Please make a contribution today. For online giving, visit our website, www.globalresponse.org. Global Response needs your support, and we appreciate it.

Cash Accounts	$ 27,639.36
Other Assetts	1,580.32
Property and Equipment (net)	12,526.73
TOTAL ASSETS	**$ 41,746.41**
Liabilities	$ 516.00
Equity	41,230.41
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	**$ 41,746.41**
Revenue	
Member contributions	$ 43,675.51
Business gifts	46,929.93
Foundation, NGO grants	51,200.00
Events	20,377.45
Benefit Sales	13,250.92
Other	2,026.22
TOTAL REVENUES	**$ 177,460.03**
Expenses	
Program services	$ 179,377.61
Support services/Admin	24,057.00
Fund Raising	28,470.07
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$ 231,904.68**

Revenue



Expenses



Major Donors

Sincere thanks to all Global Response members for writing the letters that make our campaigns successful and for your financial support! We are especially grateful to these supporters, who gave $200 or more this year:

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Volunteers and Interns

Very special thanks to key volunteers who contributed over 3,000 person-hours this year! Laura Adams, Zann Avery, Marc Killinger, Judy McManus, Rich Preuss, Ellen Klaver, Betsy Nachman, Seraph Hanfling, and David Silver; interns Ella Wagener, Nathan Brown, Amanda Caldwell, Dan Correa, and Revecca Schild; and Claudette Moloney and the crew at North High School; and many others.

Please contact us if you'd like to help promote Global Response among children, teens and adults in your community. Ways YOU can help:

- Recruit new members. Show our 5-minute video to your family, organization, and at public events.
- Become a regional contact for outreach and publicity.
- Volunteer in the Boulder, Colorado office.
- Contribute needed funds. Organize a fund-raising event or house party.

In-kind Contributors

These individuals and businesses help keep our costs low and the quality of our work high. Please thank them with your patronage!

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P.O. Box 7490 • Boulder, CO, USA 80306-7490 • (303) 444-0306 • Fax (303) 449-9794• e-mail: action@globalresponse.org • www.globalresponse.org