



**War on Want
Annual Review
2010**

Vision

A world free from poverty and oppression, based on social justice, equality and human rights for all.

Mission

To fight against the root causes of poverty and human rights violations, as part of the worldwide movement for global justice.

Greeting from the Executive Director

This past year has seen unprecedented upheaval across the world. As the credit crunch has turned into a full-blown economic crisis, millions of ordinary people have lost their jobs. Tens of millions more have been plunged into extreme poverty, with devastating consequences for their families. Promises of economic recovery come too late for those who have lost everything.

For people living in developing countries, there are no safety nets in times of need. Losing your job means having to eke out a living on the streets, with no security and little chance of raising your family out of poverty. Yet world leaders meeting in G20 summits over the past year have focused on saving the banks responsible for the crisis. There have been no bail-outs for the people of the developing world.

This is why War on Want's work is so vital. Our partnerships with social movements, trade unions and other grassroots organisations help to support local communities in their struggle against injustice. And as the following pages show, that work is making a real difference to the lives of ordinary people around the world.

Thanks to the ongoing support of our members and donors, War on Want has managed to sustain its work at record levels over the past year. Together with our trade union affiliates and our partners in Bangladesh and Honduras, we have launched our new Love Fashion Hate Sweatshops campaign to great public acclaim. We have also led the campaign for a new economic order to replace the failed model of free market capitalism defended by the G20.

I want to express my thanks to all War on Want staff, members, affiliates, donors and supporters for the amazing work we have achieved together over the past year.

Most of all, I want to record my respect for our overseas partners on the front line in the fight for dignity, justice and human rights. I had the opportunity to visit War on Want's partners in Palestine this summer – my first trip there for many years. I was shocked to see the reality of life facing ordinary women and men in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, but I was truly inspired by the commitment of our partners in the face of great personal danger.

The struggle for global justice must continue, and we have devoted time over the last 12 months to setting War on Want's strategic priorities for the next five years. The main elements of our strategic framework for 2010 to 2015 are summarised in these pages. We will be happy to send the full document to anyone who wishes to receive a copy.

All War on Want's achievements rely on the support of our dedicated members, affiliates, supporters and donors. I am proud to present this record of what we have achieved with your help, and I am grateful that you have continued to show your commitment to the people we work with around the world. This year offers us new opportunities, including for expanding our work with partners in South Africa as that country hosts the 2010 World Cup. I look forward to coming back to you with news of more victories in the year ahead.

John Hilary
Executive Director





War on Want's campaigns target the structures that cause poverty – from unfair trade rules to the privatisation of public services, corporate deregulation to the Occupation of Palestine.

This year we exposed high street companies that source their goods from sweatshops, as well as private companies that fuel human rights abuses across the globe.

In the wake of the recent economic meltdown, we formed a new campaign against the failed free market financial system, while continuing to wage the fight against undemocratic global institutions like the WTO.

Supermarket Power and Love Fashion Hate Sweatshops



Challenging supermarket power

War on Want continues to expose how UK supermarkets and retailers squeeze overseas suppliers and use sweatshop labour to maximise their profits.

In 2009 we revealed the conditions facing people working in South African vineyards who produce cheap wine for the UK market. Our report *Sour Grapes*, produced jointly with our South African partner Sikhula Sonke, showed how supermarkets abuse their buying power by trapping wine workers in low paying, unsafe and insecure jobs.

War on Want's original research on overseas garment factories brought to national attention the shocking conditions in which people in countries such as India, Bangladesh and China slave away to provide our next fashion fix. In September we created the Love Fashion Hate Sweatshops campaign, the largest ever call for government regulation of

the fashion industry. Following our well publicised launch at London Fashion Week, thousands of people have joined our campaign for a government commitment to ending sweatshop exploitation. A range of high profile individuals have endorsed the campaign, including fashion designer Betty Jackson, Jo Wood and film stars Chloë Sevigny and Gael García Bernal, as well as many leading trade unions and several MPs. Love Fashion Hate Sweatshops will continue in 2010 to ensure that the exploitation of overseas workers is ended once and for all.

War on Want has been a leading advocate for a supermarket watchdog to oversee the relationship between large retailers and their suppliers. In October the Competition Commission backed our call and recommended the creation of an industry ombudsman, a key victory that has injected fresh momentum into the campaign.

Tax Dodging and Put People First



An alternative financial system

This year the world was devastated by the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. The direct consequence of unregulated capitalism, the global meltdown hit the developing world the hardest. War on Want has been at the forefront of the fight to change this system, which has pushed millions of people around the world into dire poverty.

War on Want was one of the founding members of Put People First, an unprecedented coalition of over one hundred development charities, trade unions, faith groups, environmental and other organisations. To challenge the undemocratic G20, which held its summit in London in April, the coalition mobilised tens of thousands of people for a mass rally. In addition, our campaign organised a series of protests and actions throughout the year targeting the failed 'business as usual' approach of the world's leading powers.

In response to the crisis we also strengthened our campaign against corporate tax dodging. The impact of tax avoidance on rich countries is considerable, but for poorer countries it is catastrophic. Developing nations lose up to £250 billion each year as a result of corporations failing to pay tax. In times of financial crisis this lost public income is felt even more acutely, especially by the world's poorest.

During the year we worked in close cooperation with the Public and Commercial Services Union (PCS), the Tax Justice Network and other members of Put People First to pressure the UK government and the G20 to end the scandal of tax dodging. The campaign highlight of the year occurred when we joined forces with groups from across Europe to participate in a mock invasion of Jersey to call attention to its harmful role as a global tax haven.

Trade Justice



New rules for global trade

War on Want stepped up its trade justice campaign in 2009. Our campaign is calling for the EU's Global Europe strategy of unfettered free trade to be replaced with one that prioritises development, human rights and environmental sustainability. We are also pushing for an immediate end to the Doha Round of negotiations at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in order to protect working people from further unemployment and poverty.

During the lead-up to the April G20 meeting and the European parliamentary elections, War on Want launched *Trading Away Our Jobs*, a new report examining the devastating legacy of three decades of free market policies on industrial employment around the world. The report warned that new free trade deals will condemn millions more to poverty at a time when unemployment is already rising sharply.

In the spring War on Want supporters and thousands of people across Europe took action by asking candidates for the European parliament to take a trade justice pledge in the run-up to the election. A quarter of all UK MEPs signed on to the pledge, which calls for a complete overhaul of the EU's trade policy.

In November War on Want joined with movements from across the world in Geneva, where trade ministers met for the WTO summit. Alongside allied trade justice campaigners, War on Want warned of an increase in poverty and unemployment if the current round of trade negotiations are carried through to their conclusion. With the G20 seeking to bring the Doha Round talks to a close by the end of 2010, War on Want will ramp up the fight for trade justice in the months ahead.

Palestine and Private Armies



Exposing the corporations that profit from war and occupation

2009 began with the horror of Israel's attack on Gaza. Already facing life under a blockade, the people of Gaza were subjected to a brutal assault which left over 1,400 dead and many more injured. War on Want responded with a call to the UK government to end its military, economic and diplomatic support for Israel until it complies with international law.

Following the illegal attack on Gaza, War on Want stepped up its pressure on the UK government to place a two-way arms embargo on Israel. Thanks to our efforts the UK took action by announcing a review of military sales to Israel and also revoking five licences for arms exports to the country.

Although the movement for human rights and justice in Palestine continues to grow stronger, the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories is deteriorating. War on Want staff visited our partners

in the West Bank in June and witnessed first hand the devastation on the ground. We were deeply concerned by the detention of Mohammad Othman and Jamal Juma', both prominent Palestinian activists involved with our partner Stop the Wall who have been imprisoned for their work by the Israeli authorities.

As part of our efforts to hold to account the companies that profit from conflict, War on Want is driving forward the campaign for government regulation of private armies. After years of our work exposing human rights abuses committed by mercenaries, the UK government announced a public consultation on the issue in April. However, the government rejected all the available regulatory options and recommended a voluntary code of conduct for the industry. In 2010 we will continue the fight for strict government controls over companies that thrive off war.



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War on Want's overseas partners are leading the fight for social justice and workers' rights. By working collaboratively with social movements in the developing world, we can ensure that our approach to tackling poverty is shaped directly by the men and women on the ground – factory and plantation workers, street traders and small-scale farmers.

War on Want has a total of 31 partners in 15 countries who work in one of four core areas: conflict zones, informal economy, food justice and sweatshops and plantations.

1 Guatemala 2 Honduras 3 Colombia
4 Brazil 5 South Africa 6 Mozambique
7 Zambia 8 Malawi 9 Kenya
10 Palestine 11 Iraq 12 Sri Lanka
13 Bangladesh 14 Thailand 15 China

Conflict Zones



Tackling poverty in areas of conflict

Growing global demand for natural resources has led to a marked increase in conflict across the developing world. Multinational corporations seeking to secure control over minerals and energy sources in poor countries have fuelled these wars, with dire consequences for communities on the ground.

War on Want works with partners in Colombia and Palestine supporting communities that have suffered greatly from wars that are driven by the quest for resources. The emergence of a thriving market for biofuels in the West has had a direct impact on Afro-Colombians, who have been displaced in their thousands by corporations looking to meet this rise in demand. In 2009 War on Want joined our grassroots partners Palenque el Congal and Nomadesc in calling on the Colombian government to revoke all concessions granted to AngloGold Ashanti, a large mining company, and to immediately halt the displacement of Afro-descendant communities.

In Palestine our partner Stop the Wall continues to mobilise young people to reclaim access to water, land, health care and other basic services. Thousands of Palestinians have been cut off from these services due to the Occupation and the illegal Separation Wall. War on Want's partner Zaytoun, a collective of Palestinian olive oil growers living under Occupation, achieved a major breakthrough when it became the first olive oil to be awarded Fairtrade status.

The ongoing war in Iraq has placed an enormous burden on the Iraqi people. In addition to their campaign against the US-led occupation, War on Want's Iraqi partners are demanding full public ownership and control of the country's natural resources. In April we helped organise the Iraqi Civil Society Solidarity Initiative, a landmark conference of 48 Iraqi NGOs to build a foundation for a peaceful and democratic Iraq.

Informal Economy



Supporting workers on the margins of society

War on Want works in partnership with a range of organisations that promote the rights of market traders, street vendors and the millions of others who struggle to earn a living outside of the formal economy.

With the 2010 Football World Cup approaching, War on Want's partners in South Africa have stepped up their campaign to protect the rights of impoverished shack dwellers, who are being evicted from their homes at an alarming rate. Many families have been moved to 'temporary relocation areas', which are far away from schools, churches and employment opportunities. War on Want organised many public events throughout the year in the UK to raise awareness of the plight of South Africans living in informal settlements.

In October 2009 our partner Abahlali baseMjondolo (ABM) won a major victory

when it successfully challenged the legality of the Slums Act, a piece of South African legislation that has resulted in a large number of evictions and the creation of transit camps. We will continue to work in close cooperation with ABM, as well as the Anti-Privatisation Forum and the Western Cape Anti-Eviction Campaign, which are also leading advocates for South Africa's poor.

In addition to these partnerships in South Africa, War on Want works closely with rights groups across the rest of the continent. Our partner the Malawi Union for the Informal Sector provided crucial assistance to market vendors who lost the bulk of their wares following an act of arson by municipal officials. War on Want's support for the Kenya National Alliance of Street Vendors and Informal Traders has helped them secure legal recognition for the millions of Kenyans in the informal economy.

Food Justice



A grassroots approach to food production

As global hunger rates reach record levels, the issue of food justice for the world's poor has never been more important. Facing rising prices and corporate land grabs, farming collectives have taken up the struggle for local control over the production of food.

War on Want works in partnership with grassroots organisations across the developing world on food justice issues. Our partner AS-PTA has spearheaded efforts to lobby the Brazilian government to prohibit the use of genetically modified crops and seeds, which are more costly, but less productive, than traditional farming methods. The Landless Workers' Movement (MST), the largest social movement in Latin America, continues to campaign for the rights of landless farmers in Brazil, a country in which 3% of the population owns two thirds of the land.

War on Want also has partners working on food justice issues in Africa, where the food

crisis has taken a particularly harsh toll on small-scale farmers. UNAC, the national Mozambican movement of small farmers, earned an important victory by protecting the country's Land Law, which enshrines the public right to land and has helped growers resist commercial and corporate development. This year Sikhula Sonke, a women-led South African trade union for wine workers, secured four collective bargaining agreements guaranteeing more robust safety standards and higher pay.

During the year our Sri Lankan partner Monlar trained over 2,400 families in organic farming methods, enabling them to meet 80% of their own food needs without relying on costly fertilisers promoted by Western agribusinesses. War on Want is proud to be working alongside these partners on the front line of the fight for food justice.

Sweatshops and Plantations



Collective action to safeguard workers' rights

War on Want's partners in Asia and Latin America are leaders in the struggle for the rights of factory workers making clothes for British high street shops.

In a recent victory the National Garment Workers' Federation, a War on Want partner based in Bangladesh, secured statutory compensation for workers who were unlawfully dismissed from their jobs. The trade union also successfully lobbied the government to reconvene the country's Wage Board, which will consult with trade unions and other civil society organisations on raising the national minimum wage. To build awareness in the UK on issues affecting Bangladeshi workers, War on Want published *Ignoring the Law*, a briefing paper that assesses the implementation of the country's labour codes.

Our Hong Kong-based partner the Asia Monitor Resource Centre (AMRC) has

made significant strides in its campaign to protect the health and safety of Chinese workers. The AMRC brought together the first ever coalition of organisations fighting to improve conditions for Chinese migrants, who face unsafe daily work routines and are denied access to public services.

Our partners in Latin America remain at the forefront of the movement for workers' rights. During this period of instability in Honduras, which experienced a military coup in June, our partner Codemuh, a Honduran women's collective, led efforts to organise and educate affected workers. In Guatemala Conrado de la Cruz, a partner organisation that works on behalf of indigenous child labourers, campaigned successfully for a school curriculum based on Mayan culture and traditions. Thanks to Conrado's efforts, Mayan children are now better equipped to stand up for their rights.

What you made possible



It has been an incredible year for War on Want. Backed by our growing membership base, we have expanded the scope of our core international programmes and anti-poverty campaigns. Below is a list of just a few of our events held throughout the year that helped us reach new heights.

In March we held Comedy Gig 2009, War on Want's annual benefit for our work fighting global poverty. Featuring a stellar line-up of top British talent, the event drew a packed house of supporters and raised critical funds for the organisation. In May we organised our first ever Open Day, giving supporters an inside look into the daily operations of the charity.

We received record level responses to our appeals. The unprecedented generosity of our supporters in a year of financial hardship enabled us to protect the rights of people facing evictions in South Africa's townships; expand our work helping farmers in Sri Lanka; support Palestinians in their quest for a better life; and ensure

the success of our partner organisation fighting for the rights of sweatshop workers in Bangladesh. At the same time we have been able to continue assisting our other partner projects based in 15 countries because of your ongoing support.

Our work received financial backing from a number of trusts and foundations, and we were deeply grateful to those individuals who remembered War on Want in their will. Their legacies contributed hugely to our work.

We are indebted to all of our individual supporters – members, regular givers and other donors, big and small. War on Want also thanks those who contributed in other ways, from joining one of our many protests to taking action online.

Our victories in the fight against global poverty would not have been possible without your help.

Thank you.

War on Want in people

1 office

24 members of staff

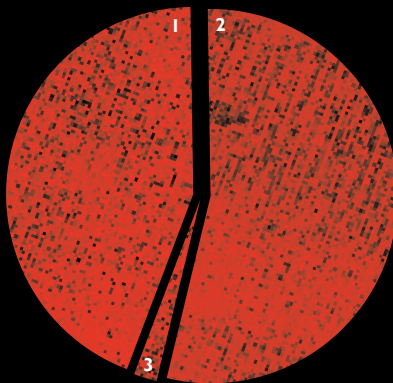
31 overseas partners

8,000 regular givers

12,000 campaigners

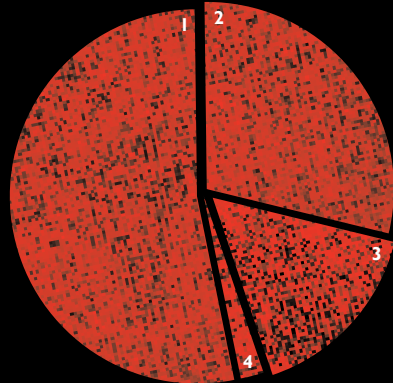
War on Want in numbers

Total Income
£2,488,468



- 1 Donations and Legacies – £1,095,370
- 2 Grant Funding – £1,337,146
- 3 Other Sources – £55,952

Total Expenditure
£2,351,861



- 1 Programmes Expenditure – £1,253,885
- 2 Campaigning Activity – £681,055
- 3 Fundraising – £367,021
- 4 Governance – £49,900

War on Want: the next five years

The major changes we are seeing in the global order require new thinking from all those seeking to build a world based on social justice, equality and human rights. Together with our overseas partners and trade union affiliates, War on Want has spent the past 12 months preparing its strategic framework for the coming five years. We have focused in particular on how we can make the most tangible impact on the lives of people living in situations of poverty and oppression. The following goals and objectives sum up the strategic direction that will inform our work.

If you would like to receive a copy of War on Want's full strategic framework for 2010-2015, please contact us at mailroom@waronwant.org, or on 020 7549 0555.

Goal 1

Realisation of human rights, especially workers' rights

Objective A: to secure workers' rights in the formal economy

Objective B: to secure workers' rights in the informal economy

Objective C: to secure people's rights in the rural economy

Objective D: to secure women's rights and participation in political processes

GOAL 2

Economic and social justice

Objective A: to realise positive alternatives to free market capitalism

Objective B: to challenge corporate power in the global economy

GOAL 3

An end to the business of war

Objective A: to secure justice for peoples living under military occupation

Objective B: to secure rights for people living in the context of resource conflict

Objective C: to stop corporations profiting from war

GOAL 4

Build the movement for global justice

Objective A: to enlarge and activate War on Want's supporter base

Objective B: to reach out to new audiences

Objective C: to strengthen active relations with partners, allies and affiliates

GOAL 5

Maximise War on Want's influence

Objective A: to increase direct advocacy and lobbying work

Objective B: to develop War on Want's expertise and profile

Objective C: to influence the public agenda on issues of global justice

GOAL 6

Strengthen War on Want internally

Objective A: to achieve financial sustainability

Objective B: to invest in our people

Objective C: to strengthen coherence across all War on Want's work

Objective D: to become a learning organisation, focused on impact

Thank you for supporting the work of War on Want. Your generosity makes it possible for us to continue fighting global poverty.

We would also like to thank the following institutions that have made a major contribution to our work in 2009:

Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust

Amicus Foundation

Comic Relief

Department for International Development

Edith M Ellis 1985 Charitable Trust

European Union

Irish Aid

Isle of Man Overseas Aid Committee

Medicor Foundation Liechtenstein

PCS

Prospect

Unite the Union

Yes, I want to support War on Want by becoming a member.

Name

Address (please write in capitals)

Postcode

E-mail (please write clearly)

Phone/Mobile

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit
Please fill in the whole form using a ball point pen and send to:

Freepost, RSAH-CUAZ-RRBS, War on Want, 56-64 Leonard Street, LONDON EC2A 4LT

Name and full address of your Bank or Building Society

To the Manager, Bank or Building Society

Address

Postcode

Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

Branch Sort Code

Bank / Building Society Account Number

Originator's Identification Number – 388240

Reference (to be completed by War on Want)

Please pay War on Want Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with War on Want and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s)

Date

Please accept this Direct Debit of £5 a month

£ My own monthly / quarterly / yearly (delete)

Commencing on the 1st 8th 15th 22nd of mm y

(please tick as appropriate)

In order to become a member of War on Want, we ask you to give a minimum of £20 a year in total, £5 if unwaged.

New Gift Aid Declaration

I am a UK tax payer and would like War on Want to reclaim the tax on all donations I have made during the 6 years prior to this date and any future donations I make.

NB: To qualify for Gift Aid, what you pay in income tax or capital gains tax must be at least equal to the amount we will claim in the next tax year (currently 25p for each £1 you give with a further 3p contribution from HMRC until 2011).

Thank you. We'll keep you up to date with news about our work and how you can help.
If you don't want us to keep in touch, please tick this box.

Yes, I want to support War on Want by making a donation.

War on Want relies on the generosity of its supporters to continue its work against the root causes of poverty around the world. Every pound counts in our fight against injustice and inequality and we are grateful for your support.

Please fill in the whole form using a ball point pen and send to:

Freepost, RSAH-CUAZ-RRBS, War on Want, 56-64 Leonard Street, LONDON EC2A 4LT

Yes, I can help. Here is my gift of £ _____

Name

Address (please write in capitals)

Postcode

E-mail (please write clearly)

I enclose a cheque / CAF Voucher / Postal Order made payable to War on Want
Please debit my Mastercard / Visa / Switch

Card Number

Valid From

Expiry Date

Issue Number (Switch Only)

Security Code (The last three digits on your card signature strip.)*

Name of Cardholder

Signature(s)

Date

* This number is not retained by War on Want once your gift has been processed.

O New Gift Aid Declaration

I am a UK tax payer and would like War on Want to reclaim the tax on all donations I have made during the 6 years prior to this date and any future donations I make.

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