

Think Global

Act locally with the

World Development Movement

**WHO SHOULD I
CHEER FOR?**

World Cup 2010



June 2010

World
Development
Movement
Justice for the world's poor

Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Letter from network development officer | 3 |
| Action checklist | 4 |
| Campaign update: Climate justice | 5 |
| Campaign update: Clean up the banks | 5 |
| Campaign update: General election | 7 |
| Campaign update: Who should I cheer for? | 7 |
| Campaign update: Food campaign | 8 |
| News and events | 8 |
| Activist gathering | |
| Skill share | |
| The funding network | |
| The ABC of global poverty | |
| Sheila McKechnie (SMK) awards | |
| Groups | 10 |
| Group websites | |
| Case study: Bradford press coverage | |
| Case study: Sheffield WDM tar sands stunt on film | |
| Campaign tactics discussion | |
| Stalls | |
| Dates for your diary | 11 |

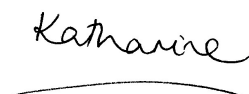
Letter from network development officer

Dear Friends

A sincere thank you to the many group members who responded when I sent out an email asking for comments on the messaging of our new food campaign; your feedback was hugely useful to us in developing the right language to describe this technical issue, and we were very grateful that so many took the time to respond in a very short space of time!

We have a busy few weeks ahead finalising plans for our activist gathering in Sheffield, so far over 100 people have booked! I look forward to seeing many of you there, and the opportunity to celebrate 40 years of WDM with the people who make the organisation what it is.

All the best



Katharine Talbot
Senior network development officer

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News bites

Climate justice

- The Bolivian conference on climate change produced it's own version of the Copenhagen Accord; the Cochabamba Accord, which has now been submitted to the UNFCCC process.

Clean up the banks

- Our director, Deborah, and staff from other NGOs in Scotland attended a meeting with the Chair of RBS the day after the RBS AGM. Read more about this below...

Food

- Our new campaign on food speculation will be launched at our activist gathering in Sheffield on 19 June.

Groups & events

- Still time to book for our activist gathering in Sheffield on 19 June. Book online at www.wdm.org.uk/activistgathering or call 020 7820 4900.
- Check out Sheffield WDM's excellent short film of their RBS stunt - www.youtube.com/user/wdmsheffield

Action checklist

Groups

Climate justice

Invite Kirsty (our climate campaigner) to give a talk about her experiences at the People's Conference in Bolivia.

Who should I cheer for?

- Spread the word about www.whoshouldicheerfor.com
- Use our materials to hold a pub quiz or other event during the World Cup month

At your next meeting

- Decide who will be your group's 'web officer' if you haven't done so already
- Plan stall activities for any summer festivals and events

Activists

Climate justice

Read Kirsty's blogs on her experiences at the People's Conference in Bolivia.

Who should I cheer for?

Spread the word about www.whoshouldicheerfor.com

Inserts

- Mobile phone recycling envelopes
- Bradford news article (group contacts only)
- Activist gathering programme

Contacts

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Campaign update: Climate justice

Bolivia

The Bolivian conference on climate change was an inspiring event, symbolising a massive step forward for the global movement for climate justice. The 17 official working groups within the conference, which were made up of social movements and NGOs from around the world, produced 'the People's Agreement', also known as the 'Cochabamba Accord'. The Cochabamba Accord has now been formally submitted to the UNFCCC process.

The intention of the conference and the Accord is to ensure that the voice of the people most impacted by climate change is bought back into the process and that there is an alternative proposal to the inadequate Copenhagen Accord that was produced at the UN conference last December by only a handful of countries, and which was pushed onto the other conference participants at the Copenhagen Summit in the last 24 hours. The People's Accord which reads very differently to the Copenhagen Accord, can be read here: <http://pwccc.wordpress.com/>



The closing ceremony

After the conference Kirsty Wright, WDM's climate justice campaigner, met with campaigners from across Bolivia to discuss working together about the proposed World Bank funds for Bolivia. You can read more about her experience here: www.wdm.org.uk/climate

Kirsty can give talks about her experience. If you want to book a talk please email Alex on alex.wood@wdm.org.uk

We also have a new climate debt action card in the pipeline, which will be available for groups to distribute over the summer.

Campaign update: Clean up the banks

The RBS week of action saw a splendid plethora of group stunts taking place across the country. As described in last month's Think Global the action kicked off in Edinburgh with a stunt during WDM Scotland's campaigner convention in Stirling, attended by two First Nation activists from Alberta, Canada. Groups held stunts on almost every day of the week of action, and most actions weren't only media stunts but also a great opportunity to talk to members of the public about RBS' investments in damaging tar

sands projects. WDM groups taking part in the week of action included groups based in Glasgow, Bexhill & Hastings, Manchester, Cambridge, South-West London, Oxford, South Lakes, Preston, North London, Nottingham, Macclesfield, St Albans & District, North Staffs, Coventry and Sheffield.

For many groups these stunts provided a worthwhile opportunity to link up with local People & Planet groups. Visit

www.flickr.com/photos/wdm/ to see stunt photos and go to www.youtube.com/user/wdmsheffield to watch a fantastic short film of the Sheffield group's action (more on this below...)



RBS public shareholders' meeting

The action centred on Edinburgh where the RBS AGM took place on Wednesday 28 April. A welcoming ensemble of protestors wearing smart suits with badges reading 'RBS public shareholder', shouting slogans and holding placards ensured that those attending the RBS AGM were aware of the dirty developments such as tar sands extraction that RBS has been investing tax-payers money in recently. WDM activists lined-up with protestors from People and Planet, Amnesty UK, SEAD and Friends of the Earth Scotland outside the AGM to make our voices heard. Meanwhile, for those who could not travel to Edinburgh, the Glasgow WDM group held their own stunt outside RBS in the centre of town, and as well as entertaining passers-by they also managed to get coverage of their stunt onto the national BBC news and BBC Radio Scotland.

Supported by our coalition, Eriel Deranger and Heather Milton Lightning came over from Canada as tar sands activists representing First Nations communities. They were able to attend the RBS AGM and, thanks to Eriel being given a proxy she was able to ask questions directly to the RBS chairman from the floor and in front of all the other shareholders. Eriel and Heather also spoke at our own 'RBS public shareholders' meeting

(because it's our bank now!) later that day, chaired by Rob Edwards of the Sunday Herald, where we told the stories the real AGM was not telling: destructive mining of sacred lands in India from a documentary film-maker, polluting tar sands in Canada and a vision of what a sustainable RBS could look like. The event was well-attended, with more than 60 people coming along from across Edinburgh and wider Scotland.

The Scottish media covered the day's events well – we had pictures in the Herald and the Metro, and a piece in the Scotsman, as well as written pieces in the Guardian, Independent, the Big Issue and Edinburgh Evening News. The Guardian was blogging us all day, and we were in the BBC evening news and on the world service. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/8650413.stm>.

The following morning, Eriel and Heather were also able to attend a meeting with RBS group chairman Sir Philip Hampton, along with our director Deborah Doane, Liz Murray (WDM Scotland head of campaigns) and representatives from Friends of the Earth Scotland, Platform, Amnesty International, SEAD and People & Planet. Those attending the meeting have written to the RBS group Chairman suggesting the ways in which RBS might address our concerns about the dirty developments that RBS is currently investing in, using tax-payers money. You can read the letter at: <http://www.wdm.org.uk/news/letter-chairman-royal-bank-scotland>.

Read Deborah's blog about the meeting here www.wdm.org.uk/blog/blog-post-meeting-philip-hampton-chairman-rbs

We also arranged a briefing for MSPs the following day at the Scottish Parliament that was well attended with 9 MSPs/researchers representing most of the parties at Holyrood (with the exception of the Conservative Party) coming along for the lunchtime seminar.

Campaign update: General Election

In Scotland...

Both the 'Ask the Climate Question' elections hustings and our international development hustings in Glasgow – 'Vote Global' – went well, with very good attendance. The Edinburgh 'Ask the Climate Question' event was attended by around 70 people and the BBC came along – with a short broadcast about the evening on Radio Scotland the next morning. Apparently, the question about RBS's dirty developments was the only one to receive a round of applause!

The 'Vote Global' hustings brought more than 130 people along to Glasgow University for a hustings with international development spokespeople from each of the main parties. Glasgow WDM group member Steve Rolfe managed to ask a question on climate finance. It was clear that the main parties wanted to avoid

the issue, but the SNP candidate (also an Oxfam staff member!) answered by speaking out in favour of grants not loans, and the Green candidate agreed with that too.

In England...

As reported in last month's issue of Think Global, many groups both organised hustings and supported events organised by others, especially 'Ask the Climate Question'. Many groups wrote to their parliamentary candidates and Watford WDM invited candidates to their regular meeting to question them.

In the July issue of Think Global we will provide an analysis of what the new government means for WDM and our campaigns.

Campaign update: Who Should I Cheer For?

Many thanks to the groups who have ordered a 'Who should I cheer for?' activity pack, these will be sent out with this issue of Think Global. If your group did not order a pack but would like one, it's not too late! Please let Sarah know and we will send you materials as quickly as we can. The World Cup runs from **11 June to 11 July** so there is plenty of time to hold a pub quiz, or show a film or any number of events. If you don't think you have time to organise a specific WSICF event but you are running a stall during this period of time, and would like some WSICF materials for the stall then let Sarah know.

The WSICF pack contains the following materials:

- A5 leaflets – explaining WSICF and WDM
- A3 posters – to advertise your events
- Beer mats
- Badges
- Suggestions for activities
- Pub quiz questions
- Membership forms
- Sign up forms

The central hub of the 'Who should I cheer for?' campaign is our mini-site listing all the World Cup teams and giving information about their development records; from life expectancy to the money spent on healthcare. Take a look on www.whoshouldicheerfor.com and please spread the word!



Campaign update: Food campaign

WDM's new campaign targets the bankers whose gambling on food in financial markets has driven up prices and brought hunger and poverty to families around the world.

The instruments they use are called derivatives – financial vehicles based on fluctuations in the price of food. Most derivatives are traded behind closed doors, by banks and hedge funds that are nothing to do with the real business of growing and selling food.

Our campaign will put pressure on the UK government to recognise the international consensus in favour of forcing derivatives trades into the open, and placing limits on the involvement of banks and hedge funds.

We'll be launching the campaign at the Activist Gathering in Sheffield on the 19th and 20th of June, and groups will be receiving materials shortly afterwards. You'll also be able to read our campaign strategy in full, so you can plan your actions for maximum impact.

The campaign will open with two actions designed to take the message direct to the politicians and the financial regulators that advise them.

First there'll be an action card, as well as an online guide, to make it easy for supporters to write to their MP demanding the Treasury take action to stop bankers gambling on hunger.

During the summer, we'll co-ordinate a week of phone calls from campaigners to the financial regulators, reporting the dangerous derivatives deals of one of the worst offenders. Supporters will be able to sign up to receive a text message alert with the number to call.

Taking on the financial industry is a big job, but with the USA, France, Germany and the EU all in favour of tougher regulation of derivatives, we have a real chance to make change by clearing the last obstacle – our own government – out of the way.

News & events

Activist gathering

Only a few weeks to go until our activist gathering in Sheffield and the event is shaping up to be a really great day. The gathering offers the opportunity to:

- Learn about our new food speculation campaign
- Hear the views of our invited speakers, Paul Mason and Sue Branford
- Take part in a wide variety of workshops
- Collect new branding materials we have produced for groups
- Celebrate WDM's 40th birthday in the company of WDM group members and activists

- Have a dance and a drink at our party on Saturday evening
- Enjoy the beauty of the Peak District during our walk led by the Sheffield group on Sunday

Skill share

An important aspect of the activist gathering is our skill-share session; although this session will be facilitated it is really a chance for group members to take the lead in sharing ideas and experiences. We're aiming for this to be a highly positive and constructive part of the day, so if you're planning on coming please do have a

think about one or more creative campaigning activity which worked particularly well for your group and of which you are proud

WDM group photos

As we will be celebrating WDM's 40th anniversary we'd really like to put up a display of WDM group photos over the years, please do bring some along, we promise to get them safely back to you at the end of the day!

If you have yet to book your place at the activist gathering please visit

<http://www.wdm.org.uk/activistgathering>

The Funding Network

A way to help raise funds for WDM without having to actually ask anyone for money?! The Funding Network (TFN) is a unique organisation that allows people to come together to fund social change projects. They have funded WDM in the past but we need people to become TFN members so they can sponsor our projects.

Becoming a member is not only a great way to support WDM but also to learn about other cutting edge campaigns and organisations fighting for social justice. You can join as an individual (£85/annum) or couple (£120/annum). If you are a charitable trust or company a corporate membership is £250. Membership allows you to:

- Nominate charitable social change projects for funding
- Opportunity to participate in a project selection panel
- Opportunity to introduce your nominated project if chosen by the selection panel
- Support WDM!

You can find out more about TFN by going to their website, www.thefundingnetwork.org.uk or by contacting them at the information below. To tell us you have joined or if you have any questions please contact Ashley at ashley.erdman@wdm.org.uk.

Contact Information

The Funding Network
16 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3ED
Email: info@thefundingnetwork.org.uk
Tel: 0845 313 8449

The ABC of global poverty - Aids, Banks and Conflict. Is this the right way forward?

Speakers: Deborah Doane, WDM; Nick Dearden, Jubilee Debt Campaign; John Hilary, War on Want. Session at the COMPASS NATIONAL & ROBIN COOK MEMORIAL CONFERENCE 2010

On Saturday 12 June 2010 at the Institute of Education in London, our director Deborah will be joined by John Hilary and Nick Dearden in laying out the future path of anti-poverty campaigning. Deborah will be explaining why a climate debt analysis must inform the development agenda at a time when the North is saddling developing countries with new unjust debt rather than paying compensation for causing climate change.

The session is part of the Compass National & Robin Cook Memorial Conference 2010 - A New Hope: Ideas, campaigns and coalitions needed to create a progressive consensus for the 21st century. This is the biggest post election conference of the summer with over 90 speakers including: Jon Cruddas MP; and Polly Toynbee, The Guardian, with over 40 sessions organised by leading think tanks, pressure groups and NGOS

For full details and to register go to: <http://www.compassonline.org.uk/conference/>

Sheila McKechnie (SMK) awards

Are you campaigning on an important issue at a local, national or global level? Would you like support to be a better campaigner?

An SMK Award is for people who are just starting out as campaigners and want to take their work to the next level.

Apply now at www.smk.org.uk/smk-awards-2010

or if you know someone else who might benefit from an award you can nominate them on the same website in less than two minutes!

Deadline for applications: Midday on 28th June 2010

What do award winners receive?

- Over six months winners will receive the following programme of support:
- Be invited to a high profile awards ceremony

- Receive one-to-one coaching from a highly experienced campaigner
- Receive mentoring or shadowing sessions with experts in your field
- Receive public affairs and media coaching
- Take part in an intensive and inspiring residential skills-building weekend
- Be invited into the SMK Alumni programme, enabling you to attend talks and events organised by SMK

Groups

Group websites

Several new group's websites have been launched and these are looking great!

Remember to contact Pontus with the information below to get your new group website off the ground:

1. Please choose one person within your group to be web contact
2. That person should email Pontus (pontus.westerberg@wdm.org.uk) when they are ready to start with the following info:
 - a) The name of the group as you want it to appear in the URL and on the website (eg, <http://groups.wdm.org.uk/oxford>)
 - b) The email address that you want associated with the site (eg, wdmshffield@gmail.com)
3. Pontus will set up the site and email you back when it's ready for you to add content, giving you full info about how to access the website, along with guidelines etc
4. You let Pontus know when you have created all the content and you want your new site to go live
5. Pontus will update links on the main WDM website and set up a URL forwarding from your old website.

Pontus will be more than happy to give you a hand at any stage in the process above.

If you'd like a preview take a look at these two sites!

<http://groups.wdm.org.uk/glasgow/>
<http://groups.wdm.org.uk/oxford/>

Pontus will be removing any old group websites from the main site by **the end of July** so we do encourage you to set up your new website before then. If you have any queries or you'd like any help with your new site please contact Pontus on Pontus.westerberg@wdm.org.uk.

Case study: Bradford press coverage

Bradford WDM recently succeeded in getting a great article in the Bradford Telegraph and Argus. We have included the text of this article as a separate insert (sent to group contacts only) as an example of how press coverage can really raise the profile of your group. The journalist contacted the group asking for an interview, following up the many press releases the group has sent to the paper, demonstrating the value of building up relationships with journalists.

This type of article which highlights the kind of activities WDM groups organise, with some good quotes from group members is the perfect way to raise the profile of your group in your local community, which will in turn give your group

more influence over key local decision makers and make your group more visible which can only be of benefit in recruiting new members. Congratulations WDM Bradford!

Case study: Sheffield WDM tar sands stunt on film

Sheffield WDM held an eye-catching media stunt outside NatWest in central Sheffield during the week of action but they didn't capture the stunt in still photos alone, one group member made a fantastic short film which you can watch on youtube: www.youtube.com/user/wdmsheffield

This film succeeds on so many levels; it is an excellent record of the stunt and shows just how creative WDM groups can be, it is also a brilliantly succinct campaign message in itself, shots of the stunt are interspersed with text explaining the issue, and finally the film is a great recruitment tool, what a good way to describe what WDM groups do and encourage new people to get involved.

By posting the film on youtube the group has made their stunt widely and easily accessible to a huge number of people. The short film will also be available to watch during the activist

gathering in Sheffield. Congratulations WDM Sheffield!

Campaign tactics consultation

Very many thanks to the many groups who have spent valuable meeting time discussing campaign tactics and sending us feedback afterwards. All your comments have been fed into the consultation melting pot alongside feedback from staff; all this will form the basis for a proposal document to go to WDM's council in July for them to make a final decision on the range of campaign tactics which WDM should use in the future.

Stalls

Top tip! South-East London WDM recently held a stall at the annual Nunhead cemetery open day; the group sold second-hand books on the stall and raised £50; a great way to raise funds and attract people to your stall!

Membership leaflets. Our new membership recruitment leaflets arrive in the office next week, if you would like to order a batch please let Sarah know.

Diary dates

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 12 June | The ABC of global poverty - Aid, Banks and Conflict The Institute of Education, London |
| 19 – 20 June | Activist gathering, AGM and 40th Anniversary party, Sheffield |
| 28 June | Deadline for Sheila McKechnie awards nominations |
| 9 October (tbc) | Lobbying training day, Manchester |