



**INTERNATIONAL
SOLIDARITY
FUND
2013-2018**





A group of men are playing large, round, wooden drums in a rural, open field. The men are wearing various casual clothing, including hats and t-shirts. The background shows a landscape with trees and a clear sky. The text 'TABLE OF CONTENTS' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

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AT A GLANCE

Since 2008, WhyHunger's International Solidarity Fund has

mobilized over
\$7.45 million

to support 75
organizations

in 30
countries

across 4
continents

What is **agroecology**?

Agroecology is an agricultural method and way of life that marries ancient knowledge with modern science to produce abundant food, resilient ecosystems, and self-determining communities. Through demonstrated success and scientific studies, **agroecology** has proven to produce more food than industrial methods, while enriching diets, conserving biodiversity, pulling carbon out of the atmosphere, increasing farmer income, and boosting economic activity and democratic engagement in local food economies.

THE INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY FUND

In the U.S. and around the globe, women are growing food for their families, young people are using **agroecology** to harvest produce for market, and Indigenous communities are protecting ancestral land and seeds to sustain themselves. These are some of the *true solutions* to hunger that nourish people and planet and put affected communities in charge of their own health and wellbeing.

WhyHunger's International Solidarity Fund is designed to foster these true solutions and to strengthen our strategic role in supporting grassroots organizations and movements. The seeds of this fund were the fruits of a powerful partnership between WhyHunger, Yoko Ono Lennon and Hard Rock International. For eight years, the "Imagine There's No Hunger" campaign united customers, fans and supporters in a common cause, raising over \$6.8 million to invest in community-driven solutions that nurture children and families around the globe.

Small grants, big impact.

WhyHunger has three major global

movement partners that represent hundreds of millions of small-scale food producers. Together, we've identified agroecology as one of the core strategies for ending hunger worldwide. Through the International Solidarity Fund, WhyHunger makes small grants to grassroots organizations practicing agroecology and building strong local food economies. These grants equip thousands of families to produce healthy food and strengthen global efforts to address the root causes of hunger.

At the heart of the International Solidarity Fund is WhyHunger's commitment to building long-term relationships with grassroots partners. We provide grants within the context of deep partnerships that keep WhyHunger in tune with our partners' goals and needs and allow us to be nimble and responsive to them. Whether it's investing in a new agroecology school to train farmers, providing rapid response funds in the wake of a hurricane, or covering childcare costs at a food policy summit so women can lead, WhyHunger is there when our partners need us most.

Funding movements maximizes our investment.

The International Solidarity Fund focuses on organizations that are directly connected to broader networks and movements. We know that isolated projects generate isolated impact. When these organizations are linked to other like-minded communities and to national and international efforts for change, they're far more likely to achieve lasting success locally and globally. Our strategy amplifies the impact of small investments by bolstering individual community solutions to hunger and by scaling those solutions through the infrastructure of global movements.

In the last ten years, WhyHunger has leveraged **over \$7,450,000** to support social movements in **30 countries** and to train **hundreds of thousands of farmers** in sustainable agroecological food production who are now **nourishing millions**. It's time to scale out.

Read on to meet our partners, see our collective impact, and learn how your support is key to building a world free from hunger.

IMAGINE A WORLD WITHOUT HUNGER



“My late husband John Lennon and I have always believed that together we can imagine and build a world free from hunger, poverty and suffering.”

-Yoko Ono Lennon

A Letter from Yoko Ono Lennon

Dear Friends,

My late husband John Lennon and I have always believed in the power of people coming together. We've seen art and beauty triumph over hate and war, hope and love overcome despair and fear, and passion become purpose. Working together, I believe we can imagine and build a world free from hunger, poverty and suffering. One that values people over profits, ensures everyone has the right to nutritious food, health, safety and dignity, and protects our Mother Earth. That's why I have been working with WhyHunger over the last decade to not only imagine that world, but to help build it.

When I was a little girl living in Japan during the Second World War, I experienced the pain of hunger firsthand. Teaming up with WhyHunger to support their International Solidarity Fund has been one way that I've been able to take action to ensure that no one has to go hungry. I am proud of our work together. WhyHunger has supported thousands of farmers to grow healthy food in harmony with nature and has supported communities to advocate for their rights to land, seeds and water. WhyHunger is bringing people together and building power to make our shared vision for a new world possible. I hope you join us to keep imagining and building a better world together.

Yoko Ono Lennon



Yoko Ono Lennon with WhyHunger staff in New York City, USA.



Yoko Ono Lennon honored with the 2013 ASCAP Harry Chapin Humanitarian Award at WhyHunger's annual gala, New York City, USA.

2013 IMPACTS



16
COUNTRIES

Identified our Fund as a key strategy to build relationships and solidarity with global social movements.

Mobilized **\$250,000** to social movements, making grants to **21 organizations** in **16 countries**.

Supported women's leadership in building food sovereignty across three continents.

China
Colombia
Dominican Republic
Ghana
Guatemala
Haiti
India
Kenya
Liberia
Myanmar
Nicaragua
Panama
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Uganda
United States

HIGHLIGHTS

Globally, women and girls suffer most from hunger and poverty. Conservative estimates indicate that 60% of all chronically hungry people are female. Yet women are most responsible for moving food from earth to table and sustaining the health and well-being of their families. In the Global South, women produce between 60-80% of all food, and the number of U.S. farms operated by women has tripled in the past three decades. Women are on the frontlines of the ongoing struggle for food, land, water, economic power, and a world free from hunger. WhyHunger's goal is to ensure that women are well-resourced to implement solutions in their communities and that women's voices are at the center of advocacy efforts for the policy change we need.

In 2013, WhyHunger supported many women-led initiatives around the globe, including the United States. We worked with Indigenous, rural, and fisherwomen to promote food sovereignty and ensure that nutritious food is a human right in their communities. As a result, women were trained in agroecology, built gardens producing abundant fruits and vegetables, purchased tools and seeds, and engaged in education and training to build power for themselves and their communities

PANAMA

Kuna Yala: Kuna Youth Movement

Located in the Kuna Yala territory on the coast of Panama, the Kuna Yala Youth Movement is working with Indigenous women and children to provide healthy foods for themselves and their families using traditional methods of farming. In 2013, WhyHunger supported Kuna Yala to:

- Provide children and families with healthy meals through school gardens.
- Pilot a women-led agroecological farming project growing pineapples, rice and plantains for the women, their families and their communities.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Confederación Nacional de Mujeres Campesinas (CONAMUCA)

A rural women's movement in the Dominican Republic, CONAMUCA defends the social, political, economic, legal and cultural interests of Dominican women in the countryside. In 2013, WhyHunger supported CONAMUCA to:

- Provide nutritious meals to their families and children, work with families in the community to provide agricultural credit opportunities, nutrition education courses, and a youth-run bread-baking enterprise.
- Install four vegetable demonstration plots in three different villages that now grow maize, cassava, pigeon peas, taro, peanuts, sweet potatoes, and other food staples.

SRI LANKA

National Fisheries Solidarity Movement (NAFSO)

NAFSO is a fisherfolk movement in Sri Lanka that works with fishers, farmers, women and youth. In 2013, WhyHunger supported NAFSO to:

- Provide women-headed families—fishing families who've lost husbands and fathers at sea and are without reliable sources of food and income—with chickens, seeds and tools for home gardens to feed their families.

SOCIAL MOVEMENTS, FOOD SOVEREIGNTY & AGROECOLOGY



BUILDING INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

WhyHunger envisions a fundamental shift in the way the world nourishes itself rooted in the principles of shared resources, respect for the earth and dignity for all people. We don't need to feed the world; the world can and must feed itself.

What does “solidarity” have to do with it? From nearly 45 years of experience, we know that creating systemic change in the food system requires a broad alliance of social movements and grassroots organizations in partnership with governments, nonprofits, and donors like you. Transforming our food system is a huge undertaking. Whether you are growing, packaging, serving, legislating or buying food, it helps to know we are in this together. Time and again, our partners tell us that being connected to one another, to WhyHunger, and to you makes them feel like they are not alone. Despite all the obstacles, together we have great hope for a better food system and a more just world.

WhyHunger helps to build these alliances through learning exchanges, convenings, agroecology trainings, direct

grantmaking, and more. Building bonds of shared learning, strategy and solidarity between the U.S. and the Global South is vital in strengthening and scaling grassroots solutions that put food access and production firmly in the hands of people affected by hunger and poverty. By investing in these activities around the globe, we are building powerful, coordinated, international social movements that are enacting our shared vision of an equitable and sustainable food system.

“We need more allies like WhyHunger to help us to build strong social movements. Only through social movements and international solidarity, will we be able to win.”

—Graça Samo, World March of Women



Members of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers leading a march for fair wages. Florida, USA.

2014 IMPACTS

16
COUNTRIES

Brazil
Colombia
Dominican Republic
Guatemala
Haiti
India
Mali
Mozambique
Nicaragua
Niger
Paraguay
Sri Lanka
Thailand
The Philippines
United States
Zimbabwe

Intensified our focus on agroecology as a key strategy to feed and cool the planet.

Mobilized **\$227,500 to social movements**, making grants to **20 organizations** in **16 countries**.

Centered Indigenous women's leadership in building food sovereignty across Central and South America.

HIGHLIGHTS

In 2014, WhyHunger began coordinating with social movements to mobilize resources, maximize our funding, and provide logistical and technical support to our allies. By partnering with social movements, we found that the results of local efforts are quickly and effectively channeled outward through an existing network of families and communities facing similar challenges. When well-resourced local efforts are connected to global processes, there is a ripple effect that amplifies the impact of our initial investment across geographies and generations.

Social movements get their staying power by building broad alliances with like-minded people and organizations across cultural, sectoral and geographical boundaries. They are strong, lasting engines for change with the knowledge, strategies and people power to assess the challenges they face and create comprehensive solutions. Transforming our food system isn't easy or quick, and social movements are on the frontlines of this struggle for the long haul. The International Solidarity Fund evolved in 2014, through mutual accountability and trust between WhyHunger and our partners. The core of our Fund centers global social movements and their agroecology and food sovereignty strategies. This commitment has proven incredibly effective and has guided our work over the last five years.

GUATEMALA

The Women's Association for Social and Economic Development of Sacatepequez (AEFEDES)

AEFEDES is an Indigenous Mayan Kaqchikel woman-led collective, founded to promote food sovereignty and the political, physical, and economic autonomy of women across their communities in Santiago Sacatepéquez. In 2014, WhyHunger supported AEFEDES to:

- Pilot a women-led agroecological farming project growing medicinal plants, carrots, lettuce and radishes to feed their families and their communities.
- Organize 7 workshops and agroecology trainings focused on cultivating family gardens, food as medicine, and community organizing principles.

INDIA

The Tamil Nadu Women's Collective

The Tamil Nadu Women's Collective is a rural grassroots organization dedicated to promoting small-scale agroecology to achieve food security in Southern India. In 2014, WhyHunger supported the Tamil Nadu Women's Collective to:

- Teach children ages 8-18 in 40 villages to grow food sustainably without pesticides and save seeds to provide healthy food for their families.

UNITED STATES

Farmworker Association of Florida

The Farmworker Association of Florida (FWAF) is a statewide farmworker membership organization dedicated to building power among farmworker and rural low-income communities. In 2014, WhyHunger supported FWAF to:

- Host their first farmer-to-farmer agroecology encounter. Led by and for farmworkers, the event brought together farmworkers from Florida, New Jersey, Washington and Texas. There were 55 participants in total, including 14 representatives of ally organizations from the U.S. and abroad. As a result, six other gatherings were organized in the U.S. Canada and Puerto Rico bringing together hundreds of young farmers and Indigenous people to learn to grow food sustainably.

WORLD MARCH OF WOMEN



CENTERING WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP

Around the world, women and girls are the most affected by hunger and poverty. Yet it will come as no surprise that they are also the global leaders in producing food, training the next generation of farmers, and nourishing their families and communities. Women are on the frontlines of the ongoing struggle for food, land, water, economic power, and a world free from hunger. WhyHunger's goal is to ensure that women are well-resourced to implement solutions in their communities and that women's voices are at the center of organizing and advocacy efforts for the policy change we need.

To this end, WhyHunger partners with the World March of Women, an international feminist movement to end the inequality, discrimination and poverty that deeply affect women around the globe. Founded in 1998 and representing millions of women worldwide, the World March of Women is organized into four action areas: women's economic autonomy, violence against women, the environment and public services, and peace and demilitarization.

Frontline organizations affiliated with the World March of Women have proven vital in developing innovative solutions that nourish their families, power their local economies, and transform their communities. From training thousands in sustainable farming, to winning Supreme Court cases to protect their livelihoods, to ensuring equal rights for women in their nations' constitutions—these organizations have proven they have what it takes to make change at home and in the halls of power. In the last five years, we've supported dozens of organizations that advance women's rights to land, food, seeds, intellectual property, education, and healthcare.



Member of the World March of Women. Mozambique

WE SUPPORT THE WORLD MARCH OF WOMEN TO:

1. Challenge oppression and violence and improve the status and quality of women's lives worldwide.
2. Promote equality and justice between women and men and among all peoples.
3. Undertake a process of popular education that equips women to analyze the causes of their oppression and build alternatives.
4. Amplify the demands for justice and the innovative solutions to hunger and poverty from global women's movements.
5. Strengthen and maintain solidarity among its membership of women and grassroots groups around the world.

2015 IMPACTS

10
COUNTRIES

Brazil
Guatemala
Haiti
India
Kenya
Mozambique
Sri Lanka
Thailand
United States
Zimbabwe

Mobilized \$106,000 to 11 organizations in 10 countries.

Supported capacity building and political education workshops focusing on the right to food in all 10 countries.

HIGHLIGHTS

In the United States, we often speak of our civil and political rights but less often about our social, cultural, and economic rights. In 2015, WhyHunger became the first and only North American organization in the Global Network for the Right to Food and Nutrition. Together, this network of grassroots organizations and advocates around the world call for the universal right to adequate food and nutrition for all. According to the United Nations, the “right to food” is the human right to feed oneself adequately and with dignity. For WhyHunger and our partners, the right to food is both a call to action and a global legal framework for coordinated reform in food and agriculture.

WhyHunger believes that in order to ensure the right to food for all, we must create a new food system that nourishes people and restores our planet. However, building an alternative food system requires not only sustainable agriculture methods like agroecology, but also the social power and political will to support and scale them. Social movements are key to realizing the right to food. In 2015, WhyHunger supported a host of agroecology trainings throughout the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico that established the People’s Agroecology Process, an alliance of 10 grassroots organizations across North America working together to spread agroecology, build food sovereignty and defend the right to food.

HAITI

Mouvman Peyizan Papay (MPP)

The Mouvman Peyizan Papay (MPP) is a grassroots organization working in the central Haiti to promote sustainable family agriculture and protect the environment. In 2015, WhyHunger supported MPP to:

- Establish a new production area with more than 10,000 moringa seedlings, a powerful medicinal plant used for both nutrition and soil enrichment.
- Build and install a processing area allowing them to dry and turn moringa leaves into powder so that it can be sold and distributed to surrounding communities.

BRAZIL

The Landless Workers Movement (MST)

The Landless Workers Movement is a social movement formed by an estimated 1.5 million rural workers fighting for land and food sovereignty and against injustice and social inequality in Brazil’s rural areas. In 2015, WhyHunger supported MST to:

- Hold a four-month course on gender and feminism, including presentations, plenary sessions and group discussions, for 40 members to increase women’s involvement in land acquisition and food production.

ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe Smallholder Organic Farmers Forum (ZIMSOFF)

ZIMSOFF is a national peasant farmer organization dedicated to improving livelihoods and empowering small-scale farmers in Zimbabwe. In 2015, WhyHunger supported ZIMSOFF to:

- Host trainings and workshops focused on agroecological soil management and practices.
- Build the capacity of rural women who are campaigning to promote policies that support small-scale farming and their livelihoods.

LA VIA CAMPESINA



FARMER-TO-FARMER SOLIDARITY

La Via Campesina is a global peasant movement that represents over 200 million farmers, landless people, rural women and youth, Indigenous people, and agricultural workers around the world. Built on a strong sense of unity and solidarity between these groups, La Via Campesina promotes agroecology and food sovereignty to ensure justice and dignity for their members. They also strongly oppose industrial agriculture that drives small farmers from rural areas, redistributes land unevenly, prevents families from feeding themselves, and puts profits over people and planet.

Responsible for coining the term “food sovereignty,” La Via Campesina envisions a more just world where “food is first and foremost a basic human right” and those affected by hunger can regain control of local food systems to nourish themselves. Rural families organized by La Via Campesina strive to protect land, water, seeds and their rights to housing, health care, education and food.

With over 40 agroecology schools worldwide, La Via Campesina is ensuring and supporting farmer-to-farmer learning to spread food sovereignty around the globe. Youth play a pivotal role in La Via Campesina and enjoy full participation in political and decision-making processes, developing leadership skills, and working to bridge the divide between urban and rural membership. La Via Campesina also works to defend women’s rights and promote women’s leadership. They stand against violence and gender inequality and involve women at every level of the

“We are committed to producing food for people: the people of our communities, the people of our nations.”

- La Via Campesina

organization. The perspectives, analysis, energy and leadership of women has fundamentally shaped and strengthened the movement.

To date, WhyHunger has supported 26 organizations connected to La Via Campesina that promote food sovereignty, women and youth leadership, and political education.

WE SUPPORT LA VIA CAMPESINA TO:

1. Defend food sovereignty and the struggle for land and agrarian reform.
2. Promote agroecology and defend local seeds, a pillar of food production and the basis of agricultural, social, and cultural reproduction.
3. Challenge oppression and violence to improve the status and conditions of women’s lives worldwide.
4. Defend Peasant Rights and the struggle against the criminalization of poor, landless and hungry people.
5. Promote and implement a United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants, which includes right to life and adequate standards of living, the right to land and territory, to seeds, information, justice and equality between women and men.

2016 IMPACTS

13
COUNTRIES

Mobilized \$267,042 to 23 organizations in 13 countries.

Recruited new investors to the International Solidarity Fund, expanding our pool of support.

Brazil
Colombia
Dominican Republic
El Salvador
Haiti
Honduras
India
Mexico
Mozambique
Nicaragua
United States
Venezuela
Zimbabwe

HIGHLIGHTS

Small-scale food producers are key actors in the development of real solutions to hunger and climate change through agroecology. Farmers, farmworkers, fisherfolk, pastoralists, Indigenous peoples and forest dwellers around the world are vital stewards of the environment, working in harmony with the earth to nourish hundreds of thousands of people in their communities. Their survival depends on the health of the land and the knowledge and ability to continue developing and sharing agroecological solutions to hunger.

In 2016, WhyHunger received new sources of funding for the International Solidarity Fund, allowing us to invest more deeply in agroecological training and food production. By supporting communities and organizations that are connected through social movements, agroecology and other solutions are easily shared and replicated in different countries and regions. Global social movements also have the power and experience to leverage their success to advocate for national and global policies that support sustainable production and small producers. Through the International Solidarity Fund, WhyHunger invests in the development of agroecological practices, the transmission of knowledge between communities, and advocacy for sustainable policies that will benefit millions of people worldwide.

EL SALVADOR

Federación de Cooperativas de la Reforma Agraria Región Central (FECORACEN)

FECORACEN is a network of cooperatives that seeks to improve the quality of life for families and communities in the central El Salvador through agroecological food production, education, gender equity and more. In 2016, WhyHunger supported FECORACEN to:

- Plan and implement four agroecology trainings focused on the production of key grain staple crops, as well as fruit and vegetables.
- Host three workshops on water conservation and soil cultivation.

MEXICO

Unión de Organizaciones de la Sierra Juárez Oaxaca S.C. (UNOSJO)

UNOSJO works with Indigenous communities in the Sierra Norte mountains of Oaxaca, providing technical assistance to small farmers in basic land management, agroecology and human rights. In 2016, WhyHunger supported UNOSJO to:

- Strengthen women-led food sovereignty through the creation of backyard plant nurseries in 6 Indigenous Zapotec communities.
- Establish a regional seed bank for Zapotec women, which preserves and shares local seeds best adapted to their environment and also serves as a space for meeting, learning and socializing.

NICARAGUA

Asociacion de Trabajadores (ATC)

Asociacion de Trabajadores del Campo (ATC), represents approximately 50,000 rural workers and small-scale producers in Nicaragua, coordinating agrarian training programs, political education workshops, and national campaigns to promote food sovereignty. In 2016, WhyHunger supported ATC to:

- Develop a program to connect three agroecology training schools to deepen and expand learning exchanges, strengthening communication, capacity, and learning throughout rural Nicaragua.

WORLD FORUM OF FISHER PEOPLE



PROTECTING LIVELIHOODS

People around the world depend on seafood to feed themselves and their families. In fact, fish make up 15-20% of all animal protein consumed worldwide. But the global fishing industry is in jeopardy. Oceans and fresh waterways are being overfished by industrial-scale fleets and severely polluted by industrial aquaculture and agriculture, oil production and mining.

Founded in 1997, The World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP) is a global social movement made up of over 10 million small-scale fisher people committed to protecting, defending and strengthening the communities that depend on fishing for their livelihood. The WFFP represents the interests of small-scale and family fisheries at the international level and works to influence local and global policies.

Protecting small fisheries is vital to building a secure food system while creating economic stability for families and communities and safeguarding the environment. With a strong emphasis on youth,

women and Indigenous Peoples, WFFP works to strengthen solidarity and share strategies among fisher movements from all over the world.



Fishing community near Jakarta, Indonesia.

“Food Sovereignty is a political agenda of small-scale food producers in the defense of our rivers, lakes, oceans and land. It is a response to the encroachment of our food system by multinational corporations who, in the context of fisheries, seek to privatize and consolidate fishing rights in the hands of the few.”

- Naseegh Jaffer, WFFP General Secretary.

WE SUPPORT THE WORLD FORUM OF FISHER PEOPLE TO:

1. Protect, defend and strengthen the communities that depend on the fishery for their livelihood.
2. Assist member organizations to secure and improve upon the economic viability and quality of life of fisher peoples and their communities.
3. Recognize, support and enhance the role of women in the social, economic, political and cultural life of the fishing community.
4. Protect fishing communities, fish resources and fish habitats, such as coastal zones, watersheds and mangroves, from land-based, sea-based and air-based threats.
5. Protect food security, both locally and worldwide, by sustaining fish stocks for the future, and by preserving fish for human consumption.

2017 IMPACTS



7
COUNTRIES

Mobilized over **\$419,870** to **22 organizations** in **7 countries**.

Leveraged **\$50,000** in **Rapid Response funds** dedicated to rebuilding food sovereignty in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria.

Facilitated a grassroots-led grant making process, determining how **\$345,000** could be best distributed in Brazil.

Brazil
Canada
Nicaragua
Paraguay
Peru
Puerto Rico
United States

HIGHLIGHTS

In 2017, WhyHunger facilitated a collective decision-making process that honored the leadership and knowledge of local communities most affected by hunger in Brazil. Through a large and geographically restricted donation, WhyHunger worked with local allies to pilot a participatory grassroots-led grantmaking strategy. Through this collaborative process, we worked with social movement allies to determine how over \$345,000 in funding could best be used to meet immediate needs, expand agroecology, grow social movements, and foster long-term systemic change throughout Brazil.

In the same year, we also organized and accompanied key social movements and grassroots organizations from the Global South through two formal learning exchanges, including a delegation from Brazil to the U.S., and a delegation from the U.S. to South Africa. We also conducted four strategic site visits to the United States where our allies from Mozambique, Brazil, Nicaragua and Puerto Rico were able to meet, learn together, share strategies, and build international solidarity with WhyHunger and allied organizations.

UNITED STATES

COOPERATION JACKSON

Cooperation Jackson's mission is to advance the development of economic democracy in Jackson, Mississippi by building a network of cooperatives, many of which are focused on food production. In 2017, WhyHunger supported Cooperation Jackson to:

- Host a learning exchange with the Black Dirt Farm Collective in Maryland to explore the best ways to incorporate agroecological principles within urban settings. This exchange was critical to help meet their long-term goal of feeding 20,000 people annually using agroecological and cooperative principles.

BRAZIL

LEVANTE (YOUTH UPRISING MOVEMENT)

The Youth Uprising Movement (Levante Popular da Juventude) is a youth-led social movement in Brazil working to equip young people with the tools to understand the world in which they live, the problems they face, and how to collectively overcome them. Chief among these problems are hunger and poverty. In 2017, WhyHunger supported Levante to:

- Establish a national secretariat and support national leadership in accompanying local organizers in 13 states where the movement is represented and growing.
- Organize three national planning meetings to identify collective goals and strategies and the objectives and needs to accomplish them.

PUERTO RICO

Organización Boricúa de Agricultura Ecológica

Boricúa is a grassroots organization made up of small-scale farmers, farmworkers and organizers working to advance agroecology across the islands to produce abundant healthy food and reduce dangerous and expensive reliance on imported goods. In 2017, WhyHunger supported Boricúa in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria to:

- Provide direct support to farmers and community members to meet immediate needs like food, water, and shelter, and to provide ongoing support to rebuild homes, replant farms, and resurrect greenhouses and key growing infrastructure to bolster long-term crop resiliency.

RAPID RESPONSE



DIRECT ACTION

When disaster strikes, there is an overwhelming desire to help. Around the world, people send funding, food, water and medical supplies to devastated communities, but in the chaos, it can be hard to know if it's getting to the people and places that need it most.

WhyHunger has long received requests from our partners for critical needs, but we formalized this kind of emergency support in 2017 following Hurricane Maria's destruction of Puerto Rico. We now provide Rapid Response funding to our partners when they're in crisis, whether from



Members of Organización Boricuá providing critical support to their community after Hurricane Maria. Puerto Rico.

natural disasters, climate events or political upheaval. Our grassroots partners live and work in the affected communities, and they are the true first responders digging out roads, delivering food and water, cleaning up homes and farms, and searching for the missing long before international aid arrives and long after it's gone.

Our funds go directly to trusted partners who are already on the ground, providing them with the immediate support they need to recover and a long-term commitment to accompany them while they rebuild. To date, we've provided Rapid Response funding to our partners in Puerto Rico, Guatemala and Brazil.

Each year, we receive far more requests for emergency support than we can fulfill. As climate change advances and storms get stronger, droughts longer, and food producers get displaced from their land and waterways, WhyHunger is working to expand its pool of funding for Rapid Response to better protect the health, safety and food security of our partners worldwide.



Members of Organización Boricuá providing critical support to their community after Hurricane Maria. Puerto Rico

“ [We] would like to thank WhyHunger for your immediate response after Hurricane María and direct support to our base of farmers, farmworkers and food sovereignty activists on the island. Hurricane María gave a strong hit to Puerto Rico and its agriculture... but we already have seeds in the ground and have been able to harvest plants. ”

- Jesús Vázquez, National Coordination of Organización Boricuá de Agricultura Ecológica

2018 IMPACTS

5
COUNTRIES

Mobilized over **\$354,020** to **9 organizations** in **5 countries**.

Leveraged **\$5,321 in Rapid Response funds** dedicated to rebuilding food sovereignty in Guatemala after a volcanic eruption.

Brazil
El Salvador
Guatemala
Peru
Puerto Rico



HIGHLIGHTS

In order to ensure nutritious food is a human right for all, we must support projects and organizations that are working to influence policy and decision-making in their communities and beyond. WhyHunger provides grants, technical support, translation, and travel stipends to support our allies in catalyzing social and political change. This support is necessary to protect access to land, water and other resources and enact policies that support sustainable food production, local markets, healthy ecosystems, and sustainable livelihoods.

In 2018, WhyHunger hosted and accompanied members of La Via Campesina International through the final stages of a 17-year process to pass the UN Declaration on Peasant Rights. Small-scale farmers, rural and agricultural workers, fishing communities, pastoralists and their families represent one-third of humanity and are deeply impacted by hunger and poverty. These small-scale producers, or “peasants” as they are referred to in many parts of the world, are particularly vulnerable, lacking access to many of the essential resources to produce food like land, loans, education, and basic services. After nearly two decades, this historic declaration ratified by the UN General Assembly protects peasants’ rights to land, seeds, and adequate incomes.

PERU

Marcha Mundial de las Mujeres de la Macroregión Norte de Perú

The World March of Women’s chapter in Northern Peru was established in 2000 to address the social, political and economic factors contributing to the violence and poverty plaguing the lives of women in northern Peru. In 2018, WhyHunger supported the World March of Women in Peru to:

- Create and establish the first school dedicated to women’s studies and leadership in Northern Peru.
- Host the first-ever online agroecological learning exchange between the World March of Women chapters in Cuba, Chile, Spain, and Peru.

BRAZIL

Movement for Popular Sovereignty in Mining (MAM)

MAM is a social movement formed by urban and rural families affected by extractive mining in Brazil. These families have been forced off their land, devastated by mining accidents, and had their water polluted by runoff.

Together, MAM is working to involve the Brazilian people in the protection and use of country’s resources. In 2018, WhyHunger supported MAM to:

- Hold its national meeting for over 700 people from 16 Brazilian states to discuss the extraction, processing, transport and impacts of minerals and other natural resources extracted through mining. This meeting helped to build collective strategy, organizing skills and the political education to resist dam projects in new territories that will compromise food production and sustainable livelihoods.

BRAZIL

Popular Peasant Movement (MCP)

The Movimento Camponês Popular (MCP) is a national social movement of small-scale farmers that gathers, organizes, mobilizes and prepares families to advocate for their basic rights. MCP believes that the right to healthy food is both paramount and urgent for all people. In 2018, WhyHunger supported MCP to:

- Hold 18 meetings with over 600 participants to continue organizing farmers in the region to advance and scale out agroecology.

YOUR PARTICIPATION

A photograph of four people in a rural agricultural setting. In the foreground, two people are crouching and working with plants. One is wearing a green conical hat and an orange shirt, and the other is wearing a pink jacket and a brown headscarf. In the background, two more people are standing. One is wearing a red and grey jacket and a green conical hat, and the other is wearing a yellow jacket and an orange cap. They are surrounded by tall corn plants and other vegetation. A building is visible in the background.

“Solidarity is an assertion that no people is alone, no people is isolated in the struggle for progress.”

-Samora Machel, First President of Mozambique

LOOKING FORWARD

WhyHunger was founded to address the root causes of world hunger and poverty. In 45 years, we've learned that lasting change must be led by those most impacted. The International Solidarity Fund is the embodiment of these values, providing a strong backbone of technical, strategic and financial support to empower communities to produce their own food and regain control of local food systems.

For decades, WhyHunger has built trusted relationships with grassroots organizations and social movements,



Member of AFEDES with her family, Guatemala.

partnering with them to create viable solutions to nourish the world and cool the planet. Through these relationships, WhyHunger and our partners move resources efficiently across the globe with little overhead to support sustainable food production, economic empowerment, democratic engagement and policy change.

The problems we face—hunger, poverty, environmental destruction and climate change—cannot be addressed with small and disparate interventions. We need a coordinated global strategy with the knowledge, resources, and infrastructure to scale proven solutions effectively and responsibly. Agroecology has proven to be a powerful tool to end hunger and mitigate the climate crisis. These methods produce up to three times more food than industrial agriculture and are better equipped to withstand climate events while also pulling carbon out of the atmosphere.

Our grassroots allies are experts in developing agroecological farming practices and producing nutritious food, training people to grow their own food, advocating against policies that keep people poor and hungry,



The Coalition of Immokalee Workers. Florida, USA.

and organizing for access to land, water and seeds that ensure their ability to feed themselves for generations. Together, we have the tools and the people power to make a big impact. We simply need to more funds to scale further and deeper across the globe.

Your support is vital to WhyHunger's work in developing and spreading these powerful solutions to hunger and ensuring nutritious food is not a luxury, but a basic human right. We're building a world where all of us can live healthy, dignified lives.

Will you join us?

“When in doubt,
do something.”

Harry Chapin

Artist, Activist & WhyHunger Co-Founder



WhyHunger

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