



Annual Report 2011



Analyzing and Acting



For Mining-Free Territories

Otros Mundos supported the execution of the Third Meeting of the **Mexican Network of People Affected by Mining (REMA, Red Mexicana de Afectados Por la Minería)** in Guanajuato. Also, two meetings regarding the national coordination to strengthen the REMA mechanisms were held (in Mexico City and Guanajuato). Otros Mundos designed the proposal for the REMA Diploma Course on the mining industry foreseen to begin in 2013. We followed up the mining cases regarding the mining industry in Chicomuselo and Carranza. Otros Mundos went to two workshops both about the mining industry problematic (Motozintla and Frontera Comalapa), with more than 500 people. Otros Mundos followed up the resistance process against the mining companies in San Cristóbal and Tuxtla.

Otros Mundos called for the creation of the **Mesoamerican Movement Against the Extractive Mining Model (M4)** as well as two meetings of the Facilitating Committee (Honduras and Costa Rica) with emissaries from Panama to Canada. The graphic logo of the movement was designed, as well as the Website and other materials promoting the movement. Otros Mundos settled the bases for the calling to a first meeting of the M4 in 2012.

As REMA we participated and convened as a supportive organization to the meeting celebrating the 16th Anniversary of the Community Police (CRAC) "For the Defense of Our Territories" in Guerrero, where we contributed with the mining effects' table.



Live Rivers, Free from Dams

Otros Mundos organized and held the VIII Meeting of the **Mexican Movement of Those Affected by Dams (MAPDER)**, in the Huitiupán Municipality, in Chiapas, which strengthened the national network. We supported the participation of the member communities of the MAPDER/Chiapas with the seizure of the dam El Zapotillo, achieving the dialogue with the federal government, and us being involved in some of the stages of this dialogue. A guide for the evaluation of dam projects from the guidelines of the World Commission on Dams was made, and El Zapotillo dam was evaluated on the first three guidelines. There has been a virtual and on-site participation at the MAPDER connecting meetings, being an active party and facilitating the discussion towards the strengthening of the process, thus promoting the participation of other states such as Tabasco, Veracruz and Baja California, being this the reason for the concurrence to several meetings in Mexico, in order to consolidate the national movement. Supportive newsletters were issued, regarding different causes.



Se participó en un foro de represas en la UNAM dentro del Diplomado de Desarrollo Sustentable. Se ha acompañado el proceso de preparación del IX Encuentro MAPDER a realizarse en Nayarit el siguiente año, con reuniones virtuales y presenciales y se sostuvieron reuniones y se participó en la visita del académico catalán, Jean Martínez Alier a Nayarit y Jalisco. Se está difundiendo sistemáticamente la información emanada de los miembros del MAPDER del tema de represas en las redes y medios virtuales.

Otros Mundos attain the beginning of a process of articulation, follow up and reinforcement of the action plan of the Latin America Network Against Dams and For Rivers (REDLAR). Otros Mundos supported the carrying out of the VII REDLAR Encounter MesoAmerica held in Costa Rica, with the participation of a MAPDER delegation. We participated in the Seminar regarding water issues held in Brazil and organized by the Movement of Those Affected by Dams in Brazil (MAB). From the beginning of 2011 we have been taking part on two meetings in Rio de Janeiro (January and August), with movements of people affected by





dams in El Salvador, Brazil and Colombia, in order for the involved to build a proposal that seeks to encourage the convergence of the different countries and the creation of joint strategies.

Since September, the building of the bi national alliance for the defence of the Usumacinta River has been impelled along with communities, organizations and academicians in Guatemala, Tabasco and Chiapas, through the holding of several coordination and informative meetings in communities, as well as press conferences to compound a strategy.



Forming Networks with Others

Otros Mundos, along with CDM Watch, organized a workshop in Mexico City to analyze the **Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)** and offer information and formation on its scope and effects, as well as the resistance mechanisms against the CDM.



In the same manner, Otros Mundos began a follow up process regarding the CDM and REDD with organizations affiliated to Jubileo Sur. Otros Mundos participated through speeches on the **International Symposium on the Climate Crisis** (Coloquio Internacional sobre Crisis Climática). Otros Mundos assisted to two **RMALC** meetings, so as to strengthen



the bonds and the network's action plan. Otros Mundos was invited to provide a workshop on social movements, capitalism and climate crisis at the popular education school in the University of **Haiti**. We convened the Universidad Iberoamericana, the UNACH and the Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez Human Rights Centre to assemble a **Diploma course** to train activists on the defence of the environment, against the climate crisis and for the human rights, which will start at the beginning of 2012. We participated in a workshop about **Common Assets** held in Mexico City, sponsored by the Heinrich Boell Foundation. We organized and participated in the **V Convergence of Movements of the Peoples of the Americas (COMPA)** held in El Salvador with the commitment to be part of the Continental Coordination, as well as the support of the International Observation Mission for the human rights of the Aguan in Honduras for 2012. Otros Mundos participated in the **School of Friends of the Earth Latin America and the Caribbean (ATALC)** of the Mesoamerican region in El Salvador, and Otros



Mundos went to the **Friends of the Earth Latin America and the Caribbean Meeting** in Argentina. We participated with workshops and speeches at the **III Encounter of the Waterlat network** held in Mexico City, with the purpose of bonding the academic sector to the social movements.

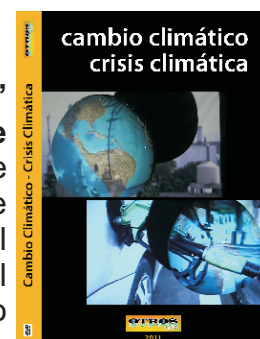
Otros Mundos participated in the coordination of the **Week Against Holcim** in Mexico, through the Meeting for Environmental Justice And Against Holcim, in Apaxco, Estado de México, the 5th of may 2011.

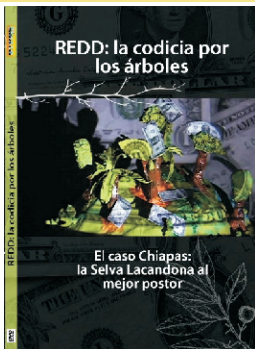
Workshops, talks and interviews

Otros Mundos held more than 50 interviews, talks and workshops with national and international delegations, reporters; social organisations, women, peasants and indigenous organisations, as well as different networks and movements willing to know more about the current situation in Chiapas, the megaprojects (mining, dams and monoculture), the climate crisis, migration, carbon emission trading market, psychosocial processes and general analysis.

Communications

Otros Mundos presented the **videos** about “**REDD: the greed for the trees**” (<http://otrosmundoschiapas.org/materiales/redd-la-codicia-por-los-arboles/>) and “**The Climate Change**” (<http://otrosmundoschiapas.org/materiales/el-cambio-climatico-la-crisis-climatica/>). We reissued our video about the effects of the oil palm named “**The African Palm in Chiapas/The Oil Deserts**”. These videos have been widely distributed in all the national and regional networks in which we participated for the organizations not only in Mexico, but in all of Central America and a great part of South America. We also took part in the presentation of the video





"The Economics of Happiness", produced by Helena Norberg-Hodge, Steven Gorelick and John Page.

Within the **Campaign against Holcim** of the Friends of the Earth Latin America and the Caribbean, contents of the publication 'HOLCIM IN LATIN AMERICA: Case Studies' were designed and coordinated. It was sent to organizations in Central America.

The Website www.otrosmundoschiapas.org is constantly updated through author notes, press releases, videos and other sources that are addressed to us or that we trace in Internet and we consider them to be articles of interest. This year we released the

Materials Website of Otros Mundos, available since July, in which dozens of materials created in Otros Mundos are shared (<http://otrosmundoschiapas.org/materiales/>). The release of the Monthly Electronic Newsletter with notes and important activities and administration of the subscriptions, with 600 subscriptions took place as well.



Handbooks and Brochures

- The second edition of the **"The Myths of the Carbon Emission Trading Market"** Brochure was made along with other organizations (<http://www.otrosmundoschiapas.org/index.php/cambio-climatico/45-cambio-climatico/1122-los-mitos-del-mercado-de-carbono-2da-edicion.html>).

Educational **materials** on transgenic information were elaborated. Otros Mundos designed and printed two leaflets with information on EPAE and RESISTE, as well as two leaflets on **"Waste and Garbage"** and **"The Internal Community Diagnosis"**. There is an ongoing research and design of the **EPAE Newsletter**, four numbers were issued, concerning: Solid Waste Management, Food Sovereignty and a special issue on Pin Nut and African Palm, in order to raise awareness on the advance of monoculture in Chiapas (<http://otrosmundoschiapas.org/materiales/category/boletines-epae/>).

On this year 2011, Otros Mundos created a materials line called

"The Capital's Dictatorship" (<http://otrosmundoschiapas.org/materiales/category/folleto/serie-dictadura-del-capital/>), in which through illustrated brochures we presented different approaches of the capital control over the people. Two numbers were issued, **The Corporation Nation Model** and **From the PPP to the Proyecto Mesoamérica**.

Improvements were made regarding the **Mining Handbook**, developing the research, the writing and the illustrations. The printing will be carried out in 2012.



Analysis and Research

- In order to support the Structural Analysis the **"El Escaramujo"** series was created (<http://otrosmundoschiapas.org/index.php/component/content/category/118-el-escaramujo.html>) in which we included **23 Analysis Bulletins**: EnReddar Chiapas, Los Paradigmas Emancipatorios, Los Ciclos de Kodratieff, El Mito del Homo Economicus, 13 bulletins with different approaches of the Corporation Nation Model and research on the dams projects in every country in Mesoamerica.



Permanent Seminar for Sustainability

- This year Otros Mundos kept carrying out the monthly activities of the Seminar (<http://seminariootrosmundos.blogspot.com/>). Eleven sessions of the Permanent Seminar for Sustainability were held regarding subjects such as REDD, CDM, Dams, Agrofuels, Rural Cities, women, the National Security Law, the Corporation Nation Model, etc. Moreover, 7 sessions of videoconference, along with the Foro Cultural Independiente Kinoki, were carried out.



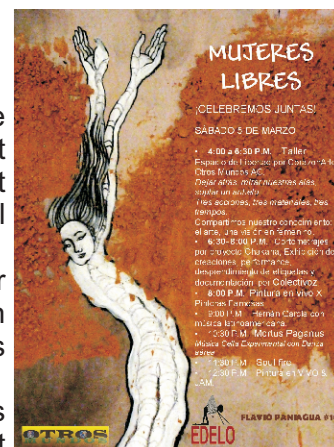
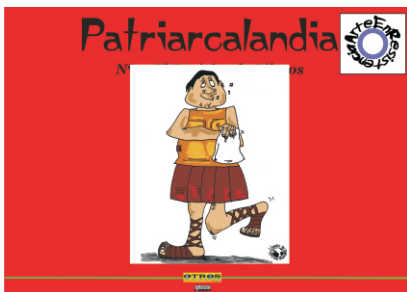
ALTERNATOS or how to get out of the Patriarchal and Capitalist System

Without women the system will not change

Otros Mundos partook in several meetings in order to improve the rearrangements of the organizations' participation towards the **Zero Violence Pact** (Pacto Cero Violencia) against women inside our organizations. Within this context, we move forward on the accomplishment of the criteria regarding the participation of the Pact: inclusion of the Pact in the Internal Regulations of Otros Mundos, as well as in its Incorporation Agreement, among other criteria.

On the International Women's Day, along with other Organizations, Otros Mundos carried out a Day of Art and Women called **Free Women** (Mujeres Libres), in which Otros Mundos collaborated with a workshop with and for women.

This year Otros Mundos issued another number of the series **Patriarchland** (Patriarcalandia), illustrations that aim to bring out into the open plenty of the situations happening around the patriarchy and the violence against women. This number was called "**The Spirit of Pilate**" (El Espíritu de Pilatos) (<http://otrosmundoschiapas.org/materiales/patriarcalandia-nro-2-el-espiritu-de-pilatos/>).



EPAE and RESISTE

The second term of the **Water and Energy Popular School (EPAE, Escuela Popular de Agua y Energía)** in the Highlands Region of Chiapas concluded with the completion of the rainwater collection banks, Agroforestry and Agroecology, working and following the subject of food sovereignty as the turning point Otros Mundos has developed management agroforestry planning and backyard vegetable gardens and orchards, this process will be strengthened through RESISTE during the following years.

Inside EPAE-RESISTE 35 workshops have been developed in subjects such as: Alternative Building, waste use, agroecology and agroforestry for food sovereignty, self-management, monoculture, land rights, all of this included in the EPAE study plan, and as formative aspects to consolidate the subjects in **RESISTE** Network Of Alternative Sustainable Family Networks (Red de Sistemas Familiares Alternativos Sustentables).

These workshops have a political content in which there is a link between the alternatives and the context, as well as the endeavor for the defense of the land and the territory.

Up to date several **eco technologies** have been developed in the Highlands and Border regions of Chiapas, within the influence zone of the EPAE-RESISTE. For the immediate water needs, 10 rainwater collection banks have been developed, supplying water to 50 families. In addition, there are communal filters for water purification reaching 36 families of the Border Region, as well as two families testing "homemade" filters for water purification.

Regarding solid waste management and sewage, 23 dry toilets are being built, with a follow up process in order to continue after the building stage, through the use and improvement of the eco technologies.



There has been a monitoring process of the EPAE families and the completion of the modules of: biodigester, introduction to alternative building systems, waste use, agroecology-agroforestry for food sovereignty. Otros Mundos continues with the construction of different models of diverse systems: rainwater collection, fuel-efficient stoves, rustic



greywater irrigation systems (banana circles and banana pits) and dry toilets.

Through the EPAE and other organizations, Otros Mundos has collaborated with the Civil Society Organization Las Abejas on the process of making a **diagnosis** on the impact of the town's landfill located at the edge of the highway, five minutes away from Acteal. This diagnosis will be used as a reference to build a resolution strategy foreseeing an impact at a regional level in the municipalities in Chiapas of Chenalhó and Pantelhó, concerning the evidence of the problematic and the ecologic ways of waste management. Up to date, several water samplings and detection of heavy metals pollution have been carried out, besides of opinion polls made in the directly affected communities, the results of the diagnosis will be ready in march 2012. The third term of the EPAE began, with the participation of member family groups in five new communities.



Through the self-management process in the communities, two family groups in the border region of Chiapas are reaching the application of different small projects: organic peasant laboratories and bio-preparation, as well as projects of Energy Efficient Wood Stoves to benefit 36 families, besides a plan of forestry management for dendro-power species. Moreover, Otros Mundos visited agroecological centres in order for the families to get involved with productive systems derived from another perspective of agriculture, and which give them technical solutions proved in their own communities or regions.



Urban RESISTE

Otros Mundos began a reflection process to build a series of sustainable urban foundations for energy generation, water, biodiversity, food and other alternatives for urban self-management.