

KICK BIG POLLUTERS OUT

New climate initiative challenges fossil fuel industry

You're shifting the dialogue on climate change



At a press event at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bonn, Germany, Associate Research Director Tamar Lawrence-Samuel discussed the necessity of barring the fossil fuel industry from treaty talks happening later this year in Paris.

This June at critical treaty meetings in Bonn, Germany, our team launched an initiative to stop the corporate capture of climate policy. We met with government delegates and NGO allies to rally them behind our call to protect the U.N. climate treaty from the fossil fuel industry and other big polluters.

As rising temperatures threaten life on this planet, people and governments are urgently looking for solutions that will cap global greenhouse gas emissions.

But for 20 years, the world's largest polluters have prevented the U.N. climate treaty from meaningfully reducing greenhouse gases. They've attacked authoritative science to avoid being regulated and have spent millions on lobbying to weaken and stall policy.

Yet in Germany, you sent a strong message, helping us deliver a petition signed by nearly a quarter of a million

“The world’s biggest polluters have a fundamental conflict of interest with binding climate policy. It’s time to remove them from U.N. climate treaty talks.”

PATTI LYNN | MANAGING DIRECTOR

people demanding the fossil fuel industry stay out of these talks. By forming relationships with governments and allies, our team is building the power needed to move forward.

Now, the world's attention is on treaty meetings in France this December, where binding agreements are on the table. Together, we need to keep up the momentum generated in Germany and stop the world's largest polluters from undermining climate policy once again.

 **Take Action: Sign the petition at KickBigPollutersOut.com**

Hard-won tobacco law protects Nigerians

After a 13-year campaign challenging British American Tobacco and other tobacco corporations, Nigerian public health advocates celebrated as President Goodluck Jonathan signed a comprehensive tobacco control bill into law. This major public health victory is a milestone for Nigerian-based ally Environmental Rights Action, which has been organizing to pass tobacco control legislation for over a decade.

With the largest youth population in Africa, Nigeria is a coveted expansion market for the tobacco industry. But now, along with pending legislation in Kenya and Uganda, this law could spur a wave of new tobacco control policies across Africa, protecting the health of millions.



The necessity of moving forward

Dear friend,

I was reminded of the vital importance of our work together when I read an essay in *The Nation* by Rebecca Solnit: “The most important thing we can do to fight climate change is try.”

She writes that the path toward social change is unpredictable, and how in spite of—no, because of—this uncertainty, we must keep moving forward: “You have to be willing to gamble on a world not dominated by fossil fuels and the power that fossil-fuel fortunes give to a handful of people and corporations.”

While here at Corporate Accountability International we organize effective strategies and accomplish what we

set out to—always in the face of overwhelming odds—Solnit’s essay reminded me that, as much as I wish it were so, there is no linear path to change. We cannot predict the effects of what Solnit calls activism, and what I call organizing: “They ripple outward, like a rock thrown into a pond. Or they snowball. Or they catalyze some new action.”

Indeed, the founders of Infact could not have predicted that the Nestlé boycott they started in a church basement in 1977 would lead to the victories you’ll read about in these pages. Like driving the World Bank’s recent divestment from

one of the world’s largest water privatizers. That’s profound impact!

There will always be twists and turns as we build toward transformative change. What matters is that we keep our vision steady, plant our determined feet onto the bedrock of hope, and do the work.

Thank you for taking each step together, hand in hand. We must. Because together is the best way we have to ensure global survival.

KELLE LOUAILLIER | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CHALLENGE CORPORATE ABUSE OF OUR FOOD

McDonald’s under pressure

The fast food giant confronts serious profit drops

For more than a year, McDonald’s profits have been steadily declining. The numbers don’t lie. Through your campaigning, you’re showing McDonald’s that it can’t continue business as usual. Even the Gates Foundation, the world’s leading funder of global health initiatives, is pulling away from the fast food giant. It divested \$1 billion worth of stock earlier this year.

At McDonald’s annual shareholders’ meeting we filled the room in support of a resolution calling McDonald’s out for its political manipulation.



Campaign Director Sriram Madhusoodanan and Institute for Policy Studies director John Cavanagh challenge the National Restaurant Association, which McDonald’s uses to keep minimum wages low and undermine marketing restrictions.

“McDonald’s business practices are rotten to the core: it needs a major overhaul, not another facelift.”

SARAH DELUCA | DIRECTOR OF MAJOR GIFTS

As this resolution reached the floor, thousands of fast food workers, parents, and teachers demanded the corporation stop marketing to kids and paying poverty wages.

But instead of making meaningful changes, the corporation is launching costly and ineffective marketing schemes.

The new CEO, Steve Easterbrook, has a choice to make real changes, like ending marketing to kids, or face ongoing pressure from parents, millennials, and others outraged by McDonald’s predatory practices.

The successes in these pages are made possible with your support. Thank you!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Cindy Ewing

Cindy Ewing is a photographer and donor activist who has supported Corporate Accountability International since the mid-1990s.



Why do you support Corporate Accountability International?

I am taken by the hard work you're doing. Yes, a few good people can change the world—you all have never stopped.

Which of our campaigns resonates most with you and why?

I've spent quite a lot of time in the Philippines so I've seen water privatization firsthand. I started going there in 1994 and continue to visit regularly. At least in the old days, most of the water problems were due to bad infrastructure. More water leaked than got to where it was supposed to be. I've watched the neighborhood water brigades make sure people have water—and hopefully healthy water. In Manila, everybody has been affected by water privatization except those that have more money than they know what to do with.

Where does your passion for this work come from?

One of my grandmothers was an environmentalist before there was a name for it. The reason I can do what I do is because of her generosity. I figure if you have been given, then you have responsibility, in a good way.

What about this work has invigorated you?

I'm funding people who are doing good work, which is why you're high on my list. It's impressive that you're doing a variety of things while being relatively small. Going up to the World Bank is wonderful. It's like being a boxer and going down, getting up, and going at it again. Corporate Accountability International is resourceful, articulate, and unstoppable.

CHALLENGE CORPORATE CONTROL OF WATER

Your visits move parks to think outside the bottle

More than 75 national parks are bottled-water-free



For almost 100 years the National Park Service has been protecting some of our most treasured places. You've also been doing your part to ensure the future of "America's Best Idea" by fueling a movement to eliminate bottled water from parks.

This summer, we released the National

Parks Guide to Thinking Outside the Bottle, and distributed it to parks nationally.


And members like you are taking action at local parks, sending a strong message: Bottled water, a wasteful way for corporations to make money off an essential resource, has no place in the mountains and forests meant for everyone.

National organizer Katherine Sawyer (left) works with David Manski, Acadia National Park's former deputy superintendent, to help Acadia join the 75+ parks nationwide that have stopped selling water.

CORPORATE HALL OF SHAME

Worst corporation of the year?

We're pressuring Corporate Hall of Shame inductee Bayer to stop profiting from pesticides linked to massive bee deaths. Which corporation is next?

 **Take action:** Vote at StopCorporateAbuse.org/Campaigns/Corporate-Hall-Shame



Corporate Accountability International stops life-threatening abuses of global corporations and increases their accountability to people around the world.

CHALLENGE CORPORATE CONTROL OF WATER

Defending Lagos' public water

Your support is crucial in upholding the human right to water

Dr. Josephine Obiajulu Okei-Odumakin understands what's at stake if Lagos' water system enters private hands. Access to such an essential resource will not be a human right but a commodity only available to those who can pay. That's why the women's rights activist joined Corporate Accountability International and Nigerian-based ally Environmental Rights Action in our campaign to protect Lagos' water.

Dr. Odumakin recognizes how women's rights are tied to water access. If Lagos' water is privatized, women—as the ones often responsible for procuring water—will bear the brunt of the negative effects.

SUCCESS! The World Bank recently divested from Veolia, the world's top water privatizer. This represents an important victory for the movement to protect water as a human right.

In August, Dr. Odumakin continued to draw attention to Lagos at a water summit co-hosted by Corporate Accountability International. Made possible by your support, the summit provided a forum for women leaders like Odumakin to help catalyze opposition to a harmful project and mobilize support for an alternative.



Prominent women's rights activist Dr. Odumakin speaks to Nigerian national media about the campaign to keep Lagos' water system in public hands. The campaign has garnered tremendous media coverage in outlets like the BBC, and is pressuring the new government to say "no" to a private water contract.

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

Do even more to protect human rights, public health, and the environment

- Contact Membership Manager Marilyn Willmoth at 617.695.2525
- Visit StopCorporateAbuse.org
- Send in the enclosed envelope



"For more than 25 years, we've supported Corporate Accountability International as they've taken on the big corporations to fight for the rest of us. By being monthly donors we enhance the organization's capacity to plan reliably for the future."

BECKY AND RILEY NEWMAN | MEMBERS SINCE 1988

Why monthly giving?

- Your gift works faster and more efficiently to make a bigger impact.
- You receive insider campaign updates to keep up to date on the influential role you have in creating a more just and equitable world.
- It's easy to participate, and you help save resources and expenses.

Thank you for your partnership!



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