

Your Funds at Work

Supporting uphill struggles in Guatemala & Honduras Battling Corrupt Traditional Elites Partnered with U.S. & Canadian Governments & Business Interests

As of December 15, Rights Action has sent over \$250,000 of your donations and grants to democracy, human rights and justice struggles; land, territory and environmental defense struggles; and emergency response work, primarily in Honduras and Guatemala (and a few similar projects in El Salvador, Argentina and Mexico).

Most of these struggles are by definition long-term, resisting and confronting the interests, impunity and corruption of their own traditional elites, usually partnered with the U.S., Canada, E.U. and international actors like the World Bank and global companies and investors.

GUATEMALA

Community defense struggles

- Landmark Hudbay Minerals civil lawsuits in Canadian courts: Since 2010, supporting 13 Maya Q'eqchi' plaintiffs seeking justice for 2007 and 2009 mining related violence.
- Ancestral Council of Q'eqchi' Peoples / Union (Gremial) of Q'eqchi' fisherpeople: Land, rights and environmental defenders resisting corrupt, repressive mining operation of Switzerland-based Solway Investment Group.
- CODIDENA (Diocese Defense of Nature committee): Xinka and campesino communities participating in and resisting manipulated "community consultation" process spear-headed by corrupt Guatemalan government and Pan American Silver (formerly Tahoe Resource).
- "La Puya" communities: Resisting KCA (Kappes Cassidy & Associates) mining company that is (a) pushing ahead a manipulated "community consultation" process, and (b) trying to sue (extort) the Guatemalan government for \$400 million in "lost potential earnings" in a World Bank-controlled conflict resolution process.

Criminalization of community defenders

- Community defenders "criminalized" on trumped up charges for their activism.
- Lawyers defending criminalized –and sometimes jailed- community defenders.

Democracy defense support

Since June 26, 2023, small funds to community organizations doing popular education and community mobilization work in defense of electoral process.

Rabinal Maya Achi Legal Clinic

Human rights and land defense community education; legal work on Maya Achi women's sexual assault and slavery case, and Rancho Bejuco massacre case.

FAMDEGUA (Family Members of Disappeared)

Work in the corrupted legal system on crimes against humanity cases, including Military Diary (Diario Militar) case.

Community development projects

- Rio Negro Maya Achi village: Centro Historico community museum and education center
- ACPC (Asociación de Comites de Producción Comunitaria): Xesiguan watershed defense, agro-ecology project in eight Maya Achi villages of Rabinal

Education

- Primary school, La Union Maya Q'eqchi' community, El Estor
- Middle & high school studies, children of Q'eqchi' land/ human rights/ environmental defenders
- University diploma, R. Martinez, Forced Migrancy & Refugee flight studies

Emergencies

- German Chub: health support, paralysis victim of Hudbay Minerals-linked mining violence
- Carlos Chen: health support, survivor of Rio Negro massacres of Maya Achi people, to make way for World Bank/ IADB's "Chixoy Dam" project
- Refugee support: Former Judge, forced into exile; Maya Achi people from Rabinal
- Casa de Migrantes (Guatemala City): Support for forced migrants from Central & South America
- Neko: Support for family of murder victim (long-time work partner of Rights Action)

Truth, Memory

- Commemoration: Over 450 Maya Achi victims of 1982 Rio Negro massacres due to World Bank/ IADB's Chixoy Dam investment project
- Commemoration: Deaths of mining resistance and land defenders Adolfo Ich Chaman, Elena Quib Choc, Ramiro Choc

Investigation, Reporting

- CIRMA, Center for Mesoamerican Research
- Carlos Ernesto, Maya Q'eqchi' community journalism
- After of Asylum Denied: a north-south collaboration documenting aftermath of the denial of refugee claims in the U.S.

HONDURAS

- Azacualpa Environmental Committee, resisting harms and community destruction by Aura Minerals' cyanide-leaching, open-pit gold mine
- Berta Caceres family: Security for Berta's mother; participation in struggle for justice for assassination of her daughter and attempted killing of Gustavo Castro
- Honduras Now: Work of Karen Spring and colleagues, documenting and resisting impacts of U.S. and Canadian neoliberal policies and programs

- OFRANEH (Garifuna land and rights defense organization): Resisting violence and corruption of tourism industry and African palm exporters; seeking justice for on-going ethnic cleansing human rights violations and killings

OTHER COUNTRIES

- Argentina: Work to free Milagro Sala and other political prisoners
- El Salvador: Jocoaitique historic memory committee, human rights work and support for survivors of U.S.-backed massacres in the 1980s
- El Salvador: Herbert Anaya Sanabria Human Rights Collective, human rights and historic memory work
- Mexico: Ojala on-line news about human rights and politics in Latin America

EDUCATION

- Organizing and delegations of Americans and Canadians to learn first hand about array of local to global issues our community partner groups confront and resist, from a critical global south/ global north perspective
- Work with media outlets that are investigating and reporting on issues that Rights Action addresses
- Participation in education/activist forums in the U.S. and Canada

On request, we can provide detailed information about any of the above ...

Rights Action December 2023 Newsletter

<https://rightsaction.org/newsletters>

Tax-Deductible Donations (Canada & U.S.)

To support land and environmental defenders, and human rights, democracy and justice struggles in Honduras and Guatemala, make check to "Rights Action" and mail to:

- U.S.: Box 50887, Washington DC, 20091-0887
- Canada: Box 82552 RPO Corktown, Toronto ON, M5A-1T8

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