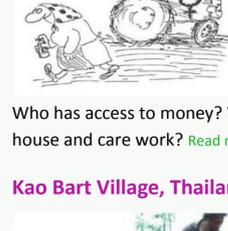




La Via Campesina share this newsletter of November 2015, which is the collective effort of organizations that are part of our movement worldwide. Subscribe [HERE](#).
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HIGHLIGHTED ARTICLE

Let's talk about the rights of women farmers!



(Vienna, Austria, November 19, 2015) Violence is not always obvious. The traditional structures of power and possession on farms in Austria tend to harm women's personal, economic and political rights. Many women suffering from economic dependency and oppression are not aware that they are victims of violence - and that they are able to defend against it. (Economic) Violence against women is still a taboo in the Austrian countryside.

Who owns the farm? Who decides about investments? Who does negotiations? Who has access to money? Who represents the farm? Who engages in political processes? And who does the house and care work? [Read more...](#)

Kao Bart Village, Thailand: Peasant Women in Struggle for Land Rights and Well Being

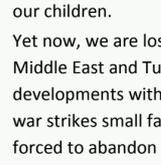


(Bangkok, November 19, 2015) Kao Bart Village is a forest-dwelling community in Dong Yai Forest in Buriram, province near Thai-Cambodia border, Thailand. Read on to learn about the complex relationship between the state, the military, corporate interests in agriculture, and the determination of women peasants for autonomy and security in Kao Bart Village. This story is contributed by Assembly of the Poor, Thailand.

In 1970, the Kao Bart villagers were encouraged by the Thai army to live and farm in the forest as part of the military's anti-communist strategies. In 1976, after the war against communism was over, the Thai state decided to push the villagers out from the forest. Their farmlands were been given to corporates for eucalyptus plantation franchises. [Read more...](#)

ARTICLES FROM THE REGIONS

Silence the Guns, Stop the Killings!



(Turkey, October 29, 2015) We peasants are the ones who watch over a plant as it comes into leaf and grows tall; who plant seeds, seedlings and saplings in the earth; who are filled with joy when we observe their healthy progress; who lose sleep when they fall sick; who care for our animals like our children.

Yet now, we are losing sleep over events in the Middle East and Turkey, we are following developments with great concern. Why? Because war strikes small farmers first. Peasants are being forced to abandon their villages and land. Peasant families are not only losing their land, but also their lives, and they are being forced to migrate. Forests are now being destroyed, the water is being polluted and nature faces ruin. Each new dawn brings more news of massacres. News of massacres in Turkey have been added to the already devastating news of massacres in Syria and Iraq. [Read more...](#)

Farmer leaders from 12 countries gather in Bangalore for a seminar on Peasant Struggle in India



(Bangalore, India, October 31, 2015) On the 28th of October, the International Seminar on Peasant Struggle in India was held at Samvada in Bangalore, India, organized by La Via Campesina South Asia. This seminar kicked off a ten-day Zero Budget

Natural Farming seminar and training, which would continue from October 30th- November 5th at Amritha Bhoomi (LVC Agroecology school). It brought together activists from across the globe. Bharatiya Kisan Union (India), MONLAR (Sri Lanka), ANPFA (Nepal), Bangladesh Krishok Federation (Bangladesh), Black Sea Uprising (Turkey), SPI (Indonesia), Assembly of the Poor (Thailand), ZIM-SOFF (Zimbabwe), MVIWATA (Tanzania), MST (Brazil), and Boricuá (Puerto Rico) were all represented.

"Monsoon Game"

The program kicked off with an interactive learning exercise that introduced participants to the lives of farmers in India today. Participants were grouped into "families" of three or four people, who were then given a slip of paper with their family details. One family's members were powerful landlords with many acres and a lot of money in savings, another family consisted of landless laborers with very little income, and another family's members were shopkeepers who owned no land but had monthly income from their business. [Read more...](#)

The milk crises of 2015: India



Press release: *The milk crises of 2015 – a dialogue of farmers' movements October 21, 2015*

(Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India, October 22, 2015) Farmer leaders from the Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU), Food Sovereignty Alliance (FSA), Karnataka Rajya Ryatha Sangha (KRRS), South Indian Coordination Committee of Farmers' Movements (SICCFM), Indian Coordination Committee of Farmers' Movements (ICCFM), Tamizhaga Vivasayigal Sangam and the Tamil Nadu Women's Collective, participated in a dialogue on the ongoing milk crises confronting small and marginal dairy farmers across India. The Food Sovereignty Alliance (FSA) convened this dialogue in Chennai, on October 21, 2015, to chalk out a collective strategy to protect the livelihoods of small and marginal dairy farmers and people's milk markets (commonly referred to as the "informal" or "unorganised" dairy sector).

A price war is raging between dairy processors (cooperatives and private companies) of the organised dairy sector, to sell milk to consumers at extremely low prices in urban centres. This has been accompanied by a steep reduction in milk procurement prices paid to farmers by dairy processors and the volume of milk procured by them. The current procurement prices, are far below the production costs incurred by farmers, thus driving them into ever deepening debt. Small and marginal farmers, whose livelihoods depend on selling milk and who are the backbone of the milk market, have been hardest hit. This has also severely affected the people's milk markets. [Read more...](#)

Seme ta Resistance – Sow your resistance



(UK, October 28, 2015) From 24th – 26th September, 250 delegates – including 2 from The Landworkers' Alliance – from over 20 countries in 4

continents gathered in the south of France for a conference organised by the French Peasant Seed network, Réseau Semences Paysanne.

RSP was restarted in 2000 at the time that the first crop of GM maize was grown in France and as peasant farmers were losing their legal rights to grow and sell their non-industrial seeds. RSP was launched because they faced a situation where peasants and citizens needed to organise themselves effectively or face losing their seeds, and the country face losing access to non-industrial, unpoisoned food. 15 years later, 80 organisations are working under the RSP umbrella and they are achieving a great deal. [Read more...](#)

An International Farmers Alliance Links Climate Change to Industrial Agriculture

First published by [RURAL AMERICA IN THESE TIMES](#), November 17, 2015

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) agriculture is responsible for a major portion of the increase of greenhouse gases. Not all agriculture has the same impact, however—the vast majority of the effect comes from the post WWII industrial agricultural system.

This system—an agricultural model based on capital concentration, high fossil energy consumption, overproduction, fossil energy and trade liberalization—has put our planet's ecosystems at risk and pushed human communities toward disaster. [Read more...](#)

New Publications

"Peasant Agroecology for Food Sovereignty and Mother Earth, experiences of La Via Campesina". Now available!

Our Solutions to the COP21 - New Notebook La Via Campesina



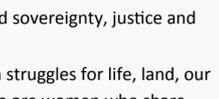
Title: "Peasant Agroecology for Food Sovereignty and Mother Earth, experiences of La Via Campesina"

Summary: La Via Campesina is pleased to present study booklet number 7: "Peasant Agroecology for Food Sovereignty and Mother Earth, experiences of La Via Campesina", which is the result of the collective efforts of various organizations from diverse regions including Africa, America, Europe and Asia. These groups make up part of our worldwide movement. From their distinct territories they shaped their experiences into 10 articles. This set of experiences represents a dynamic range of practices and knowledge, both for training within our movement and as a mechanism for additional knowledge exchange and rural-city dialogue.

This book also seeks to provide visibility of advocacy for Food Sovereignty which creates space for reflection, with examples from academic institutions, political allies and friends. We propose Peasant Agroecology as a way of production for rural communities, where Food Sovereignty constitutes a principle of life. [Read more...](#)

VIACAMPESINA TV

VIDEOS



Women planting struggles and hope



For Feminism and food sovereignty. We are women who share our stories and common struggles for life, land, our territories, food sovereignty, justice and dignity.

We are women who share our stories and common struggles for life, land, our territories, food sovereignty, justice and dignity. We are women who share our own knowledge and experiences, because – much like seeds – we are certain that when shared, they are able to grow and multiply. This video was produced for the IV International Women assembly in the framework of the VI international conference of La Via Campesina, In Indonesia, June 2013. Click [here](#) to watch video

The value of women



Rural women in Central America are fighting for access to land as reforms and law usually do not include women. In the seventies and eighties, only 12% of the beneficiaries of land reforms and other land access programs were women. Click [here](#) to watch video

Women farmers building the future



Testimonies of women farmers during the Second World Assembly of rural women which took place in Brazil in June 2004 on the time of the Fourth International Conference of la Via Campesina. Click [here](#) to watch video



See the [new set of post cards of the campaign](#) : you can print and send them around

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