

ANNUAL REPORT

2019



LA VIA CAMPESINA

CONTENT

1.0	INTRODUCTION: NEW DECADE OF STRUGGLE, SECURE FUTURE OF OUR PLANET	1
2.0	MID TERM CONFERENCE: BUILDING FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND DEFENDING THE RIGHTS OF PEASANTS	5
3.0	LA VIA CAMPESINA AROUND THE WORLD: GLOBALIZING HOPE	7
4.0	PEASANTS' RIGHTS: IMPLEMENTING AND POPULARIZING THE UN DECLARATION	12
5.0	AGROECOLOGY, SEEDS AND BIODIVERSITY	14
6.0	ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE	19
7.0	LAND, WATER AND TERRITORY – CRIMINALIZATION AND SOLIDARITY	21
8.0	PUBLIC POLICIES AND FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND THE STRUGGLE AGAINST FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS	23
9.0	MIGRATIONS AND WAGE WORKERS	27
10.0	CAMPAIGN AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS	29
11.0	YOUTH ARTICULATION	31
12.0	LVC WOMEN'S ARTICULATION	34
13.0	COMMUNICATION	37
14.0	INTERNAL FUNCTIONING	39
14.1	— 'Formacion' in Motion:	39
14.2	— Looking Ahead: Our Strategy and Challenges	40
15.0	ANNEXES	42
15.1	— Selected Publications: Books, Statements, Declarations and Press Releases	42
15.2	— 2019 International and Regional Activities	48

1.0

INTRODUCTION: NEW DECADE OF STRUGGLE, SECURE FUTURE OF OUR PLANET



Only a radical societal transformation upheld by food sovereignty can repair the current polarization and bring peasants, workers and the majority of the poor into the center stage of the political and economic questions facing the world today.

As we begin a new decade of struggle in 2020, to secure our planet and all its life forms, we take stock of the struggles and victories that we had in 2019. Over the last decade, the world has faced many complex and interconnected challenges that heightened political crises and triggered mass mobilizations in several regions. These mass protests broke out in all corners of the earth: Haiti, Honduras, Lebanon, India, Ecuador, Peru,

Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Algeria, Sudan, South Africa, France, Brazil, Argentina, Spain, etc. What was clear and common among the protests was that economic inequality, poverty and climate crisis can no longer be tolerated. In the context of contradictory realities of hope and desperation, the people, both rural and urban, are fed up and disillusioned with the current neoliberal political economic order.

The consequences of this disillusionment are not always pleasant.

It is alarming but not surprising to see the rise of right-wing populism, ethnic and religious parochialism and fundamentalism, and the growing nostalgia for hyper-nationalism

building the social transformation we want as we struggle against patriarchy and inequality. All our members should have capacities to undertake these actions. To that end, the main focus of the global movement in 2019 (and into 2020) is education and ideological training of our rural base everywhere.

In August 2019, we gathered in Zimbabwe for the movement's Mid-Term Conference to reflect, evaluate and advance the strategic lines of action we agreed to take at our 7th International Conference.



emerging as a response to the hegemony of a neo-liberal free-market society. Purveyors of fascism are projecting cultural conservatism as an alternative to the decaying liberal political and economic world order. The global elites are panicking and confused, and are increasingly belligerent to ensure their own survival. What roles can an international peasant movement play here? Can we push back the right-wing surge and usher in a world order that respects diversity, fraternity, equality and social justice? Sure we can.

Only a radical societal transformation upheld by food sovereignty can repair the current polarization and bring peasants, workers and the majority of the poor into the center stage of the political and economic questions facing the world today. This is possible if we continually strengthen our political and ideological training not only to counter neo-liberalism and fascism, but also to allow our members to imagine

The UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas (UNDROP) had its first anniversary in 2019. As we push for the protection and recognition of our rights, sadly, many peasant and indigenous leaders continued to face persecution and criminalization. This happens in many countries, particularly those with right-wing neo-liberal governments, such as the ones that the US is trying to restore in Latin America. We spent much of the year engaging with relevant actors and allies on how to implement and make use of UNDROP to protect and promote our rights. To achieve this, the development of popular educational materials is more urgent than ever to help the grassroots, firstly to understand, and secondly to transform their current realities through mass mobilizations at the local level. Implementing the UNDROP is among the highest international priorities of La Via Campesina. We need to think about how to educate and organize the peasant youth in our

communities and inform them about the Declaration. We need to build greater unity and solidarity to struggle against criminalization in all its forms. One way to do this is to strengthen the existing solidarity mechanism by developing an emergency response system and giving legal support to imprisoned peasant and community leaders who defend our rights. Moreover, we will use our educational spaces to prepare our membership to be effective in resisting persecution and criminalization. We desire that every organization of La Via Campesina reads the UNDROP, discusses it, shares it, and finds ways to use it to strengthen local and national struggles for agrarian reform, agroecology, popular peasant feminism, and food sovereignty.

Some protests, particularly those linked to the climate emergency, again reflected the urgency to repair the broken down relationship between people and the environment. Millions poured into the streets calling for political leaders to address the climate crisis. All this happened while in Brazil, Russia, USA and Australia unprecedented wildfires raged uncontrollably, decimating millions of hectares forest and animal life. Climate change and the resulting crisis is more visible today than before. The shifts in, and unpredictability of, weather conditions have led to millions of people becoming food insecure.

Recurring droughts in the southern hemisphere have not only increased food insecurity but also water scarcity, a security threat that has potential to destabilize many global regions and lead to wars. Because of climate change and the lack of rural employment, we have witnessed increased migration from the countryside to the cities and this is having an enormous impact on our movements, especially the youth. These are daunting challenges, which require a collective approach to build a better society. There is therefore a need to think creatively on mobilization strategies that can best achieve our vision. We, together with other like-minded movements must recover the idea of struggle against capitalism.

One thing is certain. The crises we are living through are not our own; they are part of the

structural crisis of capitalism that has been playing out for several years. In order to reproduce itself, capitalism is extracting more out of both labor and nature. Among other activities to build awareness and resist capitalism, in 2020 we will organize a global week of actions against imperialism. In this week of action, La Via Campesina will contribute to making visible the connection between the destruction of the planet, the advance of capitalism's structural crisis, and the new forms of imperialism being used to impose the will of corporations around the world. Our training processes and actions will be holistic and based on inclusion, diversity, transformation, historical memory, spiritual strength and real-world solutions to the problems we face. We will draw strength from the increasing successes in lawsuits against Transnational Corporations (TNCs) and the ban of Glyphosate among other historic victories. Despite money still holding sway in global governance, there is a glimpse of hope in our fight against TNCs and their products.

La Via Campesina needs to voice stronger dissent to free trade agreements and the World Trade Organization, as historically these have been central in our movement. While a few years back, we celebrated, though with caution, the collapse of Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), stagnation of negotiations of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) - in 2019 we witnessed signing of new agreements including the African Continental Free Trade Agreement in May and the revised United States, Mexico and Canada Agreement (USMCA) on 10 December 2019. These agreements will only serve the interests of big transnational corporations and further marginalize the role of small family farms and peasants; destroy Food Sovereignty and the environment and undermine the rights of people. La Via Campesina together with other social movements and allies continue to mobilize against free trade agreements across the world. In Asia, the partial victory against Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnerships (RCEP) with India withdrawing, achieved as a result of strong mobilizations by social movements in Asia and great solidarity work between different unions and peasant

movements, has put a spoke in the wheel of RCEP expansion plans. Such mobilizations are also being organized against the EU's deals with MERCOSUR and Canada (CETA).

During the year, we welcomed the official launch of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming. We believe that the UN Decade of Family Farming should serve to legitimize our struggles against the lack of public policies supporting peasants, and for the implementation of those that we consider interesting or useful and put forward our positions. More importantly, we will call for the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and the Voluntary Guidelines on land tenure, ensure secure access to land and water by small-scale peasant farmers using agroecological methods, and push to promote local purchases and public procurement. In Europe, the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy is urgent; while in the US, a Farmers' Bill of Rights is needed to breathe life into quickly disappearing and marginalized small family farms. The current agricultural policies support big agribusinesses and corporations.

In August 2019, we gathered in Zimbabwe for the movement's Mid-Term Conference to reflect, evaluate and advance the strategic lines of action we agreed to take at our 7th International Conference. It was also a moment to evaluate the current global context with a view to locate our role as a peasant movement that is seeking to build a better society. Following this analysis we agreed that, among other political priorities in 2020 and going forward, we will improve our internal functioning and organize strategies in order to respond to the new challenges we face - including strengthening our solidarity response mechanisms in response to criminalization and persecution of peasants. We continue to deepen our conversations on effective formation (training) processes and to build a Popular Peasant Feminism that reflects women's realities and unites us in the fight against the system of patriarchy.

2.0

MID TERM CONFERENCE: BUILDING FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND DEFENDING THE RIGHTS OF PEASANTS



During the Mid-Term Conference, the leadership from all regions of LVC analyzed the global context, set the priorities for the coming years, and discussed the issue of training as well as ways to strengthen the internal functioning of the peasant movement.

La Via Campesina organized its 8th Mid-Term conference from the 25th of August to the 2nd of September 2019 in Zimbabwe. The conference was hosted by Zimbabwe Smallholder Organic Farmers' Forum

(ZIMSOFF) at Zimbabwe Institute of Public Administration and Management (ZIPAM). The conference brought together over 140 LVC delegates from all regions to review the progress in the implementation of the strategic

lines of actions, as defined at the 7th International Conference held in Basque Country in 2017.

During the Mid-Term Conference, the leadership from all regions of LVC analyzed the global context, set the priorities for the coming years, and discussed the issue of training as well as ways to strengthen the internal functioning of the peasant movement. It also allowed the delegates to learn the struggle of LVC within the African continent and Zimbabwe, and to recognize the work done by ZIMSOFF over the last six years since it has hosted the LVC International Operative Secretariat (IOS).

The Conference reflected the commitment of LVC to be led primarily by younger people, with greater and deeper participation of women in all levels of the movement. Before participating in the three-day main program, the International Youth Articulation and the International Women's Articulation each held separate assemblies to assess progress since the 7th Conference, define their contributions to the main program agenda, and make decisions involving internal functioning.

The first-ever International Encounter of the Men of LVC was held, where men were able to discuss gender inequality and patriarchy both outside and within their organizations and movements.

These spaces, used to discuss the relationship of youth with the movement, enduring gender inequality and violence against women, as well as strategies for women and men to work together against patriarchy, were crucial to set the tone for the main program of the Midterm Conference.

The main program combined plenary sessions dedicated to the Zimbabwean, African, and international contexts, agrarian reform, the agribusiness offensive, the privatization and financialization of nature and the commons, political and agroecological formation processes, and strategies for transforming the social, political and cultural correlation of forces, peasant rights declaration, with break-out discussion sessions in small groups that allowed for more dynamic participation. This process of analysis culminated on the last day of the conference with discussions and decisions made about issues related to the international functioning of our peasant movement.

On the 1st of September, the delegates visited the Central and Northern Clusters of ZIMSOFF and had an opportunity to exchange experiences and share best practices in agroecological peasant agriculture with selected ZIMSOFF members in Juru, Mutoko, Mhondoro and Shashe.

3.0

LA VIA CAMPESINA AROUND THE WORLD: GLOBALIZING HOPE

La Via Campesina Southeast and East Asia: Strengthening solidarity through exchange visits

The region deliberately made strengthening of solidarity integral in all its meetings and events. La Via Campesina Southeast and East Asia (LVC SEEA) region organized



exchange visits between members to strengthen solidarity and increase understanding of each member organization's situation. The visits also were an opportunity to share experiences through peasant-to-peasant horizontal learning. In January, during LVC SEEA women articulation meeting in Thailand, a "Her Food Talk" event was organized to share the story of women related to traditional food

grown with peasant seeds, with diverse and delicious dishes from different countries. This was followed by a visit to Natae-Kuemyai Community Learning Center to learn about the peasant agroecology experience of Thai peasant women, and participation in a public

La Via Campesina Southeast and East Asia (LVC SEEA) region organized exchange visits between members to strengthen solidarity and increase understanding of each member organization's situation.

forum on peasant women's role in the food sovereignty

struggle. In May, during the six-day regional meeting in Japan, many days were set aside to understand the situation of family farmers and the peasant movement in Japan.

These included a visit to Sosa City and Sanmu City to learn about the reality and practice of peasants and family farmers of the Sosa Solar Sharing Project, Agri Sakae and Sanbu Yasai

Network. The meeting host organization, Nominren, shared with delegates the history of Japanese peasants' movement and its work to guarantee, through its Food Research Center, that food is safe from radiation contamination. The scientific base gives very strong and influential power to strengthen the peasant movement by raising the issue of food safety to the citizens.

In August, SPI-Mokatil conducted joint programs to strengthen member organizations in terms of institutional, agroecological, cooperative, food sovereignty and public policy on agrarian reform. In November, KPL and KWPA visited SPI in Jakarta and Yogyakarta, Indonesia to understand the history and implementation of UNDROP, agroecology practice and peasant seed systems in Indonesia, while strengthening regional consolidation through the exchange between members of LVC SEEA.

La Via Campesina Southern and Eastern Africa: Convergence of events

La Via Campesina Southern and Eastern Africa region had a busy activity schedule in 2019. This included hosting big events such as the La Via Campesina's 8th Mid-Term Conference (August –September in Zimbabwe) and the Africa Continental agroecology encounter (August).



The youth decided to have representatives in all regional working collectives to ensure that their issues are heard and incorporated the region's plan.

The region also participated in regional and global public policy events to develop a Global Action Plan of the UN Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028 and the formation of the southern African Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) held in Johannesburg, South Africa. In May, a regional youth training was held in Mutoko, Zimbabwe.

The theme of that training was “Agroecology, social mobilization, and agrarian policies”, focused on increasing the capacities of youth in the region to understand their struggles, realities and identify key avenues of

mobilization. The youth decided to have representatives in all regional working collectives to ensure that their issues are heard and incorporated the region's plan.

The women's articulation organized and participated in the first ever regional peasant feminism training in July with 18 women attending together with allies (RWA and WoMin; AGS as our partner). The training provided a platform to learn about and deepen the debate on peasant feminism and to develop an independent vision of the concept at the regional level.

La Via Campesina North America: Joint articulation and capacity building

La Via Campesina North America (LVCNA) focused on strengthening its regional capacity through a regional meeting, a political committee meeting and a regional Youth Articulation Encounter. 2019 was an important moment and opportunity for the region to build capacity and relationships.

The region also came together to oppose the United States, Mexico and Canada Agreement (USMCA) that threatens small-scale dairy cooperatives, rural workers and migrant workers. [More information on this is available under the Free Trade section 9.0].

2019 was an important moment and opportunity for the region to build capacity and relationships.



La Via Campesina South Asia: Resisting RCEP and Protecting Seeds



The mobilization against RCEP resulted in India's decision to pull the plug on its participation.

During 2019, the South

Asia region advanced campaigns on peasant seeds, and against genetically modified crops and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). The mobilization against RCEP resulted in India's decision to pull the plug on its participation. A constant stream of agroecology-focused activities at the Agroecology School in Amrita Bhoomi (India) were also held. The member organizations have been active in their local struggles in defense of land, fair agricultural prices, decriminalization of peasant struggle, and justice for marginalized peasant communities. In July, La Via Campesina South Asia regional meeting was held in Nepal and was hosted by ANPFa. Member organizations, observers and allies attended the meeting to make a collective commitment to unify the struggles in the region to realize food sovereignty and to strengthen solidarity across the region. A decision was made during this meeting to prioritize gender equality and training of next-generation youth to carry forward the fight for food sovereignty. Thus, the activities related to women and youth have been gaining more importance in the region's action plan.

European Coordination Via Campesina: strengthening the mobilization for a fairer CAP

As the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) post 2020 reform process wheels roll forward, the European Coordination of La Via Campesina (ECVC) has developed its vision for change at

the European Continent and has set clear political demands. ECVC continues its lobbying efforts to push for a profound change in the CAP based on Food Sovereignty, based on small and medium-sized farmers with fair prices and incomes, a healthy and sustainable model of agriculture and food, as well as a clear process supporting agroecology.

There have been many engagements with various EU institutions and participation in EU expert group mechanisms in an effort to influence policy direction in favor of ECVC members. In 2019, the ECVC organized several advocacy meetings with European institutions and prepared many documents¹ to demand a fairer CAP that does not serve the interests of the agro-industry.

A joint mobilization on "Good Food Good Farming" was organized in October to demand, among other things, a fairer CAP. In agriculture, the elimination of public policies regulating the market has depressed prices below the cost of production, a fact that will be aggravated by the re-nationalization of the CAP, through the strategic plans. Common instruments for public crisis response have been abandoned and the



A joint mobilization on "Good Food Good Farming" was organized in October to demand, among other things, a fairer CAP.

¹ ECVC with the Nyeleni Europe and Central Asia Platform for Food Sovereignty released the publication "More Farmers, Better Food: Why and how to put small scale sustainable producers at the core of the new CAP". The report highlights the alarming situation in rural areas and in the food system in the EU, but also why small farmers should be put at the core of EU agricultural policy, the CAP.

privatization of the management of public aid is being embraced in the form of income insurance. ECVC prepared and sent an open letter to the AGRI Committee of the European Parliament reiterating the urgency of rectifying the distribution of aid, which currently does not benefit 40% of the 11 million farms from CAP first pillar support. Many farms, 25% of over 3.5 million peasant farms, have been lost. This is serious if we consider that more than 140 million people, or 28% of the EU population, live in rural areas and benefit directly or indirectly from the existence of peasant agriculture.

ECVC continues to engage on EU agricultural production and policy issues through active participation in the European Commission agricultural product specific expert groups (on milk, wine, meat, Crops, fruits and vegetables and olives) and Agriculture civil dialogue groups. For instance, in the Crops Market Observatory, ECVC promotes the family farm producing sustainable food, and resists the progress of "US style" concentration of the farmland and large scale industrial farming.

South America, Central America and the Caribbean

The CLOC Via Campesina organized its VII Continental Congress in Havana, Cuba, from to June 2019. The Congress brought together over 300 men and women delegates of peasant, indigenous, afro-descendant, landless, artisan fishers, native peoples and rural men and women workers, the youth and women from over 30 countries from Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as from Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America. The VII Congress was a moment to offer solidarity with the struggles of the peoples of Ecuador, Chile, Bolivia, Colombia, and Haiti. These countries and many other Latin American countries had, during 2019, many protests in opposition to the destructive neoliberal capitalist model. Congress ratified an action plan that prioritizes, among other things, popular organization, political and ideological education, and the development of popular communication against agri-business and the privatization of seeds.



The Congress brought together over 300 men and women delegates of peasant, indigenous, afro-descendant, landless, artisan fishers, native peoples and rural men and women workers, the youth and women from over 30 countries from Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as from Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America.

The VI Peasant Women Assembly and the V Youth Assembly were also a part of the VII Congress. Women highlighted their struggle for an equitable and egalitarian society, and against violence, abuse, and exploitation. They also called on the governments of the Northern Triangle of Central America, Mexico, and the United States, to respect the human rights of migrant caravans. The youth denounced neoliberal policies and rejected the blockades against Cuba, Venezuela, and Nicaragua. They affirmed their support and commitment to defend all revolutionary processes.

Arab Region and North Africa

During the year 2019, the LVC members in the Arab Region & North Africa (ArNA) accelerated their efforts towards defending the rights of the peasants and agricultural workers. The region has identified potential members in Sudan, Egypt, Algeria, and Mauritania.

However, the process has not been easy due to political situations and limitations on movement in the region. Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC) in Palestine and MRW in Tunisia are strengthening youth and women associations to assert their presence in the local community.



In October, UAWC held in Ramallah an international conference on "Food Sovereignty: Colonies and Frontiers." Over 18 Via Campesina members and allies participated in a series of visits across the occupied Palestinian territories.

Photo: Oskar Harnaldo/La Via Campesina

In Palestine, UAWC organized more than 30 meetings in different governorates to promote LVC principles, and six demonstrations to defend the rights of the peasants. In October, UAWC held in Ramallah an international conference on "Food Sovereignty: Colonies and Frontiers." Over 18 Via Campesina members and allies² participated in a series of visits across the occupied Palestinian territories. They also participated in the olive harvest and a seeds exchange ceremony in the Hebron district on the 16th of October- the International Day of Action for People's Food Sovereignty and Against Transnational Corporations.

In Tunisia, UAWC and MRW participated in the North African Network for Food Sovereignty conference.

West and Central Africa

Within the framework of the improvement of land governance in Africa, the Global

Convergence of Land and Water Struggles in West Africa organized the African Forum on the roles and responsibilities of women and youth in land governance. This forum took place in December and was held in two stages in Sélingué and Kangaba in Mali. The forum drew over 300 people from Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Chad and Mali; including 20 customary chiefs from 13 countries, representatives of La Via Campesina, representatives of women and youth, representatives of communities affected by land grabbing, representatives of CSOs working on land, academics and administrative and political authorities. The forum sought to contribute to the improvement of land governance by promoting the reconciliation of good customary practices with progressive land policies and laws. Such improvements are critical to increasing land tenure security and make it possible for more youth to be involved in agriculture.



The Global Convergence of Land and Water Struggles in West Africa organized the African Forum on the roles and responsibilities of women and youth in land governance.

² from Honduras, Brazil, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, South Africa, Colombia, the Basque Country, Mozambique, Germany and the United States of America

4.0

PEASANTS' RIGHTS: IMPLEMENTING AND POPULARIZING THE UN DECLARATION

In 2019, we commemorated the first anniversary of the *UN Declaration On The Rights Of Peasants And Other People Working In Rural Areas* (UNDROP). La Via Campesina and its allies (FIAN, CETIM, etc.) mobilized throughout the year in a global push for the implementation and popularization of UNDROP at all levels internationally, regionally and nationally.

Starting in May 2019 the representatives of La Via Campesina and allies lobbied inside the United Nations General Assembly in New York, the UN Human Rights Council (UN HRC) in Geneva and at the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) in Rome to create an international momentum that favors and promotes the implementation of the rights of peasants.

In Geneva, the focus was to follow up after the adoption of UNDROP to:

1. Establish a special procedure within the UN Human Rights Council, which could materialize into either a *special rapporteur on the rights of peasants* or

a *UN working group on the rights of peasants*. The idea is to push for a resolution on this special procedure in September 2020;

2. *Sensitize and mainstream the UNDROP* within the UN HR offices and bodies³ such as the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Food and Agriculture Organization and others.

The challenge for the first objective is the change of political situation in Bolivia following the coup d'état which led to the departure of Evo Morales, a key promoter and supporter of UNDROP. We need to engage new States to become promoters to drive the UNDROP process within the United Nations. In New York at the UN headquarters and in Rome at the FAO, we have been linking the UNDROP to the UN Decade of Family Farming (UN DFF, 2019 – 2028) – a framework launched at FAO in May 2019, to promote public policies in support of family farmers. The UN DFF launch events in Rome,⁴ New York,⁵ and also in Geneva⁶ were successful in sending our message and link the

³ <https://viacampesina.org/en/1st-anniversary-of-the-peasants-rights-declaration-joint-statement-by-un-human-rights-experts/>

⁴ <https://viacampesina.org/en/un-decade-of-family-farming-peasants-voice-their-hopes-and-concerns/>

⁵ <https://viacampesina.org/en/decade-of-family-farming-via-campesina-calls-for-fao-to-join-hands-with-peasant-and-small-scale-family-farmer-organizations/>

⁶ <http://www.fao.org/geneva/news/detail/en/c/1239275/>

UNDROP to the UN DFF. During the Rome launch, a side event on UNDROP was organized to keep the interests of peasants and smallholder food producers at the center of the UN DFF, and to make joint efforts within the UN DFF to also implement the UNDROP.

We also worked within the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) process and the larger UN General Assembly fora⁷ to promote UNDROP. At the SDG Summit, during the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) under the 74th Session of the General Assembly in New York on 26th September, La Via Campesina called upon all governments to promote, use and apply the UN Peasants' Rights Declaration. We also highlighted that peasant-led agroecology and sustainable peasant farming, offer concrete pathways to achieve several of the 17 sustainable development goals. Many peasant and rural organizations⁸ in Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and South America are already disseminating the UNDROP to create awareness, which is important to develop the capacity at the

local level to start claiming rights. Such efforts are critical if peasants (and fisher folk, pastoralists, rural workers, indigenous peoples) all over the world are to persuade their governments to implement UNDROP nationally.

Many avenues exist to use the declaration to support our peasant struggles. These include awareness raising, training, capacity building, advocacy, monitoring and evaluation.

In 2020, we look forward to deepening this work; we are planning an international training on UNDROP and also build popular materials for the UN Declaration through a participatory process with grassroots organizations, social movements and communities, and from the different rights-holder groups (peasants, indigenous peoples, rural workers, small-scale fishing communities and fish workers, etc.

Peasants' Rights NOW!



First Anniversary
of the UN Declaration on
the Rights of Peasants and
Other People Working in Rural Areas

#17December #PeasantsRightsNOW

⁷ <https://viacampesina.org/en/it-is-now-urgent-to-put-human-rights-and-nature-before-profit-la-via-campesina-in-un/>

⁸ Many examples: from [Canada](#), [Brazil](#), Europe([1](#)) ([2](#)) ([3](#)) ([4](#)), [Romania](#), [Indonesia](#) ([1](#)) ([2](#)), [South Korea](#), [India](#) (translation of the UN Declaration into Kannada (language spoken predominantly by people of Karnataka in southwestern India),

a public event to use the UN Declaration as a reference for better public policies, while introducing the contents of the Declaration to the peasants), [Pakistan](#) (raising awareness of the UNDROP, [translation of the UN Declaration into Urdu](#)) - among others.

5.0

AGROECOLOGY, SEEDS AND BIODIVERSITY



Photo: Oskar Harnaldo/La Via Campesina

Photo: Oskar Harnaldo/La Via Campesina

The International Work Group on Agroecology, Seeds and Biodiversity of La Via Campesina had an intense year with the objective of continuing to strengthen peasant agroecology as a social process, a struggle for justice in local and national food systems, policy and practice



The International Work Group on Agroecology, Seeds and Biodiversity of La Via Campesina had an intense year with the objective of continuing to strengthen peasant agroecology as a social process, a struggle for justice in local and national food systems, policy and practice. From Rome to Ramallah, from Harare to Havana, peasant agroecology, peasant-to-peasant education and peasant seed systems were defended as profoundly political and practical solutions to the devastating effects of the corporate-controlled food system that our movement is fighting against, and for People's Food Sovereignty.

New web section: LVC's schools and training processes in agroecology (Global)

In the more than 25 years of history of La Via Campesina, both political and technical training have been a strategic priority in the movement. Understanding that the strength of the changes is in the level of consciousness and the degree of organization of the people.



In 2019, in the framework of the 16th October - International Day of Struggle for Peoples' Food Sovereignty and against the transnational corporations La Via Campesina launched a new section on its website⁹ called "Schools and Training Processes in Agroecology" where we compile about 55 training processes from the different member regions that we have built and consolidated collectively within La Via Campesina. In the coming months, the

In 2019, La Via Campesina launched a new section on its website called "Schools and Training Processes in Agroecology" where we compile about 55 training processes from the different member regions that we have built and consolidated collectively

movement will also launch an online course module on the website that aims to bring together the experiences and methodologies from each of our schools under one roof and make it available to practitioners.

Agroecology Encounter in Africa



With the participation of 16 peasant organizations from 18 countries, from all over the African continent, the Meeting of the Agroecology Schools of La Via Campesina Africa was held, with the aim of strengthening

a common vision on the training of peasants in Agroecology as part of the defense of Food Sovereignty and the struggle against capital, agro-industry, land grabbing, social exclusion and for climate justice.

The schools and training processes in agroecology that exist in La Via Campesina Africa have combined knowledge, experiences and the struggles of different organizations in the face of the realities of each country

and territory. Furthermore, they have sought to strengthen the struggles for the rights of peasants to land, water, seeds and biodiversity.

The participants undertook collective reflections on each training experience and its methodologies. La Via Campesina in Africa currently has several schools and training

⁹ <https://viacampesina.org/en/schools/>

processes in Peasant Agroecology. In countries such as Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Mali and Niger, they coordinate programs with curricula that reflect their needs as peasants. They also have other itinerant processes, such as courses and modules, in Tanzania, Guinea Bissau, Togo, Ghana, Senegal, The Gambia, Congo-Brazzaville, Burkina Faso, Uganda, Kenya and South Africa, seeking to make agroecology a public policy for national governments and a continental commitment of solidarity, fighting the disastrous effects of the climate crisis, the appropriation of resources, and criminalization of peasants.

Seed Sovereignty for Food Sovereignty Conference in Palestine

From October 14 to 19, a diversity of LVC delegates from all over the world met in occupied Palestine to participate in the "First International Conference on Food Sovereignty, Colonization and Borders", as well as in the Second Exchange of the "Adopt a Seed Action" within the Global Campaign: "Peasant Seeds, People's Heritage in the Service of Humanity."

Both the Conference and the Seed Exchange were organized by the Palestinian Union of Agricultural Working Committees (UAWC), a leading member of the La Via Campesina Arab and North Africa (ARNA) Emerging Region process. This activity coincided with the 16th October - International Day of Struggle for People's Food Sovereignty and against transnational corporations; several other actions took place in the world as well.

During the exchange, the LVC delegation visited the UAWC Local Seed House in the center of Hebron City and exchanged seeds with farmers from Dora village who participate in seed multiplication for the Local Seed House.

In Hebron, the delegates learned how UAWC's seed-saving work has expanded in the context of less rainfall due to climate change and that the Israeli occupation is preventing Palestinian farmers from accessing water, thereby forcing the efforts to focus on the recovery and reproduction of rain-fed vegetable seed varieties. By 2019, UAWC has recovered some 45

traditional seed varieties and reaches over 1,000 family farmers through its Local Seed House.

Peasant-to-Peasant Training in Agroecology in Cuba

In November of 2019, peasant leaders involved in agroecological training in Africa, America, Asia and Europe participated in the VII International Meeting on Agroecology, Sustainable Agriculture and Co-operativism before attending a workshop on the Peasant-to-Peasant Methodology. With the sponsorship of the National Association of Family Farmers of Cuba (ANAP), the participants exchanged consolidated experiences in agroecology and discussed new ways to train new trainers in the farmer-to-farmer methodology in their organizations, countries and regions.

United Nations Decade of Family Farming (Rome)

After the 2014 International Year of the Family Farming where the important socioeconomic, environmental and cultural role of indigenous and peasant communities in the fight for the eradication of hunger and poverty was made visible, the FAO announced new actions. And so it is that the year 2019 marks the beginning of the Decade of Family Farming (2019-2028), which aims to draw greater attention to the people who produce more than 80 percent of the world's food, but who themselves, paradoxically, are often the most vulnerable to hunger.

As La Via Campesina, we see the decade of family farming as a valuable opportunity to discuss policies for peasants at the international level, together with the Declaration of Peasant Rights.

In addition, the document of the Decade of Family Farming (DFF) has several important points: the validation of peasant and family production in contrast to the multinational agribusiness-led food systems with its numerous problems. Contamination with agricultural chemicals or agrootoxics, loss of biodiversity, desertification, degradation, land grabbing; and all this has led to a significant increase in hunger and malnutrition at the

international level as well as to increase climate change.

That is why family farming is internationally recognized for its great capacity to reverse this trend, to produce healthy food, agroecologically and with biodiversity. Quoting the former FAO Director-General: "Family farming is fundamental to sustainable development in many aspects, including the eradication of poverty, hunger and all forms of malnutrition, as well as the preservation of natural resources and biodiversity," said Graziano da Silva at the ministerial meeting on family farming of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP).

The Decade of Family Farming action plan also contains points of great importance for peasants. The cross-cutting pillars of this document are: supporting youth and ensuring the generational sustainability of family farming (Pillar 1 cross-cutting), and promoting gender equity in family farming and the leadership role of rural women (Pillar 2 cross-cutting).

Seed rights, GM and transgenics: Mobilizations in South Asia

In India last year, there were many attempts by the State to release new genetically modified (GM) crops. As a reaction to that, prominent farmers' unions of India cautioned the government that if it does not take intense action to stop illegal GM crop cultivation, they would be forced to take up country-wide mobilizations or protests. Releasing a letter written to the apex regulatory body for gene technologies, Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC), they demanded that the event developer be made legally liable for any illegal GM crop cultivation in the country.

In early 2019, peasants groups and environmentalists mobilized to protest against the commercial release of golden rice in Bangladesh. Bangladesh Agricultural Farm Labor Federation (BAFLF), along with other farmers' groups, held many seminars, series of demonstrations, and protest rallies. They also

submitted many letters to the Bangladesh government and Agriculture Minister of Bangladesh demanding to stop the commercial release of Genetically Engineered Golden Rice in the country.

Seed Treaty and Protecting Peasant Seed Rights

The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Seed Treaty) faces new challenges besides the refusal of the seed industry to pay its debt and respect farmers' rights. A new threat comes in the form of Digital Genetic Sequencing. In November, in Rome, during the eighth meeting of Seed Treaty Governing Body, we noted that the Treaty is totally paralyzed by the greed of the biotech industry and rich countries like the European Union, which hosts four of the world's six largest GMO seed companies. The meeting failed, as no major decision was made, to make States recognize that the digital sequence information contained in the seeds shared by the Treaty is an integral part of these seeds, in order to stop biopiracy patents.

In Europe, ECVC together with allies and other organizations (Corporate Europe Observatory, Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth Europe, IFOAM-EU, etc.) engaged the EU institutions to implement the European Court of Justice decision (C-528/16) which called for the EU GM legislation to apply to all new GMOs. An open letter¹⁰ was sent to the European Commission and the European Parliament demanding (1) strict enforcement of the European Union GMO regulation for all new GMOs, (2) immediate creation of a research program to elaborate the needed techniques which are essential to identify new GMOs, and (3) obligation to make public the information about the obtaining, selection and multiplication techniques of every commercialized seed.

ECVC has also been advocating for the European Union and its Member States to immediately push the European patent office to stop granting patents on plants and animals derived exclusively from "essentially biological processes". In September, ECVC organized a

¹⁰ <https://www.eurovia.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/2019-05-14-ECVC-Open-Letter-on-GMOs-x-EP-candidates.pdf>

public conference on Peasants Rights in Europe with a specific panel focusing on peasants' rights to seeds and how to implement UNDROP at European level. The objective was to show why peasants' right to seeds, as part of human rights, should have the primacy over intellectual property rights.

Towards the end of the year, Via Campesina and its allies prepared the Nyeleni newsletter on "**Peasant seeds, the heart of the struggle for Food Sovereignty**" to raise awareness of, and support the seed struggles in all territories, and

to provide information on the "Adopt a Seed" action that was relaunched in 2018. In January, the "**Seed Stories**", the English version of a French comic developed by our French member, Confederation Paysanne and other organizations was circulated globally. The graphic comic exposes the dangers currently looming over peasant seed systems in the form of genetic engineering, new-genome editing and more, and is a powerful training tool around seed issues. We seek to translate it to many languages.



6.0

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE



La Via Campesina rejected the resolution on carbon markets at COP 25, as this option kept the status quo of inaction, distraction and deceiving, and promoted more emissions and further temperature rise

Photo: Isabel Salcedo/La Via Campesina

Climate change is an existential threat to humanity and nature. The climate crisis is more visible than ever and is affecting Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas. The rising sea levels, droughts and unprecedented floods are forcing millions of people to migrate. Such migration has led to overcrowding and competition for natural resources, fueling conflict over jobs and increasing ultra-

nationalism (xenophobia attacks and rise of right-wing political parties). There is a need to protect people forcibly displaced by the effects of climate change as they migrate to other countries.

We witnessed multiple examples of the climate crisis: Cyclones in Mozambique and Zimbabwe; the flooding of Karnataka and Maharashtra in

India; receding glaciers at the Arctic; heatwaves of over 45° C that have devastated Europe and North America; and the raging fires in Brazil, USA, Russia, and Australia as warmer temperatures dry out the landscape. In March and April, Mozambique and Zimbabwe in La Via Campesina Southern and Eastern Africa (LVC SEAf) region were affected by Cyclone Idai and Kenneth. Livestock and crops were swept away, villages left desolate, killing over a thousand people. Many peasants, women, men, and children were displaced. The assistance to rebuild their lives following the massive destruction of homes and crops has been inadequate.

La Via Campesina Southern and Eastern Africa (LVC SEAf) region continued to build the "Pathway to Climate Justice," a second phase of the "Building Climate Justice Advocacy with Small Scale Farmers in Southern and Eastern Africa" project that started in 2017 in partnership with Afrika Kontank of Denmark. Three country research studies, based on interviews and discussions with the small-scale food producers, were done in South Africa, Kenya and Democratic Republic of Congo. These studies together with the other four country studies done in Zimbabwe, Uganda, Tanzania and Mozambique during the first phase will be compiled into a comparative regional study on agroecology and climate justice to support policy engagement. Two national trainings on climate justice and agroecology were conducted in Tanzania and Zimbabwe in July. The trainings aimed to widen the understanding of national members on the concept of climate justice and agroecology, and enable them to develop national plans and educational materials.

At UN climate meeting COP 25, as in the previous COPs, we called upon the governments and their representatives to assume their responsibilities instead of simply serving the interests of capital. As La Via Campesina, we urgently call for action to change the capitalist system that exploits, pollutes and uses up our commons, which are the heritage of peoples throughout the world. We together with our allies demanded through an open letter that carbon markets are kept out

of the Paris Rulebook. We rejected the resolution on carbon markets at COP 25, as this option kept the status quo of inaction, distraction and deceiving, and promoted more emissions and further temperature rise. We continue to reject and resist all false solutions to the climate crisis, including carbon markets (especially on farmlands), REDD and REDD+, agrofuels, GMOs and so-called 'climate-smart agriculture', and geoengineering. History has taught us that solutions come from the peoples, not from the profit-driven corporations. We want food sovereignty based on peasant agroecology, social and climate justice through a just transition and respect of the rights of peasants, indigenous peoples and all those working in rural areas.

In solidarity with the Chilean people, La Via Campesina issued a statement on COP 25 entitled "With Rights and in Democracy, we will continue building Social and Climate Justice!" This followed the change of venue of the COP 25 from Chile to Spain due to sustained mass mobilizations against President Sebastián Piñera and his neo-liberal policies. La Via Campesina mobilized in both in Chile and Spain participating in spaces of solidarity and exchange, working alongside peoples and youth from throughout the world fighting the capitalist system.

In October our members (Land Workers Alliance -LWA) joined protests in London to reject policies such as the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) that protect the corporations and factory farms, chemicals and pesticides that destroy the environment and drive climate change. They demanded an immediate transition to a food and farming system with justice at its core that works for people, the environment and the climate; a peasant led agroecological system that protect the soils, the climate, wildlife and biodiversity. We should push more than ever to re-organize food production to support local economies and reduce greenhouse gases emissions.

7.0

LAND, WATER AND TERRITORY – CRIMINALIZATION AND SOLIDARITY

LVC is an international articulation that exists for the benefit of all, through the construction of food sovereignty. And in order to achieve food sovereignty there are the

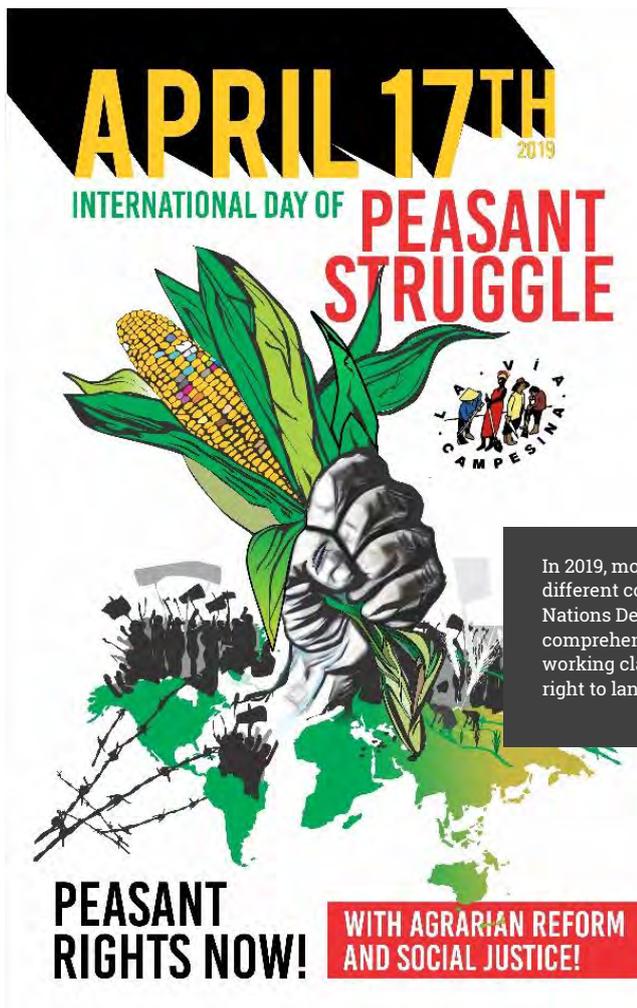
struggles for land, water and territory and set of struggles is the essence of the movement and the core of its existence.

The 17 April Day of Struggle is an activity in which we are all involved since April 17, 1996, when 19 peasants were assassinated by the militia and police of the state of Para, Brazil. La Via Campesina initiated this date of struggle and actions throughout the world against the criminalization of the struggles and against the violations of our rights - for land, against transnational corporations, for the right to fair trade, for the rights of peasants. In 2019, more than 45 activities were carried out in the different continents, for the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on Peasants' Rights, for a comprehensive agrarian reform, but also for all the working classes of society as

a whole, guaranteeing the right to land and territories.

While building

solidarity and internationalism, our movement has put a lot of commitment and attention into national struggles. Accompanying our member organizations in Colombia within the peace process, LVC participates as a guarantor of the agreements and has carried out annual



In 2019, more than 45 activities were carried out in the different continents, for the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on Peasants' Rights, for a comprehensive agrarian reform, but also for all the working classes of society as a whole, guaranteeing the right to land and territories

missions in this country. War only produces death and desperation, and that peace must be based on social justice, agrarian reform and the construction of sovereignty.

It is important to point out that the approval of the UN Declaration on Peasants' Rights gives us hope as we now have in the hands of the people an instrument of defense. It has been many years in the construction of our peasant charter, now adopted by the UN. We won this through the persistence of La Via Campesina along with partner organizations that put their efforts in solidarity. We have more rights and now we have the challenge to make the states play their part, since the Declaration is not binding.

We continue to build the rights of peasants in the spaces where we can put forward our issues, be it in the FAO (the CFS), the other UN bodies, seeking to build our influence within the IFAD, but above all knowing that we only advance from the strength of our struggles.

Solidarity and Criminalization

Via Campesina issued several solidarity statements to its member organization during the year (see annex 15.1). Statements included (1) defending peace in Colombia, Venezuela; (2) denouncing the coup d'état in Bolivia, human rights abuses during protests in Ecuador, Chile, Haiti, Palestine; (3) strengthening peasant struggles in Palestine, North, and South Korea; (4) supporting the rebuilding peasant communities following natural disasters in Mozambique and Zimbabwe affected by Cyclones Idai and Kenneth, communities affected by dams in Brazil, etc.

Unfortunately, one year after the adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Peasant and other people working in rural areas (UNDROP), many peasants around the world continue to be persecuted and criminalized for their actions to defend the rights of communities mainly by the state. In Brazil, the government of Bolsonaro has been persecuting many members of the landless movement (MST). Israel persecuted many Palestinian peasants for defending their land. In Brazil, Ukraine and Pakistan peasants were killed too for defending their land. In Latin America, at times, persecution and killing of peasants were conducted by the private security of big companies.



In Tunisia, 12 agricultural women workers were murdered in the Sebala region, Sidi Bouzid. Many African migrants attempting to go to Europe have been mistreated and faced violations of their rights in transit countries such as Libya and at the borders of the European countries of destination such as Greece, Italy, etc.

8.0

PUBLIC POLICIES AND FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND THE STRUGGLE AGAINST FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS



An internal meeting of the Public Policies collective was organized in Paris from the 6th to the 8th of December 2019. The main objective was to define the key challenges and LVC priorities in the current global context with regard to the FAO-related work on public policies and global food governance

This year, LVC's International Collective on Public Policies and Food Sovereignty focused its efforts on strengthening its internal functioning and defining the main priorities of action in the framework of the UN Decade of Family Farming 2019-2020. LVC, as part of the International Steering Committee of

the UN Decade of Family Farming, participated in the discussions held throughout the year in order to contribute to the framing of the global action plan of the decade.

An LVC delegation participated in the official launch events organized in Rome and New

York during the High Level Political Forum in July to defend a model of family farming based on peasants and agroecology (which includes small-scale farmers, fisherfolks, forest users, pastoralists) that feeds the world's peoples. Thanks to the efforts of LVC, the role of women peasants who have historically been the primary innovators and seed selectors worldwide was acknowledged as one of main pillars of action. For LVC, the Decade is an opportunity to call on governments to protect, uphold and fulfil the rights of small-scale, agroecological food producers worldwide, through the creation and implementation of legal measures and policies, formulated by and with peasants such as the UN Declaration on Peasant Rights, the Farmers Rights articulated in Article 9 of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) and the Right to Food within the UN Declaration on Human Rights. LVC also advocated putting youth at the core of the policies that will be implemented during the Decade of family farming.

In the context of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), LVC participated in the renewal of the Coordination Committee of the Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples' Mechanism (CSM). As a result of the consultation process, LVC leadership will participate in the coordination of the smallholder farmers', youth and women constituencies as well as the sub-regions of North America, North Africa, Southern Cone and Central Africa.

LVC leaders also actively engaged in the coordination of two important work streams: "Agroecological and other innovative approaches for sustainable agriculture" and "Food systems and nutrition", both conducting to the negotiation of voluntary guidelines during the year 2020.

In October 2019, a delegation composed by 13 LVC leaders, 2 staff members and a consultant actively participated in the CSM preparatory meeting, the CSM forum, the CFS plenary sessions, the CSM side-events, and in a series of other events

and bilateral meetings over the almost 2 week period.

During these events, several delegates brought our agenda forward publicly presenting our positions as panelists, speakers or moderators, as well as from the floor during plenary sessions.

The LVC delegation also held a meeting with the new FAO Director General, Dr. Qu Dongyu, that took place on the 17th of October.

An internal meeting of the Public Policies collective was organized in Paris from the 6th to the 8th of December 2019. The main objective was to define the key challenges and LVC priorities in the current global context with regard to the FAO-related work on public policies and global food governance. The meeting involved the participation of 13 delegates (7 of which ICC members) and 3 staff members and it was an important step concerning the internal discussion on the mentioned issues, as well as the engagement of ICC leaders in these processes.

Finally, the year 2019 has also seen a renewed engagement from LVC leaders and staff in the International Planning Committee for Food Security (IPC). Several LVC leaders actively contributed to the organization of an enlarged facilitation committee meeting of the IPC, carried out from 9 to 11 December near Rome.

The Struggle Against Free Trade Agreements



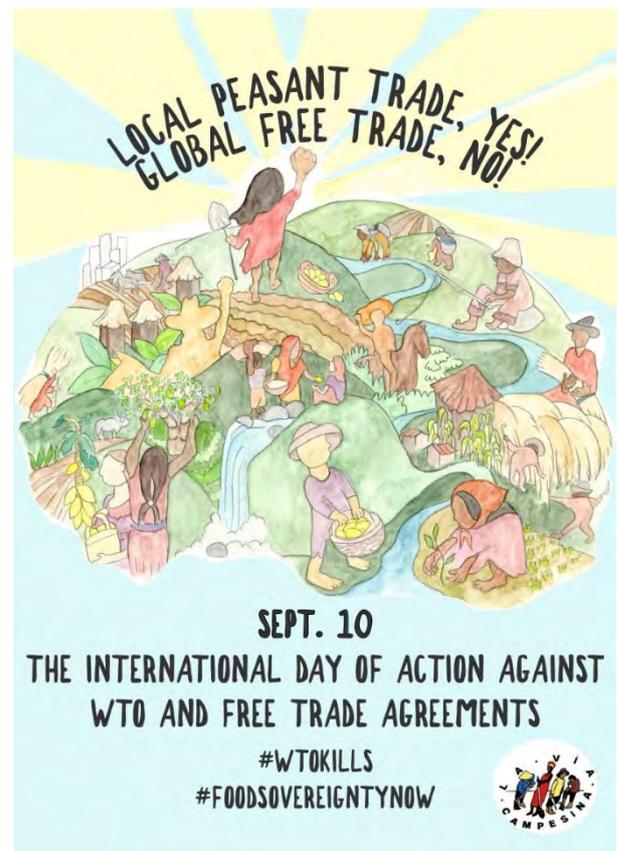
Free Trade Agreements have been devastating to peasant agriculture and are the cause of many social and economic ills confronting

peasants. In the related regions of Asia and Africa, the struggles against the TPP and the RCEP are key mobilizing struggles. We have witnessed a growing trend towards terrible bilateral and multilateral free trade agreements, as the World Trade Organization (WTO) is playing a slightly different role, by focusing on public procurement that discriminates against peasant agriculture. We therefore have prioritized the next WTO meeting that will be held in Kazakhstan in 2020 as a key space to mobilize.

In Africa, the European Union used tariff threats to force countries into signing the West and Central Africa Economic Partnership Agreement. Governments consulted civil society organizations about the possibilities of exporting food to the European Union and we said "NO". However, Cameroon, Burkina Faso, and Gabon have signed. Countries have betrayed one another in this process. Other countries continue to be at war and are not able to sign the free trade agreement.

In Asia, the Indian Coordination Committee of Farmers Movements, comprising several members of La Via Campesina, built a massive movement against the plan to bring in Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), intended to become the largest free trade area in the world. Through year-long campaigns, which included building grassroots awareness, advocacy with parliamentarians, online petitions and organizing mass demonstrations, the movements in India succeeded in forcing the government to drop out of the RCEP negotiations, thereby also putting the Asia-Pacific and ASEAN plans of the agreement in jeopardy.

In Europe, the vital battle right now is to stop the European Union – Mercosur Free Trade Agreement. The fires in the Amazon have mobilized significant opposition to this agreement. It is time for a significant alliance with urban sectors to talk about the soy production and many reasons for opposing this agreement. In January, ECVC together with AbL and FUGEA, protested along the Belgian-German border and denounced the EU's current trade agenda. They demanded a fair EU trade



policy that ensures fair producer prices, fair working conditions, environmental protection and animal welfare, high quality food and food sovereignty. Again, in June, ECVC called on the EU parliament to reject the EU- MERCOSUR agreement, an affront to the rights of the peasants and citizens.

In Central America, it isn't free trade—it's forced trade. We harvest and then the imported foods arrive and our livelihoods are ruined. The United States heavily subsidizes its basic grain producers, and that is impossible in our countries. Our focus is to protect small and medium scale national producers, build farmers' markets, cooperatives, and preserve our community structure. We resist despite the Central American Free Trade Agreement.

La Via Campesina North America (LVCNA) member organizations campaigned against and opposed the signing of the United States, Mexico and Canada trade agreement (USMCA), the new North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). This trade agreement, just like the previous agreement, furthers corporate profit; worsens the situation of rural workers; weakens safeguards against price or supply volatility;

and promotes dumping. For instance, Canada's successful dairy supply management program will be weakened by opening domestic markets to imports. In the U.S., the demands to restore Country of Origin Labeling for meat were ignored. The new provisions on regulations empower corporations to delay and challenge new and existing rules that are designed to protect public health and the environment. USMCA will also require Mexico to sign and implement a treaty on plant varieties that

limits farmers' ability to both save and share seeds. This new agreement does not protect Indigenous food sovereignty nor address climate change. The situation of many farmers across North America, already trapped in a vicious cycle of low prices, overproduction and corporate concentration in agriculture, will be dire. And farm foreclosures, violent and brutalizing immigration practices and territorial dispossession will be commonplace.

9.0

MIGRATIONS AND WAGE WORKERS



In November of 2019, the European Coordination Via Campesina (ECVC) released a damning report titled, "Sowing Injustice, Harvesting Despair: Abuse and Exploitation of Foreign Agricultural Workers".

2019 was another year of organized resistance by migrant workers worldwide. Emboldened by the peasant-led passing of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas (UNDROP) and offended by the state-led Global Compact on Migration (GCM), migrant movements across the globe led social processes aimed at defending their human, migrant and peasant rights.

Artistic Uprising (U.S.-Mexico Border)

In early July, artists and organizers joined forces in El Paso, Texas to resist the racist anti-immigrant policies of U.S. President Donald J. Trump. Hosted in part by LVC's Border Agricultural Workers Project (BAWP), the July 5th "Artistic Uprising" was a rapid response to reports of mistreatment of migrants and their families by authorities.

Organizing Against “No-Rights Zones” (Europe)

In November of 2019, the European Coordination Via Campesina (ECVC) released a damning report titled, “Sowing Injustice, Harvesting Despair: Abuse and Exploitation of Foreign Agricultural Workers”.¹¹ The result of more than 10 years of fieldwork within ECVC, the report analyzes different labor intermediation schemes in four Mediterranean countries (France, Spain, Italy and Morocco), revealing the troublesome connection between the expansion of the industrial model of agriculture in the Mediterranean region; the intermediation schemes at their service; and the increased vulnerability and exploitation of migrant agricultural workers.

Building an information exchange platform

The meeting of the Platform was held in December and was hosted by the local collective CODETRAS. The meeting was meant to strengthen the different organizations and collectives by sharing experiences and strategies of organization and actions in the struggle for the rights of agricultural workers. The activity was organized by ECVC and the local member of the Platform, the Confédération Paysanne, with the local coordination of the Bouches-du-Rhône department and CODETRAS.

Morocco Mobilized for Farmworkers' Rights

In November 2019, the Moroccan Labor Union (UMT) declared December a month of struggle in which it intensified its actions against the government's plans aimed at purchasing power, retirement, public services, the right to strike and union organization. The National Federation of the Agricultural Sector (FNSA),

affiliated to the UMT and a member of La Via Campesina, participated in the month of struggle and carried the demands of workers in the agricultural sector, including peasants and farm workers.

The National Union of Peasants, a member of FNSA, thus participated in the national march against land grabbing in Casablanca on 8 December. The march was organized by the "Akal" coordination and was characterized by the massive participation of Amazigh peasants (indigenous people), victims of recent land dispossession in southern Morocco. The National Union of Agricultural Workers, also member of the FNSA, organized 3 demonstrations in Chtouka Ait Baha, Ouled Tayma and Tiddas, in the center and south of the country. The main demands were the increase of the minimum agricultural wage, which is still lower than the minimum wage in other sectors, the reduction of working hours from 48 hours to 44 hours per week, and the application of the labor code, which is not applied in the majority of farms in the country. Other actions have been organized by the other FNSA unions representing various categories of agricultural workers.

All 18 FNSA member unions mobilized at the national level in the strike of 25 December, the last action of the month of struggle, and marched the same day between the headquarters of the Ministry of Agriculture and the headquarters of the Moroccan parliament in Rabat. The march brought together peasants, agricultural workers and civil servants of the agricultural sector. The FNSA issued a statement announcing the success of the strike and the continuation of negotiations with the government.

¹¹ See: https://www.eurovia.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/EN2.1_lowres.pdf

10.0

CAMPAIGN AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS



In October 2019, we participated as part of the GLOBAL CAMPAIGN TO RECLAIM PEOPLE'S SOVEREIGNTY, DISMANTLE CORPORATE POWER AND STOP IMPUNITY in a week of action during the United Nations (UN) Inter-governmental Working Group (IGWG) discussing a treaty on "transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights"

La Via Campesina continued to challenge the impunity enjoyed by Transnational Corporations who violate the rights of rural and indigenous people, by actively contributing to the negotiations towards a UN Binding Treaty in Geneva.

In October 2019, we participated as part of the *GLOBAL CAMPAIGN TO RECLAIM PEOPLE'S*

SOVEREIGNTY, DISMANTLE CORPORATE POWER AND STOP IMPUNITY in a week of action during the United Nations (UN) Inter-governmental Working Group (IGWG) discussing a treaty on "transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights".

The peasant movement raised concern about the content of the revised draft text presented for discussion during the week, which did not reflect many of our key concerns and proposals. In particular, the treaty needs a primary focus on transnational corporations, as indicated in the original resolution 26/9, to address the corporate impunity we see in the world. In terms of its contents, the Global Campaign considers that the Revised Draft Treaty departs from the spirit and provisions of Resolution 26/9 in the following ways. First, by limiting itself to the obligations of States, the text fails to hold TNCs accountable at the international level and thus ensure their effective regulation. Granting responsibilities to respect human rights only to States is to maintain the current status quo, which has been incapable of preventing impunity for TNCs. Moreover, this adds to the fact that the implementation mechanisms foreseen in the draft are very weak, which will make it very difficult to prevent violations and facilitate access to justice.

Secondly, we are concerned about the extension of the scope of the treaty to all companies because it has thereby lost its focus on the real need for such a treaty - that is, transnational corporations and their ability to circumvent national jurisdictions and preserve

their impunity. As all of us in this process know, this change responds to the demands of actors and states that have actively challenged the construction of this treaty – such as the private sector, the EU delegation and other countries.

In a statement released after the negotiations, the campaign also noted with disappointment “the drastic reduction in meetings with civil society and the reduction in the channels of dialogue traditionally available between the representatives of the affected communities and the leadership of the Intergovernmental Group”.

In 2019, ECVC joined the European campaign against the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS),¹² a campaign calling on the EU and Member States to end corporate privileges within free trade deals and other international investment treaties. The campaign calls for an end to ISDS and other special courts systems, present in many FTAs, where investors can sue a State if the latter passes any regulation that jeopardizes the corporations' profits. This campaign is a means to pressure governments to withdraw from existing trade and investment agreements containing ISDS and other mechanisms undermining people's rights.

¹² <https://stopisds.org/action/>

11.0

YOUTH ARTICULATION



Substantial work was done in raising the voice of youth internally within the international peasant movement, as well as externally in different international spaces

2019 was a busy year for youth articulation. Substantial work was done in raising the voice of youth internally within the international peasant movement, as well as externally in different international spaces.

The Thies Meeting

In April, the young people of La Via Campesina from the countryside and cities of all regions,

met during the Youth Articulation meeting in Thies, Senegal and exchanged information on the struggles, realities, ideas and regional perspectives. They reiterated the struggle to sustain youth farmers and peasants, women and men to stay in the countryside (rural areas) to continue to farm and work on the land. This was emphasized in their declaration, issued at the end of the meeting, which called on the

young people to continue to work hard in achieving food sovereignty; to the respect of the rights of peasants, the rights of young people to land and territories; and to our global struggle for agrarian reform and social justice. The meeting also laid grounds for the Youth action plans in the upcoming years.

V Youth Assembly of the CLOC-LVC

In June, more than 100 youth delegates from 19 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean met in Cuba for the *V Youth Assembly of the CLOC-LVC*, under the motto *“youth of the countryside, youth of the city, let’s struggle together for our ideals”*. The focus in this meeting was the participation, self-determination, formation (training) of the youth, and agroecology as a rallying cry.

The importance of formation (training) for young people has been reiterated in recent years, and the youth leaders have identified both political and technical training as a main priority and goal.

Southern and Eastern Africa (LVC SEA) youth articulation

La Via Campesina Southern and Eastern Africa (LVC SEA) youth articulation gathered in July in Mutuko, Zimbabwe for a Youth training in their region. Here, they initiated the process to build and launch a campaign against land grabbing and evictions, and a campaign to protect and promote indigenous seed rights. They also started to build popular education to create awareness and political consciousness especially for young people.

Strengthening the Youth Articulation in North America

Thirty youth from seven LVCNA member organizations, along with seven ally organizations, attended the second regional youth gathering in Rogersville, New Brunswick, Canada from November 11-15, 2019. Youth gathered with the intent to enhance their collective capacity to transform food, farming and rural culture, towards agroecology and food sovereignty at local, regional and international levels.

Youth met on a farm and collectively shared accommodations, meals and cultural exchanges with a local Indigenous community. Youth facilitated sessions on Climate Justice, Land and Agrarian Reform, UNDROP and Popular Peasant Feminism.

The encounter allowed the youth to learn about one another’s contexts, struggles, and opportunities; to exchange ideas and develop strategies; and build momentum within the region. They also drafted a declaration with calls to action.

Members of the Youth Articulation of LVCNA have been very active in building relationships and partnerships with the U.S. Food Sovereignty Alliance and the People’s Agroecology Process, both based in North America.

ECVC Youth – political training and alliance building

During 2019, the ECVC Youth articulation was been mainly active on political training, in particular in collaboration with the youth articulation of Friends of the Earth. One of the main outcome was the organization of a political training on food sovereignty held in June in Cyprus. The objective of this training was to gather environmental and urban activists with young farmers, to discuss the political meaning of food sovereignty and to build common work. At this event, a decision was made to organize a joint action between Young Friends of the Earth Europe and ECVC youth on the 17th of April 2020.

ECVC youth articulation representatives are also participating in the Peasant-to-Peasant (P2P) agroecology exchange project in order to guarantee a link in between the agroecology working group of ECVC and the youth articulation.

Youth in struggle against Free Trade Agreements

In terms of mobilization, the youth of La Via Campesina have been fierce in the struggle against the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (RCEP) - a trade deal involving countries in Asia Pacific. Peasant

movements, including young people, carried out coordinated demonstrations outside several district headquarters across India. In Indonesia, the young people began to intensify the campaign to kick the WTO (World Trade Organization) out of agriculture – building up to what will be a global mobilization against WTO Ministerial Meeting in Kazakhstan in 2020. Throughout 2019, the youth in Indonesia have also been active in building cooperatives especially in high-quality coffee processing and its alternative marketing, strengthening the student movement, and also campaigning for the implementation of the UN Declaration on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas (UNDROP) at the national level.

Youth for better public policies!

Another important area of youth work was their involvement in global governance spaces to promote international public policies to increase youth participation in decision-making processes. La Via Campesina youth delegates have been very active in FAO process in Rome. At the FAO, youth leaders took part in a session entitled "Dialogues with Civil Society: A Conversation with La Via Campesina ", which among other issues addressed, the role of women and youth in agriculture and discussed the priorities of the movement in synergy with policies and strategies promoted by FAO. The Youth participated to the International Steering

Committee (ISC) meetings of the UN Decade of Family Farming starting in July 2018 together with FAO, IFAD and several governments. The inclusion of youth and gender policies within the framework of the Decade has been achieved thanks to La Via Campesina's insistence on the matter.

The discussion on gender diversity in La Via Campesina is also moving forward, especially in the context of non-discrimination, solidarity, and building peace. The struggle for the rights of LGBTTIQ persons is also our common struggle in the broader human rights movement, as well as in the struggle for food sovereignty and the human right to adequate food and nutrition.

In 2020, the youth of La Via Campesina will focus on movement building, improving coordination within the Youth Articulation, and increasing formation (training) spaces. They proposed also to create their own media and communications mechanisms, to continue weaving rural-urban alliances, using UNDROP as a tool to reach more people and to pressure governments to implement public policies that support peasant agriculture, and to reaffirm agroecology as a key struggle. These proposals were agreed in a Youth Assembly meeting within the La Via Campesina mid-term conference in Darwendale, Zimbabwe in August 2019.

12.0

LVC WOMEN'S ARTICULATION



Throughout 2019, La Via Campesina continued to reaffirm the struggle against patriarchy and deepened the construction of popular peasant feminism within the movement and in our territories.

Several assemblies and meetings of members of the Women's Articulation took place in several regions during the year.

The VI CLOC Women's Assembly brought together women delegates of member organizations from 21 countries, in Cuba during the June VII Congress of the Latin America Coordination of Peasant Organizations, CLOC-

Via Campesina. At this meeting, women reaffirmed their commitment to resist the patriarchal and capitalist systems that violate their rights and plunders their resources.

Deepening Popular Peasant Feminism: Exchanges in Africa

In August, the Women's Assembly was held in Harare prior to the mid-term conference. The Women's Articulation devoted its time during the mid-term conference to engage in political training in order to exchange and learn more about the experience of struggle and resistance of rural women, particularly in Africa. It was a moment to deepen and understand the

construction of the popular peasant feminism from an African perspective.

The participants reiterated that feminism has always existed, and it is exemplified as a struggle for women to survive: for equality, justice, recognition and protection of agroecological practices, land access, seed saving and exchanges. It is the struggle to change tradition steeped in male domination in decision-making spaces, and access to, and ownership of, natural resources. Outside of the family sphere, women need power to struggle against militarism, mining, land grabbing and other causes of migration.

For us, in La Via Campesina, popular peasant feminism is the way to organize and fight the challenges we face in unity. Patriarchy is a system that uses men, just as it uses women and people of diverse genders. It is therefore important, if we are to realize total emancipation of women and people of diverse genders, that men also be set free from the clutches of patriarchy. To achieve this we should focus on formation (training) processes to build autonomy and solidarity. We need to develop our own feminist popular education that includes agroecology and the defense of common goods, to help women organize collectively.

We should also use the UN Declaration of Peasant Rights to build the reality we want. We need to fight against co-opting of women's struggles as we advance the women's struggle and strengthen organizational structures and organic processes of women's articulations in all the regions of La Via Campesina.

Solidarity Actions on March 8 and November 25:

The Women's Articulation in La Via Campesina continues to use the two important dates of collective construction, March 8 - International Women's Day, and November 25 -, Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to mobilize actions for global solidarity and strengthen the struggle for the cause of women in rural and urban areas. During these days, hundreds of protests and marches were organized by LVC member organizations in

alliance with other sectors of the city, in various corners of the world, to denounce patriarchy, machismo and fascism. These have shown their most perverse face against women, rolling back their rights, marginalizing and exploiting life.



On March 8, the Articulation prepared and issued a call for a global solidarity action, with the slogan "For the life and dignity of women, we fight against the exploitation and oppression of the capitalist and patriarchal system".

The call sought to unify actions of struggle and resistance in the territories for better public policies for women in health, education, access to land, and for the respect and implementation of the UN Declaration of Peasant Rights.

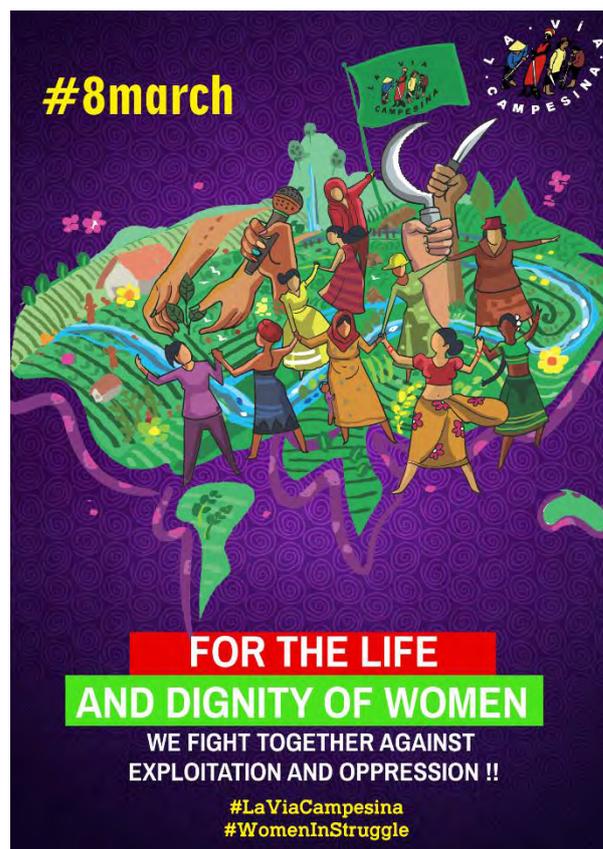
In November, as the world engaged in the annual campaign against gender-based violence, the Women's Articulation reaffirmed our "Stop Violence against Women" Campaign adopted by the movement over a decade ago.



A call was issued mobilizing our member organizations and allies from the 25th of November (the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women) to the 30th of November, to carry out actions to strengthen our collective struggle for a conscious and free society, which does not exploit humans and nature.

We used the following hashtags
#PopularPeasantFeminism
#NoMoreViolenceAgainstWomen #25Nov to mobilize on social media. La Via Campesina's official campaign poster was distributed to all regions to translate it into their local languages to use during our actions.

A new series of 6 postcards on several articles of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas relating to all peasant women rights were developed in Spanish, English, and French and were shared during this campaign period as well as in print form at the Women's Assembly and Mid-Term Conference.



13.0

COMMUNICATION



By the end of the year, this collective also rolled out a media training program for members of the International Coordination Committee (ICC) on the technical aspects of designing a communications plan and process

La Via Campesina put in motion a process of developing a Communications Working Collective at all levels within the movement intended to provide political oversight and strategic guidance on how the global movement wants to convey its messages to various constituencies.

In February 2019, the first encounter of this Collective took place in Brussels with an aim to define a political process for the development

of communications collectives at the regional and international spaces of the movement. By the end of the year, this collective also rolled out a media training program for members of the International Coordination Committee (ICC) on the technical aspects of designing a communications plan and process.

During the year, the movement also amplified its messaging around the implementation of the UN Declaration on Rights of Peasants by

making it the pivotal point during all the global days of action. Short videos, popular campaign materials, posters and web articles were produced and published throughout the year and disseminated to members and allies.

A two-year long production of a historical documentary on La Via Campesina, first initiated during the VII International Conference in 2017, was completed in 2019 and a preview screening for all members was

organized during the Mid-Term conference in Harare. The purpose of the video is to show how LVC has grown in the past 25 years, what were the important moment of its history, the important decisions taken to help it become what it is now: a unique umbrella to claim peasants' right to live, to farm, to produce in dignity. Zirriborro [a video team in the Basque Country] worked with the technical team at the International Operative Secretariat throughout the production process.

14.0

INTERNAL FUNCTIONING

14.1 'Formacion' in Motion:

In La Via Campesina, we have a great challenge to build deliberate processes of formation (learning and training) at all levels, starting at local member organizations bubbling up to the regions and the international level. It is not that this has not been happening in the movement, but there is a need to systematize the process in a rapidly changing world so that as a movement, we can be alert to organize and respond accordingly in an articulated way. Not only to respond, but also to understand our reality and find ways to change it. Thus, our formation will reflect a synthesis between what we do and what we want to do. As a collective, during the year we started a process of systematization of training experiences in the countries and regions through surveys, as a starting point to build our international training program. In this sense, we are working on a mapping with the regions.



During all the activities, meetings, seminars, and gatherings of any collective in 2019, we deliberately set aside time to study, for awareness raising and analysis of the world context. At secretariat level, there have been moments in monthly IOS calls for learning and formation. For instance, there were discussions on gender diversity and how we should ensure inclusiveness in all the work. Again, the IOS staff meeting in Bali, the secretariat had a moment to learn and understand from past peasant leaders the genesis, strategies and construction of the struggle for peasant rights together with allies.



At the regional level, formation efforts are ongoing to ensure all member organizations are familiar with, and use the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People working in Rural Areas (UNDROP). In the regional meetings, time has been set aside to understand in detail the history of struggle of the host organizations and other topical issues

such as Popular Peasant Feminism and the Peasant Rights Declaration. The Women's Articulation is continuing to deepen the construction of Popular Peasant Feminism also linking it to UNDROP.

The youth too, engaged in formation in order to strengthen their struggles. The Agroecology, Seed and Biodiversity collective is compiling and building a knowledge hub on popular education materials on agroecological practices that will be used in the agroecology schools in different regions.

At the Mid-Term Conference, besides internally organized formation spaces, we invited two scholars, a Zimbabwean agrarian scholar to help delegates appreciate the agrarian struggles which led to one of the most successful land redistribution in favor of the poor people and its challenges; and an international agrarian scholar to present on and organize discussions on the dangers of right-wing populism and the disconnect that exists between conventional liberal discourse and the kind of mobilizing ideas that political and social movements use. Again, the horizontal farmer-to-farmer learning and exchange was held at the end of the conference when delegates visited various ZIMSOFF farmers.

During the conference, over 15 delegates from different regions were interviewed to create a documentary to build an understanding of the importance of communication in the process of formation. The short film documentary will provide a narration about the conceptualization, methodologies, and challenges; and how delegates use art, culture and communication in the processes of formation in their different territories. The idea is to have this diverse and powerful material to guide our formation and our actions with greater quality as a movement. This video will be officially launched in 2020.

During the year, we took on the firm challenge of building international training spaces, for which we launched the proposal of the First Feminist School for Regional Women Leaders from all parts of the world, to be held in September 2020 in Brazil.

14.2 Looking Ahead: Our Strategy and Challenges



Numerous strong mobilizations are taking place in a global context where in many countries extreme right-wing governments are blocking progress and aggressively try to limit the space of social movements and civil society. The climate crisis as well as the deepening of the gap between rich and poor brings people out on the streets. At the same time, we see an increasingly aggressive attempt of transnational corporations to further undermine the rights-based system and the roles of national governments, grabbing our land, water, seeds and markets.



In the years ahead, we must mobilize with other movements against the undermining of our rights and against the increasing violence and repression towards our movements that struggle for, and defend peasant agriculture. We will use the UN Declaration on Peasant Rights to build capacity in our organizations to increase pressure for initiatives and policies that improve peasant lives.

We have to continue to mobilize against Transnational Corporations and the governments that promote their interest at the expense of the people. We will continue to mobilize against the corporate agenda of “free trade”, land grabbing, GMOs and other industrial seeds, as well as the capture by TNCs of the climate crisis imposing their false solutions.

The interest in food production is increasing in our societies; people see the negative influence of the corporations that are destroying the food system, and on the other hand support for peasant agriculture, producing food for local markets, is increasing. In the coming years, we need to build a strong alliance across sectors to address this fundamental crisis that caused by global warming, the destruction of biodiversity, and our environment. We must continue to push the solution of peasant-based, agroecological agriculture as part of a broader

agenda to address the current crisis and broaden the support in our societies for these solutions. To build a strong movement, it will be key to ensure that all persons are respected, and can participate fully and equally. Patriarchy is an enemy of our movement. The construction of popular peasant feminism in La Via Campesina is a major challenge. Through this, we will strengthen our unity and commitment to the struggle. We will continue to strengthen the political participation of women and youth in all spaces and levels of our movement. LVC will be committed to increasing our capacities to understand and create positive environments around gender within our organizations and in our alliances. The lack of tolerance for diversity is part of the process of dispossession of rural youth. A diverse, non-violent and inclusive countryside is fundamental for La Via Campesina.

15.0

ANNEXES

15.1 Selected Publications: Books, Statements, Declarations and Press Releases

No.	Title of publication	Available in which language
Books and other publications		
1.	La Via Campesina: 2018 Annual Report	EN, ES, FR
2.	Sowing Injustice, Harvesting Despair: Abuse and Exploitation of Foreign Agricultural Workers (ECVC)	EN, FR
3.	Coming Out! Gender Diversity in the Food System	EN, ES, FR
4.	Popular Agrarian Reform: The New Call for Agrarian Reform in the 21st Century	EN, FR
Press releases, declarations and statements		
5.	With Rights and in Democracy, we will continue building Social and Climate Justice!	EN, ES, FR
6.	It is possible to produce food without agrotoxics, peasant agroecology is the way!	EN, ES, FR
7.	Don't give up the International Seed Treaty to the new genetic biopiracy!	EN, ES
8.	Declaration of the International Conference on Food Sovereignty: Colony and Frontiers	EN, ES, FR
9.	April 17th, 2019 – "The Declaration on Peasants' Rights should become a political tool for Agrarian Reform and Social Justice"	EN, ES, FR
10.	#17April Peasants' Rights NOW! With Agrarian Reform and social justice!	EN, ES, FR
11.	16 October, Call to Action: No Food Sovereignty Without Peasants' Rights!	EN, ES, FR
12.	"It is now urgent to put human rights and nature before profit": La Via Campesina in UN	EN, ES

13.	UN Decade of Family Farming; peasants voice their hopes and concerns	EN, ES, FR
14.	Decade of Family Farming: Via Campesina urges FAO to join hands with peasant and small-scale family farmer organizations	EN
15.	OPINION: Adoption of the Peasant's Rights Declaration enriches the human rights system	EN, ES, FR
16.	The CLOC is a testament to perseverance, strength and unity for social justice	EN, ES
17.	Decade of Family Farming: 'Peasant agriculture must be the focus', says Via Campesina in Derio	EN
18.	COP25: keep carbon markets out of the Paris rulebook!	EN, ES
19.	La Via Campesina calls for a global push for the Implementation and Popularisation of Peasants' Rights Declaration	EN, ES, FR
20.	La Via Campesina makes a global push for the implementation of Peasants' Rights Declaration	EN, ES, FR
Region and Members		
21.	The Climate Crisis and the Peasantry in South Asia	EN
22.	Not a Day to Celebrate: ECVV condemns the death of a peasant farmer in Ukraine while protesting for his rights	EN
23.	ECVC and allies issue a call for action for the Human Rights of Migrant and Refugee Peoples	EN, ES, FR
24.	Peasants and small-scale food producers in India intensify their protest against RCEP	EN
25.	CLOC – La Via Campesina South America Organizations Political Declaration	EN, ES, FR
26.	In view of the leaked documents on transitional regulation: Agricultural sector in crisis needs a fairer distribution of aid NOW	EN
27.	Should we accept the planned disappearance of the International Seed Treaty?	EN
28.	For a complete reorientation of the CAP	EN, FR
29.	Palestinian peasants celebrate the International Day of Action for People's Food Sovereignty and Against Transnational Corporations	EN, FR
30.	Farming, Food and Climate Justice March in London	EN
31.	Indonesia: SPI celebrates national peasants' day, rejects proposed laws that threaten to marginalise rural communities	EN
32.	Seoul: Thousands of peasants demonstrate in Yeouido, to highlight the agrarian crisis	EN
33.	A producers' collective in South India is making news!	EN
34.	USMCA pits rural people in each country against one another: Via Campesina North America	EN, ES, FR
35.	South Asian Peasant movements meet in Kathmandu, Nepal	EN

36.	ECVC jointly with 340+ organisations call on the EU to immediately halt trade negotiations with Brazil	EN, ES
37.	South East and East Asia peasant organisations meet in Sakura, Japan	EN
38.	European peasant movements present a 15 point demand ahead of the EU elections	EN, ES
39.	"Put an EU food policy in place", ECVC joins campaigners across Europe demanding an integrated food policy	EN
40.	17 April: La Via Campesina Palestine commemorates the International Day of Peasants' Struggles	EN, FR
41.	17 April: "Peasant Rights Now! With Agrarian Reform and Social Justice", says UNAC, Mozambique	EN, ES, PT, FR
42.	Regional event celebrating the Decade for Family Farming in Europe and Central Asia	EN
43.	India: Peasant Movements to scrutinise and expose the dangers of RCEP Trade Agreement	EN
44.	Bangladesh : Peasant movements intensifies the struggle against 'Golden Rice'	EN
45.	Thousands protest in Berlin against industrialised agriculture	EN
46.	Cyclone IDAI: We are engaged in mitigating the effects of this humanitarian disaster, says UNAC	EN, ES,
47.	Peasant organisations from 18 African countries take part in an agroecology encounter in Harare	EN
48.	Farmers' right to seed is a matter of principle: NFU Canada	EN
49.	PepsiCo faces major backlash in India, as farmers fight back	EN
50.	Kenyan Peasants League to Hold First Peasants Agroecology Summer School	EN
51.	First steps in the roadmap for the implementation in Europe of the Peasants Rights Declaration	EN
52.	Mercosur: when the hypocrisy of the EU seeks to attack the rights of peasants and citizens	EN, ES, FR
53.	17 April: Peasants in Uganda demand implementation of agrarian reforms	EN, FR
54.	Thousand Movement: Sri Lankan tea plantation workers protest in 30 locations for better daily wages	EN
55.	The globalisation of border control and peoples' resistance	EN
Citizen and Community Medi		
56.	October 16th: "The struggle against hunger is an enduring challenge; Food Sovereignty is essential"	EN
57.	Karuturi Global's new land deal in Ethiopia must be scrapped	EN
58.	The Latin American Coordination of Rural Organizations (CLOC) at 25 years	EN, ES, FR
59.	Peasants' view of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming	EN, ES, FR

60.	Opinion: The agrarian issue and current challenges	EN , ES , FR
Solidarity		
61.	La Via Campesina members and allies strengthen solidarity with Palestinian peasants in the West Bank	EN , ES , FR
62.	ECVC denounces the coup d'état in Bolivia: an open letter to the European Institutions	EN , ES , FR
63.	La Via Campesina defends the Peace Agreement in Colombia	EN , ES , FR
64.	La Via Campesina supports the National Strike for Peace with Social Justice in Colombia	EN , ES , FR
65.	Solidarity Statement to people, the peasant communities of Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Malawi following the destructive Cyclone Idai and Kenneth	EN , FR
66.	Social movements and CSOs send an open letter to Ecuador on the Chevron case	EN , ES , FR
67.	La Via Campesina denounces the Coup d'État in Bolivia	EN , ES , FR
68.	Civil Society And Human Rights Organisations Demand International Community To Take Urgent Action For Samer Al Arbeed	EN , ES , FR , AR
69.	CLOC – Via Campesina extends solidarity to Ecuadorian people, message also echoes at Binding Treaty negotiations in Geneva	EN , ES
70.	Via Campesina – South America issues statement of solidarity with Ecuadorian people	EN , ES
71.	Terminate the recently signed United Nations-World Economic Forum strategic partnership agreement: Open Letter to the UN	EN , FR
72.	Most Urgent! The Paulo Freire Training Center is being shut down!	EN , FR
73.	Somontes Occupation: La Via Campesina extends solidarity to labourers of SOC-SAT, Andalusia	EN , ES , FR
74.	The Barinas Massacre: La Via Campesina stands in solidarity with our CRBZ	EN , ES , FR
75.	Forceful Mass Displacement as a Result of House Demolitions in Occupied East Jerusalem	EN
76.	Binding Treaty on TNCs: Open letter to the member states of the organization of the UN	EN , FR
77.	Political Declaration of the VII Congress of the CLOC LVC	EN , ES , FR
78.	Israeli forces demolish a water harvesting pond and attack Palestinian peasants: UAWC calls upon International actors to intervene	EN
79.	La Via Campesina supports and expresses solidarity with the struggle of peasants of South and North Korea	EN , ES , FR
80.	"Rights of peasants and Agrarian Reform is what the world needs urgently" #17April2019	EN , ES , FR
81.	"The only struggle that is lost is that which is abandoned", Final Declaration from the III Solidarity Mission to Colombia	EN , ES , FR

82.	Global Network against Corporate Impunity condemns the arrest of Julian Assange	EN , ES
83.	"The Colombian people cannot be denied the right to Peace", Via Campesina	EN , ES , FR
84.	La CLOC- Via Campesina denounces and rejects imperialist interference and demands respect for the sovereignty of Venezuela	EN , ES , FR
85.	The Tarajal Massacre and our agricultural fields	EN , ES
86.	The killing of Naasan will not dissuade Palestinian farmers from defending their land	EN
87.	Brazil: Movement of People Affected by Dams (MAB) calls out new crime by mining giant Vale	EN , ES
88.	"Burning the Amazon is a crime against humanity", Via Campesina Brazil	EN , ES , FR
89.	Brumadinho, six months after a crime with no remedy	EN
90.	Pakistan: One tenant killed by security guards of Army Welfare Trust at Depalpur	EN
91.	End Corporate Impunity! How much is life worth? #Vale	EN , ES , FR
Nyeleni Newsletters		
92.	Agroecology: Real innovation from and for the people	EN , ES , FR
93.	Digitalization of the food system	EN , ES , FR
94.	Peasant seeds, the heart of the struggle for Food Sovereignty	EN , ES , FR
95.	More Farmers Better Food	EN , ES
Women		
96.	MAB activist and her family is killed	EN
97.	#8March: Highlights of global action by women from around the world	EN , ES , FR
98.	For the life and dignity of women, we fight together against the exploitation and oppression of the capitalist and patriarchal system!	EN , ES , FR
99.	Standing with disadvantaged rural women small-scale farmers in Uganda	EN
100.	Embracing Grassroots Feminism	EN , FR
101.	In Brazil, 800 landless women occupy lands of sexual abuser	EN
102.	March 14th International Day of Struggle of the people affected by dams, in defense of the rivers, water and life	EN
103.	25-30 Nov: Mobilisation week to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women	EN , ES , FR
104.	VI Women Assembly of the CLOC-LVC: Declaration	EN , ES , FR
105.	The CLOC is a testament to perseverance, strength and unity for social justice	EN
106.	Women's Struggles for a Peasant and People's Feminism	EN , ES , FR
107.	South East And East Asia Peasant Organisations Meet In Sakura, Japan	EN

Youth		
108.	Rural Youth: training and participation drive	EN, ES,
109.	V Youth Assembly of the CLOC-LVC: Declaration	EN, ES, FR
110.	La Via Campesina Southern and Eastern Africa Youth Articulation Statement	EN
111.	Thiès Declaration: In solidarity with young peasants around the world	EN, ES, FR
112.	Young Peasants of Via Campesina from around the world gather in Senegal	EN, ES, FR
113.	Agroecology workshop for young peasants: Karnataka, India	EN
Mobilisation for Peasant Rights Declaration		
114.	1st anniversary of the Peasants' Rights Declaration: Joint statement by UN human rights experts*	EN
115.	La Via Campesina calls for a global push for the Implementation and Popularisation of Peasants' Rights Declaration	EN, ES, FR
116.	Reflect Peasants' Rights Declaration in Canadian and Quebec legislation : Union Paysanne	EN, FR
117.	Launch of Korean Forum of Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas	EN
118.	Peasants and farm workers in Europe call it time to dismantle heteropatriarchy	EN, ES
119.	Human rights and peasants' rights must prevail in the new Common Agricultural Policy: ECVC	EN, FR
120.	ECVC and Eco Ruralis are organising a series of events on Rights of Peasants this June.	EN
121.	17 April: Indonesian peasants call for the implementation of Peasants Rights Declaration	EN
122.	17 April: Land for those who care for it and work it! Peasants' Rights NOW!	EN, FR
123.	17 April: Farm workers in Gazipur, Bangladesh mobilise to demand agrarian reform	EN, FR
124.	17 April: "Peasant Rights Now! With Agrarian Reform and Social Justice", says UNAC, Mozambique	EN
125.	17 April: A message of solidarity from Peasant Agroecology Summer School in Kenya	EN
126.	17 April: National Farmers Union, Canada stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters globally	EN
127.	17 April: Brazilian peasants organize protests to demand land reform and social justice	EN, ES

15.2 2019 International and Regional Activities

Date	Month/Activity	Venue
January		
25-30	North America Regional Meeting	Mexico
27-30	CLOC meeting (Cuba)	Cuba
February		
4-9	Regional Peasants rights meeting in Asia	Indonesia
11-13	Regional staff meeting	Belgium
13	ICC FG	Belgium
14-16	Financial Autonomy seminar	Belgium
17	Paso Justo steering committee	Belgium
17-18	Communication collective meeting	Belgium
18-19	Program team meeting	Belgium
19	Communication team meeting	Belgium
18-22	Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	Italy
March		
4-9	Period of LVC presence during 40th session of Human Rights Council of UN	Switzerland
8	International Women's day	
13	Meeting Steering Committee of the Decade for Family Farming	Italy
23-26	Youth, women meetings + ECVC GA	Belgium
25-29	Global Conference on Family Farming	Italy
27-31	3rd Solidarity Mission with Colombia	Colombia
April		
1-2	3rd Solidarity Mission with Colombia continues	Colombia
	Regional meeting of Western and Central Africa	Senegal
17	International day of peasants' struggles	
24-27	Youth articulation	Senegal
28	field visit + FG meeting (if not on 27)	Senegal
29-30	ICC meeting	Senegal
May		
1-2	ICC meeting	Senegal
3	ICC FG / Meeting with Roppa	Senegal

22-25	South East and East Asia regional meeting	Japan
25-29	Launch of the UN Decade of Family Farming	Italy
June		
	Southern and Eastern Africa regional meeting	Uganda
21-30	CLOC Congress	Cuba
July		
1-5	Week of Meetings at UN Human Rights Council	Switzerland
1 to 3	South Asia Regional Meeting	Nepal
6-8	ICC FG	Switzerland
August		
19-24	LVC Africa Agroecology Schools Encounter	Harare, Zimbabwe
25	African Continental meeting for Youth and Women	Harare, Zimbabwe
26-31	Mid-Term conference	Harare, Zimbabwe
September		
1	Mid-Term conference	Harare, Zimbabwe
10	International day against WTO and FTAs	
18-25	UN Human Rights Council 42nd Session	Switzerland
18-25	UN Climate Summit	
October		
3	FAO Launch of UN Decade of Family Farming	Italy
8-18	LVC Preparatory Meeting & CSM-CFS 46 Plenary	Italy
12-19	Global Campaign for Binding Treaty on TNCs	Geneva
16	International day of actions for Peoples' Food sovereignty and against TNC	
13-19	International Conference on Food Sovereignty, Colonialization and Borders + 2nd Global Exchange of 'Adopt-a-Seed' Action	Palestine
November		
4-9	IOS Face-to-Face	Indonesia
10-20	Solidarity Mission to Venezuela	Venezuela
11-16	ITPGRFA Directory Body	Italy
25	International day for elimination of violence against Women	
10-29	VII International Encounter of Agroecology, Sustainable Agriculture and Cooperativism (ANAP)	Cuba
24-26	CSM Preparatory Meeting + Advisory group	Italy/France
December		

1-10	ICC Meeting (plus ECVC & Public Policies)	France
3	International Day Against Agrochemicals	
1-10	COP25 (Climate)	Spain

La Via Campesina is an international grassroots movement that defends small-scale sustainable agriculture as a way to promote social justice and dignity. It brings together millions of peasants, small and medium-size farmers, women farmers, landless people, indigenous people, migrants and agricultural workers and youth from around the world.

It strongly opposes corporate driven agriculture and transnational companies that are marginalizing people and destroying nature. The movement comprises 182 local and national organisations in 81 countries from Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas.

LA VIA CAMPESINA

International Peasant Movement

International Secretariat

5 Gloucester Drive
Eastlea, Harare, Zimbabwe
Tel: +263 242 746552

Email: viacampesina@viacampesina.org
Website: www.viacampesina.org
and tv.viacampesina.org

Facebook
[ViaCampesinaOfficial](https://www.facebook.com/ViaCampesinaOfficial)

Twitter
[@via_campesina](https://twitter.com/@via_campesina)
[@via_campesinaSP](https://twitter.com/@via_campesinaSP)
[@viacampesinaFR](https://twitter.com/@viacampesinaFR)