

Think Global

Act locally with the
World Development Movement



July/August 2009



**World
Development
Movement**

Contents

Letter from the network development officer	3
Action checklist	4
Campaign update: Climate change	5
Campaign success! Scottish climate change bill	
Coal campaign in Scotland	
The Big If	
Campaign update: Trade	6
MEP lobbying	
EU-Central America online action	
FTA updates	
Financial crisis	10
A Green New Deal for the world's poor	
Royal Bank of Scotland	
News and events	11
Think Global: London campaigner convention	
G20 Finance Ministers' Summit	
Take One Action	
Festival fun for WDM	
Camp for Climate Action	
Matters of interest	13
UN summit	
Coming to an internet browser near you	
Groups	14
Sign up forms for stalls	
Recent group activities	
Dates for your diary	15
Current materials	16
Contact details	16

Letter from the network development officer

Dear friends,

It has been said in the past that WDM punches well above its weight and recently a member of staff commented that in working in the "big pond" coalitions of large organisations, we should aspire to be "clever little fish". I think our decision to file for a judicial review of the Treasury's decision to ignore environmental and human rights considerations in the ongoing management of the government's shares in RBS and other recapitalised banks, alongside People & Planet and Platform, proves that we are clever little fish indeed. This review is in part planned to inspire debate around these issues. The financial crisis offers us an unprecedented opportunity to consider whether the ceaseless drive towards a free-market planet is really the way we want to go. But there is a real danger that our government and others decide it is politically safer to continue with business as usual while we're not looking, or too distracted by MP expense scandals. The media coverage generated by our fantastic press office (aka Kate), shows that WDM is certainly not going to look the other way.

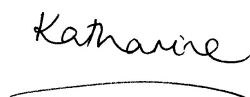
The Financial Times gave prominence to the story both on their front page, where they described the case as 'what could be a landmark lawsuit' and in their business pages as 'worth watching'. The Herald in Scotland ran an extensive article, and followed up the next day with a story about WDM's online action to Alistair Darling. Coverage was secured in the Guardian website, the Times, BBC Online, Channel 4 news, Reuters and many finance and environment focussed magazines and online outlets such as Global Finance and New Energy Focus.

This summer the South-West London group loses Joe Merriman, one of their key members, when he moves away from London. Joe has been with the group since it started in 2002 and has campaigned with us for longer than that, he has also volunteered at the WDM office in the past. I know the group will miss Joe's contribution hugely and I would like to thank him for his tireless campaigning work with the SW London group.

Mary Keynes is standing down from leading the Leeds WDM group after a long stint at the helm. Mary has put in countless hours to ensure that Leeds WDM is an effective campaigning group; successfully working in solidarity with other organisations in the area. Mary is a long standing and passionate WDM member who has also acted as North-West area representative for several years and will be standing down from that role this summer. Again, I would like to thank Mary for all her efforts, energy and commitment.

It is people like Joe and Mary that make WDM the amazing organisation that it is.

All the best



Katharine Talbot
Network development officer

Tel: 020 7820 4900
Email: katharine@wdm.org.uk

PS – there is no August Think Global mailing which is why this is a bumper edition! Have a wonderful summer and enjoy the sunshine!

Action checklist

Groups

Climate change

- ☐ Make plans for your Big If campaign stunt
- ☐ Decide if you are going to hold an *Age of Stupid* screening in July or August

Trade

- ☐ Write to the elected MEPs in your region (see enclosed template letters)
- ☐ If you have information about your MEPs please forward to Heidi to be added to our case-files on MEPs (heidi.chow@wdm.org.uk)

Financial crisis

- ☐ Email the Chancellor asking him to make the bailed out banks clean up their act (see link to online action in main mailing).
- ☐ Write to your MP and urge them to sign Early Day Motion 880

At your next meeting

- ☐ Finalise plans for summer festival stalls

Activists

Climate change

- ☐ If you have not already done so, attend a screening of the film *Age of Stupid* and encourage as many people as possible to go with you

Trade

- ☐ Write to the elected MEPs in your region (see enclosed template letters)

Financial crisis

- ☐ Email the Chancellor asking him to make the bailed out banks clean up their act (see link to online action in main mailing).
- ☐ Write to your MP and urge them to sign Early Day Motion 880

Inserts

Campaign planning calendar

Tips on producing good publicity materials – groups only

Template EDM letter – different versions for group members & activists

Template MEP letters (two versions)

Campaign update: Climate change

Campaign success! Scottish climate change bill

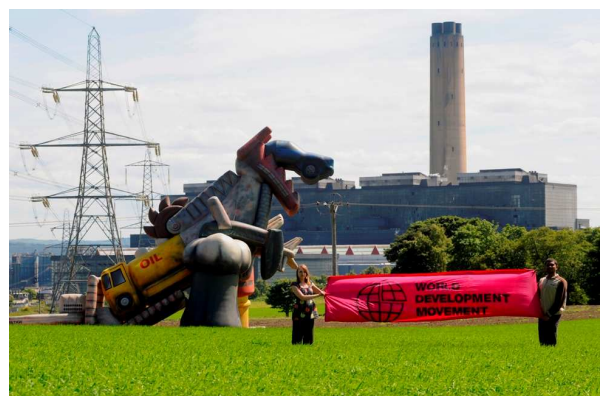
On Wednesday 24 June, the Scottish climate change bill was voted on for the final time at the Scottish parliament. After a three year long campaign by the Stop Climate Chaos coalition in Scotland (SCCS, of which WDM has been an active member), Scotland's climate change legislation went beyond the Westminster climate act and now leads the world. We also succeeded in reaching some of WDM's key campaign objectives. The final bill includes an 80 per cent target for 2050, an interim target of 42 per cent emissions reductions by 2020 and Scotland's share of international aviation and shipping emissions included in the targets (as well as an additional amendment to take into account the extra impact that aviation emissions have at altitude). Already, other countries around the world are looking to see what Scotland has done and commentators are pointing to it as setting the standard for developed countries at the Copenhagen talks later in the year.

All the way through this campaign, the WDM Scottish office and local groups worked as part of a really strong coalition of development, environment, faith and student groups as well as trades unions and other organisations. Between us we mobilised thousands of people over the last year or so to lobby politicians and make our voices heard. This couldn't have been done by any one of those organisations acting alone and we consistently heard from politicians that it was the breadth and strength of the Stop Climate Chaos coalition that made them stop and listen to us. On the day of the final vote at parliament, Stop Climate Chaos mobilised more than 100 people for a mass lobby of the parliament and WDM members in Scotland joined others in the coalition speaking directly to their constituency MSPs at the parliament. Undoubtedly, their lobbying influenced MSPs as they made their final votes at the parliament. For more information see: <http://www.wdmScotland.org.uk/finalbill.htm>

Coal campaign in Scotland

Now that we have ambitious emissions reductions targets in Scotland, we are in a much stronger position to argue against the building of new coal power stations in Scotland which would surely make meeting our 2020 target impossible.

In Scotland we are working in conjunction with Friends of the Earth Scotland on a 'no new coal' campaign to stop the building of a new coal-fired power station at Hunterston in Ayrshire and an upgrade of a coal-fired power station at Longannet in Fife. Our main political target is John Swinney MSP, cabinet secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth, who has the planning powers to set emissions limits on new coal power stations, which could stop the two power stations being built. WDM groups in Scotland have been working with the office to get postcards to Mr Swinney signed locally. The campaign is going well, with over 500 postcards collected already. With a potential new power station in their own back yard, WDM's local group in Ayr have been campaigning hard on the issue over the last few months and have collected over 300 signatures for a petition to the cabinet secretary. In mid-July we will be publishing a report called 'Power of Scotland – renewed' (the follow-up to a previous report) which looks at options for a future Scotland without need for coal or nuclear power to keep the lights on.



The Big If

Stunts

Thanks to all the great work you've been putting into the Big If stunts. There's already been some really inspirational things happening around the country; see updates in the groups section further on in the mailing. If you've not yet 'launched' the Big If you can do it any time over the summer.

The Big If exhibition

Please remember to send us coverage of any activity you've been doing with your group as part of The Big If; this will be included, along with the many stunts that you've been doing, in a great exhibition. This will show all the political parties that the UK is serious about saying no to more dirty coal, which is of course critical in a pre-election period. So please send through any photos, paper clippings, interesting pledges that people have made, and any other ideas you have. WDM Sheffield are making a short film of their pledges, which will be a brilliant addition to our exhibition, so any ideas you have like this would be great.

Taking the Big If to festivals:

You will already have the Big If campaign pack sent out in the May issue of Think Global, giving tips for getting out and about with the Big If. As discussed in this pack, we need your help in getting the Big If out as widely as possible, so as to maximise its impact. We need enough people committing to action that makes it impossible for Ed Miliband to ignore us. If there are events going on in your area, especially green events where there will be warm audiences, please do think about holding a stall. You could also consider approaching other groups such as Transition Towns groups and asking them to join up to The Big If.

We have produced temporary Big If tattoos for the Mili-Band event and have a limited number available for groups, if you would like some please let Katharine know.

This mailing includes two new pages to add to the Big If campaign pack; one giving more information about organising Age of Stupid screenings and one giving additional information about the suggested pledges on the Big If action card.

Campaign update: Trade

MEP lobbying

A big thank you to all the hard work that you have done in getting candidates and MEPs to sign the trade pledge. In the end we had 80 pledges signed and 17 of those who have signed have been re-elected – which is 25 per cent of the UK delegation to the European Parliament – so well done!

There is a list of elected MEPs who have signed the trade pledge on the following page:

Next steps for the trade campaign

With a new European parliament in place, the lobbying will be picking up pace in the new session. Over the coming months, we will be developing our links with MEPs much more and prioritising the MEPs who sit on key committees in the European parliament.

We will also develop tactical approaches with different party groupings, as well as seeking opportunities to influence specific trade deals, as we have recently done on the proposed Central America deal. Overall, the active involvement of local groups and activists will be vital to help keep MEPs accountable.

As an immediate step, we would like you to write a letter to the elected MEPs in your region. For those who have signed the pledge, you can write a thank you letter to your MEP to welcome them and introduce your group. For MEPs who did not sign the pledge and who you think would be worth contacting, you can write a letter asking them to consider signing up. In either case, the letter will be a way to maintain contact with your MEPs and to let them know that as their constituents you will be keeping them accountable. We have enclosed letter templates for both type of letter. Please contact Heidi (heidi.chow@wdm.org.uk) or Katharine (Katharine@wdm.org.uk) if you would

like electronic versions which you can edit or extra copies of the pledge.

Region	Party
East Midlands	Liberal Democrats
Eastern	Labour
London	Green party
London	Liberal Democrats
London	Labour
North East	Labour
North East	Liberal Democrats
North West	Labour
North West	Labour
North West	Liberal Democrats
Scotland	Labour
South East	Green party
South East	Liberal Democrats
South East	Liberal Democrats
Wales	Plaid Cymru
West Midlands	Labour
Yorkshire & Humber	Labour

MEP

Bill Newton Dunn
Richard Howitt
Jean Lambert
Sarah Ludford
Claude Moraes
Stephen Hughes
Fiona Hall
Arlene McCarthy
Brian Simpson
Chris Davies
David Martin
Caroline Lucas
Sharon Bowles
Catherine Bearder
Jill Evans
Michael Cashman
Linda McAvan

MEP information

We have been trying to gather as much information as possible on the elected MEPs to help in this next phase of the trade campaign. If you have any useful information on any of the elected MEPs please send an email to Heidi (heidi.chow@wdm.org.uk). This could be your experience in meeting with them, any particular views or concerns they expressed, whether they were open/ closed to WDM campaigns etc.

We have acquired individual "case files" on each elected MEP from BOND [British Overseas NGOs for Development]. If this would be helpful for your group, please email Heidi including your region and any specific MEPs you are interested in.

Materials

In response to feedback we have received from some groups, we will be producing some A4 case-study/posters for you to use on stalls. These will provide visual images about trade as well as individual stories to show how these trade deals are affecting people in the global south. They will be available in late July. If you would like some please contact Heidi (heidi.chow@wdm.org.uk)

'Be a trade hero' postcard

On Monday 15 June, 4500 postcards and 1500 emails were handed to Baroness Ashton in London.

The World Development Movement's new director, Deborah Doane alongside Ann Callaghan (Trade Justice Movement) and Harriet Lamb (Fairtrade Foundation) met with Baroness Ashton to hand her the action cards as well as to discuss our concerns about Europe's unfair trade deals.



Thank you for getting so many cards signed and please keep promoting the postcard on your stalls and events. It would be great to meet Baroness

Ashton again and hand her another several thousand!

EU-Central America online action

We have now developed a response to the European Commission's reply to our online EU-Central America action. This response can be accessed in full at:

http://www.wdm.org.uk/campaigns/trade/action/centralamerica_response.htm

In summary, the WDM response says that:

- Opinion in the region remains very much divided over the proposed deal
- The Commission's analysis showing the benefits of the deal uses flawed modelling
- Public consultation on the proposed deal has been very weak
- The sustainable development chapter is meaningless as it is without binding obligations for companies and investors.

We are not encouraging supporters to get into a long debate with the Commission at this stage, as the purpose of the action was to demonstrate European public concern about the deal, but please continue to encourage others to take the action at: www.wdm.org.uk/centralamerica

FTA updates

Central America update:

The next round of negotiations on this deal are due to take place in Brussels on 6-10 July. These will be critical as the EU is keen to use this moment to finalise the deal. See action above.

Andean nations update:

Peru: WDM and other groups have signed up to demands to the European Commission to halt its proposed trade deal with Peru, following the recent violence in that country. Here is some background to the struggle there which has remained largely unreported in the UK mainstream media.

The indigenous populations of Peruvian Amazonia started a general and peaceful strike for almost 60 days to protest against 10 legislative decrees promoted by the Peruvian government in order to

comply with the free trade agreement (FTA) with the US that threatened their rights and their environment. Specifically, the FTA permits oil and mining companies to enter 44 out of 75 million hectares of Amazonian forest, which are Indigenous territories, without any kind of agreement or even consultation.

In response, President Alan Garcia launched an extremely violent attack on the demonstrators who had occupied a road. The military dropped tear gas from helicopters on the demonstrators. According to the latest information, these confrontations killed at least 50 people, with many more still missing, including indigenous people and policemen. This massacre happened a few hours after the Peruvian Congress postponed again the debate on the repeal of these legislative decrees. Alan Garcia's government has continued to refuse the dialogue demanded by the indigenous communities from the beginning of the crisis.

This situation shows the devastating consequences of FTAs for small-scale farmers and indigenous communities, for workers, for biodiversity and for the environment. If the FTA between the European Union and Peru currently being negotiated are signed, it is foreseeable that further changes in national laws will be required, prompting similar consequences for indigenous and farmer communities as well as for workers and women among others.

Ecuador: Since the breakdown of the proposed EU-Andean FTA and Bolivia's refusal to cooperate with the EU's free trade agenda, the EU has signalled its intention to sign individual deals with the remaining members of the Andean bloc: Ecuador, Colombia and Peru. Ecuador has consistently raised concerns about the EU's approach but now seem to be upping the ante somewhat. In a radio address in May, President Rafael Correa said, "The European Union can put whatever pretty name it wants to, but its still orienting us toward a free trade agreement and that, we're not going to accept". He went on: "We are very worried about the path, the direction that the EU's negotiations and intentions are taking. It's no longer an association agreement, but basically, a free trade agreement and that we're not going to accept. Ecuador will defend its social achievements."

India update:

Following the recent elections, there is a new trade minister in India. Kamal Nath who was key in last year's WTO negotiations in standing up for the interests of Indian farmers, has been reshuffled and there is a new minister called Anand Sharma. It is perhaps too early to assess how he will affect either the WTO or the EU-India FTA, but initial murmurings are not positive. Other Indian ministers are recently quoted as saying, "India is committed (to a) very fast and expeditious conclusion of this [EU-India] agreement...we are making progress on these lines."

EPAs update:

The EU has proceeded with signing an economic partnership agreement with Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland. This will open up African markets up to European multinational companies before these countries are fully able to compete on equal terms, threatening local jobs and labour standards. They will also disrupt regional trade in southern Africa. South Africa, Angola and Namibia have all chosen not to sign this deal, as it currently stands, in a negotiation process that has been wracked with controversy. Namibia's trade and industry minister Hage Geingob has said, "We might be small, but we are still a sovereign state. You cannot smoke cigars in boardrooms in Brussels and bulldoze us."

News from the UK government:

Following the reshuffle, Gareth Thomas remains the minister for trade within the Department for International Development. Under Lord Mandelson's new department called Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) Lord Davies is minister for trade, investment and business, in a post held jointly with the Foreign Office.

WTO update:

Pascal Lamy has announced that a WTO ministerial conference will now be held on 30 November to 2

December in Geneva. These are the exact dates of the Seattle trade talks which collapsed ten years ago, and is also just before the Copenhagen climate talks. The general theme for discussion shall be "The WTO, the Multilateral Trading System and the Current Global Economic Environment".

The WTO says that this will be a procedural event which looks at ways of working and where all ministers can participate equally. The WTO has said, "this conference is not intended to be a negotiating session — the Doha negotiations are on a separate track." However, it is highly unlikely that ministers will go to Geneva and then not negotiate the Doha round.

Meanwhile, Pascal Lamy is also trying new initiatives to move Doha trade talks along, some of which have been strongly opposed by developing countries. Lamy is now indicating that, now the elections have passed in the US and India, a deal might be possible by 2010. Watch this space!

New website:

Our World Is Not For Sale, a global coalition that unites trade campaigners from across the world, has relaunched its website. You can check it out here: <http://www.ourworldisnotforsale.org/>

The Reading International Solidarity Centre has issued two new, comprehensive publications about European trade deals including EPAs.

One is an in-depth guide to arguments around EPAs:

www.africa-eu.org/In-depth/Tools-of-the-trade/Reader-on-EPAs

The other is in the form of a dictionary and aims to explain some of the key jargon surrounding EPAs:

www.africa-eu.org/In-depth/Tools-of-the-trade/Campaign-Dictionary

Financial crisis

A Green New Deal for the world's poor

The current financial crisis provides a unique opportunity to secure a sustainable and equitable future globally, through a Green New Deal for the world's poor. Unlike Roosevelt's New Deal in the 1930s, which saw a huge investment in infrastructure to pull the US out of the great depression, a Green New Deal (GND) would involve a massive investment programme in low-carbon projects, renewable energy and green jobs. A GND would not only reduce the likelihood of runaway climate change by putting our economy on a more sustainable path, but it could also create transferable technologies to help developing countries transition their economies from being fossil fuel based to low carbon. WDM is calling for a GND for the world's poor and believes that the recapitalisation of many UK high street banks creates an opportunity to radically overhaul the UK finance sector so that it puts people and the environment first (see below).

For more information go to <http://www.wdm.org.uk/campaigns/others/globalfinancialcrisis>

Royal Bank of Scotland

As you may have heard in the media, WDM, along with campaign groups PLATFORM and People and Planet, are filing for a Judicial Review against the government, for failing to insist bailed out UK banks take environmental and human rights considerations into account when investing in new projects.

At the heart of our concern lies the Royal Bank of Scotland, which is now 70 per cent owned by the taxpayer and yet continues to loan huge sums of money for controversial coal, oil and gas projects. Along with the other bailed out banks, RBS is only required to consider the profitability of projects when investing, not environmental and human rights considerations.

The UK government must be held accountable for the investment of public funds in financial institutions that undermine human rights and climate justice. We have a unique opportunity to

change RBS from being a bank that invests in dirty fossil fuel projects across the world, into a leading investor in low carbon projects, renewable energy and green jobs.

Since its recapitalisation in October 2008, RBS has financed loans to companies involved in the oil, coal and gas industry worth almost £10 billion. Apart from damaging the climate, many of these loans involve severe human rights impacts such as involuntary displacement of local populations and support of repressive regimes.

These new loans include:

- Refinancing the debts of Tullow Oil, a company whose revenues support the dictatorship in Equatorial Guinea, which is accused of severe human rights abuses by Amnesty International
- An extension of £6.66 billion worth of credit to E.ON, the company behind the proposed new controversial coal fired power station at Kingsnorth, Kent.
- A loan for Arctic oil and gas exploration in previously untouched regions of Greenland

With the taxpayer as the principal shareholder, there can no longer be any justification for RBS's lending policies and priorities to be so fundamentally inconsistent with the public interest.

To help us fund campaigning and legal action costs for this campaign, we have set up a Just Giving page. Please send this link on to your friends and family <http://www.justgiving.com/greeningthebanks/>

WDM Scotland is planning to do some work on the RBS legal challenge from a Scottish perspective – we'll tell you more in future editions of Think Global.

TAKE ACTION: Hold the government and Royal Bank of Scotland to account

Email the Chancellor

Tell the Chancellor to make the bailed out banks clean up their by taking action online at <http://www.worlddevelopmentmovement.org/action/royalbankofscotland.php>

Early Day Motion 880

Please write to your MP and urge them to sign Early Day Motion 880 which calls on the government to use its majority share in RBS to prioritise climate change as a principal concern in RBS's lending decisions.

Included in this mailing is a template letter for you to send to your MP. If you have time to personalise the letter in your own words, then please do. It would be great if you could write as an individual as well as your local group if you belong to one.

To find your local MP go to

<http://findyourmp.parliament.uk/>

To see if your MP has signed EDM 880 go to

<http://edmi.parliament.uk/edmi/>

Full text of EDM 880:

EDM 880: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND AND CLIMATE CHANGE

That this House notes that one of the most significant outcomes of the recent financial crisis has been the Government's acquisition of a

majority stake in the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS); further notes that RBS has been identified by campaign groups People and Planet and Platform as the UK bank that is the most heavily involved in financing the expansion of fossil fuel projects around the world, and that the carbon dioxide emissions embedded in RBS's project finance in 2006 were calculated to be greater than the carbon dioxide emissions of Scotland itself; believes that the fact that banks play such a large role in providing finance to projects that are exacerbating climate change has been wholly unaddressed in Government policy; further believes that there is an urgent need for the Government's new banking regulations to include environmental concerns as well as financial concerns; calls on the Government to use its majority share in RBS to prioritise climate change as a principal concern in RBS's lending decisions; further calls on the Government to require RBS to calculate, publish and cap embedded emissions resulting from its lending to fossil fuel projects, and to set annual targets for reducing these emissions; and further calls on the Government to promote RBS investments in renewable energy, new green jobs and the infrastructure needed to decarbonise the economy.

News & events

Think Global: London campaigner convention

"I think it was one of the best campaigner conventions ever. Felt it had a real buzz and positive vibe."

Saturday 6 June saw WDM's AGM and London campaigner convention take place. This year we aimed to build on the success of 6 Billion Ways and attract non-members to the campaigner convention by inviting outside speakers and calling the event a slightly snappier 'Think Global'. Around 120 people attended, and although many were already members, we recruited 15 new people to WDM demonstrating that we had succeeded in reaching that wider audience.

Practical workshops such as those on diversity and building activism in your community went down well, but so did issue-based talks, especially 'Another world is possible: Economic alternatives

from the global south'. Andrew Simms' (Policy director of the New Economics Foundation) keynote speech was well received, as were copies of his book, which sold well from one of the two bookstalls we had at the event.

Forward to Edinburgh!

The networks team and the Scottish office are now working on a similar event in Edinburgh.

Saturday 19 September 10.30am – 4.30pm
St Augustine Church, Edinburgh
'Another World is Possible: Inspiration and tools to make a difference'

This will be an exciting mix of talks from leading thinkers on issues close to WDM's heart, and practical workshops giving you the tools to campaign even more effectively on trade, climate change and other global justice issues. There will

also be an evening premiere of the new film by anti-corporate pranksters the Yes Men.

For those wishing to book train tickets, registration will start at 10am and the event will finish at 5pm. The programme will not be exactly the same as the London event, so feel free to come even if you came to the London event. It would be particularly helpful if groups and activists in Scotland and the north of England were able to help promote the event once the publicity has been produced.

Please contact James james@wdm.org.uk to book a place or to be sent an e-flyer for circulating once the details of the event have been finalised.

G20 Finance Ministers' summit

In November, the G20 finance ministers will meet in St. Andrews. Working with Jubilee Scotland, Oxfam, SCIAF and Christian Aid, WDM Scotland will be organising a series of public events across Scotland in key Scottish ministers' constituencies in the lead-up to the summit. This will include an event in Kirkcaldy, Gordon Brown's constituency, in early September; an event in Paisley, Douglas Alexander's constituency in early October and an event in Edinburgh South West, Alistair Darling's constituency in mid-October. There will also be a workshop in Edinburgh on 26 September to familiarise campaigners with the issues around the financial crisis and upcoming summit, and a counter-summit at St. Andrews on 7 November. There will be some exciting opportunities for groups in Scotland to get involved in building for the G20 summit at St. Andrews – we will keep you posted!

Take One Action

The second 'Take One Action Film Festival: People and movies that are changing the world' takes place at the Filmhouse, Edinburgh and the Glasgow Film Theatre, 16 – 27 September 2009. WDM will be hosting a number of screenings during the fortnight:

- WDM director, Deborah Doane, will be part of a post-film discussion panel at two screenings of *Crude* (Thursday 17 Sept, Glasgow Film Theatre

and Saturday 19 Sept, Edinburgh Filmhouse). *Crude* is a legal drama-documentary following the case of a group of indigenous people living in the Ecuadorian Amazon whose land and community have been destroyed by Chevron's oil operations in the region.

- WDM will also be screening *Let's Make Money*, jointly with Jubilee Scotland and Christian Aid, on Friday 25 Sept at the Edinburgh Filmhouse. This documentary maps and analyses the contemporary global financial system and provides a good background to the G20 workshop that we have planned for 26 Sept (see G20 Finance Ministers' summit section above).

Tickets will be available online during August. Keep an eye on www.takeoneaction.org.uk

Festival fun for WDM

This year WDM will be taking our bright yellow marquee and lots of action cards to three festivals. If you're planning on going along to any of these festivals please come and see us, and bring your friends!

- Big Green Gathering, Somerset - 29 July to 2 August
- Big Chill, Herefordshire - 6 to 9 August
- Beachdown Festival, Brighton - 28 to 31 August

Camp for climate action – the future is not what it used to be

The fourth annual Camp for Climate Action is taking place at three locations around the UK this summer:

Scotland: 3 – 10 August

Wales: 13 – 16 August

London: 27 August – 2 September

All three camps will focus on plans for the autumn in the run up to the international talks in Copenhagen. Find out more at www.climatecamp.org.uk

Matters of Interest

UN summit

Between the 24 and 26 of June, world leaders met in New York for a UN Summit to discuss the global economic crisis. The UN Summit was the first time that representatives from all the world's nations, rich and poor, had a chance to make decisions on a crisis which deeply affects us all. A range of proposals were on the table, including a Global Economic Council to bring the IMF and World Bank to heel and a new global reserve currency to replace the dollar. These measures and others on the table had the potential to help transform the structures of the world economy to put people first. But WDM was dismayed by the approach taken by the UK and other rich nations, who sought to weaken many of the more progressive proposals on the table and undermined the Summit itself by choosing to send low-level representation. It demonstrates once again rich countries' determination to marginalise the world's smaller and poorer nations from decisions that shape the future of the global economy. With the G8 Summit taking place in Italy in early July, we can expect this anachronistic rich man's club to do whatever it can to cling onto the political and economic status quo that led us into the current global crisis.

Coming soon to an internet browser near you

We're very excited to be launching a new WDM website on 4 July if all goes to plan. The site will use the latest open source 'content management system', which means all staff will be able to upload content, not just the website officer. Initially we will copy across content that is still current from the existing site, but over time we will not only add new content, but new features to assist in campaigning.

After the new site is launched, the old site will be archived online so all content is still available. It will take a while for everything to be uploaded, and there may be unforeseen bugs which need ironing out, so please bear with us.

The current 'groups' section will be replaced by a 'community' section – we hope this will better reflect the variety of ways in which WDM members and supporters engage with us. Groups will still have their own pages, however, and be able to update them using a simple login and password. In the months after the launch we will be developing systems to allow website users to join their local group 'virtually' and for group administrators to email these users about local events.

Groups pages transition

Stage 1: The new site goes live on 4 July. WDM group pages are still available at their old address (eg www.wdm.org.uk/nottingham) and will still use the template from the old website.

Stage 2: Following the launch, WDM's website officer and networks team will produce a guide on how to set up and update your own group's pages within the 'community' part of the new website.

Once you have done this, we will redirect the web address for your group to this page.

Stage 3: By Autumn we will have developed some of the new organising tools mentioned above and will organise opportunities for group members to be trained in how to use them.

For activists who are not currently part of any group, the new community pages should allow for increased opportunities to plug into what WDM is doing, or even start an online group in an area not covered by our existing groups.

Groups

Sign up form for stalls

Since distributing our new sign up form in the May Think Global mailing, we have had a few comments from group members about people finding the email boxes off-putting. We have now redesigned the sign up sheet, if you would like a copy please contact Katharine on katharine@wdm.org.uk.

Recent group activities

Bexhill & Hastings WDM held a fantastic Big If stunt in Devonshire Square in Bexhill on Saturday 13 June (see photo on front cover). Several members of the group wore Big If chimney hats made by a group member, the local pipe band helped to catch the attention of passers-by and the group succeeded in getting lots of action cards signed as well as some excellent press coverage – many congratulations!



Glasgow WDM held a joint stunt with Glasgow Friends of the Earth at the Glasgow West End Festival (see photo above). Dressed as penguins the group lobbied politicians about the Scottish climate bill and got lots of 'no new coal' cards signed. The group also produced an A5 flyer for this action, using hard-hitting climate stats. If you would like a copy of this flyer to adapt for your own use please let Katharine know.

Derby WDM have been working closely with the active Derby climate change group, eg attending The Age of Stupid screenings and holding a stall at the Derby Ecofest in September.

Bradford WDM held a stall in the Environment Zone at the Bradford Mela recently, which incorporated photos of flooding in Bangladesh and in Yorkshire (see photo below). People did a quiz which was based on the pictures and related the problems to climate change and signed a giant postcard against new coal.



Leicester WDM is planning to run a joint stall at the Braunstone festival on 4 July, the stall will be climate change themed, with a windmill-making activity for children, so it's an ideal opportunity for the group to talk to people about the Big If campaign.

Brighton WDM held a wonderful stunt on Saturday 20 June in central Brighton, featuring a tug of war between dirty coal power stations and clean green energy (see photo below). The stunt engendered lots of interest and the group got press coverage in two local papers.

They also made a short film of their stunt which you can view here - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2_ClBxS60sY.

Many congratulations to the Brighton group for a really creative stunt!



Medway WDM is organising a screening of *The Age of Stupid* on Wednesday 15 July and are planning on holding a Big If stunt as a follow up event.

London WDM groups held a stall at the Hammersmith Greenfest where they got lots of Big If cards signed. They will also be running a stall at the Lambeth Country Fair in mid July and are in the process of planning a Big If stunt and an *Age of Stupid* screening.

Diary dates

4 July	The 'Mili-Band' event, Kingsnorth
3 to 9 August	Camp for climate action, Scotland
13 to 16 August	Camp for climate action, Wales
23 August to 3 September	Camp for climate action, London
19 September	Campaigner convention, Edinburgh
17 to 26 September	Take One Action film festival, Edinburgh
18 to 25 October	One World Week

Current materials

Action cards – live
Be a Trade Hero action card Coal action card (part of coal leaflet) Big If pledge card
Action cards – no longer live
Climate change boarding card 'Missing' plane action card Stop Kingsnorth Trade pledge card Phulbari action card
Briefings and reports – live
Trade (joint with Fairtrade Foundation) – 2 sided A4 briefing Carbon Evictions: The UK's role in forced migration of climate refugees (40 page report) Taking the credit: How financial services liberalisation fails the poor (52 page report) European banks fail the world's poor – 2 sided A4 briefing

Contacts

World Development Movement
66 Offley Road, London, SW9 0LS
Tel: 020 7820 4900
www.wdm.org.uk

Katharine – katharine@wdm.org.uk
James – james@wdm.org.uk