



FACES OF IMMIGRATION

Pictures courtesy of **Coalición de Derechos Humanos** and **Nuestro Centro**

More than one million new residents come to the U.S. each year. Migration can have severe emotional and physical consequences. The reaction of the U.S. has proven to be a denial of entry, deportation and mass incarceration. Yet through their work, PDF grantees can counter the anti-immigrant hysteria and work to change the stereotypes and misinformation about immigrants.

IN PEACE DEVELOPMENT FUND'S most recent grant cycle, as well as within our fiscal sponsorship program, many organizations are trying to change the conversation regarding immigration. Recent grantees, **Nuestro Centro** and **Coalición de Derechos Humanos**, are championing and campaigning for immigrant rights, cultural understanding and human rights based policy advocacy.

Responding to the needs of the Latino community of Asheville, NC, Nuestro Centro is a community center whose passion comes from the systemic injustices that affect Latino communities in western North Carolina.

This year, Nuestro Centro was called upon to address racism among the student body and staff at Emma Elementary and Erwin High School. Nuestro Centro began by teaching about structural racism, racial equity, language access, use of interpreters and immigrant realities. Trainings at both schools engaged students, parents and personnel to build a collective analysis of cultural differences within the immigration movement. In doing so, communities in and around the schools became safer spaces for students who identified as immigrants as well as for their families. Mirian Pooras, co-coordinator at Nuestro Centro, explained, "The compassion, support and understanding that Nuestro Centro's programs foster emboldened students and families to project their voices, advocate for themselves and push for change."

Nuestro Centro is structured so that the power and decision-making comes from their base, people directly affected by issues of immigration, racism, classism and other forms of oppression. The Comité, which is the decision-making body for Nuestro Centro, is made up of community members who act as representatives from their programs: Nuestras Escuelas, Raices, Consulta tu Compa, and Defensa Comunitaria.

"These programs are designed to ensure that members have basic knowledge of their rights in the face of detention centers or deportations," says Ms. Pooras. "We provide information so Nuestro Centro members can protect themselves and access for referrals to legal services." In turn, this allows for leadership development, and goals shared by the center and the community are reinforced.

As well as working within the education system, Nuestro Centro also collaborates with faith-based organizations, local law enforcement and other community groups. Together with credit unions, consulates and councils, they promote movement building for the liberation of all people. Geny Hernan-



Courtesy of **Nuestro Centro**

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35th Birthday Bash!

To commemorate our growth as a foundation in both years and experience, join us in Amherst, MA for an Artist-Activist night and Gala event to celebrate the Changemakers in our organizing community, and a reception in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Thursday, September 22, 2016
 7:30 p.m.

"Artists with a Conscience"

Talented social justice artists such as JD Samson, Tem Blessed and PDF grantee, Hearing Youth Voices, will mix revolutionary beats with revolutionary ideas.

www.artistactivistnight.eventbrite.com

Saturday, September 24, 2016
 6:00 p.m.

"Cheers to Changemakers"

Ring in our 35th year with cupcakes, a buffet and a grantee short-film festival. Best of all, we will honor powerful community organizers we're proud to call our partners in change with the Peace Development Award. Tickets for each event are available online through Eventbrite, and will be held for you at the door. RSVP by September 19th. Tickets at www.pdf35thparty.eventbrite.com.

Thursday, November 3, 2016

Save the date for another anniversary bash in the San Francisco Bay Area!

More information at www.peacedevelopmentfund.org or email Fiona@peacefund.org.

RECENT GRANTS

A ★ denotes a new grantee

- 350Vermont**, Burlington, VT
www.350vt.org
- ★ **Asociación Comité de Familiares de Migrantes Fallecidos y Desaparecidos de El Salvador (COFAMIDE)**, San Salvador, El Salvador
www.facebook.com/Cofamide/
- ★ **Asociación de Familiares de Detenidos-Desaparecidos de Guatemala (FAMDEGUA)**, Ciudad de Guatemala, Guatemala
- ★ **Asociación de Investigación, Desarrollo y Educación Integral (IDEI)**, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala
www.asociacionidei.org/spanish/
- Asociación para la Investigación y Acción Social Nomadesc**, Valle del Cauca, Colombia
www.nomadesc.blogspot.com
- ★ **Assata's Daughters**, Chicago, IL
www.assatasdaughters.org
- Bend the Arc: A Jewish Partnership for Justice**, New York, NY
www.bendthearc.us
- Berkeley Community Fund**, Berkeley, CA
www.berkfund.org
- Berkeley High School Development Group**, Berkeley, CA
www.bhsdg.org
- Breaking Walls**, New York, NY
www.breakingwallsprogram.org
- Californians United for a Responsible Budget**, Oakland, CA
www.curbprisonspending.org
- Camps in Common**, Oakland, CA
www.featherrivercamp.com
- ★ **Centro De Experimentación Para El Desarrollo (CEDECOT)**, Chiapas, Mexico
- Civic Council of Grassroots and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras**, La Esperanza, Intibucá, Honduras
- Coalición de Derechos Humanos**, Tucson, AZ
www.derechoshumanosaz.net
- ★ **Communities for Clean Water**, Santa Fe, NM
www.ccnwnewmexico.org
- Culture of Peace Alliance**, Tucson, AZ
www.cultureofpeacealliance.org
- ★ **Dag Hammarskjöld Fund for Journalists**, New York, NY
www.unjournalismfellowship.org
- ★ **Domesticas Unidas**, San Antonio, TX
www.esperanzacenter.org
- ★ **Foyer**, Brussels, Belgium
www.foyer.be
- Freedom Summer Palestine**, Bethlehem, Palestine
- Fundamentals of Sports**, Oakland, CA
www.fundamentalsofsports.org
- Gardening the Community**, Springfield, MA
www.gardeningthecommunity.org
- ★ **Hearing Youth Voices**, New London, CT
www.facebook/hearingyouthvoices
- Hondurans Against AIDS**, Bronx, NY
www.casayurumein.com
- Insight-Out, Woodacre, CA**
www.insight-out.org
- International Development Exchange**, San Francisco, CA
www.idex.org
- KPFA Radio**, Berkeley, CA
www.kpfa.org
- Kyabaan Association, Inc.**, Davao City, Philippines
- La Peña Cultural Center**, Berkeley, CA
www.lapena.org
- ★ **LGBTQ+ Youth Kickback**, New Haven, CT
bit.ly/YouthKB
- Los Cenzontles Mexican Art Center**, Richmond, CA
www.loscenzontles.com
- ★ **LOUD: New Orleans Queer Youth Theatre**, New Orleans, LA
www.loudnola.org
- Mobile Expressive Therapies Program in Palestine**, Old City of Acre, Israel
- ★ **Mothers Against Police Brutality**, DeSoto, TX
www.mothersagainstopolicebrutality.com
- New England Public Radio Foundation**, Amherst, MA
www.wfcr.org/about/friends.php
- ★ **Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson**, Poughkeepsie, NY
www.nobodyleavesmidhudson.org
- ★ **Nolumbeka Project, Inc.**, Greenfield, MA
www.nolumbekaproject.org
- Northampton Community Arts Trust**, Northampton, MA
www.northamptonartstrust.org
- ★ **Nuestro Centro**, Asheville, NC
www.nuestrocentro.weebly.com
- Other Worlds**, Oakland, CA
www.otherworldsarepossible.org
- Peace and Security Funders Group**, San Francisco, CA
www.peaceandsecurity.org
- Piñeros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste**, Woodburn, OR
www.pcun.org
- Prison Radio**, San Francisco, CA
www.prisonradio.org
- Project Hajra**, Jamaica, NY
www.indiegogo.com/projects/decrease-isolation/x/7286286
- Richmond Peace Education Center**, Richmond, VA
www.rpec.org/index.php
- Rosenberg Fund for Children**, Easthampton, MA
www.rfc.org
- ★ **Southern Arizona BDS Network**, Tucson, AZ
www.southernarizonabds.weebly.com
- Southern Diaspora Research and Development**, Brooklyn, NY
- Teh Luh Lah Learning Center**, Chimayo, NM
- ★ **The K.W. Lee Center for Leadership**, Los Angeles, CA
www.kwleeccrner.org
- Unitarian Society of Northampton and Florence**, Northampton, MA
www.uunorthampton.org
- ★ **Veterans Healing Veterans from the Inside Out**, San Quentin, CA
www.veteranshealingveterans.org
- Women's Building, San Francisco, CA**
www.womensbuilding.org
- ★ **Youth Rise Texas, Austin, TX**
www.youthrisetx.org



Corporate Occupation

WHEN OPERATION PROTECTIVE EDGE began in the summer of 2014 on the Gaza Strip, an onslaught of violence ensued in Israel and Palestine. As the number of casualties increased, and more Palestinian children and families died, a collective responsibility was felt by many, both locally and globally. A few months after these events, Mohyeddin Abdulaziz founded the **Southern Arizona BDS Network**, a new PDF grantee.

The Network is working to build a regional movement opposing the ongoing U.S.–Israeli partnership supporting the occupation of Palestine and the increasing militarization of the U.S.–Mexico border region. They are driven by a desire for peaceful resolutions across borders, connecting border militarization and indigenous occupation in southern Arizona while advocating for international border justice and indigenous rights.

Southern Arizona BDS is a part of the global movement for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS), which conscribes commercial activity emanating from settlements in the West Bank. International law recognizes the West Bank including East Jerusalem, Gaza and the Syrian Golan Heights as occupied by Israel. Within that international context, the Network aims to bring attention to border law, and the deep and profitable relationship with security corporations. Occupiers, including corporations, cannot profit from occupied lands and territories.

PDF has supported work on the U.S.–Mexico border for years, going back to the Cross Border Initiative in 2000, and before that. Inspired by the anti-apartheid divestment movement of the 1980s, BDS has its

detractors. However, for the work on the border, U.S.–Israeli cooperation in state-sponsored oppression is not acceptable for many U.S. citizens.

With the help of partner organizations such as The Alliance for Global Justice, Coalición de Derechos Humanos, Jewish Voice for Peace, The Tohono O'odham Hemajkam Rights Network, Students for Justice in Palestine and No More Deaths, among others, Southern Arizona BDS works to dismantle systems of control that create deep inequalities on the U.S.–Mexico border and further marginalize indigenous populations. It is exposing government-sanctioned border violence on the southern Arizona border region and on indigenous Tohono O'odham lands, organizing with social movements that oppose police and border patrol violence, and participating in the struggle for community security and human rights.

In 2014, the same year Southern Arizona BDS Network was founded, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security allotted billions of dollars to an Israeli security company, Elbit Systems, to erect watchtowers on the Arizona–Sonora border, which bisects the Tohono O'odham Community and Territory, militarizing the reservation boundary in the process. The Israeli-built watchtowers are identical to those on The Wall surrounding the West Bank.

Documented and undocumented alike feel the eyes of the towers. Passing through checkpoints on their way to the store, work and school, the Tohono O'odham people's daily activities are now under continuous surveillance. One misstep with a border patrol agent, or an ill-timed desert walk, could incur a life-threatening altercation. More than 6,000 migrants have died in these hills, while many more are deported. The very same equipment that the U.S. Border Patrol uses against the border land communities, the Israeli army uses to occupy Palestinian land.

No life goes unmonitored along the border lands. Organizers from the Network recently went to study Elbit's towers on the unceded lands of the Tohono O'odham reservation. These towers are a part of a booby-trapped virtual moat by the border. Abusive behavior by border patrol agents has already been recorded at checkpoints, with Tohono O'odham and U.S. citizens being forced from cars, pepper sprayed, detained for hours and threatened with automatic weapons.

The Network performed environmental assessments of the security towers to determine the effect of 17 additional towers contracted for construction on tribal land. Equipped with heat sensing high resolution cameras, night vision and a brigade of

350 FOR 35 LEGACY CAMPAIGN

Celebrate PDF's 35th anniversary year by putting PDF in your will or estate plan!

This year marks PDF's 35th year of providing grants and other resources to grassroots groups working for peace and social justice. Our **350 for 35 Legacy Campaign** goal is to identify bequests that will provide \$350,000 annually to permanently support PDF grantmaking and programs.

You can help us plan for a powerful future!

Let us know if you have put PDF in your will and join our campaign to change the world! You may leave your gift to general support, endowment, or a specific purpose that fits within PDF's mission, vision and goals — to provide grants, training and other resources in partnership with communities, organizations, trainers, and donors with whom we share a common vision for peace and social change.

For more information about leaving a bequest to PDF, call 413-256-8306 or email kathys@peacefund.org. Please be assured that the information you supply will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Faces of Immigration

The absence of migrants in their communities and families will inevitably change the way the next generation self-identifies.

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dez, a fellow coordinator says, “Nuestro Centro’s hope is that the communities that we assist will continue to become more progressive, and that our programs will eventually become a pivotal part of curricula within schools nationwide.”

Fighting for the same demographic but in a different context, Derechos Humanos is a grassroots organization in Tucson, AZ. It supports people most impacted by the increased criminalization of immigration. Derechos Humanos, or “Human Rights,” organizes against anti-immigrant policies through their Missing Migrant Project (MMP). MMP’s Project Coordinator Genevieve Heron comments, “For more than 20 years, MMP has provided hope to families whose loved ones have gone missing while crossing the border.” They are a trusted community resource that collaborates with other local and national organizations to offer advice to families who are searching for missing persons, and assist the families to discover what has happened to their loved ones.

Derechos Humanos first began to receive calls 15 years ago. In 2006–2007, the bodies and remains of 183 men, women and children were recovered on the Arizona-Sonora border. Since the implementation of border policies developed in the mid-1990s, it is estimated that more than 5,000 migrants have died.

In 2015 alone, Derechos Humanos investigated 1,186 cases, made approximately 11,000 calls and sent out countless emails in response to the volume of disappearances. “This is an issue that has grown more dire with each passing day,” says Ms. Heron, explaining that the number of cases of missing persons along the U.S.-Mexico border has escalated dramatically, even as the number of border migrants has been declining since the 1990s.

MMP recently initiated a 24-hour hotline and built multiple partnerships to increase their ability to initiate search and rescue missions. The Missing Migrant Hotline responds to three types of calls: migrants lost in detention, migrants lost in the desert and those who died while crossing. At the hotline, MMP is organized into a horizontal collective decision-making model. They have weekly meetings to discuss group decisions and process. New volunteers and staff engage with multiple mentors instead of one supervisor. This allows them to foster an environment where experience is respected, but no one’s voice is considered insignificant.

“This project is constantly growing and changing,” Ms. Heron notes, “as is the humanitarian crisis on the U.S.-Mexico border.” She sees the project as more than a direct service provider, but also as a community organizing project, one that uses the experience they have gained through the work to educate, expose and create change. The absence of migrants in their communities and families will inevitably change the way their culture is shared, and how the next generation self-identifies.

Indeed, the goal of Derechos Humanos is to be a part of the long term demilitarization of the border and decriminalization of migration. This includes: strengthening the capacity of the border and urban communities to exercise their rights and participate in public policy decisions; increasing public awareness of the magnitude of human rights abuses, deaths and assaults at the border resulting from U.S. policy; and eking out changes in government policies that result in human suffering because of the militarization of the U.S. border region.

Migrants have been driven into the desert as urban crossing points have been closed down, and border communities have suffered from the division and xenophobia that militarization has brought. American immigration policy has proven to be disastrous for many. Instead of preventing people from attempting to cross the border, it has put the lives of thousands of men, women and children in serious danger.

Groups like Nuestro Centro and Derechos Humanos call upon all people of conscience to work together to demand change from leaders from the most local level to the highest of levels of government. Too many are vulnerable; too many have died or been deported as a result of a defective system. Now is the time to act to save lives and support the many immigrant communities that make up the U.S. ■



One misstep with a border patrol agent, or an ill-timed desert walk, could incur a life-threatening altercation.

12,000 motion sensors, this “technological fortress” sends its feed to control rooms where agents monitor the movements of entire towns and their adjacent deserts. In fact, as more surveillance equipment haunts the landscape, and by necessity more operating personnel and border patrol agents follow, whole towns become training facilities.

The Network will use what they have learned from studying the towers for their quarterly workshops, developing community awareness and organizing strategies. Their recent programs include Tucson’s All Souls Procession, films, presentations, lectures and another field trip to the U.S.-Mexico border to shine light on the role Israel plays in the militarization of the border with the Elbit surveillance towers. Last year their workshops included a fundraiser for Gaza, Palestine 101 and how to talk to people about the hyper-politicized BDS movement.

Through this intersectional work, Mr. Abdulaziz discusses his opposition to “all forms of violence and oppression,” wherever they may be, from the United States to the Middle East. Mr. Abdulaziz declares, “Network members are proud, dedicated and enthusiastic. We are confident that we are up to the task of taking on opposition to this important and challenging work.”

Southern Arizona BDS Network’s focus in recent months has been on the Tucson STOP G4S campaign, an international campaign to raise public awareness of the for-profit prison company, G4S, and their global track record of human and labor rights violations. A broad-based coalition of more than 15 local organizations is campaigning to end G4S contracts in Tucson. Mr. Abdulaziz explains, “G4S is the world’s largest for-profit prison corporation, providing equipment and services to Israeli prisons in which Palestinians, including child prisoners, are illegally held.” The coalition alerts Tucson’s citizens that tax dollars are being spent on a company known for both its human rights violations and for defrauding multiple local and national governments. To that end, The Network is encouraging a city-wide divestment campaign.

The 17 Elbit watchtowers slated for construction only add to this self-destructive border policing and militarization. On the Gaza Strip and in the West Bank, the daily violence speaks for itself. The number of lives lost throughout the years is remarkable in both places. By working with marginalized groups on the U.S.-Mexico border, in the state of Palestine and the Gaza Strip, the Network demonstrates the ways in which an inclusive and global movement can ensure a more equitable future among vulnerable border populations. ■



LEFT TO RIGHT STANDING: **Daniel Schreck, Ali El-Issa, Esmeralda Brown, Teresa Juarez, Tina Reynolds**; SITTING: **Iva Kaufman, Tricia Lin**

AS ACTIVISTS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZERS, PDF board members engage in social justice work throughout the U.S. and abroad.

PDF board member **Ali El-Issa**, a Palestinian born and raised in exile in Lebanon, has dedicated much of his life to fighting for the sovereignty of indigenous peoples. He has worked closely with the U’wa people of Colombia as President and CEO of the Ingrid Washinawatok El-Issa Flying Eagle Woman Fund for Peace, Justice and Sovereignty. It is an original American Indian fund for education and research, established in his late wife Ingrid Washinawatok’s name to carry on her work.

Continuing Ingrid’s substantial legacy, Ali has facilitated and sponsored the attendance of indigenous people from all over the world at the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, as well as the Indigenous Women’s Caucus, the Global Caucus and the Youth Caucus. Recently, he participated in a conference with indigenous anthropologists at Leiden University in The Netherlands, and attended the first local conferences for indigenous women in Ensenada, Baja California and Oaxaca, Mexico, at the personal invitation from the Governors of those states.

For 12 years, PDF board member **Tina Reynolds** has served as chair of Women On the Rise Telling HerStory (WORTH), an association of currently and formerly incarcerated women who have managed their adversity and become empowered by their experiences in and out of prison. Last year, WORTH began partnering with The Child Center of NY to establish a video visitation project for families residing in Queens, NY.

During a recent visit with the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, Tina secured support for pilot programs within the Albion, Bedford and Taconic Correctional Facilities, in partnership with Hour Children and The Osborne Association, organizations that also offer tele-visiting programs. Visiting a remote prison is difficult due to distance and cost.

Although tele-visits cannot replace personal contact or face-to-face visits, Tina emphasizes that it is an excellent way for family members, especially children, to “visit” an incarcerated loved one.

For PDF Board member, **Yi-Chun Tricia Lin**, director and professor of Women’s Studies, teaching is not just a career. She considers it a sacred responsibility, deeply connected to her vision of social justice. As a faculty member at Southern Connecticut State University, she has been spearheading the annual observation of 64 Days of Nonviolence, a “celebration of the peace and justice in many of our cultures and heritages,” with faculty and students on campus. This semester-long event, which includes workshops, lectures and discussions on nonviolence, justice and peacebuilding, is the manifestation of her vision of education as social justice.

Teaching is not simply what transpires in the classrooms. Tricia also works with the organization, Faculty Against Rape, fighting against sexual violence on campuses across the country. She mobilizes faculty by offering workshops and lecturing about rape culture on campus and the role of faculty in preventing sexual violence. ■

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Restoring Communities and Seeking Justice

THE SUBJECT OF IMMIGRATION raises important issues within the human rights and social justice movements. The negative conversations surrounding immigrants in the U.S. have reached a crescendo. Yet indigenous and immigrant rights both concern the marginalization and silencing effect of the U.S. government and U.S. policy in light of U.S. ideals. Through the work of PDF grantees these issues are brought to light, and their voices are heard.

Formed in 2006, the **Communities for Clean Water** (CCW) in Santa Fe, NM seeks to ensure that community water is safe for drinking, agriculture, sacred ceremonies and a sustainable future. Through emphasizing the importance of access to clean water for all people, their work highlights the highly racialized politics related to the development of nuclear weapons at the U.S. government's Los Alamos National Laboratory, and the lab's effect on surrounding communities.

Core member Rachel Conn says, "It is impossible to address the issue of toxic water without understanding the ways in which these issues are rooted in racialized historical and colonial events."

In the early 1990s, the Department of Energy identified over 2,100 unlined dump sites at Los Alamos National Laboratory that contained harmful toxic waste. These toxins readily bind to soil, and each time there is a rainstorm or snowstorm, they are washed into the many creeks and canyons on the Los Alamos plateau. From there, the toxins flow into wetlands, streams, rivers and into groundwater, affecting all the surrounding communities.

In the past 10 years, CCW has created a powerful coalition with a wide variety of affected people. They include farmers, environmentalists, native peoples, spiritual leaders and



Courtesy of the **American Indian Prison Project Working Group** at their **Salmon Woman Benefit Performance**

minority populations. They all work together through mutual respect and consensus to ensure environmental justice, food security and indigenous rights.

Through community organizing, education initiatives and working with projects that emphasize community-building, CCW addresses how Los Alamos has negatively affected the environment in northern New Mexico. They documented and publicized the presence of PCBs, chromium, radionuclides, perchlorates and other toxins in the Los Alamos canyons, the Rio Grande watershed, groundwater and the regional drinking aquifer. Now they are asking the Department of Energy to request that Congress fully fund cleanup at Los Alamos. CCW is raising the national awareness of environmental contamination from nuclear weapons research, development, manufacturing and deployment.

Much like the CCW, PDF's fiscally-sponsored project, the **American Indian Prison Project Working Group** (AIPPWG), confronts state and national governmental power. AIPPWG employs similar strategies to the CCW, creating education campaigns and coordinating meetings with tribal communities. They work with legislative bodies and Correctional Departments to influence and create policy change on a tribal, state and federal level.

AIPPWG seeks to connect with the needs of the American Indian community, most specifically the needs of American Indian youth. It was established to create an alternative to the school to prison pipeline common in native populations of Minnesota and South Dakota, pathways that have led to increased mass incarceration. AIPPWG questions large-scale, out-of-community youth incarceration and instead proposes culturally-based interventions, counseling and ceremonial activity as more productive and positive remedies.

It would be impossible to address these incarceration and criminalization issues without acknowledging the ways in which they disproportionately affect certain groups of people, specifically youth of color, and in this case, indigenous youth.

Courtesy of **Communities for Clean Water**



which they disproportionately affect certain groups of people, specifically youth of color, and in this case, indigenous youth. AIPPWG Executive Director Stephanie Autumn says, "In a region where 44 percent of the American Indian and Alaska Native population is under the age of 25, the work that this organization does, empowering and amplifying the voices of marginalized youth, is clearly crucial to a more just society and criminal justice system."

She continues, "Oftentimes, the voices of youth are overrun and ignored by more seemingly powerful adults and public figures. Through creating spaces for dialogue and conversation amongst youth from different groups within this corrupt criminal justice system in Minnesota and South Dakota, AIPPWG amplifies these powerful yet suppressed voices." ■

MISSION STATEMENT

The **PEACE DEVELOPMENT FUND** works to build the capacity of community-based organizations through grants, training and other resources as partners in the human rights and social justice movements. As a public foundation, we nourish, foster and encourage the diverse, self-sustaining and economically viable communities that are essential to building a peaceful, just and equitable world.



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and Environmental
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