



# ANNUAL REPORT 2017



Laying the groundwork for an  
environmental movement in

# AFRICA



© Greenpeace / Pierre Gleizes - Taziazet 1 alongside the Esperanza in West Africa, Mauritania-Western Africa, 2017.

# GREENPEACE AFRICA



© Greenpeace / Pierre Gleizes. Village on beach in Turtle Islands, Sierra Leone. 2017.

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# FACE



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMARY

"To settle in" must be an alien concept at Greenpeace, because after 1 year and 2 months, I can honestly say I am still waiting for that moment. I hit the ground running with my first staff retreat in September 2016 and I haven't stopped.

Since our board meeting in April 2017, we have finalised two ship tours (covering nine [9] countries) with the Oceans and the Forest teams – and I hear these are only for the "best and fittest" among us, successfully run a 'crowdfunding' project that surpassed its expectations in 30 days with the Climate and Energy team and won a trophy in the prestigious Nairobi Agricultural show with the Food for Life team.

In the same period, we received approval for our three year strategic plan (3YSP), gained a license for Kenya and partial licenses for West African countries.

We maintained our fundraising growth and reached a high of 134% in quarter two –continuing to top the global growth list.

Our plastics reactive in Kenya hit an engagement number of 2,068,172 (an all-time-high) and the same project recorded the highest number of volunteers ever in any of our countries.

The second Greenpeace Africa Hub on the continent opened up in Kenya. Our security, office management and IT teams outdid themselves amidst political uncertainty.

The process to restructure the HR team began in earnest and is almost coming to fruition. We find the current security situation challenging, especially for the Congo Basin Ship Tour, where we witnessed our HR Director turn Security Director overnight. Tremendous and uncharted support saved the ship tour.

We managed to launch our internship programme and recruited all the targeted staff during this period. Our AGM was successful and our financial reports approved. Furthermore, the ED attended two high level meetings, one in Astana, Kazakhstan and the other in Geneva, Switzerland. Both platforms provided a great opportunity to advance the goal for environmental sustainability and profile Greenpeace Africa at a global stage.

## **There were many highlights in 2017, but it wasn't all smooth sailing:**

- We continue to improve our internal systems and sometimes with painful outcomes like retrenchments and reorganisations that are not always welcome to those affected. Nonetheless, in growth, change is the only constant.
- The Congo Basin Ship tour aborted prematurely due to challenges in dealing with the government in the Republic of Congo.

Overall, Greenpeace Africa had a great year and we are looking forward to an even more impactful 2018, having spent most of 2017 laying the groundwork for our 3YSP.

Sincerely,

**Njeri Kabebere,  
Executive Director**



# OCEANS



© Greenpeace / Pierre Gleizes. MY Esperanza in Mauritania, 2017.

## FIGHTING ILLEGAL, UNREGULATED AND UNREPORTED FISHING IN WEST AFRICAN WATERS



Fighting Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing that is plaguing West African fisheries has always been a priority for Greenpeace Africa's Oceans Campaign. This commitment goes back a long way; before the organisation decided to open an office in Dakar (the capital of Senegal), in September 2010.

Between March and May 2017, the commitment to protect West African waters reached a new level with the "Hope in West Africa" ship tour. This was organised by Greenpeace in the territorial waters of the member States of the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC).

During the eleven-week expedition, the Esperanza criss-crossed the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) of Cabo Verde, Mauritania, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Senegal. This was to shed light on environmentally and economically unsustainable practices in some of the world's most fertile waters. But this wasn't the only objective of the ship tour. Investigation of IUU fishing was also a key component of the work conducted by Greenpeace during the ship tour.

Working in close co-operation with the permanent secretary of the SRFC and the authorities of West African coastal states, the Greenpeace ship, MY Esperanza, also conducted joint surveillance operations in the EEZ of Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Senegal.

During the twenty days of joint surveillance operations at sea, 37 industrial fishing vessels were inspected. 17 vessels were found to be contravening applicable rules, including 9 Chinese-flagged vessels, 1 Italian-flagged vessel, 1 South Korean-flagged vessel, 4 Comoros-flagged vessels and 2 Senegalese-flagged vessels.

## THERE IS HOPE

These results, obtained in such a short time, show the extent of IUU fishing and its consequences in West African waters. There is a lot of uncertainty about the amount of money lost each year, but estimates range from millions to over a billion Euros.

These results show that there is hope: With the required political will, and commitment by West African states to work hand in hand in an open and transparent manner, they can overcome the scourge of IUU that is destroying the fertile waters of West Africa.

More importantly, it will be necessary to allow local and national civil society organisations to play their part in this fight. They should be allowed access – in real time – to information, through a system of total transparency, and invited to share experiences with the technical services of the administrations in charge of the fight against IUU fishing.

Finally, coastal states should make an effort to ratify and implement the regional and international conventions to end IUU fishing.

Be assured, Greenpeace will always stand alongside communities and relevant groups to make this happen.

## FAR WEST BY THEMSELVES

Two words would sum up the situation currently prevailing in the African fisheries. Between plunder and political inaction, one of the most fish-rich regions in the world has gone downhill, taking with it the hope of millions of souls whose fishing is the main source of income and accessible animal protein.

The degradation of West Africa's marine and coastal environment has become more acute in recent years, due to a combination of rapid population growth,

urbanisation, natural disasters, and overfishing. The latter is exacerbated by Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, which has fueled the loss of marine and coastal biodiversity, destruction of critical habitats and has aggravated poverty.

According to FAO, the region has one of the highest rates of overexploited fish stocks (54%). West Africa is one of the rare areas worldwide where fish consumption is declining despite the fact that its waters are one of the richest on earth. Last but not least, this region is one of the most affected by IUU fishing.

Today, it is unanimously accepted that all these ills are rooted in the weakness and/or lack of ambitious fishing policies in the various countries that make up the region. Developing fisheries policies that can ensure ecologically sustainable and socially acceptable remains the single most important challenge facing countries individually and collectively.

Individually, national policies remain embedded in short-term buildings rather than durability. Collectively, the countries are struggling to give their violins to move towards a regional management of the fisheries despite the fact that they have common destinies. By way of example, West Africa remains one of the few regions in the world that does not have a Regional Fisheries Management Organisation. This is no longer acceptable!

The "Hope in West Africa" tour gave us the opportunity to discuss the need and urgency for the countries of the region to put aside their individual interests and work together to preserve marine resources.

From country to country, from port to port, the Esperanza vessel sailed the waters of the member states of the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC) comprising Mauritania, The Gambia, Cabo Verde, Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Guinea and the Republic of Guinea.

In each port, we invited local authorities and civil society to talk about the almost unique situation of West African fisheries and the economic, social and ecological consequences of the lack of a regional fisheries management structure.

Greenpeace has documented and related some of the inconsistencies to the authorities currently involved in managing the fisheries in the region and their approach is unfortunately not collective, but rather individual.

We asked governors to take up their responsibilities and discuss possible solutions with all the roleplayers involved in artisanal fishing and the local civil society.

The existing organisations such as SRFC currently focuses its efforts on cooperation around the management and attempts to harmonise fisheries policies of Member States, but implementation of earlier agreed measures is lagging behind. There are some good intentions but no real action in establishing an effective fisheries management system at a regional level.

This regional management should bring concrete answers to the overcapacity issue in the region. Any future fishing activities should be sustainable, socially equitable and economically viable. Also, this regional approach should take into account the current state of fish stocks (biomass and age structure) and the need for the countries to jointly tackle IUU fishing which are exacerbated due to inadequate policies and lack of collaboration between countries. All these factors contribute to threatening the future of the fishing industry in the region, as well as the health of the oceans for generations to come.



© Greenpeace / Pierre Gleizes. Catch on Board Chinese Fishing Vessel, Guinea, 2017.



Photos © Greenpeace.





# FORESTS



© Greenpeace / Pierre Gleizes. Crew of the Esperanza Dance for the Congo on deck in support of the Congo Basin Forest campaign, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 2017.

## THE WORLD DANCES FOR A PRISTINE FOREST





The Greenpeace ship, My Esperanza, sailed into African waters for the second time in 2017 in October and brought a message: "Give the Congo Basin forest a Chance". This was the start of our five week campaign to preserve the second largest forest in the world – the Congo Basin Forest. We had a warm welcome by the people of the Cameroon and Democratic Republic of Congo, who took part in the activities we presented – from political and solutions days to open boats with celebrities and government officials.

**Out of all the mobilisation activities, the two that stood out were:**

- the #DanceForTheCongo, in which staff and volunteers danced to a song, created by local celebrities and commissioned by Greenpeace Africa.

- the #CongoBasinWish, where; as an emblem of dedication to the forest; dignitaries and the community pledged their wishes for the forest on paper leaves that were pinned onto the "Wish Tree".

Complimentary digital activities also garnered much support from our digital supporters on social media. We mirrored our physical #CongoBasinWish tree with a digital wish tree in which our supporters could sign, share and pledge a heartfelt wish for the forest.

For Greenpeace Africa's first global spotlight – a global spotlight means the entire organisation supports a campaign push on a specific day – we created a montage of all the #DanceForTheCongo videos received from all over the world, and shared the video on social media. The impressive amount of support we received from other Greenpeace offices around the globe was astounding and really highlighted the fact that the world supported our drive to give the Congo Basin Forest a chance!

During the ship tour, an expedition was sent into the Congo Basin Forest to investigate the extent of its carbon-storing peatlands. Scientists' research during the expedition suggested that this peatland complex in the central Congo Basin is actually the most extensive peatland complex in the world, storing approximately 30 gigatonnes of carbon below ground. Therefore this site is of massive importance in the battle against climate change.

## #DANCEFORTHECONGO AT AFRIMA 2017

To create longevity for the "Give the Congo Basin Forest a Chance" campaign, Greenpeace Africa attended the All Africa Music Awards (AFRIMA), and introduced the campaign to the audience. A 30-second TV spot was screened during the awards ceremony and we were given the opportunity to talk about the campaign.

We sought to test our first key influencer campaign and build a relationship within the music industry, specifically for future branding and campaign work. The strategy and activities took into consideration that this was

the first access to the African arts and entertainment community, and we used our activities to forge an ongoing relationship with celebrities to further the efforts of our work on the African continent.

## THE RESULTS

The campaign speech and TV spot was well-received by the 5,600 attendees. In addition, the Awards ceremony was broadcast live to 98 countries around the world and DStv had a dedicated pop-up channel, which further amplified our message to a much wider audience of millions of viewers. This also gave us more opportunities to speak about the campaign to the media, artists and attendees.

## KEY INFLUENCERS

We collected 56 celebrity leads that will help to kickstart our key influencer work in Africa.

It is worth to mention that keen interest from the music community has come directly from some of the AFRIMA 2017 winners, and from all parts of the continent, including artists from Ethiopia, Nigeria and Zimbabwe where we are yet to explore building our presence.

We also recorded 23 artists giving us their 'Give the Congo Basin Forest a Chance' video pledges, which the Digital Team used to further promote the campaign via social media.





## GIVE THE CONGO BASIN FOREST A CHANCE SHIP TOUR WITH MY ESPERANZA 2017

My Esperanza's six-week journey began in Douala, Cameroon, where it stayed for 5 days and then continued to the next port of call arriving at Boma, DRC, for two days. It then sailed up the mighty Congo River to Matadi, the main port in the DRC and remained there for 8 days. The next and last port of call was Pointe Noire in the Republic of Congo, where it was going to stay for two days. This part of the journey, unfortunately, had to be called off, because Republic of Congo officials did not allow the ship to dock in Pointe Noire.

On Solutions Day in Cameroon, we had a record amount of representatives from many different ministries competing to solve the problems posed. This has never happened before. Representatives found it hard to believe that firstly, they were all present on the day, and secondly, really contributing positively towards developing solutions for Industrial Agriculture in Cameroon.

The political day in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), was simply amazing – all major role players attended the event, including the Minister of Environment, Nature Conservation and Sustainable Development, Civil Society, Indigenous People, Scientists and the media. Everyone was alert and listening keenly, the big issue being the urgent need of action to protect the peatlands for the next six months. The debate that ensued turned out to be the highlight of the day.

Solutions Day in the DRC saw very active participation from indigenous tribes, civil society and the local authorities.

In the Republic of Congo (RoC), we lobbied, negotiated and did all that was humanly possible, but the ship still could not get permission to dock! This was a sad end to the tour, but we sent a powerful message to the RoC government: we mean business, and we'll be back.



## SOME OF THE GREAT HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SHIP TOUR ARE:

A ground-breaking scientific expedition revealed the remarkable depth of 3,7m (just at the edge) of the forest's peatlands, confirming its global significance as a carbon sink.



The campaign attracted fantastic media coverage in the Congo Basin region which also resulted in some great international stories. For the peatland expedition alone we took fifteen international journalists from China, the US, Germany, France, Norway, Belgium and the UK. Ten national journalist from the DRC also joined us.

Supporters and volunteers from 18 nations and 5 continents took part in the #DanceForTheCongo. The mash-up video was delivered to representatives from the DRC government and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) at COP23 alongside people's "wishes" for the forest collected on the "Wish Tree" during the ship tour. The number of Greenpeace Africa supporters also grew after the tour.



With the help of other Greenpeace offices and Greenpeace International, we began to tell the story of this critical but globally little-known rainforest to Greenpeace supporters the world over. We engaged with thousands of people on the ship during open boats and boat visits. This helped to expand our supporter base and created more awareness of Congo Basin issues and the need for joint action to protect this sacred forest.



All in all, the ship tour gave Greenpeace Africa a great platform to engage with government authorities, scientists, communities, volunteers, donors, the private sector and Civil Society Organisations. The forest team used this opportunity to foster discussions with these groups on the importance of protecting the Congo Basin forest for the sake of our global climate and humanity. The ship tour created a much needed opportunity to bring all the role players together and work out better collaborative plans. It is most certainly not the end of this process, because more follow-up is needed in the form of meetings with all stakeholders to facilitate cooperation in this sector.



The next steps will be to structure an engagement plan to keep our supporters active and interested in working with us to save the sacred Congo Basin forest.







# CLIMATE AND ENERGY



philip  
FOUNDATION  
GREENPEACE

BRINGING LIGHT AND HOPE TO  
DIEPSLOOT — PROJECT SUNSHINE

© Greenpeace.



© Greenpeace / Mijahid Safodien. Matthew with a solar panel outside his home. He says the solar panel and batteries have become part of his family now. South Africa, 2016.

Three years ago, Greenpeace Africa submitted a proposal for solar street lights to City Power (City of Johannesburg). The proposed project was intended to provide lighting in the Diepsloot area (extension 12). However, due to its enormity and municipal requirements (City Power), the project was scaled down to cover only the premises of a targeted pre-school. This choice would later allow the project to serve as a learning curve and replication for similar and locally-based projects in South Africa. The Phillie Diepsloot Early Childhood Development Centre, located in the Diepsloot settlement, thus became the best choice to execute the project and bring Project Sunshine to life

To realise this project, Greenpeace Africa put together a team led by Climate and Energy to develop a crowdfunding strategy. The crowdfunding approach was intended to raise funds for the installation of the solar streetlights that were later installed by Schneider Electric (South Africa). We successfully crowdfunded the R103,000.00 required to deliver the project. The main aim of the crowdfunding, however, was to create public awareness of the possibility to realise sustainable energy (through solar energy), as opposed to simple fundraising.

Project Sunshine was successfully implemented through a phased approach that included: partnering with The Philile Foundation; community mobilisation and relationship building with parents and members of the Foundation; relationship building and development with locally based civil society organisations (e.g. Vuselela Ulwazi, Diepsloot Greening Initiative), and the installation and showcasing of the solar project.

## COMMUNITY MOBILISATION AND RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

Pre-schoolers' parents and the school's neighbours were mobilised through several meetings to expand on Greenpeace Africa's solutions awareness. The meetings were meant to build a relationship with the community, create community buy-in for the solar streetlights and expand on the renewable energy narrative as a sustainable option.

Further, as a build-up to strengthening our relationship with the surrounding community, the Greenpeace Africa team (supported by Earthlife Africa – Johannesburg), did door-to-door visits to invite members of the community, as well as highlight the benefits of solar energy. Our partners (i.e. Earthlife Africa, Vuselela Ulwazi and Media24) also joined us to conduct waste clean-up campaigns in the area. The clean-up also served to develop a social licence for future Greenpeace Africa campaigns.

## INSTALLATION OF SOLAR STREET LIGHTS: REALISING PROJECT SUNSHINE

The greatest achievement of Project Sunshine was the build-up phases leading up to the installation of the solar streetlights. The main lessons learnt during these stages served as a barometer on how best to:

- develop partnerships,
- mobilise community members,
- understand community dynamics,
- build community trust, and
- replicate Project Sunshine.

Leading up to the installation, Greenpeace Africa was able to develop relevant messaging through a communications strategy that reached out to members of the broader public carrying the story of the Diepsloot community. The communication strategy also included radio and television interviews, allowing Greenpeace Africa to grow support for this community project and raise funds. The installation was thus the pinnacle of the work started by Greenpeace Africa in the Diepsloot informal settlement.



## SOUTH AFRICA JOINS THE GLOBAL MOVEMENT TO BREAK FREE FROM FOSSIL FUELS

Break Free is not a campaign, but a global movement to push back against fossil fuels, and in South Africa's case: to push back against the devastation caused by coal. Almost all of South Africa's electricity comes from coal, and it is crucial that the just transition away from fossil fuels and towards renewable energy and energy efficiency is urgently implemented. In 2017, Greenpeace Africa worked in a coalition with activists from Earthlife Africa Jhb, the African Climate Reality Project and 350.org to highlight the impact that coal-fired power stations have on South African communities.

The lead up to Break Free included an innovative approach that included theatre, and engaging with school children from four different schools in an art project on how they see a fossil fuel free world. We collected over 300 drawings, and then delivered these drawings, along with a petition, to the Minister of Energy, so that choices can be made for a better tomorrow.

On the 23rd of March, the Break Free coalition held a funeral procession and graveyard scene in front of the Department of Energy to ask the South African government to Break Free from Fossil Fuels. Tombstones written in eleven official South African languages to stop using coal for electricity generation and break free from fossil fuels were left at the Department's entrance. Greenpeace Africa, Earthlife Africa, 350.org and the African Climate Reality Project took part in this activity

to ask the South African government to put people's lives and health first by making renewable energy the backbone of our electricity supply. The day and time of this action was critical as South Africa's energy plan, the "Integrated Resource Plan" (IRP), was closing for public comments the following week. The activity symbolically represented the death of the people who have died due to fossil fuels and coal mining in the country.

What government and the majority of South Africans fail to see, are the real costs associated with living with coal on a daily basis, since these are concentrated in the coalfields of the country. It is critical that we break free from the coal dependency that has resulted in South African communities living with some of the worst air quality in the world. Children are ill, and scarce water sources are depleted and polluted because of coal; at a time when there are better solutions available through renewable energy. The Integrated Resource Plan is our chance to Break Free from fossil fuels, because it sets electricity investments for the next 20 years and this means that the decisions made in the plan set the agenda for the foreseeable future.

The Break Free activities in 2017 were aimed at ensuring that public attention was drawn to the plan, and that pressure is applied so that a rational, climate-friendly, and socially and environmentally just IRP is developed. Droughts, sporadic rainfall and erratic weather patterns are all indicators that governments should take immediate action to safeguard a future that will sustain future generations. Our work to ensure that we Break Free from Fossil Fuels through the IRP continues in 2018.









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BREEK WEG  
VAN  
STEENKOOL

© Greenpeace. Activists chain themselves in front of the Department of Energy's headquarters in Pretoria, asking Energy Minister to #breakfree from polluting fossil fuels., South Africa, 2017.

# mba House

**IRP**  
is our chance to  
**BREAK FREE**  
from  
**FOSSIL FUELS**



© Greenpeace / Mujahid Safodier. Mathew with a solar panel outside his home. He says the solar panel and batteries have become part of his family now. South Africa, 2016.



# FOOD FOR LIFE



## REVAMPING THE FOOD SYSTEM IN KENYA



Greenpeace Africa's Ecological Farming journey has been blooming. In 2017, the Food for Life campaign made positive strides moving closer to securing policy and budget allocation in support of ecological agriculture and thereby safeguarding food sovereignty. From the onset, it was important to build alliances at County level, leveraging farmer networks and existing movements in Machakos, a county in Eastern Kenya.

What must be stated about the Food for Life (FFL) campaign in Africa, is that the design and focus varies from the larger Greenpeace meat and dairy campaign model. Africa has different challenges and we needed a

locally contextualised campaign to address Africa's unique situation. This is why Greenpeace Africa's FFL campaign is framed around ecological agriculture and resilience work – a method of farming that is good for the environment and guarantees healthy food, while mitigating the harsh effects of climate change.

Towards the end of 2017 urban consumers were targeted in an effort to raise awareness and facilitate engagement around the prevailing food issues in Kenya and beyond. We hoped to sensitise urban and semi-urban consumers to sustainable farming to ensure awareness, engagement and uptake of ecologically farmed produce.

## POLITICAL ENGAGEMENTS

By October 2017 the Food for Life campaign had participated in a number of political engagements in Kenya, presenting ecological farming as the solution that can best address the impacts of climate change in Africa. The county assembly in Machakos expressed a desire and willingness to move towards ecological farming should the farmers demand it. In response to this, farmers from Machakos submitted a petition to the assembly, asking them to provide support for ecological farming.

## LOCAL FARMERS

An important stakeholder has been the small-scale farmer. The campaign profiles farmers as the future. To this end, 180 farmers have so far received training on different aspects of ecological farming and farmer networks have been established to aid skills and knowledge sharing. The targeted Counties for this purpose include Nairobi, Siaya, Machakos, Kitui and Makueni. The main aim is to equip farmers with practical ways of practicing ecological farming. The FFL campaign further aims to upscale the current practice to ensure healthy food production over the long term. Our red-letter days, such as World Food Day and the Machakos Farmers Fairs also contributed to raising awareness. The Nairobi International Trade Fair presented opportunities to engage in policy dialogue.



© Greenpeace / Eijla Omega. Youth Demand for a Better Farming System as Kenya Celebrates World Food Day, Kenya, 2017.



© Greenpeace / Paul Basveti / Tree Planting and Clean up Gatharaiti River in Kenya, Kenya, 2017.



© Greenpeace / Eliza Omega / Youth Demand for a Better Farming System as Kenya Celebrates World Food Day, Kenya, 2017.



Photo © Greenpeace.



© Greenpeace / Paul Basveti / Farmers Workshop, Kenya, 2017.

## BLOSSOMING IN 2018

For the next few years our objectives are specific – with a new strategy in place, the Food for Life campaign has expanded into a multi-County focus to include: Nairobi, Machakos, Kitui, Siaya and Makeni. The aim is to shift or lobby for budget allocation at County level in support of ecological agriculture and contribute to the 2019 national budget process to ensure ecological agriculture is factored in. Further still, the Food for Life campaign has a pool of new staff and emerging opportunities to galvanise key influencers to action and rally nations towards positive change. We expect a domino effect that will see the campaign grow into other African countries as from 2019. The aim will be to debunk the myth that the use of agrochemicals increases productivity and will achieve food security in Africa’s constantly changing climate.





# TOWARDS AN ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT IN AFRICA



Volunteers are the heartbeat of Greenpeace Africa. Not only do the volunteers provide much needed support for our activities, but they also pump innovation and creativity into our veins and keep questioning our values and missions.

The year 2017 was a real turning point for the volunteer programme at Greenpeace Africa. Up until 2016, Greenpeace Africa had less than 100 volunteers scattered across the continent. Some of them have been engaged in activities for years, but many of them were looking for more active involvement and felt disconnected from Greenpeace's core campaigns. During the first part of 2017, we visited and listened to all the volunteers, with a mission to revive Greenpeace Africa's volunteer programme as a leading force of environmental activism on the African continent.

## We took 3 key strategic directions:

- Firstly, Greenpeace Africa started involving the volunteers much earlier in the planning process of our campaigns and their activities. For the Congo Basin Forest ship tour, the volunteers organised workshops to create lead-up activities before the arrival of the ship. They also handled the open boat events on their own and it attracted hundreds of people.
- Secondly, we created more opportunity for volunteers to connect beyond their own local groups. We set up communication channels where they are able to freely share ideas and victories. We used many of the global campaign mobilisation requests, such as #BridgesNotWalls when the new US president came into office in January, as well as World Environment Day in June, and other similar events to encourage common actions across the local groups.
- Lastly, we also focused on developing leadership among the volunteers in the hope of giving more autonomy on managing the local groups. Eight volunteers participated in the Global Leadership Programme. Many volunteers who carried out their duties with great responsibility emerged as leaders during some of this year's major projects.

Adding to the already active groups in Dakar, Yaounde, and Durban, we established and revived the local volunteer groups in 11 locations, mostly in main urban centres in 5 countries where we operate. Particularly, in order to support the Congo Basin Forest ship tour during Oct-Nov 2017, we initiated local groups with the university students in the port cities of Matadi (DRC) and Douala (Cameroon). The newest of the local groups in Ziguinchor (Senegal) is uniquely situated in-between Gambia and Guinea-Bissau, where various cultures and languages meet.

By the end of 2017, we had close to 400 active volunteers in 5 countries. The number may seem small against the vastness of the continent and its environmental challenges, but these volunteers share our values at Greenpeace and live their daily lives as examples and proactive environmental leaders of their communities. Their abilities to inspire others, question the status quo and challenge mindsets go far beyond what the numbers may represent.



# WHAT DID OUR VOLUNTEERS GET UP TO?

## KENYA



Greenpeace has helped me look at my environmental work from a completely different angle. I get to view problems on a global scale now, which helps me to borrow ideas and experience that has worked elsewhere and use them to solve local problems. Greenpeace has also shown me that caring for the environment does not only entail planting trees, but coming up with solutions and helping the public with a mind shift in order to support and sustain the solution. From knowledge and exposure to networking, Greenpeace has given me a platform to share my passion for the environment to a wider audience, which has helped a lot on my quest to bring positive change to the environment.

- **James Kamanu** -



The first Greenpeace event I attended was the Non Violent Direct Action (NVDA) training. The first thing I was taught was to get my point across in a completely non-violent way – and that speaks volumes of the organisation. Greenpeace taught me not be a passive citizen when there is a problem. I can volunteer for Greenpeace on different capacities given that I'm an environmental law student, and I can offer my legal input into their work. Before I joined Greenpeace, I felt that some problems were too big for me to fix, but Greenpeace showed me otherwise. - **Iman Bashir** -



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## SOUTH AFRICA



Greenpeace has given me the opportunity to grow as a person, especially during climbing training which happened in August 2017 in Johannesburg. It pushed my limits, gave me confidence yet also made me more aware of my actions and behaviours in a team environment and how they affect other team members. I am grateful to be coached by understanding trainers, who took a more personalised approach and helped me focus on a more positive means of communication and to realise that I can channel my energy in a more powerful way. Since then I am more aware of my presence and attitude. I also took with me more motivation to organise a climbing team in Cape Town. - **Aimee Hoppe** -



Last year was incredibly empowering and rewarding for me, as a Greenpeace Africa volunteer and activist. I actually got to conquer two of my worst fears last year too, and through these experiences have started to become the person I always hoped to be – someone who stands up for what they believe in and does something about it through their actions. A few highlights from my year included being a part of the volunteer skills share, the solar installation at the Diepsloot Early Childhood Development Centre and the Nukethula NVDA, which was my 1st action as part of the Climbing team. I also represented Greenpeace Africa at Rocking the Daisies and the Ultra Midlands Triathlon, and represented the SA volunteers at the annual Staff Retreat. But in truth I always wanted to join Greenpeace and as challenging as it sometimes was last year, I have grown so much since doing so and loved every minute of it. - **Melanie Sember** -



## CAMEROON



Being a volunteer for Greenpeace for over 4 years has been a wonderful experience. It's challenging and enriching at the same time. We have to work under pressure to tight deadlines and still produce a good result. One of the most amazing things is to meet the people who share concern for our environment, obtaining their advice and learning from them (networking) ... It's priceless ...

I also got a lot of training, which helps me a lot in my job. What we all want most in our careers, is to develop the necessary skills to do the best possible job – what better starting point than volunteering?

- **Douanla Mafodem Linda** -



## SENEGAL



Greenpeace has helped me to become cognisant of the protection of the environment and natural resources. The Oceans campaign is advocating for sustainable fishing in West Africa; the Forests campaign is fighting illegal industrial logging and agriculture. The plastic campaign is very important in our context and we need to do our best to kick plastic out. The environment is threatened all the time, it is necessary to raise awareness on the importance of protecting the environment for sustainable development. - **Sidath Diedhiou** -



Greenpeace has taught me a lot more about the environment than any prior volunteer experience – even more than what I learnt at university, where we studied human impact on the environment in general.

The different Greenpeace activities and the enthusiasm of the volunteers have raised my own awareness of the importance of environmental protection and it taught me how to be the voice of reason. - **Christian Mendy** -



The visit of the Greenpeace ship, My Esperanza had a big impact on me, because it allowed me to see how our resources are being squandered by foreign boats in record time. As a journalist, it served as a starting point to go to the authorities – especially the Minister of fisheries – to discuss and see the measures taken by the Senegalese government on the preservation of these resources and their responsibilities to preserve our fish for the future generation.

- **Ibrahima Diedhiou** -

## DRC



It is with pleasure that I have to admit how great it is to be part of the Greenpeace family. Thanks to this family, I have met several people from different cultures and travelled to different places. It makes me feel very proud, because wherever I am, they treat me like one of their own and there is no racial discrimination. I am a volunteer, but in the Greenpeace offices (whether in DRC or elsewhere), I feel like a staff member. I am proud to be a Greenpeace volunteer. - **Blaise Iyeli** -



# WORKING WITH PARTNERS – TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER

## KENYA

### Institute for Culture and Ecology (ICE)



ICE is a local NGO working with farmers in different counties. ICE partnership efforts involved policy roundtable discussions with members of Machakos County Assembly (MCA). Secondly, the Farmers Workshop and Policy Dialogues were linked to the elections held in August 2017, which provided a unique opportunity to swing agricultural policies towards supporting ecological agriculture. ICE

provided a platform and a network of farmers for the two farmers' workshops carried out in Matungulu and Masinga sub-counties. Lastly, the Machakos Farmers Day provided an opportunity for the campaign to showcase ecological agriculture as a viable solution to food insecurity in the county.

### Kenya Forest Services (KFS)

In collaboration with KFS and five other organisations the FFL campaign took part in the Nairobi International Trade Fair, held from 2 – 8 October 2017. This trade fair is the largest in the Eastern African region – organised on an annual basis by the Agricultural Society of Kenya – and attracts more than 250 exhibitors with an average of 500,000 visitors. The fair provided the FFL team with an excellent opportunity to reach a wider base of people in terms of its work on ecological agriculture by highlighting the dangers of industrial agriculture and portraying ecological agriculture as an adaptive strategy to the negative impacts of climate change.

### Henrich Boll Foundation (HBF)

HBF is a catalyst for green visions and projects, a think tank for policy reform, and an international network that promotes the development of democratic civil society. On the 16th of December, Greenpeace Africa Food For Life team organised an urban sensitisation event on ecological farming. The event, sponsored by the HBF, aimed at galvanising Kenya's urban consumer base to support local initiatives promoting safe food devoid of harmful chemicals. The event was successful in creating awareness on the benefits of ecological farming to the urban consumers, as well as profiling the work carried out

by Greenpeace in Africa.

### University Environmental Clubs

On World Food Day (WFD), held on 16 October 2017, the FFL team organised an inter-university debate and twitter chat with six university environmental clubs to spread awareness on ecological agriculture. The participating universities included: Technical University of Kenya (TUK), Kenyatta University (KU), Nazarene, Zetech, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (J-KUAT) and University of Nairobi (UoN). Topics discussed included consumption and the broken food system, food sovereignty, agriculture and resilient livelihoods and ecological farming.

## SOUTH AFRICA

### The Philile Foundation Partnership



The partnership with The Philile Foundation came at the right moment when Greenpeace Africa was blocked by municipal regulations from installing solar street lights in the informal settlement area of Diepsloot (public space).

The Philile Foundation was willing to partner with Greenpeace Africa and provided the pre-school premises (private land) as the location for the installation of eight solar street lights. The installation of the streetlights was finally done during the month of August 2017 at the Diepsloot Philile Foundation pre-school.

### Earthlife Africa Jhb

This year it has been a priority for Greenpeace Africa to work closely with its partners. The Climate & Energy team partnered with Earthlife Africa in their engagements with their constituencies around the groundbreaking decision by the courts in their nuclear procurement court case. The team also collaborated with Earthlife Africa Jhb, Centre for Environmental Rights and GroundWork in developing the climate change litigation strategy to challenge SA's energy planning at a climate expert meeting in Kenya. The partnership also included working together to develop a joint litigation strategy in a much more collaborative approach.

# DRC

Greenpeace Africa worked with national partners like Réseau Ressources Naturelles (RRN), Groupe De Travail Climat REDD Renove (GTCRR), Centre d'Appui à la Gestion Durable des Forêts Tropicales (CAGDFT), Dynamique des Groupes des Peuples Autochtones (DGPA) on protecting the current moratorium, as well as in community forestry projects. This mainly included synchronising our activities related to research, advocacy and media work. We also engaged on the international front with a coalition of NGOs like The Rainforest Foundation UK, The Rainforest Foundation Norway and Global Witness in our lobby work with the DRC donor, the Central African Forest Initiative, pushing for this donor not to fund the industrial logging sector.



# CAMEROON

Greenpeace Africa worked with APIFED (Appui à l'Auto Promotion et Insertion des Femmes, Jeunes et Désœuvrés) to guide us during field trips in our target area, since they are already present and working with local and indigenous communities in the same area. We engaged with The Environmental Investigations Agency (EIA) where we mutually updated each other on research on timber trade between the Congo Basin, China, EU and the US. We also worked with EarthSight, Forest Peoples Programme, Fern, Rainforest Foundation UK, Réseau pour l'action collective transnationale (ReAct) Environmental Investigation Agency and Global Witness in a coordination process to work together on research into industrial agriculture in the Congo Basin.



# MAIDEN INTERNSHIP VOYAGE IN GREENPEACE AFRICA



*Greenpeace Africa for life!* **Nkululeko Mncube** – media monitoring intern, South Africa

*“Completing the internship programme has greatly improved my chances of succeeding not only in the engagement field but in my life as a whole, because I get to do what I love. I’m extremely happy to be a part of the Greenpeace Africa family even though I’m miles away from the other members of this family in other countries.”* **Gwladys Nkamga** – Mobilisation Intern, Cameroon

## **They are the in legal field, bent on defending environmental rights for life:**

*“Completing the internship has improved my understanding of environmental justice work. It has also fuelled my passion to protect the environment. I am grateful to have been given the opportunity to learn and work at Greenpeace Africa.”* **Chiedza Machaka** – Legal Intern, South Africa.

## **Some use the digital spaces of their companies to tell others how to live green. They are ready to draft environmental strategies and armed to challenge authorities:**

*“I have gained a lot of experience from working within Greenpeace Africa such as drafting the Food for Life two-year strategy with the assistance of the FFL team. I believe I can play a major role in lobbying for environmental conservation as the learning process has been educational and enjoyable.”* **Samwel Omesa** – food for life campaign intern, Kenya

## **They are in administration and still living and preaching green values:**

*“Greenpeace has taught me to combine theory and practice in administration. I have also learnt how to love and protect nature in the process.”* **Judith Nyongo** – administrative intern Forest Kinshasa, DRC

And some of our interns stayed with us. Abdoulaye from Senegal is our West African actions coordinator and Boipelo from South Africa is our training coordinator. What a win-win!

I truly believe we have created a spread of green warriors far beyond what I ever could have imagined. Live on, green warriors! and keep the earth alive.

As a product of two internship programmes, I am grateful for the impact it has made on my life and it has always been my dream to create similar opportunities for others. This dream was realised when I was given the go-ahead and mandate to run our first ever internship programme in Greenpeace Africa in 2017.

In June 2017, we took in 17 brilliant minds, after some rigorous interviews. Spread over all our departments in all our 5 offices on the continent, the programme ran for 6 months. From digital and legal minds to admin gurus and community mobilisers, we opened our doors and work to fresh minds who were eager to learn and share. We welcomed their fresh perspectives that sometimes shifted our minds. We learnt to teach and nurture our values, and refined them in the process. Together, we also got to understand and appreciate that living green and in peace could be a quick fix.

We had hoped to turn our interns into environmental warriors by the time they left us, and it seems we’ve succeeded. After six months some of them are at financial institutions and still sending green messages back to us and all over the world:

*“I am very grateful for the opportunity to have been the Media Monitoring Intern at Greenpeace Africa, which is one of the most prominent environmental organisations in the world. This internship has helped me in terms of gaining experience in communications, news analysis and media as a whole. Thank you very much to Greenpeace Africa for the wonderful opportunity and helping me build my career.*



# FUNDRAISING ANNUAL REVIEW FOR 2017

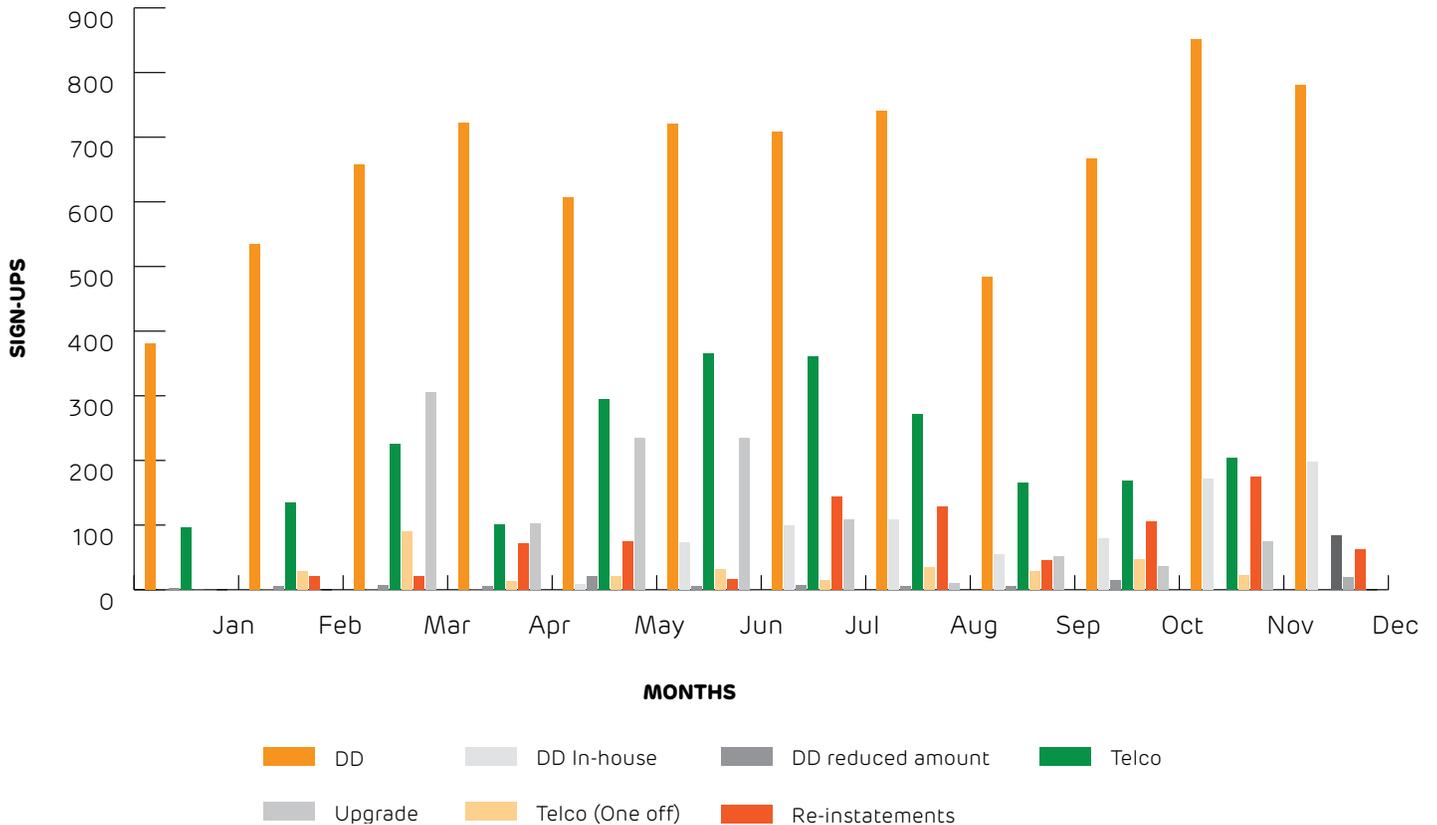
As can be seen when looking back at investments made, fundraising had its best year to date with great improvements in both Direct Dialogue (DD) and Telefundraising. Strong growth was recorded across all strands and we had the best growth of any NRO in 2017, albeit from a low initial base.

DD made, a total number of 8722 pre-debit sign-ups – 791 coming from the newly established in-house team. In 2017 we managed to achieve 82% of our DD donor numbers objectives.

Telefundraising brought in 2470 pre-debit sign-ups.

The quality of the first debit success rate was improved with the implementation of NAEDO (Non-authenticated early debit order), which tracks people’s accounts to ensure there are funds available before debiting an account. Average first debit success rates improved from 65% to 74%.

## The year in numbers, FR acquisitions 2017 sign-ups at a glance:



## INCOME FROM ACQUISITIONS STRANDS:

Total income received from regular donors was R13 M

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Income 2016 (Millions)	0,93	1,67	2,01	3,29	7,9
Income 2017 (Millions)	2,48	2,83	3,37	4,37	13,05
<b>Income growth %</b>	<b>267%</b>	<b>169%</b>	<b>168%</b>	<b>133%</b>	<b>165%</b>

Greenpeace Africa recorded a 165% growth in 2018 in our Acquisition Income. We are the fastest growing NRO in the Greenpeace world.

## SUPPORTER SERVICES

During the second quarter a comprehensive structure for all financial supporter journeys was created. The cycles cover the entire lifespan of the donor, and the purpose of the journeys was to promote and foster donor commitment and to increase donor retention.

**The following cycles were identified and journeys designed:**

- o The new regular donor welcome cycle
- o The upgrade cycle
- o The reinstatement cycle
- o The cancellation cycle
- o The reactivation cycle

## TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS

Trust and Foundations has, for the first time, secured one of the largest local grants in 2017. Hans Hoheisen awarded Greenpeace Africa a multi-year grant to the total value of R1 010 000 for our work on coal in the month of August.

We have received 3.04 M in 2017 and 2.6 M is confirmed for 2018.

# FINANCE

Greenpeace Africa is proud to include a summary of our annual financial results for the year ended 31 December 2017. Comprehensive audited annual financial statements are available for download on the Greenpeace Africa website.

Operating throughout Africa poses fundamental risks, not least of which is the exchange rate. Even though – for a portion of 2017 – the South African Rand achieved the reputation of being the most volatile currency in the world, we were able to generate a net exchange rate profit of R1,274,549 (2016: R2,246,994) enabling us to fund the higher costs of our US Dollar (DRC and Cameroon) and Euro (Senegal) activities.

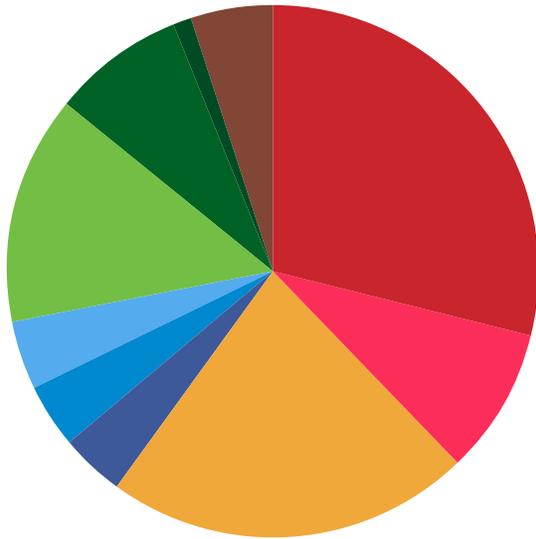
Greenpeace Africa was able to increase overall revenue for 2017 by 34% over 2016 levels. Non-fundraising expenditure increased by 22%. Our regular donor numbers saw fundraising income increasing by 75%, while our fundraising expenditure increases were limited to 57%.

As at 31 December 2017, Greenpeace Africa had an accumulated reserve balance of R10,588,575 (R9,639,548 for 2016), an increase of 9.8% over 2016. The current total reserve equates to about 10.4% of the budgeted total expenditure for 2018 of R101,724,948.

## BELOW THE HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR 2017 FINANCIAL RESULTS:

Income and Expenditure	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
	Actuals ('000)					
Contributions from Greenpeace International and other Greenpeace offices	28 325	34 402	38 170	46 963	54 913	74 745
Other Non-fundraising Income	765	1	697	1 965	4 814	2 408
Fundraising Income	5 686	4 672	4 657	4 605	7 531	13 203
Fundraising Expenditure	5 493	4 340	4 560	3 407	12 168	19 097
<b>Net FR Income</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>1 198</b>	<b>-4 637</b>	<b>-5 895</b>
<b>TOTAL Income</b>	<b>29 283</b>	<b>34 735</b>	<b>38 964</b>	<b>50 126</b>	<b>55 091</b>	<b>71 258</b>
<b>TOTAL Non-fundraising Expenditure</b>	<b>28 494</b>	<b>30 159</b>	<b>34 935</b>	<b>47 513</b>	<b>57 819</b>	<b>70 438</b>
Surplus / (Deficit)	789	4 575	4 029	2 613	-2 729	820

## EXPENDITURE PER COST CENTRE



- Organisational support Investment (29%)
- Oceans Campaign (9%)
- Forest Campaign (22%)
- Sustainable Agricultural & Food for Life (4%)
- Climate & Energy Campaign (4%)
- Campaign Coordination (4%)
- Campaign Support (14%)
- Media and Communications (8%)
- Public information & Outreach (1%)
- Actions and Investigations (4%)



© Greenpeace / Daniel Beltrá. Aerial view of village in Lac Paku in the peatland forest near Mbandaka, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 2017.



# 2017: LOOKING BACK AT GREENPEACE GLOBALLY



2017 has been a tough year. We've witnessed increased anti-immigration sentiment, a shift toward populism, the rise of far-right movements and burgeoning inequality.

But we also saw people standing up in solidarity with others for justice and peace. There was extreme weather that we've never seen before: wildfires ravaged southern Europe, hurricanes battered the Americas, and droughts spread around the world.

Civil society groups and non-governmental organisations saw the biggest crackdown on human rights and civil liberties in a generation.

Despite the grim realities on the ground and in cyberspace, Greenpeace staff and supporters continued to find moments to speak truth to power.

We continued to fight for a future that is fair, sustainable and benefits everyone, not just a few.

We look to the new year with humility but still with confidence, resilience and hope.

These victories are made possible with the help of our supporters, volunteers, staff and communities around the globe. Our wins demonstrate the power of collaboration. They show that we are stronger together and together we can continue to grow the movement for a just, peaceful and sustainable future.

## HERE IS WHAT WE ALL ACHIEVED IN 2017:

### 01 JANUARY

On Trump's fifth day in office, Greenpeace US deployed a 70ft banner on a construction crane near the White House that read "RESIST" calling for those who want to resist Trump's attacks on environmental, social, economic and educational justice to contribute to a better America. This one act received great media coverage and created momentum in the RESIST movement.

### 02 FEBRUARY

The government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo announced it would cancel two illegal logging licenses following an investigation by Greenpeace Africa. The forest team probe exposed two logging licences that were given illegally to influential persons. They did this despite a direct threat to their lives.

### 03 MARCH

Greenpeace Southeast Asia revealed HSBC – one of the biggest banks in the world – was funding destructive palm oil companies. We put pressure on HSBC to stop funding deforestation and contributing to human rights violations in Indonesia for palm oil. In March HSBC published a new "no deforestation" policy in a first step toward sustainable palm oil finance and saving the world's tropical rainforests. HSBC revised its Agricultural

Commodities Policy to include "No Deforestation, No Peat and No Exploitation" (NDPE) commitments in its financing of palm oil firms.

In Poland, after a more than 2-year campaign run by Greenpeace Poland/Central and Eastern Europe and the local community, the regional environmental authority RDOS issued a formal decision to not grant the environmental permit for the Ościstowo open cast lignite mine (central Poland) planned by the lignite utility PAK. Greenpeace Poland was a formal party to the procedure and provided legal coordination, commissioned and coordinated expert input and ran the grassroots, media and political campaign. Though they won the fight, they expect an appeal.

### 04 APRIL

With more than 170 peaceful protests, marches and festivals in more than 60 countries around the world, the growing movement to Break Free from fossil fuels showed it was tireless, unified and unstoppable. The demonstrations took place over three weeks, with more than 200 civil society groups, communities and more than 61,000 people calling for an end to fossil fuels. They called to limit global warming to 1.5°C and they demanded an immediate and just transition to renewable energy.

Greenpeace East Asia launched a campaign to extend the microplastic ban to all cosmetics and personal care products. 759 stores announced an immediate ban on all products containing microplastic.

### 05 MAY

In the Philippines, the Philippine Department of Agriculture (DA) took on the scaling up work of the climate resiliency project which was piloted by Greenpeace Philippines. In partnership with R1, the DA will pilot the implementation in 300 proposed municipalities. This work forms part of the DA's proposed 2018 national budget allocation estimated at Php 450 million (US \$ 9 million).

### 06 JUNE

Thanks to the efforts of Greenpeace Switzerland, the cultivation of genetically modified crops (other than for research at a secure site)

is forbidden in Switzerland until the end of 2021. Working in coalition with beekeepers and the farmers union, we helped make Swiss agriculture a little safer.

South Korea announced a major shift towards renewables by phasing out nuclear and coal. In an ambitious speech, Moon promised to scrap existing plans for new nuclear plants and will not extend the life of old reactors; and promised to shut down 10 old coal power plants and cancel new coal projects.

In response to public pressure from the Rethink IT campaign, Samsung committed in February to refurbish its Note 7 instead of dumping 4.3 million phones with battery faults, and after the Make IT Last push in June, announced that it will start selling 400,000 of them.

## 07 JULY

UNESCO adopted a decision on Białowieża Forest which showed the actions of the Polish Environment Minister threatened the forest's World Heritage status. UNESCO urged Poland to stop logging in the Białowieża Forest. The decision is based on a report by independent UNESCO experts who visited Białowieża Forest last year. It happened despite pressure from the Polish Ministry of Environment and State Forest Holding, who tried to convince delegates to change their decision. This is a victory for Poland, the Białowieża Forest and the international community. The European Commission announced it will take Poland to the European Court of Justice over the illegal logging of the Białowieża Forest.

Following a global Greenpeace Campaign, the Thai Union Group PCL (the largest canned tuna company in the world) committed to measures that will tackle illegal fishing and overfishing and improve the livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of workers throughout the company's supply chains. The move is progress for oceans and marine life and for the rights of people working in the seafood industry.

Greenpeace Africa successfully crowdfunded with 249 backers to install solar street lights in an off-grid urban community in Johannesburg.

Greenpeace UK working with our allies helped to successfully lobby the UK government to enact a ban on microbeads sold in rinse-off cosmetics in the UK.

In the Clyde River Case, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled in favour of the Inuit hamlet of Clyde River in a landmark ruling that will have far-reaching and lasting impacts across Canada in terms of Indigenous rights and resource extraction projects, including Arctic oil exploration, tar sands and pipelines.

Greenpeace Russia, Greenpeace Nordic and Greenpeace Central and Eastern Europe successfully stopped the loading and testing of two nuclear reactors on board the floating nuclear power plant (FNPP) Akademik Lomonosov in the centre of St Petersburg in Russia. A petition and targeted lobbying in Russia, as well as alerting countries around the Baltic Sea delivered a decision by Rosatom to tow the barge unloaded from St Petersburg to Murmansk for loading and testing.

## 08 AUGUST

After nearly five years of tireless campaigning by Greenpeace Spain, the Santa Maria Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) was closed. The next steps will lead to dismantling the nuclear power plant which marks the beginning of the end for nuclear power in Spain.

In the wake of the so-called Monsanto Papers and huge media attention, Belgium will ban the sale of herbicides containing glyphosate and some other possible harmful pesticides. Though for private use only, it's an important first step. Greenpeace Belgium has campaigned to remove Roundup and others from stores for two years.

In March Greenpeace Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Hungary, Switzerland and the United Kingdom unveiled resistance art in the heart of the Belgian operation of Total, in the port of Antwerp. The peaceful protest called for a halt to Total's plans to drill for oil in the mouth of the Amazon.

## 09 SEPTEMBER

Greenpeace East Asia: Under strong pressure from its customers and civil society, Malaysian palm oil company FELDA Global Ventures (FGV) promised to restore over 1,000 hectares of the peat forest in West Kalimantan, Indonesia. This is the first time that a palm oil company has been forced to restore rainforest and peatland to remain a supplier to the global market.

## 10 OCTOBER

The \$300m RICO lawsuit by logging giant, Resolute, which called Greenpeace and Stand.earth a "criminal enterprise", was dismissed. Lawsuits like this are designed to stop civil society from campaigning by draining their time and resources into the case.

This dismissal was a victory for those who dare to speak out against corporate abuse. Supporters including more than 200 authors spoke out for free speech, showing that our voices are vital.

Following a two-year campaign against the EU re-approval of glyphosate, Greenpeace Austria achieved a massive win. On 3 October the Austrian Parliament passed a motion that firmly states that Austria will vote against any re-approval of glyphosate on EU-level. This is binding for any future government.

In October, Greenpeace UK and Greenpeace US launched a worldwide campaign demanding that Coca-Cola stop choking our oceans, rivers and communities with throw-away plastic bottles. More than 500,000 people have already signed a petition asking Coke CEO James Quincey to dramatically reduce Coke's global plastic footprint and take responsibility for the end life of its products. The campaign is already reducing the social license of the worst single-use plastics and shifting mindsets from "disposable is normal" to "durable and reusable is normal", and from "this is an individual's littering problem" to "corporates are responsible and need to take action".

## NOVEMBER

# 11

Ten Greenpeace volunteers who took part in a peaceful protest outside Cuadrilla's fracking site in Lancashire, England, in May, were arrested for Obstruction of the Highway. They were found not guilty. The judge concluded

that because there was minimal disruption to the public, because the location of the protest was relevant, because our defendants were of excellent character because they were polite and calm, and because they had a history of campaigning on this issue and clearly had deeply held beliefs, that they had established a "lawful excuse" for their actions. This is a great result for the anti-fracking community in the UK.

Greenpeace exists because of people power. The Give the Congo Basin Forest a Chance Ship Tour was a great example of people working together to keep the Congo Basin Forest intact.

The Congo Basin Forest is the second largest rainforest in the world. The Greenpeace ship, the *My Esperanza*, began its four-week journey in Douala, Cameroon and travelled to Boma and Matadi in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The team worked with scientists who shared their findings on peatlands which store 30 billion tonnes of carbon – the equivalent to three years of global carbon emissions. During the journey, hundreds came to welcome the ship and join the call for forest protection. Thousands of people shared a wish for the Congo Basin Forest, petitioning

global leaders to end forest destruction and keep it intact. Their wishes went to delegates at United Nations Climate Change Convention Conference of the Parties (COP23) in Bonn, Germany.

The Norwegian government is being sued over a decision to open up areas of the Arctic Ocean for oil exploration, a move that endangers the lives of existing and future generations. The *People vs Arctic Oil* is a court case where Nature & Youth and Greenpeace Nordic took the Norwegian government to court for opening up new areas in the Arctic to oil and gas drilling. They argue the drilling violates the Norwegian constitution and contravenes the Paris Agreement. Winning the case could set a precedent for future climate cases around the world. A verdict was expected in January 2018.

## DECEMBER

# 12

An international agreement to protect the Central Arctic Ocean against all commercial fishing was reached. The US, Canada, Norway, Russia, Denmark, Iceland, Japan, South Korea, China and the European Union all signed a

16-year moratorium on commercial fishing in international waters covering an area of 2.8 million square kilometres or roughly the size of the Mediterranean Sea.

The University of Ghent decided to fully divest from fossil fuels. Though its investment of €230m does not come close to those of big universities, by excluding the entire fossil fuel industry (as well as the arms, gambling, fur, tobacco and porn industries) from its investments, it sets a new standard for divestment. This victory is the result of a local students campaign including Greenpeace volunteers and supported by our divestment campaigner.

After intensive work with the Indigenous "Kawésqar" community in the south of Chile, the President, Michelle Bachelet, announced the creation of a new Marine Protected Area in the Magallanes region. This is a huge step to stop the development of big threats like intensive salmon farming (300 new concessions proposed here) but also mining and any other polluting projects.

In Chile, the Hidroaysén dams project by ENEL and COLBUN in Patagonia Chile is finally over. Both companies have communicated that they (a) liquidate and terminate their joint venture and (b) renounce water rights, that is to say in practical terms, they return the river rights to the public domain. This is the long-awaited formal cancellation of the project and return of the water rights to the people of Chile. This is the formal victory of one of the biggest and most iconic environmental campaigns in the history of Chile.

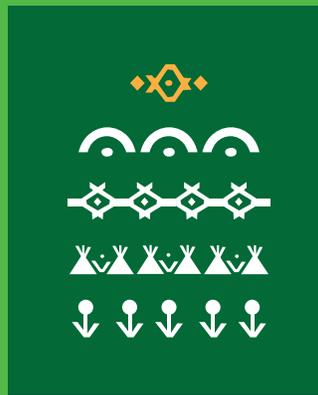
To fight overconsumption and wasteful shopping during the holiday season, thousands of makers around the world joined Greenpeace and its partners Fashion Revolution and Shareable for the MAKE SMTHNG week of action. MAKE SMTHNG Week lasted from 2 to 10 December and saw more than 175 events in 32 countries on 6 continents, with an estimate of over 10,000 people attending workshops and talks on repairing, sharing, zero waste, veganism, upcycling and DIY techniques that breathe new life into already owned products.

(Adapted from the Year End Letter to the Greenpeace International Board of Directors.)

Leola Abraham is Communications Manager for the Executive Directors at Greenpeace International



© Greenpeace / Pierre Cleriez: Fishing Operations on Chinese Fishing Vessel, Guinea, 2017.



Greenpeace exists because this fragile Earth deserves a voice. It needs solutions. It needs change. It needs action!

Greenpeace is an independent global campaigning organisation that acts to change attitudes and behaviour, to protect and conserve the environment and to promote peace. It comprises of 28 independent national/regional offices in over 40 countries across Europe, the Americas, Asia, the Pacific and Africa as well as a coordinating body, Greenpeace International.

Greenpeace has been working in Africa to end environmental destruction and fighting for the right of Africans to a healthy environment since the early 1990s. Our campaigns focus on climate change, halting the destruction of tropical forests, supporting ecological farming and preventing the degradation of marine ecosystems.

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**GREENPEACE AFRICA**