



FIMARC ANNUAL REPORT 2011

FIMARC

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INTRODUCTION

The year 2011 marked with the tremendous engagements of FIMARC to the fight for Food Sovereignty, Right food and for Socio solidarity economies based on the vision of decrease with a specific focus on land issues. The world Assembly in Atyra, Paraguay gave new synergies, strategies and spirit in this regard. During the last year we have strengthened our work with various political actions, representation, trainings as well as networking and lobbying and had a significant impact at various policy-making institutions. We want to create solidarity among the people to fight for their rights and to resist all the systems that marginalize the rural communities and other vulnerable groups.

Every year millions of people are forcibly evicted from their dwellings, leaving them homeless and, in the process, entrenching patterns of poverty, discrimination and social exclusion. Land evictions are becoming a common story in many parts of the world both in cities and in rural areas and most cases it is forced evictions throwing out rural communities from their land, properties and livelihoods and supported by private investors and even the governments causing a big migration of the affected people. The major causes of forced evictions include the absence of formal tenure rights, development and infrastructure projects, foreign direct investment, urban redevelopment and "beautification" initiatives property market forces, political conflicts and natural hazards. FIMARC has been working on the land issues during the whole last year starting from the World Social Forum in Dakar, Senegal and followed with our International formation session on land access and Land rights in Assesse, Belgium, Continental formation session on Development threat on land rights of the rural communities in Malabe, Sri Lanka, elaboration of the pedagogical document on Land grabbing. Our world Food Day campaign activities mobilised the national movements to take up some small but concrete actions related to food security and poverty eradication on the ground. FIMARC also signed the lobby letter on Price volatility, Dakar Appeal against land grabbing and organised the lobby letters from our national movements to pressurise the state government of Orissa and Indian government to withdraw their decision to expel people from their land for the implementation of the POSCO power plant. We had been involved in various lobby and advocacy actions at ECOSOC and also in CFS

The giant agribusinesses and even other private investors are enjoying soaring earnings and profits out of the world food crisis, which is driving millions of people from their livelihoods and put them in starvation. The World Bank says that 100 million more people are facing severe hunger. Yet some of the world's richest food companies are making record profits. Monsanto, Cargill, Archer Daniels Midland (one of the world's largest

agricultural processors of soy, corn and wheat), Mosaic Company (one of the world's largest fertilizer companies) has been declared their record profits. The benefits of the food price increases were being kept by the big companies, and were not finding their way down to farmers in the developing world. Our movements has been fighting against the exploitation of Multinationals in various countries to protect the life and livelihoods of the farmers and other rural people .Our campaign against POSCO is still continue in the field. Let us continue our struggle until the most vulnerable have the chance for a dignified life

In terms of functioning, it is worth to note that the present Secretary General has been working only as part time from September 2010 onwards. As like in 2010, there was a big reduction of support from the catholic donors, which really hamper our operational plans. Broederlijk Delen has completely stopped their support by 2011. MISEREOR reduced the support for the publication of VMR drastically. In this context future functioning and implementation of our activities are quite uncertain. Catholic development agencies should revisit their decision and should come forward to support the rural movement, which is the hope of millions of rural people around the world. This report will give an over all view of our major global actions and interventions during the year 2011.

Global objectives and working lines

The global objective of FIMARC remains the same: keeping rural populations in their living environment, enabling them to live a dignified life.

Main working lines that has to be adapted according to movements' and continental realities:

- 1 Food sovereignty: access to land, right to food, keeping rural people in their environment;
- 2 Decrease /Less is more
- 3 Solidarity economy/Alternative Economies
- 4 Human Rights.

Specific objectives

1. Training of organizations and rural movements to help them in organizing their advocacy and lobbying actions to implement their activities; means: publishing documents and educational material; organizing exchanges between farmers; training seminars...;
2. Organizing these rural people's voices to liaise with decision-making bodies; means: seamless communication to relay rural people's voices, visiting movements and participating in some of their activities;
3. Animating continental coordination's and ensuring efficient global coordination for all regions and in all the domains of intervention. Means: an effective international secretariat that has the means of this work
4. Supporting the movements and member organizations; means: effective international secretariat and dynamic and lively coordination's;
5. Strengthening our network; means: participating in several activities of regional or international organizations that work in the same fields as FIMARC.

Composition of the Exco of FIMARC

Ki hwan **CHUNG** (South Korea) - President
Nieves **Martinez Bravo** (Spain) - Treasurer
George Dixon **Fernandez** (India) - Secretary General
Fr.Abraam **Maher** (Egypt) - Chaplain (Until October 2011)
Fr.Pascuale **Kinoti** (Paraguay) - Chaplain (Since November 2011)
John **Mwidi** (Uganda)
Jean paul **Perrin** (France)
Oscar **Rodrigues** (Argentina)
Philip **Biswas** (Bangladesh)

International secretariat

George Dixon Fernandez (Secretary General - part time) and Anne Van Gysel (Office Assistant - part time) are the only staff at the International Secretariat during the year 2011

1. ACTIVITIES

1 – FORMATION ACTIVITIES

1.1 GLOBAL FORMATION SESSION: SEMINAR ON LAND ACCESS AND LAND RIGHTS

A study session on land rights and land access was organised prior to the Exco meeting of 2011 in Assesse, Belgium. This seminar was aimed for the socio-political formation of the international people in charge of FIMARC. Land access and land rights are the two main prerequisite that can sustain rural people in their areas and promote farming .The ongoing land grabbing and land evictions by MNC's are real threats for the people in many countries. FIMARC movements are involved in actions against such land evictions especially in South Korea (4 river Project) and in India (Anti Posco Campaign). We were able to make a concrete declaration and follow up plan in terms land access and land rights. An interactive session with Via Campesina, FIAN, FIMARC Human Rights Working group was also part of the programme

Results: 8 people in charge of Bureau and Exco as well as 4 members of the GTDH (Human Rights working group) and few national leaders of FIMARC had a pertinent analysis of land issues to strengthen the struggles in various countries. This study session helped the global leadership to make a new orientation towards this struggle. It Strengthened the Lobbying and political action capacities by a better knowledge of this critical issue .It was also helpful for the preparation of the Asian study session on land rights and to increase our lobby and advocacy campaign to support the local population in India who faced the land evictions from the government and Posco as well as our intervention on 4 major river project in Korea.

Outlook: We want to strengthen the networking with other organisations who are involved in the land issues. We are committed for the finalisation of the Voluntary guidelines on Land tenure and natural resources initiated by CFS (FAO) and we will continue our contribution in this process. We want to strengthen the capacity of our national movements to make their advocacy and lobby work in their countries to protect the life and livelihood resources of rural people and small holder communities.

1.2 FIMARC AT THE WORLD SOCIAL FORUM 2011 OF DAKAR

Context: WSF, whose motto is "Another World Is Possible", was started in Brazil 11 years ago. It brings together anti-globalization, anti-capitalist and social justice movements with its stated aim to develop "a permanent world process seeking and building alternatives to neoliberal policies. WSF in Senegal gathered more than 50.000 participants coming from more than 1.200 organizations from all over the world, under the title of «Resistance and Struggle of the African People».

For FIMARC, WSF is an opportunity for broadly expressing and enriching its ideas, analyses and lines of action, as well as a space to build up networks and alliances to construct another world based on solidarity and justice. Being promoting the above ideologies and actions FIMARC find it appropriate to participate in the World Social Forums since from its origin. The meet, which was attended by over 50,000 people from 123 countries was inaugurated by Bolivian president Evo Morales. Among the several issues deliberated upon at the six-day summit, land grabbing was a key one. Land rights activists attending the meet, which included a large number of farmers, drew attention to the horrors of the global land-grab currently under way.

FIMARC participated in the World social forum, which held in Dakar from 5-11 of February 2011 with 10 delegates from Asia, Europe and Africa FIMARC member movements MRC Spain and MARCS Senegal had actively involved in the organization of our Workshops during the World Social forum. We were able to organize a great number of activities and actions of our own and with others, especially with Entraide & Fraternité and MIJARC. FIMARC find it appropriate to participate in the World social forum as it is an open meeting place for reflective thinking, democratic debate of ideas, formulation of proposals, free exchange of experiences and interlinking, networking for effective action, by groups and movements of Civil society; We believe that there is a space for the respect of human rights, equality and democracy. FIMARC used World Social Forum 2011 as an effort to make an analysis on how the land issues were brought in public debate during this world event. It is clear that land is becoming a critical issue in almost all parts of the world in the context of land grabbing.

A joint workshop with Entraide & Fraternité on Land access and land rights of the Small scale family farmers for Food Sovereignty.

On 8th of February FIMARC and Entraide & Fraternité organized a joint workshop on land access and land rights of the small scale family farmers for Food Sovereignty. Joseph Kama (MARCS, Senegal), TIBASHOBOKA Doreen Hona (CARYM, Uganda), Gittel Jagape (SUMPAY, Philippines), Nieves Martinez Bravo (MRC, Spain), François Delvaux (Entraide & Fraternité, Belgium), Adilson (Socio Pastoral for land, Brazil) were the speakers of the workshop. George Dixon Fernandez (Secretary General, FIMARC) moderated the workshop. The panellists from 4 continents presented the land situation in the context of growing land grab. It is evident that there has been a lot of land grab initiatives are taking place at almost all parts of the world even with the support of the states and marginalized farmers and rural communities are the victims of these projects. Workshop underlined the fact that there is no proper protective measures to ensure the land rights for the communities who are living with land for their daily subsistence. 75 people from various organizations participated actively in the discussions. Workshop concluded with a decision to support the Dakar declaration on land grabbing.

FIMARC workshop on land rights and land evictions (Exploitation by Korean MNC Posco) with MIJARC

FIMARC organized a second workshop on land rights and land evictions in the context of the struggle of our Indian Movement INAG against the land and livelihood exploitation by the Korean multinational Posco in Orissa, India. The main objective of this workshop was to bring the land eviction scenario by the multinational corporations in different parts of the world in order to build unified and strengthened local actions and international interventions. George Dixon Fernandez, the secretary General of FIMARC presented the land eviction case related to Posco in Orissa, India. Joseph Kama (MARCS, Senegal) brought the issue of land evictions in Senegal for the bio fuel production; TIBASHOBOKA Doreen Hona (CARYM Uganda) presented the land evictions cases related to the extraction of natural resources. People from various organizations and media representatives were involved in the discussion of this topic.

Other than our own workshops, FIMARC also participated in the CCFD workshops on land grabbing as well as the MISEREOR international seminar on Land. As like in the earlier forum in Kenya, this time also FIMARC, MIJARC along with Entraide & Fraternité organized a big demonstration in the streets of DAKAR with a big coffin symbolically announcing the death of the land grabbers, Bretton Wood institutions and actors who created an unjust world. Joint workshop with Entraide & Fraternité on land was a remarkable activity of FIMARC during the WSF. We are very much thankful for the practical support from MARCS, Senegal and especially to Joseph Kama for the organization, arrangements and logistics for all our programs in Dakar in connection with WSF and the workshops

Results: Our joined participation in the WSF with Entraide & Fraternité and MIJARC was quite interesting and fruitful. Actions that we developed during the Forum allowed us for the reinforcement of the contacts with other movements and networks. 'It gave motivation to see a worldwide network of social organizations meeting in Africa in order to address the world's problems' said the FIMARC delegation of Senegal. The common organization of the workshop together with Entraide & Fraternité and MIJARC reinforces relations and the collaborations between each other. The theme of the workshop allowed widening the network to other rural organizations working on the same topic... It gave motivation for the movements who participated to take up actions in their countries. Had the possibility to contribute to the Dakar declaration and allowed the delegates to Participate in the programmes organised by our partners such as CCFD and Misereor on land issues. Created some network and support for the anti Posco campaign. Strengthened the local action of the movement in Senegal.

Outlook: We are looking forward for the next World Social Forum in Brazil in 2013 to get organised and to have collaboration with other social movements. We have to strengthen the involvement of our national movements

1.3 EUROPEAN SEMINAR ON “VALUES OF AGRICULTURE AND FUTURE OF FARMING” IN BAVARIA AND FIMARC EUROPEAN COORDINATION MEETING

The German movement – KLB in collaboration with FIMARC European coordination organised a European seminar on ‘Values of Agriculture and Future of Farming’, in February 2011. There were different thematic forums and field visits during the seminar. A round table with German political leaders from the region and federal government also took place. George Dixon Fernandez, Secretary General of FIMARC presented the topic of decrease in the European seminar. Enlarged European coordination meeting of FIMARC was held soon after the seminar in Wies, Germany to prepare the action plan of FIMARC Europe. Movements from Germany, Croatia, Italy, Bulgaria, Poland, Belgium, Switzerland and France participated in the programme.

Results: The dignity of farmer and values of agriculture was the core of the debate and meeting with decision makers allowed the movements to submit concrete proposals in this regard. This seminar also provides possibility of getting connected with new organisations from Eastern European countries and more over strengthen the European coordination through concretising and planning their actions for the coming year.

Outlook: If we want to develop the coordination’s and to give them more responsibility, these structural meetings are important. The European movements will be working on the topic of reform of the common agricultural policy in 2012

1.4 WORLD FORUM ON MICRO FINANCE IN SPAIN -NOVEMBER 2011

Context: Nearly 2.6 billion people in the world today have no access to formal financial services. Microfinance works to reduce this gap and to offer non-financial services to help improve the lives of families around the world. Microfinance institutions have the ability to effectively deliver education and health services to the poorest, especially to women living in rural areas of the world. When combined with savings and loans, these interventions are powerful tools in the fight against global poverty. Microfinance has been called a revolution in banking. That is no more evident than when Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus was asked what his strategy was in forming Grameen Bank. “I didn’t have a strategy,” Professor Yunus responded. “I just kept doing what was next. But when I look back, my strategy was, whatever banks did, I did the opposite. If banks lent to the rich, I lent to the poor. If banks lent to men, I lent to women. If banks made large loans, I made small ones. If banks required collateral, my loans were collateral free. If banks required a lot of paperwork, my loans were illiterate-friendly. If you had to go to the bank, my bank went to the village. Yes, that was my strategy. Whatever banks did, I did the opposite.

Around 2,000 poverty fighters from more than 100 countries joined the Queen of Spain, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Muhammad Yunus and Danone Chairman Franck Riboud in Valladolid, Spain for a monumental four-day global gathering of dignitaries, microfinance practitioners, donors and other poverty fighters from every region of the world. The Global Micro credit Summit 2011 took place at a critical time, with just four years left for the international community to reach the Millennium Development Goal of halving the world’s population living in extreme poverty by 2015. Leaders from the micro finance sector from across the globe assembled to discuss how to further increase the impact of this powerful development tool has on the fight against global poverty.

FIMARC member organisation in Bangladesh has been involved in Microfinance sector with various programmes outreach to the most vulnerable groups. Some groups in India is involved in self help groups and More over FIMARC is working on the topic of Solidarity based economy and have critical point of view on the negative impact of the micro finance sector too. That is why as a strategy to defend the principles of Solidarity economies, FIMARC participated in this summit through our Bangladesh organisation. For FIMARC we are much interested to develop the spirit in offering non-financial services that can contribute to improvements in the health, education and overall well-being of the person and their families rather than just focussing on financial services only

Results: Analysis and Awareness on the trends and challenges of the micro finance. Tried to bring the aspect of Solidarity economy in the debates.

Outlook: We should really work on the promotion of alternative economies based on solidarity and with a territorial approach and participatory planning of the local communities rather than just financial aspect of the micro finance.

1.5 ASIAN STUDY SESSION ON DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES TOWARDS LAND RIGHTS ” IN COLOMBO, SRILANKA

FIMARC Asian Seminar on land access and land rights took place from June-1-9 June at CEC centre, Malabe, Sri Lanka. Sri Lankan minister for indigenous medicine inaugurated the seminar. Exposure visits were organised in different areas to understand the land issues related to farmers, fishers and local populations. It is evident that evictions are taking place in the name of development and deprive the right of people from the coastal, forest and farms. The main theme of this seminar focused on the threats of development for local communities for their access to land. The main objective was to develop a common understanding on the issues of access to land. How the hoarding of land in Asian countries is greatly endangering their food sovereignty and the solidarity economy, causing serious impacts on farmers, fishermen, indigenous peoples, Adivasis, Dalits and tribals, categories of population that are often neglected and held away from the mainstream of development. Prior to the study session, 3-day immersion program was organized for 3 groups. The first group visited the Islands of Kalpityia to learn more about the struggles of the fishermen who oppose a tourism project undertaken by the national Government (in which national and international companies already have contracts); the second group met the indigenous movement of peasants for the right to land and the third group visited the Badulla ecology centre. The seminar highlighted that control over the land is a prerequisite to realize the right to food for all. Without control of the land, the peasants are marginalized and many of them become "landless peasants". This impoverishes native and local communities: destruction of Earth, loss of productive resources, accelerating the destruction of the ecosystem by the introduction of monoculture and worsening of the climate crisis. The Earth is our mother, in which we have been trained and which we will return to our eternal rest. If we have the power to control, we have also honour. Land defines our social status; it is our source of food, education and health.

Nepal could not participate in the seminar because of Visa. Indonesia was also absent but rest of the movements from Asian countries were present for the seminar. The seminar provided an understanding about the Asian realities in the context of development threats for local communities effecting their land rights ; A dozen of movements participated in the programme . This seminar was prepared and held in close coordination with the General Secretariat, as well as the MIJARC bodies in Asia, and CEC the organization of the country hosting the seminar

Results: This seminar helped to unite and strengthen the movements by sharing information, experiences, new ideas and knowledge on land rights. A strong network and coordination was build-up amongst the Asian Countries to fight against the development threats of the rural farming communities. Research action and mobilisation of public against the land exploitation of MNC's was also another concrete outcome. Motivation for hosting movement to be involved in land issues in Sri Lanka

Outlook: FIMARC Asian movements will continue work on the land issues in their own countries and will network with other organisations who are dealing this topic. FIMARC ASIA discussed this topic in the South Asian Social Forum in Bangladesh

1.6 FIMARC CALL FOR ACTION ON WORLD FOOD DAY «FOOD PRICES - FROM CRISIS TO STABILITY»

Context: The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations celebrates World Food Day each year on 16 October, the day on which the Organization was founded in 1945 in order to heighten public awareness of the problem of hunger in the world, to strengthen international and national solidarity in the struggle against hunger, malnutrition and poverty, and to encourage the participation of rural people, particularly women and the least privileged categories, in decisions and activities influencing their living conditions.

Activity : FIMARC has been actively involved in supporting this call for many years and last year we have made a call to make some pragmatic actions in various countries in this regard. FIMARC Executive Committee decided to strengthen our World Food Day activities. The topic of 2011 World Food Day was «Food prices - From crisis to stability». At the occasion of the World Food Day, FIMARC publishes every year a communication or a declaration to call the movements to take up some concrete actions to eradicate hunger and poverty; This actions can be organised in different levels. On world food day 2011, movements were asked to seriously consider the causes of the fluctuations in the prices of foodstuffs and to do actions to reduce its effects on the weaker members of society.

Some concrete actions

RRF Bangladesh: A public rally and meeting with Politicians were organised in Bangladesh in connection with World Food Day 2011. Drawing competition for the students and one seminar for the RRF Staff with the resource person from World Food Programme of the UN was organised.

MRC Spain: MRC Spain organised solidarity actions to raise the money and it was provided to organise developmental activities in the earthquake affected areas in Haiti.

CCFM, Korea: CCFM organised various activities in relation to WFD including the participation in the farmers day programme of the church .

IRDS (FIMARC organization of Tamil Nadu, India): IRDS has been part of one a yearlong Jansatyagraha Jan Samwaad Yatra with different movements working among the marginalized communities like the dalits, tribal's, coastal communities, small and marginal farmers and the urban slum dwellers. This yatra was leading by the Gandhian Movement Ektha Parishad and has been flagged off from Kanyakumari on 2nd of October. The Yatra is focusing on the Land and Livelihood rights of the marginalized communities. As part of the Yatra, our organization planned several events in Northern Tamil Nadu from the 24th to 31st of October and to have a Public Hearing on the 1st of November in Chennai on the marginalized communities access and control over land to overcome the problem of hunger and poverty in India.

Mouvement des Foyers Chrétiens (M.F.C – TOGO): Within the frame of the celebration of the World Food Day (WFD), the MFC of TOGO took the commitment to lead the following activities:

- to organize a prayer together, on October 15th, 2011 in the different parishes
- to request the celebration of a mass in favour of those who work for the eradication of the famine and the very starving men on Sunday, October 15th, 2011 on all the parishes.
- to have a concrete act in Caritas in favour of the most deprived (to offer something)
- to encourage individual acts of charity to the poorest (visit a patient, share our credit note; give of him some time, to help a poor people etc.
- to organize a radio program on the theme: «the price of foodstuffs of the crisis in the stability «on October 15th, 2011 on radio Maria station of Kara from 4 pm till 5 pm.
- on October 16th, 2011, a fast will be observed to collect some money to offer to the poor people of our parishes

During a meeting for the preparation for the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the MFC, the parish responsible people were sensitized about WFD on November 5th at Monseigneur Bakpéssi Centre.

Results: Common action day. Common orientation. Realisation of some practical projects and awareness raising to stand together against poverty.

1.7 MEETING WITH VATICAN, DICASTERIES AND FAO

FIMARC had a meeting with the office of the secretary of state, various dicasteries of Pontifical council for Laity, Pontifical council for Justice and Peace, Pontifical council for Migrants and Itinerant people. Bureau members met with Mgr. Josef Clemens (Secretary of the Pontifical Council for Laity), Cardinal Turkson (President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace), Arch Bishop Veglió (President of the pontifical Council for Migrants and Itinerants) as well as Mrs. Fermina Alvarez (Vatican state Secretariat). A meeting OCEP, the division of Civil Society in FAO (Food and Agricultural Organisation of the UN) was also took place to discuss about the deep involvement of FIMARC in FAO and in the world committee on food security.

Results

Introduction of the New leadership of FIMARC to the various dicasteries of Vatican. Strengthen the contact with FAO.

Outlook

FIMARC will invest more in FAO in the coming years as well as will follow the work of the catholic organisations in the context of Vatican forum of the catholic inspired NGO's

1.8 SOUTH ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM AT BANGLADESH

Context : Five day long South Asia Social Forum (SASF), Bangladesh 2011 ended with new hopes and new determination to build a new South Asia. A total of 724 foreign participants and 2555 local people were registered - though several thousand including students from the Dhaka University participated. 618 organizations took part in the forum and more than 150 activities took place. A statement drafted by some of the participating organisations (Dhaka statement) was presented, denouncing social injustice in South Asia and the determination to work together as social movements in the region as one voice.

Activity : Five day long SASF, Bangladesh 2011 was organized with 13 plenary, hundreds of seminars, youth forum, social fair, film show, art camp, cultural show etc. participants from home and abroad participated and exchanged their views on the peoples movement and expressed solidarity against all sort of discrimination. The SASF followed by the International Council of the World Social Forum held at the Senate Bhaban of Dhaka University.

FIMARC Asia participated in the South Asian Social Forum in Daka, Bangladesh. A workshop on “Land grabbing, a real threat for Food Sovereignty” was organised.

Results: Promotion of Food sovereignty and strengthening the campaign against land grabbing in Asian countries. Networking and collaboration with other Asian organisations.

Outlook: FIMARC Asia will follow up the social forum and its outcomes in Asian region and probably will participate in the next world social forum in Brasil 2013.

1.9 LOBBY LETTER ON POSCO ISSUE

Context: In Orissa, the proposed steel plant project of the Korean Multinational Company POSCO has a lot of adverse impact on the life of local tribal communities. This project also includes 400 megawatt Captive power plant as well as mining of natural resources. More than 4000 families consisting of 22,000 will be affected by the project due to displacement of livelihoods based on a thriving agricultural economy. The tribal communities, which form 74% of the population in the surrounding area, are completely dependent on these forests for fuel, fodder, fruits and medicinal plants. The water springs in the area provide water for drinking as well as irrigation. The mining would also affect the famous Khandadhar waterfall – which is also a famous tourist destination of the state. The Khandadhar hills, where POSCO is being allotted the mines, spread over 6000 hectares, are covered with forests, inhabited by a wide variety of wildlife and as well as flora Destruction of the Coastline will adversely effect the nesting habitat of the endangered turtle Olive Ridley and other important species. Extraction of large quantities of water for the project will affect, not only the local communities but severely affect the drinking water supply and irrigation supply of four neighbouring districts

For the Last five years, Under the banner of POSCO Pratirodh Sangram Samiti (Anti-POSCO People's Movement), people have been opposing this project. They have chosen peaceful, democratic forms of struggle to express their resistance to this project and refuse to give up their lands and livelihoods for it. Recently the authorities are using violence against the protesters to force them to give up their resistance to this project. State government also took over land illegally violating the forest rights Act(2) (Forest Rights Act : The law on the protection of the traditional tribes and the other inhabitants of forests is a law promulgated by the Indian government to recognize rights for certain rural minorities on the protected zones in which they live). Since the Orissa government and central government gave the permission to build the plant in this area ,they violate this forest act by forcefully evicting the local population from this Area. This increased tension in this area.

FIMARC has been supporting and involving in this land struggle with the Anti Posco committee for a long time. Due to the sudden decision of authorities to expel people caused lot of tension on the ground and FIMARC called all member movements to send the lobby letter to the central government of India and state government of Orissa to revisit their decision that evict the people from their land

Results: Many of our movements responded positively to this political action and send the common lobby letter to state and central government of India. The eviction process was temporarily with drawn by the authorities until to date .

Outlook: FIMARC will continue the solidarity action with the people effected .

1.10 FIMARC EXCO AND BUREAU MEETING

FIMARC Exco and Bureau meeting took place from 1-8 April 2011 in Assesse, Belgium. Seminar on land access and land rights was organized prior to the Exco meeting. Exco finalised and approved the resolution on the land issue. The members of the Human Rights group of FIMARC presented the first draft of the document about land grabbing to the EXCO members. The remarks and contributions of the EXCO members would be integrated while finalising this document by the Human Rights working group.

Results: Evaluation of actions of the year 2010 and planning of activities for the coming years. Approval of the financial statement of 2011 and Budget of 2012

Outlook : Next Bureau and Exco meeting will takes place in April 2013. This meeting will make the operational plan for the World General Assembly of 2014

1.11 FIMARC BUREAU MEETING IN SPAIN - STUDY VISITS TO COOPERATIVES /TRADE UNION AND EXCHANGE WITH LEADERS

FIMARC Bureau meeting was held in Rioja, Spain from 7-12 November 2011. Kihwan Chung (President), Nieves Martinez Bravo (Treasurer), George Dixon Fernandez (Secretary General), Philip Biswas (Asian coordinator) participated in the meeting. During the first three days Bureau had a discussion on organizational matters as well as on global challenges. Thanks to MRC Spain for the logistical arrangements. 3 days of study visit included the interactive sessions with the different cooperatives (wine/agricultural products) and trade unions gave new perspectives in terms alternative organisation systems of farmers and workers.

Results: 3 people in charge of the FIMARC Bureau, FIMARC Asian coordinator had an exchange programme and field visit with the local FIMARC leaders in Spain in November 2011 to study and gather viable information on the cooperative and trade union system in the region. The interactive discussion with the local, diocesan and national teams of the MRC movement gave an opportunity to understand the key projects, challenges and situation of the movement and society. A better understanding about the situation of the rural areas in Spain was also an outcome of this visit

Outlook: Next Bureau meeting will takes place in October/November 2012 to prepare the theme and orientation of the GA 2014

1.12 MEETING OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP OF FIMARC

The meeting of the working group on human rights (GTDH) was held in Ancy Region in France from 25-26th of October 2011. The meeting acknowledge the work plan proposed by the Exco 2011 with regard to our involvement in United Nations Human Rights Council during the upcoming year. The focus will be on right to food and productive resources (land and water particularly). Lobby and advocacy plan, Preparation of documents on key issues and topics, Field investigation and preparation of case studies etc were discussed. As part of research action, the group finalised pedagogical document on the current burning issue of Land Grabbing.

Results

Finalisation of the pedagogical document on land grabbing. An action plan for one year was made. Identified the organisations to create networking on human rights issues. Meeting also made list of new people who could be invited to join in the future work of the group

Outlook

The next meeting of the GTDH is foreseen in October in Geneva to finalise the pedagogical document on Agricultural investment

1.10. PROJECT

“Who feed the World” – program initiated by the service of development (ILD) of the KLB is still awaiting for the approval of the same from the European commission.

New Chaplain

FIMARC EXCO had elected Fr. Pasquale Kinoti as chaplain of our movement and the pontifical council for Laity has approved this. Fr. Kinoti will take over this mission when Fr. Abraam Maher finishes his

mandate. FIMARC extend our gratitude to Fr. Abraam for all the services that he rendered for FIMARC during last 4 years and wish him a good luck for his ongoing work in his country Egypt. FIMARC also congratulate and welcome Fr. Kinoti for this new mission and looking forward for his service for our movement. Fr. Abraam will continue giving support for the coordination of our activities in Middle east region through IDAM, Egypt.

2 - PUBLICATIONS

2.1 PUBLICATIONS OF THE VOICE OF THE RURAL WORLD

4 numbers of VMR are published in 4 languages (French, Spanish, English, Portuguese). Each publication has been sent to 1200 people and it is a popularised tool using by many of the people in our movements as well as general rural public. Each publication has a special thematic focus, which is linked to the challenges of our era.

The 4 numbers of VMR focussed the following thematic areas.

VMR 101 - The question of land and related issues in the World Social Forum

VMR 102 - The access to land and forests & rights of the Indigenous People

VMR 103 - The land eviction and migration

VMR 104 - The land exploitation by the multinational Companies and its threats

Objectives: Use as a tool for exchange between the movements of FIMARC to share the experiences and alternatives to promote sustainable development of the rural people and particularly farmers;

Use as a tool of formation in link with the general orientations of FIMARC, the defined priorities of work at global and continental levels

Reinforce the protagonism of the readers and permit them to be linked with a vast network of organizations that fight in the same perspective and/or with similar objectives.

Provide informations and tools of analysis on the issues of our corporation, big challenges that concern the rural world and farmers to the leaders of the grass root groups.

Share the experiences and good practices that exist in the movements and create united actions and solidarity around certain issues

Results: The VMR is reading and using by a large number of people in the movements. It is widely using as an education tool by the rural people. We receive lot of feed back showing the interest of the people on our publication

Outlook: The Publication of VMR is facing a big challenge in terms of finance. MISEREOR who have been supporting this publication for quite long time reduced the subsidy of 80% in 2010 and in 2011. This forced us to reduce the number of pages and number of copies. All the translations are now depending on the volunteers. It is quite uncertain on how to continue this project with such a financial constrain.

2.2 FINALISATION OF THE PEDAGOGICAL DOCUMENT ON "LAND GRABBING"

Land grabbing is one of the recent phenomenon, which adversely affect the rural world in terms of their access and right to land. If this situation continues then the peasants and rural people will be forcefully evicted from their places of existence. The final draft of the document on land grabbing was prepared by the FIMARC human rights Working group in October 2011. International secretariat has done the translation in three languages as well as the lay out until December. The publication and dissemination of the document will be in the beginning of 2012

Results: This pedagogical tool is at the disposal for the 60 movements and organizations for the animation of the basic groups.

Outlook: Publication, printing and dissemination of the document will be done in the first quarter of 2012

2.3 REGIONAL NEWSLETTERS

Regional newsletter has an objective to facilitate the exchanges and the knowledge of the member organizations of the same regions. This information bulletin is compiled by the regional coordinators for the movements and member organizations of their region

Results: During the year 2011 FIMARC Europe Published 3 Newsletter. France, Switzerland and Spain contributed for the Newsletter. International Secretariat supported this publication in terms of translation, Lay out and dissemination. Asian newsletter was published 2 times during 2011. Africa and Latin America is not regular in such a publication. Newsletter allows a good contact between the movements.

Outlook: Like last year, the well established turn for the compilation of the news letter by member movements and the support of the international secretariat for the translation helps much for the regular publication of the newsletter in Europe. For Africa, the language barrier is the big problem as the coordinators either speak French or English only. For Asia, still have little difficulty and delay in obtaining the news from the movements. Anyhow it is important to maintain this tool for information, exchanges and formation of the movements in the same region

3- FOLLOW UP AND ACCOMPANIMENTS OF THE MOVEMENTS AND MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

There is a great need to have the follow up and accompaniment with the national movements in order to support and mobilise actions and interventions and to build up the advocacy and lobbying capacities. The world social forum was a great occasion to encounter with some of our member movements .The European seminar in Germany allowed to meet with many European movements and, Land Seminar in Sri Lanka, also brought different movements in Asia together.

Outlook: We should keep on trying to have a regular working relation ship with national movements and possibly through direct visits.

Some important initiatives from the movements/continents

3.1 ASIA

FIMARC Asia supported the Case study done by INAG on land eviction by Posco. The preliminary report is available now. FIMARC Asia is planning to make Visual material about the work of different movements. Praphan from Thailand is in charge of this project. Best practices done by the movements will be collected and consolidated in a CD.

RRF Bangladesh participated in the global microcredit summit in Spain. They organised 2 Meetings with Bangladesh sustainable development forum. RRF also organised activities related to WFD in collaboration with WFP and supported the refugees from Myanmar

Thailand movement is building CSO movts in Thailand together with Buddhist communities and also involved in Land reform work, Migration issue and FTA. They have collaboration with YPD

CCFM is working on Korea 4 major river project, Campaign against FTA. Have now new leaders at national level. Supported the IFOAM global meeting. 2 people from CCFM, Korea participated in the FABC Seminar on Development of Agriculture in Philipines.

INAG India is organising People led participatory planning programmes. They organised a National seminar on Farmers and people led approach. They are working on Land and seed issues (POSCO campaign, Land March etc). They have campaign against plastic and prepared cotton bag with FIMARC logo.

Representation / Networking/ Strengthening

FIMARC has Collaboration with Caritas Asia on Sustainable Agriculture. RRF is a member governance forum in Bangladesh; CCFM has good collaboration with church and other farmers movements. INAG has collaboration with WTO cell, Caritas, Govt programmes, Campaign against pesticides. APNF-Via campesina-AFA, APC, Asia Pacific Pesticide action network, IPC etc are the other organisations FIMARC Asia could improve the collaboration. Vietnam/Laos/Combodia assigned to be in contact by Praphan. Pakistan is well connected and they organise local activities. An Asian coordination meeting is foreseen in Thailand in 2012

3.2 Europe

EU Seminar and FIMARC European Coordination took place in Bavaria in February 2011. Most of the movements from Europe participated in it. Agnes from ACRF Belgium joined in the European Coordination. Newsletter is publishing regularly. European coordination is preparing for the Session on Common Agricultural policy in Brussels in 2012. Some bilateral meeting with KLB-CMR took place. More efforts to be there from EU coordination to get in touch with national movements and to get concrete information about their activities. National Meeting of ACRF Belgium took place in September and Secretary General participated in this meeting and coordinated the FIMARC shop raise some small fund.

3.3 Latin America

Most of the Latin American movements are involving in climate justice and FS campaign as well as in Land Pastoral work. Latin American coordination is preparing the Seminar on Migration, which is taking place in March 2012. A Latin American coordination meeting is also foreseen in this context. Fr. Pascual Kinoti from Paraguay has been elected as the International Chaplain of FIMARC. Need more contacts with Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Mexico.

3.4 Africa

FIMARC organised workshops and demonstrations on land issues during the WSF with great participation of the national movement in Senegal. FIMARC Africa is preparing a seminar on land rights and land grabbing in 2012. Pan African coordinator John Mwidu is engaged with the grass root groups in his country and organising 3 strong cooperatives in Central and East areas and producing maize, beans. They have contract with WFP and supply cereals to South Sudan and North of Uganda. They also organise Peace building programme against domestic violence in collaboration with Ministry of Gender with a training team. Most of the African movements (Senegal, Burkina Faso, Togo, Cameroon, Kenya, Benin etc) are much involved in concrete local economic projects as well as in women empowerment initiatives.

4 - ADVOCACY AND LOBBYING

In order to make the voice of the rural world heard at different instances, it is important that FIMARC is present in various networks and working groups; The following are some of the examples that we invest in terms of our lobbying and advocacy work in 2011.

4.1 FIMARC WORKING GROUP ON HUMAN RIGHTS

This group is composed by the secretary general the militants of the movements from CMR of France and ACAR of Switzerland. It is the support group of FIMARC within ECOSOC. Gaby Falch'un, the first secretary general of FIMARC is the spokes person of this working group. For a few years, the group have been centred its efforts on all that touches on the Right to food. Little by little with a constant work of FIMARC as well as of other organizations, the suggestion of food Sovereignty as basic right is more accepted. FIMARC also follow the UPE (Universal Periodic Examination) of countries where we have member movements.

Results: FIMARC is regularly present in the sessions of the human Rights Council and particularly in the sessions dealing the right to food and access to productive resources (especially land and water). FIMARC participates and takes floor during the interactive dialogues or by oral and written declarations. FIMARC is one of the important rural organisations, which is actively involved in the debate of right to food and food sovereignty at global and other levels. The group is contact with other organisations such as CETIM, Via Campesina etc .The group is also follow the work of the UN special reporter on right to food. 3 meetings of the group took place in 2011 in Geneva and also one meeting with the secretary general.

Outlook: The FIMARC will continue its work on Right to food/Food sovereignty/Access to productive resources and also will work with UN special rapporteur on Right to food in order to pass relevant information to our movements and defend the human rights of the rural people and farmers around the world.

4.2 PARTICIPATION IN THE FAST GROUP OF CIDSE

This group is important for FIMARC as it is a resource group that treats many subjects related to our preoccupations. As international organization, FIMARC brings the concrete expertise of the movements that it federates and the preoccupations that they carry to the CIDSE WG. The documents of the CIDSE giving information, and analysis for the movements of FIMARC. Secretary General of FIMARC participated in the CIDSE FAST working group meetings held in Brussels as well as in Paris. We also joined in the manifestation in the context of G20 Agricultural ministers meeting held at Paris in June 2011. FIMARC signed the lobby letter on Price Volatility in the context of G20 prepared by the working group

Seminar on economy by CIDSE

FIMARC participated in the seminar on Economy organised by CIDSE for the policy officers of various catholic development organisation in Bavarian representation in Brussels in September 2011. The seminar brought new perspectives on economic systems and the need to create an alternative development model and economy. It also gave an opportunity to learn about the various projects and plans of CIDSE members. The political debate was also took place with various decision makers of the European politics.

Results: Being part of the FAST group we brings critical analyses on the situation of rural areas and also carry out joint lobby actions with CIDSE Members of the group. FIMARC also support the campaigns of CIDSE on issues of common interest. We are also participating in the working group effectively.

Outlook: FIMARC will continue this strategic partnership with CIDSE on food and agricultural governance. We will join our hands with CIDSE at CFS and also in Rio +20 UN meeting on Sustainable development in 2012.

4.3 FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANISATION OF THE UN (FAO)

The Bureau meeting of FIMARC held in Korea in September 2010 decided to invest more in working with FAO and proposed Nieves Martinez Bravo, Treasurer of FIMARC to do the follow up with FAO until 2012 when the Secretary General finishes his mandate with MIJARC. Normally FIMARC participates only in some of the important sessions or world events organising by FAO as well as Civil society groups. So far an Italian militant represented FIMARC in major events and CSO demonstrations, Forums etc. Often we work with MIJARC to prepare positions on certain issues. The FIMARC Bureau 2011 in April met the head of the Civil society department in FAO and submit relevant documents to achieve the special consultative status in FAO. FIMARC was invited for the renewed world committee on food security (CFS) which was held in October 2011 as a participant and also the parallel Civil Society Forum of the Civil society mechanism (CSM).

Results: Increase involvement in Lobby and advocacy on food and agricultural issues. More engagement in CFS and FAO activities.

Outlook: Considering the importance of food and agricultural governance and the expertise of the Secretary General in this field, FIMARC will be more involved in FAO and in the world committee on Food security(CFS) and Civil Society Mechanism (CMS) on a regular basis.

4.4 PRESENCE IN UNESCO

FIMARC has a consultative status in UNESCO. During the preceding years we assured the presence in some of the commissions that treated education for all ,water and women. One militant from CMR France has been doing the follow up work with UNESCO. George Fernandez, Secretary General participated in the preparation meeting held in UNESCO for the General conference in September 2011.

Outlook: We are in discussion with CMR to see the possibility for the formation of a UNESCO group that would invest itself more to UNESCO as there is a lot of lobby work is to be done in the coming years. This group could follow different programmatic commissions and relevant themes.

4.5 FOLLOW UP OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR DIVERSIFIED AGRICULTURAL FOOD PRODUCTS

This project of Convention was launched at the time of the Ministerial conference of the WTO in Hong Kong and received the support from lot of organizations. This project is developing. For the moment the work is launched in a concrete way in South Korea and a group of experts already works to the examination of the treaties and existing conventions. A debate was also organised during the Solidarity economy forum LUX 09 .But still has to carry out lot of work to make an agreed text for the convention.

Results: The group of experts in charge of the study of the texts is organising the web based consultations to amplify the elements for the future convention.

4.6 JUSTICE AND PEACE NETWORK

The FIMARC is part of the economic working group of Justice and Peace Belgium. Preparing documents of political analysis is one of the objective of this group.

Results: FIMARC relays all the analyses of the experts in this working group with its Belgian and European members as well as informing the other movements of FIMARC on all the themes this groups deals more specifically on solidarity economy, right to food, questions of migrations etc.

4.7 PARTNERSHIPS WITH AGENCIES OF DEVELOPMENT AND OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENTS

FIMARC have closer collaboration with MIJARC and IYCW. We have the intention to collaborate more during the years to come. A first collaboration with MIJARC in 2011 was the common organization of a workshop on land issues at the WSF; another collaboration was the common presence within the FAST group of CIDSE; the representation of the mutual interests to the FAO, done especially by MIJARC and the representation of the young ones within the ECOSOC more done by the FIMARC. FIMARC also closely collaborate with the members of CIDSE most especially with CCFD, Broederlijk Delen, Entraide & Fraternité, MISEREOR, etc. We also lead the group of 8 catholic organisations; We have close collaboration with Via Campesina and other farmers and rural people's networks.

FIMARC had a meeting with Claude Mormont from Entraide et Fraternité about the bilateral partnership and with Frank Wielendale from Broederlijk Delen to discuss about the possibility to continue the partnership since BD decided to stop all the subsidies. George had a meeting with Christophe Heraudeau and Anne Sophie Delecroix of CCFD in Brussels in May 2011 to discuss and convince the need to be supported our actions on regular basis in the context of the process of their evolution of new partnership.

Results: FIMARC is present and visible in various forums and organizations. MIJARC and FIMARC supporting itself mutually for the organization of events. The two movements had some joint actions during the World Social Forum in Dakar 2011. FIMARC was part of many activities or declarations in common with above organisations. Evaluation is more positive on this collaboration and we wish to follow it in the future and to reinforce this partnership.

Outlook: FIMARC will take the lead in connecting with all the other catholic social action movements who are part of Group of 8. Concrete partnership with MIJARC and IYCW is also foreseen. FIMARC will also continue in participating in the various lobby and advocacy initiatives and campaigns organising by CIDSE members.

4.8 CONVENTION WITH ENTRAIDE ET FRATERNITE

FIMARC signed a convention with Entraide & Fraternité, Belgium to collaborate on certain political analysis, actions and have some common representations.

Results: Sharing of documents on analysis, education materials, common positions and common representations. Participation and support for the organisation of important events of mutual interest.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION – Evaluation and follow up

The international Secretariat of FIMARC and its Bureau is in charge of the coordination, the implementation, follow up and evaluation of the different activities of formation, accompaniment of the movements and advocacy activities. It has also an equal responsibility to assure the coherence of the different actions in line with the priority axes of work defined by the World Assembly in 2010. The secretariat coordinated all most all the actions which was defined by the the General Assembly and the Bureau for the year 2011. It coordinates, participates in certain meetings, does lobby and advocacy work, link with partners. It supports the continental coordination's and the work of the coordinators and translates the documents. It provided support for movements in terms of formation. The secretariat carried out all the work in a better way even though we had reductions of human and financial resources. For many tasks, we received also the support from volunteers and militants of the movements especially for the translation of the texts of the VMR in 2011 when we faced an unprecedented reduction of financial support for this project. During the year 2011, the international secretariat worked only with 2 part time employees.