



SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD

Fighting the causes of poverty requires setting up initiatives that bring about a fair balance across the board: society, environment, democracy, gender, access to fundamental rights, etc. to be able to propose solutions for a sustainable world



emmaus
INTERNATIONAL
ACTIVISTS FOR CHANGE

KEY WORDS

SOCIAL JUSTICE

implies equality for all in: access to rights, cultural diversity, and political participation.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

implies a respect for natural resources and a sensible, sustainable and participatory use of resources as well as the defence of common goods.

THE GLOBAL CONTEXT HAS BECOME UNACCEPTABLE

A FINANCIALISED ECONOMY

The financialisation of life is currently one of the major causes of poverty extreme poverty, prioritising capital over the real economy. In 2012-2013 the daily value of trading of shares on the global stock markets (purchases and sales in all currencies) equated to almost 900 times more than the value of trades of goods and merchandise.

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC POWER REMOVED FROM THE PEOPLE

Throughout the world, decision-making power has not only been removed from politicians, but also from the people, who are almost always subject to decisions which are mainly guided by the interests of multinationals and financial powers who dictate the rules of the market (structural adjustment plans, privatisation of natural resources and access to basic services, etc.).

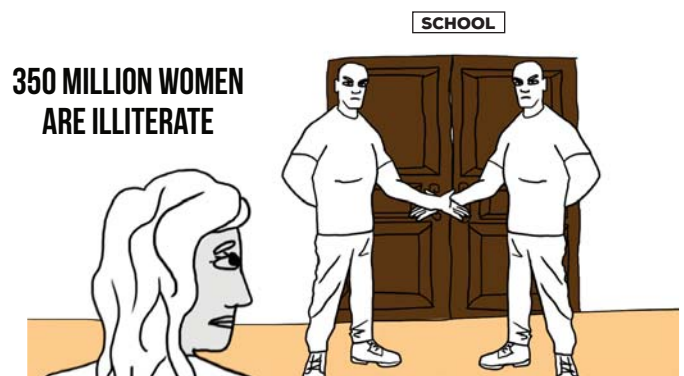
0.7% of businesses control 80% of wealth and this confiscation of resources and power by multinationals contributes towards the deepening of social injustice. A global caste of ultra-rich people spend their ill-gotten riches on activities that destroy the environment and violate the fundamental rights of the majority.



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PERSISTENT INEQUALITY BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN

Only 1% of global farm land is owned by women. 350 million women are illiterate and one in three will be subjected to sexist violence at least once in their lives. This national and global patriarchy prevents women from accessing their fundamental rights.



RIGHT TO FOOD CRUSHED BY THE AGRO-INDUSTRY

The global farming model is on its last legs. A handful of large international groups control land, seeds and investments. Across the globe they take away peasants' means of survival and drown them in leftovers, a system which prevents the emergence of quality local consumption circuits. The environmental impacts of industrial farming are devastating: massive pollution, diseases, destruction of soil, 1/4 of the global emissions of CO₂ and almost 1/3 of the food produced in Europe by these major groups ends up being thrown away.



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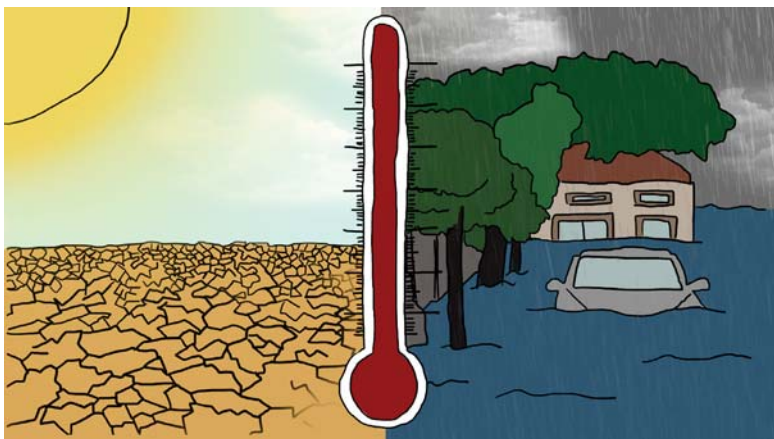
TECHNOLOGY FOR ALL SUSTAINABLE USE OF RESOURCES

RIGHT TO HOUSING

ABLE FOR EMMAUS

A CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION THAT IS GETTING WORSE AND IS MAKING THINGS WORSE FOR US

The planet is on its last legs: global warming, exhaustion of natural resources, intensive mining, deforestation, loss of biodiversity and sometimes-irreversible damage to our ecosystems. At the current rate of increase of greenhouse gas emissions temperatures are predicted to rise between 2 and 4°C by 2100, water levels will rise by a meter, on average, and 2/3 of the plant and animal species that are alive today will become extinct.



Environmental injustice is huge and the most vulnerable pay a heavy price for this. Certain regions are clearly threatened, some have already been affected: the unsustainable methods of production and consumption led by a minority exclude the most fragile and make them pay a heavy price when climate catastrophes strike or when they suffer from deadly agricultural or industrial pollution.

RIGHT TO SOCIAL PROTECTION DENIED (RIGHT TO A DECENT LIFE, RIGHT TO HEALTH, ETC.)

Currently, barely a quarter of the global population (27%) has access to full social protection.

27%

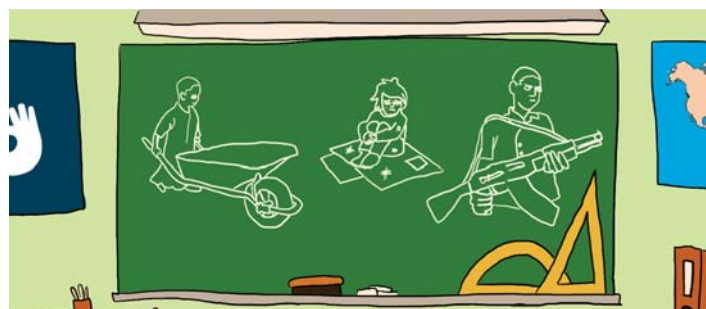
Only 39.4% of the active global population has guaranteed income in case of accidents at work.



RIGHT TO EDUCATION FLOUTED

In 2011 almost 60 million children were not in school. Poverty in many parts of the world currently forces millions of children into work to support their families financially or to stay at home to help their mothers with domestic tasks. Problems linked to water and sanitation also prevent children (particularly girls) from going to school, due to hygiene issues, illnesses linked to a lack of clean drinking water or simply because they must spend several hours every day walking to fetch drinking water.

Structural adjustment programmes and austerity measures have led states to reducing the resources allocated to public education and have led to education becoming privatised or merchandised, denying the poorest access to this fundamental right.



THE EXPERIENCE OF THE EMMAUS MOVEMENT

As a solidarity stakeholder the Emmaus movement has noted a rise in global poverty as well as global changes and instabilities

In its 350 groups worldwide, Emmaus faces up to widening poverty and exclusion, the results of decisions made by political powers and decision makers.

We have witnessed the violation of fundamental rights, the environmental impact of over-consumption, land grabbing and the hoarding of resources and common goods by the powerful. We always see that the first victims are the poorest. States and international institutions do nothing to anticipate the population

movements foreseen between now and 2050 that may affect, according to several studies, 200 million people. Emmaus welcomes climate refugees, forced to migrate against their will yet refused entry by rich countries.

We are coming up with alternatives so that the poorest can claim back their rights and their environment for social and environmental justice, aiming to move towards a sustainable world.



OUR VALUES GUIDE US

- Respect for people and their dignity, and for their environment
- Defending our fundamental rights
- Unconditional welcome and the struggle for a dignified life
- Solidarity both internally and outside of the movement

OUR FOUNDER INSPIRES US

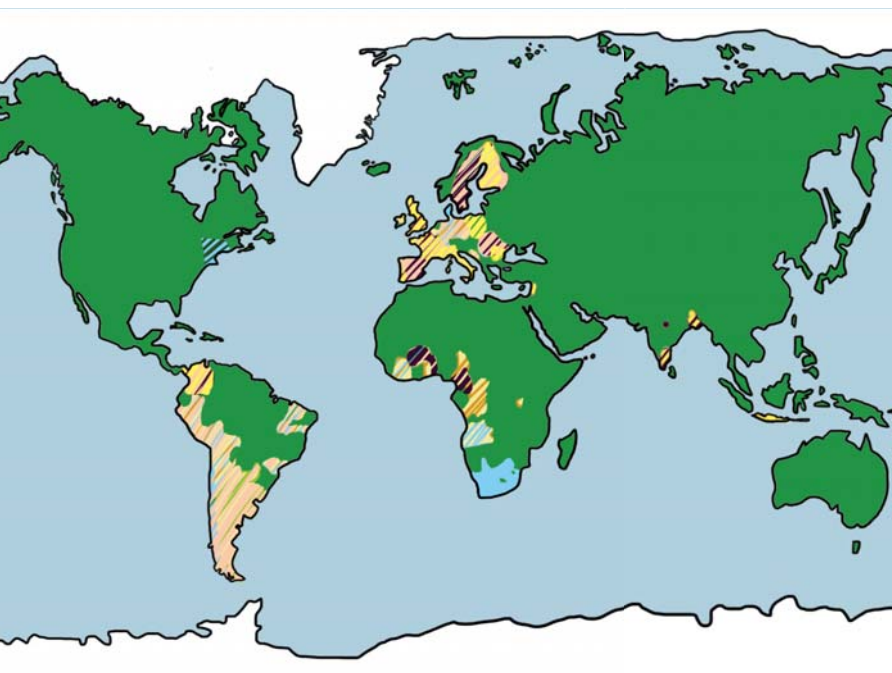
Abbé Pierre was strongly committed to the struggle to house the most vulnerable. He actively participated in the fight against global hunger. He was heavily involved in the call to write off debt in the developing world and attended the 'assembly for the small people of the world', on the fringes of the G7 summit (1994).

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Prioritising the most vulnerable
- Promoting and working for democracy and diversity
- Educating people and awakening consciences
- Redistributing wealth whilst serving the common good
- Fighting inequality and strengthening gender equality
- Fighting for empowerment for all
- Ensuring that all our actions are sustainable, socially just and equitable



WHAT WE DO



Local Daily Work of the Emmaus Groups

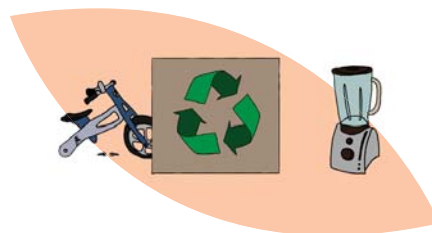
With the principle of unconditional welcome, the Emmaus groups put people back on their feet, giving them their confidence back and making them solidary people through:

- Work, activities and community life
- Allowing them access to their fundamental rights (housing, food, health, education, water and sanitation, work, etc.)
- Helping them to be aware of others and their surroundings (humans and environment)
- Setting up recycling activities to limit the consumption and exhaustion of natural resources
- Committing to education and training

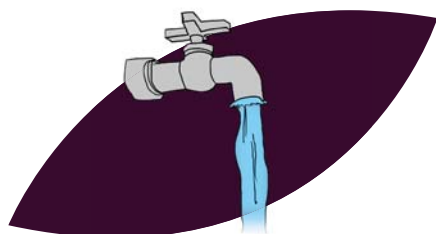
OUR INITIATIVES



Agro-ecology



The recycling of waste and used goods



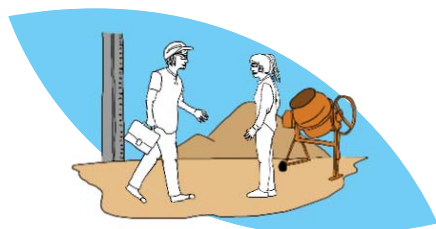
The right and access to water and sanitation



Awareness raising about environmental matters



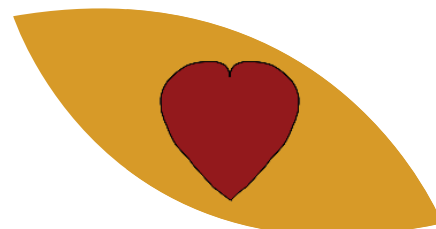
Fighting discrimination and violence committed against women



Integration thanks to work



Popular education and access to education for all



Access to healthcare



The right and access to housing



Fighting against excessive debt

WHO ARE WE FIGHTING FOR

Excluded populations must become organised and resist policies of dispossession of natural resources, land grabbing and privatisation of common goods, which make their extremely precarious situations even worse. Emmaus fights beside them to:

- Create citizen and political awareness regarding our current social, environmental and moral crises.
- Build and protect a sustainable world for future generations which guarantees social rights for all without using more resources than the planet can replenish.
- Democratising the public decision-making systems so that those who are excluded are placed at the centre of the solutions and policies that we propose.
- True climate justice: fair access to natural resources with the people having sovereignty over these resources to ensure that they are not privatised as well as civic and penal responsibility of states and any other economic stakeholders, who damage the planet and worsen our quality of life.
- Food sovereignty and agro-ecology, which respect the right to healthy and culturally-appropriate food, produced using sustainable methods.

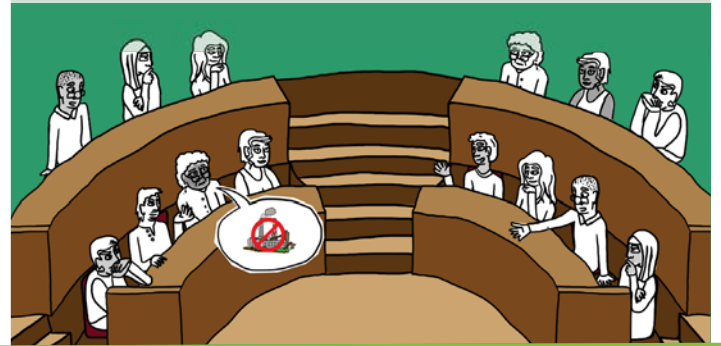


Support our Collective Actions and Campaigns!

Mutual health schemes: several thousand people organised to build mutual health systems to ensure access to healthcare for people in 4 countries (since the year 2000 in Benin and Burkina Faso and since 2007 in Bangladesh and India). These schemes are managed by Emmaus groups and the local communities who also lead activities to educate people on the topic of health.

Recycling urban waste: in 5 Latin American countries (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Peru and Uruguay) the Emmaus groups were involved in developing a programme for urban waste.

Access to water: in Benin, in the Lake Nokoué region, Emmaus has helped almost 90,000 people access both drinking water and basic sanitation infrastructure. The programme also provides training and support for the local community in their efforts to organise a collective, citizen-led management of this service and its infrastructure.



JOIN OUR ACTION

GET INVOLVED ALONG

SIDE EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL



YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR MOVEMENT'S STRUGGLES ON THE ACT EMMAUS WEBSITE www.actemmaus.org

AND FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE MOVEMENT PLEASE VISIT www.emmaus-international.org

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER TO SHARE ABOUT THESE STRUGGLES

