

CHALLENGE CORPORATE CONTROL OF WATER

Report: World Bank's private water investments are bad business, harm communities*Members, global allies join the call for World Bank to divest*

At the World Bank's Spring Meetings, Corporate Accountability International released "Shutting the Spigot on Private Water," a landmark report documenting how the World Bank is driving global water privatization at a chilling human cost. With original financial analysis and powerful case studies, it demonstrates how the World Bank must divest from private water projects to align its actions with its stated mission of alleviating poverty and supporting sustainable development.

As media outlets began to pick up the story, Corporate Accountability International sat down with top World Bank officials. (Continued inside)

🌐 Read the report and learn more about the campaign to move the World Bank:
www.StopCorporateAbuse.org/World-Bank-Divestment



Senior Organizer Shayda Naficy speaks to international allies at the Alternative World Water Forum on the issues raised in "Shutting the Spigot on Private Water," including the critical need for democratic, accountable water governance and the importance of public water solutions. Corporate Accountability International joined thousands in Marseilles, France, as civil society and advocates unified efforts to reverse the global water crisis and challenge water profiteering.



CHALLENGE BIG TOBACCO

Global health prevails in preventing illicit trade*International coalition unified to overcome industry opposition*

In a major victory for global public health, you enabled Corporate Accountability International to work closely with international public-interest organizations, government allies and the World Health Organization in securing a strong protocol to eliminate tobacco smuggling. During the global tobacco treaty negotiations in Geneva, the organization highlighted how the tobacco industry has used smuggling and illicit trade to open markets for decades.

Predictably, Big Tobacco was also there, applying pressure on the negotiators. Public-health advocates didn't back down, acting in unity to save millions of lives.

"Big Tobacco is the fox attempting to guard the hen house," says Rita Lara, Director of Philanthropic Partnerships. "But as we have before, we rallied the global community to stand strong against industry lies and intimidation ... bringing us one step closer to the healthier future our children deserve."

🌐 Check out our new publication "Cutting Through the Smoke: Global stories of industry abuse, grassroots victories and the path toward a healthier future":
www.StopCorporateAbuse.org/Cutting-Through-Smoke



New York City Mayor and leading tobacco-control philanthropist, Michael Bloomberg (center) presents Latin America Coordinator Yul Franciso Dorado (right) with a Bloomberg Award for Global Tobacco Control. Bloomberg Philanthropies honored Corporate Accountability International and allied organization Fundación para la Educación y el Desarrollo Social (represented here by Lorena Ibarra) for their exemplary progress in advancing lifesaving policies in Colombia.



**FROM THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**

DEAR MEMBER,

As I'm considering the decisions I'll make at the ballot box a few months from now, I know that Big Business is busy shaping my choices. And yours.

Did you know ExxonMobil, for example, spent more money in 2009 on lobbying (\$43 million) than it paid in taxes (zero!)? Scores of global corporations regularly avoid taxes while spending millions on lobbying. Then there's the over 300 corporations like Koch Industries that fund the influential American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), which essentially writes laws guaranteeing Big Business profits at whatever cost to the economy, our rights and our well-being. Yet, even as global corporations seek to control the democratic process, you, I and hundreds of thousands of ordinary people are keeping the productive spirit of Occupy alive—and taking back our democracy.

In these pages you will see the tremendous impact you've made. Together, we've secured crucial campaign victories and launched a bold new World Bank divestment campaign, as detailed in the front-page story. We're also advancing the broader corporate accountability movement.

Corporate Accountability International helped train more than 100,000 community activists to directly challenge corporate abuse as part of the 99% Spring—a partnership between leading labor and social justice organizations like ours. The results were immediate: at the Citigroup shareholders' meeting, building on years of ongoing advocacy by the socially responsible investment community, newly trained activists helped leverage an unprecedented majority vote to reject the proposed \$15 million compensation package for the CEO.

"Yet, even as global corporations seek to control the democratic process, you, I and hundreds of thousands of ordinary people are keeping the productive spirit of Occupy alive—and taking back our democracy."

And as hundreds of millions of corporate dollars pour into this year's federal election as a result of the Supreme Court's *Citizens United* ruling, the organization is partnering with allies supporting a constitutional amendment to reverse the damage it's wreaking on the electoral process.

I'm inspired by the growing movement of people, like you, fiercely committed to removing the corporate stranglehold on our lives and our democracy.

KELLE LOUAILLIER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sustain this work to protect human rights, public health and the environment

"As a monthly giver, I know I'm playing an important role in the victories that Corporate Accountability International is securing across all of its campaigns. It's only by working together that we can take on some of the world's largest and most abusive corporations. I know every dollar counts, and it makes me proud to know I'm helping to create real change."

—Liz Boehm, MONTHLY PLEDGER

With \$10, \$25 or \$50 a month, you can become a leading partner, providing the dependable base of support needed to deepen campaign impact and create long-lasting social change.

Join now by sending in the enclosed envelope, by visiting **www.StopCorporateAbuse.org** or by contacting Membership Manager Christine Bryant at (617) 695-2525.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP!



Corporate Accountability International is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible as provided by law. Federal tax ID number: 41-1322686.



WHY MONTHLY GIVING?

- Your gifts make a huge impact, going to work faster and more efficiently
- You receive insider updates on campaign progress and victories so you stay up to date on the influential role you're playing in creating a more just and equitable world
- It's easy to participate and you help us save resources like paper, staff time and funds



Chicago Jobs With Justice activists protest Wal-Mart's labor practices. Photo credit: Carlos Fernandez, Flickr Creative Commons.

CORPORATE HALL OF SHAME

Cast your vote of shame

Which abusive global corporation needs to be shamed into making changes this year? Vote for the corporation that earned your outrage in 2012 for its flagrant disregard of human rights, public health, democracy or the environment. The poll opens in July!

 **Vote for the worst of the worst:**
www.StopCorporateAbuse.org/CorporateHallofShame

(Continued from front page)

CHALLENGE CORPORATE CONTROL OF WATER

An important tool in securing these meetings, the report you made possible is now circulating among World Bank staff and policy-makers.

The report exposes the conflicts of interest arising from the World Bank's direct investment in global water corporations. It reveals the World Bank's close ties to water profiteers: a primary reason water privatization continues despite its financial imprudence and negative impacts. From the Philippines to Ghana, communities bear the cost: skyrocketing rates, decreased water quality, an undermining of democratic processes and a failure to extend access to those who need it most.

"Our most precious shared resource must remain in the hands of the people," says Maria Theresa Nera-Lauron of IBON International, an allied organization based in the Philippines, that has witnessed the destructive effects of water privatization. "The World Bank should be funding public water projects—not helping to line the pockets of profiteers. This powerful report is a critical rallying cry for all of us determined to move the World Bank from its harmful practices."

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

William Tuthill & Greg Anderson



The Albany Damien Center, a community center for people living with HIV/AIDS, was once housed in a crumbling church flanked by vacant storefronts. Volunteers risked muggings to work at the center after dark. In all, it stood as a grim reminder that intolerance still relegates so many to society's fringe.

But William Tuthill and Greg Anderson, as in their other community work, had a different vision for the center: for it to be fully embraced by and included in the larger community.

"They were courageous; they stuck their necks out," says Perry Junjulas, the Albany Damien Center's executive director.

At a time when the stigma of HIV/AIDS provoked a not-in-my-backyard approach to the siting of such centers and related social services, Tuthill and Anderson won over neighbors and showed up to zoning hearings with stacks of letters supporting the center's relocation.

Their advocacy for the center stemmed from a commitment to social justice instilled in them by each of their families.

In the end, they succeeded. The Albany Damien Center now serves hundreds of people a year in a comfortable, three-story house right across the street from the couple.

"They're great neighbors," says Junjulas. "They keep

giving. I don't think they're able to be any other way."

Across all their work, Tuthill and Anderson are driven to transform their community into a place where all can feel part of something larger than themselves.

So when Gigi Kellett, director of the campaign to Challenge Big Tobacco, sat in their living room and explained Corporate Accountability International's five-year strategic plan, Tuthill and Anderson deepened their commitment, inspired by the ways the organization creates global change by partnering with a diverse and vibrant community of committed members.

"We love that you take the time to come to visit. There's a strong notion of community," Anderson says.

Indeed, the couple's involvement with the organization is a legacy of that connection: Tuthill's parents Nora and John had been involved in the organization since the Nestlé Boycott days. Family dinnertime discussions of social justice and equity sharpened his determination to help create a better world.

"We continue to be inspired by the work to hold corporations accountable," Anderson says. "It allows local community-based solutions to thrive, and we're proud to support this effort."

World's biggest fast-food peddler pushes burgers in hospitals

Health care professionals, members call on hospitals to end contracts with McDonald's



A health care professional visits a McDonald's sited in a hospital. For the second year, Corporate Accountability International advanced a shareholder resolution demanding McDonald's publicly assess its contributions to the public health crisis, and Dr. Andrew Bremer, who recently played a critical role in the successful effort to break Vanderbilt Children's Hospital's contract with McDonald's, presented the resolution at the shareholders' meeting.

If you're good for the doctor, I'll buy you a Happy Meal."

It's a common promise made in the 20-plus hospitals where children are treated for diet-related diseases like diabetes on one floor and offered the world's most recognized fast-food brand—McDonald's—on the next. According to a study in the academic journal *Pediatrics* this boosts the perception of the burger giant's "healthiness."

Corporate Accountability International, supported by you and a network of over 2,500 health care professionals, sent a letter to administrators of the nation's leading health institutions, calling on them to remove McDonald's from their premises.

The media picked up and ran with the story. Outlets from Minnesota Public

Radio to USA Today pointed out that franchises in hospitals aren't just money makers in their own right, they also serve as high-impact marketing for the McDonald's brand.

"Siting franchises in hospitals is part of McDonald's comprehensive marketing strategy and clearly inconsistent with the goals of any health care institution."

—LESLIE SAMUEL RICH,
CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY
INTERNATIONAL'S CHIEF OF STAFF

Already, four prominent institutions, including The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, have ended or committed to ending their contracts with McDonald's.

 **Tell hospitals to give McDonald's the boot. Sign the online petition:**
www.StopCorporateAbuse.org/Hospital-Petition

CHALLENGE CORPORATE CONTROL OF WATER

Washington out of step with Main Street when it comes to prioritizing the tap

Leading mayors, Congress, members agree: Public Water Works!



On World Water Day, city council members, senate staffers and advocates gathered on the wide steps of Baltimore's City Hall. In front of media crews from NBC to Fox, they demanded immediate action on the country's public water systems, which currently face a \$23 billion per year investment gap.

As part of a nationwide day of action led by Corporate Accountability International, members of Congress, public water directors, faith and advocacy organizations, celebrities and more than 30 mayors called on the Obama Administration and Congressional leadership to act on the findings and recommendations in a new report.

"Public Water Works!," published with your support, finds that people across party lines overwhelmingly support the critical need to invest in the nation's public water systems, while keeping them in public hands.

"There is bipartisan agreement that the status quo is unsustainable and that unreliable infrastructure is already costing American businesses and families billions of dollars a year," said Oregon Congressman Earl Blumenauer. "This World Water Day, our nation's leaders have the opportunity to come together to support the public service we cannot do without."



National Campaign Organizer Erin Diaz speaks with New York Bronx resident Gloria Solis about Nestlé's target marketing to Latino communities. The beverage giant plays on the fears of recent immigrants around water quality as a means to market its bottled-water brands.

 **Join the thousands who have signed the open letter calling on the President and Congress to prioritize our most essential resource: www.PublicWaterWorks.org**

ABOUT US:

Corporate Accountability International stops life-threatening abuses of global corporations and increases their accountability to people around the world.