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# A just world without poverty

It's what we believe in. It's what gets us up in the morning. It's our vision—a world in which all people know freedom to achieve their fullest potential and to live secure from the dangers of hunger, deprivation, and oppression.

At Oxfam America, we know it's more than an empty dream. It's a very real possibility. And we're getting closer each day. How? By addressing not only the severe symptoms of poverty and hunger, but by tackling their root causes. By developing lasting solutions to poverty, hunger, and social injustice. It's about permanent change for the betterment of everyone. From Asia, to Central America, to Africa, to right here in our own back yards.

Oxfam is shaping a better world. And we thank you for making it possible.

## What makes us unique

### ...✧ PARTNERSHIP

Oxfam collaborates with local organizations to help people identify and address the root causes of poverty. In more than 30 years of partnerships, we have learned that communities are often the most knowledgeable about the solutions to their own problems. When empowered to take ownership of a problem, they create solutions that last.

### ...✧ INDEPENDENCE

In order to preserve our independence, Oxfam America does not accept funds from the US government or other sources that may limit the autonomy of our program decisions or our ability to comment on international, government, or corporate policies.

### ...✧ LINKING LOCAL TO GLOBAL

While Oxfam remains committed to our community-based work, we have found that there are also larger barriers that keep people from thriving. Our community work forms the basis of our policy and advocacy work, through which we challenge the national and international laws and policies that reinforce poverty.

### ...✧ BREADTH

As an organization of 177 development professionals, Oxfam America is able to work on the ground in more than 30 countries. Still, it's impossible for us to be in all places at all times. Being part of the global Oxfam International family—a confederation of 12 Oxfams—expands our numbers to more than 4,000 people and our reach to more than 100 countries.

### ...✧ RIGHTS

Oxfam maintains that human rights do not hinge on the country, gender, race, or identity we inhabit, or the money we have or may need. Rather, they are fundamental and non-negotiable. Oxfam adheres to the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which entitles all people to safety, a say in decisions that affect them, equality, basic social services, and an opportunity to a secure livelihood.

## Letter from the President & Chair

Dear friends and colleagues:

The year 2004 ended with two stunning displays of power—one a wave that took the lives of over 165,000 people, the other a wave of generosity that saved the lives of hundreds of thousands more. While the scale of the disaster in Asia is almost incomprehensible, so, too, is the scale of the response. An estimated one-third of all Americans gave to the relief efforts in Asia. On New Year's Eve, five days after the tsunami struck, Oxfam America's phone was ringing every three seconds, and our website was collecting more than \$2,365 a minute. We have seen nothing like this since the Ethiopia famine of 1983.

At Oxfam, we have been moved by this outpouring of support. But even as we fielded calls and read the very personal letters of our supporters, we understood the tsunami had done more than uncork an explosion of unprecedented philanthropic giving. Rather it seemed that something deeper was happening—that Americans were reasserting their civic mindedness and reconnecting with the world in a dramatic and affirmative way.

For this disaster follows two consecutive wars in which America's image before the world has been its soldiers bearing arms in faraway places. Regardless of how you feel about the mission in Iraq, it no doubt is troublesome to see our values, intentions, and standing in the world challenged day after day. In reaching out to tsunami victims, private American citizens seemed to be saying: "We are part of your world. We share your anguish. We want to connect and be helpful."



Raymond C. Offenheiser  
President

The compassion that will fuel the rebuilding and strengthening of tsunami-affected communities for years to come is an auspicious way to begin 2005—a year that promises to be pivotal for the humanitarian community. We hope that world leaders will be motivated by this incredible global compassion when they convene at the G8 meeting in July and the UN Millennium Development Goals Summit in September. At these meetings, Oxfam will be pressing for more equitable trade policies, critically needed debt relief, more and better aid, and universal primary education as essential steps that must be achieved now if the UN has any chance of meeting its targets to reduce abject poverty by 2015.

Even as Oxfam pushes for large-scale changes that have the potential to lift millions out of poverty, we recognize that every survivor of the tsunami and every one of the 500 million people who live in extreme poverty has a face and a name and an idea for how their world needs to improve. Oxfam makes it our work to learn these faces and names, for we know that it is they who best know the solutions to poverty. It is they who must set the parameters for change, and it is they who can make it happen.

With this report, we introduce you to some of the faces and names, people and places whose lives have been changed by your support. We vow to empower these people and everyone we serve to have a real say in the aid they receive, and we pledge to maximize the impact of your dollars in the field. Finally, we thank you for your powerful demonstration of America's core values and your deep commitment to your neighbors on the other side of the world.



Barbara D. Fiorito  
Chair



Above: Raymond C. Offenheiser (right) speaks with a member of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers at the February 2004 launch of Oxfam America's labor campaign.



Left: Barbara D. Fiorito—herself a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer—discusses a new partnership with National Peace Corps Association President Kevin Quigley.

## ❖ Key results in 2004

The tsunami gave us countless stories of hardship and heroism: the courageous efforts to save lives, the noble attempts to rebuild amidst devastating grief, the endearing efforts of millions who offered to help. Time and again, Oxfam has found that in the face of adversity, people rise to the occasion. Like the response to the tsunami, the key results of 2004 were achieved through tireless work and an unwavering commitment to move past hardship to the possibility beyond.



### ❖ VICTORIES

#### **Peruvian communities win respect, new lands from mining company**

Communities near the Tintaya Copper Mine in Cusco, Peru, will receive farmland as compensation for farms lost to mining. Communities will also need to give their consent before Australian corporation BHP Billiton undertakes any additional mining operations in the area. This agreement was reached after two years of negotiations and with help from Oxfam and our partners. This is the first time a mine in Peru has committed to consulting residents about new mining activities. This victory will directly benefit 3,200 people—and indirectly benefit 64,400 more. The contract with BHP Billiton includes a \$300,000 development fund to help farmers on their new lands. (Page 20)

#### **US government rejoins the International Coffee Organization**

The US government announced its intention to rejoin the International Coffee Organization (ICO), the international forum for coffee trade policy and production. Oxfam America urged the US to rejoin the ICO through its Make Trade Fair campaign. US involvement could strengthen international efforts to stabilize coffee prices so as to reduce the associated poverty, hunger, and dislocation in 50 countries. (Page 22)

#### **Farmworkers win right to organize in North Carolina**

The Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC), an Oxfam America partner, reached an historic agreement with the North Carolina Growers Association and the Mt. Olive Pickle Company giving a union contract to over 8,000 so-called guest farmworkers from Mexico. The agreement establishes a worker complaint system, a grievance commission, and a fair recruitment system based on seniority, among other wins. (Page 18)

### ❖ AWARDS

#### **Oxfam partner wins JFK Profile in Courage Award**

Dr. Sima Samar, founder and Director of Oxfam International partner, Shuhada, received the 2004 John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award for her work to deliver education and health care to women and girls in central Afghanistan. Oxfam has supported her work for seven years. (Page 19)

#### **Oxfam partner wins Peru's human rights award**

Father Marco Arana, President of GRUFIDES, was awarded Peru's most prominent human rights prize. Oxfam America-funded since 2003, GRUFIDES trains people in advocacy and environmental monitoring and seeks to resolve conflicts between mining companies and communities.

#### **Make Trade Fair wins 2004 Commitment to Development Award**

The Center for Global Development and *Foreign Policy* magazine honored Oxfam International for its commitment to changing attitudes and policies toward the poor through the Make Trade Fair campaign.



...❖ NOTABLE ACTIVITIES

**Oxfam and Earthworks unveil No Dirty Gold campaign**

Oxfam America and Earthworks launched the No Dirty Gold campaign, calling on retailers to identify and disclose their gold sources and to work to ensure that jewelry, cell phones, computer chips, and other products do not contain gold mined at the expense of communities, workers, and the environment.

**Oxfam joins ONE campaign**

Oxfam America joined the ONE campaign, a national movement to overcome extreme poverty. An alliance of humanitarian and aid agencies, ONE hopes to increase US aid by one percent of the federal budget for health, education, clean water, and other needs, as well as to cancel the poorest countries' debts and reform unfair trade rules.

**Oxfam joins Senegal commission on illegal arms**

The government of Senegal has invited Oxfam America to join a national commission creating an action plan to curb the illegal proliferation of arms and misuse of weapons in Senegal. Oxfam has raised awareness around the humanitarian impact of arms in the region and supports ongoing local efforts to prevent conflict and promote peace in West Africa.

**Oxfam weighs in**

Oxfam America solidified its position as a premier "go to" source on poverty issues for newspapers, radio, and television programs ranging from *The Wall Street Journal* to NPR to NBC's *Today Show*. Though we had over 1,000 media hits, the real impact of our work goes beyond numbers. Our innovative media strategies helped convince the US to rejoin the International Coffee Organization and pressured the US to coordinate its tsunami relief through the UN system.

**Oxfam leverages technology to help end poverty and social injustice**

Oxfam America redesigned its website to better meet the needs of online visitors. Over the past year, we've seen a 70 percent growth in web traffic. And for the second year in a row, Oxfam's online eCommunity doubled in size—now including over 120,000 supporters who have sent emails to legislators and corporations to challenge policies and practices that reinforce poverty.

**Oxfam forms Oxfam America Advocacy Fund**

Oxfam America created the Oxfam America Advocacy Fund to leverage our advocacy expertise and help shape public policy to enable people to overcome poverty. The Advocacy Fund was created in 2004 and became operational in 2005.

## ❖ Oxfam's presence

*Presence* means being able to speak with communities in their language. Understanding cultural beliefs and priorities and how to get things done. Knowing what people are going through because you or your friends and family have been there, too.

### OXFAM AMERICA REGIONAL PROGRAMS

#### UNITED STATES

**Headquarters:** Boston, MA

**Number of partners:** 35

**Areas of work:** fair trade and agriculture policy; small-scale agriculture and food producers; low-income worker rights; indigenous peoples' rights; participatory decision making in mining projects

#### SOUTH AMERICA

**Headquarters:** Lima, Peru

**Countries:** Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru

**Number of partners:** 42

**Areas of work:** indigenous peoples' rights and movement building; land titling; community-based natural resource management (water, pastures, and rainforests); participatory decision making in development policies and oil, gas, and mining projects; humanitarian relief and rehabilitation; disaster preparedness

#### CENTRAL AMERICA, MEXICO, CARIBBEAN

**Headquarters:** San Salvador, El Salvador

**Countries:** Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua

**Number of partners:** 55

**Areas of work:** fair trade and agriculture policy; fair trade coffee; community finance; humanitarian relief and rehabilitation; disaster preparedness; participatory decision making in oil and mining projects; democratic participation; equity for women; indigenous peoples' rights

#### SOUTHERN AFRICA

**Headquarters:** Pretoria, South Africa

**Countries:** Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe

**Number of partners:** 33

**Areas of work:** community finance; humanitarian relief and rehabilitation; equity for women; HIV/AIDS policy; community-based natural resource management

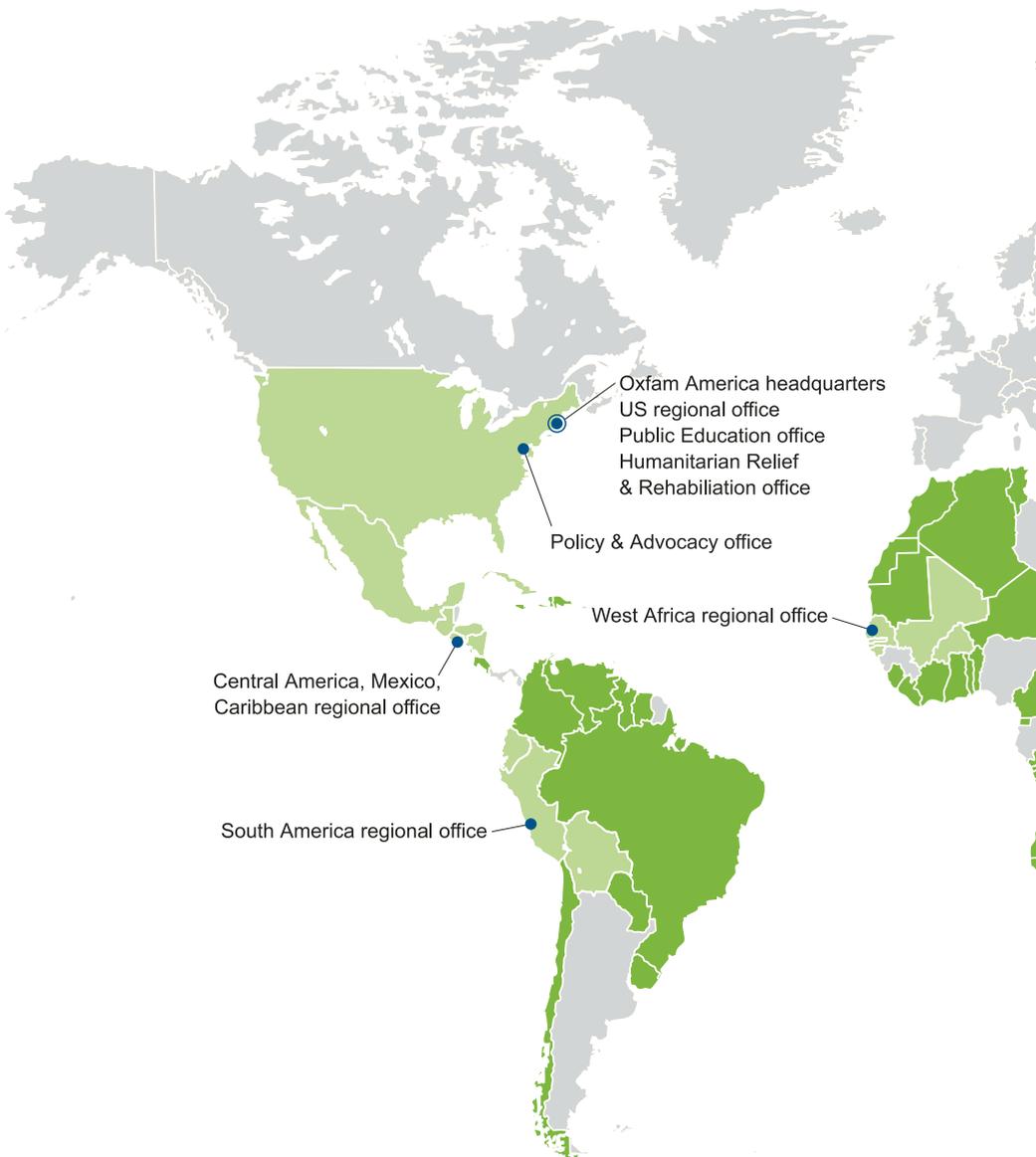
#### HORN OF AFRICA

**Headquarters:** Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**Countries:** Ethiopia

**Number of partners:** 7

**Areas of work:** humanitarian relief and rehabilitation; peacebuilding; fair trade coffee



#### WEST AFRICA

**Headquarters:** Dakar, Senegal

**Countries:** Burkina Faso, The Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Senegal

**Number of partners:** 35

**Areas of work:** fair trade and agriculture policy; community finance; humanitarian relief and rehabilitation; participatory decision making in public policy and oil and mining projects; equity for women; peacebuilding; democratic participation

#### EAST ASIA

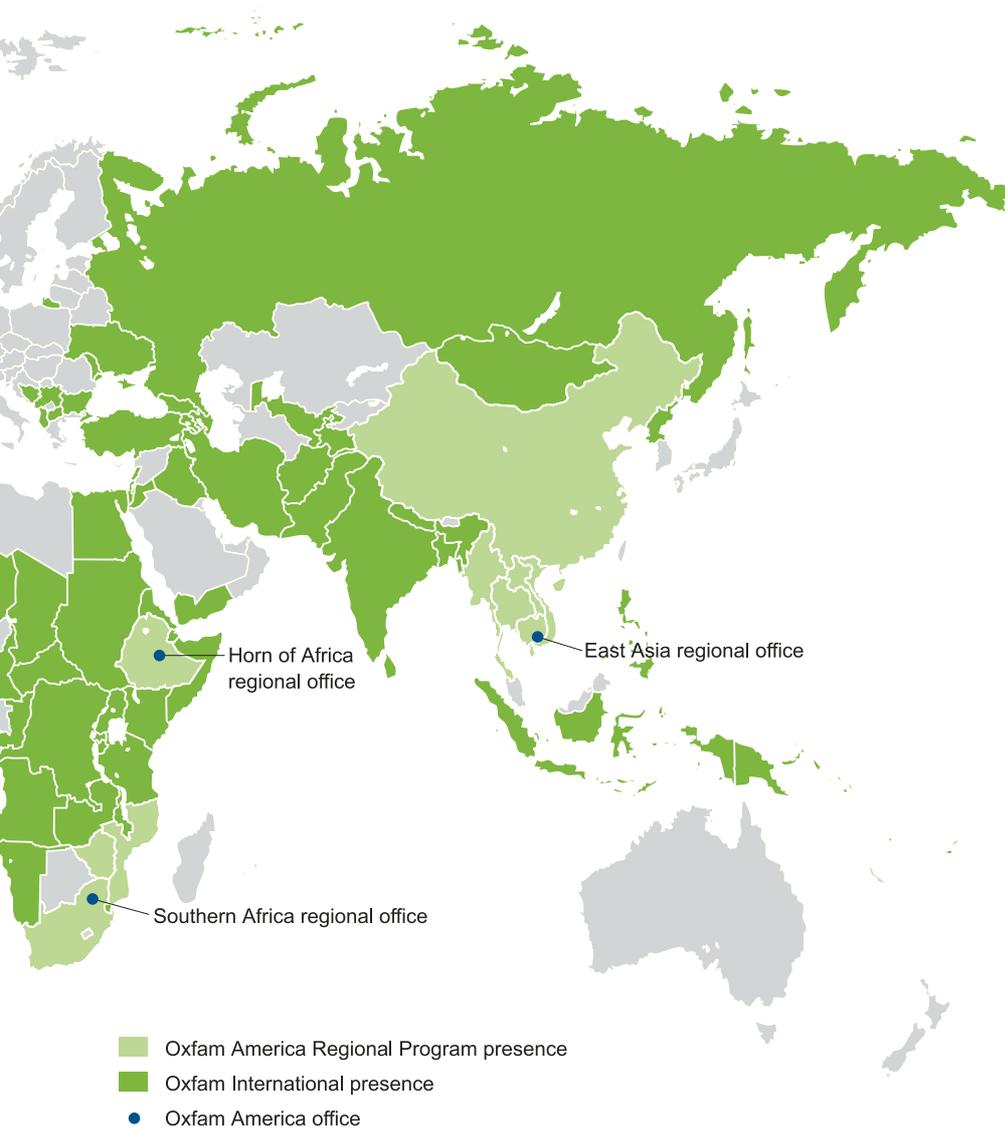
**Headquarters:** Phnom Penh, Cambodia

**Countries:** Burma, Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam

**Number of partners:** 37

**Areas of work:** community-based natural resource management (water, fisheries, land, and forests); community finance; participatory decision making in water-related infrastructure development; fair trade

In addition to our Boston headquarters and our policy office in Washington, D.C., Oxfam America maintains offices around the world. We have 64 staff working in regional offices—the majority of whom come from the region in which they work.



**OXFAM INTERNATIONAL**

There is a reason you can say the name “Oxfam” anywhere in the world and have it mean something powerful. Oxfam International, a confederation of 12 Oxfam affiliates, works together to:

- ❖ **Strengthen our voice**, as in the Make Trade Fair campaign, so that Oxfam’s comment on international policies that keep people in poverty is heard in global stereo.
- ❖ **Coordinate efforts**, in some areas, to reach more groups in need or to approach a shared problem from different angles. In other areas, we combine forces to amplify individual efforts and to make real the fundamental rights of every human being.
- ❖ **Maintain an active presence** in more than 100 countries, so that when emergency strikes, we can respond within minutes or hours—rather than days. And to have the bandwidth to serve hundreds of thousands of people whose lives are demolished in a matter of moments.

**Affiliate members include:**

- ❖ Oxfam America
- ❖ Oxfam Australia
- ❖ Oxfam Belgium
- ❖ Oxfam Canada
- ❖ Oxfam Germany
- ❖ Oxfam Great Britain
- ❖ Oxfam Hong Kong
- ❖ Oxfam Ireland
- ❖ Oxfam Netherlands
- ❖ Oxfam New Zealand
- ❖ Oxfam Quebec
- ❖ Oxfam Spain



As a community organizer for Oxfam partner the Farmworker Association of Florida, Geraldine Matthews visits nurseries and farmworker camps to educate workers on pesticide safety. Like many farmworkers, Matthews learned about pesticides the hard way. "Sometimes you come home, and you shake a lot, and you cough and spit all night," Matthews says. "A lot of farmworkers keep a bucket next to their bed."

# Steps to self-reliance

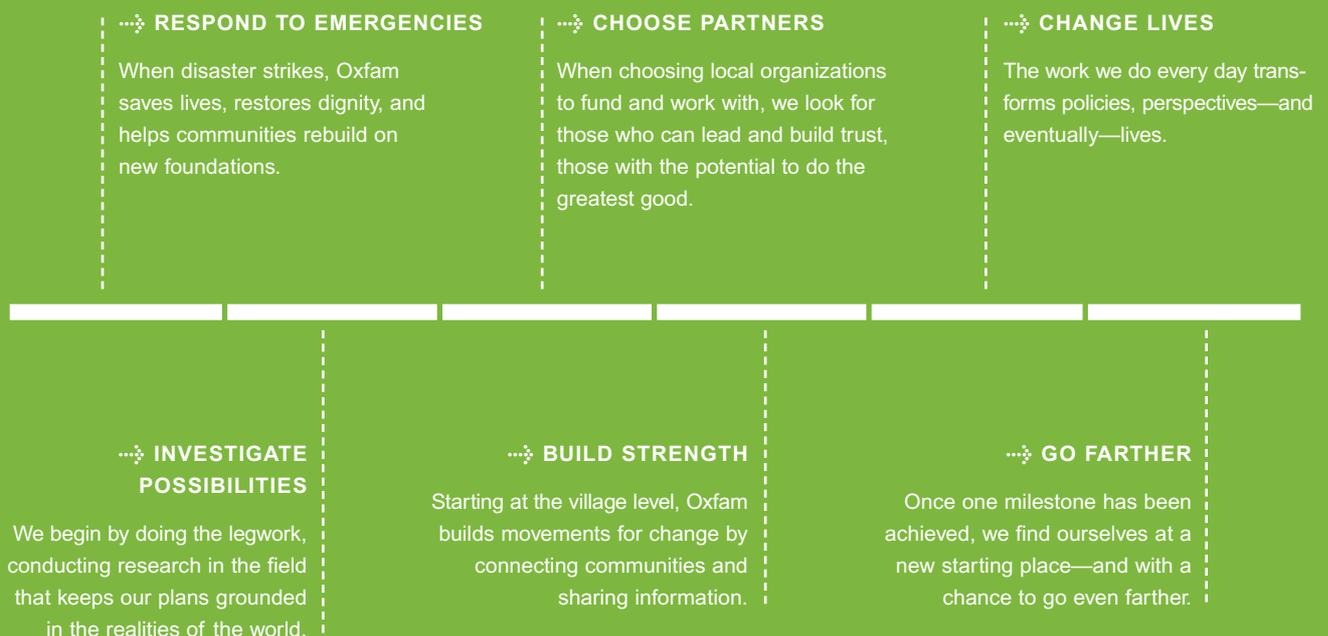
The first steps to self-reliance are taken in the field, where crises are alleviated, where the root causes of poverty are revealed, and where people are empowered to identify and pursue their own solutions.

In 2004, 75 percent of Oxfam America program funds went directly to our Humanitarian Relief and Rehabilitation and Regional Program work. We bolstered these efforts with Public Education and Policy & Advocacy initiatives to engage the American public and to influence decision makers on behalf of people living in poverty.

It's an integrated approach. One that pairs pragmatic, community-led solutions with broad-based global initiatives. Short-term victories with long-term vision. Comprehensive strategies with tangible outcomes.

On the pages that follow, you'll find some of the year's top stories—stories which illustrate each critical step to realizing a more secure future.

## What we do



# Respond to emergencies

Tsunamis and armed conflict, drought and floods: When disaster strikes, Oxfam is there to save lives, restore dignity, and help communities rebuild themselves on new foundations of self-reliance and preparedness.

## Oxfam acts fast and goes the distance in Asia

Within hours of the disastrous tsunami that raced across the Indian Ocean, Oxfam and its partners had jumped to action. Though the water washed through his own house, A.R. Mohamed Saifullah, an Oxfam program coordinator in Trincomalee, Sri Lanka, helped organize a group of 100 volunteers. Together, with Oxfam partner Kinniya Vision, the team began collecting and preparing bodies for burial.

Back in Boston, Bernie Beaudreau, a former Oxfam America employee, took a leave from his job as head of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. For two days he worked the phone from a borrowed desk at Oxfam America headquarters. By the time he was finished, he had located, ordered, and arranged the shipment of three portable desalination plants destined for the Maldives where people were desperate for drinking water.

Meanwhile, in Kumarapeth, India, workers scrambled as the sun set, using the last minutes of daylight to place palm thatch on a frame of eucalyptus poles. Local materials and local labor were helping Oxfam guarantee that some families left homeless by the giant wave would have a new place to live.

“I am proud to do this work with Oxfam,” said local hut maker Ravi Sanatdharma working in another village nearby. “A place to call one’s own after all this chaos and uncertainty.”

Inspired by its fast-moving and quick-thinking staff members and contractors, Oxfam was working to reach 600,000 tsunami survivors in India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Somalia, and the Maldives as 2005 began. Racing to provide people with clean drinking water, Oxfam also constructed latrines and shelters, offered food supplies, and provided families with basic household items.

Long term, the agency and its partners plan to help poor families across the region rebuild their homes, livelihoods, and communities on foundations strong enough to ensure their future security. The amount of work is enormous—but so is the hope. Oxfam America’s Sudha Kotha, Director of Leadership Giving, felt that hope deeply on her return from India. She was there when the tsunami struck, and stayed to visit the villages through which the deadly waves had washed.

“To see such devastation, so many lives lost or shattered, so many grieving people was overwhelming,” said Kotha. “Yet, by the end of the trip, especially after meeting with Oxfam partner PREPARE, I feel hopeful that the people of the villages will be able to resume some semblance of their normal lives.”

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—Sudha Kotha, Director of Leadership Giving, Oxfam America



Above: Piles of rubble were all that was left of many people's homes after the tsunami swept ashore. In India, this man surveys the destruction of his home in Pattinapakkam, Chennai.



Left: People along the coast are finding ways to start their lives over. In a village near Karaikal, India, where many people are living in temporary shelters, a few small businesses have begun to open—including this small stall selling candy.



In Darfur, Oxfam is providing clean water, latrines, and essential household goods, such as soap, buckets, and clothing. On distribution day, people break out in spontaneous celebration.

## Clean water saves lives in Sudan and Chad

Far from the turbulent sea, a wave of conflict continues to wash over the Darfur region of western Sudan. Since early 2003, fighting between armed groups and the government has driven about one-third of the six million people of Darfur from their homes. Uncounted numbers\* have lost their lives in these long months of hardship. Desperate for safety, hundreds of thousands of others have made their way to teeming camps and towns scattered throughout Darfur and across the border in Chad. There, they live in shelters made from sticks, rags, and sheets of plastic. The threat of disease hangs heavily over these crowded settlements. Stories of suffering and loss are commonplace.

### ❖❖❖ OXFAM LAUNCHES ANIMAL VACCINATION PROGRAM IN CHAD

To stem malnutrition in refugee camps and neighboring villages, Oxfam was the first aid agency to launch an animal vaccination program in eastern Chad. By vaccinating 50,000 animals, Oxfam is working to ensure that animals remain healthy enough to give milk or to sell or use for food. This vaccination program was one of the few to take into account the needs of both the refugees and the people who are hosting them.

*\*It is extremely difficult to count how many people have died as a result of the conflict in Darfur. The World Health Organization estimates that 70,000 people died between March and October 2004 and that 10,000 people could be dying each month as a result of the violence.*

By providing clean water and sanitation facilities and promoting good hygiene and public health, Oxfam is working to save lives and prevent the spread of waterborne diseases. Nearly 700,000 people are benefiting from our programs. We have drilled wells, built water tanks, laid pipes, set up faucets, and dug thousands of latrines in 17 locations in Darfur and at six refugee camps in eastern Chad.

Providing water and sanitation is not enough on its own. Promoting good hygiene is vital. At one vast camp an outbreak of diarrhea spread rapidly through the population. Children began to die and the health clinics saw a doubling of patients. The large water containers, known as jerry cans, that people haul to the pumps appeared to be the culprits. Oxfam organized a massive cleaning campaign with a chlorine solution, and volunteers from the camp population oversaw the scrubbing of 15,000 jerry cans. Within a week new cases of diarrhea were cut in half.

Our public health teams listen carefully to people to find out what will make their lives better. Unspoken, perhaps, but so important to overall well-being is dignity. In one camp, Oxfam



At Farchana, a camp for Sudanese refugees in eastern Chad, people make their homes in hastily erected tents. Toward the end of last winter, the camp held more than 16,000 people.

“Even if it’s very depressing and even if people are dying...when the water starts to flow, the atmosphere in the camp changes. You get a lot of satisfaction suddenly seeing kids screaming and shouting and waving their arms and chucking water over themselves even though you may not have that much water to spare.”

— Paul Sherlock, Senior Humanitarian Representative for Oxfam

distributed *tobes*—brightly colored wraps similar to saris—to thousands of women to replace their worn and filthy ones. A spontaneous celebration broke out. Heads were held high once again.

“I came here with nothing. I have no money, so I can’t afford to buy even a small bowl in the market, let alone clothes,” said one elderly woman after the distribution. “*Nashkur allah, al-hamdu li-llah*. We give thanks to God, praises to God.”

It’s unclear when the people of Darfur will be able to return to their villages. Fighting continues even as peace has come to south Sudan where parties signed a formal agreement in early January 2005 ending a 21-year conflict with the north. When villagers do go home, they will face the enormous task of rebuilding all they have lost. Oxfam plans to be there to help them.



Despite everyday hardship in Darfur, smiles are still possible. At a camp in Tawila, this young woman weaves a lid to cover a pot. She will sell the lid to earn a little bit of cash.



Fetching water is a time-consuming task for many people in Ethiopia, and drought has made the situation worse. To help, Oxfam is supporting irrigation projects and trucking water into villages.

## Ethiopia builds stronger foundations

At the end of 2004, more than seven million people faced hunger in Ethiopia. While five million of them already depended on food aid for survival, the prospect of food shortages haunted two million more. Drought had begun to kill off their livestock, shrivel their crops, and leave children begging for water.

Oxfam made this crisis a top priority. By funding water, seed, and livestock programs, Oxfam is easing the drought's impact, starting by helping an initial 68,000 people weather the insecurity.

"Our intervention is not just a handout of food and water, but directed at improving people's livelihoods," said Abera Tola, Oxfam America's Horn of Africa Regional Director. For communities dependent on livestock for food, ensuring the health of their herds is critical.

Helping people help themselves is the basis for much of Oxfam's work in Ethiopia. In the village of Garmama, where rain falls erratically, Oxfam and its partner, the Selam Environment and Development Association, are working on an irrigation project to boost crop growth. By installing pumps and canals, and establishing vegetable nurseries, 500 people will have a dependable source of food.

Water in the lowland areas of Borena is a scarce resource. Guyo Gelgelo, a pastoralist from Yabello, benefited from a water program in her area. "I had to climb this steep mountain for five hours to fetch one jerry can of water for my family. There were times my women friends had to climb this mountain twice a day; you can imagine the exhaustion. Now, thanks to Action for Development and Oxfam, we have enough water for ourselves and our livestock, and we know how to manage its use."

In a sign of ongoing concern for the region, in October 2004, Oxfam's Board of Directors made a commitment to increase resources to our Horn of Africa regional office.



A cup of corn kernels represents a new beginning for the people of Mapou, Haiti, many of whom lost their homes and livelihoods when torrential rains flooded their community.

## Seeds of hope planted in Haiti

“There are six of us in my family. These seeds will change our lives.”

So said Mme. Said Shad, one of the many residents in Mapou, Haiti, who suffered devastating losses when torrential May rains drowned portions of the community and surrounding villages. Within a few months of each other, floods and mudslides hit Haiti in 2004, killing thousands of people and wiping out vital trade and agricultural opportunities. In Gonaives, Haiti’s third largest town with more than 200,000 people, water and mud swamped an estimated 80 percent of its residents.

These natural disasters struck a country that was already the poorest in the Americas and heavily burdened by long-term political unrest.

While Oxfam provided emergency assistance after the floods, it also launched projects to help people rebuild their livelihoods—and their self-reliance. In Mapou, with partner Regional Coordination of Organizations

in the Southeast, Oxfam organized fairs to allow people to buy tools, seeds, and animals so they could begin farming again. Through small injections of cash, Oxfam also helped women restore critical trade activities so they could support their families. For others, a cash-for-work initiative offered jobs rebuilding Mapou’s roads. In Gonaives, Oxfam and its partner, Promotion of Autonomous Development, served more than 2,000 families. Some received seeds; others earned cash for working on erosion controls.

“This help allows me to return to my original life,” said Patricia Jean Baptiste who lost everything in the Mapou flood. She was able to buy a goat, market the meat, and use profits to begin rebuilding her business.

Julian Jolibois, who helped rebuild Mapou’s roads, summed it up best. “The project was as sweet as sugar,” he said.



Mme. Said Shad holds the vouchers Oxfam helped provide that will allow her to purchase seeds for a new planting season. “If we plant crops and can live from the land, I can guarantee food and some income for my family.”

# Investigate possibilities

We begin by doing the legwork, conducting research in the field that keeps our plans grounded in the realities of the world. Oxfam's reports and knowledge-based advocacy make us a thought leader and a strategic innovator for change.

## Conversations with farmers lay groundwork for campaign focus on agriculture

François Midoguessi wants to make a decent living. A cotton farmer in Benin, he used to earn \$1,118 a year from his crop. These days he makes about half that.

He and 10 million others who depend on cotton production in Central and West Africa are struggling to break even. Because of falling prices, farmers like Midoguessi can't put enough food on the table. They can't send their kids to school. They can't take care of family members when they're sick.

Oxfam's work often begins with researching people like Midoguessi—individuals who, no matter how hard they work their land, can't defeat poverty. Back in 2000, Oxfam laid the groundwork for the Make Trade Fair campaign by consulting with long-term partners and allies in Africa, Asia, and South America. They couldn't make a livable wage, they said, because they were competing with cheap imports and couldn't make enough to cover the costs of production.

When launching Make Trade Fair two years later, Oxfam understood two things. We knew, through extensive trade analysis, that a fairer system—one that allowed poor people to compete fairly and openly in the world market—could benefit millions. And we knew that Oxfam, with deep experience in rural communities and with a presence in more than 100 countries, could help.

Having already addressed trade issues such as falling coffee prices, unfair trade agreements, and restrictive drug patent laws, Make Trade Fair turned its attention to "dumping" in 2004.

Dumping is the practice by which countries like the US unload cheap, government-subsidized crops onto world markets at prices below the cost of production. This, in turn, leads to depressed prices. Developing countries, where agriculture often forms the backbone of national economies, suffer most. As many as 900 million people who depend on farming live on \$1 or less a day, many because they cannot compete with subsidized prices.

Oxfam's solution, put forth in *Finding the Moral Fiber*, a 2004 research report, is three-fold. Get the US to abide by World Trade Organization (WTO) rules that bar rich countries from dumping their surplus production on the rest of the world. Pass legislation to cap US agriculture subsidies. And support developing countries' power to decide the pace and scale of opening up their markets.

Timing is key: agriculture subsidies top the agenda of the Hong Kong WTO ministerial conference in December 2005. More importantly, for millions of farmers like François Midoguessi, every attempt to right a wrong system helps.

### ... THE 3 R'S—RESEARCH, RESEARCH, & RESEARCH

Here are just a few of the 2004 reports available online at [oxfamamerica.org](http://oxfamamerica.org).

#### **Weathering the Storm: Lessons in Risk Reduction from Cuba**

A close look at Cuba's efforts to limit the impact of disasters yields important recommendations for Central America.

#### **Tarnished Legacy: Social and Environmental Analysis of Mali's Syma Goldmine**

In Mali, gold recalls the greatness of empires. Yet at the same time, gold mining poses serious problems.

#### **Like Machines in the Fields: Workers Without Rights in American Agriculture**

When value is passed up the supply chain, workers at the bottom pay the price.



"You used to get something out of cotton," said Gnagna Traoré, a widow in Mali. "Now there is nothing. You plant, you wait, you harvest, and spend days and days harvesting...and in the end you still have nothing and you can't feed your children."

## Meet these Mekong scholars

The Mun River, the Mekong's largest tributary, originally was home to 265 species of fish. Fifty-four species live in rapids, 33 in eddies, 20 in caves, 35 in tributaries, 38 in pools—the list goes on. No one appreciates the intricacies of the river ecosystem more than those who've been fishing the river for generations.

Oxfam partner the Southeast Asia Rivers Network (SEARIN) has devised a research scheme to capture local expertise. Through "Thai Baan" research, villagers study fish, flora, and fauna, as well as the evolving roles of women, religion, and culture in their own communities. To date, SEARIN has mobilized thousands of researchers in six sites in northern Thailand. The information collected, valuable in its own right, has proven a powerful advocacy tool against dams and other infrastructure projects that threaten the very existence of river communities.



Researchers along the Thai/Lao border review images of fish to determine if they still live in the river. Mekong villages are coordinating efforts to illustrate the damaging effects of a Chinese project upriver that involves blasting out a series of rapids to accommodate larger boats.

# Choose partners

Local groups are the heart of Oxfam's work. When choosing organizations to fund and work with, we look for those who can lead and build trust, those with the potential to do the greatest good. Always, we are honored that they choose us.

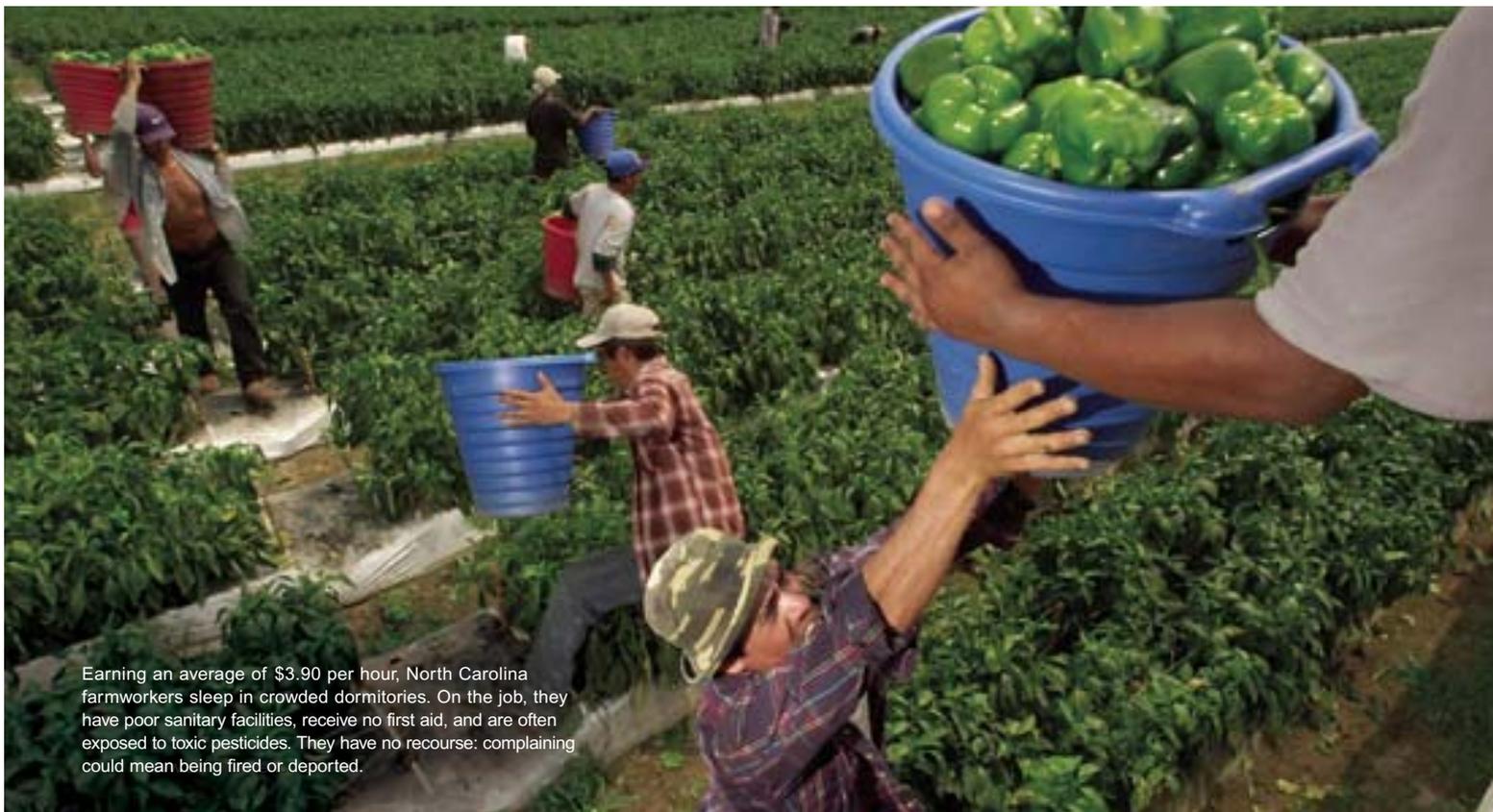
## FLOC harvests farmworker justice in North Carolina

At age six, Baldemar Velasquez was picking berries and tomatoes in the fields, living in converted barns and chicken coops while following the crops with his migrant farmworker family. At 20, he was arrested for passing out leaflets urging farmworkers to claim their rights to decent wages and working conditions. Ever since, the organization he founded in 1968 and still leads, the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC), has been pioneering farmworker justice in the US.

When FLOC approached Oxfam America for funding in 2001, we knew we had a match. Our US regional program had identified farmworkers as one of the most vulnerable populations in the US. Velasquez and FLOC were first-rate organizers, skilled at leveraging the connections between retailers, corporate food processors, and suppliers in the fight for human rights.

Three years later, the partnership between FLOC and Oxfam achieved a major milestone. On September 16, 2004, FLOC signed labor agreements with the North Carolina Growers Association (NCGA) and the Mt. Olive Pickle Company. The multi-crop agreement includes 8,000 workers—mostly Mexicans on guest worker visas—on more than 1,000 farms. The win makes FLOC the largest union in the state and marks the first time guest workers in the US have unionized.

It was seven years ago when FLOC first identified the contracts Mt. Olive makes with growers as fundamental to farmworkers' exploitation and decided to hold both the company and the NCGA accountable. After talks failed, FLOC initiated a boycott of Mt. Olive products. Five years later, feeling the public scrutiny brought on by the boycott, the NCGA issued FLOC this challenge:



Earning an average of \$3.90 per hour, North Carolina farmworkers sleep in crowded dormitories. On the job, they have poor sanitary facilities, receive no first aid, and are often exposed to toxic pesticides. They have no recourse: complaining could mean being fired or deported.

Get the majority of workers on our farms to sign union cards within thirty days, and we'll talk.

Oxfam's quick funding made the signature campaign possible. And FLOC's determined organizers gathered the signatures and met the challenge. According to Velasquez, the agreement "will set an important standard for the rest of the agricultural industry." Guarantees include increased wages, the right to be heard by a grievance commission, time off for workers, and access to information about toxic pesticides.

Oxfam's latest grant to FLOC will help strengthen its staff, train new leadership, and solidify the contract. FLOC hopes to open an office in Mexico and is reaching out to Mt. Olive cucumber pickers in Sri Lanka and India—recognizing that, in a globalized marketplace, farmworkers' rights in North America are linked to those of farmworkers everywhere.



A farmworker and labor organizer all his life, Baldemar Velasquez (right) played a key role in realizing a union agreement that will directly benefit 8,000 workers on more than 1,000 farms.

#### ◆ PROFILES IN FEMALE COURAGE: PARTNERS CHAMPION WOMEN'S RIGHTS AROUND THE GLOBE



Frequent death threats can't stop Dr. Sima Samar's passionate fight for women in Afghanistan. Despite fierce resistance from the Taliban and others, her organization, Shuhada, operates hospitals, clinics, and educational programs that serve tens of thousands of girls and women who would otherwise be denied the rights to education and health care. Samar received a John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award in 2004.



In the Peruvian Andes, FEMUCAY is empowering 4,000 poor indigenous women, many widowed by the country's devastating civil conflict, to improve their livelihoods and to have a say in the development of their communities. Focusing on cultural pride and women's leadership, FEMUCAY has given rural women like Victoria Paytan (above) a voice, gaining influence with officials, and offering hope to communities struggling to heal from persecution.



As a magistrate in Zimbabwe's courts, Sheila Mahere has witnessed how domestic violence devastates women's lives. Now she heads the Musasa Project, which counsels victims of rape and gender violence and promotes women's rights. The group is leading the fight to pass national legislation criminalizing domestic violence. Mahere's effort is winning allies at the grassroots and in government, including Zimbabwe's newly appointed female vice president, Joyce Mujuru.

# Build strength

Too often, the problems communities are up against are bigger than they are. Starting at the village level, we build movements for change by connecting communities and sharing information.

## Local victories generate momentum in South America

The village of San Pablo, in Ecuador's Orellana province, is hacked out of the Amazon jungle. Villagers work constantly to earn a meager living from farming maize and bananas and raising cows. The work never stops. So when the Brazilian company Petrobras asked to explore for oil on their lands, the people of San Pablo had to consider the offer.

But they also had to be cautious. Looking around at other communities where oil drilling takes place, they saw polluted drinking waters and people suffering from poor health and unemployment instead of sharing in the benefits of the oil wealth.

This raised awareness is just one case in an emerging trend. Oxfam America's South America program is working with 180 communities in Peru, Ecuador, and Bolivia to help them play a central decision-making role as to whether and how oil and mining operations are pursued on their lands.

But this story extends beyond San Pablo to all those who are changing the unwritten rules about energy and mining operations in Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. Consider that:

- ❖ On December 21, 2004, five Peruvian communities near the Tintaya Copper Mine reached an agreement with international mining giant BHP Billiton, which includes an historic commitment to consult residents about any new mining activities.
- ❖ In December 2003, the town of Tambogrande, Peru, succeeded in its three-year bid to block a proposed gold mine that threatened their agricultural and water resources. The government withdrew the Canadian company's permit after townspeople held a referendum and voted against the mine.
- ❖ In September 2003, after indigenous organizations voiced concerns, the Inter-American Development Bank approved a loan for the Camisea Gas Pipeline in Peru that contained far stricter social and environmental safeguards than originally proposed.

These individual victories—each one started at the village level and supported by Oxfam—add up to a sum that's greater than its parts. Villages, governments, and enlightened corporations in South America are paving the way for a culture of respect, a practice of consultation, and an acknowledgement of fundamental community rights.

**“The FDA helped us create a space to fight for our rights and helped us stand up for ourselves. Our experience will be an example for other communities.”**

**—Carlos Remiche, San Pablo community leader**

San Pablo turned to Oxfam partner the Amazon Defense Front (FDA). With FDA's help, San Pablo created a development plan and was trained in negotiations. On May 4, 2004, these efforts paid off when San Pablo reached a \$14,000 agreement with Petrobras. The funds will help them cultivate organic cacao and run a public health program. In return, Petrobras can explore for oil; if they decide to pump, negotiations will continue.

...❖ OXFAM'S "BISHOP" BUILDS TRUST IN PERU

Oxfam America staffer Javier Aroca played an integral role in helping five communities in southern Cusco negotiate an agreement with BHP Billiton's Tintaya Copper Mine. But before he could accomplish this, he had to bail a donkey out of jail.

The animal in question had wandered onto company land and was seized by the police. The donkey belonged to an influential family that was not supporting the negotiations with the mine company. When Aroca returned the donkey, he earned the family's trust—helping build momentum towards an agreement that will distribute farmland and development funds to 3,200 people.

Aroca's steady support for the Tintaya negotiations earned him the nickname "the Bishop." The 45-year-old attorney specializes in conflict resolution and the defense of indigenous peoples' rights. "I was seen as a neutral person, without any bias," Aroca explained. "So both sides trusted me."

Communities asked Aroca to speak at village assemblies and to explain the terms of the agreement. Meanwhile, he worked with company officials to increase confidence in the negotiations. The trust Aroca built on both sides of the negotiations ultimately enabled groundbreaking solutions.



Above: Oxfam's Javier Aroca was seen as a neutral party in the negotiations between BHP Billiton and communities hurt by the Tintaya Copper Mine.

Below: Children from San Pablo walk home from school. Their parents' successful negotiations with an oil company is contributing to a trend of respect for community rights.



# Change lives

The work we do every day changes policies, perspectives—and eventually—lives. From coffee farmers in Ethiopia to fishing communities in Vietnam, success means a more secure reality.

## Coffee farmers reap Fair Trade dividends

The coffee farmer stretched out his hand, accepting the wad of money. Surrounded by others like him, he collected the dividends of a year's work, the money guaranteed him by his cooperative.

This is the new reality in Ethiopia where farmers have formed coops focused on making a profit through Fair Trade. Last fall, one coop distributed an average of 3,000 Birr (\$320 USD) to each of its 701 members—money over and above what each farmer made selling his own beans. Farmers who once struggled to buy food are now using their revenue to invest in next year's crop and to build schools and health clinics.

It's the same story for Oxfam's partners in El Salvador. There, one coop sold coffee at nearly double the average market price—and repaid all of its outstanding debt.

These are the tangible benefits of Oxfam's coffee campaign, which aims to eliminate poverty in coffee communities by providing grants to coops, campaigning for better Fair Trade markets, and pushing for support among corporations, retailers, and policy makers.

"This income revived their hope to send and keep their children in school, feed their families at least twice a day, replace worn-out clothes, repair houses, and buy medicine when they are sick," said Abera Tola, Oxfam America's Horn of Africa Regional Director. "Above all, these coops are now engaged in development activities by themselves—instead of waiting for donors or government to do it for them."

### In 2004, Oxfam America's coffee program added to its list of victories.

- ❖ The US announced it will rejoin the International Coffee Organization, where it can advocate for a solution to the coffee crisis on a global level.
- ❖ The United Students for Fair Trade, a group that Oxfam has helped train and support, has fostered a nationwide groundswell for all products Fair Trade.
- ❖ American consumers are getting their supermarkets to sell Fair Trade coffee, fruit, tea, and chocolate. In the US, over 300 roasters and 20,000 retailers carry Fair Trade coffee.

The international coffee market has begun to recover after hitting a 30-year low in 2001. But the crisis continues. Oxfam will work to stabilize prices, promote Fair Trade, create meaningful diversification options, and provide coffee farmers access to farm credit, technical assistance, and market information.

"The campaign is far from over," said Seth Petchers, Oxfam America's Coffee Program Manager. "We will keep the plight of coffee farmers and farm workers at the forefront of public discussion as long as they live in poverty."



Two years after Oxfam launched its coffee campaign, coffee farmers at the Oromia Coffee Farmers Cooperative Union in Yirgachaffe, Ethiopia, celebrated the anniversary in September 2004—by collecting their share of the profits.



Oxfam helps support more than 130 coffee cooperatives in Ethiopia alone. The partnership has reaped substantial results, including higher incomes for individual coffee farmers and greater community development.

## Fish return to An Binh village

There are fish in An Binh Village, Vietnam. Fish to eat. Fish to sell at the market. Fish breeding in the rich sanctuary of the Nga Ngay Canal. Snakehead. Tilapia. Catfish. Tiger fish. Fish that had previously disappeared.

Today's waters of plenty are something to celebrate in An Binh. In recent years, fish have been in sharp decline. The threats to fish resources are many: overpopulation throughout the Mekong Delta has led to increased pesticide use, water pollution, aggressive fishing tactics—and dramatically depleted fish stocks.

Given these pressures, it required great effort for people to agree not to fish certain lengths of the canal that runs through their village. But that is exactly what An Binh did when they embarked on a fish sanctuary project with Oxfam partners at Can Tho University. The idea was to create a safe haven for fish and to allow stocks to replenish.

The result? In 2001, there were 17 species of fish, most of them not marketable. Three years later, 23 species of fish have been discovered, among them fish of preferred taste and high value that can be sold for income—fish that bring newfound security to the people of An Binh.



Mr. Menh, member of the project management board for the An Binh fish sanctuary, is all smiles as he and others troll the fish-laden waters of the Nga Ngay Canal in Vietnam.

# Go Farther

Once one milestone has been achieved, the horizon looks different, the possibilities bigger and better than before. We find ourselves at a new starting place—and with a chance to go even farther.

## Oxfam Hunger Banquet goes global

A United States ambassador transformed an Oxfam America tradition into a truly international experience this Thanksgiving when he hosted his own Oxfam Hunger Banquet in Rome. Tony Hall, the US Ambassador to the UN anti-hunger agencies in Rome, invited about 70 diplomats associated with agriculture programs to his Caracalla house. They were expecting a feast, but instead they got a lesson about the more than 840 million people around the world who suffer from chronic hunger.

The meal, like the Oxfam Hunger Banquet it was based on, set up a situation based on chance. Some diplomats were lucky. They represented the high-income bracket and ate gourmet meals. Others ate rice and beans.

“I was thrilled that diplomats and journalists got a small taste of the realities of global hunger and poverty. Oxfam’s Hunger Banquet is a great tool to raise awareness about these issues.”

— Tony Hall, US Ambassador to the UN Agencies for Food and Agriculture

Most surprised were those handed a small portion of rice and asked to eat outside in a garden tent. A leaflet informed them their meal didn’t give them the “minimum calories you require” just like the 60 percent of the world’s population that struggles with the same problem.

Thirty years after 250,000 people around the US participated in the first Oxfam America *Fast for a World Harvest*, Hall took it to representatives from around the world. “I was thrilled that diplomats and journalists got a small taste of the realities of global hunger and poverty. Oxfam’s Hunger Banquet is a great tool to raise awareness about these issues,” Hall said.

As a US congressman, Hall had attended a Washington, D.C. politicians’ version of the Hunger Banquet. His spokesman, Max Finberg, had also participated in a Hunger Banquet as a student at Tufts University, just a few miles from Oxfam America’s Boston headquarters.

The experience stuck with them just as it has hundreds of thousands of Hunger Banquet participants. Hall decided that, just as the Hunger Banquet spoke to American politicians, college students and church groups, it would speak to diplomats from around the world.

Finberg said most of the guests took the exercise in stride. But there were some “grumblings.” Hall’s event pushed them to remember the issues they support and the people they strive to serve.

“The reality is if you’re an ambassador, maybe you’ve experienced hunger, but it was a long time ago,” he said.



Student leaders Emily Barrows (left), Daniel Duffy, and Winta Teferi sit at the high-income table at an Oxfam Hunger Banquet. More than 400 Hunger Banquets were held between September and December 2004.

## Now, the real work starts in Mozambique

Last year, the future got a bit brighter for five-year-old Melodi Timosi: she and the girls and women of Mozambique won a broad range of rights previously denied to Mozambican women.

The Mozambique Family Law, passed in December 2003, raises the minimum age of marriage from 14 to 18, allows women to inherit property in the case of divorce, and legally recognizes traditional marriages, which constitute the great majority of marriages in Mozambique. Oxfam partners campaigned for four years to win this landmark legal victory for the eight million women of Mozambique.

The new Family Law holds tremendous promise. But first, citizens, court officials, and police officers need to learn about it. "After all, if you have a new law but no decent delivery system, it is not viable. You have to educate the people about the new law," said Oxfam America's Senior Program Officer for Southern Africa, Margaret Samuriwo.

To this end, Oxfam is funding a seven-member coalition that is now waging a major public education campaign including radio and television

programs, seminars for judges, and grassroots education programs targeting men and women. Through these efforts, Oxfam and our partners aim to push Mozambique farther down the road to gender equality.



The new Family Law will help secure five-year-old Melodi Timosi's rights to an education, a later marriage, an equitable divorce, and agency in her own career.

## Five-year tsunami plan embraces communities and their neighbors

Coastal communities around the Indian Ocean bore the brunt of the tsunami's fury. But a new wave of determination is now washing over those same shores and rolling slowly inland.

Oxfam's rehabilitation plan calls for an intense five-year effort in the region. We are already working in Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia, Burma, Somalia, Thailand, and the Maldives. Water and sanitation, public health, restoration of livelihoods, and shelter are among the priorities we are addressing.

**"It is not mere chance that most of those who died or have been left homeless and destitute were already among the world's poorest. Poor families are always much more severely affected by natural disasters. They live in flimsier homes in areas with weak or nonexistent infrastructure."**

**—Barbara Stocking, Director, Oxfam Great Britain  
*International Herald Tribune*, January 5, 2005**

### Our strategy includes:

- ❖ **Rehabilitating poor inland communities as well as those along the shore.** "Development doesn't start and stop at artificial borders," said Michael Delaney, Oxfam America's Director of Humanitarian Assistance.
- ❖ **Helping communities rebuild in ways that allow them to move beyond poverty.** Oxfam calls this "reconstruction plus"—a recreation of lives and livelihoods on strong, new foundations.
- ❖ **Understanding that the tsunami affected a wide range of people.** From those who lost family members and property to those whose livelihoods depended on destroyed industries, all are people whose lives were

changed by the tsunami. Oxfam will focus on restoring livelihoods for all, especially those who work in fishing, agriculture, and small businesses.

- ❖ **Reaching out to underserved populations.** Oxfam will seek out those who may be overlooked by other sources of aid because of political or cultural isolation.
- ❖ **Inviting affected communities to participate in decisions about their future.** "The rehabilitation and reconstruction programs now under way must be designed with input from the people who they are intended to benefit," said Raymond C. Offenheiser, President of Oxfam America.
- ❖ **Promoting internationally recognized guidelines for relief services.** Oxfam believes that international standards for water and sanitation, food, housing, and health must be followed. We also adhere to the Code of Conduct for Disaster Relief and the United Nation's Guidelines for Internally Displaced People.

Oxfam will continually gauge our progress and adjust our efforts. Already some of the challenges ahead are clear. Among the biggest is the need to make sure that all the aid flowing into the region is used effectively. Working well with local partners—and helping them build their own organizations—is one of the keys to that effectiveness.

Where does Oxfam hope these coastal communities, and their neighbors, will be in five years?

"The bottom line is that, while people went through a traumatic experience, they'll be able to say they're in a better position economically now than they were five years ago," said Delaney. "That's the goal."



Work can be a salve for many wounds. Through an Oxfam-funded cash-for-work project in Pattinapakkum, India, these women helped remove mud and debris from around the houses that were still standing after the tsunami hit.

## Hazard X preparedness = lives saved

In Cuba, they call it the *Meteoro*—an annual two-day enactment during which the entire population practices for a deadly hurricane. On the first day, Cubans confront the “what ifs” of disaster through simulation exercises. On the second, they perform preparation measures—cutting tree limbs, identifying evacuation routes, cleaning wells, and the like—that have helped the island withstand life-threatening weather with remarkably few deaths.

In most areas of the world, the poorest communities are most vulnerable to the devastation of natural disasters. They have the fewest resources with which to withstand, respond to, and recover from emergencies. Cuba is an exception to that rule. From 1996 to 2002, six hurricanes caused more than 600 deaths throughout the Caribbean Basin and parts of the US. According to the 2004 Oxfam report *Weathering the Storm: Lessons in Risk Reduction from Cuba*, only 16 of those deaths occurred in Cuba. In 1998, Hurricane Georges killed 209 people in Haiti. In Cuba, only six lives were lost, thanks to well-organized communities, robust communications networks, and nationwide civil defense procedures like the *Meteoro*.

In May 2004, Oxfam brought community leaders and government officials from Central America to Cuba to experience the *Meteoro* first-hand and to learn about Cuban methods for reducing risk. Participants are applying the lessons to their own efforts to build a similar culture of preparedness throughout Central America.



In Cuba, disaster preparedness involves participation of citizens from all walks of life. As deaths from weather-related emergencies continue to rise worldwide, there are important lessons to learn from Cuba's success.



An ethnic Lao woman rests in Vun Say Market on the banks of the Se San River in Ratanakiri, Cambodia. Since 2002, Oxfam-founded Se San Protection Network has helped unite villagers to protest the Yali Falls Dam—a dam that has eroded the riverbank, washed away gardens and crops, and threatened the lives of 50,000 villagers. So far, the situation remains unchanged.

# Financials

+ Board of Directors & Leadership Council  
+ Contributors

## Financial information

(November 1, 2003 to October 31, 2004)

Oxfam America revenues for 2004 totaled just over \$30 million. We thank the more than 170,000 donors who remain steadfastly committed to our mission. And we welcome the tens of thousands of new donors who contributed funds exceeding \$30 million in response to the tsunami. We anticipate more than 96 percent of tsunami donations will go directly to our relief and rebuilding efforts in the field.

To preserve our independence, Oxfam America does not accept funds from the US government or organizations involved in industries in which we are campaigning. What's more, our programs do not lend themselves to large product donations. These factors differentiate us from other organizations that receive significant revenues from governments or products. Given these constraints, we are proud that our cost of raising 100 percent private sector funds and recruiting members was only \$.17 per dollar.

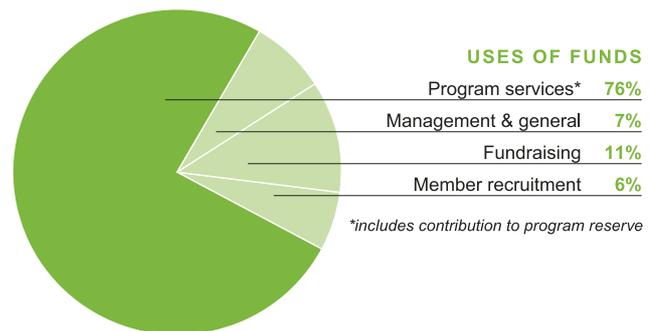
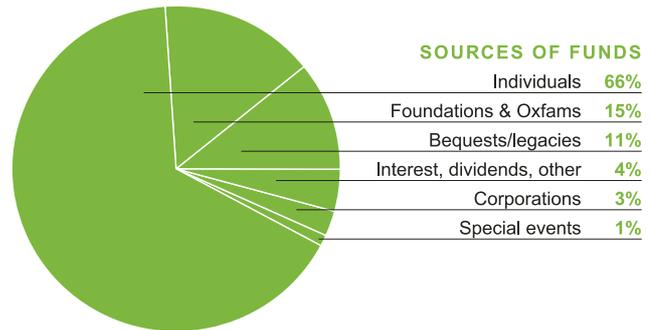
In 2004, in addition to investing directly in our programs, we made strategic administrative investments to enhance our effectiveness, including improved financial management and staff development systems. We also established the Oxfam America Advocacy Fund to conduct advocacy activities that Oxfam America cannot pursue because of IRS limitations.

Oxfam strives to maintain a healthy reserve level to ensure continuous programming during years of revenue shortfall, to allow us to respond immediately to emergencies, and to enable us to take advantage of timely program opportunities. In 2004, we benefited from a bequest which allowed us to add \$1.9 million to our reserves.

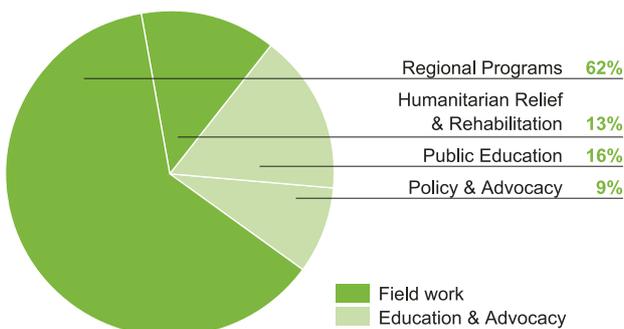
In a world where 1.2 billion people live on less than \$1 a day, every dollar counts. We will continue to pursue all programs cost effectively. We anticipate an extraordinary 2005.



Kapil Jain  
Treasurer



### NATURE OF PROGRAMS



In 2004, 75 percent of our program funds went to field work that directly supports people in the developing world through humanitarian and regional initiatives. Our investment in advocacy and education leverages the field investments for greater impact. Across the agency, our major program investments included:

- Emergency relief in Sudan, Haiti, and Ethiopia, as well as continuing rehabilitation in Afghanistan and Iraq;
- Key regional programming around women's legal rights, access to water and natural resources, and market access for coffee farmers;
- Activities to raise public awareness of global trade issues and how they affect poor people and to mobilize support to address policies that keep people poor; and
- A complete overhaul of [oxfamamerica.org](http://oxfamamerica.org) to update and enhance content and to make the site easier to use.

## Statement of activities

(November 1, 2003 to October 31, 2004)

	Total 2004	Total 2003
<b>REVENUE, GAINS &amp; OTHER SUPPORT</b>		
<b>Revenue from contributions</b>		
Contributions, general	\$26,071,000	\$24,954,000
Contributions, Humanitarian Relief & Rehabilitation	3,075,000	3,308,000
<b>Total revenue from contributions</b>	<b>29,146,000</b>	<b>28,262,000</b>
<b>Other revenue</b>		
Investment income	629,000	1,393,000
Other	605,000	256,000
Net assets released from restrictions	—	—
<b>Total other revenue</b>	<b>1,234,000</b>	<b>1,649,000</b>
<b>Total revenue, gains, &amp; other support</b>	<b>\$30,380,000</b>	<b>\$29,911,000</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>Program services</b>		
Regional Programs	\$13,144,000	\$13,065,000
Humanitarian Relief & Rehabilitation	2,796,000	3,373,000
Public Education	3,343,000	2,998,000
Policy & Advocacy	1,783,000	1,873,000
<b>Total program services</b>	<b>21,066,000</b>	<b>21,309,000</b>
<b>Support services</b>		
Management & general	2,242,000	1,819,000
Fundraising	5,157,000	4,833,000
<b>Total support services</b>	<b>7,399,000</b>	<b>6,652,000</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$28,465,000</b>	<b>\$27,961,000</b>
Change in net assets	1,915,000	1,950,000
Net assets, beginning of year	31,534,000	29,584,000
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$33,449,000</b>	<b>\$31,534,000</b>

## Statement of financial position

(As of October 31, 2004)

	Total 2004	Total 2003
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash & equivalents	\$14,782,000	\$13,433,000
Investments	17,147,000	16,421,000
Pledges receivable	1,054,000	2,440,000
Other assets	1,534,000	1,390,000
Net fixed assets	3,785,000	3,490,000
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$38,302,000</b>	<b>\$37,174,000</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable & accrued payroll expenses	\$1,091,000	\$1,004,000
Grants payable	2,056,000	3,179,000
Other liabilities	1,706,000	1,457,000
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>4,853,000</b>	<b>5,640,000</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		
Unrestricted	21,052,000	19,294,000
Temporarily restricted	10,829,000	10,672,000
Permanently restricted	1,568,000	1,568,000
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>33,449,000</b>	<b>31,534,000</b>
<b>Total liabilities &amp; net assets</b>	<b>\$38,302,000</b>	<b>\$37,174,000</b>

## ❖ Board of Directors & Leadership Council

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On the following pages, we gratefully acknowledge supporters who contributed \$2,500 or more in the 2004 fiscal year. We also give special thanks to the donors we are not able to list, as well as to the new donors who have joined us for 2005. Your generous support is enabling Oxfam America to reach more people today than ever before.

(Contributions received between November 1, 2003 and October 31, 2004)

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"I want to say thank you to Oxfam America. You have been with us and the Amazon Defense Front, supporting us financially but also with ideas. You know that with the economic needs here, we just don't have the resources to do this important work. Thank you for being such good friends and companions and for joining together with us in this cause."

—María Ana Jiménez, Member of the Assembly of Delegates of the Communities Affected by Texaco, Lago Agrio, Ecuador

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—Barbara Stocking, Director, Oxfam Great Britain

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**“I have seen a great deal of tragedy in Sri Lanka over the course of years, but [the tsunami] tragedy overshadows everything else. It was some comfort to me, as I watched the Oxfam truck moving up and down the road, that I have been in some small way helpful in ensuring that Oxfam was able to be there to assist the survivors of this horrible ordeal.”**

**—Brandon Williams, Oxfam donor**

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Working with Oxfam partner the Center for Pluricultural Studies in Ecuador, Rosita Burga helps people get the capital they need to grow and market vegetables and pursue other small businesses—the very type of program that helped her mother pay for Rosita's education.





# Your generosity at work

Your donations to Oxfam's emergency work and long-term programming can make a tremendous difference in people's lives. Here are some examples of the impact your dollars can have in the field.

## ...❖ \$5,000

### **Savings and lending program for women**

Involvement of 250 women in savings and lending groups in Cambodia. An investment of \$20 per woman will provide a secure place to save and borrow, liberating women from moneylenders and increasing income. New funds will be used to enhance family diet, improve housing, purchase medicines, and educate children. Women's contributions will elevate their status in their communities.

## ...❖ \$10,000

### **Two Oxfam water tanks**

Two collapsible water tanks hold and purify clean water for 6,000 people daily. When emergency strikes, tanks can be flown in and set up in a matter of hours, while truckloads of water are delivered to the scene. Budget includes 180 Oxfam buckets with built-in cap and spigot to use for clean water distribution.

## ...❖ \$25,000

### **Organic family farm and soil conservation project**

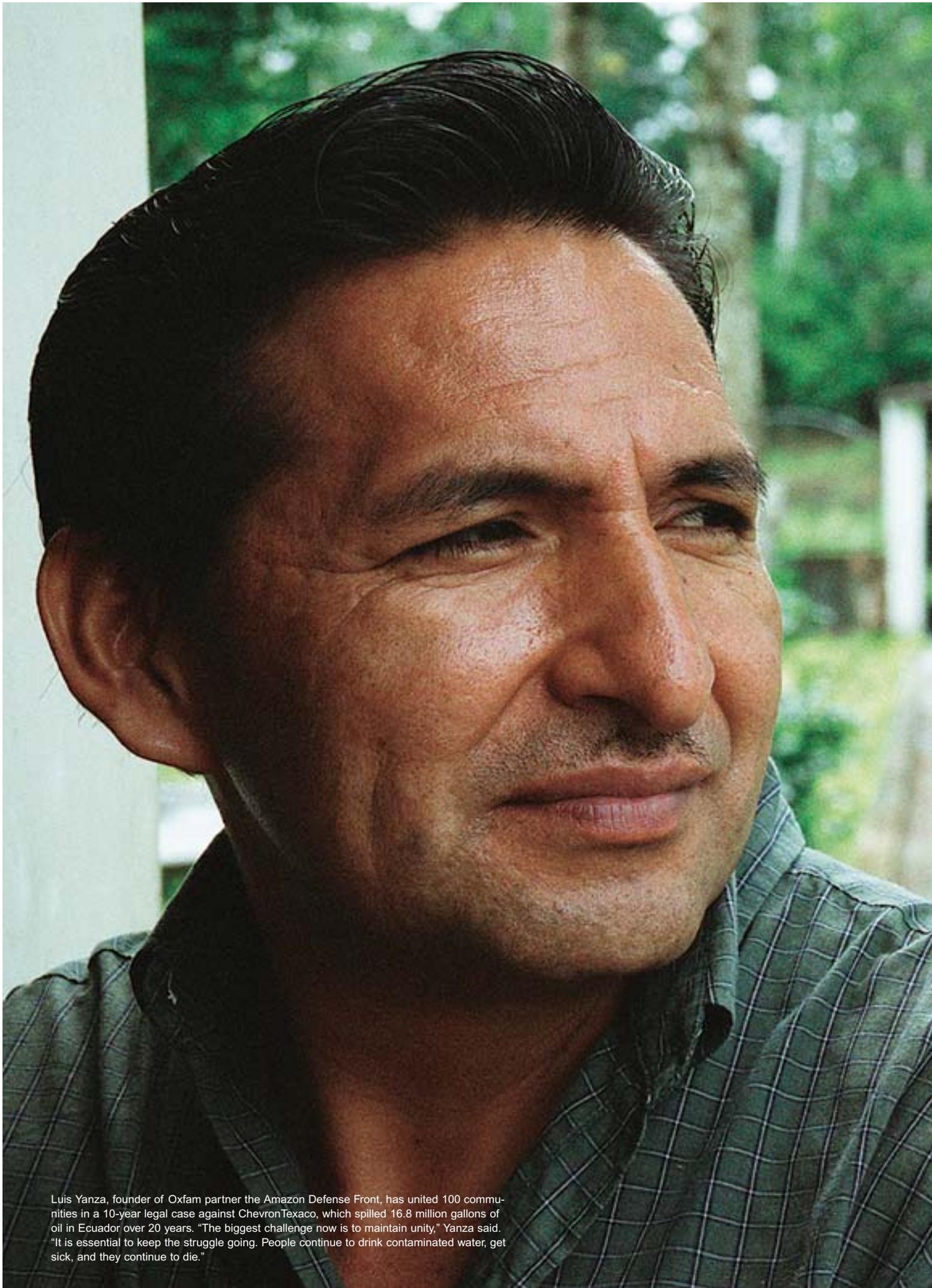
Development of 190 organic family farms with vegetables, fruit trees, and small animals to improve the diet of indigenous communities on Ecuador's Andean slopes. Reforestation of five major hillsides to prevent erosion and improve soil quality. Project includes the planting of 3,000 native trees, water conservation initiatives in five fresh water springs, and 15 workshops on organic agriculture.

## ...❖ \$50,000

### **Community health post**

Construction of a community health post to serve 5,000 people in an area of Ethiopia without access to health care. Project includes construction of health post, medical equipment and furniture, solar electric power, essential drugs, a health assistant, and four community health facilitators to conduct much-needed education and awareness around HIV/AIDS.

**To make a donation:** (800) 77-OXFAM | [oxfamamerica.org](http://oxfamamerica.org) | Oxfam America, 26 West Street, Boston, MA 02111



Luis Yanza, founder of Oxfam partner the Amazon Defense Front, has united 100 communities in a 10-year legal case against ChevronTexaco, which spilled 16.8 million gallons of oil in Ecuador over 20 years. "The biggest challenge now is to maintain unity," Yanza said. "It is essential to keep the struggle going. People continue to drink contaminated water, get sick, and they continue to die."

# Thank you.

Just as local individuals and communities guide and inform Oxfam America's work in the field, so too do thousands of individuals and communities make Oxfam's work possible.

From the Longfellow Tennis Club in Wayland, MA, that held its 29th mixed doubles tennis match to benefit Oxfam America...to the children at the Mission Grade School on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation in Hays, MN, who've participated in the *Fast* for 25 years and counting...and from Tufts University senior Erin Allweiss who's volunteered more than 600 hours of her time to mobilize students to participate in Oxfam's No Dirty Gold campaign...to countless others who've found their own unique ways to carry forth and support Oxfam's work...we thank every one of you.

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