

10 years

source

10 years of successes

- **Declaration of unconstitutionality of mining law in Honduras**

After denouncing the pollution caused by the San Martin mine in the Valle de Siria in Honduras, the Supreme Court of Justice declared 13 articles of the mining law unconstitutional and forced the government to approve a new law more respectful of the environment and human rights. [A short video on this case is here.](#)

- **Inter-American Commission of Human Rights precautionary measures for the Marlin mine in Guatemala**

After denouncing the pollution and human rights violations at the Marlin mine in Sipakapa, Guatemala, and reporting the case to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Commission (a kind of preliminary judge) issued precautionary measures obliging the state of Guatemala to enforce the rights of the local indigenous peoples. [Here is the Commission's statement.](#)

- **US\$ 50 million compensations for the Carrizalillo community in Mexico**

We complained to Mexico's agrarian court about the illegal acquisition of land by the Goldcorp mining company and also the air and water pollution caused by it. The company agreed to sit at the negotiating table and agreed to guarantee compensation to the community of about \$50 million over five years. To avoid corruption and abuse, the money went to cover services such as building schools and hospitals, scholarships, recreational spaces and more. [The full list is available at this link.](#)

- **Declaration of environmental and health emergency and consequent protective actions in Cerro de Pasco, Peru**

After more than ten years of researches in which we have shown that in the city of Cerro de Pasco 100% of children would need to be urgently hospitalized (if WHO standards were applied) due to the presence of heavy metals in their bodies, the government of Peru has declared a state of environmental and health emergency in the entire area. [The official government communication is at this link.](#) [A video recounting years of struggle in Cerro de Pasco is at this link.](#)

- **Approval of law to clean up Rio Ragra in Cerro de Pasco, Peru**

Rio Ragra is the river most affected by mining pollution in Cerro de Pasco. It is the river where mine effluents are directly discharged. After Source International's director spoke to Peru's Parliament, the Parliament itself created a parliamentary commission that then approved a clean-up plan and allocated the necessary funding to clean up the river. [The official document is available at this link.](#)

- **Approval of law on river protection in Mongolia**

In cooperation with the Mongolian Rivers Movement (a small local organization), we carried out analyses and studied the impact of riverine gold mining (mining where gold is sought in river beds and not in underground veins). In the Ult and Burujult valleys, river mining had altered the river cycles so much that the Ongii River (the only river in the Gobi Desert) had not reached its mouth for more than twenty years, thus forcing many nomadic pastoralists to leave its banks and, in effect, abandon their nomadic lifestyle. After our work, the government passed the River Protection Act, which effectively prevents river mining. Only three years after the law was passed, the river has once again reached its mouth. [Here is an article on the approval of the law.](#)

- **Construction of water treatment plant in Liberia**

Together with our partner SwedWatch, we carried out a study on the pollution caused by the Firestone rubber factory in Liberia. We were able to demonstrate the air and water pollution throughout the area and then presented the study together with the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment to the UN General Assembly on the Environment, which is held every two years. As a result of this Bridgestone (which owns 100% of Firestone) has begun construction of a wastewater treatment plant. [At this link you can read an interview and download the report.](#)

- **ENI fined in Basilicata**

Thanks to our studies on water in the area of the Viggiano oil center in Italy, it was possible to prove that ENI was responsible for the pollution of the area after an oil spill. The company was then condemned to pay a fine and some of its assets were confiscated in order to pay damages. [An article on the case can be found at this link.](#)

- **Compensation agreement for the Amazonian communities of Canaan de Cachiyacu and Nuevo Sucre in Peru**

After demonstrating the very serious pollution caused by oil extraction in the indigenous communities of Canaan de Cachiyacu and Nuevo Sucre in the Peruvian Amazon, the British oil company Maple Gas was forced to sit down at a negotiating table with the indigenous communities. An agreement emerged from the table that gave the communities access to new sources of drinking water and some food subsidies (the pollution of the rivers had deprived the local communities of fish, essential for their livelihood). Mongabay also covered the case and [an extensive article is available at this link.](#)

- **Training hundreds of local activists worldwide**

In ten years we have trained more than a thousand activists in almost 30 countries around the world. We have taught them how to do environmental monitoring of water, air, dust, health and to be aware of their rights. We have also taught them how to defend their rights locally, nationally and internationally. [In this video the story of how we did it in Mozambique, for communities affected by coal mining.](#)