



Global Justice Ecology Project

2024 Impact Report



Celebrating more than 20 years protecting forests and defending Indigenous rights

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Top left: GJEP Communications Director Steve Taylor taking video in Chile. Photo: Langlelle/LanglellePhoto.org

Top right: Planting blight resistant wild American chestnut trees at the Heartwood Forest Council in Ohio. Photo: Langlelle/LanglellePhoto.org

Bottom left: Members of the Huni Kui Indigenous community from the state of Acre, Brazil stand up against genetically engineered trees at the UN Biodiversity Convention in Colombia. Photo: Cassandra Production

Bottom right: GJEP Board member Alejandra Parra plays a song by Chilean folk singer Victor Jara during the South American book launch of GJEP co-founder Orin Langlelle's *Portraits of Struggle*. Photo: Nicolas Salazar/GJEP

From the Executive Director

Dear supporters and friends of Global Justice Ecology Project,

If there was one word I would use to describe the work of Global Justice Ecology Project in 2024, it would be **impact**. With the help of our donors, our highly talented team reached new heights:

1. We published the acclaimed book *Portraits of Struggle in English and Spanish* and began international distribution.

Portraits of Struggle documents 50 years of peoples' struggles for justice all over the world and represents our decades of work for social and ecological justice. The book, filled with the photography of GJEP Co-founder and social documentary photographer Orin Langelle, was translated into Spanish by team member Iris Rodriguez. Reviews of the book have been extremely enthusiastic. You can learn more about the book and watch the trailer for it [here](#).

2. We energized the global campaign against genetically engineered (GE) trees, and increased our leverage to stop the commercial release of GE eucalyptus trees in Brazil, the development of GE pine trees in Chile and the approval of GE American chestnut trees in the US.

3. Our Assistant Director Heather Lee worked with our Indigenous allies to launch a global Indigenous Peoples' Campaign against genetically engineered trees at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York City. **This work has continued in Chile,** at UN events in **Colombia,** and at the **Indigenous Environmental Network's Protecting Mother Earth conference** in North Carolina.



In a forest restoration project in Valdivia, Chile. Once a pine plantation, now restored to a lush temperate rainforest. Photo: Petermann/GJEP

From the Executive Director

4. We took our 7th trip back to Chile to document the stories of Indigenous Mapuche communities experiencing political repression and persecution due to their efforts to reclaim their lands from socially and ecologically devastating industrial eucalyptus and pine plantations.

Beginning each visit with a presentation of the Spanish version of *Portraits of Struggle* (*Retratos de Lucha*), GJEP was welcomed as a trusted partner **to record and share people's stories of repression and resistance.**

5. We released a short documentary called *Eucalyptus Invasion*, created from footage from the international delegation we brought to Brazil for three weeks in 2023. It features Indigenous, Quilombola and MST (landless workers movement) members speaking out about the impacts of the eucalyptus plantations taking over Brazil's countryside. **It has already been viewed 1,700 times since its debut in September!**



A brother of a Mapuche political prisoner describes violent attacks against his community. Photo: Langelle/LangellePhoto.org

Thank you for everything you have done to make this year our most impactful year yet.

Anne Petermann
Executive Director

PS Look out for my new article on the GE American chestnut in the winter edition of *Earth Island Journal*!

The impact of your donations



In 2025, with your help, we will:

- **Amplify the voices and stories of Mapuche people in Wallmapu** (Chile) to support and build solidarity for their efforts to reclaim their ancestral lands from the timber and pulp industries;
- **Protect the wildness of our forests** by confronting and disrupting plans by industry to clone and sell millions of GE American chestnut trees for planting throughout eastern forests.
- Build a major international campaign, led by Indigenous Peoples and traditional communities **to slam the lid on Suzano's corporate dreams of GE eucalyptus plantations in Brazil.**

There are many ways you can support GJEP with a gift today.

Ways you can donate:

- **Through our [Paypal Giving Fund](#)** (which has no donor fees)
- **Through your [Donor Advised Fund](#).**
- **Send a check:** Send to GJEP, PO Box 124, Randolph, NY 14772 USA
- **Donate stock:** [Download our form](#) or contact GJEP Executive Director Anne Petermann for details at anne@globaljusticeecology.org or +1.716.364.1188

Want to leave a lasting Legacy to protect forests and defend human rights?

Add GJEP to your will or other estate plans. [Download our form](#) or contact GJEP's Executive Director Anne Petermann for details at anne@globaljusticeecology.org or +1.716.364.1188

Donate today



Your gift will be matched
up to \$10,000!

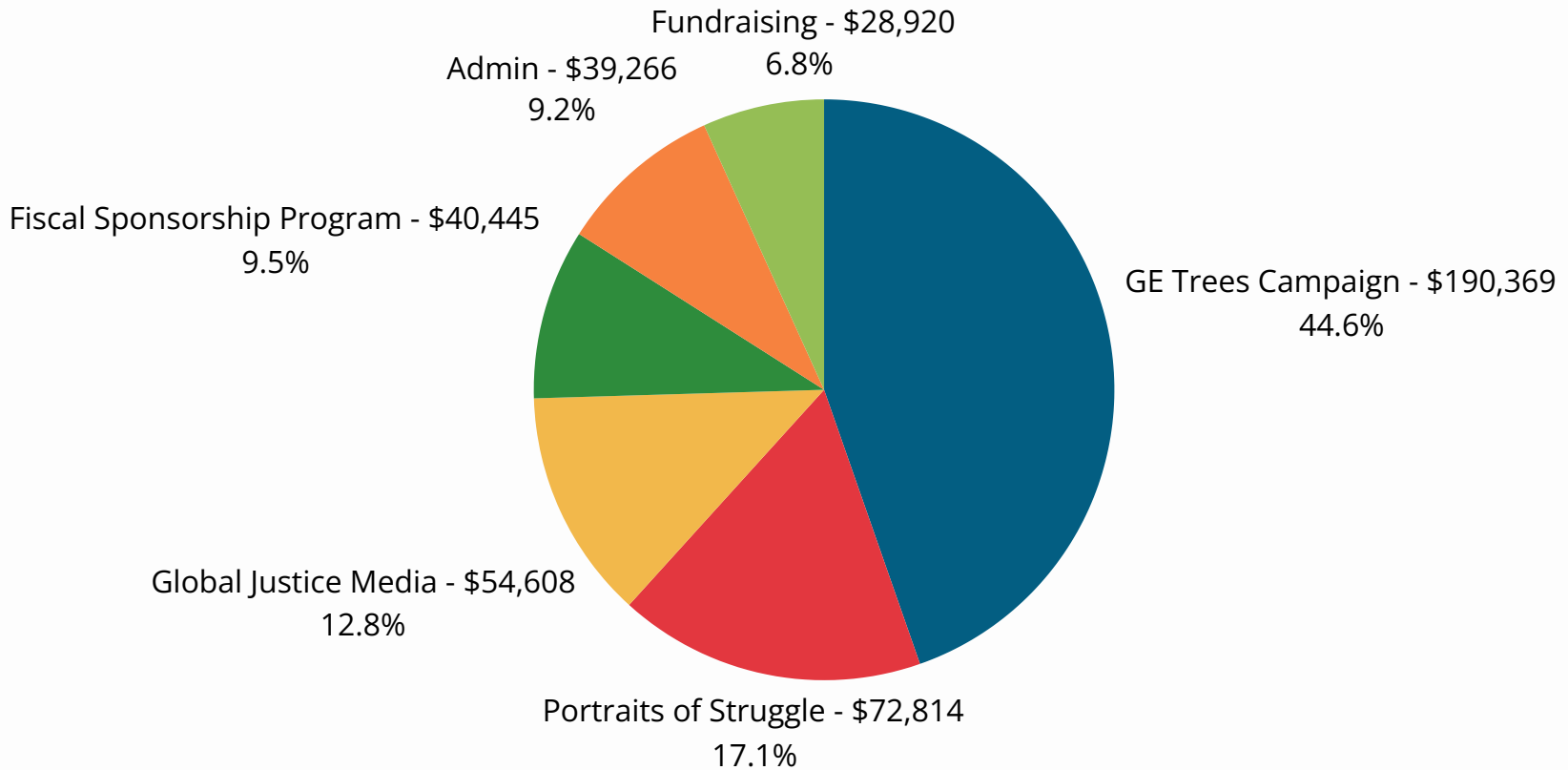


The impact of your donations



Projected Fiscal Year Budget (April 2024 - March 2025): \$426,400

When you donate to GJEP 84% of every dollar you send goes directly to our programs.



Our four-star rating from Charity Navigator and our Gold Seal from Candid means that you can trust that your donations go exactly where you want them to.



Lifting Up Mapuche Struggles for Land, Autonomy and Dignity

In October we took our seventh trip to Chile, marking 20 years since our first visit.

Our team documented the stories of Mapuche people standing up to the racism of the Chilean state and taking action to reclaim their ancestral lands stolen under the Pinochet dictatorship.

Reclaiming their land is core to the Mapuche struggle to regain their traditional culture, language, food and spirituality in the face of a state that wants them erased and imprisons many of their youth.



This Mapuche schoolteacher in the Lake Lleu Lleu region speaks to us about her community, which is entirely led by women. Lake Lleu Lleu is the only lake in Chile completely under Mapuche control. Photo: Langelle/Langellephoto.org



Photo (left): These three boys are the children of political prisoner Claudia Nahuelan in the Mapuche community Pocuno. Claudia has been in prison for more than 9 months with no trial. While in prison, she has not been permitted to see her children. Photo: Langelle/LangellePhoto.org

International GE Trees Campaign

Mapuche solidarity: Chile



During our two week delegation, we shot thousands of photos and hours of videos of deeply personal testimonies from Mapuche communities and the families of political prisoners.

We pledged to support their struggles and raise public awareness. In 2025 we will be creating photo essays, articles, webinars, reports, and a series of 1 to 30 minute videos from the testimonials we captured.

We will use these tools to build pressure to advance Mapuche goals of autonomy and dignity.

Ongoing Mapuche resistance to colonization is deeply connected to the pulp and timber industries, whose goals include expanding their destructive plantations (in some cases through “land grabs”) and adding GE trees to their arsenal.



In Kilape Lopez, a Mapuche community mobilizing to reclaim their land, our team gave the community photos we had shot in 2019 during our last visit.

In the photograph above, the Lonko (leader) holds a photo of two young brothers we met in 2019. **The week before our 2024 visit, the brothers were arrested and imprisoned on charges without evidence.** Mapuche political prisoners such as these can be held for nearly two years without a trial.

Photo: Langelles/LangellesPhoto.org

International GE Trees Campaign

Mapuche solidarity: Chile



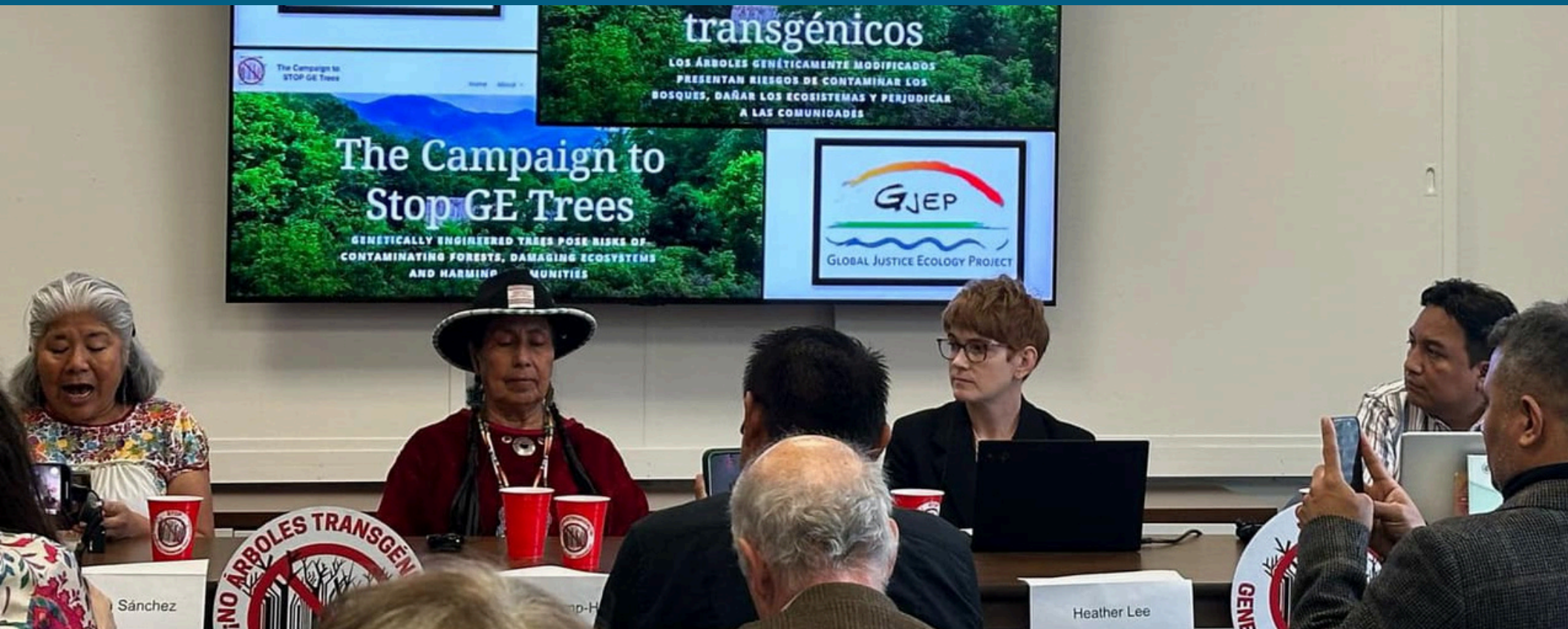
Left to right: Steve Taylor (GJEP Communications Director), David Hathaway (translator), Anne Petermann (GJEP Executive Director), the sister and wife of two of the political prisoners. Photo: Langelle/Langellephoto.org

On the first day of our work in Chile we met with Mapuche political prisoners at the prison in Temuco. Following the meeting we held a press conference outside of the prison and spoke with relatives of the political prisoners. Together we denounced the prisoner's unjust treatment and discussed the racism of the Chilean judicial system. The press conference was picked up by the largest media outlet in the region.

International GE Trees Campaign

Launch of Indigenous Peoples GE tree campaign

In April we co-launched an Indigenous Peoples Campaign against GE Trees at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York City.



Speakers included (left to right in the picture):

Photo: CNTI

- **Celerina Sánchez**, Ñuu Savi/Mixteca, Poet, Oaxaca, Mexico
- **Casey Camp-Horinek**, Ambassador on the Environment of the Ponca Nation
- **Heather Lee**, Campaign to STOP GE Trees and GJEP
- **Gustavo Ulcué Campo** of Nasa People and the National Commission of Indigenous Territories (CNTI) of Colombia

Indigenous Peoples speak out



During the campaign launch **Casey Camp-Horinek**, distinguished Indigenous elder and Ambassador on the Environment, Ponca Nation, stressed that GMO trees must be stopped immediately:

“Everything that has to be done, has to be done now. The urgency is here.”

Casey Camp-Horinek is also known for her role in the hit series Reservation Dogs.



Photo: Cassandra Productions



Photo: www.un.arizona.edu

Francisco Calí Tzay, the UN Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Peoples, insisted that “we must not allow GMO forests to be created.”

Gustavo Ulcué Campo of Nasa People and the National Commission of Indigenous Territories (CNTI) of Colombia stated “GMO trees threaten the way of life, ancestral knowledge and food systems of Indigenous Peoples. Defending territories is defending life!” Gustavo Ulcué Campo.



Photo: CulturalSurvival.org

Indigenous and forest dependent communities webinar

Indigenous and forest dependent communities face devastating impacts from industrial tree plantations which will only worsen with the introduction of GE trees. In March we organized an international webinar in 3 languages where speakers gave **first hand accounts of issues with tree plantations and what the introduction of GE Trees would mean**. Speakers included:



Jose Maria Gusman Ferraz

Professor in the Agrobiodiversity Study Group at the University of Campinas, Sao Paulo, Brazil



Silvana Romero

Guarani Linguist and Researcher, Co-author of *GE Trees in Argentina*



Célio Leocádio

President of the Quilombola Association of Volta Miúda, municipality of Caravelas and President of the Quilombola Cooperative of the Far South of Bahia, Brazil



Edmundo Hoppe Oderich

Member of the World Rainforest Movement in Brazil



Ninawa

Chief of the Huni Kui People of the Brazilian Amazon and President of the Huni Kui Federation of the State of Acre



Anne Petermann

International Coordinator of the Campaign to STOP GE Trees and GJEP's Executive Director

Global Action to STOP GE Trees



Direct action at COP16 against the commodification of nature. Photo: Jeff Conant/FoE

GJEP mobilized organizations and activists from around the world at the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (COP16) in Colombia to demand Brazil cancel nine permits that allow Suzano pulp to commercialize genetically engineered eucalyptus trees.

GE trees pose irreversible threats to Indigenous and traditional communities, and critically important forests like the Amazon.



Global Forest Coalition rejects GE trees. Photo: GFC



Left to Right: Nele Marien, Friends of the Earth International; Heather Lee, GJEP; Silvia Ribeiro, ETC group; and Tom Goldtooth, Indigenous Environmental Network.

Photo: Cassandra Production

“This could absolutely destroy the balance of the ecosystem of the Amazon...this is the knife to the throat of our rainforests...the very survival of the Amazon is at stake”

Elvis Huni Kui of the Federation of the Huni Kai People of the state of Acre (Brazil)

GJEP’s mobilization against GE trees at the UN Biodiversity Convention in Colombia:

- **We co-hosted a webinar for COP16 attendees** with EcoNexus, Third World Network, Save our Seeds
- **We presented an open letter signed by 100+ organizations demanding Brazil cancel its permits for 9 GE Eucalyptus trees**
- **We organized a press conference on threats posed by GE trees** and demanded Brazil cancel the permits
- **We spoke at a forum** on false solutions to climate change including GE Trees
- **We mobilized protests** against GE trees and the financialization of nature
- We collaborated with international partners at a **strategic planning meeting on the 2025 UN Climate Change Conference** in Brazil.



GJEP’s GE Trees Press Conference Speakers

- **Heather Lee**, Assistant Director, GJEP
- **Elvis Huni Kui** of the Federation of the Huni Kai People, state of Acre Brazil
- **Dr. Ricarda Steinbrecher**, EcoNexus and Federation of German Scientists
- **Tom Goldtooth**, Executive Director, Indigenous Environmental Network

Photo: Cassandra Production

GJEP supports and defends the struggles of Indigenous Peoples and forest dependent communities against the timber and pulp industries in Latin America by raising awareness and fostering solidarity.

Brazil is central to our effort to stop the commercial release of GE trees. Brazil has legalized nine varieties of GE eucalyptus trees with dangerous traits including tolerance to toxic herbicides and the ability to kill insects. Behind it is a global increase in the demand for raw pulp. Brazil's communities and forests are in the crosshairs.

In 2023 we organized a major international delegation to Brazil to document community testimonies and stories about their fight against tree plantations and to foster collaborations **in response to Brazil's legalization of GE trees which would dramatically worsen already severe social and ecological impacts.**

We recorded Quilombola, MST and Indigenous peoples demands to stop the destructive impacts of industrial tree plantations and took them to Brazil's capital city. We presented their list of demands (now with over 550 signatures) to several government Ministers. [You can sign on to the demands here.](#)



In 2024 we turned the footage we gathered into a 34 minute short documentary titled [“Eucalyptus Invasion”](#)

The photograph on the left, which appears in the film, **“Eucalyptus Invasion”** was taken at an Indigenous Peoples' protest in Brazil's Capital. Indigenous Peoples were protesting a bill in the Brazil Congress that would strip many communities of their land titles. Photo: Langelle/Langellephoto.org (2023)

Protecting the wildness of forests



Putting the last nail in the GE American Chestnut coffin

Since 2018, GJEP has been devoted to stopping the legalization and release of dangerous and unproven GE American chestnut trees into wild forests in the U.S. and Canada.

The unprecedented proposal to release a GE tree into the wild to self-replicate would have unpredictable and irreversible consequences.

Even [after the public revelation of the failure](#) of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF's) GE American chestnut, tech start-up **American Castanea plans to clone and sell millions of these GE American chestnut trees, hoping to raise \$17 million in 2025 (see quote box).**

In July, GJEP submitted a complaint to the USDA Office of Inspector General to investigate potential malfeasance by ESF with regard to their deal with American Castanea to sell millions of their defective GE chestnuts.



In 2025, we will mobilize supporters across the continent to stop to this potential disaster.

American Castanea's Plan:

"Apply bioinformatics and AI techniques to correlate genetic signatures with specific traits. Borrow techniques... ...for seedling production, cloning, and growth acceleration in high-intensity light chambers—none of which have yet been yet applied at this scale to forest trees. ... Then produce seedlings at a scale previously unknown."

- MIT Technology Review, Oct 2024

North American GE Trees Campaign

Protecting the wildness of forests

In 2013 GJEP organized the largest ever protest against GE trees.

In 2020 we mobilized thousands of comments to the USDA's recommendation to approve the unrestricted and unmonitored release of the GE American chestnut tree (the first-ever GMO plant) into the wild with the intent to spread and contaminate wild relatives.

In 2023 we coordinated an effort that resulted in more than 150,000 people registering opposition to the USDA to stop the plan to release GE chestnuts in the wild.

In 2024, when the US Forest Service proposed to allow GE trees on National forests, we rallied the public to demand GE trees be banned from all public lands.

We will continue to keep our wild forests safe from the irreversible impacts of GE trees.



GE Tree protesters outside of an industry conference in Asheville North Carolina. Photo: Langelle/LangellePhoto.org (2013)

North American GE Trees Campaign

Organizing on the road



Lois Melican and Anne Petermann present the dangers of GE trees

We headed to Ohio for the **Heartwood Forest Council** annual gathering to **present to forest protection activists** from across the Midwest. Lois Breault-Melican (who volunteers with the **American Chestnut Cooperators Foundation**) joined as as **we discussed threats to wild forests, communities and chestnut growers posed by the proposed release of a defective genetically engineered American chestnut** developed by the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. **Anne also spoke about and denounced the use of GE trees in various fake climate mitigation schemes.**



Lois Melican and Chip Carroll, Sanctuary Steward for United Plant Savers, **plant blight resistant wild American chestnuts** grown by the ACCF following the Heartwood Forest Council.

North American GE Trees Campaign

Organizing on the road

Networking with Nut Growers Against the GE American Chestnut

We joined the American Chestnut Cooperators Foundation and the Canadian Biotechnology Action Network for intensive networking at the Northern Nut Growers Conference in Syracuse, NY.

Nut growers at the event were extremely concerned about contamination threats posed by the GE chestnut.

The conference was hosted at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF), home of the [defective D58 GE American chestnut](#). We spoke with **Andy Newhouse**, head of their chestnut program, and challenged his assertion that his defective chestnuts should be planted in forests.

Our [letter-writing campaign](#) has sent Newhouse more than 200 emails demanding ESF drop their attempts to deregulate their defective GE trees for release into wild forests.



Lucy Sharratt (top, left), Coordinator of the Canadian Biotechnology Action Network and GJEP Assistant Director Heather Lee (top right and below) at the Northern Nut Growers Conference at SUNY ESF in Syracuse, NY.

Photos: Lois Melican



North American GE Trees Campaign

Organizing on the road

Indigenous Knowledge vs Genetic Engineering

GJEP sent our GE Trees team to Cherokee, NC for the **Indigenous Environmental Network's (IEN's) Protecting Mother Earth** conference. There we connected with Indigenous Peoples from across the Americas about the threats posed by GE trees released into forests, grown in plantations, or used in false climate mitigation schemes.

Our panel on GE Trees was joined by renowned scientist Dr. Ricarda Steinbrecher, who traveled from England to share her expertise, as well as Seminole elder Danny Billie.

Chief Ninewa (right), spoke at the Protecting Mother Earth conference about Indigenous struggles in the Amazon, as well as at our GE trees webinar in March. At the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (COP16) in Colombia, Tom Goldtooth, IEN's Executive Director, was part of our press conference against GE Trees.

Photo: Petermann



North American GE Trees Campaign Confronting industry

GJEP's GE Trees team drove straight from the Indigenous Environmental Network *Protecting Mother Earth* conference to the **International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) Tree Biotechnology** conference.

While there we listened to researchers from around the world talk about the miracle of GE trees. **"Let's teach nature something new!"** was a slide from the keynote presenter - clearly demonstrating the arrogance of the participants' efforts to use GE to **make trees better!**

Designer Lignin – “Zip-Lignin”

- **Monolignol Composition**
 - High-S Lignins (from Sinapyl Alcohol)
 - High-H Lignins (from *p*-Coumaryl Alcohol)
- **Pathway Intermediates**
 - Hydroxycinnamaldehyde Lignin
 - 100% C-Lignins (from Caffeoyl Alcohol)
 - 100% 5-OH-G Lignins (from 5-Hydroxyguaiacetyl Alcohol)
- **Monolignol Comonomers and the Pathway**
 - Monolignol Comonomers
 - New Comonomers

Let's teach Nature something new!!

COc1cc(O)c(O)c1OC

○ The idea that WE can ‘redesign’ lignin for our purposes!
○ While not messing it up for the plant!

Slide from the opening keynote at IUFRO. Photo: Petermann

The keynote presenter discussed tree engineers’ dreams of breaking down, altering, engineering and re-assembling tree DNA using the latest “cutting edge” technologies to maximize corporate profit.

Presenters also discussed how altered lignin GE poplars could potentially be used to manufacture chemicals, fuels, engineered wood, and high-tech paper. **The goal? “increased profits of \$5-\$10 million per year in just one pulp mill. \$1-2 billion annually for the industry.”** By “snipping out” or moving around a gene here and there, they could manufacture trees explicitly “designed” for “deconstruction.”

They were quite adamant that gene-edited CRISPR GE trees should not be regulated the way that traditional GE trees are since they are not using foreign DNA - **which completely ignores the fact that they are still engineering tree genomes!** We are mobilizing allies to ensure that CRISPR/gene edited GE trees receive even greater regulatory scrutiny since these unproven technologies can pass down to offspring.

Global Justice Media Program

Breaking Green Podcast



Through our media program, we amplify voices of frontline communities and raise awareness of grassroots struggles. The program includes [Breaking Green](#), a podcast that talks with activists and experts about some of the more outrageous proposals to address climate and environmental crises that are falsely being sold as green. We have produced 36 episodes of Breaking Green and added the following 8 episodes in 2024.



Find us at [BreakingGreen.org](#) or wherever you listen to your favorite podcasts.



When "Protecting Nature"
Harms Its True Guardians with
Anuradha Mittal



Fight for Salmon Conservation
and Cultural Survival with Brook
Thompson



The Renewable Diesel Scam with
Gary Hughes



The Battle Against Eucalyptus in
Galicia with Joam Evans Pim



International Petition Filed on
Behalf of COP City Protester Killed
by Police with Anthony Enriquez



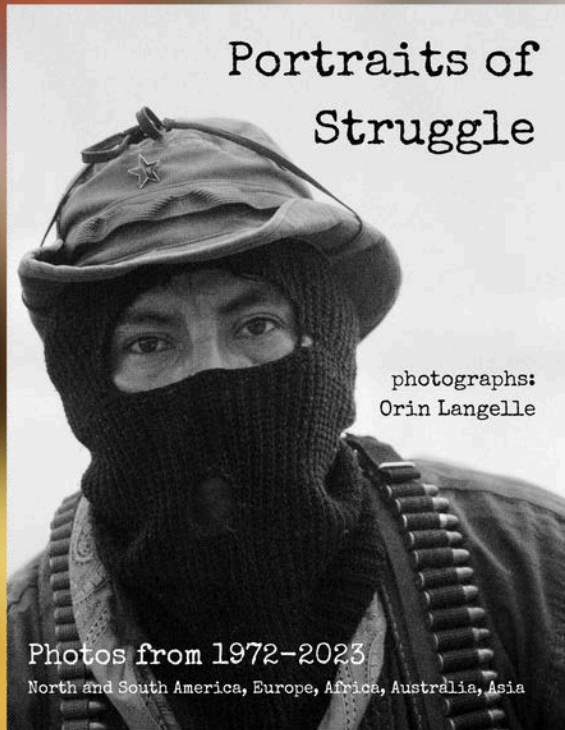
Failure of the GE American
Chestnut with Anne Petermann
and Dr. Donald Davis



The Navajo Nation's Battle with
Uranium Mining's Toxic Legacy
with Justin Ahasteen



Suppression in East Palestine Ohio
With Scott Smith and Lesley Pacey



Portraits of Struggle is a new book by award-winning photojournalist and documentary photographer Orin Langelle, Co-Founder and Lead Strategist for Global Justice Ecology Project.

Portraits Of Struggle highlights Orin Langelle's captivating images from 1972 - 2023 across 6 continents, documenting interconnected global struggles for environmental, social, and economic justice. This work took him to cities and jungles, protests and occupations across the globe.

This year GJEP published both the Spanish and English versions of Portraits of Struggle and Orin was interviewed about the book by Eleanor Goldfield for the **Project Censored show**.

Orin Langelle: *"I approach my role as a concerned photographer by not merely documenting struggle, but by being an active part of the struggle. This has enabled me to garner the trust of many of the subjects I have documented, allowing me access that would not have been possible otherwise. In this way, I have been able to expose the truth that is so often hidden. I believe using my photographs to shine a light on peoples' struggles helps empower those striving for justice because they know they are not alone. My photographs are not merely a chronicling of these struggles, however, but a call out to inspire new generations to participate in the making of a new history."*



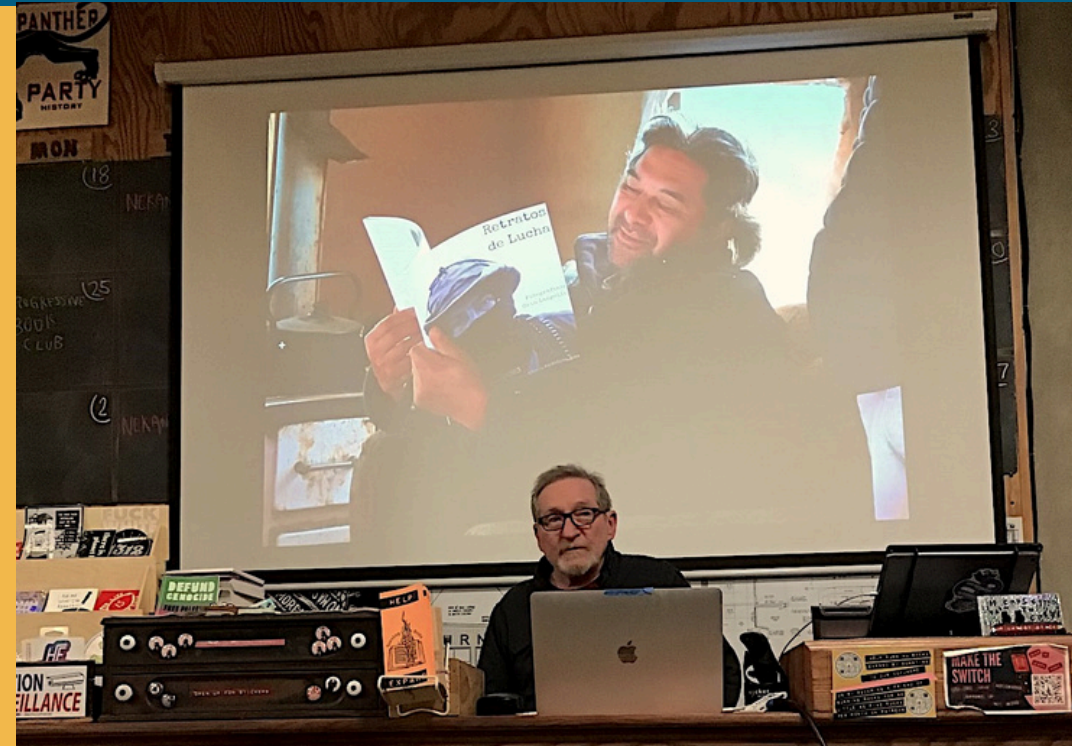
While in Chile GJEP presented the Spanish version of Portraits of Struggle (*Retratos de Lucha*) to every Mapuche community we met with which helped us earn trust and encouraged people to tell us the stories of their own struggles. Photo: Langelle/LangellePhoto.org

Global Justice Media Program

Langelle Photography



GJEP Board member Alejandra Parra sings a song by renowned Chilean folk singer Victor Jara in October during the **South American book launch of Portraits of Struggle in Temuco, Chile**. Photo: Nicolas Salazar/GJEP



Orin Langelle speaks about GJEP's recent documentary trip to Chile during the **North American book launch for Portraits of Struggle** at Burning Books Bookstore in Buffalo, NY. Photo: Leslie James-Pickering



*“Orin Langelle’s unique work documents hidden and forgotten histories of the resistance against the war on the planet and the majority of its population. **His images provide glimpses of possibilities – when ordinary people act collectively to fight imperialism, war and colonialism, and confront ecological devastation, to build a different world.** Langelle’s inspiring photography simultaneously zooms in on the soul of the struggle, and zooms out to take us beyond the image in front of us, willing us to address the root causes at the heart of the matter, rather than offer band-aid solutions.”*

-Aziz Choudry, scholar, activist and Board Member, Global Justice Ecology Project (1966-2021)



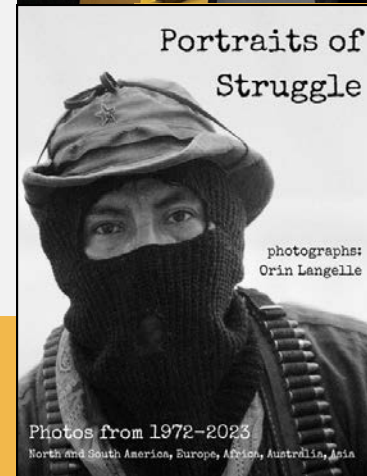
Concerned Photography

Orin Langelle's iconic 1977 photo of Cornell Capa was on display during an event celebrating the 50th anniversary of the founding of the International Center of Photography (ICP) in Manhattan in November.

Capa coined the term "**concerned photography**"—defined as "**socially and politically minded images that can change the world**". Capa was Langelle's mentor when he interned at the ICP in 1977 and Langelle was greatly influenced by the idea of concerned photography.

This photo of Capa taken by Langelle ran in several outlets from the New York Times to Camera 35. It was also used in the new documentary "A photographic memory" by Rachel Seed which documents her mother's life as a photojournalist, and the pivotal role played by ICP Founder Cornell Capa.

Photo: Filmmaker Rachel Seed (right) speaks with Pauline Vermare (left), former cultural director of Magnum Photos NY. Photo: niko



Order your copy today!



Makes a great gift!

Solidarity in Action!

Opposing false solutions



GJEP continues its work with its allies to raise awareness of the false solutions like REDD+, geoengineering, monoculture tree plantations used for bioenergy, carbon trading, green mining and biodiversity offsetting as false solutions to the climate and biodiversity crises. **Some highlights with our allies include:**

- Speaking at the Indigenous Environmental Networks' Protecting Mother Earth Conference as part of a panel with our allies at the Hoodwinked in the Hothouse collaborative.
- Speaking at a press conference at COP16 in Colombia with representatives from FASE (Brazil), WALHI (Indonesia), and the Global Forest Coalition about false solutions and the realities of “peace with nature” (watch the press conference [here](#)).



Speakers from Left to Right Valentina Figuera Martinez, Global Forest Coalition, Heather Lee, Global Justice Ecology Project, Leticia Tura, FASE, Brazil, Uslaini, WALHI, Indonesia, Souparna Lahiri, Global Forest Coalition, India. Photo: Global Forest Coalition

Press Conference Rejects False Solutions

“False solutions to the biodiversity crisis at COP16 can be seen as war with nature, not peace with nature. They’re pushed by business interests so they can keep polluting and go on with business as usual. **False solutions are based on the commodification of nature and the idea that corporations have the right to expand their operations and use even more land and resources. They don’t take into account the worldviews of the guardians of biodiversity, including women, Indigenous Peoples and forest-dependent communities.**”

- Heather Lee, GJEP Assistant Director

Solidarity In Action!

Opposing false solutions

Carbon Offsets from Whales

At the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York in April, GJEP joined Indigenous Environmental Network and the No REDD network to organize the side event **Indigenous Peoples Defend Whales and their Territories against the Blue Economy and Carbon Colonialism.**

At the event GJEP joined Indigenous Peoples in denouncing carbon markets and their human rights violations, as well as International Monetary Fund plans to put whales in the carbon market.

The topic of using animals in the carbon market was also a hot topic at **COP16** in Colombia.



Photo: Tom BK Goldtooth, Executive Director of the Indigenous Environmental Network denounces the commodification of whales for carbon offsets using an IMF graphic advertising whale offsets at COP16 in Colombia at COP16. Photo courtesy: CNTI

Solidarity in Action! Social Justice



January 18, 2024 marked one year since the shooting of Manuel Paez Teran, known as Tortuguita. Tortuguita was the first forest defender to be shot to death by police in the US. They died protecting the Weelaunee Forest in Atlanta, Georgia from a huge police training facility. [Sign onto GJEP's letter demanding justice](#) (endorsed by 400+ people and 62 organizations representing millions globally). Photo: Don Kimball



The UN Convention on Biological Diversity took place in Colombia, the country with the highest reported number of murdered environmental defenders. GJEP helped organize a silent march at COP16 to remind the world about these lost environmental heroes. Photo: Cassandra Production

Palestinian Liberation and Climate Justice
Imagining a Palestine without Occupation

THURSDAY, APRIL 18 2024
12 PM EST/6 PM PALESTINE

	MOAYYAD BSHARAT UNION OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS COMMITTEES
	JIMMY EANSON MUTUAL AID DISASTER RELIEF
	ZAYNEB AL-SHALALFEH PALESTINIAN WOMEN WATER PRACTITIONERS NETWORK
	YUSRA BITAR AGAR REFORM INITIATIVE

Palestine will be free

ART BY LOUISE PUTON-VELAZCO

In April GJEP co-hosted a webinar titled "Imagining a Palestine without Occupation" along with the Hoodwinked Collaborative, Movement Generation, and A Growing Culture. Hundreds of people participated in the event.

Fiscal sponsorship program



GJEP acts as a Fiscal Sponsor for small nonprofits whose work closely aligns with our mission. This helps them minimize bureaucracy so they can focus on their crucial work for ecological and social justice, forest protection and/or human rights. **This year we welcomed 3 additional nonprofits to our Fiscal Sponsorship Program!**

The Itinerant University of Resistance (UNIR) in Haiti is a space to strengthen the work of community social organizations that fight for the defense of life and territory. UNIR promotes spaces for meetings, reflection, and action to strengthen collaboration among Haitian organizations and those from the rest of Abya Yala, thereby creating strategies and alternatives – structural and local, political and economic – towards the protection of lands, communities, agriculture, and nature.



Otros Mundos AC is a legally constituted Mexican non-profit civil association, made up of an interdisciplinary collective, that works for the defense of the Territory against extractive megaprojects, based in San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico. It does not pursue nor is it linked to political, business, partisan or religious interests and aims to contribute to the search for alternatives to the social, economic, political and environmental crisis that we are experiencing in the current system of capitalist domination.



Gainesville-Area Action for Environmental Justice is focused on development, environmental racism and climate justice in and around Gainesville, Florida.



Solidarity in Action!

Fiscal sponsorship program

Organizations in our Fiscal Sponsorship Program also include:



Biofuelwatch provides information, advocacy and campaigning in relation to the climate, environmental, human rights and public health impacts of large-scale industrial bioenergy. Biofuelwatch is a founding steering committee member of the International Campaign to Stop GE Trees.



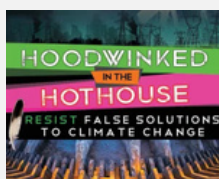
The Canadian Biotechnology Action Network's mission is to promote food sovereignty and democratic decision-making on science and technology issues in order to protect the integrity of the environment, health, food, and the livelihoods of people in Canada and around the world by facilitating, informing and organizing civil society action, researching, and providing information to government for policy development.



The Center for Grassroots Organizing is a project for helping organize mass social movements. This means space where people from different fields can spend time together, share resources, get creative, and build collaborative strategies.



Honduras Now connects human rights stories in Honduras to global issues and North American policy. They also examine human rights issues and provide on-the-ground analysis & educational resources for your social justice work.



Hoodwinked in the Hothouse is an easy-to-read, concise-yet-comprehensive compendium of the false corporate promises that continue to hoodwink elected officials and the public, leading us down risky pathways poised to waste billions of public dollars on a host of corporate snake-oil schemes and market-based mechanisms.

Solidarity in Action!

Fiscal sponsorship program

Organizations in our Fiscal Sponsorship Program also include:



Plymouth Area Network To Help End Racism (NH PANTHER)'s mission is to help end racism and systemic bias through community engagement, direct mutual aid, education and curriculum reform, and youth empowerment. NH PANTHER is a collective of youth, professionals, educators, mentors, and friends standing up for the rights of all the disparaged and marginalized in our communities.



REDD-Monitor explores the contradictions and controversy behind the harebrained scheme to allow continued greenhouse gas emissions from burning fossil fuels by offsetting these emissions against "avoided deforestation" in the Global South.



Save the Pine Barrens/Community Land and Water Coalition is a Massachusetts non-profit corporation whose membership is open to the public. They fight to protect ecosystems, communities, and the climate from improperly sited and destructive solar, battery storage, and strip-mining projects.



Shawnee Forest Defense works to protect the integrity of the Shawnee Forest and transfer the Shawnee National Forest in Southern Illinois, out of the Department of Agriculture and into the Department of Interior to create the new Shawnee National Park and Climate Preserve.



Standing Trees Vermont works to protect, preserve and restore forests on Vermont's federal and state public lands. Standing Trees Vermont envisions a future where forests on Vermont's federal and state public lands are allowed to grow free from active management and logging.

"GJEP has been an essential treasured ally for Biofuelwatch! We could not manage without their fiscal sponsorship which has enabled us to receive and manage grants internationally with solid reliable accounting. The service they provide, for minimal fees, allows us to focus more on our organizational mission." - Rachel Smolker, BiofuelWatch





ROUTLEDGE CRITICAL
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES



Contesting Colonial Capitalism in the Americas, Africa, and Asia

Edited by Dip Kapoor



GJEP's Executive Director Anne Petermann has a chapter in the new book, **Contesting Colonial Capitalism in the Americas, Africa, and Asia**, which was written as a tribute to Aziz Choudry, an internationally respected academic and activist who also was a founding Board member of GJEP who passed away unexpectedly in 2021.

GJEP co-founder Orin Langelle's photo is the cover of the book, and he has several photos in Anne's chapter, **An Activist Archive of Photojournalism: The Global Justice Ecology Project and Indigenous, Ecological and Anti-capitalist Advocacy in the Americas**.

"A remarkable tribute to Aziz Choudry, this is a collection of brilliant and insightful essays by activist-intellectuals on key communities that Aziz dedicated his life to - migrants, peasants and indigenous peoples." - Biju Mathews, Rider University, USA

¡Aziz Choudry Presente!

Our Team



Anne Petermann, Executive Director and co-founder

GJEP Executive Director Anne Petermann (second from left) speaks to the media during a press conference outside of a prison in Temuco, Chile. Photo: Langelle/LangellePhoto.org



Heather Lee, Assistant Director

Heather Lee speaks at the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, Colombia Photo: Cassandra Production



Orin Langelle, Co-founder and Steve Taylor, Communications Director

Steve Taylor (left) and Orin Langelle (right) in the Mapuche community Kilape Lopez in Chile. Photo: Petermann/GJEP



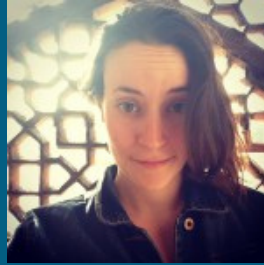
Iris Rodriguez, Web & Design

Iris Rodriguez volunteering at the Sierra de Manantlán Biosphere Reserve in Colima, Mexico.

Our Board



Nnimmo Bassey
Benin City, Nigeria
Director, Health of Mother Earth
Foundation / Steering Committee,
Oilwatch International



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Derechos Ambientales / Latin
American Team, Global Alliance for
Incineration Alternatives



Karen Pickett
Canyon, California
Media Consultant, Bay Area Coalition
for Headwaters Earth First!

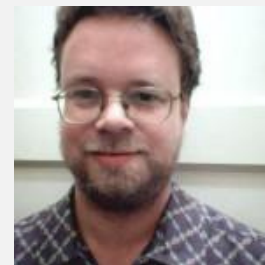
In memoriam



Dr. Aziz Choudry



Dr. Will Miller



Soren Ambrose



Donate today!

2025 is going to be a big year for GJEP! Some of the projects we will focus on include:

Amplifying voices of Indigenous Peoples and front line communities

- **Publish videos, photos and articles about Mapuche peoples' struggles** in Wallmapu (Chile) against the timber industry
- **Produce monthly Breaking Green Podcasts** featuring front line communities
- **Build and strengthen connections between communities in the US and internationally facing similar struggles**

Protecting the Wildness of Forests by preventing the release of the GE American chestnut tree

- **Confront the plans of tech start-up American Castanea to clone and plant millions of GE chestnuts** that would forever disrupt the wildness of our forests
- **Raise the pressure on SUNY ESF** to withdraw their petition for unregulated release of GE American chestnuts
- **Ensure certifying bodies like the Forest Stewardship Council continue to ban all GE Trees**
- **Highlight success stories** like the creation and distribution of blight resistant wild American Chestnuts.

Defending the rights of Indigenous and traditional communities by stopping GE Trees in Brazil

- **Rally a major international effort, led by Indigenous Peoples and local communities, that will slam the lid on Suzano's dreams of GE eucalyptus plantations in Brazil**
- **Stop the development of GE pine trees in Chile**
- **Unite the international effort to STOP GE Trees at the annual UN Climate Summit in Brazil in 2025.**

Will you join us in making all of this critical work a reality? Donations before the end of the year will be matched up to \$10,000! Your impact will be doubled! Donate today!