

**Survival**



**The global movement  
for tribal peoples' rights**

**Survival International Annual Report 2015**

**You can carry our  
voices to the outside -  
we cannot do that  
without your help**

**Dongria Kondh** India

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **OBJECTS AND PURPOSES**

Survival International is the global movement for tribal peoples' rights. We help tribal peoples defend their lives, protect their lands and determine their own futures. Our principal objects and purposes are:

- to promote good race relations for the public benefit between indigenous and non-indigenous peoples by endeavouring to eliminate discrimination on the grounds of race, nationality, or ethnic or national origins.
- to relieve poverty malnutrition and ill health among indigenous peoples.
- to promote for the public benefit the human rights of indigenous peoples (as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent United Nations conventions and declarations including ILO Conventions 107 and 169).
- to promote education and research into the history, institutions and ways of life of indigenous peoples and to publish and disseminate the results of that research.
- to promote and support such other charitable purposes for public benefit pertaining to indigenous peoples as the directors shall think fit.

### **ACTIVITIES**

In order to achieve these objectives, Survival:

- works in partnership with tribal peoples, offering them a platform to address the world;
- carries out research into tribal areas, particularly where the survival of tribal peoples is threatened or where violations of their human rights are taking place;
- uses this information to educate the public about tribal cultures, and to publicize the problems which tribal peoples face;
- makes representations to governments, companies and other institutions and individuals whose activities may affect tribal peoples, and seeks to influence them into acting in tribal peoples' interests;
- seeks to eliminate all discrimination and prejudice against tribal peoples, and promotes legislation which protects their rights;
- supports the activities of representative indigenous organizations and other organizations with similar aims;
- supports appropriate projects in tribal communities.

### **PUBLIC BENEFIT**

The Trustees of Survival International confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission guidelines on public benefit and the need to provide an explanation of the achievements during the year under review.

All our activities focused on defending the lives and protecting the lands of tribal peoples benefit both specific peoples and the public in general. Tribal peoples number more than 150 million individuals worldwide and add hugely to the diversity of humankind. We also believe that campaigning to put tribal peoples – the best guardians of the natural world – at the forefront of the environmental movement benefits all humanity.

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

### KEY CAMPAIGNS

#### Uncontacted tribes

*Uncontacted tribes are the most vulnerable peoples on the planet. We know very little about them. But we do know there are more than a hundred around the world. And we know whole populations are being wiped out by violence from outsiders who steal their land and resources, and by diseases like flu and measles to which they have no resistance.*

*All uncontacted tribal peoples face catastrophe unless their land is protected. Survival International is doing everything we can to secure it for them, and to give them the chance to determine their own futures.*

#### Uncontacted rights

Claims by U.S. anthropologists in Science magazine that South American governments had a duty to contact uncontacted tribes threatened to turn back the clock on indigenous rights by decades. It was vital to counteract this dangerous rhetoric. Survival's press release and editorial generated good media coverage and sparked a debate about the need to respect the tribes' right to remain uncontacted by upholding their land rights.

#### Awá, Brazil

We continued to build on the success of our campaign to have the land of Brazil's Awá tribe protected via direct lobbying and using the media and our supporters to put pressure on Brazil. Recently-contacted Awá Indians were succumbing to deadly respiratory diseases but, following a field trip by Survival and subsequent campaigning, Brazil sent health teams to intervene. After illegal loggers deliberately started fires on Awá land, Survival asked our supporters to email the President and the head of the forest fire-fighting center to demand swift action be taken before more of the tribe's forest was engulfed in flames. After thousands of emails were sent, the fires were extinguished. We also publicized an initiative by the Guajajara tribe to protect the land of their uncontacted Awá neighbors from illegal loggers, and continued to supply crucial information to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights for its ongoing investigation into this case.

#### Kawahiva, Brazil

In 2014 we launched the public side of our campaign to save the Kawahiva from extinction. This was the culmination of many months of research and investigation into this uncontacted tribe, whose land is being steadily overrun by illegal loggers and settlers. We obtained the only known footage of the tribe, and created a video which was narrated by Survival ambassador and award-winning actor Mark Rylance. Thousands of Survival supporters were motivated to email the Minister of Justice demanding that he take action to protect the tribe's land. A logging gang operating illegally near the tribe was arrested, and our campaign received significant coverage in the Brazilian and international press. Reports emerged that it had begun to have an impact on local politicians.

#### Hi Merimã, Brazil

Brazilian state oil company Petrobras halted oil and gas exploration near uncontacted Indians. Survival campaigned against Petrobras's operations, lobbied the company to halt activities, and publicized the issue on our website and social media.

#### Ayoreo, Paraguay

Our campaign to save the last refuge of Paraguay's Ayoreo tribe and their uncontacted relatives focused on pushing the Spanish company Grupo San José to ensure its subsidiary (Carlos Casado SA) would return Ayoreo land, and on stopping Brazilian company Yaguarete from further deforesting the Chaco. Activities included lobbying shareholders, demonstrating at Grupo San José's AGM, mobilizing supporters to send thousands of emails to Paraguay's Attorney General and Yaguarete, and working on a submission to the UN for its Universal Periodic Review.

### Mashco-Piro, Peru

An increase in sightings of Mashco-Piro on the fringes of the Manu National Park suggested that contact between the tribe and settled society was imminent. After persistent and sustained campaigning from Survival, the Peruvian government adopted our recommendations for instances of tribal peoples initiating contact. The Ministry of Culture passed a Ministerial Decree that strengthened laws prohibiting the forced contact of uncontacted tribes and outlined procedures in cases of accidental contact or contact initiated by the tribe itself. It also installed a permanent guard post in two tribal villages to help prevent any unwanted contact, carried out educational awareness-raising activities with local indigenous peoples about the dangers of contact, and set up a permanent health team in the area in case contact with the Mashco-Piro results in the spread of disease.

### **Tribal conservationists**

*Tribal peoples have been dependent on and managed their environments for millennia. Evidence proves that tribal peoples are better at looking after their environment than anyone else. They are the best conservationists and guardians of the natural world. They should be at the forefront of the environmental movement.*

*But tribal peoples are being illegally evicted from their ancestral homelands in the name of conservation. Now tribal people are accused of “poaching” because they hunt to feed their families. And they face arrest and beatings, torture and death, while big game trophy hunters are encouraged. But targeting tribal hunters diverts action away from tackling the true poachers – criminals conspiring with corrupt officials. Targeting tribal hunters harms conservation.*

*Survival International is fighting these abuses, for tribes, for nature, for all humanity.*

### Baka, Cameroon

We focused on the case of the hunter-gathering Baka, an example of a worldwide trend towards criminalizing tribal hunters. The Baka’s lands have been stolen for national parks and sports-hunting concessions and the Baka are largely banned from entering. Anti-poaching squads funded by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) routinely harass Baka communities, threaten them, beat them up, and destroy their forest camps. Survival carried out research into abuse, created a series of short films, and briefed journalists on the issue. Our legal team prepared a complaint about WWF to be submitted with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, which is the first time such a complaint will be submitted about a conservation organization.

### Hunters not poachers

Policies and initiatives driven by western conservation organizations and national governments to tackle poaching are at the heart of the horrific abuse meted out to tribal hunters. As well as the work we carried out to tackle specific cases of abuse, it was vital to challenge the issue at the policy level. United For Wildlife (UFW) is a global campaign against poaching created by the Royal Foundation of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry – a coalition of some of the most powerful conservation organizations. As one of the most prominent voices on the global stage in reference to poaching, we lobbied the Royal Foundation and UFW’s constituent organizations in order that they distinguish between tribal people hunting for subsistence and illegal poaching. We also lobbied attendees of a major international conference on the illegal wildlife trade held in Kasane, Botswana, and ensured questions were asked in the UK and European Parliaments about this issue. Our CEO and other Survival staff wrote a series of editorials on the subject.

### Exposing the crimes of green militarism

Research and investigations carried out in 2015 demonstrated that the increasing militarization of conservation is particularly detrimental to tribal peoples. Big conservation organizations have found great support (and have accessed huge funding) for militarizing anti-poaching, in part due to spurious links made between terrorist organizations and poachers. Survival investigated allegations of the link between ivory and terrorism in East Africa, meeting widely with researchers in this field. We publicized our findings alongside other experts, all of whom conclude that evidence for Al Shabaab’s participation in the illegal ivory trade is extremely limited. We lobbied those responsible for

promulgating this myth, and drew media attention to the falsehoods via press releases, social media and opinion pieces. In the wake of our publicity, we noticed more cases in which claims relating to the link between terrorism and poaching were being questioned by public commentators.

#### Tiger reserves, India

We expanded our work in 2015 by working in partnership with tribal communities from Similipal, Achanakmar and Kanha tiger reserves to broadcast their resistance to eviction. We focused on challenging two myths that are often the justification for evictions. 1) The myth of human/wildlife conflict, which says that tribal villages and “flagship” species cannot live together. (In fact, tribal peoples have coexisted with the tiger for centuries, and in the first tiger reserve where a tribe had successfully fought for their land rights to be recognized, tiger numbers have dramatically increased in recent years.) 2) The myth that forced evictions are in fact “voluntary relocations.” (In fact, the Forest Department harasses communities so severely that they finally succumb to the threat of violence and “agree” to move.) Our campaigning against evictions from tiger reserves is helping to set the agenda in conservation circles. There has been a discernible increase in the discussion on this issue in India this year in the press, which we believe is as a result of our work. The Minister for Tribal Affairs was quoted as being opposed to forced evictions from tiger reserves – the first such unequivocal statement that Survival has seen and a clear indication that the issue is increasing in importance in Indian activist forums.

## **OTHER CASES**

### **Jummas, Bangladesh**

In March, following lobbying by Survival and local organizations, Bangladesh announced that it had relaxed restrictions on foreigners meeting with Jumma tribespeople in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

### **Omo Valley tribes, Ethiopia**

By filing multiple freedom of information requests, Survival obtained reports from donor missions to Ethiopia's Lower Omo Valley that the UK Department for International Development (DFID) had sought to suppress. The reports confirmed the forced eviction of tribal peoples. In February 2015, DFID withdrew from the Protection of Basic Services aid program which Survival and others had revealed to be funding forced resettlement. In 2015 the US Omnibus Appropriations Bill explicitly stipulated that US development funds to Ethiopia could not be used to support activities that directly or indirectly involve forced evictions in Lower Omo. This came after extensive lobbying by Survival and other NGOs.

### **Guarani, Brazil**

Survival continued to support Guarani communities across southern Brazil, calling for their territories to be recognized, their land to be returned to them, and eviction orders against them to be overturned in the courts. We drew media attention to the extreme and systemic violence to which they are subjected, highlighting assassinations of leaders and attacks by gunmen. Following local and international pressure, judges overturned or suspended several eviction orders of Guarani communities.

### **PEC 215, Brazil**

We worked hard in 2015 to give a voice to Brazilian Indians protesting against a proposed amendment to the constitution, known as PEC 215, which would drastically weaken their land rights. By publicizing indigenous demonstrations and asking supporters to email the presidents of Brazil's Senate and Chamber of Deputies, as well as promoting the issue on social media and our website, we contributed towards the tide of protest that has helped stall approval of the proposal.

### **Penan, Malaysia**

Survival publicized the Malaysian Chief Minister's announcement that the controversial Baram Dam would be shelved. The dam would have displaced 20,000 tribal people, including the Penan. Survival had helped bring press attention to the dam and campaigned against any projects taking place on the tribe's land without their consent.

## **West Papuan tribes, West Papua**

We continued to stand alongside local and international organizations in lobbying Indonesia for the release of Papuan tribespeople held as political prisoners and for West Papua to be opened to foreign journalists. A number of prisoners were given clemency and prominent activist Filip Karma was released. In April, Survival and TAPOL (the British-based organization campaigning for human rights, peace and democracy in Indonesia) organized a joint demonstration outside the Indonesian Embassy in London to demand free and open access to West Papua. In May, the President officially announced he would open Papua to foreign journalists – an unprecedented move for the Indonesian government.

## **MEDIA**

Survival's press department works in six languages and promoted our message throughout the globe across all forms of media. In 2015 we dramatically increased our impact on social media, seeing our Facebook followers increase from 145,000 to 200,000, which represents growth of around 40%. One of our videos went viral on social media towards the end of the year, receiving some 30 million views. Our presence in traditional print media and online newspapers was consistently strong. Our campaigns were covered repeatedly in indigenous peoples' own media, such as Native News Online. Survival's long-standing policy of targeting Botswana's media continued to pay dividends: All the country's main media outlets, such as Mmegi and the Sunday Standard, reported the continuing persecution of the Kalahari Bushmen. Many other African news sources, such as Channel Africa Radio, Arise TV and Africa Geographic, covered our work. Our Kawahiva campaign was broadcast on national television in the United Kingdom and the U.S., and was covered by Globo, Brazil's biggest media outlet. The Guardian, BBC World Service, The Telegraph, The Washington Post, The Daily Mail, Al Jazeera, CNN, Channel Four, The Economist, Truthout, The Daily Beast, Mother Jones, The Ecologist, SABC, The Hindu, and Voice of America are just some of the outlets that interviewed our staff or covered the work of our London and San Francisco offices. Besides English-language press, our overseas offices secured a great deal of coverage in outlets as diverse as EFE, El Mundo, Courier International, Die Welt, Corriere della Sera and La Repubblica.

## **SUPPORTERS**

Survival is a global movement which draws its campaigning strength from our many thousands of supporters. We depend on them. From donating to our appeals, running fundraising campaigns, and buying from our catalogue to sending lobbying emails, spreading the word on social media and attending protests, their money, energy and enthusiasm is what enables us to fight one of the most urgent and horrific humanitarian crises of our time.

### **Eight challenges for eighty years**

Survival's President, Robin Hanbury-Tenison helped found Survival in 1969, and has spent the last 46 years doing everything he can to grow the movement for tribal peoples' rights. In 2015, in honor of his 80th year, Robin pulled out all the stops, completing eight daring challenges to raise funds for Survival's urgent work. From running the London Marathon, to sky-diving, via climbing to the summits of Britain's four highest peaks, Robin's efforts resulted in almost £80,000 of donations to Survival and inspired Survival supporters to take action themselves for tribal peoples.

### **Middle Temple Hall event**

In January, a reading of a new "black comedy" by actors Mark Rylance, Stephen Fry, Ben Miller, John Sessions, Neil Stuke, Ben Miles and Dominic West was held at London's Middle Temple Hall in aid of Survival. Survival supporter Bruce McKay's script focused on the life of Bartolomé de las Casas, a sixteenth century Spanish bishop known as "Protector of Indigenous Peoples" who fought church and state to stop atrocities in the New World. The exclusive event offered an excellent opportunity to spread our message to a new audience, and raised vital funds for our work.

A more detailed account of the work undertaken worldwide by Survival International can be found at [www.survivalinternational.org](http://www.survivalinternational.org).

## FINANCES

Survival rejects government funding. We won't compromise our independence or our integrity. We're proud of all we achieve on such a limited budget.

### Trustees' Statement

This summary financial information is extracted from the full unqualified audited group accounts approved by the Trustees on 10 May 2016 and subsequently submitted to the Charity Commission and to Companies House. They may not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. For further information regarding the full accounts, the Auditors' Report on those accounts and the Trustees' Annual Report should be consulted; copies of these can be obtained from 6 Charterhouse Buildings, London, EC1M 7ET.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees. M. Davis, Treasurer, 10 May 2016.

## SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR 2015

	2015 £	2014 £
<strong>INCOMING RESOURCES</strong>		
Donations & Fundraising	1,416,294	892,071
Legacies	157,018	101,942
Investments & Other Income	51,623	52,369
	<strong>1,624,935</strong>	<strong>1,046,382</strong>
<strong>RESOURCES EXPENDED</strong>		
Project, Publication and Education	883,479	922,125
Fundraising and Publicity	123,073	87,060
Governance	18,530	15,369
	<strong>1,025,082</strong>	<strong>1,024,554</strong>
Net Incoming Resources	599,853	21,828
Investments & Exchange	-28,144	172,947
<strong>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</strong>	<strong>571,709</strong>	<strong>194,775</strong>

## ASSETS & LIABILITIES AT 31 DEC 2015

	2015 £	2014 £
<strong>ASSETS</strong>		
Tangible Fixed Assets	791,505	806,628
Investments	2,295,459	1,974,677
Current Assets	1,192,144	952,587
	<strong>4,279,108</strong>	<strong>3,733,892</strong>
<strong>LIABILITIES</strong>		
Amounts falling due within one year	130,370	156,863