


HELLO

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2013 ANNUAL REVIEW

THANK YOU



Steve Preston,
Chair, War on Want

For six decades now, War on Want has stood tall in the fight for a better world. It's my privilege and pleasure to take this opportunity to thank all of War on Want's supporters for standing with us. Without this support we could not deliver such astounding impact on people's lives, and positive change for the future.

This year over 40 organisations and individuals supported our work with donations of £1,000 or more, for which we are deeply grateful. But in addition, without the regular gifts from our thousands of dedicated members, we wouldn't be here. We can't say thank you enough.

This review will give you an indication of the impact that our supporters have helped us to deliver: from 'A' – winning an Adjudicator for the Groceries Code policing the buying practices of the UK's biggest supermarkets – to 'Z', giving workers in Zambia a voice through our partner the Alliance for Zambian Informal Economy Associations **▶ AZIEA**.

War on Want is proud to be part of the global labour movement and worker's rights are at the heart of our work. We work in tandem with allies such as the TUC, Labour Behind the Label and the International Clean Clothes Campaign. With the financial support of Battersea and Wandsworth Trades Union Council and the Glastonbury Festival our campaigning engaged thousands of people to take action in support of workers in Bangladesh and other countries – with amazing results.

War on Want stays loyal to the issues we care about, regardless of their popularity. Our support for the Palestinian call for a campaign of Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) against

Israel until it complies with international law makes us a unique voice among British charities. At the end of 2012 the population of Gaza was subjected to yet another **▶ BOMBING** assault from Israel in an eight-day onslaught that left over 150 Palestinians dead. Thousands of our supporters wrote to their MPs and to the Foreign Secretary calling on the government to Stop Arming Israel with UK weapons. The government was overwhelmed with messages (they even asked us to stop emailing them). We will continue to stand in solidarity with the people of Palestine against every threat – whether it be the bulldozing of family homes to make way for illegal Israeli settlements, or the indiscriminate threat posed to Palestinian communities by Israel's killer drones.

War on Want is not an aid agency, and we do not fly in 'solutions' or impose top-down programmes on our partners around the world. We believe poverty and injustice are the result of political choices, and that political action is needed to bring about change. Our approach means we have relationships of mutual respect with our partners, allies and friends. Together we are part of a global movement for justice, building a better world.

Please do read on, and if you've supported these courageous struggles and achievements I'd like to offer a heartfelt thank you.

Yours in solidarity

Steve Preston, Chair, War on Want



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STRATEGIC

Our strategic approach to fighting the root causes of poverty

Through our partnerships with social movements around the world, we fight against the power structures which subject people to poverty, oppression and injustice.

Our approach is to work in solidarity, campaign for justice and build the movement through outreach and activism.

Our **STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK** defines six strategic goals for the period 2010-2015:

1. Realisation of human rights, especially workers' rights
2. Economic and social justice
3. An end to the business of war
4. Building the movement for global justice
5. Maximising War on Want's influence
6. Strengthening War on Want internally

As planned, we embarked on an internal review of these goals and our progress towards them at our strategy's half term point, drawing out lessons from the first two years of the strategy's implementation and strengthening our programme delivery for the remaining period. In the coming year we will be looking ahead to a new strategic framework and a new set of goals and objectives for the period from 2015, based on a wide engagement with stakeholders and allies in the fight for global justice.

**We work in solidarity,
campaign for justice
and build the movement
through outreach and activism.**

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Realisation of human rights,
especially workers' rights

CHAMPIONING



Realisation of human rights, especially workers' rights

Boosting the standard of living for Zambian agricultural workers: War on Want's partner, the National Union of Plantation, Agricultural and Allied Workers (NUPAAW), has secured a **LIFE CHANGING WAGE INCREASE** for agricultural workers.

After a six month battle, with staunch resistance from the Zambia Farm Employers Association, NUPAAW finally managed to secure wage increases ranging from 20% to 66%. This makes a tremendous, long-term difference to the lives of not just the 23,000 members of NUPAAW itself, but countless other workers and their families.

Championing the rights of ethnic minorities in Brazil: 'Aboriginal people' are now recognised under Brazilian law as a result of a ground-breaking bill put forward by our partners **MIQCB** (the collective of babaçu women nut breakers), giving momentous new rights and protection for the livelihoods of 300,000 women living in the Amazon rainforest.

A step change for Malawian tea growers: War on Want's partner the Malawi Union for the Informal Sector (MUFIS) has 6,500 members and 52 branches across Malawi. MUFIS plays a

vital role in representing the interests of the vast majority of Malawians, and this year has achieved the transformative right for informal tea growers to be able to negotiate prices at tea auctions. As a result, the price of tea has increased by almost 50% a – a huge step forward in giving growers a decent return for their **LABOUR**

An ombudsman for WORKERS' RIGHTS: As the result of a long campaign by War on Want and other allies, we finally saw ground-breaking legislation pass through parliament to establish a Groceries Code Adjudicator to police relations between all major British supermarkets and their suppliers, including suppliers from around the world. As a result of our further campaigning throughout the year, the Adjudicator was granted the power to impose fines on those supermarkets found to have abused their relationship with suppliers. This is a major victory for our campaign for corporate accountability and workers' rights, made possible by the committed support of War on Want members and activists over many years.

IMPACT: Wages increased; women's livelihoods protected; decent return for labour; Adjudicator established.



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Economic and social justice



JUSTICE

Economic and social justice



Building a global food sovereignty **MOVEMENT** :

War on Want is proud to be a driving force behind the food sovereignty movement in the UK, promoting the concept of food sovereignty as a counterweight to a failed food system that has condemned hundreds of millions of people to hunger and poverty. Based on our comprehensive report: **FOOD SOVEREIGNTY** *Reclaiming the global food system*, we continued to build the movement through events such as the Global Student Forum, where over 1,000 students aged 16 to 19 could explore how to work towards a world where no one goes hungry, and the Transforming our Food System event, when over 100 food producers, smallholders, rural food workers and campaigners identified key actions to change the industrial food system for good.

Challenging the UK aid programme: We published a **GROUND BREAKING** report into the abuse of the aid budget by the Department for International Development (DFID) in its support for multinational agribusiness companies seeking to penetrate the agricultural markets of Africa. Based on pioneering research in Malawi and detailed analysis of DFID's funding of projects designed to extend the reach of corporate agriculture across the continent, The Hunger Games also exposed how a significant proportion of DFID's support for private sector investment funds in Africa is routed through the tax haven of Mauritius. The report was successful in generating a new debate over the UK government's use and abuse of the aid budget, which has continued well into 2013.

Transforming the tax system: For many years War on Want has championed progressive changes in the tax system, in light of the vital role tax has to play in funding public services, tackling poverty and reducing inequality. In reality, as recent media

stories have revealed, companies dodge billions of pounds in tax every year, leaving the rest of us to **PAY THE PRICE**

War on Want initiated the campaign for a Tobin Tax (now the **ROBIN HOOD TAX**) back in 2001 – a tax on financial transactions which is finally coming into force in 11 EU countries. We launched our latest campaign for tax justice in January 2013, working with PCS and other trade unions around Europe in an EU-funded project to build a new movement for tax justice worldwide.

Challenging austerity and injustice: In March 2013 we held an inspirational conference for members, activists and supporters entitled 'Austerity is working... for the 1%', which sought to join up the struggles for economic and social justice in Europe with those in the wider world. The event was run in conjunction with PCS and other campaigns groups such as the World Development Movement, Jubilee Debt Campaign, People & Planet and the Trade Justice Movement, and featured guest speakers from around the world. Together with these and other allies in the global justice movement, we will continue to fight the structures that condemn people to poverty.



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An end to the business of war



RESISTING



An end to the business of war

Exposing the companies that profit from war and insecurity:

War is one of the chief causes of poverty. It can completely undermine a country's development prospects, destroying schools and hospitals and putting agricultural land out of use for decades. We called on the government to control the deadly private warfare industry. Our campaign for accountability has been supported by MPs and the UN Working Group on Mercenaries. We have put the industry and government under pressure with exposés of human rights abuses in the media, and threatened a legal enquiry if government refused to take action.

EXPOSING G4S: At the beginning of 2013, we put multinational security firm G4S in the spotlight by getting thousands to vote for it as the 'world's worst company' in the international Public Eye awards. G4S not only notoriously failed to fulfil its Olympics contract, but it also provides equipment and services to Israeli prisons where Palestinian political prisoners, including children, are illegally detained and tortured. They are the world's largest security corporation, and we will continue to hold them to account in the face of hundreds of accusations of human rights abuses around the world.

Resisting resource conflict: Conflict also blights the lives of communities based in areas of natural resource wealth. We have recruited a new member of staff to work directly on the terrible impact corporate greed can have on local communities. Our new Senior Programmes Officer is reigniting our partnerships in **COLOMBIA**, and joining up with communities resisting mining operations in the Philippines and in Africa, creating a truly global movement from a London hub, where many of the extractive companies base their HQs.

Hard hitting reports underpin much of our activity, grounding our actions in evidenced research. We produced the following reports and briefings:

Race to the Bottom: Olympics sportswear companies' exploitation of Bangladeshi workers

Restricted Rights: Migrant women workers in Thailand, Cambodia and Malaysia

The Hunger Games: How DFID support for agribusiness is fuelling poverty in Africa

Stop the Bulldozers: JCB's complicity in Israel's crimes against the Palestinian people

Avoiding Avoidance: Why the government's proposed 'anti-abuse' rule will fail to tackle tax avoidance

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IMPACT: Exposing companies; supporting communities resisting conflict



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Building the movement for global justice



OUTREACH

Building the movement for global justice, maximising our influence and strengthening War on Want

Affiliates, Friends, Allies.

All major British trade unions are affiliated to War on Want, and we value our relations with them immensely as we work together for long-term change. We are active in our support for trade unionist actions in support of social and economic justice, such as the **▶ MASS MARCH** against the austerity programme, and at pickets mounted by trade unions in response to government slashing of pensions and public sector jobs. Our new campaign for tax justice, mentioned above, will enable us to build support among public service trade unions for new models of public benefit funded democratically through **▶ TAX REVENUES**

Our outreach work has engaged many communities, from connecting with young people at festivals, to our **▶ 'ECONOWHAT?'** reading groups that give people a greater understanding of the economic system and current issues, on- and offline. Our **▶ TEACHING PACK** on workers' rights and the Olympics was a huge hit, being downloaded over 1,400 times from the Times Educational Supplement website in addition to the hard copy packs which we mailed out to schools ourselves. War on Want also has a growing membership of over 5,000 individuals, 2,500 cash donors and many other supporters, including over 55,000 people who hear from us via email, 12,000 twitter followers and 8,000 Facebook fans.

“War on Want delivers short, vibrant presentations on global issues. They know how to engage inner-city school children, make complex issues easy and empower children to be active citizens.”

Vicky Gainey, Head of Citizenship, George Green School, Tower Hamlets, London

Working together with other organisations widens our impact and means we can realistically achieve our goals. During the past year, we have continued to work closely with a number of networks, including: the BDS (Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions) Movement, Clean Clothes Campaign, Control PMSCs, Economic Justice Movement Building Project, Food Sovereignty Movement, Global Alliance on Tax Justice, GM Freeze, La Via Campesina, London Mining Network, Playfair 2012, Stamp Out Poverty, Tax Justice Network, Tesco Poly Alliance, Progressive Development Forum, Trade Justice Movement, UK Food Group and others.

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IMPACT: Working with unions; growing membership; collaborating for change

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Women traders in Zambia





EMPOWERING



Women traders in Zambia: a story of War on Want's impact on Rosemary

War on Want supports women around the world in achieving their potential and fighting for their rights – women like Rosemary in Zambia, who now faces a better future. In Zambia we work with the Alliance for Zambia Informal Economy Associations (AZIEA), formed to promote the rights of **INFORMAL WORKERS**. As a result of the massive job losses suffered over the past 30 years, millions of Zambians now struggle to survive through small-scale trading and other ways of striving for a living from activities outside the formal work sector. AZIEA provides educational training for thousands of informal workers and their communities, strengthening vital skills in leadership, negotiation, business, literacy and numeracy.

58 year old Rosemary Mwelwa was a full-time housewife until she separated from her husband eight years ago. At the age of 50, with no skills, she had to find a way to support herself and her sister's two children, whom she cares for, and at first she began to sell tomatoes. Unfortunately, tomato selling isn't very profitable, and she found it increasingly hard to pay the bills.

Rosemary's nine children are now nearly all grown up, and with their help she scraped together enough money to buy some shoes to sell. However, although shoes are more profitable than tomatoes, on days when sales don't go well she found it difficult to pay the market levies, and her stock could be confiscated.

Rosemary has taken part in many AZIEA activities, including women's outreach, income generation courses, public meetings and International Women's Day celebrations. The training provided by AZIEA has meant that Rosemary is now better able to manage her business. Prior to the training she did not understand capital and book keeping. Now she is able to keep records and manage her capital and stock effectively, giving her a more secure living. After the women's outreach she also helped found Women in Need – a group of women that provide soft loans and merry-go-rounds to increase their capital, and which has provided a real safety net for women, like Rosemary, struggling to make a living and provide for their families.

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IMPACT: Empowering women; training in securing rights; protecting livelihoods



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Winning a Groceries Code Adjudicator





WINNING



Winning a Groceries Code Adjudicator

After War on Want and other campaigners **EXPOSED** the way supermarkets were using their power to bully their Suppliers, the Competition Commission investigated and found that the voluntary code that supermarkets had put in place had failed.

The government finally responded to campaigners demand to introduce a watchdog, introducing a bill into parliament to establish a Groceries Code Adjudicator to oversee the new code of practice. This was a huge success for supermarket campaigners, both in getting government proposals into parliament and getting key measures included, like making sure trade unions can bring complaints, not just supplier bosses.

In 2013 **WE WON THE CAMPAIGN!** The government introduced a Groceries Code Adjudicator, and bowed to public pressure by giving the watchdog the power to fine supermarkets.

Thousands of people have signed petitions, spoken to their MPs and engaged thousands more in joining the fight to secure the rights of workers in supermarket supply chains. The supermarkets have resisted the introduction of a powerful watchdog every step of the way and without constant pressure from the public we would never have reached this stage.



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Justice for the people of Palestine



SOLIDARITY



Justice for the People of Palestine

The illegal occupation of Palestine and oppression of the Palestinian people is one of the outstanding moral outrages of our day. War on Want's campaign on behalf of the residents of the town of **Silwan** sought to save the homes of over 1,000 Palestinians from destruction to make way for a tourist site. The UK Foreign Office made an official response saying "we view such demolitions and evictions as causing unnecessary suffering to ordinary Palestinians".

For now, as a result of the actions of many thousands of War on Want supporters, the bulldozers have been delayed.

We targeted JCB'S operations and sales of **Military bulldozers** in Israel and built strong relationships with journalists and activists in the area, including the Wadi Hilweh Information Centre, which represents local residents, and which collected Suhaib's story below. We worked with international solidarity groups (including Rabbis for Human Rights, Civic Coalition for Jerusalem, Palestine Solidarity Campaign, Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions, Architects and Planners for Justice in Palestine) to coordinate international pressure. We produced appeals, news, emails and updates, keeping the issue in the headlines and on public agendas.

Silwan is a microcosm of the Israeli occupation. But particular to Silwan is the appalling tactic of targeting children. Here is Suhaib's story:

In the early hours of the morning a pounding awakened Suhaib Alawar's father. He opened his front door to find a group of men, two in civilian clothes, flanked by police officers bearing heavy guns. Taking his 14 year old son, Suhaib, they said: "He will only be gone for a few hours"; "Don't worry."

A full 30 days later, after being beaten with a chair, held in solitary confinement, taunted with a knife, forced to stay awake and otherwise abused, the boy was released to suffer ongoing nightmares and sleeplessness. The interrogators had handcuffed Suhaib and hit his head with fists and with keys, calling him names and taunting him as they beat him. He was made to sign a document in Hebrew, which he could not read, stating that he had not been physically abused.

Suhaib lost over 20lbs in weight during his detention. He was sentenced to house arrest at his grandmother's, and his family was required to deposit 50,000 shekels (about £9,000) that would be forfeit if he violated the conditions of his house arrest. One condition was that Suhaib would not return to school. Suhaib said: "I want to be a human rights lawyer when I get older," a dream he is unlikely to fulfil whilst denied schooling. There can be no way to convey the persistent terror that the people of Silwan suffer, and the cruelty of targeting and persecuting the children of the community. War on Want will continue to fight for justice for the people of Palestine, and hold to account companies like JCB and G4S involved in the persecution, oppression and illegal occupation that the people of Palestine endure.

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IMPACT: Halting the bulldozers; relaunching Stop Arming Israel; shining a light on G4S



GLOBAL CONTEXT

What it means for War on Want

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- Austerity will continue to bite the poorest as the unemployed, people with disabilities, pensioners and families stand in the front line of government cuts, whilst the wealthiest continue to increase the income gap with help from George Osborne's tax system. We will continue to battle against tax injustice, tax dodging and tax havens.
- More essential services such as water, agricultural inputs, health and education will fall into the hands of unregulated private companies, as will provision of military security and equipment, as governments divest themselves of responsibilities and offer the private sector unprecedented new market opportunities. We will launch our work highlighting the takeover and abuse of resources by the private sector and shine a light on the harm perpetrated by unaccountable and unregulated companies.
- We will demand food sovereignty for local communities and small-scale farmers, not expensive and genetically modified seed and fertiliser profiting large corporations.
- Charities of all sizes will continue to grow nearer to the UK government in order to maintain their income, and will comply with the handover of the role of the state in the interests of self-preservation. We will promote the voice of progressive development with our allies in the field of rights and development, and remain aligned with the needs of our partners around the world.
- The Millennium Development Goals will approach the anti-climax of their culmination and the world will fail once more to live up to their promises for the poor. We will continue to offer progressive alternatives to the failed promises, embedded in the need for structural changes to achieve a more equal and just world.
- The message that the poor need charity not structural change will continue to be touted. We will work with the labour movement to continue to fight for a decent job for decent pay. In particular, we will actively support those most marginalised – because of their gender, because of their ethnic background or where they live.
- First World War jingoism will be used as a mechanism to develop the 'war spirit' in a time of austerity, as a veil to hide the pain of cuts. We will expose the real face of conflict in today's world through our campaigns, actions and educational materials and activities.
- The FIFA World Cup in Brazil will be an opportunity for wealthy Brazilians to brush the issues of the poorest under the carpet as they put on a 'show' for the rest of the world. We will support our friends, partners and allies in the global South in their struggles for their voices to be heard, using our experience at the London 2012 Olympics and the South Africa World Cup of 2010.
- Protest will continue to meet with police action, be further criminalised, and social movements will be suppressed. We will continue to promote active and visible ways of dissent, and support our partners who rally to fight for their rights. We will participate in events to bolster and grow the movement for change in accordance with our mission.



BETTER FUTURE

War on Want activities

With our Programme partners around the world we will:

- Build a land grabbing resistance movement in Sri Lanka supporting our partner the Movement for National Land and Agricultural Reform (MONLAR).
- Give workers a voice with our partner AZIEA, supporting the Zambia National Marketeers Association, ZANAMA (500,000 members) and the Zambia Traditional Marketeers Association, ZATMA (19,000 vendors) de-registered for political activities.
- Continue to support the rights of shack dwellers through partner Abahlali baseMjondolo in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.
- Lobby on behalf of women with severe work-related injuries through the Honduran Women's Collective CODEMUH.
- Raise awareness of violence against women and children, and improve their living and working conditions, with women-led trade union Sikhula Sonke in South Africa.
- Develop our work and partnerships on Resources and Conflict in Colombia, the Philippines, Congo and Nigeria, and begin new work with the National Union of Metal Workers in South Africa (NUMSA).
- Call for binding accountability for transnational corporations with the National Garment Workers Federation (NGWF) in Bangladesh, Students and Scholars Against Corporate Mismanagement (SACOM) in China and more than 100 organisations across the world.
- Support African organisations in their response to the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, AGRA and Grow Africa.

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IMPACT: Resisting land grabs; fighting with shack dwellers; lobbying for women; making corporations accountable



On the ground in the UK we will:

- Lead the growth of the UK food sovereignty movement.
- Defend the rights of people affected by resource extraction industries, in our new Resources and Conflict Programme, and target the extractive corporations based in London.
- Produce hard hitting exposés of how the health of workers is disregarded to generate profit.
- Develop our work on the right to the city, and link with partners in the informal economy.
- Continue to fight the spread of GM crops, with our friends, allies, and partners overseas who are part of the anti-GM movement.
- Uncover and broadcast details of the dreadful impact of remote control drone warfare, seeking a ban on these indiscriminate killing machines.
- Create a global hub for the campaign for a living wage, and persuasively present the undeniable case for an idea whose time has come.
- Bring partners and allies to the UK to bear witness to the global challenges they face, and build links between grassroots groups in the UK and overseas to consolidate battles against corporate control.
- Work with friends, partners and allies including trade unions nationally and regionally, other organisations and rights groups, on issues of joint concern to create real turning points for structural issues which cause poverty, including low pay, tax injustice and austerity measures worldwide.
- Hold to account companies such as G4S in high profile campaigns against Private Military and Security Companies – highlighting the proliferation of profit through militarism.
- Put the outbreak of the First World War into the context of militarism in an educational conference.
- Reach out to supporters and activists at events and forums around the country, with inspiring speakers and materials – enabling more people to fight poverty and join the movement for a better world. We will deliver new, creative and engaging digital opportunities for many more people to participate in the fight for change.
- After an honest review of our strategic framework for 2010-2015, we will identify immediate priorities to take us through to its end in 2015, and begin the process of devising a new framework for the future context.

THANK YOU ▶ 01

STRATEGIC ▶ 02

HIGHLIGHTS ▶ 04

- Realisation of human rights 04
- Economic and social justice 06
- An end to the business of war 08
- Building the movement for global justice 10
- Empowering women traders in Zambia 12
- Winning a Groceries Code Adjudicator 14
- Justice for the People of Palestine 16

GLOBAL CONTEXT ▶ 17

BETTER FUTURE ▶ 18

FINANCIALS ▶ 20

JOIN NOW



**IMPACT: Defending rights;
producing hard hitting
exposés; fighting the
structures that cause poverty**



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

For more information you can find our full Annual Report and Accounts [▶ HERE](#)

THANK YOU ▶ 01

STRATEGIC ▶ 02

HIGHLIGHTS ▶ 04

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GLOBAL CONTEXT ▶ 17

BETTER FUTURE ▶ 18

FINANCIALS ▶ 20

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Income:

• donations and legacies	£1,357,153
• grants	£668,330
• events, merchandise and other income	£33,164
Total	£2,058,647

Expenditure:

Cost of generating funds	£322,197
Charitable Activities –	
• Hard hitting campaigns and policy work	£497,746
• International Programmes	£798,800
• Governance	£39,016
Total expenditure	£1,657,759

Just 7.8p of every pound is spent on admin

Note that some of the income is for multi-year grants and so has to be held on to for those projects in years to come.

81p of every pound is spent on our charitable activities



19p is spent on raising the next pound



THANK YOU ▶ 01

ACTIVITIES ▶ 02

HIGHLIGHTS ▶ 04

- Realisation of human rights **04**
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GLOBAL CONTEXT ▶ 17

BETTER FUTURE ▶ 18

FINANCIALS ▶ 20

JOIN NOW



War on Want fights against the root causes of poverty and human rights violation, as part of the worldwide movement for global justice.

We do this by:

- working in partnership with grassroots social movements, trade unions and workers' organisations to empower people to fight for their rights
- running hard-hitting popular campaigns against the root causes of poverty and human rights violation
- mobilising support and building alliances for political action in support of human rights, especially workers' rights
- raising public awareness of the root causes of poverty, inequality and injustice, and empowering people to take action for change

sign up to stay in touch with our work

tel 020 7324 5040

email support@waronwant.org

web waronwant.org

War on Want, 44-48 Shepherdess Walk, London N1 7JP

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