

Proposal for Corporate Power campaign strand

DEADLINE: 8 December 2008

peopleandplanet.org/forum/

Your details

Please provide the name of at least one People & Planet group member who is putting this proposal forward (the optional second proposer can be from the same group):

Proposer (Key Contact)

Name	Michael Wood
People & Planet group	Brunel Green Society

Your proposal for a Corporate Power campaign strand (500 words total)

Title	War on War
Summary of your proposal (no more than 30 words).	This is a campaign against the arms trade. The campaign will target companies involved in the Arms trade and Educate people about their immoral trade.
What is the proposed campaign strand? (Write about your proposal in more detail here.)	<p>Campus action - Arms traders, manufacturers and funders all currently recruit on campuses through out the country. They are not truthful with the students they recruit, hiding behind corporate speak such as “Capabilities, Products-and-Services and Competitive advantage” to name a few, which if unveiled all ultimately mean; better, faster and more efficient ways to kill people. With our campaigning we can hit them where it hurts by organising protests at every event they hold at educational institutions. We will also be able to Join up with current campaigns; such as War on Want’s campaign this year on financing conflict - “Banking on Bloodshed” and of course the other well established anti arms trade groups such as CAAT, CND and many others.</p> <p>National Action - Pressuring the government to stop supporting the Arms trade. In October this year the government re-launched the Arms Trade Treaty due to pressure from Oxfam, Amnesty International, IANSA and Control Arms. This needs more support and publicity to make sure that the right framework is put in to make the Arms companies more legally accountable, force them not to trade with countries who have a record of human rights abuses and to make sure the government will not step in to get them out of hot water as they have previously done. The spread of People and planet’s network means that direct action can be organised near Arms trader’s locations.</p> <p>International Action – We should be highlighting the</p>

	<p>very strong link between poverty and War, how developing countries feel the need to buy weapons from the arms trade which they can ill afford and how of the 30 poorest countries in the world half have suffered a recent conflict. We need to send the message that war doesn't achieve sustainable peace, leads to innocent people being killed and the destruction of heavily relied on infrastructure. We should ask why the world gave \$104 billion in development aid, but collaborative spent \$1,158 billion on arms and military.</p> <p>Environment – The Arms sector is a highly polluting sector; BAE, QinetQ, Rolls Royce and the VT Group divided by % of their sales for military use add up to approximately 1.08 million tons of CO2 per year by their own statistics. Many other pollutants have also been their responsibility, such as Uranium and many other toxins that are found in explosives manufacture. And this of course does not actually include the use of their products.</p>
<p>Why are you proposing this campaign strand? <i>(Use this space to explain how your proposed campaign strand meets the guidelines below).</i></p>	<p>I am proposing this campaign strand because it's something that is personally very close to my heart as an issue and I believe it also is very compatible with people and planet's new campaign on corporate power. In that major threats to humankind now exist from irresponsible massive corporations: creating conflict, investing in non-renewables and plain ignorance. The arms trade has all of these aspects.</p>

Campaign Strand Criteria: Guidelines

An ideal campaign...

- ... tackles a root cause of a significant human rights, poverty or environmental injustice. It could link these together.
- ... is demanded by those affected or in solidarity with them.
- ... has specific, achievable goals or aims at a local, national or international level over its planned lifetime. It could have several interim goals as well as or instead of one big goal.
- ... includes a range of possible actions and strategies catering for people with different skills, levels of experience and preference of campaigning methods in the network.
- ... is relevant to students, in schools, colleges and universities; both in the existing P&P network and those we seek to engage, particularly in Further Education colleges, newer universities and schools in disadvantaged communities.
- ... is relevant to the entire network in the UK, possibly with separate goals and actions in regions with devolved government.
- ... works within the autonomous groups structure of People & Planet.
- ... can involve the network in planning and running to encourage understand of the issue and more generally active global citizenship.
- ... uses People & Planet's strengths as a student network.
- ... has opportunities for cooperation with other groups, including those in the Global South, but contributes something unique to their work in the area.
- ... has a body of research and resources available to us in order to develop the campaign.
- ... fits in with and draws from current and past People & Planet's campaigns.

If you need any help or advice relating to completing this form please email
or call Juliette at the support office on 01865 245 678.