



Corporate Power campaign strand proposal for Forum 2009

Deadline for proposals: 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	Hanna Plant
Email	
Address	
Phone	
People & Planet group	One World, St Andrews

Second Proposer (optional)

Name	Molly Uzzell
Email	
Address	
Phone	
People & Planet group	One World, St Andrews

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

Title	Tax Justice and End of 'Corporate Personhood'
Summary of your proposal (<i>no more than 30 words</i>).	
Corporations should produce full, transparent mandatory reporting of their taxable income and for taxes paid. Also demand an end to corporate personhood, which structurally enables the lack of management responsibility.	
What is the proposed campaign strand? (<i>Write about your proposal in more detail here.</i>)	
Corporations should be held accountable to their legally required tax payments and held to uphold Tax Justice. Presently almost all corporate and social responsibility reporting is done on a voluntary basis and there are very little organisations to assess the quality of such reporting. Corporations are much more likely to produce financial reports to reassure shareholders. Thus details of corporate Tax payments should be made mandatory in all financial reporting, including not only the tax paid but as to who is accountable for the use of that tax i.e. government. The aspect of Tax dodging should also be made more publicly aware.	
Why are you proposing this campaign strand?	

(Use this space to explain how your proposed campaign strand meets the guidelines below).

I propose People&Planet become part of the tax justice network to promote the campaign and facilitate a stronger and wider reaching civil society network.

For the implementation of a successful campaign, it must be promoted in such a way with which society can relate and feel empowered to create change. Thus, awareness campaigning through the website, activist newsletters and workshops about Tax Justice, particularly on how it is important on not just a legal and political level, is important if a social movement strong enough to be effective can grow. Through this social movement, shareholders will be encouraged to include accountability for tax payments in their criteria for corporate financial investment. This campaign should be further developed not only by pressure and lobbying of government for political backing of corporate tax reporting but civil society networks such as the Tax Justice network should act as a monitoring body to ensure such reports are accountable and transparent.

Further, tax justice is vital for upholding the economic sovereignty of many countries in the global South which are currently being exploited under corporations whose net profits often exceed their own GDP.

Campaign Strand Criteria: Guidelines

An ideal campaign...

1. ... tackles a root cause of a significant human rights, poverty or environmental injustice. It could link these together.
2. ... is demanded by those affected or in solidarity with them.
3. ... 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.
4. ... 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.
5. ... 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.
6. ... is relevant to the entire network in the UK, possibly with separate goals and actions in regions with devolved government.
7. ... works within the autonomous groups structure of People & Planet.
8. ... can involve the network in planning and running to encourage understand of the issue and more generally active global citizenship.
9. ... uses People & Planet's strengths as a student network.
10. ... has opportunities for cooperation with other groups, including those in the Global South, but contributes something unique to their work in the area.
11. ... has a body of research and resources available to us in order to develop the campaign.
12. ... 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

corporatepower@peopleandplanet.org

or call Juliette at the support office on 01865 245 678.

When completed, please email this form to corporatepower@peopleandplanet.org