



What characterises GRAIN?

GRAIN is a small international non-profit organisation that supports movements in their struggles against privatisation and corporate control in the area of food, biodiversity and agriculture, and for true community controlled and biodiversity based alternatives. Diversity is key to sustainable food and farming systems. For thousands of years, local communities have nurtured and developed an incredible wealth of seeds and breeds, farming systems and cultural traditions that are not only a precious heritage but also the only basis upon which we can continue to feed, clothe, house and heal ourselves. Yet that diversity is being monopolised and destroyed by an increasingly global industrial food production and trade system, and by the corporations behind it. Our fight, therefore, is one for truly sustainable food and farming systems, based on people's control over their own livelihoods.



What priority areas will GRAIN focus on in the coming four years?

Our work revolves around independent research and analysis, information services and direct support to people's strategies and struggles. GRAIN works both internationally as well as with groups at the national and regional levels. We have an active presence in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Being a small, autonomous organisation with a big agenda, GRAIN works very much in collaboration with others, respecting people's autonomy and building new experiences in international solidarity.

We currently focus on two main programme areas:

Biodiversity, corporations and the international food system, which brings together those aspects of GRAIN's work that deal with the increasing corporate control over biodiversity and the international food system.

Communities first: the fight for food sovereignty pulls together GRAIN's work to support people's movements, moving towards more bio-diverse and socially just food and agricultural systems - often referred to as food sovereignty.



Photos: GRAIN

What does GRAIN consider the main opportunities and threats in achieving its goals in the near future?

The main threat to biodiversity, small farmers and local knowledge - and indeed to the future of our planet - is the current neo-liberal process of economic globalisation that puts corporate profits before everything, and destroys local livelihoods and the environment in the process. We draw our strength and inspiration from the thousands of local organisations that fight against this and are coming up with people-centred, community-based and environmentally sound alternatives.

GRAIN produces a number of regular information outputs, such as our quarterly magazine 'Seedling', and other publications which are freely available from our website and by post.



GRAIN
Girona 25, pral.,
08010 Barcelona, Spain
Website: www.grain.org
E-mail: grain@grain.org
Phone: +34 933011381