

PBI UK Annual Review 2008



Protecting human rights defenders at risk



This report is dedicated to the memory of Kate Furneaux. Kate first became involved with PBI as a volunteer in the summer of 2005 and continued to support and promote PBI's work by running stalls and distributing information at universities, and raising money through volunteer work at festivals. Full of energy and enthusiasm, and greatly committed to social justice, the environment and human rights, she made an invaluable contribution to PBI. Her caring nature and wonderful sense of humour will be remembered by all who had the fortune to meet her.

Susi Bascon
Director, PBI UK

Vision and Mission

PBI's vision

PBI envisions a world in which people address conflicts nonviolently, where human rights are universally upheld and social justice and intercultural respect have become a reality.

What does PBI do?

PBI has been working to support human rights and promote nonviolence for almost 30 years. We send teams of international observers to areas of conflict and repression to provide protective accompaniment to local human rights defenders whose lives and work are under threat. Our work is based on principles of nonpartisanship and non-interference, in the belief that lasting transformation of violent conflict cannot be imposed from outside but must be based on the capacity of local people to build a genuine peace. We act only at the express request of local people and it is they that determine where our assistance is most needed. PBI UK, one of 15 country groups around Europe, North America and the Pacific, is responsible for the vital support work which allows the field programmes – in Colombia, Mexico, Indonesia, Guatemala and Nepal – to operate smoothly. Its main areas of work are political support building, recruitment and training of volunteers, outreach, publicity and fundraising.

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Cover photo:
Memorial to the disappeared,
Bogotá, Colombia



Letter from the Board of Trustees

Welcome to the PBI UK 2008 annual report. It has been another exciting year at PBI UK: the team has set up groundbreaking advocacy and fundraising initiatives, raised awareness of human rights issues through high profile events and conferences and, most importantly, increased support for PBI's work in Colombia, Mexico, Guatemala, Indonesia and Nepal. Through its advocacy, outreach and volunteer activities in 2008, PBI UK has made a significant contribution to the protection of human rights defenders and the wider international discourse on human rights.

This report will examine some of these areas in more detail, but worth particular attention are: a Law Society event attended by Colombian human rights defender Judith Maldonado and 80 lawyers, judges and MPs, the launch of the Human Rights Defenders at Risk Fund, and PBI's first conference focussing on the environment and human rights – Giving Voice to the Earth.

PBI UK has continued to train and

support its volunteers working in the field who offer vital moral support and protection to non-violent local activists. In 2008, 42 prospective volunteers were introduced to PBI's philosophy and methods in three orientation weekends facilitated by returned field volunteers throughout the year, and the number of UK volunteers departing to the field projects grew from 12 to 14. These volunteers are the backbone of the organisation, accompanying defenders of all kinds of human rights, developing support networks within the project countries, and providing security workshops to threatened local defenders – from women working on issues of femicide, sexual abuse and rape to indigenous groups in their struggle to uphold their rights. PBI staff and volunteers have stood up for displaced communities whose economic, cultural and social rights are being threatened, and have been at the forefront of international human rights debates and advocacy activities with the UN, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office and with fellow NGOs. Our multi-

level advocacy efforts have ensured that local governments, international governments, EU and UN representatives respond quickly and effectively to high-threat security situations, and interest within the legal community was such that a delegation of 42 UK lawyers travelled to Colombia in August 2008.

In 2008, PBI UK hosted and arranged speaking tours for nine human rights defenders who spoke to packed audiences at Amnesty International, the House of Commons, the Scottish Parliament, the Law Society and various universities, among other venues. None of this would have been possible without the ongoing commitment of you, our supporters, providing PBI UK with financial stability and the ability to focus on what is most important: the defence of human rights across the world. So as we move into the 2009-10 financial year, we would like to thank you for your support and encourage you to continue giving to this crucial work.

PBI UK Board of Trustees



Members of the international lawyers' delegation to Colombia with PBI UK director Susi Bascon, German Romero Sanchez of the Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission, and members of the Afro-Colombian communities of Turbo, Uraba.

PBI UK: Achievements in 2008

Increasing the visibility of human rights defenders in the field helps deter threats against them and protect the political space in which they work. Through publicity, outreach and advocacy, PBI UK has continued to inform new audiences at UK, EU and UN levels about its work and that of accompanied organisations.

Raising the profile of PBI's work

In 2008 PBI UK strengthened its links with the UK legal sector, achieving increased awareness of the precarious situation of the many lawyers working in conflict situations, who suffer threats due to the cases they take on and their work to strengthen the rule of law and end impunity in their countries.

PBI's work was mentioned in a range of media, including the BBC World Service, the Quaker magazine *the Friend*, *The European Lawyer* and the *Law Society Gazette*. Local press around the country covered the departures to the field of local volunteers. In August, PBI was highlighted in an Amnesty International publication called *Defending Human Rights in a Changing World*¹ on best practice in the protection of human rights defenders.

Returned field volunteers spoke about their experiences at talks, workshops and stalls held at events around the country, and in June, PBI's conference 'Giving Voice to the Earth' broke new ground by linking environmental issues and human rights violations and drew a large audience from organisations, universities, politics and the general public.

Talks and tours

In 2008 PBI UK hosted the following human rights defenders, who spoke about their work and the challenges they face at a wide range of events around Britain. They addressed large audiences at venues like the House of Commons, the Scottish Parliament, the Law Society, the Amnesty International Human



Sir Adrian Fulford, Peter Roth QC, Sir Henry Brooke, Liliana Uribe and interpreter Valeria Luna at the launch of the HRD at Risk Fund

Rights Action Centre and universities.

The defenders were:

- **Liliana Uribe**, Freedom Legal Corporation (CJL) (Colombia)
- **Father Henry Ramirez Soler** and **Ana Maria Lozano**, Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission (Colombia)
- **Suciwati Munir**, the widow of Munir Said Thalib, one of Indonesia's leading human rights campaigners
- **Eloyda Mejia**, Association of Friends of Lake Izabal (ASALI) (Guatemala)
- **Dora Lucy Arias**, José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers Collective (CCAJAR) (Colombia)
- **German Romero**, Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission (Colombia)
- **Judith Maldonado**, Luis Carlos Perez Lawyer's Collective (CALCP) (Colombia)

Unfortunately, Jit Man Basnet, of the Nepalese Lawyers' Forum for Human Rights, was refused a visa to enter the UK in November 2008. As a result of this PBI held talks with the Government on the issue of visas for visiting human rights defenders. Jit Man was allowed to enter the UK in early 2009 to join a fellowship programme at York University.

Advocacy

PBI UK continues to meet regularly with MPs, officials at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and other decision makers, as well as taking part in the FCO round table on the UN Human Rights Council.

In 2008 PBI facilitated the visits of two delegations of international lawyers and international NGOs to various regions in Colombia where human rights defenders are under threat. Through the Giving Voice to the Earth conference and a delegation to Colombia in February 2009, we have developed new networks with organisations working on environmental issues.

The strength of PBI's support network meant that messages of concern reached the relevant authorities swiftly and effectively when the network had to be activated in response to serious threats against accompanied groups and individuals – which unfortunately was necessary on four occasions in 2008. It is due to the ongoing expansion of our support network through our advocacy and profile-raising activities that our efforts to respond in such emergencies have been successful.

¹ Amnesty International, index number ACT 30/006/2008, 22 August 2008, <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ACT30/006/2008/en>

Building political networks

Dialogue with decision-makers in the political sphere complements and enhances the physical accompaniment of threatened human rights defenders. In turn, the presence of field volunteers serves as a visible reminder of international attention. At moments of heightened threat, PBI is able to activate its political support network to quickly bring an international spotlight onto the situation.

Bringing together activists and decision-makers

PBI UK seeks to create a space in which international policy makers can hear the voices of threatened human rights defenders. We invite representatives of accompanied organisations to the UK, where they are able to meet with concerned groups and individuals. In 2008, several questions were tabled in both Houses of Parliament following meetings between human rights defenders and members of the Commons and the Lords.

PBI UK hosted nine accompanied human rights defenders during the year. The examples below give some idea of the nature and scope of these visits:

Liliana Uribe, a lawyer with the Freedom Legal Corporation (Corporación Jurídica Libertad – CJL), came at the invitation of Amnesty International and PBI. CJL has been instrumental in documenting cases of extrajudicial executions by the armed forces – known as ‘falsos positivos’ (‘false positives’) – where campesinos are killed then dressed up as guerrilla fighters and reported as killed in



German Romero Sanchez with Lord Avebury

combat. Liliana met with the then Minister for Latin America Kim Howells, and spoke at the Houses of Parliament in London, the Scottish Parliament and an Amnesty International event on extrajudicial executions, as well as meeting with several UK and European parliamentarians. The work of Liliana and other human rights defenders in raising awareness of these crimes has had an impact at the highest level: both the US and UK governments have withheld or cut aspects of their military aid programmes to Colombia in the past two years citing concerns about extrajudicial executions.

German Romero Sanchez of the Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission (CIJP) undertakes human rights accompaniment of forcibly-displaced communities in the Jiguamiandó and Curvaradó river basins who are attempting to return to their lands. German spoke at an event at the Law Society and at a meeting with members of both houses of Parliament to discuss the situation of grave threats against the lives of members of CIJP, including his own. Following his meeting with German Romero, Lord Eric Avebury asked the government, via a Parliamentary Question, “whether they will participate in a proposed visit by European Union heads of mission in Bogotá to the Curvaradó river basin, where according to recent reports, threats have been made against human rights defenders working for communities dispossessed of their lands”.¹

Strengthening ties and contributing to international debate

PBI’s attendance at roundtables at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) on the United Nations Human Rights Council (UN HRC) enables us to discuss the safety and security of human rights defenders with the British diplomatic team. A number of PBI’s recommendations have been incorporated into the UK’s input to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process of Mexico, Guatemala and Colombia during 2008 and the first part of 2009.

Conferences and high profile events organised by PBI continue to ensure that the situation of defenders of all kinds of human rights is on the public agenda.

2009 UPDATE

International Conference on Security and Protection for Human Rights Defenders, April 2009

PBI UK, the All-Party Parliamentary Human Rights Group and the London Metropolitan University Human Rights and Social Justice Centre organised this landmark conference, funded by the FCO and the Sigrid Rausing Trust. It was aimed at reviewing and improving the effectiveness of the European Union Guidelines for protecting human rights defenders (HRDs) used by EU diplomatic missions around the world. Defenders from

Africa, Russia, Colombia and Nepal, as well as diplomats and other experts, shared their experiences and knowledge, with a keynote speech by the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, Margaret Sekaggya. The FCO has since sent an action plan for the protection of HRDs to all its embassies, based on the recommendations of the conference.

UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, Margaret Sekaggya, with PBI UK director Susi Bascon



Fundraising

In 2008, PBI UK received the generous support of trusts and foundations, many of which have supported PBI for several years, and was successful in raising income in a variety of other ways. Through grant writing, media and publicity, outreach activities and high profile events with human rights defenders invited to speak about their work, PBI UK raised a total income of £311,333. This has benefited both our core work and specific innovative projects such as the protection of threatened environmental defenders across our five field teams. Our greatest fundraising success has certainly been the establishment of the 'Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) at Risk Fund', which is already making a significant impact on the lives of at-risk lawyers and other human rights advocates in the field.

In 2008:

- PBI UK's income increased by 8%
- We attracted new donors to the organisation including the Mosse Charitable Settlement, the Cotton Trust and the A B Charitable Trust
- PBI UK has so far raised almost £50,000 towards the HRDs at Risk Fund from trusts, firms and chambers, as well as from individual members of the legal and judiciary community including the Law Society Charity and the International Bar Association (IBA) Charitable Trust
- The organisation had the support of individuals who raised funds for PBI by running marathons and skydiving (!!)
- Volunteers served drinks at dozens of music festivals across the UK to raise funds and awareness of PBI among music lovers
- Funding from the Sigrid Rausing Trust continued to be a significant support to our work

Human Rights Defenders at Risk Fund

With the support of the Lawyers Advisory Committee (LAC), PBI UK established the Human Rights Defenders at Risk Fund in April 2008 to ensure that the ongoing protection of rights defenders remains a priority for individuals and organisations committed to human rights. A launch event was held on 16 April, hosted by the law firm Herbert Smith in the City of London, and attended by many distinguished guests, including International Criminal Court judge Sir Adrian Fulford. We are very grateful to

the Tinsley Foundation, a loyal supporter of our work over the years that made the first donation to this fund, and we hope that the fund will continue to grow to meet the increasing need for rapid and strategic protection responses in the field and allow us to expand our field operations to support those HRDs at greatest risk.

Patrons

PBI is grateful to the group of highly respected individuals who have generously offered their time and resources as patrons for the organisation. Patrons include Baroness Frances D'Souza, prominent in the fields of human rights and development, high-level members of the legal profession – Sir Henry Brooke, Peter Roth QC, Sir Robert Carnwath and Sir Nigel Rodley – and the actress Julie Christie. Our most recent patron is Sir Joel Joffe, who is a highly respected human rights barrister and Labour peer in the House of Lords.

Fundraising in 2009

The global financial crisis will have inevitable implications for PBI's funding situation in 2009 given an anticipated reduction in fundraising opportunities, as well as currency fluctuations. PBI UK will continue to incorporate fundraising into all of its profile-raising activities and will continue to make best use of its resources, including using the help of many devoted volunteers to ensure that funds are channelled toward meeting the needs of HRDs at risk in the field.

LIST OF DONORS IN 2008

A B Charitable Trust
The Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust
Alistair Berkley Charitable Trust
Amnesty International
anonymous trust
Ashworth Charitable Trust
The Bromley Trust
Bryan Lancaster's Trust
Clifford Chance
Cotton Trust
E and HN Boyd and JE Morland Charitable Trust
Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust
Eva Reckitt Trust Fund
Herbert Smith
International Bar Association (IBA) Charitable Trust
Matrix Chambers
The Mosse Charitable Settlement
Polden-Puckham Charitable Foundation
Prisoners of Conscience Appeal Fund
Radley Charitable Trust
Reed Smith
Rowan Charitable Trust
The Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation
SC and ME Morland's Charitable Trust
Sigrid Rausing Trust
The Tylour Foundation
The Tinsley Foundation
WF Southall Trust



PBI volunteer observing a demonstration in Papua, Indonesia

No justice without lawyers

Lawyers fulfil a vital role in the countries where PBI works. They may be struggling against impunity, accompanying displaced or marginalised communities, or representing victims of state violence. All work tirelessly to strengthen the rule of law in their countries.

There were 40 lawyers killed last year alone. They were persecuted because they were associated with the 'crimes' or sympathies of their clients. If they are willing to defend them, the logic goes, then they must be fellow travellers.

ALIRIO URIBE, CCAJAR²

Lawyers are paying an extremely high price to challenge those responsible for human rights violations, becoming targets of intimidation and repression because of the nature of the cases they take on. They may have their work obstructed, be followed, watched, harassed, subjected to spurious prosecutions, or even killed or 'disappeared'. Many are forced into exile in fear of their lives. In Colombia alone in recent years, lawyers have been murdered at a rate of around 25 each year, the vast majority with impunity.¹

Lawyers in the UK are well respected. You enjoy social kudos and comfortable incomes. In Colombia we are stigmatised and criminalised. We need international solidarity to endure.

GERMAN ROMERO, Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission

¹ Informe sobre la situación de los abogados y abogadas en Colombia [Report on the situation of lawyers in Colombia], Abogados Sin Fronteras y Asociación Americana de Juristas [Lawyers without Borders and the American Jurists Association], 10 December 2007, p.21-22. Online: <http://www.aaj.org.br/InformeASFQ-AAJ.pdf>

² Law Society Gazette, 6 May 2009 Online: <http://www.lawgazette.co.uk/news/hundreds-colombian-lawyers-murdered-no-one-prosecuted-report-reveals>

Dora Lucy Arias of CCAJAR



Dora Lucy Arias, CCAJAR

Lawyer Dora Lucy Arias' work in Colombia has led her to experience the pattern of intimidation and threats plaguing many of those struggling to uphold the rule of law in her country. A member of the José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective (CCAJAR), which has received PBI accompaniment for more than 10 years, Dora Lucy herself has been followed, threatened and intimidated. One of the Collective's founders was assassinated in 1998, and its lawyers have had to endure threats, intimidation and exile, as well as seeing the assassination and disappearance of lawyers who worked on cases with them.

The Collective represents, among others, Afro-Colombian communities

►► 2009 UPDATE

Evidence submitted during the trial of Jorge Noguera, the former head of DAS, the Colombian intelligence service, proved that its members carried out secret surveillance of members of CCAJAR, as well as many other individuals and members of social and human rights organisations between 2004 and 2006. It was revealed that Soraya Gutierrez, Alirio Uribe and others of the Collective's lawyers were subject to phone tapping and extensive information gathering on their homes, families and activities.

affected by large-scale coal mining projects, trade unions and displaced communities, many of whom are struggling for their rights in the face of the activities of transnational companies. Using peaceful methods to seek solutions to conflict, the Collective's work is often met by violence.

"Our words and power to denounce are a

great risk to the regime. This is our only tool of work, and this tool has cost us the lives, peace and security of our colleagues in this country," says Dora Lucy.

Our families, who live with a permanent anxiety that one day we may not return home, are less worried knowing that we are accompanied by PBI.
CCAJAR member

Accompanied legal organisations

■ Colombia

Freedom Legal Corporation (CJL), José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective (CCAJAR), Luis Carlos Pérez Lawyers' Collective (CALCP)

■ Guatemala

Association of Mayan Lawyers and Notaries of Guatemala (AANMG)

■ Indonesia

Institute of Research, Analysis and Development for Legal Aid (LP3BH), Legal Awareness and Human Rights Advocacy Organisation (Japh & Ham), Indonesian Legal Aid and Human Rights Association (PBHI)

■ Mexico

Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre

■ Nepal

Advocacy Forum

PBI is unique in the work that it does as a grassroots NGO providing protective accompaniment to human rights defenders who are persecuted for speaking up about human rights abuses, often challenging their own governments. Such work is invaluable and invariably dangerous. The human rights defenders are courageous and impressive people doing a difficult and dangerous job in countries where human rights violations are rife. As a human rights lawyer, I am delighted to support the work of PBI.

SAIMO CHAHAL,
Lawyers' Advisory
Committee member

Building links between UK lawyers and lawyers at risk

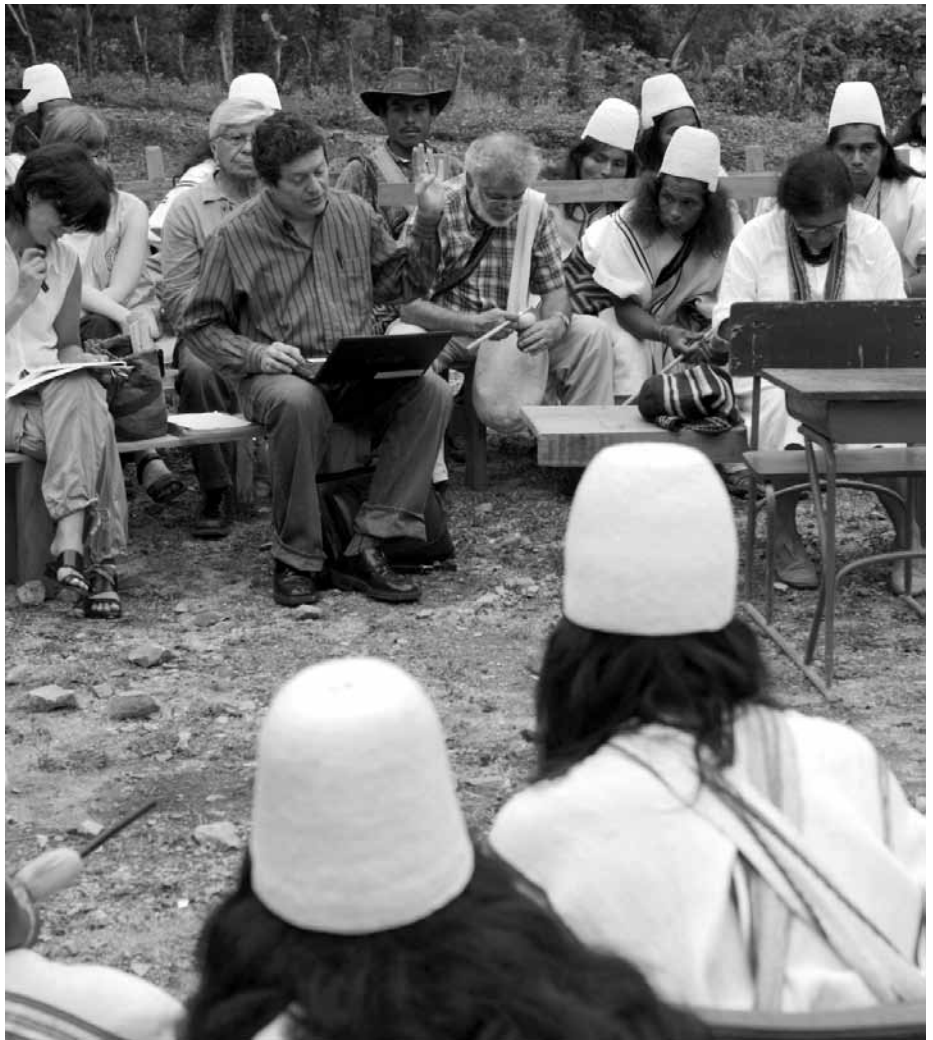
Lawyers' Advisory Committee

PBI UK has deepened its relationship with members of the British legal profession, thanks in large part to advice and support from the members of the PBI UK Lawyers' Advisory Committee (LAC). This is a group of solicitors, barristers and members of the judiciary from commercial and human rights specialist firms and chambers who generously volunteer their time to help develop links between the UK legal community and threatened human rights defenders around the world. We are especially grateful to former Lord Justice Sir Henry Brooke, the LAC's honorary president, and chair Peter Roth QC for their dedication and commitment to the work of PBI and the protection of human rights defenders worldwide.

In October 2008, LAC member Saimo Chahal won the prestigious Law Society's Solicitor of the Year Award, which she generously dedicated to support lawyers at risk around the world.

2009 UPDATE

Congratulations to LAC member Michael Smyth, who was awarded a CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours in June.



Lawyer Alirio Uribe (CCAJAR) in a meeting with leaders of the indigenous Arhuaco community of Colombia's Sierra Nevada

International lawyers' delegation to Colombia

In August 2008, at the invitation of members of the lawyers' collective CCAJAR, including Dora Lucy Arias and her colleagues, 42 members of the British legal profession joined an international delegation of lawyers who travelled to Colombia. They met with lawyers, human rights defenders, victims of violence and government representatives and were able to see first-hand the precarious situation facing lawyers working there.

Many were shocked by what they saw. They presented their findings about the obstacles and dangers facing Colombian

lawyers at several events in London, including at the Law Society and the Houses of Parliament, where the launch of the report was attended by former minister for Latin America, Gillian Merron. The delegation strengthened links between British and Colombian lawyers, and brought about much greater awareness among British legal professionals of the dangers their Colombian colleagues face in the course of carrying out their work. The delegation's participants continue to monitor the situation of Colombia's lawyers and plan to send a follow-up delegation in 2010.

We saw the pamphlets of the Aguilas Negras [paramilitary group] including the names of the lawyers who had been threatened. In one list the names of lawyers appeared who are now dead. Assassinated. SARA CHANDLER, College of Law

2009 UPDATE

At the request of lawyers at the Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre, British lawyers have been encouraged to undertake a similar delegation to Guerrero, Mexico, in autumn 2009 to see first-hand the difficulties they are experiencing there (for more on the situation in Guerrero, see page 13).

Challenging impunity

Impunity continues to be one of the greatest challenges facing human rights defenders and civilian populations in all of the countries where PBI works. The absence of prosecutions or punishments for past human rights violations denies justice to victims and their families, legitimises violence as a means of resolving conflicts, and sends a message that human rights are not to be respected. When attacks and murders continue to go unpunished, violence spreads as abusers know they will not face censure. The rule of law is further weakened as the population loses confidence in the justice system and may be tempted to take justice into their own hands.

Accompanied organisations working to end impunity

Colombia

Manuel Cepeda Foundation, Committee for Solidarity with Political Prisoners (FCSP), Association of the Families of the Detained and Disappeared (ASFADDES), Regional Corporation for the Defence of Human Rights (CREDHOS), Grassroots Training Institute (IPC)

Guatemala

Centre for Human Rights Legal Action (CALDH), Project Counselling Service (PCS)

Indonesia

The Commission for Disappearances and Victims of Violence (KontraS Papua), Office for Justice and Peace of the Catholic Diocese in Jayapura (SKP), Suciwati Munir and Action Committee in Solidarity for Munir (KASUM)

Mexico

Cerezo Committee, Association of Relatives of the Detained and Disappeared and Victims of Human Rights Abuses in Mexico (AFADEM)

Nepal

Advocacy Forum, Conflict Victims Committee (CVC)

The presence of PBI gives more pressure to the government to do something, and the victims are more confident that people are listening.
CVC MEMBER, NEPAL



Laxmi Devi Kadka of the Conflict Victims' Committee (CVC), Nepal

People are always expecting money from international NGOs. PBI is not giving us money but providing protection and protection is more important than money.
LAXMI DEVI KADKA

Laxmi Devi Kadka

One evening in 2004, two men came to Laxmi's house to talk to her husband Dil, a local school teacher. "They came and told me that my husband would return home in five minutes," she remembers. She never saw him again.

Laxmi has spent the last five years searching for Dil and seeking justice. She is forced to struggle alone to make ends meet and to provide for her son. With the perpetrators of her husband's disappearance still living in the area, she has been threatened and feels concerned about her son's and her own security.

Laxmi is a member of the Conflict

Victims' Committee (CVC), a PBI-accompanied organisation based in midwestern Nepal. This area suffered the highest number of disappearances and abductions during the conflict. Such abuses were perpetrated by both sides of the decade-long conflict between the Maoists and the government forces, and so far not a single perpetrator has been held to account.

CVC was formally established in early 2007 to enable victims to support each other in their search for their disappeared family members, as well as for reparations and justice. The group has more than 200 members, the majority of whom are women.

International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG)

CICIG began operating in 2008, its remit to combat illegal and clandestine groups, which, due to their infiltration of public structures, weaken the rule of law and perpetuate the problem of impunity in Guatemala.¹ Its establishment, agreed between the Guatemalan government and the United

Nations in 2006, followed concerted pressure by Guatemalan and international organisations, including PBI. CICIG's mandate allows it to conduct independent investigations and support the Guatemalan authorities in bringing emblematic cases to trial. In 2009 it was announced that its mandate would be extended for a further two years from September 2009.

¹ Agreement between the United Nations and the State of Guatemala on the establishment of an International Commission Against Impunity In Guatemala (CICIG), 12 December 2006

Environmental rights, human rights

The protection of the environment is closely entwined with the protection of human rights. The destruction of natural habitats by climate change, mines, dams, logging or urbanisation not only impacts on fragile ecosystems and the flora and fauna depending on them, but also threatens the existence of their human inhabitants.

In the countries where PBI works, populations are struggling to protect the land on which their livelihoods depend. Often existing in conditions of extreme poverty, many communities rely on their land for their food, shelter and cultural identity. In some cases, pollution from mining threatens to seep into the land and water. In others, communities have been forced from their land for development projects or monoculture crops, condemning them to internal displacement and landlessness. Others campaign for sustainable land use, seeking to halt patterns of destruction that threaten to leave their descendents with nothing.

Environmental defenders find themselves facing powerful interests and brutal opposition. Some individuals working on environmental issues have approached PBI for protection after colleagues have been assassinated. Others have been subjected to criminal prosecutions based on spurious charges. All seek protection and support to enable them to continue their work of protecting the land for its future inhabitants.

Accompanied organisations

Colombia

Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission (CIJP), Curbaradó region

Guatemala

Association for the Protection of Las Granadillas Mountain (APMG), Association of Friends of Lake Izabal (ASALI), Madre Selva

Indonesia

Friends of the Earth Indonesia (WAHLI)

Mexico

Organisation of Women Ecologists of the Sierra de Petatlán (OMESP)

Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission

In 1997 counter-insurgency operations swept through the Curbaradó region of Colombia, destroying villages and forcing

approximately 7,000 people off their lands. The Afro-Colombian communities of Curbaradó are recognised under Colombian law as the true ancestral owners of the region,¹ but when the fighting had ended, they found that large areas of their territory had been illegally appropriated for palm oil plantations and they were unable to return.²

In an area once considered one of the world's richest areas of biodiversity, the cultivation of oil palm for biofuels in Curbaradó has caused significant environmental damage. Massive deforestation has damaged water resources, reduced biodiversity and seriously affected the ability of the small farmers to cultivate their land.

Community members who denounce the situation have faced threats, intimidation and worse – such as the assassination in 2005 of community leader Orlando Valencia and that of Ualberto Hoyos Ríos in October 2008.

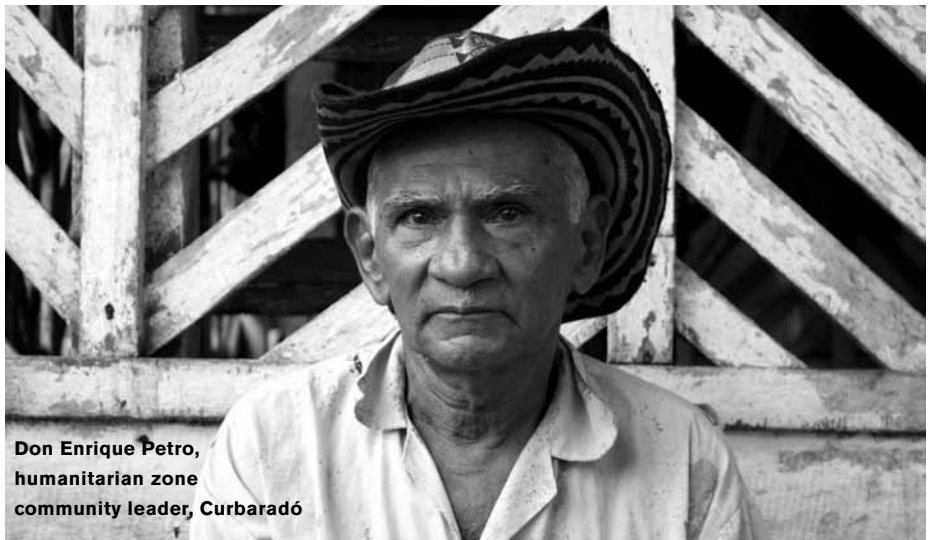
With the accompaniment of the Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission (CIJP), Curbaradó Afro-Colombian and mestizo communities have established two humanitarian zones and five biodiversity zones within the Curbaradó river basin. These neutral zones are

PBI's presence encourages greater visibility of the organisational processes undertaken by communities, and helps empower them by expressing concern to the international community. PBI volunteers witness with their own eyes the presence of paramilitary groups, and therefore can see how repression is still unfolding in these areas.

German Romero, CIJP

intended to protect the lives of the families living in resistance in an area of armed conflict, and to promote the sustainable use of the land.

In spite of measures granted by the Inter-American Commission and Court of Human Rights for the protection of CIJP members and the communities, the attacks continue. Between August and October 2008 members of CIJP were subject to increasing threats, apparently aimed at forcing them away from the area and ceasing their work. These included telephone death threats against CIJP members and their families warning them to leave the region, and the temporary kidnapping of one member, who was abducted by armed men and intimidated before being released an hour later.



Don Enrique Petro,
humanitarian zone
community leader, Curbaradó

¹ Law 70 of Colombia (1993): *In Recognition of the Right of Black Colombians to Collectively Own and Occupy their Ancestral Lands*, Trans N. and P. Jackson, Benedict College. www.benedict.edu/exec_admin/intnl_programs/other_files/bc-intnl_programs-law_70_of_colombia-english.pdf

² Defensoría del Pueblo (Office of the Human Rights Ombudsman), "Violación de derechos humanos por siembra de palma africana en territorios colectivos de Juguamiandó y Curbaradó" ('Human rights violated through the planting of African palm on the collective territories of Juguamiandó and Curbaradó') Monitoring report on Defensoría ruling no. 39, 2 June 2005

Women human rights defenders

Women human rights defenders, like their male counterparts, work to protect a wide range of civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights – and not only in the area of defence and promotion of women’s rights.

Human rights defenders are often subject to threats and repression because of their work, which by its nature challenges the status quo. As women working in traditionally patriarchal societies, women human rights defenders face additional levels of discrimination. In the words of Hina Jilani, former UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders:

“[N]ot only may they face human rights violations for their work as human rights defenders, but even more so because of their gender and the fact that their work may run counter to societal stereotypes about women’s submissive nature, or challenge notions of the society about the status of women.”¹

PBI accompanies women human rights defenders working in diverse areas, including women’s rights, the struggle against impunity, environmental protection and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights.

Accompanied organisations and activists

Colombia

Grassroots Women’s Organisation (OFF)

Guatemala

National Coordinating Body of Guatemalan Widows (CONAVIGUA), Women’s Sector (Sector de Mujeres), Lesbiradas

Mexico

Organisation of Women Ecologists of the Sierra de Petatlán (OMESP), Tita Radilla

Indonesia

Suciwati Munir



Tita Radilla talks with a PBI volunteer

Case study: Tita Radilla (Mexico)

At the age of 20, the life of Tita Radilla Martínez became inextricably bound with the struggle for human rights and social justice in Mexico. In 1974, her father, Rosendo Radilla Pacheco, a prominent social activist, was detained at an army checkpoint and never seen again. Soon after, Tita began her fight for justice for her father’s disappearance and those of hundreds more of Mexico’s disappeared.

Tita is vice-president and a founding member of the Association of Relatives of the Detained, Disappeared and Victims of Human Rights Violations (AFADEM), which campaigns for justice for people who disappeared in Mexico’s ‘dirty war’. The war began in the 1960s with a campaign by Mexican security forces to crush guerrilla insurgencies and continued for 20 years, during which many social organisations and

communities became victims of repression and hundreds of people were tortured or disappeared. No perpetrators of these crimes have ever been brought to justice.

Tita and AFADEM have worked tirelessly for 30 years to support family members of the disappeared to pursue justice. They have recently secured landmark international recognition of the state-sponsored disappearances by bringing the case of her father’s disappearance to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACHR). Tita’s determination and high profile work make her a target for threats and intimidation, and PBI has accompanied her since 2003. With the IACHR case, Tita’s security situation is difficult, but at the same time, she and AFADEM have hope of finally securing justice for this case and many more to come.

2009 UPDATE

The Inter-American Court of Human Rights heard the case of Rosendo Radilla in July 2009 and its pronouncement is expected at the end of the year. Tita Radilla will be in the UK in November 2009 at the invitation of PBI to speak at a series of events in London about her work and her father’s

case. The talks will be accompanied by screenings of the documentary 12.511 – Rosendo Radilla Case: An Open Wound from Mexico’s Dirty War.²

Tita Radilla has been nominated for the 2009 German UNIFEM award and the 2009 International Service Human Rights Award.

The authorities know [PBI] accompanies us and are concerned about their image abroad – they do not care what happens to us, but they care about what the outside world thinks of them. That is exactly how you are protecting us, and your work helps us greatly.

TITA RADILLA

¹ Report submitted by the UN Special Representative of the Secretary General on the situation of human rights defenders, Hina Jilani, to the 58th session of the Commission on Human Rights, E/CN.4/2002/106, 27 February 2002, para 91

Rights of indigenous groups

Indigenous groups suffer marginalisation, poverty and human rights violations around the world.

Often forced from their ancestral land by conflict or development projects, they are frequently overlooked when the time comes to distributing the benefits of development, lacking access to adequate health care, education or legal representation.¹

PBI accompanies several groups that work to protect indigenous rights and obtain justice for human rights violations committed against them. In West Papua, Indonesia, the indigenous population faces the destruction of the island's forests for large-scale projects carried out by transnational corporations, and can receive long prison sentences for raising their flag, the Morning Star, deemed a separatist symbol by the government. Of Guatemala's population, indigenous groups suffer the highest rates of extreme poverty and struggle for access to land, while in Mexico's Guerrero State, ongoing impunity for attacks against indigenous leaders and the use of unfounded criminal charges to stigmatise social activists are of serious concern and are contributing to a worrying human rights situation in the region.

Accompanied organisations

Indonesia

Papua's NGO Cooperation Forum (FOKER), Pastor John Djonga, the Space for Local Culture Foundation (YSBA)

Mexico

Organisation of the Indigenous Me'Phaa People (OPIM), Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre

Guatemala

Guatemalan Association of Indigenous Mayors and Authorities (AGAAI), Association of Mayan Lawyers and Notaries of Guatemala (AANMG)

Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre

Supporting the deprived communities of Mexico's Guerrero State for more than 13 years, the Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre's work has been crucial in upholding the fundamental rights of individuals as well as the collective rights of indigenous communities including the Na savi (Mixtec), Me' phaa (Tlapanec) and Amuzgo peoples.

The organisation's lawyers offer legal advice and representation to victims of human rights violations and their families as well as taking on emblematic cases that exemplify the structural causes of human rights abuses. Following an interdisciplinary model of 'integral defence', they use legal tools, political and media pressure, and national and international alliances in their efforts to achieve change.

Unfortunately, organisations working to defend the rights of indigenous people in Guerrero faced repeated attacks in 2008 and the first months of 2009. These included the assassination of the

president and secretary of the indigenous Organisation for the Future of the Mixtec People (OFPM), the extrajudicial execution of a member of the Organisation of Indigenous Me'phaa People (OPIM), and the year-long detention of five members of OPIM, who were declared prisoners of conscience by Amnesty International.

As human rights defenders, we cannot be indifferent to the tragedy of these peoples. That is why the establishment of the Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre in Guerrero and PBI's accompaniment throughout these years have somewhat brightened up the bleak outlook of the indigenous peoples and campesinos of Guerrero... We know that PBI is by our side, and that it will continue stand by indigenous peoples who are suffering.
ABEL BARRERA, director, Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre



Indigenous women protest against the detention of the five members of OPIM declared prisoners of conscience by Amnesty International.

2009 UPDATE

The Tlachinollan Centre closed its Ayutla office in March 2009 for security reasons following threats against its workers. Its Tlapa office remains open. The high level of risks facing human rights defenders (HRDs) in the region led the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to grant emergency protection measures to

107 HRDs in April 2009.

Due to current threats against indigenous groups and HRDs, the Tlachinollan Centre is requesting support from the international community, particularly its fellow lawyers, to monitor the situation. Tlachinollan lawyer Vidulfo Rosales visited London in April 2009

to raise awareness of the situation. He gave a public talk at Doughty Street Chambers and met with the International Bar Association, the Bar Human Rights Committee and the Law Society, among others, about the possibility of sending an international delegation of lawyers to Guerrero later in the year.

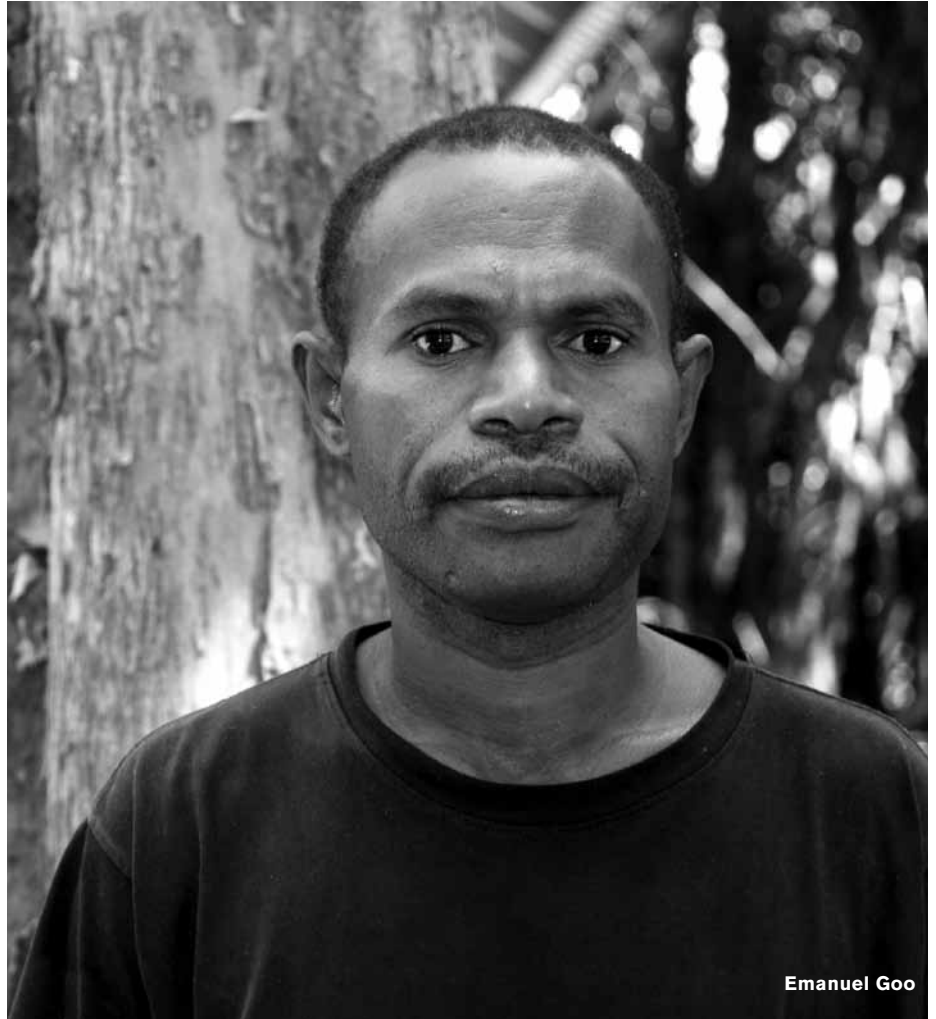
¹ UN press release, 'United Nations adopts Declaration of Rights of Indigenous Peoples': <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=23794&Cr=indigenous&Cr1>

Freedom of speech

The right to freedom of speech is considered a cornerstone of democracy. “[T]he freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media, regardless of frontiers” is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 19). It is also one of the more contentious of the fundamental rights – globally, writers and journalists continue to pay a high price for speaking against the wishes of those in power. Although journalists may not consider themselves human rights defenders, that is what they become when they expose corruption, abuses of power and miscarriages of justice, or write in defence of the oppressed and the marginalised.

Threats and intimidation can force journalists to resort to self-censorship, denying the population access to information as well as, in many cases, a means by which to make its voice heard. In Nepal, women journalists in particular are increasingly withdrawing from the profession due to lack of security, which was made brutally clear in early 2009 with the murder of Uma Singh, a young journalist who reported on women’s rights.¹

PBI accompanies several journalists who have suffered threats because of their work in defence of human rights.



Emanuel Goo

These days, journalists are working on the edge of a knife: we report about crimes but no one takes action against the perpetrators. The police are unable to take action and to provide security for us. It is said that journalists are the fourth organ of the state but the state is not acting responsibly towards our security and protection.

KOKILA D, journalist and human rights defender, Nepal

Organisations and journalists accompanied by PBI

Indonesia

Emanuel Goo, journalist and human rights defender

Nepal

Jit Man Basnet, journalist and human rights lawyer; Kokila D, journalist

Emanuel Goo

Emanuel Goo is an independent journalist based in Nabire. He is a writer for the newspaper Papua Pos Nabire and the weekly publication Suara Perempuan Papua (SPP), among others. SPP is recognised as one of the most reliable media sources in Papua and is often critical of district and provincial politics, corruption and illegal resource extraction. Emanuel has also published books on Papuan humour and on democracy and human rights in Nabire. He recently set up an NGO, ELPEMA, in collaboration with other activists in Nabire.

Emanuel has been subjected to threats and intimidation for a number of years, including surveillance, threatening phone calls and text messages, as well as being followed and forced off the road. He says he hopes a relationship with PBI

will have a deterrent effect and offer some protection not just to him but also to other journalists and human rights activists working in the area.

Emanuel says PBI’s presence in Nabire makes a big difference to both himself and the activist community. He feels safer now that the authorities are aware of his relationship with PBI, even if he is still threatened by some of the actors criticised in his articles. Although direct physical threats have decreased, the pressure on him is now maintained at a psychological level through stigmatisation, indirect intimidation and constant monitoring.

When we speak – activists, lawyers, journalists – we are in danger.

JIT MAN BASNET, journalist and human rights lawyer, Nepal

¹ Kantipur report, 2 February 2009, FNJ [Federation of Nepalese Journalists]: ‘Women journalists face psychological terror’

Sexual minorities' rights

Human rights defenders who defend the rights of people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) have to deal not only with the threats, intimidation and harassment experienced in the course of their human rights work, but often with homophobia and indifference from society in general. Where there is little social acceptance of sexual diversity, organisations working for LGBT rights may come up against obstacles in every aspect of their work and as a result are often under-resourced and isolated.¹ Indifference on the part of the justice system in investigating and prosecuting attacks against members of LGBT communities or their defenders serves to perpetuate impunity for such crimes.

Accompanied organisations

Guatemala

The Organisation to Support an Integrated Sexuality to Confront AIDS (OASIS), *Lesbiradas*

OASIS

The Organisation to Support an Integrated Sexuality to Confront AIDS (OASIS) defends the rights of sexually diverse communities² and those suffering from HIV-AIDS, and documents the cases of human rights violations, exclusion and discrimination suffered by the LGBT population. It also provides vital services to these communities, including workshops and training, sexual health advice, and employment/voluntary opportunities for members who are often faced with no other alternative to the street. Often rejected from the family home because of their sexual identity, members of Guatemala's LGBT communities suffer from lack of access to education, work, adequate health care and are denied their cultural identity, says Jorge Lopez, the organisation's director: "Their lives can be taken without need for bullets or knives."

PBI has accompanied OASIS since 2006, following the murder of one of the organisation's transgender workers, Paulina, by presumed members of the National Civil Police, and the attempted murder of another, Zulma, who witnessed



Jorge López and Zulma of OASIS, during a speaking tour of Europe in October 2008

the attack.

OASIS has registered numerous attacks and assassinations of LGBT sex workers, which it considers to be clear cases of hate crimes. But with all such attacks officially recorded as common delinquency, comprehensive documentation of the problem is impossible, the organisation reports.³ The problem is compounded by the lack of efficiency or motivation on the part of the authorities to deal with crimes against this group. Although homosexuality is not a crime under Guatemalan law, the rights of LGBT communities are neither recognised nor defended by the legal system, resulting in their persecution and 'de facto penalisation'.⁴

Despite these enormous challenges, OASIS – and in particular its director, Jorge López – continues to struggle tirelessly for the recognition and respect of this marginalised group.

Sometimes I feel like a kitten looking at itself in the mirror and what it sees in the mirror is a big lion ... Even without resources we carry on growling as if we were those big tigers. I'm sure that if OASIS didn't exist, [these crimes] wouldn't be reported, and there wouldn't be the resources to buy antiretroviral drugs for these communities that don't have any kind of support."
JORGE LÓPEZ, OASIS

2009 UPDATE

Prosecution of Jorge López, director of OASIS

In early 2009, Jorge López was arrested after denouncing irregularities by the Public Prosecutor's Office (MP). PBI activated its support network within Guatemala and the initial hearing was attended by representatives of several embassies. The court found the evidence to be insufficient but allowed the case against Jorge to continue on lesser charges. OASIS warns that the accusations are specious.

¹ Human Rights Watch media release, 'LGBT Rights Movement: Progress and Visibility Breed Backlash', June 11, 2009

² Sexually diverse communities include lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and transsexual people

³ OASIS, *La situación de los derechos humanos y los crímenes de odio por causa de la identidad sexual en Guatemala*, ('The situation of human rights and hate crimes motivated by sexual identity in Guatemala') 16 November 2006

⁴ *ibid.*

PBI: International news



PBI's Mexico project launches its report *Human Rights Defenders in the State of Guerrero: Cases of resistance and initiatives from civil society regarding the defense and promotion of fundamental rights in Mexico* in May 2008

News from PBI projects and offices around the world

INDONESIA

Closure of Aceh sub-team

After a 29-year war, peace has held in Aceh since the signing of the 2005 peace agreement between the Indonesian government and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM). In June 2008, after seven years of promoting peace and protecting human rights defenders in Aceh, PBI Indonesia closed its Aceh sub-team: "In keeping with PBI's principle of respecting local capacity, the Indonesia Project recognised that the Acehnese community could effectively provide for their own peace education needs without international interference," the project said. To mark the closure, the

project held a peace education summit in February 2008 focussed on strengthening local participatory peace initiatives. It also produced a peace education manual and a documentary entitled *We Are Not Alone*, and launched both at the Aceh Farewell Party in May 2008.

MEXICO

Opening of Oaxaca office

In October 2008, after a thorough evaluation, PBI opened an office in Oaxaca City. Since PBI began accompaniment work in Mexico, civil society organisations have expressed a need for an international presence in the state of Oaxaca which, like Guerrero, is home to a large indigenous population and suffers high levels of poverty and social conflict.

Criminalisation of human rights defenders

Human rights defenders are increasingly subjected to criminal prosecutions based on spurious charges. This form of repression, known as criminalisation, has been observed across PBI's Latin American projects, as well as by other human rights organisations.¹ These unfounded prosecutions impact on all aspects of HRDs' work, undermine their credibility and legitimacy, and put their lives at risk. In March 2008, PBI Colombia produced a special edition of its newsletter *ColomPBIa*² to highlight the trend. In June 2008, PBI UK also organised a round-table event at the Law Society to examine the use of criminalisation against human rights defenders working on environmental issues.

Baseless charges have been brought against several defenders that PBI accompanies, only to be subsequently dismissed by the courts. Just two examples are: in **Mexico**, on 17 April 2008, 15 arrest warrants were issued against members of the Organisation of the Indigenous Me'phaa People (OPIM), including its leader, Cuauhtémoc Ramírez Rodríguez. All but one of these defenders have now been released. In **Colombia**, six board members of the Rural Association of Rio Cimitarra Valley (ACVC) were arrested between September 2007 and January 2008 on charges of rebellion. By May 2008 all but two had been released, the allegations of their links with FARC rebels found to be unsubstantiated.³ Miguel Huepa Gonzales was tried in court and declared innocent in June 2009, after 17 months' imprisonment. Unfortunately, Andrés Gil Gutierrez remains in the legal process and in prison after almost two years.

¹ Such as Human Rights First, which published the report *Baseless Prosecutions of Human Rights Defenders in Colombia: In the Dock and Under the Gun* in February 2009

² *ColomPBIa* No.8. Available from www.pbi-colombia.org/field-projects/pbi-colombia/publications/

³ Prosecutor 37, Human Rights and International Humanitarian Unit of Medellin, Resolution of Dismissal, April 23, 2008. Cited in *Human Rights First, Baseless Prosecutions of Human Rights Defenders in Colombia*, 2009, p17

► 2009 UPDATE

Protective accompaniment in Africa: initial feasibility study

With funding from the Swedish Amnesty Relief Fund, PBI is assessing the need for protective accompaniment of human rights defenders in Africa. Volunteers with specialist knowledge of Africa and of protective accompaniment will investigate the levels of repression faced by human rights defenders,

the nature and impact of their efforts to improve the human rights situation in their countries, and the capacity of the international community to mount a protective response on their behalf. The outcome of this research project, which was encouraged by Amnesty International, will help to inform decisions by PBI, Amnesty and others regarding strategies for protecting African human rights defenders.

A volunteer's experience

By Rob Hawke

I have just completed six months with PBI Colombia in Barrancabermeja, an office that provides an interesting diversity of work.

Accompanying the Cimitarra Valley Rural Association (ACVC) usually means filling the rucksack with a hammock, wellies and insect repellent, then heading off on hair-raising truck rides into the mountains of Sur de Bolívar. The ACVC has 30,000 members spread throughout the region, the majority of which live without basic services such as electricity, running water, paved roads and health care. They also have the misfortune to live in a conflict zone, where forced displacement and harassment from armed groups aggravate the instability of daily life. We accompany the leaders of the ACVC as they try to stimulate organisational processes, sustainable development and food security programmes in a region where many are forced to farm the coca plant in order to survive. It is a constant eye-opener to learn about the lives, struggles and realities of those who live here.

Many leaders of the ACVC have suffered political persecution and imprisonment for the work they do. This year we attended the ongoing trials of two leaders – and one of the happiest and most emotional moments was the absolution of Miguel Huepa in June [2009].

Some of the most frequent accompaniments in Barranca are with the Popular Women's Movement (OFP). Like the ACVC, the OFP is a grassroots organisation; the coordinators frequently travel to municipalities along the Magdalena River, working with women

from the barrios who suffer from social and gender-based marginalisation. The OFP is carrying out a UNIFEM sponsored programme of psychosocial-judicial workshops that provide assistance to victims of sexual violence. The interactive nature of the workshops generates enormous enthusiasm among the women, and provides a confidential environment in communities where years of violence have broken down social networks.

I have travelled twice to Catatumbo, bordering Venezuela in northeast Colombia. Accompaniments with the lawyers of the Luis Carlos Pérez Lawyers' Collective (CCALCP) are less frequent but always an incredible learning experience. The CCALCP lawyers are legal advisors to the

Bari, an indigenous population engaged in dialogue with the government over petitions to exploit oil and carbon within its territory. It is fascinating to spend time getting to know the Bari and the unique way in which they are struggling to preserve and strengthen their culture.

It is also interesting learning how to manage the political side of the work. I have arrived at a time when the problems in the region seem to have intensified, and it is crucial to be able to carry out a detailed analysis of the situation in order to help guarantee the security of those we accompany. It involves a lot of meetings with social organisations, and civil and military authorities. In these spaces, one starts to measure the impact that the work of PBI is having.



Rob Hawke on accompaniment in Colombia

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Before joining a PBI project, potential volunteers undergo a period of training to assess their suitability for the challenges of fieldwork and enable them to decide if PBI is right for them.

1 Attending the orientation weekend

In the UK, PBI organises orientation weekends several times a year to introduce potential volunteers to the principles, philosophy and work of PBI, and guide them through a process of self-evaluation. On the basis of the trainers' recommendations and the self-evaluation of the potential volunteers, PBI UK decides on the suitability of candidates to attend a regional training.

2 Attending project-specific regional training

Each field project runs periodical regional training courses lasting 7-10 days. The training covers the history and current political situation of the project country, the causes of the conflict and the role of PBI, and the kinds of situations team members may have to address. At the end of the training, candidates will be informed of their suitability to join the project.

Financial summary

(Charity registration number 1101016, Company registration number 3912587)
Summary statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2008

	2008	2007
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Grants receivable from trusts and companies	233,757	256,176
Human Rights Defenders' Fund	48,818	0
Donations and other income	<u>28,758</u>	<u>30,224</u>
	311,333	286,400
Resources expended		
Charitable activities	(218,373)	(235,594)
Cost of generating funds	(34,264)	(27,202)
Governance costs	(10,101)	(13,264)
	<u>(262,738)</u>	<u>(276,060)</u>
Net incoming resources for year	48,595	10,340
Funds brought forward	<u>54,838</u>	<u>44,498</u>
Funds carried forward	<u>103,433</u>	<u>54,838</u>
Summary balance sheet as at 31st December 2008		
	2008	2007
	£	£
Fixed assets	<u>0</u>	<u>226</u>
Current assets	123,488	83,978
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>(20,055)</u>	<u>(29,366)</u>
Net current assets	<u>103,433</u>	<u>54,612</u>
Total assets less liabilities	103,433	54,838
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total net assets	<u>103,433</u>	<u>54,838</u>
Unrestricted funds	68,433	54,838
Restricted funds (HRD fund)	<u>35,000</u>	<u>0</u>
Total funds	<u>103,433</u>	<u>54,838</u>

Management Committee statement

These summary accounts are not the statutory accounts but a summary of the information which appears in the full financial statements which have been subjected to an independent audit and given an unqualified report. The Management Committee approved the full financial statements on 10th June 2009 and a copy is to be submitted to the Charity Commission. The summarised financial statements may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. For further information, the full financial statements including the auditor's report may be obtained from the charity's registered office.

Auditor's statement on the summary accounts

We have examined the summary accounts set out alongside.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the auditors

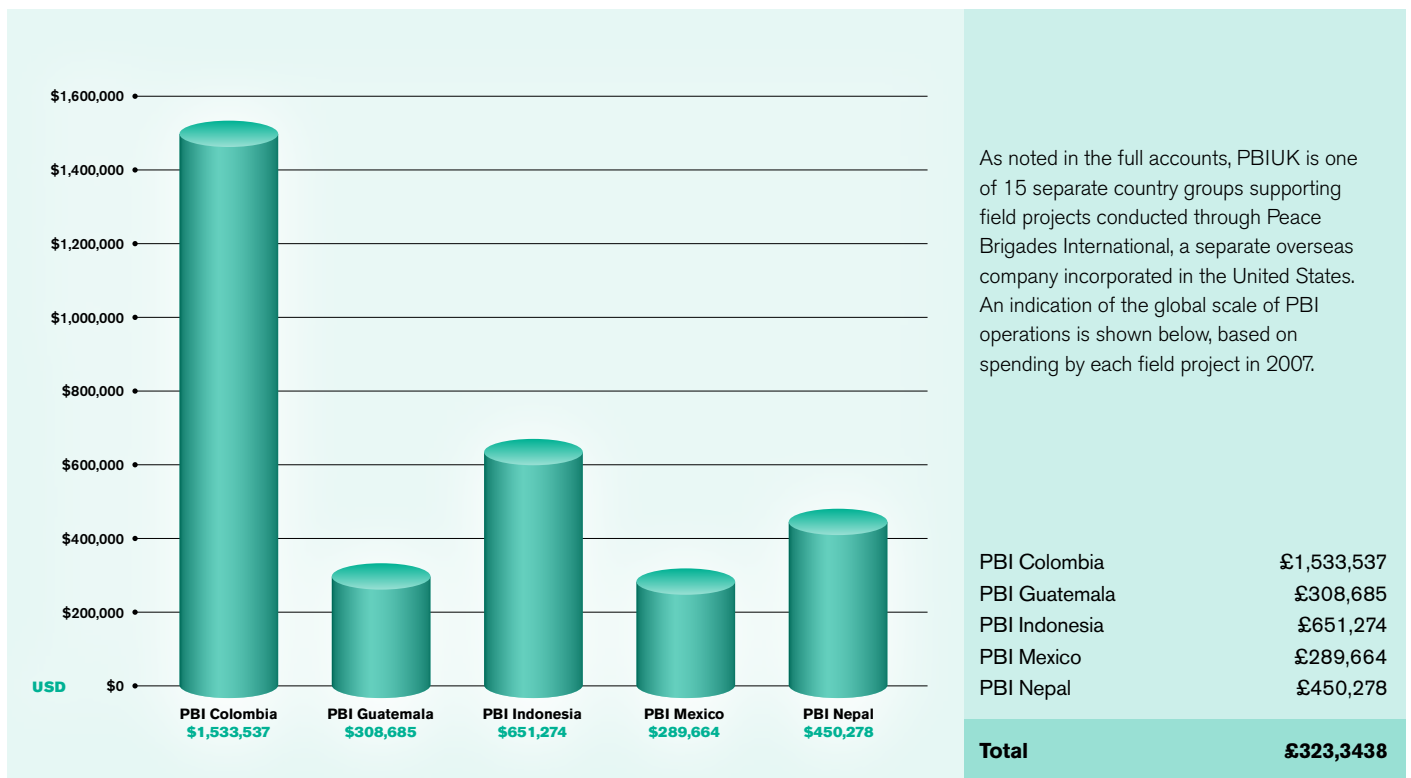
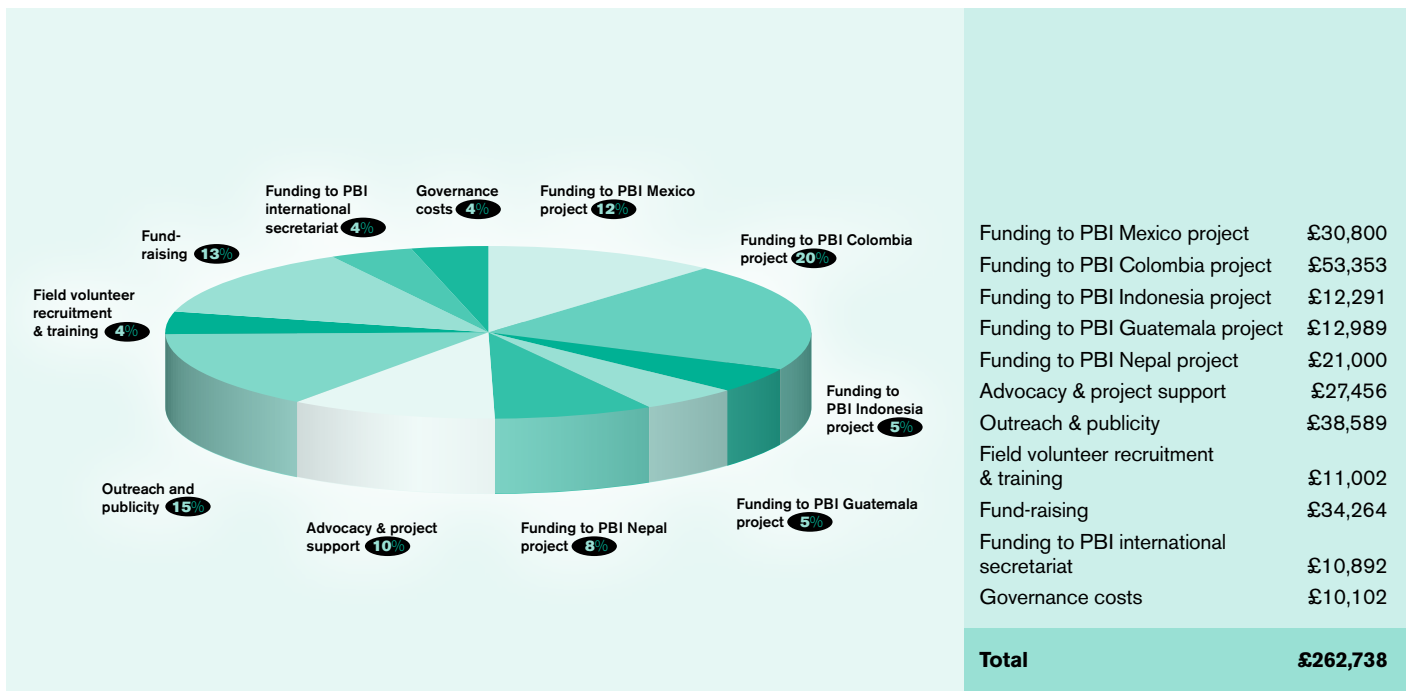
The summary accounts are the responsibility of the Trustees. It is our responsibility to report to you on their consistency with the full accounts. Our report on the full accounts of Peace Brigades International United Kingdom Section includes information on the responsibilities of the Trustees and the auditors relating to the preparation and audit of the accounts and on the basis of our opinion on the full accounts.

Opinion

In our opinion the summary accounts are consistent with the full accounts of Peace Brigades International United Kingdom Section for the year ended 31 December 2008.

Critchleys
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors
10th June 2009

How funds were spent in the UK in 2008



PBI UK would like to express its gratitude to Keith Smith, our accountant until September 2008. We are indebted to him for his dedication, professionalism and his thorough and diligent work throughout his 7 years with the organisation, and we wish him well in the future.



PBI UK office

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email susibascon@peacebrigades.org.uk

web www.peacebrigades.org.uk

Peace Brigades International UK Section expresses its thanks to all volunteers who contribute their time to its many activities. The many hundreds of unpaid hours they contribute each year are crucial to the effectiveness of the organisation's work.

PBI Country Groups

Aotearoa/New Zealand
Australia
Belgium
Canada
France
Germany
Italy
Luxemburg
Netherlands
Norway
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
United Kingdom
United States

Associate Groups

Austria
Portugal

Current PBI Projects

Colombia
(founded 1994)
Guatemala
(re-established 2002)
Indonesia (founded 1999)

Mexico
(founded 1999)
Nepal
(founded 2005)

Management Committee

Kathleen Armstrong
Christopher Chapman
Susan Cosgrove
Sarah Curtis
Tiffany Garside
Saima Hirji
Joanne Holden
Andrew Kendle
Jill Powis
Rebekah Wilson

Staff

Susi Bascon
(full time director)
Pam Feldman
(part time fundraiser)
Emma Marshall
(part time outreach and communications worker)
Lani Parker
(part time outreach worker until June 2008)
Keith Smith
(part time finance worker until September 2008)
Roy Taylor
(part time finance worker)
Louise Winstanley
(part time advocacy worker)

PBI UK field volunteers 2008

Colombia Project

Anna Musgrave

Guatemala Project

Chris Moye
Marina Comandulli
Emma Marshall
Daniel Carey
Jacqueline Benfield

Indonesia Project

Jane Canavan
Esther Cann
Chris Chaplin
Sophie Crocker
Lynda Mills

Mexico Project

Billy Kyte
Ben Leather
Michael Tamblyn

Nepal Project

Michael Bluett
Jessica Johnston
Laura Burgess
Sophie Buxton

Office volunteers

Anna Baldock
Stuart Bowman
Laura Burgess

Daniel Carey
Isabel Carlton
Anna Carnegie
Caroline Carson
Megan Ciotti
Nikki Evans
Kinisha Forbes
John Hampson
Rob Hawke
Taline Haytayan
Andrew Hickman
June Holmes
Hege Iverson
Libby Kerr
Billy Kyte
Iona Liddell
Valeria Luna
Natalie Mercier
Paul Mukerji
Anna Musgrave
Eleanor Openshaw
Sam Pearce
Jeska Rees
Tuuli Reissaar
Laura Richardson
Abigail Sanders
James Savage
Mary Scott
John Sebastian
Frances Thomson
Kathryn Tomlinson
Ronja N. Annexstad Trolie
David Troup
Mark Williams
Nick Wothley
Ann Wright