

ETC Group publications, workshops and seminars

ETC Group has given numerous speeches and participated in workshops and cultural events throughout Mexico and other countries on the topic of **GM maize contamination**. For example:

- Speech about the native maize varieties' contamination in the First Maize Cultural Festival in Mexico City, ETC Group along with well-known personalities of the cultural world in Mexico, April 2004;
- Participation in the First Festival of Farmers' Maize Fair, Via Campesina, in Santa Catarina, Brasil, April 2004
- Participation in the Via Campesina North America regional meeting in Mexico City, discussing the impacts of maize contamination for farmers and biodiversity, May 2004;
- Participation in the World Congress of Via Campesina in Itaipu, Brazil, May 2004;
- Several speeches at the Social Forum of the Americas in Quito, July 2004, including one at the event organized by the Latin American Watch on Environmental Conflicts;
- Participation on gene contamination in centres of origin, privatization of seeds, and biopiracy at the Seminar on Environmental Services, CENAMI, Mexico, August 2004;
- Workshop, "Land, environment and development: threats and alternatives for the peoples of maize," Jalisco state, Mexico, August 2004.

In addition to these major events, in Mexico, ETC Group:

- testified, by invitation, before a joint meeting of three congressional committees of the Mexican government on the implications of the draft biosafety legislation;
- participated actively through newspaper articles, media interviews and news conferences, and in public meetings with indigenous peoples in the debate surrounding the potential negative impact of the Mexican biosafety legislation on genetic diversity;
- worked with indigenous communities and their organizations to enable their receipt of funds in support for organizations to provide information and research to communities regarding GM maize contamination;
- provided information and resource support for literally dozens of community and regional meetings of farmers in Mexico;

Beyond Mexico, ETC Group:

- worked with farmers organizations and other partners throughout Central America to support their analysis of GM contamination in these countries;
- liaised with other farmers organizations and communities in Africa and Asia as additional information became available on contamination situations from India to Zambia;
- undertook research and analysis of the alternatives available to farming communities to address problems of GM contamination at the local level.
- facilitated international NGO & CSO liaison with farming communities in Mexico;
- acted as a liaison between indigenous Mexican communities and their organizations and scientific partners at institutions in Western Europe that could provide expertise in analyzing GM maize contamination;
- served as a liaison between Mexican organizations and CBDC partners in other parts of Latin America and elsewhere to provide additional information related to crop genetic diversity and GM contamination.

ETC Group publications related to Food Sovereignty and GM maize contamination during the reporting period:

- ETC Group *News Release*, "Taking Care of Business: The CGIAR and GM Contamination," 27 August 2004;
- *Transgénicos: verdades y suposiciones* by Silvia Ribeiro, November 29, 2004.

Note: All publications have been translated into Spanish and are available in both languages on the ETC website.

Additional articles published:

- Silvia Ribeiro, "10 Razones Porqué Decir No a los OGTs" included in the "Viva Mexico" Spread in *La Jornada* celebrating Maize Cultural Festival, April 16-25, Mexico, April 16, 2004.
- Silvia Ribeiro, "Lógicas perversas y transgénicos," article in *La Jornada*, Mexico, June 29 2004;
- Silvia Ribeiro, "The day the sun dies. Contamination and resistance in Mexico," article published in *Seedling*, July 2004.
- Silvia Ribeiro wrote a long article in "Seedling" (Grain, 2004), about the history of maize contamination, the action of different actors and the proposals made by farmers and CSOs;
- "Soberanía alimentaria" Spread, *Pueblos Magazine*, Madrid, Spain, Sept. 1, 2004;
- Numerous articles were published in *La Jornada*, Mexico City and other Latin American newspapers.

ETC Group publications related to **Food Sovereignty and international agricultural research/governance** during the reporting period:

- ETC Group *News Release*, "Message to FAO: Fight Hunger – Not Farmers," June 16, 2004;
- News Release: ETC Group releases *Down on the Farm: The Impact of Nano-Scale Technologies on Food and Agriculture*, November 23, 2004;
- *Down on the Farm: The Impact of Nano-scale Technologies on food and Agriculture*, November 2004 (copy enclosed) also translated into Spanish and Portuguese.

Additional articles published:

- Article entitled "CGIAR, contaminación y eufemismos", *La Jornada* journal, Mexico City, Sept. 18, 2004.

During the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil at the end of January, 2005, ETC group conducted the following workshops related to **Biopiracy and New Enclosures**: "New Enclosures and the New Faces of Biopiracy";

- "Rocking the Boat- again: Global campaign against Craig Venter's Biopiracy expedition";
- Via Campesina hosted a "Captain Hook" Award Ceremony in Brazil during a major meeting of Landless peoples in Brazil;
- Jim Thomas and Kathy-Jo Wetter gave a number of workshops related to New Enclosures during the European Social Forum in London in October.

Publications related to Biopiracy and New Enclosures during the reporting period:

- Communiqué, *From Global Enclosure to Self Enclosure: Ten Years After - A Critique of the CBD and the "Bonn Guidelines" on Access and Benefit Sharing*, February 2004;
- ETC Group *Communiqué*, "Playing God in the Galapagos," March/April 2004;
- ETC Group *News Release*, "Rocking the Boat: J. Craig Venter's Microbial Collecting Expedition Under Fire in Latin America," 22 July 2004;
- ETC Group *News Release*, "Canada's Supreme Court Rules on 'David & Goliath' Friday: Tell Monsanto Where to Go!" May 20, 2004;
- ETC Group *News Release*, "Canadian Supreme Court Tramples Farmers' Rights - Affirms Corporate Monopoly On Higher Life Forms," May 21, 2004.

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The following is a partial list of workshops and speaking engagements by ETC staff members in the area of **Technologies Converging at the Nano-Scale**:

- Series of seminars by ETC Group in Bolivia, entitled, "New Technologies and the Economy of the South," in La Paz, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz and Sucre, Bolivia, March 29 – April 7, 2004. Speaking tour sponsored by Bolivian NGO consortia and Canadian Lutheran World Relief - Canada. Seminar on "Nanobiotechnology" for IDRC staff members
- Representation at Civil Society Meeting with Royal Society (UK) on Nanotech
- Panel presentation at the World Nano Economic Congress in London
- .Series of workshops by ETC Group on nanotech at the "Reclaim the Commons" teach-in, San Francisco, June, 2004
- Speech on "Nanotechnology and the South" at University of Costa Rica, July 15, 2004.
- Speech at The Future of Nanomaterials Conference, "Environmental and societal implications of Nanotechnology," 29 June 2004.
- ETC Group hosted two workshops at the European Social Forum (October 13-17) in London. *Beyond GM: Nanotechnology* focussed on the basics of nanotech and its implications for farmers and for food sovereignty worldwide;
- The second workshop was entitled *Resisting corporate monopolies and new enclosures* and discussed the range of legal and technological devices being used to create corporate monopolies and attempts to resist and build alternatives;
- Silvia Ribeiro and Pat Mooney of ETC Group spoke at the 1st International Congress: "Science and Society, the border of invisibility - biomedicine, nanotechnology, nutraceuticals, and nanobiotechnology," hosted by the Genetic Rights Council (Consiglio dei Diritti Genetici), in collaboration with the Region of Tuscany and the Municipality of Lastra a Signa, in Florence, Italy.
- Pat Mooney gave a presentation entitled "Technological Tsunami: Nanotechnology and Beyond" during the same event;
- In September Silvia Ribiero gave two major presentations on nanotechnology to the Friends of the Earth international meeting, in Zagreb, Croatia;;
- Hope Shand participated in a workshop sponsored by the Loka Institute on Public Participation and Nanotechnology in Washington, DC in September; on the social and ethical implications of nanotechnology research and development. ETC Group was asked to provide a general overview and introduction to nanotech for the citizen participants. The objective of the workshop was to provide a group of citizens and grassroots community leaders with essential information on nanotechnology research and development and on strategies for science policy advocacy;

- ETC Group participated in Nanodays Fair in Switzerland in November;
- In November, the ETC Group provided a briefing for senior staff of the Rockefeller Foundation on the new report, *Down on the Farm: The Impact of Nano-scale Technologies on Food and Agriculture*.

ETC Group publications related to nano-scale technologies during the reporting period:

- ETC Group *Genotype*, “Nano’s Troubled Waters,” 1 April 2004;
- ETC Group News Release, “26 Governments Tiptoe Toward Global Nano Governance,” 30 June 2004;
- ETC Group *News Release*, “Nanotech: Unpredictable and Unregulated,” 8 July 2004;
- ETC Group *Communiqué*, “Nanotech News in Living Colour: An Update on White Papers, Red Flags, Green Goo, Grey Goo (and Red Herrings),” May/June 2004;
- ETC Group *News Release*, “The Precautionary Prince II,” 11 July 2004;
- ETC Group *News Release*, “UK Report: More Hits than Misses on Nanotech,” 29 July 2004;
- the aforementioned News Release: ETC Group releases *Down on the Farm: The Impact of Nano-Scale Technologies on Food and Agriculture* November 23, 2004;
- *Down on the Farm: The Impact of Nano-Scale Technologies on Food and Agriculture*, November 2004.

Published by others:

- Monthly column on nano-scale technologies in *The Ecologist* by Jim Thomas: articles appearing during the reporting period include: “Little brother is Watching You” (November 2003), “Nanowatch” (February 2004), “Nanowatch – Nanoparticles” (March 2004), “Nanocuisine” (April 2004), “Nanowatch – Ten Toxic Warnings” (May 2004), “Nanowatch – nanopatents” (June 2004)
- *Global Økologi*, “Man And Machine: Nanobiotechnology comes to life,” article by Kathy Jo Wetter (translated into Danish), May 2004
- “De los genomas a los átomos: ¿qué nos deparan las nuevas tecnologías?” article by Silvia Ribeiro, published in *América Latina en Movimiento*, Quito, Ecuador, July 2004.
- “Nanotecnología: del campo a su estómago,” article by Silvia Ribeiro, *La Jornada*, México, August 2004
- “Los fulerenos afectan el cerebro de los peces,” article by Silvia Ribeiro, *La Jornada*, México, April 2004