

Agrofuels (Biofuels)

Not the green solution

Stop a climate, ecological and social catastrophe!

Governments and corporations are subsidizing and promoting agrofuels as 'green energy'. They want us to think it is part of the solution to climate change. They want to cushion us from the effects of dwindling oil supplies. Agrofuel policies support a new corporate alliance which includes big agribusiness, oil companies, the biotech industry, car manufacturers and venture capitalists

"The grain required to fill a 25-gallon SUV gas tank with ethanol will feed one person for a year." (Lester Brown, Earth Policy Institute).

Agrofuels destroy Rainforests



Experienced rainforest campaigners are warning that, within the next few years, agrofuels could become the main reason for rainforest destruction worldwide. More rainforest destruction and intensive agriculture are the quickest ways to make climate change worse. Many rainforests and other ecosystems have a 'tipping point'. This means we can degrade them so far and then they could collapse suddenly and completely

www.biofuelwatch.org.uk

National Week of Local Action on Agrofuels From Saturday, 26th January 2008

Please organise events, publicity and protests in your local area against companies which refine or sell agrofuels linked to

- deforestation and accelerated global warming
- high food prices leading to hunger and starvation
- human rights abuses and the displacement of communities in the global South.

Tesco, Cargill, Greenergy are one of the business partnerships which sell agrofuels from soya, palm oil, sugar cane – all feedstocks linked to large scale deforestation, evictions and human rights abuse. They also sell biodiesel from rapeseed oil. According to a recent study by Nobel prize winner Paul Crutzen, the greenhouse gas emissions linked to rapeseed biodiesel are 70% higher than those from fossil fuel diesel. They have a refinery in Immingham and are planning a second one in Liverpool.

For more details, contact info@biofuelwatch.org.uk.

Agrofuels steal food growing land and push up prices



Diverting huge quantities of food to cars is a sure way of making people go hungry. EU and US demand for agrofuels has helped to double the price of wheat and corn in the last year. World grain reserves are steadily being depleted, pushing up food prices across the globe, and has been called a "crime against humanity" by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Jean Ziegler. Surging grain prices are pushing staple products out of the reach of the poor, causing hunger and social unrest.

More human rights abuses and refugees

The Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Victoria Tauli-Corpus, has warned that 60 million indigenous people may soon become agrofuel refugees. In Argentina, 150,000 rural families have already been displaced from their land by soya companies. Many had to leave their land because of aerial spraying with dangerous pesticides, which has made it impossible to grow crops and live safely on their land. Many more will lose their land thanks to the agrofuel boom.