

# Protest outside 'Biofuel Finance and Investment' conference meeting

Victoria Park Plaza, 239 Vauxhall Bridge Road (close to Victoria Station), London SW1V 1EQ

Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> November

Please join a banner protest outside this major biofuel industry conference from 12 noon to 2pm.

This conference is an exclusive conference for industry members and politicians – members of the public are excluded by a £2000 fee. Conference organisers promise:

*“A marketing solution that generates new business...if your business is in providing finance and investment advice and opportunities in Biofuels, this is your chance to increase your market share”.*

Those investment deals made will result in:

## Faster global warming

This year, the Amazon has seen one of the worst fire seasons on record, as soya farmers are clearing ever more rainforest for new plantations, spurred by the biofuel boom which is pushing up prices and profits. Deforestation could push the Amazon into irreversible die-back any time – this would release up to 120 billion tonnes of carbon very quickly (compared to global fossil fuel emissions of about 8 billion tonnes per year). Similar destruction is happening in many parts of Latin America, Africa and Asia.



## More hunger and starvation

The UN special rapporteur on the Right to Food, Jean Ziegler has called biofuel production 'a crime against humanity'. Agrofuels are displacing food crops and pushing up food prices. Even in the United States, a new survey has revealed a steep rise in the number of people going hungry –

with 60% of people blaming agrofuels. Poor countries are likely to see a steep increase in hunger and starvation.

## 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 biofuel 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 biofuel boom.

For information about the biofuel industry, see [www.biofuelwatch.org.uk](http://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk). For more details about the protest, email [info@biofuelwatch.org.uk](mailto:info@biofuelwatch.org.uk).

## Also ...

### National Day of Local Action on Agrofuels - Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> January

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 biofuels 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](mailto:info@biofuelwatch.org.uk).

