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# OXFAM INTERMÓN

CHANGING LIVES THAT CHANGE LIVES

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# WHO WE ARE. PEOPLE LIKE YOU

We are a non-governmental organisation for development cooperation (NGDO) which focuses its activities on the provision of an integrated response to the challenge posed by poverty and injustice in order to enable all human beings to exercise their rights fully. Our work revolves around the following five change objectives:



**Objective 1: the right of people to be heard: to demand the right to a life of dignity People who live in conditions of poverty and exclusion can have greater control over their lives if they exercise their right to political participation, freedom of expression and association, and have access to information and justice. These are the bases on which the beliefs and work of Oxfam are based.**

- Our objective is to ensure that more women, young people and people in general who live in conditions of poverty and exclusion can fully exercise their civil and political rights. This will allow them to have an influence on the decision-making processes that affect their lives. In order to achieve this, we collaborate with government bodies and urge governments and companies to demonstrate greater responsibility in observing and respecting people's rights.



**Objective 2: to promote gender justice** The systematic discrimination against women and girls is both cause and consequence of the inequality that creates poverty. This can be made worse by other factors such as class, ethnicity, age, religion and fundamentalism.

- Our objective is to ensure that more women who live in conditions of poverty and exclusion can demand and defend their rights through the greater participation and leadership of women and their organisations. This will enable us to ensure that gender violence becomes less widespread and less accepted in society.



**Objective 3: to save lives, now and in the future** Because of the increase in the number of people living in vulnerable conditions and the increase in the frequency and severity of climate-related disasters, together with the inability of the international community to promote the security and development of the most fragile states, the capacity of governments and of the international community to take on their responsibilities to protect the rights of displaced people and people who need humanitarian aid or are at risk is increasingly under question. We are working to ensure that governments and other duty-bearers take on this responsibility while at the same time trying to alleviate the causes and consequences of these disasters.

- Our objective is to ensure that fewer men, women, boys and girls die or suffer illness, deprivation or insecurity, by reducing the impact of natural disasters and conflict. People who are in high-risk situations must be able to meet their needs for drinking water,

sanitation and food (as well as other basic needs), live free from violence and coercion and take control of their lives with dignity.



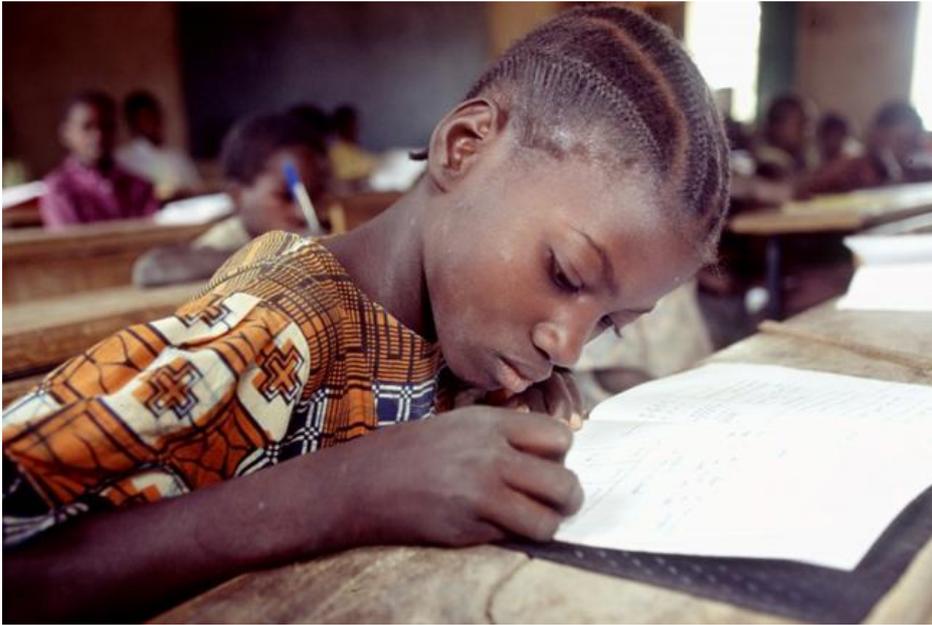
**Objective 4: Sustainable food systems** We promote the right of people who live in poverty to an adequate and sustainable livelihood. This has been the cornerstone of Oxfam's work for many decades: it has inspired and given shape to our work in rural development, our support for agricultural innovation and our fair trade campaigns at international level.

- Our objective is to ensure that more people who live in conditions of poverty in rural areas can enjoy greater food security, higher incomes and greater prosperity and resilience by means of more equitable and sustainable food systems.



**Objective 5: A fair division of natural resources** The increasingly intense competition for access to and control of natural resources is putting enormous pressure on the livelihoods of small-scale producer families, agricultural workers, indigenous communities and poor people in urban areas; these groups are already fragile. The most vulnerable small-scale agricultural or subsistence families have to compete with powerful interests for the control of land and resources and lack the means to improve their livelihoods or find alternatives. Women and young people in rural and urban areas are the ones who suffer most from the consequences of these trends.

- Our objective is to ensure that the most excluded people in the world can achieve greater prosperity and resilience despite increasing competition for land, water, food and energy sources and the threat of climate change.



**Objective 6: Funding development and universal basic social services In an international environment of austerity and the reduction in aid flows, it is essential to mobilise additional national and international funds to reduce poverty and foster sustainable development.**

- Our objective is to ensure better quality and larger financial flows aimed at combating poverty and inequality and at empowering citizens, especially women, so that they can demand that governments, donors and the private sector become accountable as to how they obtain and invest public funds. This will allow more women, men, girls and boys to exercise their rights to universal good-quality health and education services by becoming active members of their communities and strengthening the economic, social and democratic fabric of their societies.

# MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

Oxfam Intermón is made up of people with diverse political, religious and cultural beliefs who have a single mission, share certain values and hold a common vision of the world we would all like to see.

## MISSION

Oxfam Intermón is made up of people who fight alongside and on behalf of disadvantaged communities as part of a broad global movement, with the objective of eradicating injustice and poverty and of ensuring that all human beings can fully exercise their rights and enjoy a life of dignity.

## VISION

As an organisation, we endorse commitment to people and consistency between action and ethical commitment as the central ideas which guide our development and growth. And we understand that we will make a much more valuable contribution to the building of a fairer world if we are able to:

- Offer an integrated response to the challenge of poverty, working consistently in the four areas which constitute our distinguishing marks: development cooperation; humanitarian action; fair trade, social mobilisation and campaigns; and education in values. We understand that only by connecting the local with the global through this integrated vision can we generate effective change to guarantee people's basic rights.
- Contribute significantly to the global movement for social justice as active members of Oxfam International, capable of contributing to the development of the confederation and from there helping to drive forward transformative initiatives for justice and against poverty.
- Integrate the diversity of the voices and contributions of the people who make up OI and of those of the people we work with. To do this we are equipped with mechanisms for participation, both for our permanent operational team and the social base that supports us. Our reflection and our actions integrate effectively the voice of the recipients of our programmes and those of our allies. We give special priority to achieving gender equality both internally and externally, because we believe that the social and political participation of women is an essential part of any anti-poverty strategy.
- Improve the quality of our programmes, by improving our professionalism and by being an organisation which constantly improves its efficacy and efficiency, one that is well managed, oriented towards results and transparent. We are committed to becoming a responsible, flexible and innovative organisation, one that is capable of integrating new learning opportunities and is committed to being accountable to society.
- Work with rigour and passion, by generating enthusiasm for our mission, so that our proposals can become a benchmark for an ever-increasing number of people. We want to increase our capacity for social and political influence to make this an instrument which can help us act effectively as a driving force for change. This is all driven by the feelings of solidarity we have and because poverty and injustice make us angry.

# VALUES

The women and men who make up Oxfam Intermón share a set of values which identify us as active members of the organisation and help us progress in achieving the mission objectives we have set ourselves to build the world we aspire to.

- We believe in Justice, which we understand to be the recognition and creation on a universal scale of conditions which can make it possible for all people to fully exercise each and every one of their human rights. Justice is about placing a value on the individual – every human being and his or her capacity – within the framework of collective equality.
- We defend Human Dignity as an inherent value for each and every person, which confers upon them the inalienable right to live in freedom and in satisfactory conditions to allow them to develop in all aspects of being human, both as individuals and as members of their community.
- We believe in Solidarity, which gives us a feeling of responsibility for other people – especially the most vulnerable and disadvantaged – and which drives us to act and to motivate others to act to put an end to unfair situations.
- We declare our Commitment to people and to the cause of justice, because we are convinced that the continuity and strength of our transformative actions arise from the responsibility we accept and from the depth of our convictions.
- Finally, and following on from the points above, we seek Consistency, because our capacity to change the lives of people who are suffering will be greater if our actions and declarations accord with our convictions. We aspire to believe in what we do and to say what we believe, both within our organisation and outside.

The most vulnerable small-scale agricultural or subsistence families have to compete with powerful interests for the control of land and resources and lack the means to improve their livelihoods or find alternatives

# ORGANISATION

We are a private, independent, not-for-profit foundation governed by a Board of Trustees made up of 13 professional people connected to the worlds of academia, business and solidarity. With the Board's support and guidance, the people of OI, whether they are volunteers, collaborators or part of the workforce, fight for justice and peace.



## OXFAM INTERNATIONAL

Oxfam Intermón is **a member of Oxfam**, an international confederation made up of 17 organisations which share objectives and the same rights-based approach.

The 17 organisations which form Oxfam share the same ethical principles; we work together and combine our efforts to achieve maximum effect for our objectives: combating poverty and injustice in the world.

In 1997, Intermón decided to join the confederation, which was founded in 1995 and which works hand in hand with more than 3,000 local organisations in 94 countries and which, as the biggest independent group of development NGOs in the world, is a benchmark on the international stage.

Although each organisation retains its own identity and independence, our joint work makes it possible for us to drive forward international campaigns and to have greater impact in cooperation programmes and in our response to large scale humanitarian emergencies.



## ALLIANCES

We are convinced that, by combining our efforts with other NGOs, we will make progress in the fight against poverty.

Convinced that by combining our efforts with other organisations we will be able to react better against poverty and injustice, we have also become members of a number of alliances. We are founder members of the Spanish Coordinator of Non-Governmental Development Organisations (CONGDE) (website in Spanish) and participate in the work of the coordinators of the 17 autonomous communities of Spain. We belong to EURODAD (European Network on Debt and Development), FECEMD (Spanish Federation of Electronic Commerce and Direct Marketing, in Spanish) and FETS (Ethical and Solidarity Financing).

In the field of humanitarian action, we are members of the Board of Management of the Sphere Project, which regulates the minimum standards for humanitarian responses to disasters, and members of ECHO (European Community Humanitarian Office), with whom we have signed the FPA (Framework Partnership Agreement), which defines the roles and responsibilities in the implementation of humanitarian operations funded by the body.

In the field of fair trade, we form part of the State Coordinator for Fair Trade (website in Spanish), the European Fair Trade Association (EFTA) and the World Fair Trade Organisation (WFTO). We are also founder members of Fairtrade Spain (Fairtrade stamp).

In addition, since 1995 we have been one of the consultative bodies for the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

# ECONOMIC REPORT

<http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/memoriaEn.pdf>

## TRANSPARENCY

Transparency and accountability are hallmarks of Oxfam Intermón. To demonstrate our vision, we are committed to being an organisation that constantly improves its effectiveness and efficiency, is well-managed, results-oriented, transparent and committed to being accountable to society. To do this, we follow the transparency indicators established by the Spanish Coordinator for Development NGOs (CONGDE) (in Spanish) and the Standards for Transparency and Good Practices for NGOs (in Spanish) of the Fundación Lealtad.

You can consult the results of the analysis we undertook to evaluate our compliance with the [CONGDE indicators](#) and the [principles of the Fundación Lealtad](#) (in Spanish).

### **Transparency and accountability policy**

Transparency and accountability are two key points in maintaining the trust and credibility of NGOs in the minds of society as a whole.

[http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/101008\\_Politica\\_Transparencia\\_Rendicion\\_Cuentas\\_enero09\\_abrev.pdf](http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/101008_Politica_Transparencia_Rendicion_Cuentas_enero09_abrev.pdf) (in Spanish)

### **Accountability charter for international NGOs**

This charter is the result of the desire of 24 international NGOs, such as Oxfam, Amnesty International and Greenpeace, to establish certain common standards of conduct for NGOs and mechanisms to make it possible to report, to monitor and to evaluate whether these standards have been met. Oxfam Intermón signed up to the Charter in 2010 and since 2012 our annual report has been able to state, by using the Global Reporting Initiative indicators (widely used in the private sector) and the annex adapted to the NGO sector, that we comply with these standards. By doing so we have made a qualitative leap towards transparency, because it obliges us to include more information on our organisation whilst at the same time making it possible for us to identify areas where we can improve. More information on:

[www.ingoaccountabilitycharter.org](http://www.ingoaccountabilitycharter.org).

<http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/INGO-Accountability-Charter.pdf> (in Spanish)

### **Oxfam Intermón code of conduct**

Everyone on our operational team signs up to this code, which defines their responsibilities (and limitations) when carrying out their work in the organisation.

[http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/110631\\_codigo\\_de\\_conducta\\_IntermonOxfam\\_es.pdf](http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/110631_codigo_de_conducta_IntermonOxfam_es.pdf) (in Spanish)

### **Organisational social responsibility policy**

We design and implement policies and processes which guide the achievement of our objectives and ensure consistency, efficiency, rigour, control and optimisation in the management of our resources. We do this by following criteria for social responsibility regarding the impact of our activities from an environmental, social and employment point of view.

[http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/100309\\_rso\\_octubre%202009.pdf](http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/100309_rso_octubre%202009.pdf) (in Spanish)

### **NGO code of conduct**

Everyone on our operational team signs up to this code, which defines their responsibilities (and limitations) when carrying out their work in the organisation.

[http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/090908\\_codigoconducta\\_CONGDE\\_2008.pdf](http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/090908_codigoconducta_CONGDE_2008.pdf) (in Spanish)

### **Code of conduct for the development of Fundraising in Spain**

This is a compilation of principles and values which acts as an ethical guide to the professional execution of fundraising, regardless of the field of action the funds are being collected for.

[http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/090908\\_codigo\\_Fundraising.pdf](http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/090908_codigo_Fundraising.pdf) (in Spanish)

### **Code of conduct regarding assistance in disaster situations**

for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and Non-Governmental Organisations.

[http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/CConducta\\_CruzRoja.pdf](http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/CConducta_CruzRoja.pdf) (in Spanish)

### **Charter of Responsibilities of International Non-Governmental Organisations**

[http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/090908\\_cartaresponsabilidad.es.pdf](http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/090908_cartaresponsabilidad.es.pdf) (in Spanish)

### **World Fair Trade Organisation Standards**

Fair trade standards defined by the WFTO

[http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/090908\\_estandaresWFTO.pdf](http://www.oxfamintermon.org/sites/default/files/documentos/files/090908_estandaresWFTO.pdf) (in Spanish)

# THE COUNTRIES WE WORK IN

We work in 41 countries across the world and have offices in 17 countries.

## BOLIVIA

Bolivia is a country **rich in cultural diversity and natural resources** which recognises 36 indigenous groups in its population of 10 million inhabitants. Despite this wealth, the country has the worst poverty and inequality levels in Latin America and the Caribbean after Haiti, with 60% of its population living in poverty and 38% in extreme poverty.

The process which Bolivia is undergoing, of building a **new plurinational state** following an historic and structural crisis in the state, offers **opportunities for change** to tackle inequality and social exclusion from a structural point of view. This constitutes the central thread of Oxfam's programming commitment in the country.

### Oxfam in Bolivia

Our work in Bolivia, where Oxfam Intermón has been working since 1988, promotes and supports the following strategic change objectives to **tackle inequality, injustice, poverty and vulnerability to climate change**:

- The construction of a new development paradigm, 'Living Well', based on a sustainable and diversified economy and an improved distribution of wealth;
- The promotion of a new democratic practice to create a more inclusive and fairer society;
- The reduction in vulnerability to risks associated with disasters and the creation of capacities and solutions adapted to climate change on behalf of local authorities and indigenous communities, with particular emphasis on women;
- The strengthening of the capacity of indigenous and farming communities and of young people so that they can exert influence on transparent, efficient redistributive public policies for the management of the oil and gas sector, and to carry forward sustainable livelihood programmes; and
- The support for women's organisations and mixed organisations that work with women, especially indigenous, youth and working-class urban neighbourhood groups.

Oxfam works in the Amazonian north and in the Chaco region, in the cities of the central axis (La Paz, El Alto, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz) and the rapidly growing cities in the Amazonian region (Trinidad and Riberalta) with the following programmes:

- **Equity and economy:** we reduce inequality, which mainly affects indigenous communities and women, through progressive changes to the economic development model in favour of redistribution.
- **Extractive industries:** we contribute to a post-extractive development model that makes best use of the marketing of the country's minerals, oil and gas and energy resources in a planned and sustainable way.
- **Sustainable livelihoods:** we contribute to the reduction of poverty in the poor rural and indigenous communities of Amazonia, Chiquitanía and the Bolivian Chaco, to improve their means of subsistence and local economies, by ensuring increased incomes, sufficient food and participation in the political decisions which affect their lives.
- **Interculturality and gender:** we contribute to a fairer, more inclusive and intercultural society which recognises diversity and respects human rights, especially those of women, the indigenous population, young people, and the different ethnic groups.
- **Humanitarian response, risk reduction and adaptation:** we contribute significantly to reducing the vulnerability of the population, with emphasis on vulnerable groups. We

have improved the speed and capacity of responses and strengthened the capacity for adaptation and resilience, in both urban and rural areas.

In **fair trade** we work with a local cocoa producer, **El Ceibo**. The work of this cooperative is vital for local small producers, who in this way can join forces to generate their own industry and transport. They can then avoid the need to sell their products to local intermediaries who take advantage of their economic weakness and overcome the difficulties they used to have getting their harvests to market.

We also drive forward the international GROW campaign, which we want to use to achieve food justice.

#### Office details

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## BURKINA FASO

Burkina Faso, with a population of almost 17 million, is a country which is **very dependent on agriculture**. Family farms, which employ most of the active population, cannot guarantee food security or substantial incomes. The country is rich in minerals and has recently begun to exploit them, promising transparency and guarantees which will contribute to the development of the community.

It is a country in which access to education, drinking water and sanitation does not promote equal opportunity, which traps the majority of the population in a cycle of poverty. Good governance **should improve the system for controlling corruption and the equitable distribution of wealth**.

### Oxfam in Burkina Faso

In Burkina Faso, where Oxfam Intermón has had a presence since 1990, we work with civil society to achieve the following objectives:

- The construction of a strong and united civil society, which can exert a positive influence on the drawing up of policies in favour of the poorest sections of society;
- Transparent management of revenues from mining to ensure their redistribution;
- A significant increase in the incomes of the rural population from agriculture, to help achieve food security and reduce the precarious nature of the most vulnerable regions;
- The contribution to a society free from injustice, in which citizens can have sustainable access without discrimination to good-quality education, sufficient quantities of drinking water and a good quality of life;
- The promotion of a mass movement which pushes for the equal treatment of women and young people and ensures their access to equality of opportunity; and
- The response to the humanitarian crisis in the context of the law and of gender equality.

Oxfam's interventions in Burkina Faso therefore focus on the following programmes:

- **Sustainable livelihoods:** we support organisations involved in the production and processing of agricultural products and work to promote and protect family farms. We also work to change national agricultural policies and encourage the participation of women producers and young people.
- **Vulnerable livelihoods and humanitarian response:** we improve the capacity of vulnerable households affected by recurrent climate crises by increasing crop yields and diversifying income sources to prevent and reduce malnutrition. Together with local

partners we are putting into practice a system for the prevention and management of disasters at community and regional level and we ensure we are ready to respond in the event of humanitarian catastrophes. In the **current Sahel food crisis** we have started 'Work for Money' programmes, which involve the communities in preventive measures related to the environment. In addition, we are adding the final touches to the preparations for providing assistance to 19,000 people who have fled the conflict in neighbouring Mali.

- **Basic social services:** we promote sustainable access without discrimination to good-quality basic social services, focusing our efforts on education, professional training and the supply of water and sanitation.
- **Rights of women and young people:** we help to improve the living conditions and status of women and young people. We do this by providing them with a better understanding of the legislative and institutional means to fight against discrimination and gender-based violence, and by helping them to increase their economic and decision-making powers.
- **Good economic governance:** we work with communities, civil society, the government and extractive companies to improve the fight against poverty and to ensure the revenues from extractive industries are used to meet the needs of the population.

We also drive forward the international **GROW** campaign, which we want to use to achieve food justice.

#### Office details

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## BURUNDI

Burundi is **one of the poorest countries on the planet**. With 8.1 million inhabitants in 2008, half the population is under 17 years old and life expectancy is below 51 years. **More than a decade of war** has left the country in a worse than fragile state, in which peace is relative and where day to day insecurity persists.

Burundi **depends to a large extent on international aid**, which represents more than a third of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

#### Oxfam in Burundi

Oxfam's work in Burundi, where the organisation has been working since the nineties, was initially focused on humanitarian interventions, but gradually it has become oriented towards reconstruction and development, with the accent placed on food security, social justice, the right to be heard and women's rights.

Oxfam is working on the development of a programme which will contribute to making sure that by 2020 all inhabitants of Burundi will be able to live in a society free from violence, where people can benefit from their freedom within a framework of respect for human rights and solidarity-based values, living a life of dignity. The objective is to place the economy and development at the service of the people, by promoting effective mechanisms to prevent the outbreak of armed conflicts and humanitarian disasters and to reduce the impact of any natural catastrophes which may occur.

The strategies Oxfam is following to achieve these objectives are:

- Financial and technical support for agricultural and non-agricultural development projects.
- Advocacy with the national authorities.
- Mobilisation of communities for development.

- Strengthening of the capacities of NGOs.
- Women's leadership.
- Participation of marginal groups.

As part of the programme for 2011-2015, Oxfam is promoting food security by improving the population's access to land and other means of agricultural production, with the aim of ensuring durability and sustainability. The right to live in peace and security is also being promoted through a general improvement in living conditions and an effective response to both natural and man-made catastrophes.

In addition, the population's participation is being sought in public management, in an environment where they have access to information, freedom of expression and are aware of their rights. An active civil society allows corruption and impunity to be reduced.

The programme objectives also include so-called cross-cutting issues such as the fostering of women's leadership and citizen participation, with special attention being given to people with AIDS-related illnesses and their integration into society.

#### Office details

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## COLOMBIA

As well as having one of the biggest populations on the continent, Colombia has substantial reserves of oil and is an important producer of gold, silver, emeralds, platinum and coal.

Columbian society has been caught up in an **armed conflict** for decades, which has led to a deteriorating political, social and economic situation; this is a consequence of the participants in the conflict involving the civilian population as part of their strategy.

The violation of **human rights** is commonplace. Colombia is the biggest recipient of U.S. foreign aid outside the Middle East.

Oxfam Intermón has been in the country since 1989, accompanying and supporting around twenty local organisations through **development and advocacy** projects, with special emphasis on our **women's rights** programme.

In **humanitarian action**, we responded to the March 2011 floods with water, sanitation and hygiene programmes in the regions of La Mojana and Bajo Sinú, in Córdoba and Chocó.

#### Office details

Director: Alejandro Matos

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## CHAD

Despite the abundance of natural resources, mainly oil and uranium, Chad continues to occupy one of the lowest positions of the classification system created by the United Nations: the Human Development Index (HDI). Around **60% of the population of Chad** (estimated at 10 million people), **lives on less than 1 dollar a day**.

This contradiction between significant amounts of natural resources and the persistence of the high poverty indicators of the population is the reason why civil society in Chad focuses its efforts on demanding and achieving a fair distribution of the profits obtained from the extractive industries.

**Chad is also a country in conflict.** This conflict, which exhibits both internal dynamics and regional ones with Sudan and the Central African Republic, presents a serious threat to the lives, security and livelihoods of the population, especially in the east of the country.

In Chad, where we have been collaborating since 1966, we work with civil society to achieve the following objectives:

- **To increase farmers' incomes** in the south of the country, especially in the regions of Logone Oriental, Logone Occidental and Mandoul, by improving the production and processing of cereals, peanuts and cotton. To increase the capacity of the communities in the regions of Kanem, Guéra, Batha and Ouadai (Sahel Strip) to avoid and/or tackle the effects of droughts and floods (climate shocks) on their livelihoods.
- **To increase the capacity of the population to demand from the government of Chad** greater transparency from the extractive industries concerning the extraction and use of resources, mainly oil. **To contribute to the structuring and strengthening of civil society**, especially in rural areas, by increasing the capacity to exert influence on local and regional development policies.
- **To provide water and sanitation** to people being cared for in the camps housing refugees and internally displaced people in eastern Chad; to safeguard their right to security and to make their own decisions about where they wish to settle. To provide assistance with food security and/or water and sanitation during current and future crises (droughts, floods, cholera...).

Office details

Director: Abakar Mahamat- Ahmat

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## ECUADOR

In Ecuador poverty is more rural than urban, more indigenous and black than white, more female than male. Achieving equity and justice are two of the reasons why we work in the country. **The Ecuadorian economy is dependent on oil:** four out of ten dollars of the government's budget comes from oil exports. As the reserves run out and the pressures to protect the environment increase, the country is wondering how to generate income once reserves have been used up or even before that, if the country stops extracting oil out of respect for the rights of nature.

Ecuador also has to live with the risks associated with tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, droughts and floods, now **made worse by climate change**. Global warming is a concern **particularly for the indigenous population**, which is one of the groups the country's food security depends on. The indigenous population's historic struggle to gain access to water and land has borne fruit, but the battle against the climate seems to be an uphill struggle.

### Oxfam in Ecuador

Since 1989 Oxfam Intermón has been focusing its work on rural development. We are currently working with our local partners and allies to achieve the following objectives:

- The linking of poor rural and urban people using initiatives of economy-based solidarity, food sovereignty and disaster risk reduction, in order to improve socio-economic justice;
- The participation in power of indigenous people, people of African descent and Montubios through policies which recognise cultural diversity and improve cultural justice;
- The guarantee of the validity and full exercise of women's rights, by recognising their work and demanding more and better investment in their future to ensure gender equity; and

- Equitable development not dependent on oil and with a rights-based focus, which reflects Sumak Kawsay (Living Well), the Andean paradigm which seeks balance and plenitude.

To achieve these objectives we have given priority to our programmes for economic justice and women's rights. In addition, we have opened humanitarian action projects in the wake of climate-based catastrophes.

- **Food sovereignty:** we work to ensure that the different action areas in the rural sector contain the political and technical aspects of the concept of food sovereignty.
- **The rights of indigenous communities:** we work to strengthen the rights of indigenous communities, principally rights to land, territory and access to natural resources.
- **Extractive industries:** we have approved a document to contribute to a change in the current extractive development model to one which is more sustainable, equitable and fair for the environment and which respects cultural diversity.
- **Women's rights:** we promote the integration of the gender-justice approach in other programmes.
- **Rights in crisis situations:** we take into consideration the physical and social vulnerability of the people who live in the country. The fundamental components of the programme are: **disaster risk reduction**, we seek to improve community resilience, with the focus on preparation before disasters take place and on mitigation; **institutional preparation for the response**, we improve the capacities of our personnel and of our partners and allies to respond to emergencies; and **response to crisis situations**, we are prepared to respond to those humanitarian crises which overwhelm the capacities of the local response and which represent a general threat to people's lives.

In addition, we work with a **fair trade** producer group, whose food products are sold in our shops in Spain. It is called **MCCH Maquita Cuschunchic**, and we buy **sugar, cocoa and preserves** from it.

Office details

Director: Vinicio Villalba

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Calle Camilo Destruge N24- 664 (entre Avda. Colón y Francisco Salazar), 3º. Quito, Ecuador

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## ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia is situated in the Horn of Africa, one of the poorest regions in the world. In fact, it occupies 169<sup>th</sup> place out of 177 countries on the Human Development Index. It is difficult to find exact figures, but the Ethiopian government estimates that about **81% of the population survives on less than 2 dollars a day**. Ethiopia is one of the most heavily populated countries in Africa, with 80 million inhabitants and its economy is based on agriculture and stock raising, mostly managed by farmers whose harvests are dependent on the rain.

Despite investment in agriculture, Ethiopia remains a country in which at least 12 million people suffer from food insecurity, above all because the country is the **worst in the world as far as access to drinking water is concerned**. Climate variability, especially the rains, has a negative impact on the economy, the ecosystems and the health of the population. Both droughts and floods are becoming increasingly common and destructive and affect women in particular, as women are responsible for making sure their households have water and other resources.

What is more, women are submitted to both economic and cultural restrictions. Female genital mutilation, early marriage and sexual violence form part of the daily reality of many Ethiopian women, so Oxfam Intermón sees supporting them as a priority, to help them live free from violence, gain access to opportunities and achieve the potential they need to take a leading role in their own development.

We work in Ethiopia to ensure that people who live in poverty can develop their potential to the full and have **more secure livelihoods**. We focus particularly on **women and girls**, pastoral communities and small farmers, as we believe that these are the communities that are exposed to the greatest vulnerability.

We work to achieve the following objectives:

- **Economic justice:** we want Ethiopian pastoral communities and small farmers to have decent and secure livelihoods which are able to resist the impact of climate change.
- **Basic social services:** we want to ensure that the most vulnerable communities have access to good-quality water, sanitation and hygiene services.
- **Rights in crises:** we work to ensure that they have greater capacity to adapt and survive crises and, when these occur, to be able to rely on effective assistance and protection, thereby minimising their impact.
- **Gender justice:** we support women and girls so that they can combat the endemic violence they suffer, helping them to live free from fear, to take control over their own bodies and make decisions about their lives.

In the field of **fair trade**, we work with the Oromia cooperative, which produces coffee.

In **humanitarian action**, we work across the whole of the Horn of Africa to help the millions of people affected by famine. In Ethiopia, we provide drinking water, basic sanitation and veterinary assistance to a million people.

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## HAITI

Haiti occupies the lowest position in the Americas on the UNDP Human Development Index list. Its economy is in ruins, infrastructure non-existent and unemployment has become a chronic problem.

Approximately 70% of the population live in **poverty** and 65% work on small-scale **subsistence agriculture**. The most serious underlying social problem in Haiti is the enormous inequality which exists between the impoverished black creole majority and the mulatto minority (1%) which owns almost half of the country's wealth.

Furthermore, the large scale deforestation the island has suffered, and the lack of resources to combat it, places the country in a situation of extreme vulnerability when tropical storms occur. This is in addition to the tragedy of the January 2010 **earthquake** which has left the country in permanent crisis.

Oxfam Intermón has been working since 2001 on **development** projects in the rural agricultural areas in the north of the country.

In **humanitarian action**, and following the January 2010 earthquake, we have been providing water, sanitation and hygiene programmes to around one million people in Port-au-Prince, Artibonite and Cap Haitien. We redoubled our efforts after the cholera outbreak in October 2010.

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## GUATEMALA

Guatemala is one of the richest and most diverse countries in Central America, although the **levels of inequality** are so great that most of the indigenous population is excluded, especially women. More than two thirds of indigenous children suffer from **chronic malnutrition** and illiteracy and infant mortality rates are among the highest on the continent.

This situation is made worse by the impact of recurring natural disasters and the non-existence of resources which would allow the most vulnerable communities to prevent and mitigate these impacts. The **exclusion of the indigenous population** is historic and manifests itself in the lack of access to production, justice, political participation and land. These are all essential pre-conditions to guarantee their rights and ensure their voice is heard.

### Oxfam in Guatemala

Oxfam Intermón has been present in the country since 1990. Our organisation is implementing three programmes in the country:

- **Gender Justice:** we are working so that indigenous women and other communities living in poverty can organise themselves, have better and more extensive access to power and recognition, and can enjoy a fairer redistribution of existing resources. In addition, we want to eliminate violence against women.
- **Territoriality and Rural Economy:** we seek to ensure that indigenous and farming communities, especially women, can exercise decision-making power over the administration and use of their territories and natural assets, in particular those assets connected with mining and food production. To this end, we will be exploring innovative ways of developing the relationship between consumers and producers (urban-rural relationships).
- **Adaptation to Climate Change, Preparation for and Response to Emergencies:** we seek to ensure that institutions and authorities perform efficiently in their role of protecting, preparing, responding, assisting and mitigating disasters in the most vulnerable communities. Within the framework of adaptation to climate change, our task with young people and women is considered strategic in the generation of change which will lead to the promotion of a rights-based culture.

In addition, Oxfam Intermón purchases **fair trade** craft products, coffee and honey from four local producer organisations: Create, Codech, Fedecocagua and Guaya'b.

Furthermore, Guatemala is one of the many countries where we promote the **GROW** campaign which, together with the **Vamos al Grano (Let's Get to the Point)** campaign, demands greater public investment in the food production of small farmers and rural women.

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## MOROCCO

Morocco, because of its proximity to Europe and its access to the sea, has always been considered a **strategic location**, and successive occupations have made it a country where Berber and Arab traditions intermingle, with the added influences of its African and European neighbours.

It is a country with slow economic growth and low social indicators. The main activity is **agriculture** and its principal products are citrus fruits, vegetables and cereals. The industrial sector consists of companies involved in construction, chemical products, textiles, footwear, processed foods, wine, refined oil and craftwork goods.

Oxfam Intermón has been working in Morocco since 1992 and since 2004 we have been developing the **Women's Rights Programme** there with the aim of improving the economic, legal and social conditions of women and of facilitating the integration of Moroccan women into the country's development process. We are also developing an economic justice programme and purchase **fair trade** products from local producers, such as Targanine, which produces argan oil.

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## MAURITANIA

In Mauritania, despite there being a population of only 3.5 million and abundant natural resources, 46% of the population live below the poverty line. This contradiction is the reason why **the country's civil society is striving to demand political, economic and social reforms**, with the objective of strengthening democracy and good governance, the fight against poverty and the promotion of unity among the citizenship.

The lack of government commitment, **the decline in production conditions and factors, recurrent climate impacts, policy inconsistencies and bad governance** are some of the factors which limit growth and contribute to an increase in poverty.

- **Oxfam in Mauritania**
- Oxfam Intermón has been working in the country since 1996 and our main objectives can be summarised as:
- The strengthening of the livelihoods of women and men in agriculture in rural zones, and in small-scale fishing in the peri-urban areas of Nouakchott and Nouadhibou;
- The promotion of an economic development model based on a major redistribution of the nation's wealth between the rural production sectors; and
- The strengthening of citizenship through equal rights and responsibilities for all citizens, the promotion of citizen control of public action and the participation of civil society in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies.

Oxfam works in the regions of Wilaya du Gorgol, Brakna, Trarza, Inchiri, Tiris Zemmour, Nouadhibou and Nouakchott with the following programmes:

- **Good economic governance:** we contribute to the definition of an economic model based on durable and equitable management of national resources to generate added value in rural and extractive industry production methods.
- **Good political governance:** we work with civil society organisations to reduce inequality, promote the rights of vulnerable communities and train them to be real agents of change in policies, practices, ideas and beliefs.
- **Livelihoods:** we accompany poor and vulnerable communities to contribute to the development of agricultural, stock farming and fishing potential and to reinforce economic alternatives and so reduce poverty.
- **Humanitarian action:** we work to reduce the vulnerability of communities affected by climate impacts. Given the chronic and recurrent nature of these crises, our emergency responses integrate long-term development proposals and strengthen the capacity for

prevention and resilience of the most vulnerable communities. In the current **food crisis affecting the Sahel**, Oxfam is working in close collaboration with the poorest families, mainly in the regions of Gorgol and Brakhna, and our objective is to reach 70,000 people in 2012. Furthermore, we have increased already existing water and sanitation programmes to prevent the spread of water-related diseases among the population.

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## MOZAMBIQUE

After 16 years of civil war, which ended in 1992 with a peace accord under the auspices of the U.N., the economy grew considerably thanks in part to a large amount of **foreign investment**.

However, the former Portuguese colony has suffered serious setbacks due to adverse climate events. These conditions of **vulnerability** have had a constant effect on the population, destroying homes, harvests and infrastructures. The Mozambique population has retained its indigenous culture based on small scale **agriculture**.

Oxfam Intermón started working in the country in 1991 during the civil war. Since then we have been supporting **development** projects through local non-governmental organisations. We also work with **fair trade** cooperatives such as Ikuru.

In **humanitarian action**, we provided support to more than 48,000 people after the floods at the beginning of 2008. In the same year, we responded to a cholera epidemic with water distribution points, latrine construction, hygiene kit distribution and awareness-raising activities.

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## NICARAGUA

Nicaragua, a country of around 6 million, has a multi-ethnic and pluricultural population, where the indigenous and ethnic communities represent 15% of the population. **The gender gap between women and men remains significant** due to the unequal power relationships between the sexes in both the public and private sphere.

The political and social revolution in Nicaragua in the eighties brought with it the reappearance of the social actors and the path seemed clear to put ideologies of equality into practice. Decades later, decimated by the havoc caused by the war, serious environmental problems and a high level of vulnerability to natural catastrophes, Nicaragua has become a **highly-indebted country and the second poorest country in America**. Democracy continues to be a challenge and the country's economy depends to a large extent on agricultural exports, international aid and remittances from family members living in other countries.

### Oxfam in Nicaragua

Oxfam Intermón has been working in the country since 1989. We believe that an active, organised and independent participation by civil society is one of the keys to achieving change in the long term. To do this, our work focuses on the following objectives:

- a promotion of active citizenship, with specific emphasis on the transformative leadership of women and young people, which can exert an influence on management and on public policies;
- a contribution, together with our partners and allies in the country, to an alternative rural economic model which can make it possible for more people to achieve sustainable livelihoods; and
- a contribution to maintaining the rights of the most vulnerable people to be prepared to tackle crisis situations and to receive good-quality humanitarian assistance.

A central element to Oxfam's work from 2011-2015 is the programme:

- **Active citizenship:** we work with women's and young people's organisations, networks and movements which are doing important work at grassroots' level, to ensure that they understand their rights and that they demand and defend them by changing the existing power relationships. These two sections of society are the ones that suffer most from political, social, economic and cultural exclusion, despite their high weight of numbers in the country's population.

In **fair trade** we work with **Aldea Global** and **Cecocafen**, local organisations which group together cooperatives of small **coffee** producers. These bodies promote sustainable agricultural practices which protect the environment, and provide alternative credit services.

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## PARAGUAY

In Paraguay, there are 12 million head of livestock living alongside six and a half million inhabitants, almost half of whom live in rural areas: **the meat trade and agriculture are the main drivers of the economy**. The country is also noteworthy for its **low tax burden**: there is no tax on personal income or on the export of soya, its 'golden grain' and one of the aggravating factors contributing to the concentration of land ownership: 2.6% of the owners possess 85.5% of the land.

Soya aggravates the **conflicts for land in the regions along the border with Brazil**. The whole border is now in the hands of the 'Braziguayos', Brazilians who farm more than a million hectares of Paraguayan territory. The low price of land, almost non-existent taxes and cheap labour are behind this appropriation, a new threat to the right to land and to the territory of the indigenous and farming population, especially of women.

### Oxfam in Paraguay

Oxfam Intermón has been present in Paraguay since 1991. We believe that there is potential to improve the lives of thousands of Paraguayans and we work with them to achieve the following objectives:

- The strengthening of farming, mixed and women's organisations, by promoting their alliances and improving their capacity for dialogue and for putting forward proposals within the framework of public policies which can incentivise peasant family based agriculture, rural development and the right to land;
- The regulation of agro-industry to meet national food security standards, as a tool to achieve indicators for the welfare, social development and gender equity of the population as a whole, but of the rural sector in particular;

- The improvement of fiscal policy, linking it to an increase in good quality social investment, especially directed at peasant family agriculture and positive action in favour of women farmers; and
- The strengthening of indigenous communities so that they can demand their rights and their participation in the design, control and monitoring of policies for food security, disaster risk reduction, land tenure and access to water and sanitation, improving resistance in their livelihoods and their capacity to adapt to climate change.

Oxfam is committed to assisting with the development of a fairer and solidarity-based Paraguay, accompanying the work that a number of Paraguayan organisations have been implementing for years. Our actions focus on two programmes:

- **Sustainable livelihoods and agrarian policies:** we drive forward proposals that contribute to the construction of an economic and social development model oriented towards the overcoming of inequality and in favour of economic and gender justice. In this way sustainable livelihoods for the men and women engaged in peasant family agriculture can be ensured. We promote the participation of leaders, especially of women and young people, strengthening their capacity to get involved effectively in those arenas where the public policies that affect them are defined.
- **Reduction of the vulnerability of indigenous communities:** we seek to connect actions for the protection of vulnerable livelihoods through development strategies with humanitarian action activities which tackle crisis situations.

In addition, we work with Manduvirá, a **fair trade** producer group which works with more than 600 peasant families in the region of Arroyos y Esteros. These families, organised into small cooperatives, have access to savings and credit. Manduvirá produces **organic sugar**, which is sold through our shops and which is used to make other products such as Bio chocolate bars and cola drink.

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## PERU

Although Peru has maintained continuous growth over the past decade, **poverty** still affects **44% of the population**, with profound inequality especially in rural communities. The principal economic activities of the country include agriculture, fishing, mining and the manufacture of products such as textiles.

Oxfam Intermón has been working in Peru since 1976. Recently we have been focusing on development projects which seek economic justice. We also work with eight **fair trade** producer groups, whose products can be found in our shops in Spain: Cocola, Allpa, CIAP, Minka, CACVRA, Cepicafé, Candela and El Naranjillo.

Allpa brings together more than 100 workshops which group around 500 craft workers working in jewellery, household textiles, ceramics and wood. CIAP is a group of more than 700 people in various regions of the country making jewellery accessories, household products and clothes; 75% of them are women. Minka works with more than 4,000 small producers who specialise in the processing of organic foods such as quinoa, essential oils, fabrics and craftwork in general.

In **humanitarian action** we have been working on the humanitarian response to the earthquake which struck the south of the country in 2007.

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# DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The Dominican Republic is a country of great inequality. Despite the fact that for forty years it has recorded a sustained growth significantly above the regional average, this **high economic growth has hardly improved the conditions of the most disadvantaged sections of the population**. Levels of investment in social expenditure are among the lowest in Latin America and the country is third from bottom among the countries in the region when it comes to taking advantage of economic growth to improve health and education, with about 50% of the population remaining below the poverty level. This situation possibly arises from the **limited quality of its democracy**. The country has made great strides in recent decades, ensuring electoral and institutional processes that are appropriate in form. Despite this, the population's awareness of its rights is weak and clientelism converts the democratic dialogue into an exchange of favours.

In addition, the Dominican Republic is **highly exposed to natural threats** such as earthquakes, hurricanes, tidal waves, droughts and floods. However, the policies required to prevent and reduce their impact are very limited. Another thing to take into account is the significant presence of Haitian immigrants, whose rights, according to a number of sources, are violated.

## Oxfam in the Dominican Republic

Oxfam Intermón has had a presence in the Dominican Republic since 1992 and works with and through other local and national bodies, including social organisations, NGOs, networks and public institutions on the basis of complementarity and mutual respect. Our objectives in the country are:

- To promote public institutionality favourable to the most excluded groups, based on a strengthened social movement with capacity to demand and monitor the fair and equitable distribution of public resources, ensuring better quality and access to social services;
- To empower Dominican women and the defence of their rights through the support of women's movements and feminist organisations that fight against discrimination arising from power relationships;
- To contribute to ensuring that more women and men in the border zone can exercise the right to secure and sustainable livelihoods in order to reduce their poverty levels; and
- To strengthen the right of the most vulnerable men and women in the country to be better prepared to tackle crisis situations and to receive good-quality humanitarian assistance.

Oxfam would like to see a country whose inhabitants know their rights and can exercise them, where they can organise, participate and demand justice, getting involved in the construction of a robust state based on the rule of law and in a government that ensures good quality public social policies. We implement programmes focused on:

- **Women's rights:** we strengthen the exercise of full citizenship by women to promote human, social and economic development with a gender-based approach and a culture of equality and equity.
- **Citizenship and governability:** we promote the public participation of the most excluded groups, training them to demand and ensure that public resources are distributed fairly and equitably, ensuring better quality and access to basic social services.
- **Livelihoods:** we contribute to ensuring small rural producers in the border zone can improve their quality of life and reduce their levels of poverty through the protection and provision of sustainable livelihoods.
- **Humanitarian action in crises:** we defend the right of the most vulnerable men and women to be prepared to tackle crisis situations and to receive good quality humanitarian assistance.

In **fair trade** we work through the purchase of **cocoa** from the **Conacado** association.

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## SOUTH SUDAN

After decades of war between the north and south, Sudan divided into two countries on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2011. And so, after a referendum on independence held in the January of the same year, the new state of South Sudan was born. Despite being rich in oil, fertile land and water, **the country is one of the poorest on the planet, with about 2 million people living in situations of food insecurity**; 170,000 of these are refugees from Sudan, 160,000 displaced by internal conflicts and the remainder victims of an extremely rudimentary agriculture.

Access to drinking water and sanitation is one of the many things the youngest country on the planet lacks. According to United Nations data, **65% of the population has to walk more than a kilometre to obtain drinking water** and almost 90% do not have adequate sanitation facilities (a place to wash their hands, latrines, showers, etc.).

Oxfam has been working in South Sudan **since 1983**, providing humanitarian aid to the victims of the conflict prior to independence, and to victims of droughts and floods. It has also implemented long term development work with the most vulnerable communities. In total we have helped more than 500,000 people.

Our current lines of work are:

- facilitating **access to sources of drinking water** for the population and **promoting better hygiene** in the communities to reduce as much as possible the risk of diarrhoea, malaria and other diseases linked to dirty water which can lead to malnutrition, especially in children under five.
- promoting **agricultural development** to provide the population with an appropriate system to obtain food and opportunities for the future that go beyond just providing foreign aid.
- **working with organised civil society** to enable it to demand the new government uses the oil profits (which represent 98% of the country's income) to eradicate poverty with investment in water, health and education.
- responding to the recurrent emergencies which arise in the country. If you would like to know more about **the emergency work** we are implementing at the moment, click [here](#) (*website in Spanish*).

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