

## A Timeline of Key Events and Actions for Seed Freedom

January – December 2016

Event

### Sugarcane and Gur Festival

1-15 January 2016  
New Delhi, India



“Every year, we celebrate the gur festival to revive our desi sweeteners and get the healthy sweetness of our villages to our patrons. Most of the products here are created by farmers from the sugarcane belt. We stand together with them and work towards reviving their rural processing units, enabling them to produce gur. This is the only way they will be free of debt and bullying by the sugar mill industries. This festival is a way to introduce good quality products to the consumers and connect them with the

actual producers of the food,” said Dr Vandana Shiva of Navdanya.

Read more: <http://seedfreedom.info/events/sugarcane-and-gur-festival-2016/>

#### Related Campaigns

- ✓ [Navdanya launches campaign on Yuva Anna Swaraj \(Youth Food Sovereignty\) on Children's day](#)
- ✓ [Food Smart Citizens for Food Smart Cities](#)

Event

### Meeting with farmers in Arunachal Pradesh for Annaswaraj (Food Sovereignty)

5-6 January 2016  
Arunachal Pradesh, India



*Food Smart Cities for Food Smart Citizens Campaign launch in Arunachal Pradesh*

“The campaign aims at protection of biodiversity in Siang valley through organic farming and sustainable agriculture to ensure food and nutritional security.

Attending the workshop, founder of Navdanya (A network of seed keepers and organic producers), Dr Vandana Shiva said that her

mission has taken initiative for rejuvenation of organic farming in the Northeaster hill states, which is to be gradually extended to other states [...] Read more:

<http://seedfreedom.info/events/meeting-with-farmers-in-arunachal-pradesh/>

#### Related Campaigns

- ✓ [Food Smart Citizens for Food Smart Cities](#)
- ✓ [Pulse of Life](#)

## Campaign Launch

# Navdanya 'Pulse of Life' Campaign Launch

6 January 2016

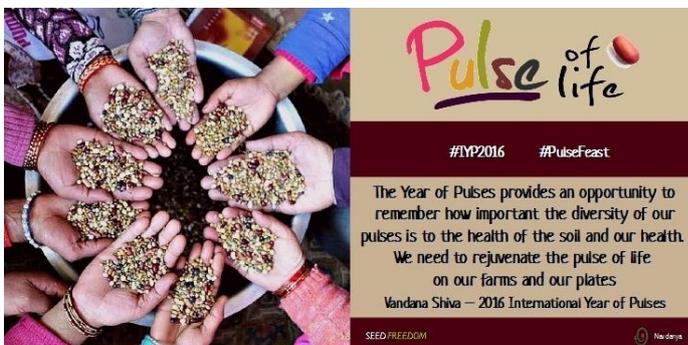
Navdanya Biodiversity Conservation Farm, Doon Valley, Dehradun, India



To celebrate the International Year of Pulses Navdanya started the campaign '[Pulse of Life](#)' on January 6th, 2016, with celebrations which were held both at the farm in Doon Valley and at the Organic Café in Dilli Haat, New Delhi. *Read more:* <http://seedfreedom.info/navdanya-pulse-of-life-campaign-launch/>

- ✓ [Dr Vandana Shiva's video message](#)
- ✓ [Event Summary by D. Semwal](#)
- ✓ [Event Summary by V. Limeberry](#) |

## Related Campaign



- ✓ [Pulse of Life](#)

Event/Action

## Seed Freedom in Turkey in defense of Yedikule gardens

16 January 2016  
Istanbul, Turkey



The historical market gardens of Yedikule in Istanbul were under threat, as Istanbul security attempted to raze the area. Support for the gardens and the barricades protecting them has come from eco Navdanya founder Dr Vandana Shiva, who visited the gardens with a group of environmental activists. A month later the action was suspended and urban gardeners were granted use of the area.

- ✓ [Seed Freedom in Turkey – Yedikule gardens](#)
- ✓ [Event Video](#)
- ✓ TV Interview [Ne Yiyiyorsak Oyuz \(23 Ocak 2016\) di imctv](#)
- ✓ TV Report about works suspension [Turkish]: <https://youtu.be/dNXhCdgu6co>



Event/Action

## Navdanya Solidarity meeting in Bathinda

24 January 2016

Chugge Kalan, Bathinda, Punjab, India



Commemorating the death of Bt cotton farmer of Bhatinda Kuldip Singh, Navdanya hosted a solidarity meeting at the local primary school and distributed indigenous organic cotton seeds as well as established the first garden of hope in the village paving way for a debt and suicide free organic Punjab.

This Solidarity Meeting was organised to pay homage to the memory of Singh and hundreds of other farmers who had been forced to commit suicide after the recent Bt cotton failure. With rising debt and no alternative the farmers are forced to plant Bt Cotton hoping that the next season will be different. But Navdanya wanted to create a way out for this area. The intention of the meeting was to provide these farmers with an alternative to chemical farming and make organic desi seeds available to them for sowing next season.

- ✓ [Navdanya Solidarity meeting in Bathinda](#)
- ✓ [NGO shows the way to debt-ridden farmers](#)  
By Sanjeev Singh Bariana – The Tribune, 24 January 2015
- ✓ [Activists urge farmers to shift to organic crops](#)  
By Neel Kamal – The Times of India, 25 January 2016

### Related Campaign:

- ✓ [Navdanya Campaign in support of farmers victims of BT Cotton failure](#)

*Event and Campaign Launch*  
**Satyagraha for Gandhi's Ghani in Wardha**

29 -30 January 2016  
Sevagram, Maharashtra, India



WARDHA: On the 68th Martyrdom Day of Mahatma Gandhi, Navdanya joined Gandhian organisations, activists, ghani operators and farmers at the Magan Sangrahalya and Gandhi Ashram in Wardha, to launch a satyagraha to defend Gandhi's Ghani ([Ghani = a traditional method of oil processing in India](#)). The ghani was served a notice in 2015 under the corporate driven regulations of the new FSSAI Act which replaced the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 2006.

- ✓ [Satyagraha for Gandhi's Ghani](#)
- ✓ [Satyagraha for Gandhi's Gandhi – Declaration](#)
- ✓ Event Video: <https://youtu.be/vUGRacuwERC>
- ✓ Video message: <https://youtu.be/DHvDT5wjiTQ>
- ✓ [Small oil crisis](#)  
By Saurabh Yadav – The Hindu Business Line, 5 February 2016

**Related Campaign**

- ✓ [Sarson Satyagraha – Civil Disobedience against GMO Mustard](#)

Event

## Navdanya at India National Permaculture Convergence

5 - 7 February 2016  
Hyderabad, India



Dr Vandana Shiva keynote address was about making peace with the Earth, the importance of permanence and how permaculture principles already exist in Indian Agriculture.



- ✓ [National Permaculture Convergence – India](#)
- ✓ [Dr Shiva's keynote speech video](#)

Event/Action

## Pulse of Life Pilgrimage - Dal Swaraj Yatra

5 – 16 February 2016

Uttar Pradesh & Madhya Pradesh, India



To celebrate the International Year of Pulses, Navdanya launched a Dal Swaraj Yatra on 4th of February 2016. In a brief span of 12 days, the team traveled through five districts across Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh during one of the worst droughts in the past 50 years. During the Yatra they met 3000 farmers, 400 students and spread awareness about organic dals to 15000 people spread over 60 villages. Beside the lectures, Navdanya team also distributed 300 kgs of desi organic dal seeds of arhar, moong and urad variety. Farmers were also provided with relevant training materials in the form of pamphlets, flyers and [Navdanya publications](#) on dals, organic farming and health hazards of eating refined oils. During the course of the yatra ten thousand signatures for the [Satyagraha for Gandhi's Ghani](#) were collected and 500 farmers registered to join Navdanya's network.

- ✓ [Dal Swaraj Yatra – Pulse of Life Pilgrimage in Uttar Pradesh & Madhya Pradesh](#)

### Related Campaign

- ✓ [Pulse of Life](#)

Event/Book launch

## Navdanya book launch “Pulse of Life: The Rich Biodiversity of Edible Legumes”

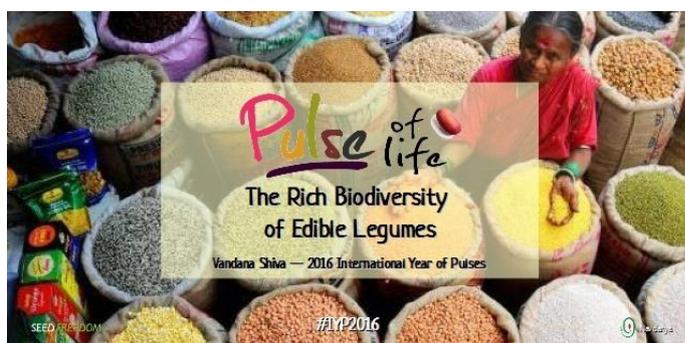
11 February 2016  
Nuremberg, Germany



Press Conference at Biofach – Dr. Vandana Shiva launched the new Navdanya book “**Pulse of Life: The Rich Biodiversity of Edible Legumes**” to coincide with the UN declaration of 2016 as the [International Year of Pulses](#). The book looks at the rich bio-cultural diversity of pulses and legumes and analyses the threats to diversity and sovereignty of century old traditions of pulses in India and around the world. The press conference was also attended by: Andre Leu, President of IFOAM – Organics International and Dr. Auma Obama, Sauti Kuu Foundation.

- ✓ [Navdanya book launch “Pulse of Life: The Rich Biodiversity of Edible Legumes”](#)
- ✓ [The Pulse of Life](#)  
By Dr Vandana Shiva – The Asian Age, 27 January 2016

### Related Campaign



- ✓ [Pulse of Life](#)

## Event

### **Basant Panchami – Celebrating the coming of Spring and Organic Mustard Diversity at Navdanya**

12 February 2016

Navdanya Biodiversity Conservation Farm, Doon Valley, Dehradun, India



A bright yellow sign proclaims “Seed Freedom-Food Freedom Campaign,” guarded by a display of mustard flowers and a small golden Saraswati. 12 February marks Basant Panchami, in honor of the goddess of wisdom, Saraswati, and the coming of spring. To celebrate the occasion, Navdanya and local women’s food sovereignty groups have gathered today to fight against GM Mustard that threatens this sacred seed and India’s springs of the future.

- ✓ [Basant Panchami: Welcoming Spring, Celebrating Organic Mustard Diversity](#)

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## Event/Action

### **Presentation of Monsanto Tribunal at Food Otherwise Conference**

13 February 2016

Wageningen, Netherlands



On the occasion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Food Otherwise Conference, the organizing team for the Monsanto Tribunal met for 3 days of strategy planning,

Dr Vandana Shiva introduced the reasons and aims of the Monsanto Tribunal which will take place at The Hague from 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2016 along with a People’s Assembly, which Navdanya is also co-organizing.

- ✓ [Link to video](#)
- ✓ [Presentatie tribunaal Monsanto in Wageningen](#)  
Nieuwsbank, 12 February 2016

#### **Related Campaign**

- ✓ [Monsanto Tribunal and People’s Assembly](#)

*Event*

## **Gemeinwohlfest 2016 – Economy for the Common Good Festival 2016**

13 February 2016

Vienna, Austria



At the Economy for the Common Good anniversary party top-class international guests from politics and economy discussed the opportunities for a new economic system – among them were the common-good entrepreneurs Helmut Lind, chairman of the executive board of Sparda Bank Munich, and Antje von Dewits, managing director of VAUDE Sport GmbH & Co. KG, the social activist and Alternative Nobel Prize laureate Dr. Vandana Shiva from India, Dr. Ha Vinh Tho, head of the gross national happiness centre in Bhutan, and Ulrike Hermann, chief editor of TAZ.

- ✓ [Gemeinwohlfest 2016 – Commons Festival 2016](#)

Videos:

- ✓ [Ist eine andere Ökonomie möglich? | Podiumsdiskussion](#)
- ✓ [Reportage Gemeinwohl-Fest 2016 von W24 - das Wiener Stadtfernsehen](#)
- ✓ [Das Gemeinwohlfest 2016 - ORF Seitenblicke](#)

**Related Campaign:**

- ✓ ['Terra Viva' — Our Soil, Our Commons, Our Future:](#)

## Event

# Seed Freedom at 2016 Iphofen Seed Festival

20 February 2016  
Iphofen, Germany



The 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Seed Festival took place in Iphofen, Germany on February 20<sup>th</sup> 2016 and was organised by Barbara and Martin Keller of [Open House e. V.](#) Navdanya had a stall, where people could go through some of Navdanya/Seed Freedom Publications and Reports, get updates and information about Seed Freedom and ongoing campaigns and were invited to sign both the [Declaration on Seed Freedom](#) and the [Citizens' Pact for the Earth](#). Also the alternative community of [Peliti](#), from Drama, Greece was present and – at their stall - people were able to get some Greek local seed varieties and important information about the [upcoming International Seed Freedom Festival](#) which will take place on their land on May 7<sup>th</sup> 2016. A very important moment of the event was when Barbara Keller read the Declaration on Seed Freedom and asked Harald Ebner, Member of the German parliament for the Greens Party to bring the declaration demands to Berlin on behalf of the movement for Seed Freedom.

- ✓ [Seed Freedom at 2016 Iphofen Seed Festival – Germany](#)
- ✓ [“Seed Freedom” beim Saatgut-Festival 2016 in Iphofen](#)
- ✓ [2000 Besucher beim Saatgut-Festival](#)

## Mobilization Tour

### Navdanya in British Columbia, Canada

26 – 29 February 2016

Vernon and Victoria, Canada



Dr. Shiva delivered the keynote address that opened the [COABC conference](#), speaking to over 200 organic farmers and food activists from all over the province, many with links to the national and international organic movement. She also participated in a COABC panel on seed saving and cataloguing.

The COABC gathering was also attended by a number of scientists and government representatives, including BC's current Minister of Agriculture Norm Letnick, and NDP Agriculture Critic Lana Popham.

Dr. Shiva made a second presentation in Vernon, speaking to the general public in the evening of Feb. 27 at the city's Schubert Centre (she also spoke in Victoria the following Monday).

- ✓ [Vandana Shiva's organic food advocacy inspires B.C. farmers](#)
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## Campaign

### "Stop Glifosato" Italian Campaign



Navdanya International joined "Stop Glifosato" coalition, along with several organic farming organisations and civil society environmental movements.

The coalition states that at present there is no clear proof that glyphosate does not cause harm to the human health and the environment; therefore it demands the Italian government to apply the precautionary principle and ban the use and sale of products containing the substance. Moreover it demands local regional authorities to ban the use of products containing the substance both in public places and in agriculture and most of all it demands to stop assigning financial benefits for "responsible use" of them. This campaign also intends to send a

strong cohesive message from the Italian civil society to the European political institutions in charge of making decisions on glyphosate re-approval.

- ✓ ["Stop Glifosato" Campaign](#)
- ✓ [TV Panel Debate](#)

Course

## Making Peace with the Earth & Each Other: Gandhi, Globalisation & Gross National Happiness

1<sup>st</sup> – 10 April 2016

Navdanya Biodiversity Conservation Farm, Doon Valley, Dehradun, India



Over 40 participants from five continents attended the 15th Gandhi and Globalisation course at Navdanya Earth University. This course is designed to make participants learn the principle of harmony with nature, by adopting non-violent and other Gandhian methods. This year's faculty included Dr Vandana Shiva, executive director of Navdanya, Satish Kumar, an Indian activist and editor of the Resurgence & Ecologist magazine, Pv Rajagopal, who is from the Gandhi family and in 1993 became the Secretary of Gandhi Peace Foundation. Along with them: Jill Carr-Harris who has been a leader in the Ekta Parishad's women wing for over a decade and Dr Madhu Suri Prakash, who is a recipient of the Eisenhower Award for the distinguished Teaching and is professor of Education at the Pennsylvania State university.

- ✓ [Making Peace with the Earth & Each Other: Gandhi, Globalisation & Gross National Happiness](#)
- ✓ [Gandhi and Globalisation course gets people from all over the world to Dehradun](#)

*Event/Action*

## **Navdanya at Australian Festival of Tibet**

20 April 2016

Brisbane, Australia



"Making Peace with the Earth: Dr Vandana Shiva in conversation with Paul Barclay" event took place as part of the "Festival of Tibet 2016" in Brisbane.

- ✓ [Making Peace with the Earth Dr Vandana Shiva in conversation with Paul Barclay](#)
- ✓ [Podcast: Vandana Shiva on feeding the world and saving the planet](#)  
ABC Net, Australia

Also in Brisbane, Dr Vandana Shiva delivered African Food Sovereignty Alliance Open Letter at QUT - where Gates Foundation funded GMO bananas project is being developed - as well as 57,000 signature petition on the human trials being carried out on female students at Iowa State University in the United States. [Read more](#)

### **Related Campaigns**

- ✓ [No Gmo Banana Campaign](#)
- ✓ [Terra Viva](#)
- ✓ [People's Pact to Protect the Planet and Each Other](#)

## Mobilization Tour Seed Freedom in California

23 – 28 April 2016

Multiple locations, California, USA

**VANDANA SHIVA IN OJAI**  
**EARTH DAY**  
**Saturday April 23, 2016, 2.30pm**  
**at Oak Grove School**  
220 West Lomita Avenue, Ojai, CA 93023  
Often described as "Monsanto's Worst Nightmare" Vandana Shiva is a vocal opponent of chemically dependent industrial agriculture and one of the world's leading advocates for organic food systems.  
**INTRODUCED BY PATAGONIA'S RICK RIDGEWAY**  
patagonia |   
**ALL WELCOME. THIS IS A FREE EVENT.**

Dr Vandana Shiva traveled through Southern California giving speeches at Universities and at the Ojai's annual Earth Day celebration. In Ojai, during a rousing keynote speech in front of 500 citizens on a sunny afternoon, she encouraged attendees to get involved. "Every one of us must become a seed saver. Every one of us must become a gardener and a grower, even if we can't be farmers. Because to take care of that seed, to touch the soil, to know that in the work of putting the seed into soil is the answer to the drought, is the answer to climate change."

- ✓ [Seed Freedom in California – April 2016](#)
- ✓ [A Talk with Vandana Shiva](#)  
UC Food Observer, 6 July 2016
- ✓ [Environmental activist slams corporate agriculture, pesticides](#)  
By Claudia Boyd-Barrett - Ventura County Star,



As part of the Global Campaign for Seed Freedom, [Navdanya](#) joined Peliti along with thousands of seed savers, farmers and organisations from across Europe for the 16th Seed Festival at Peliti, Greece to join forces to sow the seeds of the future and sow the seeds of another vision for the planet and its inhabitants.

The core theme of this Seed Freedom festival was on the principles articulated in the [People's Pact for the Protection of the Planet and each other – One Planet One Humanity](#) : our bonds of diversity to make peace with the earth and each other. With our intense commitment, and deep solidarity, we will collectively defend our Seed Freedom, Food Freedom, and Democratic Rights to shape a future of food that protects life on Earth and the well being of all.

People and organisations from all over Europe attended the Seed Festival, which represented a unique opportunity to build connections and strengthen the movement

Ruchi Shroff, International coordinator for Seed Freedom held several workshops [on the upcoming Monsanto Tribunal and People's Assembly](#) in The Hague (14 – 16 October), as well as on this year's [Seed Freedom Call to Action](#) (2 – 16 October) and the invitation to organise local People's Assemblies everywhere.

Panagiotis Sainatoudis announced that nearly 20 People's Assemblies and Seed events in different locations in Greece will be organised for the purpose.

On 14 and 15 May, Seed Freedom Campaigns and activities were publicized at the Free exchange festival for old and traditional seeds, seedlings and saplings organised by [Green Team Bulgaria](#) & Peliti Bulgaria Local Group.

- ✓ [Seed Freedom in Greece and Bulgaria](#)
- ✓ [Free exchange festival for old and traditional seeds, seedlings and saplings](#)
- ✓ Video 1: [Peliti Interviews - Ruchi Shroff](#)
- ✓ Video 2: [Extract from workshop at Peliti Seed festival 2016](#)

## Event/Campaign

# A Call to Join Jaivik Kranti (Living Revolution) for Anna Swaraj 2020

21<sup>st</sup> May 2016

New Delhi, India



Representatives of over 15 million Indian farmers, doctors, activists, researchers, policy makers from 25 states came together at the India International Centre, New Delhi to launch Javik Kranti, the living revolution for Bija and Anna Swaraj 2020.

This call to revolution for saving India from an agrarian, ecological and health and malnutrition crisis was answered by collective representation from Navdanya, Ekta Parishad, Azadi Bacchao Andolan, Ghanerao foundation, SEWA, Kudumbashree, Javik Setu, Richaria Society, KRRS, Annam/ CISSA, Bharat Krishak Samaj, Kisan Mahapanchyat. These groups were joined by doctors from IMA Meerut and AIIMS established the links between poisons in our foods and the cancer epidemic.

- ✓ [A Call to Join Jaivik Kranti \(Living Revolution\) for Anna Swaraj 2020](#)
- ✓ [Launch of Jaivik Kranti \(Living Revolution\)](#)

## Mobilization Tour Navdanya in Mexico and Argentina

1 - 10 June 2016  
Multiple Locations



**Mexico:** Navdanya participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Forum for the Rights of Mother Earth, which was held in Mexico City, where civil society leaders, environmental and indigenous knowledge activists, legal experts and spiritual leaders from all over the world gathered to urge the adoption of legislation to ensure respect for the planet.

Dr Vandana Shiva, in her speech, pointed out how human rights are intimately linked to those of Mother Earth and how both are threatened by the increasing power in the hands of those corporations which started as manufacturers of warfare chemicals, and

which are now recycling them for industrial agriculture with the sole aim of profit.

She also addressed the audience about the upcoming [Monsanto Tribunal and People's Assembly](#) in The Hague (14 – 16 October), as well as about this year's [Seed Freedom Call to Action](#) (2 – 16 October), and invited movements and organizations to organise local People's Assemblies everywhere, to reclaim our food system.

- ✓ [Navdanya at the International Forum for the Rights of Mother Earth](#)
- ✓ Video: <https://www.periscope.tv/w/1BRKjlvPVBjw>
- ✓ [Palabras de Vandana Shiva](#)
- ✓ [Se realizará ante La Haya “el juicio del siglo” contra Monsanto: Vandana Shiva](#)
- ✓ [Llama Vandana Shiva a parar la biopiratería, “nuevo colonialismo”](#)
- ✓ [Entrevista a Vandana Shiva: Semillas de Verdad](#)



**Argentina:** On the occasion of the 3rd International Environmental Film Festival (3er Festival Internacional de Cine Ambiental) in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Dr Vandana Shiva gave several interviews and talks, intervened in panel debates together with French film Director Marie Monique Robin, including an address at the Argentina Senate during the meeting of the Commission for the Environment and sustainable development. The Festival became a unique

space and opportunity for civil society organizations, associations, environmental lawyers' groups, doctors and activists to share knowledge, propagate information and strategize actions both at the local level, such as the [“People’s Tribunals for Food Sovereignty \(Tribunal de los Pueblos por la Soberanía Alimentaria\)”](#) as well as on the international level through the presence of a broad Argentinean delegation at the [People’s Assembly & Monsanto Tribunal](#) at The Hague.

- ✓ [Navdanya en Argentina – 3er Festival Internacional de Cine Ambiental](#)
- ✓ [Vandana Shivá en Conf. de Prensa/Juicio Senasa-Glifosato](#) [Video]
- ✓ [Vandana Shiva: “Frenemos la guerra del agro contra el planeta o nos extinguimos”](#)
- ✓ [Senado Argentina: Comision de ambiente y desarrollo sustentable](#)
- ✓ [Vandana Shiva en Argentina: "Preservar semillas es el mayor acto revolucionario"](#)



After the Film Festival, both Dr Vandana Shiva and Marie Monique Robin visited Cordoba, and joined the Argentinean activist Sofia Gatica and multiple civil society groups at the Blockade Camp in front of the site where Monsanto has started works to build a production plant and where the boycott has been going on since 2012. In August 2016 Monsanto finally announced that [they will dismantle](#) their half-built multi-million dollar GMO seed plant.

Both in Buenos Aires and Cordoba the audience was given information about the upcoming [Monsanto Tribunal and People’s Assembly](#) in The Hague (14 – 16 October), as well as about this year’s [Seed Freedom Call to Action](#) (2 – 16 October), and movements and organizations were invited to organise local People’s Assemblies everywhere, to reclaim our food system.

- ✓ [Navdanya in Córdoba, Argentina](#)
- ✓ [Vandana Shiva en Argentina: la primera enemiga de Monsanto | lavaca](#)
- ✓ [Vandana Shiva: "Preservar semillas es el mayor acto revolucionario" - MDZ Online](#)
- ✓ [Vandana Shiva: Soberanía alimentaria: fuerzas y resistencias](#)
- ✓ [“Los argentinos están muy intoxicados por el glifosato”](#)

Event/Action

## Press Conference: New GMO Technologies and the Bayer-Monsanto merger

27th June 2016  
Berlin, Germany



Recent developments in and new aspects of genetic engineering in agriculture and food took center stage at a press conference on June 27<sup>th</sup> in Berlin, jointly organized by [Birdlife International NABU](#) Germany, [Navdanya International](#), [IFOAM – Organics International](#) and the [Coordination against BAYER-Dangers](#) (CGB).

Dr. Vandana Shiva spoke about the forthcoming Monsanto Tribunal. She also made an important remark about the danger and the illusory promises of newly developed technologies for genetic manipulation.

- ✓ [Opposing the BAYER and Monsanto merger – The fight for a GM-free agriculture must be strengthened](#)
- ✓ [Gegen die Fusion von Bayer und Monsanto – Der Kampf für eine gentechnikfreie Landwirtschaft muss verstärkt werden](#)
- ✓ [Contra la unión de BAYER y Monsanto – La lucha por una agricultura libre de transgénicos debe ser fortalecida](#)
- ✓ [Opposition à la fusion de BAYER et Monsanto – Le combat pour une agriculture libre d’OGM doit être renforcé](#)
- ✓ [Contro la fusione di BAYER e Monsanto – La lotta per un’agricoltura libera da OGM deve essere incrementata](#)

### Related Campaigns

- ✓ [Monsanto Tribunal and People’s Assembly](#)  
14th – 16th October, The Hague, Netherlands
- ✓ [Seed Freedom Call to Action 2016](#) –  
People’s Assemblies for the Future of our Food and the Future of our Planet  
2nd – 16th October 2016 – Everywhere

## Event

### The Mango Festival – AMRAPALI

1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2016

Navdanya Biodiversity Conservation Farm, Doon Valley, Dehradun, India



A celebration of diversity at Navdanya farm, with 9 varieties of organically grown Mango: Dasahari, Langra, Kalmi, Malda, Chausa, Safeda, Desi. Desi Achari, Tota pari asli. An opportunity to enjoy the abundance and connect with the diversity that the Earth can offer to us when we work in harmony with nature and take good care of our local food systems.

- ✓ [The Mango Festival – AMRAPALI](#)
- ✓ <http://www.navdanya.org/events/600-organic-mango-festival-held-at-navdanya-farm-dehradun>

### Related Campaign

- ✓ [Food Smart Citizens for Food Smart Cities](#)

Event

## Seeding the Future. An Evening with Vandana Shiva at the Indian Summer Festival 2016

14<sup>th</sup> July 2016

Vancouver, Canada



Dr Vandana Shiva talked about how the origins of modern day industrial agriculture are rooted in the industrial military complex. The same corporations manufacturing chemicals for war are now the giants of Industrial Agriculture and have poisoned millions of people, destroyed biodiversity and pushed small farmers off their land. Using free trade neoliberal policies and deregulation of commerce to enlarge their empires, these corporations have established monopolies and threatened farmers rights to seed and people's rights to affordable medicine through patents

and IPRs. "Big challenge is there are systems that work outside the corporate control. Those systems demand creativity. They demand cooperation and community. They demand courage. Those are the systems through which the young people will be able to serve the planet," she said. "They're seeking a way to reconnect to the earth, a way to provide for your own needs, grow your own food, and most importantly, a way for justice for future generations."

- ✓ [Seeding the Future. An Evening with Vandana Shiva @ ISF2016](#)
- ✓ [Vandana Shiva and Elizabeth May](#) [Video]
- ✓ [Vandana Shiva dishes on GMOs for Indian Summer Festival](#)  
The Asian Star, 15 July 2016
- ✓ [Seeding the Future with Dr. Vandana Shiva](#)  
Blush Vancouver, 22 July 2016
- ✓ [Dr. Vandana Shiva lashes out at corporations whose 'tricks have become worse and more hidden'](#)  
By Indira Prahast – Voice online, 22 July 2016

Event/People's Assembly  
**Monsanto Quit India at Allahabad**

9<sup>th</sup> August 2016  
 Allahabad, India



Commemorating the memory of Quit India Movement 1942, Swaraj Vidyapeeth witnessed coming together of Allahabad's civil society and Gandhian from all over the country to stand against the poison makers that are pumping India with disease and death. As part of the Monsanto Tribunal build-up actions, the citizens of Allahabad burnt effigies of poison making corporations like Monsanto, DuPont, Bayer, Nestle, PepsiCo, Coke Cola, Dow, Syngenta et al that responsible for food related diseases like cancer, obesity and diabetes. This was a symbolic act to spread awareness about these companies and a call for their total boycott all over India. After the effigy burning the gathering assembled to hear the speakers: Dr Mira Shiva, public health policy and drug regulation activist, Kumar Prashant, veteran journalist and head of the Gandhi Peace Foundation, Prof Lal Bhadur Verma, senior professor Allahabad University, Prof R C Tripathi, Dr K S Anandi, editor Nai Azaadi Udgosh.

- ✓ [Monsanto Quit India at Allahabad](#)
- ✓ [Poison makers quit India \[Video\]](#)
- ✓ [Monsanto Quit India – Yagya \[Video\]](#)

**Related Campaigns**

- ✓ [Monsanto Tribunal and People's Assembly](#)  
 14th – 16th October, The Hague, Netherlands
- ✓ [Seed Freedom Call to Action 2016](#)  
 People's Assemblies for the Future of our Food and the Future of our Planet  
 2nd – 16th October 2016 – Everywhere

## Mobilization Tour/Conferences

# International Conference about Seeds, Intellectual Property and GMOs in the TPP and International Meeting on Peasants' Economy and Agroecology in the Americas

11 - 13 August 2016

Mexico City and Texecoco, Mexico



Complementary to the activities carried out in Mexico in June 2016, Navdanya intervened in a public hearing at the **Mexican Senate** about topics related to the TTP, which the **Mexican** government could **ratify before the end of 2016**.

Dr Vandana Shiva affirmed that TTP has to be evaluated based on the real impact of other trade agreements on democracy, food sovereignty and farmers' rights.

During her keynote address at the International Forum, she warned the audience on how this trade agreement is a Trojan horse for corporations like Monsanto to widen their monopoly on the agriculture sector, impose the

introduction on GMOs and patents on seeds.

She said that Mexico has an important role in the defense of biodiversity and the rights of farmers and emphasized how indigenous seeds, agroecology and regenerative agriculture are the only way for a sustainable and democratic future.

- ✓ [Con el ATP, Monsanto busca que campesinos paguen por semillas](#)  
Por Angélica Enciso L. – La Jornada, 11 de agosto de 2016
- ✓ [Foro: Sobre semillas. Propiedad Intelectual y Transgénicos en el Acuerdo de Asociación Transpacífico](#) [Video]
- ✓ [Vandana Shiva. Las semillas y la propiedad intelectual](#) [Video]



Navdanya was part of the 2nd International Meeting on Peasants' Economy and Agroecology in the Americas organised by the **Autonomous University of Chapingo**, in Texecoco, Mexico where Dr Vandana Shiva gave the keynote speech.

Dr Vandana Shiva talked about the importance of local farmers who produce healthy food and protect biodiversity while the green revolution only aim is to produce commodities.

She also joined a protest against the construction of a new International Airport on former Lake Texcoco. This project, "at some point will present a problem, such as lack of drinkable water," she warned.

- ✓ [II Encuentro Internacional Economía Campesina y Agroecología en América](#)
- ✓ [Dra. Vandana Shiva en Chapingo](#) [Video]
- ✓ [Llama Vandana Shiva a capitalinos a oponerse al aeropuerto en Texcoco](#)  
Por René Ramón – La Jornada, 14 de agosto de 2016
- ✓ [Agroecología: construyendo el buen vivir](#)  
Por Martha Elena García – La Jornada de Campo, 17 de diciembre de 2016

Event/People's Assembly

## Stop Monsanto's crimes! Indian farmers call for 'Monsanto Quit India'

17<sup>th</sup> August 2016

New Delhi, India



Navdanya gathered farmers' groups from all over India to submit a declaration in support of the Agricultural Ministry's decision to regulate the price of Bt Cotton Seed. The declaration was signed by over 30,000 farmers and was presented to Deputy Commissioner. The declaration asked the government to regulate the price of Bt Cotton seed immediately and to further ban all GMOs including GM mustard.

Dr. Shiva stated that "Monsanto's hallucinations have a very high cost to

India's freedom and the lives of Indian farmers. Farmers are dying each day due to debt, soils and water are being mindlessly mined and it is evident to everyone that Bt Cotton has a big role in the drought of Vidharba and Marathwada. Contrary to its promise, Bt Cotton has not controlled pests but given rise to newer pests, increasing the use of pesticides, which is trapping rural India into deeper debt."

The Declaration further asks the government to recognise the Bija swaraj/ seed sovereignty as the right of farmers in order to prevent the exploitation of rural Indian farmers at the hand of fraudulent corporations.

- ✓ [Stop Monsanto's crimes! Indian farmers call for 'Monsanto Quit India'](#)
- ✓ [Dr Vandana Shiva joins farmers at Agricultural Ministry](#) [Video]
- ✓ [Why the government is right in controlling the price of Monsanto's Bt cotton seeds](#)  
By Dr Vandana Shiva – Scroll.in, 22 August 2016
- ✓ [Farmers ask govt to ban Monsanto in India](#)  
Millenium Post, 18 August 2016
- ✓ [\(REOPENS DCM46\)](#)  
India Today, 17 August 2016

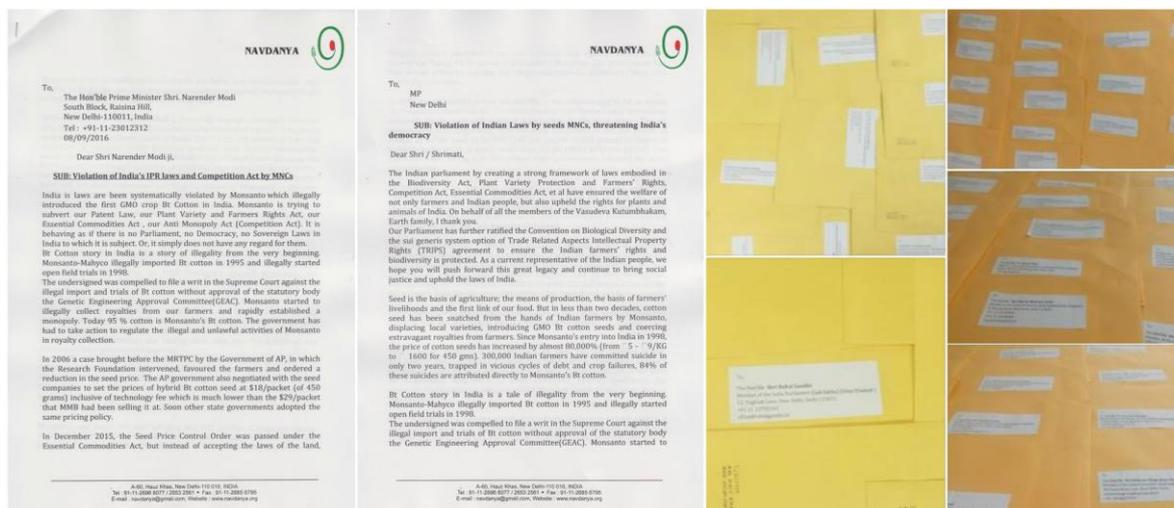
### Related Campaigns

- ✓ [Monsanto Tribunal and People's Assembly](#)  
14th – 16th October, The Hague, Netherlands
- ✓ [Seed Freedom Call to Action 2016](#)  
People's Assemblies for the Future of our Food and the Future of our Planet  
2nd – 16th October 2016 – Everywhere
- ✓ [Navdanya Campaign in support of farmers victims of BT Cotton failure](#)

## Action

# Monsanto Quit India - Navdanya writes to Prime Minister and members of Parliament of India seeking a ban on Monsanto and GMOs

September 2016  
New Delhi, India



Dr Vandana Shiva wrote to the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and to over 300 members of the Indian parliament to take cognizance of the violations of Indian Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) laws and of the Competition Act (Anti-trust and monopoly Act) by Monsanto, further demanding that Monsanto be banned from India and cautioning them against commercialisation of Genetically Modified (GM) mustard.

The letter to MPs says “as a Parliamentarian of India, we do hope you will defend the country’s laws and not allow underhand and illegal activities of Monsanto to threaten the sovereignty of the Indian Constitution and undermine the regulatory framework that defends the rights of the Indian people.”

Through the letter, Dr Shiva has asked for White Paper to be called for in the Parliament to expose all those people who receive funds and are complicit with foreign corporations like Monsanto that are exploiting Indian farmers.

The letter also exposes the GM mustard is a Bayer product and Deepak Pental is the front-man for pushing this technology in India.

The letter further analyses the mega merger between the Monsanto-Bayer, Dow-DuPont, Syngenta-ChemChina and explains how these will create a global seed and chemical monopoly. It requested the Indian Parliamentarians to rise to block the mergers at least in India.

- ✓ [Monsanto Quit India – Letter to PMO](#)
- ✓ [Monsanto Quit India - Dr Vandana Shiva writes to members of Parliament of India seeking a ban on Monsanto and GMOs](#)
- ✓ [It's time for Monsanto to quit India](#)
- ✓ [Letter to Indian PM Narendra Modi and other MEPs – Press Coverage](#)

## Related Campaign

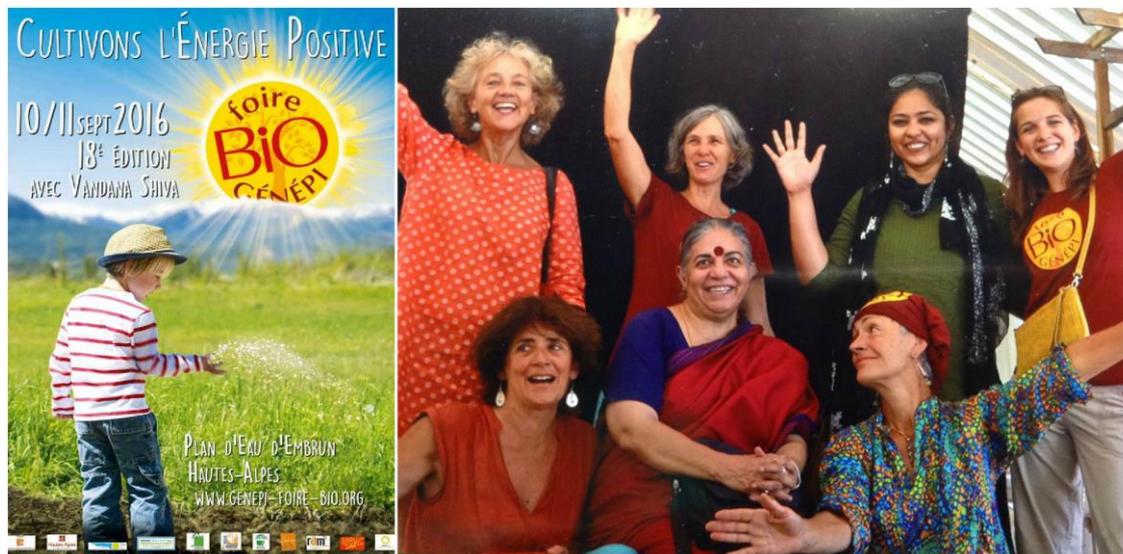
- ✓ [Navdanya Campaign in support of farmers victims of BT Cotton failure](#)
- ✓ [Sarson Satyagraha – Civil Disobedience against GMO Mustard](#)

Event/Conference

## Navdanya at the Bio Génépi Fair

10-11 September 2016

Embrun, France



The steering committee of Navdanya International: Dr Vandana Shiva, Ruchi Shroff and Caroline Lockhart participated in 2016 edition of Bio Génépi fair in Embrun, France.

They took part in round tables, two in particular: the first about women's place in society and the second about Seed issues and the challenges we face as farmers and concerned citizens in terms of defending our Seed Freedom and Food Freedom from being taken over by corporations. Dr Vandana Shiva held the closing speech of the event on the subject "Making Peace with the Earth" when, together with the event organisers, Navdanya invited the attendees to sign the Citizens' Pact to Protect the Planet and Each Other and to join citizens' movements and organisations in The Hague next October at the Monsanto Tribunal and People's Assembly. After the speech children were invited to plant a Garden of Hope.

- ✓ [Navdanya à la Foire Bio Génépi](#)
- ✓ [Vandana Shiva à la foire Bio Genepi](#)  
La Villa Saint Marc, 16 septembre 2016
- ✓ [Cultiver l'Énergie Positive](#)  
Alpes & Midi, 15 septembre 2016
- ✓ Revue de presse: <http://genepi-foire-bio.com/?Annee-2016>

### Related Campaigns

- ✓ [People's Pact to Protect the Planet and Each Other](#)
- ✓ [Monsanto Tribunal and People's Assembly](#)  
14th – 16th October, The Hague, Netherlands

*Learning experience on the Farm*

## **A-Z of Agroecology and Organic Food Systems 2016**

15 September – 15 October 2016

Navdanya Biodiversity Conservation Farm, Doon Valley, Dehradun, India



A Global Capacity Building Workshop every year is being held at the [Navdanya Biodiversity Conservation farm](#) for citizens' organizations and movements.

Over 30 participants from five continents have attended this course that is focused at teaching organic farming, biodynamic agriculture, permaculture, and urban gardening with special emphasis on seed saving, seed exchange, participatory breeding and the links between Seed Sovereignty and Food Sovereignty, along with insights on biosafety concerns related to GMOs. Many esteemed scientists and environmentalists have given lectures at the course: Dr Eric Séralini, Dr Vandana Shiva, Av Singh, Marilyn McHugh and Chris Kennedy, Andre Leu, Jérôme Douzelet, Maya Goburdhun, Dr Mira Shiva and Narsanna Koppula.

During the official opening of the course, Dr Vandana Shiva said: “We at Navdanya Bijavidyapeeth, help people learn about organic farming as a way to heal their soils, revive the knowledge of their ancestors and free themselves of a corporate driven exploitive food system.”

- ✓ [Annual A-Z of Agroecology & Organic Food Systems begins at Navdanya](#)
- ✓ [A-Z of Agroecology & Organic Food Systems — 15 September – 15 October 2016](#)

### **Related Campaign**

- ✓ [Seed Freedom Call to Action 2016](#)  
People's Assemblies for the Future of our Food and the Future of our Planet  
2nd – 16th October 2016 – Everywhere

## Event/People's Assembly

# People's Assembly: "GM Mustard: Emerging Issues"

30<sup>th</sup> September 2016

New Delhi, India



Over 124 farmer groups, scientists, senior lawyers and activist joined Navdanya and Swadeshi Jagran Manch for a national All India People's Assembly against GM Mustard. Altogether the various groups represented over 10 millions farmers, along with millions of other Indians.

Some of the key experts at the meeting were French molecular biology and world's top scientist on GM biosafety Prof. Gilles Eric Seralini, environmental activist Dr Vandana Shiva, Nicolas Hulot, President of the Nicolas Hulot Foundation, Senior scientist Dr Pushpa Bhargava, former and founding director of the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Senior lawyer Prashant Bhushan, Aruna Rodriguez, lead petitioner in the GM case in the Indian Supreme Court, Dr Krishan Bir Chaudhary, President of Bhartiya Krishak Samaj.

All key emerging issues related to GM Mustard - agronomical, socio-economic, biosafety and Health and IPRs were discussed in detail during the Assembly.

Under corporate pressure, the Indian government may very soon commercially release GM mustard, making it the first the food GM crop in India.

This decision threatens the livelihoods not only for millions of India's farmers & seed breeders but the herbicide tolerant Mustard will have devastating effect on all Indians and Indian biodiversity.

At the end of the People's Assembly all the members groups of this united front for Swadeshi economic democracy and Earth Democracy signed a declaration.

- ✓ [People's Assembly New Delhi: "GM Mustard: Emerging Issues" – Declaration](#)
- ✓ [Link to video](#)
- ✓ [Dr Vandana Shiva submits critique of GM Biosafety report](#)  
Press Release, 4 October 2016
- ✓ [GM Mustard in India? Five unanswered questions](#)  
By Prof. Gilles Eric Seralini and Chef Jérôme Douzelet, 5 October 2016
- ✓ [Opposers Might Move Supreme Court Against Release of GM Mustard for Cultivation](#)  
Smart Indian Agriculture, October 2016
- ✓ [Long-term impact of GM mustard on health not studied: Gilles-Éric Seralini](#)  
Interview with Molecular biologist and anti-GM Activist  
Business Standard, 3 November 2016

## Related Campaigns

- ✓ [Sarson Satyagraha – Civil Disobedience against GMO Mustard](#)
- ✓ [Monsanto Tribunal and People's Assembly](#)





## Monsanto Tribunal and People's Assembly

Please refer to the annex Report "[Monsanto Tribunal and People's Assembly Report](#)"

The process of holding the Poison Cartel accountable for its crimes is the culmination of 30 years of scientific, legal, social, and political work by movements, concerned citizens and scientists. Since the ground for the tribunal was laid by the movement, a parallel People's Assembly was created to allow for movements from across the world to gather together, sharing problems, political strategies and [visions of the future](#) for a [sustainable agriculture](#). This is the coalition that has got together to organize the Monsanto Tribunal and People's Assembly and over [800 organizations](#) from around the world are supporting and participating in this process.

The Tribunal aimed to synthesize the existing [crimes and violations](#) for which Monsanto is in courts across the world— in India, Europe, US, Mexico, Argentina, as well as to expand the scope of criminal activity to include the crime of ecocide, the violation of the rights of nature. The judges will [issue an advisory opinion](#), they will verify whether Monsanto's activities are in compliance with the laws as they exist in the UN, along with other legal instruments. It is an educational tribunal, that can influence international human rights law

The People's Assembly was a gathering of movements, seed savers, seed defenders, farmers and growers and civilians to address the crimes against nature and against humanity perpetrated by chemical and biotechnology corporations. The People's Assembly included different aspects of the movements defending the corporate assault as well as positive people's stories of the movements building the alternative.

After listening to witnesses and lawyers from the Tribunal, as well as to organizations, farmers, activists and common citizens from the People's Assembly, the evidence is clear: "The poison cartel, which includes toxic makers such as Monsanto, Bayer, Dow, DuPont, and the like, are together destroying both our bread and our freedom. They are corrupting governments, violating nations' sovereignty and imposing on our planet a model of greed, poison and corruption". Monsanto and the Poison Cartel are guilty of crimes against our planet and against humanity. This is the verdict from the People's Assembly stated in the [final press release](#).

This event has given a unique opportunity to strengthen the alliance among movements and see many more join in and participate in chartering the road to our future based on Seed Freedom and Food Freedom, agroecology and farmers rights, our commons and economies of sharing, rights of nature and earth democracy.

Nnimmo Bassey, former chair of Friends of the Earth International and member of Navdanya International board stated: "*Coming to the People's Assembly and the Monsanto Tribunal is very important for me because we are going to build a platform for actually getting people to stand for their own rights and to fight against industrial toxic agriculture based on genetically engineered crops and toxic chemicals.*"

✓ [Video](#)



## Event

# Bhoomi Festival

1<sup>st</sup> October 2016  
New Delhi, India



The theme of Bhoomi 2016 was **Healing Our Planet, Healing Our Body.**

The event, jointly organised by [Navdanya](#), [India International Centre](#), the [Institut Français India](#) in the framework of “The Other Thought,” and [SOL](#), focused on how to reverse the harms inflicted upon Mother Earth by a self-seeking industry through the healing practices of Agro-ecology, cultivating and eating wholesome, living foods.

Spanning a range of activities comprising panel discussions, dialogue, film screening, theatre and music to heal the mind as well as a wholesome dinner, Bhoomi 2016 allowed the participants to catch a glimpse of the poison free world we are creating. And the transformation starts with what we eat, with all of us being mindful of the provenance of our plate.

Speakers included: India’s new Environment Minister Anil Madhav Dave, the French environmentalist Nicolas Hulot, and the president of the International Federation of Organic Agricultural Movements Andre Leu and Dr Vandana Shiva, founder of Navdanya.

- ✓ [Bhoomi Festival](#)
- ✓ [We Spoke to Vandana Shiva About the Future of Food](#)  
By Rebecca Hobson – Munchies, 7 October 2016

Event/People's Assembly  
**People's Assembly in Rome, Italy**

5<sup>th</sup> October 2016  
 Rome, Italy

Getting close to the Monsanto Tribunal and the People's Assembly, the 2nd of October S.C.U.P. "Popular Sport and Culture" center hosted a People's Assembly in Rome. S.C.U.P is a social center which supports the action against Monsanto and agriculture systems based on pesticides, glyphosate and GMOs. They believe in an economy model that takes care of territories and local communities. Among the speakers: Marco Pieja from S.C.U.P., Ruchi Shroff director of Navdanya International, Monica Di Sisto vice-president of "Fairwatch" and spokesperson of Stop TTIP Campaign in Italy, Lucy Greyll from "A Sud" association and Maura Crudeli president of the Italian Association of Asbestos-Exposed (A.I.E.A). The event was attended by social movements and citizens who came together to be part of the alternative to the agribusiness system.



- ✓ [People's Assembly in Rome, Italy](#)
- ✓ [Verso il Tribunale Monsanto e Assemblée popolare](#)

Event/People's Assembly  
**People's Assembly and Food Festival**

10 - 11 October 2016  
 Osaka, Japan

For the 3rd year, Shumei International is organising this event on Seed Freedom. Dr Vandana Shiva – keynote speaker – addressed 700 people about the dangers of GMOs and called for a boycott of all poisons.

- ✓ [Seed Freedom in Japan – People's Assembly & Food festival](#)

### Event/People's Assembly

## Taking the People's Assembly on the "Future of our Food and Future of our Planet" to your communities

13<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Navdanya Biodiversity Conservation Farm, Doon Valley, Dehradun, India



On 13<sup>th</sup> of October, 2016 Navdanya Bija Vidyapeeth/Earth University hosted a People's Assembly with 40 participants from around the globe (India, Wales, Australia, Germany, France, USA, Switzerland, Japan, Bhutan, Mexico, Canada, Ethiopia, Brazil and Italy). They analyzed Navdanya's journey through the last three decades, from a century of genocide and ecocide by war-based corporations to a future based on seed freedom, rights of nature and rights of humanity. The people's assembly was a platform for people from around the world to be the change they want to see in the world and the opportunity to share their vision and exchange project and ideas.

- ✓ [Taking the People's Assembly on the "Future of our Food and Future of our Planet" to your communities](#)

### Event/People's Assembly

## People's Assembly for Organic Uttarakhand

19<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Agastyamuni, India



The People's Assembly was held in the Agastyamuni Vikaskhand Conference Hall, with an attendance turnout of more than 250 people, representatives of local communities, farmers and students. Dr. Vandana Shiva gave the main speech. Local people stated that due to the 2013 disaster, Kedar Valley is now facing serious issues: unemployment, water and food scarcity. The attendants took an oath to protect seeds, water, natural resources against any attempt from corporations to take advantage of the situation with fake promises.

- ✓ [People's Assembly for Organic Uttarakhand](#)
- ✓ [अगस्त्यमुनि में 17 साल बाद हुआ महापंचायत का आयोजन](#)

## Event

# Navdanya at 3rd World Meeting of Popular Movements

5<sup>th</sup> November 2016  
Rome, Italy



Navdanya participated in the Third World Meeting of Popular Movements, which is being held in Rome from 2 to 5 November 2016. Dr Vandana Shiva intervened in the panel debate about 'Territory and Nature': "Right now we've got upside down democracy where every decision has been made globally, behind closed doors by corporations. All the issues related to CETA and TTIP are now exploding. What are the rules of formalizing? Are they rules of exclusion? Or are they rules of dignity? All the tragedies of all the little activities which had to stop because they have become illegal are related to formalizing in favour of global corporations taking over a sector that was a source of employment for the poor." She also was part of the panel of experts invited by Pope Francis to participate in the plenary meeting on the last day of the event.

- ✓ [Navdanya at 3rd World Meeting of Popular Movements](#)
- ✓ [La vera guerra? Contro Madre Terra](#)  
Di Vandana Shiva – Il Fatto Quotidiano, 3 Novembre 2016
- ✓ [Dr Vandana Shiva's speech at the debate about "Territory and Nature"](#) [Video]

### Related Campaign:

- ✓ ['Terra Viva' — Our Soil, Our Commons, Our Future:](#)

## Event

### Navdanya International at #StopTTIP #StopCETA

5<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Rome, Italy



Navdanya International participated in #StopTTIP #StopCETA day in Rome, organised by [Stop TTIP Italia](#), to protest against CETA, TTIP and all other Free Trade agreements that in the name of creating jobs, in the name of growth are subverting our very democracies. Navdanya International will continue to fight for people's freedom and not corporate freedom and to protest against these attacks on our democratic processes.

As all food containing wheat or derivative products is already affected by the import of the Canadian wheat heavily treated with toxics like Round Up, Italian #CETAfree, pesticides free spaghetti were cooked and distributed during the event – as a symbolic act – to protest against the fact that the signing of CETA agreement could open the gates to uncontrolled import of wheat from Canada, undermining the efforts to safeguard local quality food at all levels.

- ✓ [Navdanya International at #StopTTIP #StopCETA day](#)
- ✓ [Ruchi Shroff statement](#)
- ✓ [Monica Di Sisto \(Vice President of Fairwatch\) statement](#)

#### Related Campaign

- ✓ ["Stop Glifosato" Campaign](#)

## Mobilization Tour Seed Freedom in Mexico

Multiple locations, 26 November – 5 December 2016



Navdanya, represented by Ruchi Shroff – Seed Freedom campaign international co-ordinator -, participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Seed Freedom Network of Latin America (Red Semillas de Libertad) in Xochimilco, where representatives of 10 countries gathered for 2 days to celebrate life with a series of workshops, music, seed and knowledge exchange.

RSL members had the opportunity to discuss the various issues related to seed and food sovereignty in the respective countries and renewed their commitment to keep supporting one another, as well as exchanging knowledge and experiences as needed.

### ✓ [V Encuentro Semillas de Libertad](#)



After the event in Xochimilco, Ruchi Shroff, together with delegates of other international and Latin American organizations, joined the event “Feria de la Diversidad Biocultural” (Biodiversity and cultural diversity Fair) in Mexico City, where a press conference was held with the aim of informing communities, farmers and indigenous groups on the resolutions of CBD COP13 (Conference of the Parties - Convention on Biological Diversity, Cancun, 4 – 17 December 2016) and the current threats on common goods and on the life, culture and traditions of indigenous communities.

✓ [Invitación a Conferencia de Prensa – Feria de la diversidad BioCultural](#)



On December 3rd a meeting took place in Ek Balan, Yucatan, where all the participants and coordinators of the project “**Voices of Maíz**”\* gathered to discuss issues related to corn in Latin America and other parts of the world and draw the “Declaration of Ek Balam”, stating that indigenous peoples are the rightful possessors, conservationists and breeders of maize and all associated biodiversity and warning that maize is not a commodity, but the center of life, with a sacred value for native peoples.

On December 5<sup>th</sup>, second day of formal work at COP 13 in Cancun, the group of 50 representatives of indigenous cultures from Canada, Ecuador, Chile, China, India, Peru, Mexico and Guatemala– presented the **Declaration of Ek Balam** at the Conference. They claim respect for uses and customs of indigenous peoples, their collective and traditional work practices, and demand their voice to be heard and considered in any discussion of all laws applicable to seeds. They also state that the free flow of seeds among original peoples must not be criminalised and

that they completely reject transgenic maize in all countries where they have cultivated and preserved the crop through centuries.

- ✓ [Indigenous peoples bring Ek Balam Declaration to COP13 – Voices of Maíz](#)
- ✓ [Los Pueblos Indígenas llevan la Declaración de Ek Balam a la COP13 – Voces del Maíz](#)
- ✓ [Declaration of Ek Balam](#)
- ✓ [Declaración de Ek Balam](#)

**Voices of Maíz\*** is a collaborative project among various organizations, communities, and individuals coming together to amplify the voices of communities internationally to restore and re-engage the sacred in corn, and to show the fundamental role of Indigenous cultures in the creation and conservation of maize.

This storytelling collaboration “Voices of Maíz” comes in response to the threats corn cultures are facing through the globally imbalanced relationship to maize. This imbalanced relationship has caused a deterioration of the genetic base of maize and in the extraordinarily rich and important ways in which local stewards have maintained agrobiodiversity as part of their cultural fabric.

Key participants in the project include:

Alejandro Argumedo, Asociación ANDES; Adelita San Vicente Tello, Semillas de Vida; David Lauer, Photographer; Devon Peña, Acequia Institute; Hélène Botreau, Asociación ANDES; Karen Swift, Voices of Maíz coordinator; Kaylena Bray, Voices of Maíz coordinator; Mateo Hinojosa, Photographer/filmmaker; Ruchi Shroff, Navdanya and International Seed Freedom Campaign; Sara Argumedo Gomez, Asociación ANDES; Tezozomoc, South Central Farmers Cooperative

- ✓ [Voices of Maíz](#)
- ✓ [Voces del Maíz](#)
- ✓ [Seed Freedom in Mexico – Nov. Dec. 2016](#)

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Event/People’s Assembly

## Strategy meeting and Peoples Assembly on Dow/Dupont Ecocide and Genocide

27<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Navdanya Biodiversity Conservation Farm, Doon Valley, Dehradun, India



Navdanya’s Earth University attendees and Bijkas (interns) organised a People’s Assembly at Navdanya farm to commemorate Bhopal ecocide and genocide and held an organizational meeting in perspective of the main People’s Assembly on Dow-Dupont crimes to be held after few days in Bhopal.

- ✓ [Strategy meeting for Peoples Assembly on Dow/Dupont Ecocide and Genocide](#)

## Event/People's Assembly

# Peoples Assembly on Dow/DuPont Ecocide and Genocide

29<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Bhopal, India



In remembrance of the Bhopal gas genocide, Navdanya along with other civil society movements organised a People's Assembly against Dow/DuPont, on November 29th 2016. This was an assessment of Dow/DuPont's crimes in terms of having committed genocide and ecocide.

There are many cases being fought against Dow by the people of Bhopal, demanding justice for their losses and demanding to make the company liable for crimes against the people of Bhopal and to make sure no corporation in the world can get away with such heinous crimes.

At the People's Assembly each aspect of the genocide was analysed by experts from all fields that have worked closely with Bhopal survivors and continue to fight to achieve justice for Bhopal.

- ✓ [People's Assembly on Dow-DuPont crimes of Genocide and Ecocide](#)
- ✓ [Remembering the Bhopal Gas Genocide and Call for Organic India](#)
- ✓ [People Assembly on ecocide and genocide by Dow /DuPont – Dr Vandana Shiva](#)
- ✓ [Rachna Dhingra, National co-ordinator for International campaign for Justice in Bhopal](#)
- ✓ [Dayaram Namdev, Secretary Gandhi Bhavan, Bhopal](#)
- ✓ [Rashida Bee, President, Bhopal Gas Peedit Mahila Sangh](#)
- ✓ [Rajkumar Keswani, Veteran journalist who predicted Bhopal disaster](#)
- ✓ [Satinath Sarangi, Managing Trustee, Sambhavna Trust Clinic Bhopal](#)
- ✓ [Shrimati Champa Devi Shukla – Victim of Bhopal and Movement Leader](#)
- ✓ [Media Coverage 1](#)
- ✓ [Media Coverage 2](#)