

ANNUAL REPORT

PROTECTION INTERNATIONAL



2013



TABLE OF CONTENTS

2	Contents
3-5	Note from the team
6-7	DR Congo: Integrating well-being into the security management of defenders
8-9	Kenya: Capacity building and security management with farming communities
10-11	Indonesia: Empowering LGBTI defenders to manage their security
12-13	Thailand: Building community networks with human rights defenders
14-15	Colombia: Increased protection and equality in Afro-descendant populations
16-17	Guatemala: Defending rights in contexts of exploitation of natural resources
18-20	Thematic Priorities: Public policies and protection networks
21	Publications
22-23	Highlights
24-25	Annual Financial Report

NOTE FROM THE TEAM

Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) remain at the core of Protection International (PI)'s work. In 2013, we continued to support the work of HRDs across the world and help make their environments safer. We worked in partnership with defenders and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the field; discussing their protection needs, and together designing tailored protection strategies. PI also reached out to key stakeholders and influenced them to facilitate and make the work of HRDs safer.

2013 drew the attention of our work to the following key areas: capacity building, research projects, working with duty bearers on the development of national public policies protecting HRDs and ensuring the implementation of existing protection policies for HRDs.

Capacity building is vital to making the environment of HRDs safer. The numbers demonstrate our reach: we helped build the capacity of 1,600 HRDs and, as defenders incorporated new forms of security management, this enabled them to continue their work in a safer environment.

We also accompanied over 95 civil society organisations (CSOs) in 15 countries, often in isolated parts of Africa, South and Central America and Asia. With PI's support and guidance, organisations begin to develop new approaches to their protection and are able to better carry out risk assessments, analyse security incidents and respond to evolving trends of threats and attacks.

These organisations can then train their own protection networks, design preventive measures according to local

work context and risk levels (based on groups with differing levels of vulnerability- Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs), Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) defenders, religious minorities, etc.) and to protect their communication and information systems. Finally, these organisations were also trained on territorial community protection - coordinating measures with other stakeholders and reaching out to authorities.

PI also runs online training courses on capacity building. In 2013, this included a postgraduate distance-learning course for HRD in conjunction with Olavide University (in Seville, Spain), as well as courses specially catered to the United Nations (UN), the Mexican government, an HRD network in Latin America concentrating its efforts on migrant security and our own staff. On top of these courses, PI continued to administer its classic online training for defenders in English, Spanish and French.

Another central aspect of our work is our research and dissemination of subsequent lessons learnt which remains essential to HRDs worldwide. A key element in this knowledge sharing is our publications. Our flagship publication, *The New Protection Manual for Human Rights Defenders*, was translated in Kiswahili, and a tailored version of it was produced for community-based HRDs in Thailand.

Another important publication, *FOCUS Report 2013*, provides an analytical review of current national public policies focused on HRD protection.

NOTE FROM THE TEAM

Other publications PI has contributed to or produced include a guide to security at home (*Cuadernos de Protección No 3: "Medidas de protección personales y en el hogar para DDH"*), on the protection of WHRDs and gender-based violence (*No 4: "Cuidándonos como Defensoras"*), and a second release of a community protection guide for defenders living in remote areas (*Cuidándonos*).

A third area of work in 2013 which we are proud of was our **advocacy work towards duty bearers on national public policies to protect HRDs in 10 countries**. PI helped incite progress internationally and, in some individual countries, raise awareness on the importance of national public policies that protect HRDs along with the state's obligation to protect them. For instance, we trained UN and Mexican government officials in 2013 on how to assess risk and design protection measures in the framework of Mexico's National Protection Mechanism for HRDs and journalists.

PI also advised Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and National Human Rights Institutions on similar law initiatives in Honduras, Ivory Coast and Burundi. In 2013, this involved providing an expert statement at the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACHR) in the case of HRD Luna López vs the State of Honduras, which dealt with minimum national public policy standards to protect HRDs. This statement was accepted and included in the IACHR sentence on the case, creating legal precedent.

PI has had a role as a supporting partner concerning witness protection during trials held in Kenya, Guatemala, Democratic Republic of Congo and Thailand. In Colombia, PI provided

counselling on protection mechanisms for the Las Pavas community, who was later officially recognised under the status of victim, awarded State compensation and allowed to stay on their land, despite threats.

A fourth area of progress for PI in 2013 was **raising awareness amongst stakeholders of obligations to implement existing HRD protection policies**.

To this end, PI organised two round tables in June and December 2013 involving the European External Action Service (EEAS) and UN Special Rapporteur on national public policies for the protection of HRDs.

In February 2013, PI provided a keynote to Human Rights Focal Points of European Union Delegations on the subject of HRD criminalisation and their shrinking space in society. This can be considered an important factor in the European Parliament (EP)'s latter decision to create a Human Rights Action Unit as well as parliamentary resolutions that reflect their concerns for HRDs. Finally, together with the Human Rights Democracy Network EP working group, PI helped initiate a DROI (EP's Sub-Committee on Human Rights) joint meeting with national parliaments on HRDs protection.

In Turkey, PI supported the campaign for the release of 22 HRDs and trade unionists in April 2013 using EU Guidelines. We liaised with Members of Parliament (parliamentary questions were raised in Belgium, Germany and Spain) and ensured that diplomats monitored the trial, visited HRDs in prison and produced written accounts of the situation.

PI also provided recommendations based on its protection work to religious

NOTE FROM THE TEAM

minorities in Indonesia and Pakistan, which played a part in the EEAS adopting new Guidelines on the Freedom of Religion or Belief.

These are just a few examples of our efforts to support and advocate for HRDs. We are pleased to report the above achievements in supporting defenders, but are also happy to have passed through a difficult financial period, emerging stronger. The recent financial crisis affected PI, as it had others, but thanks to everybody's efforts and your support, we managed to pull through as a more financially stable and mature organisation.

To ensure continued stability and strong organisational governance as we go forward, PI established a new entity in 2013; the Executive Direction. Made up of three Executive Directors, this new Execution has and will continue to strengthen PI's governance structure.

So we dedicate this annual report to our teams in the field; who, as defenders of defenders, are constantly taking risks themselves. It is also dedicated to those working in head office, and all our partners - individuals and organisations with whom we work hand-in-hand. Your backing enables us to continue our long-term support of HRDs.



DR CONGO

Integrating well-being into the security management of defenders

In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), HRDs, in their ceaseless efforts to assist victims of human rights violations, are often themselves put under grave danger.

Everyday, HRDs must cope with the fear of torture, murder, freedom restrictions, forced exile, arbitrary arrest and other violations. Living in a constant state of stress takes not only a physical toll on HRDs, but significantly affects their work, families and the victims they assist.

This past decade, HRDs and journalists in the DRC have been subjected to serious violations that have cost the lives of several, including: Pascal Kabungulu (Héritiers de la Justice); Serge Maheshe and Didace Namujimbo (Radio Okapi); Bruno Koko (Radio Stars); and Frank Ngikye, Floribert Chebeya and Fidèle Bazana (Voix des sans Voix).

A ripple effect of these activists' deaths is observed in the organizations they worked with; their former colleagues, paralyzed with fear and uncertainty about what awaits them, hinder organisations from pursuing their cause.

In response to many requests received from HRDs operating in this stressful context, PI has developed a set of tools that allow HRDs to safely pursue their work.

One such tool evolves around capacity building: PI, in coordination with its partner Capacitar, PI has worked on developing HRDs' stress management skills to allow for better coping of their daily high levels of stress.

Capacitar draws from years of experience working on the complexities of stress management. The organisation has formed a large international network aiming to build capacity ("Capacitar"



With partner Capacitar, PI has developed defenders' stress management skills to better cope with daily struggles.

in Spanish), develop mutual support systems and thus empowering HRDs to reconstruct their lives.

Capacitar's simple techniques used to improve well-being are drawn from practices of the popular education movement. Practices stem from both traditional healing techniques and up-to-date research on the brain and traumatic stress.

These include: moving the body to encourage the circulation of energy; fingerhold practices for managing emotions, breathing and visualization; acupressure to relieve pain or stress; and Emotional Freedom Therapy techniques, such as tapping the finger tips to release emotion.

PI and Capacitar were able to test the effectiveness of these techniques with HRDs in North and South Kivu. The results have been undeniable: many

HRDs have spoken of the positive change that these new techniques bring to their lives.

Building on these successes, PI and Capacitar established a local stress management network in South Kivu. The network plans to raise awareness of and train HRDs in the Capacitar techniques, and thus help HRDs in the DRC better assess and manage the risks and stress they face daily.

HRDs in DRC now have one more tool to help them work in hostile environments and constant stress. PI will continue to accompany them until they are fully empowered.

KENYA

Capacity building and security management with farming communities

The region of Kilifi County in Kenya is known as the “salt belt” due to the large-scale salt mining companies that have acquired huge parcels of land under dubious circumstances. The activities of these companies tend to displace small local farming communities from the most agriculturally rich land.

Deprived of their work, they have few livelihood options, except casual labour at the salt mines, where they face challenging working conditions and earn less than \$2 a day. In the past, when communities have demonstrated against the mining companies, they have been met with brutal physical repression and violence, and even shot at by the police influenced by companies’ bribes. To better address these violations and farming communities’ rights, the Malindi Rights Forum (MRF) was established.

Based in the town of Marereni,

MRF brings together individuals and community-based organisations working on human rights in Kilifi County empowering HRDs in pursuit of protection and access to justice on issues of land, indigenous, labour and children’s rights.

When PI began working with MRF in 2010, the organisation was employing risky, ad-hoc security practices with its HRDs with no global security strategy in place.

The partnership with PI has since then allowed MRF to develop a more secure working environment for its members. Incorporating various attitude and behaviour-change approaches, PI designed a strategy with MRF that raises both members’ capacity and awareness of risks that occur in their domain of work, all while adopting new measures that respond to such risks.

Throughout the process, PI provided



PI designed a strategy for the Malindi Rights Forum that **raises defenders’ capacity and awareness of risks.**

technical support in the form of need assessments, trainings and expertise on security network and community protection strategies. It also gathered litigation information and expanded MRF’s stakeholder network.

The result is an organisation with security measures implemented across all workfronts, and member who better manage their security both at work and at home.

The strategy did not just address organisation security, but also autonomy. In adopting community practices such as harvesting salt independently, MRF gained greater financial autonomy and economic empowerment to cover the costs of its many court battles.

In the final months of 2013, MRF engaged with high level duty bearers in drafting a strategy to raise awareness of the situation faced by its members.

On 8 February 2014, Kenya’s National Land Commission (NLC) Chairperson

visited Magarini in response to a petition sent to him by the MRF in December 2013. He admitted that illegal allocations of land had been made across the country - including in the salt belt - and that the NLC had identified a Task Force (yet to be officialised) to investigate the matter. In his vision to resolve Magarini’s land issues by end 2014, the Chairperson promised to end Krystaline Salt Works’ activities in Marereni.

Such events results not only in greater recognition of MRF work in its member communities, but also sets the stage for future achievement in the field of human rights. Many challenges await, but MRF is committed to the continued implementation and development of its community protection strategy.

As MRF’s success grows, PI continues to encourage its development of security-conscious practices and remains “on call” for technical support as needed.

INDONESIA

Empowering LGBTI defenders to manage their security

A country dominated by conservative values, Indonesia is a difficult and at times dangerous place for LGBTI individuals.

One of the organizations at the forefront of this movement is Arus Pelangi. Founded in Jakarta in 2006, Arus Pelangi works to advance the rights of Indonesian LGBTI people through direct support and advocacy. It also serves as an umbrella organization that heads the Indonesian LGBTIQ Forum.

In its efforts to bring about change, Arus Pelangi works to raise awareness through public campaigns. In 2013, the organisation held a parade during Jakarta's Car Free Day to celebrate the International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia.

Arus Pelangi first realised an evident need for protection and security management after a series of violent attacks on the

LGBTI community during community events in 2010.

"2010 really was a wake-up call," said King Oey at Arus Pelangi, who, with the successful movements in early 2000 thought that LGBTI "didn't need to worry about these kinds of things anymore."

Arus Pelangi took action with PI to re-establish security in its network of LGBTI human right defenders (HRDs). This included translating PI's Protection Manual for LGBTI HRDs in Bahasa and co-organizing a 5-day training event on security.

The organisation also took a lead role as protection hub for its network, both in emergency response coordination and the transfer of security management skills and tools.

"[We] have perhaps been the only LGBTI organization that LGBTI people or



"With PI we have mainstreamed security through training sessions to improve understanding of protection and security and develop ways to protect staff and LGBTI populations."

Yuli, Staff at Arus Pelangi

organizations report to when they face a threat," noted Arus Pelangi worker Yuli, "but often when they are based outside Jakarta, we cannot help them.

"That's why, with PI we have mainstreamed security through training sessions in order to improve understanding of protection and security and develop ways to protect staff and LGBTI populations."

From 2010 up to present day, Arus Pelangi carries out routine security assessments before public events. At the Rainbow Badminton Cup & Diversity Fair (photo) held in August 2013 for example, the organisation established evacuation routes with local police and as well as a security team. During its 2013 anti-bullying campaign, a security leaflet was distributed to volunteers resuming contents from PI's Protection Manual.

In early 2013, PI helped Arus Pelangi facilitate a workshop for organizations from Aceh, a region where application of Sharia Law poses a real risk for LGBTI. Finally, Digital security grew in importance for Arus Pelangi in 2013 after its and partner organisations' websites were hacked or blocked several times.

THAILAND

Building community networks with human rights defenders

2013 was a year of close collaboration between PI's Protection Desk (PD) Thailand and the country's community-based human rights defenders (HRDs).

The year began with the development of the PI Protection Manual in Thai. The manual was intended to help HRD communities develop risk assessments, create security systems and context-specific protection measures in their resistance of large-scale development projects and fight to conserve natural resources.

To write the manual, PI began by inviting local HRDs to form an advisory committee, participate in PI workshops as experts and draw on their own experiences as a starting point for the manual's content. These HRDs are, after all, central to the local justice

struggles and most aware of the realities they face when working to change the conditions of their oppression. As they exchanged experiences with PI, they also improved their ability to critically assess these experiences as well as their vulnerabilities as HRDs.

The fruit of this collaboration was the publication of the Protection Manual in Thai mid-2013, and its distribution to different HRD communities.

PI believes that protection involves not only physical protection but also measures to support the wellbeing of community-based HRDs. This is why in 2013 PI worked particularly to design and integrate flexible approaches to deal with stress. This process was fun, relaxing and enhanced solidarity amongst HRDs, which in turn helped



PI acts as a 'change agent' in HRD communities: helping members identify and implement security plans rooted in existing community knowledge.

them persevere in their struggles.

Rather than becoming overstretched trying to cooperate with many groups in different regions, PI chose to work closely with a few communities in order to develop real, sustainable protection and security mechanisms.

These communities came from two Thai regions: Klong Sai in the South and Suwankooha in the North-east. The former is fighting to obtain land titles while the latter is engaged in protecting their rights against a stone quarrying company. PI provided advice to these communities and encouraged them take action to protect themselves. Both have developed security systems and new measures in 2013.

PI acts as a 'change agent' in HRD communities: using a "training of trainers" model, trainers transfer skills to the people they work with by encouraging members to share experiences and develop security plans rooted in existing community knowledge.

As a result of PI engagement, community-based HRDs are now able to overtake PI's role as 'change agent' themselves and reach outside their communities to build networks and develop resources to support communities' struggles. For example, the Udonthani Nature Conservation group has been mentoring and working with the Suwankooha community to develop its capacities in advocacy.

By year's end, PI had initiated the formation of several community HRD networks, which resulted in a better exchange of best practices in advocacy and security management. Networks empower communities and are key to guaranteeing sustainability and consistency. During a recent PI workshop on 'HRDs and Documentation', community leaders expressed their appreciation of PD Thailand contribution in protecting HRDs in their communities.

COLOMBIA

Increased protection and equality in Afro-descendant populations

Historically, the ancestral indigenous and black communities of Colombia and other parts of the world have fought to realise their dreams of freedom –dreams that remain unrealised.

On the Pacific Coast of Colombia's south western Cauca Department, 12 Afro-Colombian Community Councils¹ have been engaged in the pursuit of freedom. Not just any freedom: this fight is, above all, a struggle for the right to livelihood, participation in governance and self-determination.

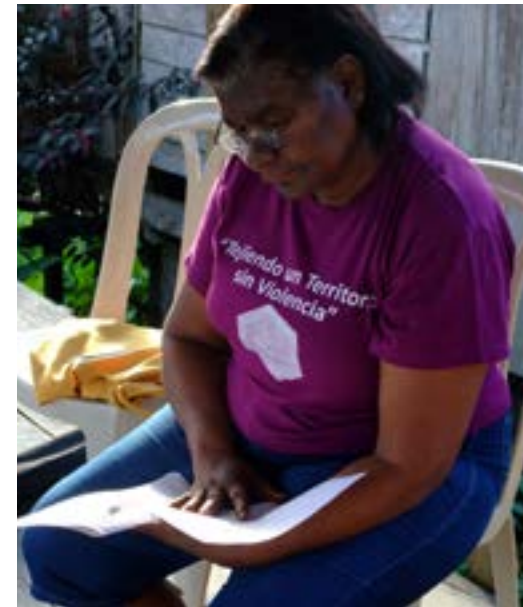
The communities have faced much adversity: not only do the 12 communities suffer the rigours of armed conflict for more than five decades, but are also threatened by a government policy intending to evict them from their land and make way for large-scale extractive industry projects.

These projects would not only do irreparable damage to the environment and cause widespread poverty, but also destroy the social fabric of the communities. In fact, land is understood by Afro-descendent populations as the place from where their culture was born and thrives. As the black communities' source of creativity, its exploitation would put future generations' livelihood in peril. Defending this right to the land has cost the 12 communities many lives; thus threatening even the future survival of Afro-Colombian people as a whole.

PI's Colombia Protection Desk (PD COL) has been accompanying leaders of Afro-descendent communities in the region for the last three years. PI has been helping the regional community council COCOCAUCA² identify and implement protection mechanisms to



¹ Under Colombia's Constitution, Community Councils have governmental authority over territories that have been recognised as ancestrally belonging to Afro-Colombian (or Afro-descendent) populations. 25,000 people, mainly afro-descendants live in the territory of the Community Councils of Chanzará, El Playón, Integración, La Mamuncia, Los Manglares, Napi, Río Guajuí, San Francisco and Sanjoc as well as some inhabitants of López de Micay and Guapi.



PI's protection strategy used ancestral knowledge to build collective action networks in Afro-descendant communities.

enable it to reduce the communities' levels of risk and strengthen organisational capacity in resisting external threats to their land.

In 2012, COCOCAUCA's ongoing efforts to conceive protection mechanisms led to the development of an initiative known as the *Convites Veredales*, or "Local Community Assemblies". The strategy involved using ancestral knowledge to strengthen solidarity, communication and collective-action networks by which the communities defend their territory.

Convites date back to early Afro-Descendent settlements and were traditionally used to collectively resolve problems. They were thus resurrected by COCOCAUCA and PI to once again unify communities, plan and develop collective activities that protect.

Convites have a non-hierarchical structure with collective decision-making. *Convite* assembly members,

known as *Conviteros*, are elected by members of the community, drawn from both sexes and represent young people, adults and elders.

Each *Convite* fulfils a specific yet equally important role in the *Convite* in representing the population's interests and protecting its ethnic and territorial rights. The *Palenquero*, for example, is the community spokesperson (*Palenques* refer to Afro-descendent communities in the region founded in the 16-17th century by escaped slaves); the *Recaudador* (Spanish for collector) is the treasurer; and the *Cuidador* (caretaker in Spanish) deals with protection issues.

Nelson Mandela once said, "To be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others". PI continues to support COCOCAUCA's 'Local Community Assemblies.'

² COCOCAUCA coordinates grass roots afro-descendent communities across Cauca Department and is the most representative body in the region. It is made up of 9 Community Councils (of the 18 in Cauca Department as a whole) and three grass roots organisations. It operates in the municipalities of Guapi, Timbiquí and López de Micay.



GUATEMALA

Defending rights in contexts of exploitation of natural resources

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank, “poor countries can develop and prosper through increasing exports of natural resources and raw goods”¹; the reality however, is that the profits of such exports often end up in the hands of multinational companies. This paradox, condemned worldwide, is what the IMF calls “a natural resource curse intrinsic to most countries with oil or minerals.” The organisation concludes that, “owning such resources stunts the long-term growth” of developing countries.

In this context, Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) play a fundamental role in protecting local populations from what they see as an attack on their right to a healthy environment, food, water and deciding what form of development is appropriate for their land.

According to data compiled by the Guatemalan Human Rights Defenders Protection Unit (UDEFEQUA) on HRD murders between 2000 and 2013, land-related conflicts have made the aforementioned HRDs more vulnerable in recent years. They have suffered increasingly serious attacks, this particularly since the presidency of former Army General Otto Perez Molina in January 2012. Similar development trends exist for attempted murder, illegal detention and persecution through legal system manipulation.

PI’s Protection Desk in Guatemala (known as Aj Noj PD Guatemala) is very concerned about these developments, as it seems unlikely that the situation will change in the near future. This especially if extractive companies, international institutions and State governments

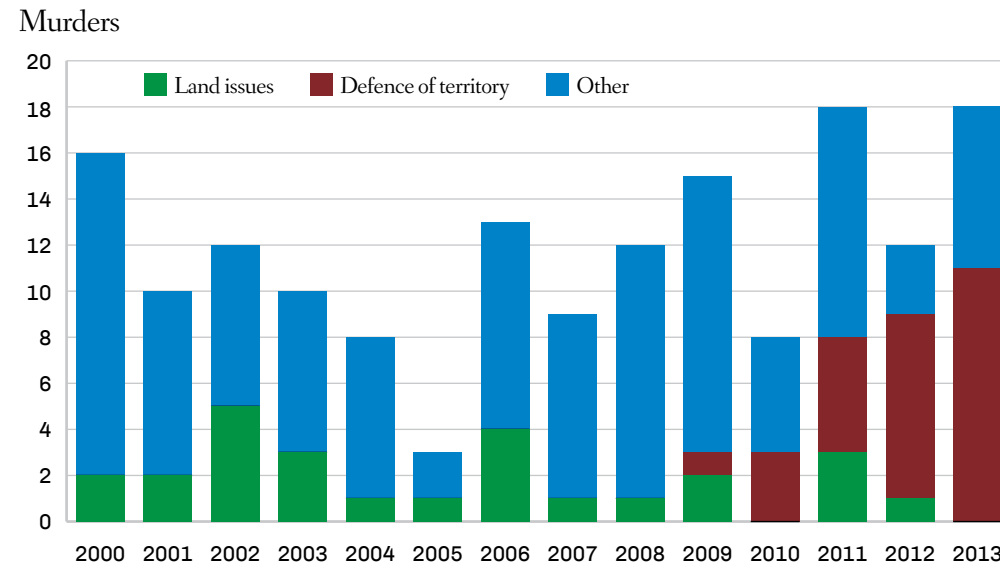


TABLE PREPARED BY AJ NOJ PD GUATEMALA USING THE UDEFEGUA DATABASE

1 <http://opsur.wordpress.com/2010/09/20/explotar-recursos-naturales-exportar-materias-primas-y-acumular-renta/>
 2 Interview with Arvind Subramanian and Xavier Sala-i-Martin, FMI bulletin. <http://www.columbia.edu/~xs23/catala/articles/2004/IMF%20Survey/IMF%20Survey%20English.pdf>
 3 “Democratizar el territorio, democratizar el espacio” Boaventura de Sousa Santos <http://fobomade.org.bo/art-2276>



Protection Networks: networks that regroup HRD communities and focus on developing safe, non-violent actions to defend their rights and minimise effects of violence.

continue to deny rural communities’ right to defend their territory.

To improve the situation for HRDs in Guatemala and beyond, PI researched and developed methodologies that led to the creation of “Protection Networks”. These networks regroup HRD communities and focus on developing safe, non-violent actions to defend their land rights and minimise the effects of the violence on HRDs.

In total, PI has helped build eight Protection Networks in Guatemala, each defending rights specific to their communities: defending land rights against gold mining in San Miguel Ixtahuacan (San Marcos); hydroelectric grids in Barillas in Huehuetenango, Jocotán (Chiquimula) and Acodet (Ixcán Kiché); gold and silver mining in La Puya; mining, hydroelectric and electrical grids in CPK (Kiché); gold mining and women rights in Jalapa (Xalapán mountain); and territorial

rights in Jalapa and La primavera (Alta Verapaz).

In addition to these 8 networks, PI has also provided advice to the *Asociación de Desarrollo Social (ADES)* in Cabañas, El Salvador and the *Consejo Cívico de Organizaciones Populares e Indígenas de Honduras (COPINH)* in the defense of their rights around gold mining and hydroelectric activities. Finally, PI has accompanied groups working with these grass roots organisations - journalists, environmentalists and indigenous communities - in developing their risk analyses and security plans.

THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Public policies and protection networks

In 2013, PI focused its research and strategic intervention in two main areas: national public policies for HRDs; and community protection networks.

NATIONAL PUBLIC POLICIES AND PROTECTION MECHANISMS FOR HRDS

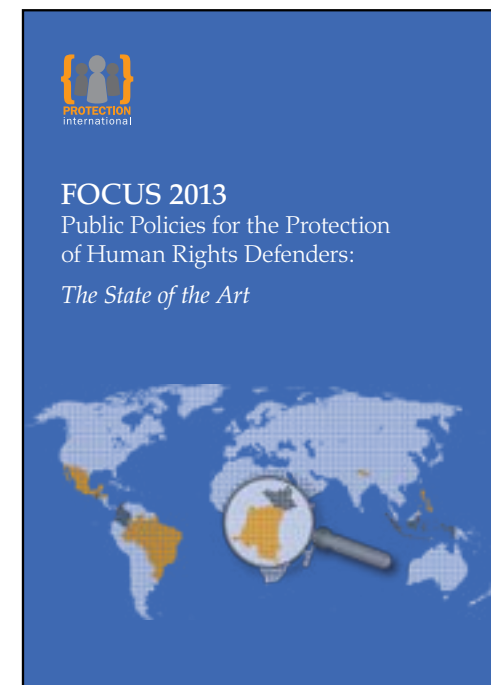
Since 2008, PI has been carrying out research on the adoption, implementation and impact of national public policies intended to protect HRDs at risk in several countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia. While the debate on the effectiveness of such policies remains unresolved, PI is encouraged by the continued interest expressed by many governments, UN special procedures and regional mechanisms, as well as by non-governmental organisations and HRDs themselves, to further research this public policy area.

FOCUS Report 2013

As part of PI's mission to analyse and promote discussion on the development of national public policies and protection mechanisms for HRDs, PI has published its first FOCUS Report 2013 – Public Policies for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders: The State of the Art. Available in English, French and Spanish, this online publication monitors two broad trends: first, the report examines current developments in countries where formal public policies and mechanisms have already been in place for several years (such as Mexico, Colombia and Brazil). Second, it analyses current debates on protection and the attempts of governments,

national human rights institutions and civil society organisations to establish protection mechanisms for HRDs in Guatemala, Honduras, the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Côte d'Ivoire, Indonesia, Nepal and the Philippines.

We plan to update our FOCUS Report annually, welcoming contributions from HRDs and policy-makers with expertise on the topic. In the long run our FOCUS Reports shall contribute to discussions on the development of new public policies, in countries where protection



of HRDs is far from assured, and to and improve those that already exist.

Technical assistance in Mexico

Throughout 2013, PI staff continued to provide hands-on and expert technical advice in order to help build the capacities of national authorities and local civil society organisations on security, risk assessment and protection



In 2013, PI gave expert technical advice to national authorities and CSOs on building capacity in security, risk assessment and protection management for HRDs.

management for HRDs. The Mexican National Human Rights Commission, the OHCHR and PI convened two workshops to address officials and civil society organizations working on HRD protection and security.

PI also delivered a distance learning course to Mexican civil servants and civil society representatives involved in the implementation of the 2012 Law for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders and Journalists. Altogether, PI has trained more than 150 officials in Mexico.

Roundtable on national public policies for the protection of HRDs
PI supported the European Union (EU) in organising a roundtable on “National public policies and mechanisms for the protection of human rights defenders (HRDs): Lessons learned from Latin

America”. The roundtable, which took place within the framework of the 15th EU-NGO Forum on Human Rights held in Brussels last December, paid particular attention to HRDs who face threats of physical violence and to state responses that are intended both to counter and prevent such threats. It also analysed current challenges to protecting HRDs and promoting and defending Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR) in remote areas.

COMMUNITY PROTECTION NETWORKS

HRDs living in, or working with, communities and minority groups in remote rural areas remain among the most vulnerable of defenders. These activists seek most often the promotion and protection of ESCRs. However, they are often perceived as a threat and find themselves vulnerable to abuse by



State and non-State actors, including powerful (national and international) economic actors. Violations of the rights of defenders of ESCR are manifold, including criminalisation, harassment, threats, physical attacks and, in some cases, the murder of leaders of the movement. All of these attacks are marked by high levels of impunity.

PI has been actively accompanying HRDs, grassroots organisations and communities in remote rural areas, helping them develop community protection networks that enable them to respond to the risks they face as a result of their work to protect human rights and their legal rights on their territories. This initiative recognises the fact that such HRDs operate in relatively complex socio-institutional contexts, interacting with other grassroots organisations, NGOs, non-state actors

and government institutions, all of whom can operate simultaneously at local, regional, national and even international levels.

PI strongly believes that the consolidation of a strong web of relations allows isolated communities living in remote areas to enhance their capacities to protect the rights and freedoms of their members and their lands.

In 2013 PI embarked in an applied research project on community protection networks. The research builds on ongoing experiences with communities from rural areas in Guatemala and other countries where PI has field protection offices. It aims to shed some light on how these grassroots initiatives work in order to duplicate these mechanisms around the world.

PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS



NEW PROTECTION MANUAL FOR HRDS (SWAHILI)

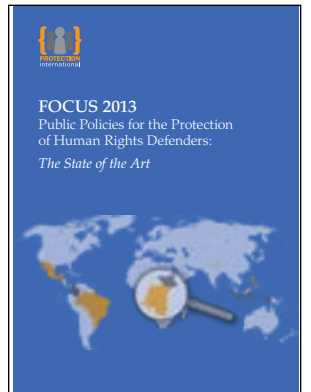
The aim of translating our protection manual into Swahili was to provide HRDs from Eastern Africa with tools that may be useful for improving their understanding of security and protection. The manual will support training on security and protection and help defenders to undertake their own risk assessments.

This manual is the fruit of all our work and exchanges with defenders and we owe to all those involved a huge thanks for their input.

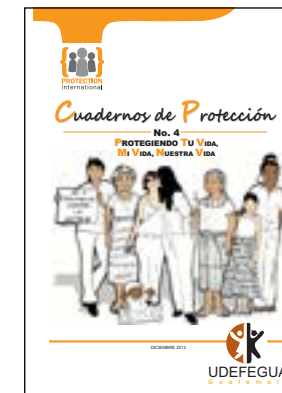
FOCUS REPORT 2013

FOCUS is PI's global observatory on public policies for the protection of human rights defenders (HRDs). This 2013 report includes the results from research into public policies to protect HRDs internationally. PI analyses and promotes discussion on the development of such public policies, believing governments should be ultimately responsible for protecting HRDs.

This report is intended to contribute to discussions on how to improve existing public policies and spur discussion between civil society organizations and national governments in countries where protection of HRDs is far from being ensured.



PUBLICATIONS



GUATEMALA: PROTECTION MANUAL 4

The Protection Manual number 4 (in Spanish) comes from a partnership between UDEFEGUA and PI, and focuses on the protection of women human rights defenders.

Women who defend human rights face much greater burdens than their male counterparts. In addition to dealing with human rights abuses in their work, women defenders have to confront abuses and pressures of sexist and patriarchal nature. What's more, in many cases this discrimination and abuses come directly and indirectly from male defenders themselves.

PROTECTION MANUAL FOR COMMUNITY-BASED HRDS (THAI)

This manual is aimed at community-based HRDs in rural areas of Thailand. It was published by Protection Desk Thailand but with major input from the Thai communities PI works with. It is part of Protection International's long-standing commitment to assist defenders in building safe community working environments.

In an attempt to reach more community-based defenders, the 70-page manual is written in Thai and contains illustrations drawing parallels between the six-step rice cultivation process and the implementation of security measures. Moreover, the manual allows readers to easily adopt security guidelines into practice.



HIGHLIGHTS

Muhuri (Muslims for Human Rights) is a Muslim organization promoting human rights in Kenya. PI ran a security management workshop to develop and implement their security plan. Participants received training in physical and digital security.

KENYA, FEBRUARY



PI training Muslims for Human Rights -MUHURI-

PI was invited by Libera's Salvagente project who's members' s are indirectly at risk for reaching out to people testifying against the mafia. PI shared expertise and supported the team's security planning.

ITALY, APRIL



PI training the team of the Salvagente project

In ongoing academic collaboration, PI attended a 3-day seminar on 15-17 May over the protection of HRDs at the Centre for Applied Human Rights (CAHR) at University of York. PI's President Enrique Eguren presented a draft article on an ethical approach to HRDs' work.

UNITED KINGDOM, MAY



PI presented on ethical approaches to work of HRDs

During the Rios Montt's trial, witnesses and victims were at risk for their testimonies in court. An alliance of several NGOs, among which Aj Noj-PD Guatemala and our partner UDEFEGUA, came together to enhance their protection.

GUATEMALA, JUNE



PI supported victims and witnesses of the Rios Montt genocide trial

HIGHLIGHTS

PI participated in an expert seminar in Warsaw to develop recommendations for participating OSCE/ODIHR states to meet their obligations to protect HRDs. PI contributed by sharing its fieldwork experience on public policies.

POLAND, JUNE



PI shares fieldwork experience on public policies with OSCE/ODIHR

'East Africa Journalists in Exile' is a Rory Peck Trust online resource in collaboration with PI, Article 19 and CPJ. To help journalists assess their own security, PI contributed with a set of 'Security Assessment Guidelines' and with a 'Security Assessment Form'.

EAST AFRICA, NOVEMBER



PI contributed to the 'East Africa Journalists in Exile' online resource

CIPRODEH, COFADEH, CEJIL, ERIC-SJ and PI took the the State of Honduras to a public hearing before the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights (IACHR) for failing to implement protection measures for HRDs at risk.

USA, NOVEMBER



PI at the IACHR: Honduras does not protect human rights defenders

PI was invited to present at the World Human Rights Forum (WFHR) in Brasilia. The theme of the forum was 'Comparative experiences for the protection of HRDs at the international level'.

BRAZIL, DECEMBER



PI participated in the World Human Rights Forum in Brasilia

FINANCIAL REPORT

* The recent economic crisis had affected PI, as it had others. leading up to 2013. But thanks to our efforts and your support, we managed to pull through this difficult financial period, emerging stronger.*

"In our opinion the financial statements ended 31 December 2013 present fairly the assets and the results of the AISBL. Without prejudice to formal aspects of minor importance, the accounts are kept in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements applicable in Belgium."

Braine le Comte, 8 May, 2014
Patricia VANOSBEECK
Expert-Comptable IEC

BALANCE	31/12/2013	31/12/2012
ASSET		
FIXED ASSETS	13496,66	15416,88
Equipment and furniture	13496,66	15416,88
CURRENT ASSETS	259859,34	381258,83
Amount receivable	37143,77	206332,35
Current investments and cash at bank	222715,57	174926,48
TOTAL ASSETS	273356,00	396675,71
LIABILITIES		
FUND OF THE ASSOCIATION	120936,15	58862,19
Accumulated profit	120936,15	58862,19
DEBTS	373790,74	337813,52
Supplier	-18935,36	25066,83
Taxes, remuneration and social security	33050,74	50197,22
Deffered income	359675,36	247549,47
Others debts		15000,00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	494726,89	396675,71
I. OPERATING INCOME AND CHARGES		
OPERATING INCOME		
Sales manual and DVD's	890,77	27,00
Provision of service		
Donation		
Grants	1179687,26	1241514,14
Other operating income	31986,63	29213,38
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	1212564,66	1270754,52
OPERATING CHARGES		
Service and other goods	-482025,62	-392597,28
Remunerations and social security	-651545,04	-862177,64
Depreciation	-11008,62	-16696,66
Other operating charges	-94,00	-20189,02
TOTAL OPERATING CHARGES	-1144673,28	-1291660,60
OPERATING RESULT	67891,38	-20906,08
II. FINANCIAL INCOME AND CHARGE		
Financial income	1081,06	927,15
Financial charge	-4938,13	-9598,57
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	-64034,31	-29577,50
III. EXCEPTIONAL INCOME AND CHARGES		
Exceptional income	128,62	0,00
Exceptional charge	-2088,97	-162,32
PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	62278,18	-29739,82
Profit for the fiscal year to be allocated	62073,96	-29739,82
Profit brought forward from previous year	58862,09	88601,91
PROFIT TO BE CARRIED FORWARD	120936,05	58862,09

THANK YOU!

Full names: EU EIDHR, AJWS, Sigrid Rausing Trust, Kingdom of Belgium, Foundation Open Society Institute – Open Society Foundation, Misereor, National Endowment for Democracy - NED, Foreign Affairs Netherlands/Embassy Kinshasa, Federal Foreign Office Germany/Embassy Kinshasa, Bread for the World – Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst, ifa/zivik, MFA Spain, Amnesty International, Soletterre, EHAHRDP, Transparency International, OACNUDH Mexico, Libera, Earthrights International, Justicia et Pax NL, Norwegian Church Aid, Justicia Global, Agir Ensemble pour les Droits de l'Homme, CEJIL, UDEFEGUA, PAS, SOS IJM, Arus Pelangi, Kontras, Tactical Technology Collective & private donations.

One of our principles is to work in partnership. We would like to thank all individuals, groups and institutions with whom we have partnered in 2013. We would especially like to thank for their collaboration:



DONORS