

Mouvement international de la jeunesse agricole et rurale catholique (MIJARC)

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Annual Report 2009 of MIJARC/IMCARY

Mouvement International de la Jeunesse Agricole et Rurale Catholique
International Movement of Catholic Agricultural and Rural Youth

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1. Introduction

The year 2009 was marked by several important events for MIJARC: The World Social Forum in Belem, Lux'09 in Luxembourg, COP 15 in Copenhagen, World Summit on Food Security in Rome, the CFS of FAO Reform and several other important meetings. Thanks to our partners MIJARC, was able to participate in all these meetings to give rural youth a voice.

The internal development of MIJARC had two faces in 2009: Since MIJARC brings up a lot of good activities by local, regional, national, continental and international movement(s), the recognition of MIJARC towards institutions on different levels is quite well. But the International General Secretariat lost a lot of financial supporters in 2009 and spent a lot of time finding funds for guaranteeing work, which has to go on in 2010. Several Agencies decided to cut the subventions for the structure, which brings the existence of the General Secretariat in danger. We are continuously in contact with our continental movements, who share the same experience. Thus with this annual report we want to thank our supporters, especially our members for the help and work done to MIJARC. But also we want to show what we did in the last year and to launch a discussion within and among the donor agencies on the way forward in collaboration with international movements and specifically the International Movement of Catholic Agricultural and Rural Youth (MIJARC). Our members are doing a lot of work and at the same time MIJARC has to fear of dissolution of structures, which will have negative impact to the rural world.

The work on food sovereignty, gender issues and solidarity economy is running really well. MIJARC received a lot of positive feedback form different partners in 2009, which were guaranteed through the great involvement of the International General Secretariat and as well thanks to the continental and national coordinations.

This showed the importance of involvement of young people from rural areas which have significant impact on various policy making institutions and politicians, since rural youth is seldom recognised in policies and politics; however they are the future and representing the majority of the rural world. It is important and essential that young people from rural areas receive attention in policies and politics and opportunities to develop their own well-being.

With our methodology see-judge-act MIJARC wants also to involve in public discussions such as land grabbing in 2010. MIJARC will launch its campaign on land grabbing on July 25th 2010 in South India and hopes for a great participation of MIJARC member and the public of 5000 people. We hope to launch fruitful discussions and actions, which will respect the needs of young people in rural areas.

World Team of MIJARC in April 2009

2. Activities

2.1. World Social Forum 2009/ Workshop on Financial and Hunger Crisis

The World Social Forum (WSF) stimulates the decentralized debate, reflection, proposals building, experiences exchange and alliances among movements and organizations engaged in concrete actions towards a more solidarity, democratic and fair world. It is an open meeting place for reflective thinking, democratic debate of ideas, formulation of proposals, free exchange of experiences and interlinking, networking for effective action, by groups and movements of civil society that are opposed to neo-liberalism and to domination of the world by capital and any form of imperialism and are committed to building a planetary society directed towards fruitful relationships among mankind and between it and the earth. It up holds respect for human rights, the practices of real democracy, participatory democracy, peaceful relations, equality and solidarity among people, ethnicities, gender and condemns all forms of domination and all subjection of one person by another.

The three first editions of WSF, as well as the fifth, happened in Porto Alegre (state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil), in 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2005. In 2004, the global event happened for the first time outside Brazil, in India. In 2006, in a constant expansion movement, the WSF was decentralized and happened in three countries on different continents: Mali (Africa), Pakistan (Asia) and Venezuela (Americas). In 2007, it returned to a centralized format and happened in Kenya (Africa) and in 2009 it was back again to Latin America and especially in the city of Belem, in the state of Para, in the Brazilian Amazonia. Each new edition of the forum receives more attention from all over the world and convinces more people, governments and institutions that "another world is possible".

Since MIJARC promote the ideologies and actions of WSF, it was appropriate to participate in the World social forums. MIJARC participated in the World social forum 2009 which held in Belem, Brazil from 26th January until 1 February with 5 delegates. There were around 150000 people from 142 countries participated in the World social Forum in Brasil. We were able to organize a number of activities and actions of our own and with others, especially with FIMARC. In the framework of the World Social Forum in Belem 2009, MIJARC and FIMARC organised a common international workshop under the title: "It's not an economic crisis, it's a food crisis". Many activists from various organisations coming from different countries attended the workshop, which appeared in the news "CULTURA" of Pernambuco.

Objectives

- Analysis of the situation on hunger, food and financial crisis
- Reinforcing the network of organisations which work on the same topic of MIJARC
- Signature campaign on Climate change
- Mobilize rural youth and public in order to campaign and lobby for the immediate response towards the food crisis and hunger

Activities

- Work shop together with FIMARC on "It is not financial crisis, it's a Hunger Crisis"
- Participation to activities and public events during the world social forum
- Participation in workshops which are related to solidarity economy and food sovereignty
- Desk on climate change signature campaign
- Dissemination of information about our work with like minded organisation
- Distribution of MIJARC publications and material
- Meeting with MIJARC Latin American team

Results

- Analysis and common position on food and financial crisis:

The Work shop together with FIMARC on "It is not financial crisis, it's a Hunger Crisis" brought different partners and networking organizations together in order to draw the attention of governments and civil societies to have an immediate response to tackle the hunger caused by food crisis as well as criticized the measures taken by countries to save the financial institutions than human beings.

- Networking

MIJARC made a lot of networking with the organisations who are working on Solidarity economies. Joined participation in the WSF with FIMARC, was quite interesting and fruitful.

Actions that we developed during the Forum allowed us for the reinforcement of the contacts with other movements and networks, first of all with FIMARC at both international levels as well as in the regional levels. IPC Latin America also participated in our work shop. Lot of public joined in our signature campaign on Climate change.

- Strengthening the national movements

Especially MIJARC Latin American team participated actively to the World social forum program. We also could organise a special meeting with them to discuss about the strategies to strengthen the work in the continent as well as in the national movements; Fr. Florencio Dube, Chaplain of MIJARC paid a visit to the national movement in Brazil soon after the World Social forum

Outlook

MIJARC will continue to work on the topic of hunger and food issues by doing the lobby and advocacy work with governments and FAO. We will mobilise our African movements to actively involve in the next world social forum which will be held in Dakar in 2011. It is planned to hold a joint seminar together with Misereor, FIAN Germany and the Netzwerk Afrika, Germany during the next World Social Forum on land grabbing. We will do the follow up of World summit on Food Security and also will actively involve in the renewed committee on Food security of FAO which will govern food and agriculture.

2.2. Lux'09

From April 22-25 the International Forum- Globalisation of Solidarity took place in Schifflange/ Luxemburg. The Forum was already the fourth meeting of its kind, which history started in 1997 in Lima/ Peru, when a group of activists, proponents of socio-economic alternatives, researchers and trade unionists, had the intuitive idea, which was somewhat prophetic at the time and was well before the launch of the World Social Forum, that the moment had come to create a vehicle for meetings at an international level. At that time, the world was seeing a proliferation of initiatives which were later to be called "social and solidarity economy" initiatives (SSE). Since then, this event has continued to take place every four years, alternating its venue between the North and the South, with an increasing participation of SSE networks from throughout the world (Latin America, North America, Africa, Asia, Europe). The meetings in Lima in 1997 and Québec in 2001, then Dakar in 2005 and in 2009 in Luxemburg had the ambition of taking up the itinerant torch of these events that continue to grow in both scale and stature and to maintain this dynamic process at the highest possible level of excellence.

Objectives

The overall objective for MIJARC to participate in this meeting was to share ideas, create networks among the participants of other organisations and to deepen in the topic. And building networks on various issues was the stable factor through all workshops. As well as youth, women, teachers, researchers and activists committed themselves to strengthen or creating networks.

Activities

Lux'09 brought together some 700 participants, including 100 from Luxembourg, 400 Europeans, 80 Africans, 50 North Americans, 40 Latin Americans, 23 people from Asia and 3 Australians. A total of 55 countries were represented, 14 from Europe, 17 from Africa, 10 from Asia and 11 from Latin America and the Caribbean.

MIJARC was represented by Carolin Grieshop and George Dixon Fernandez in this meeting. George Dixon Fernandez was a panellist in one of the workshops on Food Sovereignty and Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE), organized by FIMARC.

Results

For MIJARC the participation was important, since the network for SSE- initiatives is not very stable at this moment. MIJARC representatives got to know several representatives from different organisations from all over the world. Ideas have been exchanged and informal networks created, which has to be tightened.

2.3. Evaluation of “World Youth Day - Sydney 2008 and planning of Madrid 2011”

The evaluation of World youth day Sydney 2008 and pastoral and logistic planning for WYD Madrid 2011 as well as the celebration of 24th World Youth Day took place in Rome from 3 -5 April 2009. Pontifical Council for laity and the youth section of Vatican invited MIJARC to take part in this important international meeting. One person from national bishop's conferences and International Youth Movements, Associations and Communities was only invited for this meeting. Representatives from the Australian and Spanish organising committees were also present.

Objective

This meeting evaluated the pastoral impact of the Sydney WYD 2008 and organisational aspects as well as made proposals for the planning of the forthcoming Madrid WYD 2011 where it is expecting about 2 million young people from all over the world.

Activities

George Dixon Fernandez represented MIJARC in this meeting as well as took part in the Diocese of Rome celebrations of the 24th World Youth Day together with the Pope on Palm Sunday, 5 April, in Saint Peter's Square. The Holy Father has chosen the themes for the next three World Youth Days which is as follows. This is to help build a spiritual itinerary that will lead to the international WYD scheduled to take place in Madrid from 16 to 21 August 2011: The following are the World Youth Day themes:

- 24th World Youth Day (2009): “We have set our hope on the living God” (1 Tm 4:10)
- 25th World Youth Day (2010): “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” (Mk 10:17)
- 26th World Youth Day (2011): “Rooted and built up in Jesus Christ, firm in the faith” (Col 2:7)

Results

George made some contacts with Bishop Anthony Fisher from Sydney to create MIJARC groups in Australia; More over it was a good occasion to meet with Cardinal Anthony Rucco, Arch Bishop of Madrid which will further help us to organise our actions during the next WYD in Madrid together with our Spanish and Catalanian movements. Lot of contact with various bishops' conference has been established; networking with catholic youth organisations such as IYCS, IMCS, CIJOC etc.

Outlook

The World Youth Days organised by the Vatican under the leadership of Pontifical Council for Laity gather millions of young people from all over the world. It was Pope John Paul II who founded World Youth Day, and has been regularly extending invitations to participate since 1986. MIJARC will participate in the second preparation meeting of World Youth Day 2011 which will takes place in 2010. We are also planning and preparing for the participation in the next WYD at Madrid, Spain in 2011. We have foreseen a Joint work with our Spanish movement in 2011.

2.4. Bellagio Meeting

The Director-General of FAO took the initiative to convene a consultative meeting of group of 20 key civil society partners representing a balance of regions and constituencies. This included member-based sub-regional/regional networks of farmers' organizations (FOs) and international Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) working with highly marginalized groups including smallholder farmers, artisanal fishers, indigenous peoples, women and youth. The Director-General also invited the Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) as important resource in a period of changes in FAO's governing bodies and ways of working.

Objective

- To derive a new level of corporate collaboration between FAO and civil society
- Face to face meeting with the Chairperson of CFS
- Dialogue and consultation with Director General of FAO on CSO partnership, CFS reform and World Food Summit

Activities

This important gathering took place in Bellagio Center of the Rockefeller Foundation, Milan, Italy from 25-29 May 2009. The Director-General, Dr. Jacques Diouf, made his opening remarks for the Bellagio Meeting. His remarks provided the context and general expectations for the meeting. The participants then continued with a day-long internal consultation among civil society organizations. This pre-Bellagio meeting was organized by Action Aid International (AAI). George Dixon Fernandez, President of MIJARC participated in this meeting and made an intervention after the opening remarks of the Director General highlighting the role and situation of the effected vulnerable groups especially young people and women to eradicate the hunger and Poverty in the world. George was invited for a dinner and breakfast meeting with the Director General of FAO to have some informal discussions.

The Director-General highlighted the general context affecting food and agriculture, notably decades of declining funding, policy neglect and the low priority assigned by governments and donors. The cumulative negative impact is now recognized worldwide with the spike in food prices and subsequent volatility heightened with additional economic and financial crises. He expressed his expectation that the Bellagio Meeting would result in a new level of corporate collaboration between FAO and civil society. In the near future there will be opportunities integral to Committee on World Food Security (CFS) reform and other major events including the High-Level Conference on How to Feed the World in 2050 in October and the proposed world summit on food security. These opportunities will allow civil society and FAO to tackle the most critical issues: a new architecture for global governance to eradicate world hunger, the basic structural causes of world hunger, and adopting a common goal to eradicate hunger by 2025.

Results

The two- and a half-day FAO-Civil Society Meeting in Bellagio, 26-28 May 2009, provided an opportunity for frank and dynamic dialogue amongst a wide range of non-governmental actors with FAO and the Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). The results of the discussions opened new horizons for enhanced and joint collaboration among participating organizations, the CFS Bureau and FAO secretariat. The participants considered options for concrete and coordinated plans of work and new mechanisms for communication, consultation and action for FAO, farmers' organizations and other civil society organizations with governments. Looking to the short-term, participants agreed to closely collaborate with the CFS Bureau and FAO Secretariat to revitalize the CFS in the context of new global governance for agriculture as well as contribute to preparations for and actively participate in the world summit proposed for November. The participants did not take decisions or make engagements for their respective organizations. They agreed that the Bellagio Meeting had highlighted opportunities for improved dialogue and closer, more intense collaboration as the basis for broader, enhanced collaboration.

Outlook

MIJARC look forward for closer collaboration with FAO in its actions to eradicate hunger and poverty in the world and committed ourselves for a true and real partnership proposed by Bellagio meeting and thus we will do the follow up in this regard.

2.5. Round Table in Namur

On September 6th MIJARC organised in conjunction with Entraide et Fraternité, Justice and Peace Belgium and FIMARC World as part of the exhibition "Valerian" a policy round table discussion and a pre-workshop on "Peasant and family agriculture, environmental degradation and natural resource management" with participants from North and South.

Objective

The general objective of this roundtable was to challenge the elected politicians Belgian on regional, federal and European level on issues of agriculture and peasant family in North and South in a global context of environmental degradation. It was up to the participants of the pre-workshop to present the results of the workshop. The political representatives should react to the recommendations and at the end of the round-table measures should have been taken to follow-up together, the politicians and the partners from North and South.

Activities

In the pre-workshop and several international guests took part and worked out an advocacy document, which was presented to during the round table. Around 30 persons were taking part in the pre-workshop and 60 in the round table discussion.

George Dixon Fernandez was part of the organisation committee, he and as well Carolin Grieshop participated in the round table discussion on behalf of MIJARC, which was moderated by Michel Molitor, journalist of UCL/Revue Nouvelle. The decision makers Isabelle Durant (Ecolo), member of the European parliament and Vice President of the European Parliament, Sabine Laruelle (MR), federal minister of agriculture, Jean Renault (MR), responsible for food sovereignty and agriculture in the cabinet of Sabine Laruelle, Marc Tarabella (PS), member of the Commission on agriculture and rural affairs of PS and Dominique Weertz (CDH), National Secretary of CDH towards Globalization took part in the discussion.

Outlook

It was concluded, that it is important to maintain the link between peasants struggles against climate change and expressed the wish to maintain the dialogue in a broader context of international level. The politicians expressed their concern on that topic. A follow-up of this round table has still to be monitored.

2.6. World Food Summit 2009

The growing numbers of hungry surpassed the one million mark. FAO world food summit in November 2009 was in order to keep the challenge of food insecurity on top of the international agenda and to agree on key actions to tackle this crisis. To discuss the fight against hunger in the world, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, FAO) organized in 1996 the first World Food Summit in Rome. About 10.000 participants, including senior representatives from 185 nations participated.

At the end of the summit in 1996, an action plan was adopted at the World Food Summit. It should provide efforts to combat hunger in all countries to halve the number of hungry people worldwide by the year 2015. To half the number of hungry people was included as one of eight goals in the Millennium Declaration of the United Nations. At the second World Food Summit in Rome (WFS:fyl = five years later) in June 2002 the goal of halving the number of hungry people until 2015 was again confirmed. At that time there was around 800 million hungry people in the world but till to date it is raised and now 1,020 million starving people in 2009. Rising food prices in early 2008 led to a global food crisis. In June 2008 a high-level meeting at FAO in Rome became to a small World Summit on Food Security. In January 2009 a follow-up conference of the high-level meeting took place in Madrid. Participants from 95 countries analyzed the progress made since the summit in Rome. "The way forward is a comprehensive approach that links nutrition, food security, agriculture and trade. It depends on inclusive, broad-based partnerships bringing together Governments, civil society, farmers' organizations, businesses and international organizations. 15 countries that have indicated their intention to commit funds, technical assistance and political support for the effort to eliminate hunger.

As soon as the summit was announced the social movements started to dialogue with FAO to organize a parallel civil society forum and an International steering committee has been formed in this regard. Furthermore it was agreed that three special forums focusing on Youth, Women and Indigenous People will also takes place at the same time in the framework of the parallel civil society forum. George Dixon Fernandez, President of MIJARC as well as international youth focal point of IPC has been selected to the steering committee of the CSO forum and has been mandated to organize the youth forum of the CSO event.

Context of the Civil Society Forums parallel to the World Summit on Food Security 1996-2009

NGOs and Civil society Organisations (CSO) developed an agreed strategy on food and agriculture issues ahead of the First WFS in 1995. In 1996 the first forum on Food Security in parallel to the World Food Summit was held and the concept of Food Sovereignty was launched. In 2000 the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) was formed, which gathered at that moment 52 CSOs. During the formation meeting the plan for a maximum impact on the World Food Summit +5 was prepared. In June 2002 over 600 Organisations participated in the Forum for Food Sovereignty in Rome and adopted an Action Agenda and mandated IPC to facilitate the implementation of the Action Agenda and as well joined the WFS:fyl. Meanwhile in January 2003 The Director-General of FAO committed to work with IPC as principal civil society interlocutor for the follow-up of

the WFS:fyf. IPC organised Civil Society lobbies and Side Events at the FAO committees and the FAO Conference. In 2004, regional NGO/CSO Consultations in conjunction with the FAO regional Conferences were organized and the implementation of the action agenda continues worldwide. The adoption of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Right to Food by FAO Council was partly rendered possible due to effective CSO lobby. In 2006 Land, Territory and dignity forum was held in parallel to the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development in Porto Alegre, March and in February 2007 a forum for Food Sovereignty was held in Nyeleni/ Mali. Parallel to the High-level meeting in June 2008 a CSO forum Terra Pretta on the "Food Crisis, Climate Change, agro fuels and food Sovereignty" was held in Rome.

Activities

1) CSO Forum 2009: People's Food Sovereignty Now!

642 delegates coming from 93 countries and representing 450 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) around the world gathered in Rome on November 13th - 17th 2009 during the CSO People's Food Sovereignty Forum, which was held in parallel to the World Food Summit on Food Security 2009. **People's Food Sovereignty Now!** is organised under the responsibility of an International Steering Committee (ISC) formed by many global and regional civil society organisations (CSOs) representing food producers and affected peoples. The CSO forum was composed by various assemblies, working groups and caucuses. The working groups and assemblies dealt with the four topics: "Who decides about food policies?"; "Who controls food producing resources?"; "How is food produced?" and "Who has/needs access to food? Within the assemblies of the whole forum the final declaration which deals with above topics including Civil Society Commitments was developed.

2) World Food Summit

From 16th-18th November 2009 representatives from governments, aid agencies International Governmental Organisations and Non-Governmental Organisations, convened at FAO in Rome for the WFS in order to take stock of the state of food (in-)security and to build strategies to struggle against hunger; A final Summit declaration was adopted by all member nations.

3) Youth Forum -Food Sovereignty now: young people creating their future

In the context of youth caucus, young women and men from several Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) around the world gathered in Rome on November 14th - 17th 2009 during the CSO Forum held in parallel to the World Food Summit on Food Security 2009, to create their future by declaring their demand for food sovereignty and inclusive decision-making at all levels worldwide. 15% of the total delegates of the CSO forum were from the youth sector and these young people were financially supported based on gender, geographical balance, vulnerability etc. Along with MIJARC major youth organisations and regional youth platforms participated in this forum. The youth caucus worked also on the four central themes of the Forum: "Who decides about food policies?"; "Who controls food producing resources?"; "How is food produced?"; and "Who has/needs access to food? "Food Sovereignty now: young people creating their future" was the slogan of the youth meet. Young people declared in one voice that "Food Sovereignty is a legitimate cause involving sustainable improvement of social, economic and nutritional wellbeing of all individuals on earth by increasing access to quality food, production resources and making favourable food policies for all producers in the world". The youth caucus came up with a declaration which was presented in the plenary of the Civil society forum by Kalpana Ambipitiya from Sri Lanka (Global young greens) and John Mukibi from Uganda (Slow food movement). Jeanne Verlinden from Belgium (La Via campesina) represented young people in the official press conference organised by civil society in FAO. It is also remarkable that Sarita Minz, MIJARC Asian Coordinator from India presented the final statement of the civil society forum in the plenary of FAO official summit.

MIJARC in Rome

The International Movement of Catholic Agricultural Rural Youth was actively present and involved in the WFS and the CSO Forum in Rome. A delegation composed of representatives of Asia, Africa, Latin America, Europe and the World Team influenced the final declaration of the CSO forum through a strong participation in the assemblies and working groups. Other than Carolin Grieshop, Secretary General of MJARC, Sarita Minz, Melani Faye, Sylvie Maladje, Walker Jesus, Nivaldo Ramos Silva, Daniel Clement Royan, Kummari Krishnakar, Sunil John Pallashery, Claire Quintin of MIJARC from various continents were participated in this important event. We highly appreciate the support of CSO steering committee and Broederlijk Delen Belgium for the participation of our delegation in the forum.

Results

- A special concern was given to the special needs of youth, the demand for stopping land grabbing and thus to a better access and control over resources.
- More visibility, involvement and participation from MIJARC
- A civil society declaration and Youth forum declaration
- Close contact and network with new youth organisations working on food issues

Outlook

MIJARC is committed to do the follow up of the youth forum as well as the CSO parallel forum held in Rome. We also will be involved in the monitoring of the World Food Summit and its follow up. We will continue raising awareness of the issues of the right to food and food sovereignty, and advocate on behalf of those affected.

2.7. COP 15 –United Nations Conference on Climate Change

MIJARC World Food Day campaign topic of 2009 was agrofuels and climate change. Since from the beginning of the year MIJARC joined with Entraide et Fraternité for the campaign on climate change in Belgium. MIJARC participated in various actions in connection with this campaign such as signature collection at Belgium Railway station, World Social Forum in Belem, meeting with cabinet of Belgium federal minister for environment, energy and climate, national level round table on climate change and small scale farmers in Namur etc. MIJARC recognised that world faces day by day serious consequences of climate change which damages and threatens the millions of people and other species around us. We think that food security and climate change is quite linked and hence small scale farmers should be at the centre of both debates. At this context 15th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP15) was quite crucial as it was the largest international political conference with participants from 192 countries representing governments, the business community, and civil society with approximate 15,000 participants.

Objective

- Bringing the voice of small-scale farmers and rural in climate negotiations
- Stopping rural migration
- Involvement of rural people and farmers in climate mitigation and adaptation programs
- Changing national environmental policies

Activities

COP 15 took place at Bella Center in Copenhagen from the 7th to the 18th of December 2009. There were various activities and actions organized by Civil society during the COP 15. The climate network of young people organized the 5th Conference of Youth (COY 5) at the city campus of the University of Copenhagen from 5-6th with around 400 youth delegates from all around the globe. George Dixon Fernandez represented MIJARC in this youth forum as well participated in the preparation meeting of the Climate Justice network to finalize the various actions and events during the COP 15. Carolin Grieshop, Secretary General of MIJARC participated in the Klimaforum activities. MIJARC joined with delegation of Germanwatch for the participation in the official event. UNFCCC documents are also available on the UNFCCC website at: <<http://unfccc.int>>

Klimaforum09 is the grass root Civil Society parallel Climate conference, the global civil society counterpart of the official UN conference in the Bella Center which took place from 8-18th of December. With ten thousand daily visitors, participants from over 100 countries and a comprehensive programme of events. Klimaforum09 was the biggest climate event in Copenhagen besides the official UN conference. The programme features international guest speakers, over 150 open debates, 60 exhibitions, music, film and art. More info on <http://www.klimaforum09.dk>

Results

- New contacts and networking with climate organisations
- Mobilisation of the public on climate issues

Outlook

MIJARC will do the follow up of COP 15 as well as our national movements and continental coordination's are organising various actions in this regard. MIJARC will continue promoting the sustainable agricultural practices as well as giving awareness for young people to lead more ecological friendly life

2.8. World Food Day campaign



From 2001 – 2004 MIJARC worked on the campaign “MIJARC for food for all”. Different topics like the right to food, dumping, IMF, World Bank and food security, women and food sovereignty have been dealt. Each time the International Secretariat elaborated posters and information material which was distributed to the member movements and local groups. A lot of movements translated the material in their local languages. The local groups have been called upon doing actions during the world food day 16th of October and each year a lot of activities took place.

The World Coordination 2005 evaluated the campaign “MIJARC for food for all” and decided to start another campaign related to food sovereignty from a young people’s perspective. The focus of the campaigns in 2006-2008 was on Access to Productive resources; In 2006 we have launched the campaign on access to land and in 2007 it was on access to water and in 2008 it was on access to seeds.

Objective

The overall objective is that the movements and the civil society recognize the importance that young people and women engage in protecting natural resources and become the agents of sustainable development as well as to inform the public and the members of MIJARC movements and to advocacy for the right to od.

- Men and women of the movements inform the public about the need to protect environment and to keep biodiversity
- Men and women of the movements get information about land situation in their continent and at world level
- Man and women of the movements initiate o strengthen activities to lobby policy makers
- MIJARC does active networking projects with other NGOs
- MIJARC is an eco-friendly movement
- MIJARC movements are well equipped and prepared to face natural calamities
- MIJARC members know about their acting effects

Activities

In 2009 MIJARC focussed on the “climate change and agrofuel – even more threats to the rural poor”

The posters were sent out to politicians, partners and MIJARC members all over the world via mail, 500 editions in Spanish, 500 in French and 1000 in English. Additionally MIJARC released a call for action in English, French and Spanish, which was distributed through the MIJARC members magazine “MIJARC News”, the homepage www.mijarc.net and was send out to all MIJARC movements, partners and politicians and international institutions via E-Mail.

In August 2009 MIJARC World and its member movements sent out a press release to various international press agencies, newspapers and radio stations, informing about different upcoming actions within the next months, which were published in mostly local newspapers. A second press release was sent out in the week before the World Food Day (October 16th).

In the editions of MIJARC News which was published in English, French and Spanish just before Christmas 2009 the main topic will be “Food for all or fuel for a few?”. Already the previous edition of MIJARC News had the main topic: “Seeds –Foundation of global food security” and some articles were published about sustainability, soil, climate change and the call for action for the World Food Day actions 2009.

Results

Local rural youth have understood the facts around climate change and agrofuels and its impacts on the land situation. They learned to deal with this topic throughout local meetings all over the world. Within these meetings they got to know about their actions on local level in conjunction with the impacts on continental and world level.

Through various actions, such as press releases, demonstration, public panel discussion etc. rural youth of MIJARC informed the public about the need to protect the environment and to keep biodiversity.

MIJARC is promoting the safeguarding the creation and tries in every acting to protect the environment. Nevertheless the aim "MIJARC is an eco-friendly movement" is aimed high, thus MIJARC cannot assert to be an eco-friendly movement by one campaign, this is an ongoing task, but MIJARC is trying the best to protect the environment. This is expressed through trainings for farmer promoting an organic way of producing, engaging for a sustainable development; participants learn how to face natural calamities. The World Food Day posters contributed to achieving the ambitious objective to be an eco-friendly movement.

Through the World Food Day campaign 2009 MIJARC member got additional knowledge regarding agrofuels and climate change. With MIJARC's method see-judge-act, they are enabled to act and react.

- More and more farmers are aware of the importance of traditional seeds to store, exchange and reuse in their locality to ensure the generational transfer
- awareness rising among the members of MIJARC and public in general and realising the importance to maintain biodiversity
- attention by partners and politicians
- Collaborative projects with Agricultural departments in some countries on exchange and preservation of seed varieties
- Some farmers are aware and get organised against the interventions and control of the transnational seed companies

Outlook

The topic for 2010 will be on land grabbing. Land grabs--the purchase of vast tracts of land from poor, developing countries by wealthier, food-insecure nations and private investors--have become a widespread phenomenon. While such land grabs have not gone unnoticed, much attention has focused on individual countries, such as China and Saudi Arabia, buying land in poor nations. The Great Land Grab lays bare the insidious role played by international financial institutions like the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank and Foreign Investment Advisory Service (FIAS), as well as rich nations, in promoting and facilitating this widespread land appropriation--all in the name of promoting food security through foreign investment in agriculture. We are already in contact with other NGOs and networks in order to collaborate on this issue. Campaign is a good instrument to enhance MIJARC's internal and external visibility but it is necessary to motivate with various dynamics to encourage the movements to take up actions at various levels.

3. Organs of MIJARC

3.1. World Coordination

The MIJARC World Coordination takes place every year. The world coordination is the decision making body in between two World Assemblies. World coordination is the body that takes the important decisions for the good running and the improvement of our movement. 2009 world co-ordination was held in August in Assesse/ Belgium.

Current members of the World Co-ordination

Asia:	Sarita Minz, Anil Jose
Africa:	Melanie Fayé, Hona Tiboshokona
Latin America:	Luz Mery Benavides, Nivaldo Ramos
Europe:	Johanna Schiller, Jürgen Westermann
World Team:	George Dixon Fernandez, Carolin Grieshop, Fr. Floricien Dube

Objectives

- Evaluation of the activities (training sessions, consolidation and/or extension of movements, political work, women work etc.) at continental and world levels
- Financial reporting and planning of MIJARC
- Checking the fulfilment of criteria set up for the distribution of the solidarity fund
- Enforcing the role of women within MIJARC
- Reinforcement of the internal networking of MIJARC
- Evaluation and planning for the next International Campaign

Results

The year 2008 was evaluated and the financial statement of the last year has been discussed and adopted as well as the financial planning for 2010 also. The different commissions explained their activities and presented their future planning's. An evaluation of the activities of MIJARC was made and plans for campaigns in 2010.

Outlook

The next world coordination will take place in India. Besides the normal tasks of the coordination, we will discuss the tight financial situation of the General Secretariat, since the subventions were cut enormously in the last two years and at the same time in the continental and national offices of MIJARC. We have to find a solution, how to avoid working only with projects funds, since a movement which is elaborating a lot of good projects, needs a structural support in order to guarantee a good work.

3.2. Food Sovereignty Commission

The Food Sovereignty Commission (FSC) meets at least once a year, with the participation of one delegate from each continent and one delegate from the World Team. This commission is in charge of discussing about food and agricultural issues, defining strategies of action for MIJARC. It aims to defend and promote the concept of food sovereignty within and outside of MIJARC, through the elaboration and diffusion of papers to the movements, as well as partners and other related institutions. The commission is also in charge of lobbying and advocacy on this topic in the international organisations, mainly FAO, as well as the participation in continental and world meetings, forums and platforms, such as the International Planning Committee on Food Sovereignty (IPC).

Food Sovereignty Commission Members

	2008-2012
Asia	John Sunil Palashery (India)
Africa	Melanie Faye (Senegal)
Europe	Claire Quintin (France)
Latin America	Nivaldo Ramos Silva (Brazil)
World Team	George Dixon Fernandez

Objectives

- Update with the current local, national and global realities and policies that affect the FS
- Think tank, animation and pressure group about FS inside the movement and in the society
- Defining political orientations and strategies on FS and to declare positions of MIJARC
- Provide new contacts to enable others to build up networks with regard to FS
- Info-sharing to orientate the national movements and the mission to motivate the national movements to face the challenges and threats of FS

Activities

The FSC shared their activities of the last year on continental and world level. To mention a few campaign towards the World Food Day, participation in activities of the International Planning Committee (IPC) on continental and world level and FAO meetings. The FSC invited different experts, who gave inputs on "global trends in agriculture and food systems" and "agrofuels and impacts on small-scale agriculture".

On the last day FSC hold joint sessions with the Solidarity Economy Commission (SEC). In the morning an expert was invited to give an overview on impacts of migration which followed a discussion about its impacts in rural areas. MIJARC consider migration (internal and external) as an important point in the development of rural areas. In the afternoon, the FSC and the SEC made a study visit to Kokopelli, a seed bank in Belgium.

Results

- Planning of the work in the continents, such as involving in continental networks and platforms
- Preparation for the World Food Summit
- Exchange of information
- Identifying key issues and prioritising actions, such as climate change and land, models of production

Outlook

The Food Sovereignty Commission has worked a lot on advocacy issues and planning for the next years. For the future meetings FSC should focus much on concrete actions in the moments, such as promoting agricultural curricula and launching agricultural training projects.

3.3. Solidarity Economy Commission

In the 2008 world seminar and General Assembly, held in Uganda, Solidarity Economy was one of the main topics discussed by the participants and they altogether agreed on the necessity to foster economic initiatives that allow small producers organizations to adapt to trade and economic liberalization, rural exodus, and to improve the standard of living of their families and communities. The General Assemblies of MIJARC elected the new Solidarity Commission for 2008-2012.

Solidarity Economy Commission Members

	2008-2012
Asia	Jose Pallath (India)
Africa	Hona Tibashoboka (Uganda)/ Charles Dramane (Benin)
Europe	Johanna Schiller (Germany)
Latin America	Eraldo Hernandez (Nicaragua)
World Team	Carolin Grieshop

Objectives

- Update with the current local, national and global realities
- Provide new contacts to enable others to build up networks with regard to SE
- Info-sharing to orientate the national movements and the mission to motivate the national movements

Activities

The SEC shared in the first step the past activities and started their planning for the database of economic projects, which shall be published on the homepage of MIJARC. Each commission member from Asia, Africa, Latin-America and Europe presented the projects which are already running in their continents.

The need to inform MIJARC members about already running activities was highlighted and a information flyer will be published next year, therefore the members of SEC wrote some text elements and developed the slogan "Stay rural-start a project" to raise awareness on this issue. On the last day SEC hold the joint session on migration and made the study visit together with the FSC.

Results

- collection of elements for the database
- preparation of the flyer promoting economic initiatives
- Planning of the work in the continents, such as organising seminars to provide capacities for launching economic projects
- Exchange of information

Outlook

The Solidarity Economy Commission hold their first meeting in 2009, thus they worked a lot on organisational issues and collecting and sharing information from the movements. For 2010 it is foreseen to publish the flyer and the database.

3.4. International Women Commission

The new International Women Commission (IWC) was elected in 2008, the Women Commissioners from Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America met together with the Secretary General of MIJARC and analysed the past work of MIJARC in women and gender issues.

International Women Commission Members

2008-2012

Asia	Sarita Minz (India)
Africa	Hona Tibashoboka (Uganda)
Europe	Ana da Silva (Portugal)
Latin America	Luz Mery Benavides Orrillo (Peru)
World Team	Carolin Grieshop

Objectives

- The report of activities carried out at continental level and sharing of experiences
- The discussion on the creation of women commissions at continental and national level
- The definition of objectives and planning of new activities for the coming year
- The elaboration of a concrete project proposal for the organisation of specific activities on gender issues

Activities

The IWC invited experts to get new inputs on political participation of young rural women and planned on the basis of discussions the activities to be done in the next years.

During the first day of the meeting the activities of on continental and international were shared and as well a speaker of the IWC was elected, which will alternate each year among the continental representatives. The matter of funding of activities was a discussion point. The delegates shared their experiences and complained that agencies mostly support projects without acknowledging personal costs, but on the other hand they expect, that projects and reports are written in a very professional way, which only can be guaranteed by a full-timer.

On the second day the IWC invited Nubia Alvarez, former treasurer of JOCI, she hold an input on young women participation. During the discussion that followed, IWC defined different points which are relevant for young rural women. E.g. a training manual for women is missing, which gives input to multipliers on women and food, Women rights declaration, Finances, Political Participation, Health, and Millennium Development Goals. With this training manual, group leaders can organize seminars in order to train young rural women.

The third day was dedicated to further future planning for MIJARC's international women's work, such as improving lobbying/ advocacy, organisation of action towards the International Women's Day and the International Rural Women's Day.

Results

- Exchange of information
- preparation of the upcoming handbook on civic education for women
- Planning of the work in the continents, such as organising seminars to provide capacities for young women

Outlook

The International Women Commission is an important stakeholder within the MIJARC structure, which has struggled in the past for more participation of women within MIJARC and outside the movement in political processes. The IWC will publish the handbook in 2010 and foresee to organise a workshop on the needs of rural women with the participation of donor agencies in spring 2011. This workshop should show the necessity of the work with rural women and motivate donor agencies to support rural women activities.

3.5. World Team

The World Team consists of the President (since August 2004, George Dixon Fernandez who was re-elected during the last GA in Uganda 2008) and the Secretary General (Carolyn Grieshop who was elected in May 2008) and the international chaplain who was assigned by the Vatican in 2006 for 3 years, Fr. Florencio Dube from Peru. Fr. Florencio Dube finished his mandate in 2009 and thus we are looking for a new chaplain at the moment. The World Team meets regularly and most often once in a month. The President and Secretary General are working on a full-time basis.

3.6. General Secretariat

2009 was a crucial year for MIJARC. As we received the information in 2008, that subventions to the General Secretariat would halve in 2009 and 2010, MIJARC is now confronted with a more pessimistically situation regarding structural support. The situation in 2011 will be worse. After breaking the "contra cadre", the network of catholic donor agencies, there were a few agencies who gave structural support to MIJARC and some other catholic movements. In 2008 CCFD announced, that the subventions will be cut enormously and will stop in 2010. Broederlijk Delen will also cut the subvention in 2010 and stop in 2011.

Since the catholic donor agencies asked the Group of 8 movements, who receive(d) structural subventions to work closer together, the G8 met several times in 2009 in order to convince CCFD to withdraw their decision to stop subventions and to coordinate their activities together. But as the G8 are very divers and serving very different members, the meeting focused on the strategy to convince CCFD to withdraw their decision, more or less successfully. This cannot be evaluated at this status. But the G8 succeeded to convince CCFD to employ an interlocutor for the movements to discuss these problems and evaluate this decision made by the administrative council in 2008.

One outcome of these decisions was that MIJARC couldn't extend the contract of the project officer Nicolas Leger and work has become more and more. He stopped in March 2009. Three people are working at the moment in the General Secretariat of MIJARC:

- George Dixon Fernandez, full-time President,
- Carolyn Grieshop, full-time Secretary General and
- Nubia Alvarez, 10h/ week bookkeeper.

In July and August 2009 the General Secretariat found great support through the intern Ms Nanine Lilla, who helped to organise the summer meetings. As already described in the part of the World Coordination in this report, the World Coordination will discuss the point on the financial future of the General Secretariat during its meeting in August 2010.

4. Movements and Continental Coordination

4.1. Situation and activities of MIJARC Africa

Situation of the movements

MIJARC has member movements in Western Africa (Togo, Senegal, Mali, Burkina-Faso, Benin), in Central Africa (Cameroon, R.C.A, Congo Brazzaville and as Congo Kinshasa: associative movement) and in East Africa (Zambia, Kenya, Uganda, Madagascar).

The following issues continuously accompany the work of the national movements in Africa: formation of second generation of leaderships for MIJARC, regular statutory meetings at national levels and continental level, democratic decision-making, inclusion of women and the ownership of young people and still not solved. Many national movements have very strong grass root groups and leadership up to the diocesan levels but in most cases not coming up to take the responsibility at national levels. This leads to prolong the leadership at national levels. Financial crisis and lack of training are the major causes for this situation.

Situation of Pan African coordination

Hona Tibashoboka (Panafrican Coordinator) from Uganda and Melanie Faye (Panafrican Coordinator) from Senegal were elected during the African General Assembly 2008. The plan for 2009 was to found a common office, since the former office of MIJARC Africa was in Yaoundé/ Cameroon. But both coordinators decided in 2009 to work from their place and not to found a new office. Since both of them are working on a voluntary basis, the work of the continental coordination is quite not done. The two coordinators are also faced with a language problem. The communication is difficult among them.

From MIJARC World Team, Carolin Grieshop, Secretary General of MIJARC, is in contact with the coordination of MIJARC Africa.

Activities

- 24th International Work shop on rural youth: Hona Tibashoboka was selected to the 24th International workshop on Rural youth organised by German ministry from 5-23 July 2009 in Herrsching, Germany
- Hona Tibashoka participated in the International Expert Consultation on Gender in Agriculture on March 16-17, 2009, organised by World Bank and IFAD on behalf of MIJARC World
- World Coordination and commissions: MIJARC Africa coordinators and other commission members participated in the World coordination meeting as well as in the trainings and commission meetings organised by MIJARC World in Assesse from 25 August until 6th September 2009

Outlook

Since 2007 MIJARC Africa has no office anymore. It is fundamental to think well of a better operation of continental coordination, especially in Africa, considering the past experiences of two coordinators working at different and distant places. Pan African Assembly decided to close the office in Yaoundé and settle at another place. It is essential, that MIJARC Africa create an office in order to guarantee good work. Also an active communication and commitment is necessary.

MIJARC Africa has to put its energy and synergy to build up alliances with like minded organisations working at national and continental levels as well as to join in various networks and platforms which are having the similar objectives. A good start could be the African coordination which is foreseen for 2010. At the moment they are planning a seminar on climate change as well as visits to the movements. Also language courses for the both coordinators are foreseen. But the finances for these activities are still not assured.

4.2. Situation and activities of MIJARC Latin America and Caribbean

Situation of the movements

At present there are eight member movements belonging to MIJARC in Latin America: Brazil, Ecuador, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Martinique, Paraguay, Nicaragua and Peru. In Bolivia we had some local groups working in the spirit of MIJARC but there is no national level.

Other contacts exist to rural youth groups Chile, Uruguay and Argentina, but are still not at a level to be affiliated to MIJARC.

The communication between the national movements are faced several problems, one is the of the language and the other one is the not defined responsible in national movements who are in charge of communicating with the Latin American coordination.

Situation of the Latin American coordination

Luz Mery Benavides Orrillo from Peru and Nivaldo Ramos Santos Silva from Brazil are the continental coordinators for MIJARC Latin America and Caribbean. As MIJARC Latin America hasn't had a permanent office in the past years, they settled in beginning of 2009 an office in Lima/ Peru in conjunction with JARC Peru. Luz Mery Benavides Orrillo is working in this office as full-timer. Due to financial reasons, Nivaldo Ramos Silva worked in 2009 until end of July on full-time basis and from august on voluntary basis for the continental movement. The coordination in Latin America and Caribbean is also faced with difficulties to find finances for their projects and as well for their personal salaries.

From MIJARC World Team, Carolin Grieshop, Secretary General of MIJARC, is in permanent contact with the office of MIJARC Latin America.

Activities

- Fundamental analysis of the situation of the continental movements in Latin America
- Starting an organisational development process with the help of an external expert
- Elaboration of a new projects of rural youth employment on the basis of Solidarity Economy, Food Sovereignty, conservation of the environment, Gender Equity and the components of development politics, lobby work, enforcement of the movements, development of capacities
- Participation in the Ibero-american Youth Forum
- Participation in the World Social Forum
- Participation in the meetings of IPC Latin America
- Participation in the Workshop on "Rural Youth and Indigenous" organised by the National Youth Secretariat of Peru; the workshop dealt with topics like: access of rural youth and indigenous to education programmes, social programmes, capacity building for labour, micro-credits and access to the markets.
- Participation in the round table discussion on "Youth and public administration" organised by the Peruvian government and congress, discussing the points of legislation in favour of youth, situation and tendencies of youth groups and opportunities to include youth in public policies.
- Participation in the 1st International Forum "Struggle against poverty" with the objective to create spaces to discuss on tacking poverty into account of national politics, permitting vulnerable aspects into politics, better protection of the vulnerable population, political agenda to confront the poverty in an economical way.
- World Coordination and commissions: MIJARC Latin American coordinators and other commission members participated in the World coordination meeting as well as in the trainings and commission meetings organised by MIJARC World in Assesse from 25 August until 6th September 2009
- Participation in a meeting with ecological producers in Lima, organised by ANPE Peru with the objective to share experiences with regard to commercial production
- Participation in an event of the Ibero-american Youth Forum in Santa Domingo to intensify the networking and defining the mission, vision of the network
- Participation in the 3 weeks Latin American workshop "Economía Solidaria, Enfoques, Métodos y Técnicas" organised by Instituto Cooperativo Interamericano, Panama. The workshop focussed on: sharing experiences, basic principles of Solidarity Economy, identifying new approaches , techniques and development of economic initiatives.
- Participation in the 1st International Forum of Youth against gender violence in Madrid/ Spain. Within this space stakeholder were gathered to sensibilise youth on the topic and to struggle against violence against gender.
- 2 MIJARC Latin American delegates participated in the Civil Society forum, Youth caucus and World Food Summit in Rome from 12-20 November 2009.
- Participation in IPC Latin America activities: Dialogues about a agrarian reform and rural development
- Visit to the national movement of MIJARC LAC in Nicaragua (UNAG).
- Support for JARC Cajamarca /Peru for consolidating productive initiative animal husbandry and marketing of cavies with objective to employ 40 men and women.

Outlook

The movement in Latin America and Caribbean has hardly financial problems on national and continental level. Leaders cannot be paid on national levels and this leads to a reduction of formation and thus to a low output of economic projects. This fact is not in favour with a local rural development. The national and continental level will improve to find funding for their activities with the aim to employ at least one coordinator on national level and two coordinators on continental level which will support to strengthen the work on economic projects.

It is obvious that a strong financial intervention has to be done.

MIJARC ALC will work on the strengthening of the movements, elaborating a strategy on lobby work on continental level and supporting the national levels to elaborating and realizing their strategy of training for a capacity building on leadership, civic participation and economic skills.

It is foreseen to organise workshop on capacity building for economic initiatives in 2010 in conjunction with the next continental coordination.

4.3. Situation and activities of MIJARC Asia

Situation of the movements

10 affiliated member movements are part of MIJARC in Asia: India (Tamilnadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, North-East, Karnataka, Orissa), Sri Lanka, Nepal and Pakistan. The movement from Philippines participated in the last Asian Assembly held at Colombo, Sri Lanka and been approved as an associated member of MIJARC. Because of the political reasons the contact and participation of Pakistan movement is not often positive. Contact movements from Bangladesh, Australia will participate in the upcoming Asian training session in May 2010.

Situation of Asian coordination

The new Asian team was elected during the MIJARC Asian Assembly held at Colombo Sri Lanka in May 2008. Anil Jose and Fr. Sunny Uppan were re-elected for a second mandate and Sarita Minz from Orissa was elected as a new team member to replace Barre Manikayam. The Asian Team works in the MIJARC continental office in Chennai. The three team members shared their tasks with regard to functioning, projects, follow up of the movements, communication etc. The financial management is done by three of them together with the support of an internal management committee. Fr. Kuriakose Mambarakatt, Daniel Clement Royan and Irandie Vishara Thamel are the members of the management committee. The Asian office has been functioning in the building of Chennai Arch bishop for a long time and in January 2009 it was shifted to the house of MIJARC Asia in Kodingayure, Chennai which was bought few years back.

From MIJARC World Team, George Dixon Fernandez, President of MIJARC, is in permanent contact with the office of MIJARC Asia.

Activities

- Asian chaplain Fr. Sunny Uppan assisted the KLJB Freiburg and MIJARC Karnataka exchange program which took place in one of the most rural village in Karnataka.
- Asian coordination held in Orissa, India in August 2009. George Dixon Fernandez, President of MIJARC participated in this meeting. Half day meeting of the food sovereignty commission and solidarity economy commission was organized.
- Asian team visited various movements/ Kerala, Karnataka, Orissa and participated in some of the actions of the national movements
- Participation of the team in various assemblies: Asian team participated in some of the statutory meetings of the national movements in 2009
- Chaplain and animators training programme at national level: Many national movements organised the chaplain and animators training programme
- Anil Jose, Asian Coordinator participated in the consultation meeting in Nagpur organised by catholic bishops' conference of India to discuss on youth pastoral plan.
- Sarita Minz Asian coordinator, participated in the IPC South Asian meeting held in Kolkata in November 2009
- 4 MIJARC Asian delegates participated in the Civil Society forum, Youth caucus and World Food Summit in Rome from 12-20 November 2009. Sarita Minz Asian coordinator presented the final declaration of the CSO forum in the official summit plenary in FAO.
- Anil Jose participated in the IPC south East Asian meeting and conference on Food security and climate change organised by PAN AP in Penang/ Malaysia in June 2009
- 24th International Work shop on rural youth : Anil Jose was selected to the 24th International workshop on Rural youth organised by German ministry from 5-23 July 2009 in Herrsching/ Germany
- Renovation of MIJARC House: MIJARC Asia completed the renovation work of the MIJARC house and the office is now functioning there

- World coordination and commissions: MIJARC Asian coordinators and other commission members participated in the World coordination meeting as well as in the trainings and commission meetings organised by MIJARC World in Assesse from 25 August until 6th September 2009
- Asian Youth Day –Anil Jose participated in the Asian Youth day held in Manila in November 2009 and organised a workshop on Fair trade

Outlook

MIJARC Asia is started involve in the Asian level IPC initiatives and programmes. MIJARC Asia is planned also to work more closely and efficiently with FAO national and regional bodies. In this regard they will participate in the Asian level consultation meeting of FAO which will takes place in Manila in February 2010. MIJARC Asia is foreseen a training session in May 2010 on seeds and Biodiversity as well as the Asian level meeting of the food sovereignty and solidarity economy commissions.

4.4. Situation and activities of MIJARC Europe

Situation of the movements

There are 10 member movements affiliated to MIJARC Europe: Rumania, Germany, France, Spain, Catalonia, Portugal, Flanders, Netherlands, Poland and Bulgaria. The contact to the movements in Rumania, Catalunya and Netherlands is difficult. Also contacts exist with movements in Hungary, Croatia and Austria. Existing contacts with Switzerland and Ireland has to be improved much. The orientation assembly of MIJARC Europe took place in Etropole, Sofia (Bulgaria) soon after the world coordination meeting of MIJARC in August 2009.

Situation of the European Secretariat and European Team

Jürgen Westermann (KLJB Germany), Gergana Naydenova (NAFLAP Bulgaria), Gaetan Vallee (MRJC France) were the members of the European team until the orientation GA in Bulgaria in August 2009. Since Gaetan finished his mandate as well as Gergana decided to stop working for MIJARC, both of them were replaced by Lyubomir Todorov (Bulgaria) and Claire Quintin (France). Emilie Durochat who has been working on full-time basis at the European Secretariat since April 2008 and in 2009 the working office was shifted to the office of MRJC France keeping the secretariat in Brussels itself.

From MIJARC World Team, George Dixon Fernandez, President of MIJARC, is in permanent contact with the office of MIJARC Europe.

Activities

- Working groups meeting "Cooperation for a sustainable rural development in Europe: from best practices to common strategy". Three different working groups set up to focus on three specific European themes: "Agriculture in Europe and Food sovereignty"; the development of social economy for a sustainable rural development and the participation of rural youth in EU politics. 20 rural youngsters, multipliers in their communities, coming from Portugal, Bulgaria, Poland, Germany, Belgium and France participated in the workshop from 13-16 February, 2009 in Haute Epine, Picardie, France.
- "European youth exchanges" on agricultural and environmental issues
- Study trip about Agriculture in France: 15 young people of KLJB Germany from the dioceses of Munich and Freising and around 20 young French people from different local groups of MRJC France participated in this study trip from 8-17 August 2009, France
- Study trip about Agriculture through Germany: In 2008 the German KLJB visited the Spanish movement and learned about the conditions and forms of agriculture in the Spanish Extremadura.
- Study trip on Environmental issues: After the French group's visit in Extremadura in the year 2008 in July 2009 a group of young people from Extremadura came to Marcone in the North of France. During 2 weeks, they exchanged together on environmental issues and on how develop "meeting places" for local population living in the rural areas.
- European Elections 2009: Campaign "You(th) can make the Europe of Tomorrow". Launching of the campaign: On 16/02/2009, a press conference was organised by the European team of MIJARC in Ruffec (France) in order to: launch officially the campaign on the European elections, make a presentation of "5 guidelines for youth and rural areas in Europe", express other concerns of rural young people linked to national, provincial or local contexts, invite national candidates to the European

elections to take into consideration our concerns. The guidelines were presented to MEP Brigitte Fourré also. National movements organised various campaign actions in their countries. 4-pages flyers explaining the challenges of the European elections were prepared by MIJARC Europe, translated in 8 languages and disseminated to leaders of our local groups in 7 countries. This flyer was providing useful information about the elections (dates of the elections, definition of the European Parliament, functions and powers of the European parliament, number of MEPs to elect in each country, organisation of the political parties at the European level, etc) as well as a presentation of our "5 proposals for Europe". Postcards sent to the candidates in the European elections. In addition to the flyers, "Campaign Postcards" mentioning our "5 guidelines for Europe" were prepared by MIJARC Europe and disseminated in March 2009 to the local groups of young people in order to be sent to the candidates to the European Parliament elections.

- Meetings with Candidates in the European elections
- The European team of MIJARC Europe and the national boards of the member organisations in France, Bulgaria and Poland requested appointments with candidates in the elections and met them in order to present "5 proposals for Europe".
- Orientation General Assembly and seminar "YOU(th) can be actor of rural development in Europe!"
- In 2009, MIJARC Europe organized an important meeting which gathered many representatives from its member movements as well as other youth organizations coming from Central and Eastern Europe (NAUK Croatia, KJO Austria and KIM Hungary) in order to build new partnerships among the participating organisations. 43 participants.
- Training session in Portugal: 28 people participated in the training from 11-13 December 2009, in Ribamar da Lourinhã (Portugal) on "How to write projects and rise funds", "How to improve ecological practices in our areas", "How to train young people in rural areas".
- Summer camp « Europe is a village » – July 2009: 21 young people of MIJARC Europe from 5 countries in Europe participated in the Summer camp which took place from 20- 27th of July 2009 in Ruffec (France)
- Exchange programme with KLJB Mainz and Augsburg + CARYM Kenya took place.
- Exchange programme with KLJ Belgian and young people from Tanzania took place.
- Visit of the European institutions in Brussels: From 27th to 31st of March 2009, a delegation of 30 people from the German movement (KLJB) visited the Brussels' office of MIJARC Europe to get to know the European institutions and the work of MIJARC better. MIJARC European Team and the delegation of KLJB met Manfred Weber, MEP, and presented the MIJARC election campaign.
- Participation to the "Vision, Values and Action. International Youth Future Forum"
- The German movement KLJB together with MIJARC Europe participated and co-operated in the preparation of this international Youth Forum on Education for Sustainable Development organized in the lead-up to the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development. 17 young people from MIJARC Europe participated in this meeting from 23 - 25 January 2009 in Bad Honnef/Germany.
- Participation in International conferences: Claire Quintin from MIAJRC Europe participated in the FAO World Food Summit in Rome in November 2009 as well as in the International Conference on Climate change of Copenhagen in December 2009
- Info MIJARC Europe: In 2009, MIJARC Europe has published 3 issues of Info Europe, translated in 3 languages (French, Spanish and English): First issue 1/2009 (March/April/May): "Youth Participation in rural areas", Second issue (double issue 2-3/2009: from June to October): "European citizenship in action", Thirds issue 4/2009 (November/December): "New forms of youth participation in rural Europe"
- Improved website: www.mijarc.info: In 2009, news about the regular activities of MIJARC Europe have been posted on the homepage of the website.
- "INFO-Letter YOU(th)can make the Europe of tomorrow": In 2009, a special e-newsletter called "INFO-Letter YOU(th) can make the Europe of tomorrow" has been published twice (March and April 2009) in order to inform the member movements of MIJARC Europe about the different steps of the campaign the activities implemented in the different countries
- Regular newsletters: In 2009, 6 issues of the Newsletter MIJARC Europe were published.

- European Team Meetings: In 2009, the European team and the Secretary met 6 times for a whole week-end of work. They have also had one Skype meeting per month.
- Meeting of the European Commissions: In 2009, the "European commission" of MIJARC Europe met for 2 days of work in Haute-Epine (France) from the 17th to the 19th of February 2009.
- European Youth Forum: In 2009, MIJARC Europe participated to the meetings of the COMEM, which took place in May (Brussels) and in November (Turin). The secretary of MIJARC also participated to the "Grant information day" organized on 8th of October 2009 with representative of EACEA and European Youth Foundation and to the "Secretary General Day" on 9 October 2009.
- European Coordination of La Via Campesina: In October 2009, MIJARC Europe participated to the General Assembly of the European Coordination La Via Campesina which took place in Brussels. In September 2009, MIJARC Europe participated to an international youth camp organized by Via Campesina International in Aragon (Spain).
- MIJARC World: Jürgen Westermann and Johanna Schiller participated to the "World coordination meeting of MIJARC World which took place from 31st of July to the 2nd of August 2009 in Assesse (Belgium). Ana Silva (JARC Portugal) participated to the "women commission" and Johanna Schiller (KLJB Germany) participated to the "solidarity economy commission" and Nicolay Ivanov from Bulgaria in the training on project elaboration. On the 14th of November 2009 in Brussels, a meeting with the executive board of MIJARC World was organised in order to exchange views, perspectives and work plans for the next years.

Outlook

MIJARC Europe has a new team. They have to invest more energy in extending the movements in Switzerland, Croatia and Ireland, where recent contacts have been established as well as re-establishing the contacts with Rumania, Catalonia and Netherlands. MIJARC Europe will be organising a study session on Food Sovereignty in Strasbourg in May 2010 as well as the GA will takes place in Regensburg in Germany in June 2010.

5. Publications

5.1. MIJARC News

MIJARC News was published 3 times in 3 languages in 2009. This review is used as instrument of formation and information, contacts and relations with our member movements, our partners and of the institutions with which we come into contact.

There is always a main article on a topic of thought written by an external person. The topics of 2009 were:

- 01/ 2009: The forgotten crisis
- 02/ 2009: Seeds –Foundation of global food security
- 03/ 2009: Food for all or fuel for a few?

One also finds in the review reports of the movements and continental coordinations as well as articles of thought or work in the grass root levels on the broad topics that MIJARC works: food sovereignty, gender, solidarity economy and finally activities of lobby and advocacy undertaken by the world team. The rubric testimonial, dates and agricultural praxis were published for the first time in 2009.

Results

- Formation and information of our movements members
- Presentation of the concrete activities of the MIJARC at our partners and donors
- Networking between movements and partners
- Creation of a spirit of unity and solidarity through MIJARC News

Outlook

It seems fundamental to continue to publish the review in a paper way, since access to information technologies in rural areas is still rare. Indeed, we have a good return on behalf of the movements, as well for the sending of articles as of comments on the articles published.

5.2. MIJARC INFO

MIJARC Info is an electronic instrument of communication between the world office and the movements and continental coordinations. It explains in 2 or 3 pages the activities of the world office, which have been done, what we are preparing, and recall to the movements the tasks they should undertake and the documents needed for the world office, etc. In 2009, 3 numbers have been sent. It is a good instrument of communication which bears its fruits and improves the relationship to the movements. It allows us to timely communicate and to be in contact.

5.3. Website

In 2009 we continued working with the Website. The content management system allows the world team and also the continental coordinators to publish regularly new information and we use it quite well. The quality of the website has improved in 2009 and statistics show the frequency of visits (average 200 per day), which has been increased in 2009, too.

The following announcements (News) were published on the website by MIJARC World level:

Date	Title	English	Spanish	French
06.01.2009	Carolin Grieshop participated in the conference "policies against hunger"	X	X	X
27.02.2009	New Flyer of MIJARC	X	X	X
20.03.2009	MIJARC News 1/ 2009 is available	X	X	X
21.04.2009	MIJARC's annual report 2008 is online	X		
06.05.2009	LUX'09: International Forum for Solidarity Schiffange/Luxembourg	X	X	X
08.05.2009	World Youth Day Evaluation and Planning meeting	X	X	X
08.06.2009	FAO Workshop on "Food crisis: education and training of rural people at stake"	X	X	X
13.07.2009	MIJARC News 2/ 2009 is available	X	X	X
12.08.2009	MIJARC World Coordination Meeting 2009 in Assesse/ Belgium	X	X	X
04.09.2009	MIJARC International Women Commission 2009 in Assesse/ Belgium	X	X	X
30.09.2009	Call for Action on October 15th : International Day of Rural Women	X	X	X
07.10.2009	Call for action, World Food Day 2009	X	X	X
15.10.2009	"World Food Day 2009": Answering the challenge of Climate Change without disregarding Food Sovereignty!	X		
22.10.2009	Investing out of the crisis: towards a partnership between UNESCO and youth organisations	X	X	X
30.10.2009	Environmental degradation: challenge for peasant and family farming Round Table discussion in Namur	X	X	X
03.11.2009	Reform of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)	X	X	
09.11.2009	CSO Forum, opening in one weeks' time	X	X	X

09.11.2009	UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) talks to the President of MIJARC	X		
17.11.2009	Food Sovereignty now: young people creating their future	X		
26.11.2009	Sarita Minz in front of the World Food Summit	X		
02.12.2009	Petition to end hunger	X	X	X
02.12.2009	MIJARC News 3/ 2009 is available	X	X	X
20.12.2009	FOEI at Klimaforum09 – Day of action for food sovereignty	X	X	X
22.12.2009	MIJARC World is looking for a Chaplain	X	X	X
23.12.2009	Merry Christmas and a happy new year	X	X	X

During the year MIJARC changed also other parts of the website in order to make it useful. The work on these changes shall go in the next year, since the website is a good medium to spread easily current issues of MIJARC.

5.4. Flyer



In 2009 MIJARC published a new flyer in which MIJARC gives information about members, topics and contact details of the responsible.

The flyer is available in English, French, Spanish and German. This flyer is used for presenting the movement in various institutions and programmes.

Thanks to the German member movement, KLJB, MIJARC was able to publish the flyer.

6. Cooperation with Partners

6.1. Cooperation with Group of 8

Group of 8 is the network of 8 International catholic organisations which was formed in line with the strategic alliance agreement which was created as part of the partnership between CIDSE and International Movements (IM) in 1993. This groups has been functioning as a network for sharing information's and to organise common reflections and actions. International Movements had close collaboration with 8 member organisations of CIDSE which really ensured some basic financial support for us to carry out the coordination of our action ensuring a minimum basic support for the Secretariat and IM in return strengthened the advocacy and campaigning, development and peace building programmes, and development education and actions in the fields for CIDSE and its member organisations. But in the course of time one by one CIDSE member organisations withdrew this global support but few of them made bilateral partnership with few IM.

Objectives

- Sharing of information's, common reflections and joint actions
- Shared advocacy and lobbying
- Collective negotiation
- Collective research for finance

Activities

Group of 8 movements met together in February at CCFD, Paris in February 2009 and then in April and June 2009 in Brussels and in October 2009 in Paris to draw the strategies for looking for new resources for functioning as well as planned some common actions; organised a joint workshop in connection with Vatican synod on Africa in Rome in September 2009. Group of 8 also had meeting with the president of CCFD, Mr. Guy Auranche, on 8th of October in Paris in order to negotiate about the structural support for the movements.

Results

- Organised a joint work shop in Rome on Synod of Africa by few of the G8 movements
- Negotiated with CCFD to maintain the strategic support
- Sharing of information's

Outlook

Even though the strategic alliance is no more existing it could be worthwhile to continue the network with organisations which have some common areas of interest. MIJARC would also look forward for a better coordination of Catholic youth organisations, too.

6.2. Cooperation with Vatican

Vatican Congress on the pastoral care of Migrants and Refugees

VI World Congress on the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Refugees was held in Rome, from 8th to 12th November with the theme "A pastoral response to the migratory phenomenon in the era of globalization, Five years after the Instruction Erga Migrantes Caritas Christi. There were various panel discussions on the themes such as "Globalization and Migration", "Pastoral response to the phenomenon on urbanization and internal migration", "Specific pastoral care for young people and children migrants and refugees", "Cooperation with the church in the country of origin of the migrants", "Pastoral care for the stable integration of the migrants and refugees in the context of inter religious", "Intercultural and ecumenical dialogues", "Urgent need of ecumenical and inter-religious cooperation especially through ecclesiastical movements", "Strengthening the cooperation of church and civil society organization" and "Pastoral care in the detention Centres". There were various workshops also organized in connection with these thematic panels. The conference finalized a document on the basis of discussions and debates and this will be published soon by PCPMI. George Dixon Fernandez, President of MIJARC, participated in this conference representing MIJARC. George also had a contact with the priest who is the representative of Holy See and officially working in ILO. Cardinals and Bishops from all major cities from the world, CIJOC, Catholic girl guides, FIMARC, Caritas, CCFD etc were also present for this major conference.

Meeting with Pope Benedict XVI

Pope Benedict XVI invited the whole delegation of the conference at the city of Vatican on 9th of November for the papal audience to give the message of the conference; George was part of this audience.

Meeting with Pontifical Council for Laity and Vatican

George Dixon Fernandez, President of MIJARC met with Fr. Eric Jacquinet, newly appointed head of the youth desk of the pontifical council for laity during the World Youth Day evaluation meeting in Rome April 2009. He also had a meeting with Dottasa Fermina Alvarez from Vatican Secretary of state to discuss about the follow up and progress of the catholic inspired NGO forum.

Meeting at Apostolic Nunciature in Brussels

George Dixon Fernandez participated in all meetings organised by His Excellency Mgr. Andre Dupuy, Apostolic Nuncio to European Commission at his residence in Brussels. Most of the Brussels based ICO's were present for these meetings. We had a good discussion with different political leaders from European parliament and European commission.

Outlook

The second Vatican Forum of the Catholic inspired Non Governmental Organizations (NGO's) will take place from 12-14 February 2010 where MIJARC is invited.

6.3. Cooperation with CIDSE

CIDSE is the international coalition of Catholic development organisations. CIDSE agencies aim at coordinating their advocacy and lobby work in the following key policy areas: trade and food security, social justice, resources for development and global governance. This work is being done in partnership with Caritas Internationalis, Centre of Concern and International Catholic movements such as MIJARC. MIJARC is always participating

actively in the Working Group on Trade and Food Security and representing the ICOs. This working group is now renamed as FAST (Food Agriculture and Sustainable Trade). This group meets 3-4 times a year to discuss advocacy work on Food and agricultural governance, Trade, WTO Agreement on Agriculture, TRIPS, and Common Agricultural Policy etc. It also coordinate advocacy and lobby work towards the EU institutions.

George Dixon Fernandez participated in all the FAST group meetings in 2009 which took place at the CIDSE head quarters in Brussels. He also participated in the panel debate in the European parliament organised CIDSE and Aprovev. MIJARC had different bilateral meetings with CIDSE member agencies in 2009. MIJARC sent a panellist Nivaldo Ramos Silva, Latin American coordinator from Brazil for the workshop organised by CIDSE during the CSO forum in Rome in connection with World Food Summit. Being the steering committee member of the CSO forum George gave lot of support for the organisation of this CIDSE event in Rome. George also joined with CIDSE and Entraide Fraternité delegation to meet with the cabinet of the Federal minister of Energy, Environment and climate. George participated in various preparatory meetings in Entraide Fraternité for the organisation of the climate change campaign. He also was part of the Entraide Fraternité delegation to meet with federal minister for climate to hand over the petitions, ahead of the COP 15 meeting in Denmark.

Outlook

MIJARC is happy that Food and Agricultural issues have prominent place in CIDSE and its FAST working group discussions. We will work in hand with CIDSE for the follow up and monitoring of the World Food Summit as well as the realisation of the renewed committee on Food Security. Since MIJARC has a special consultative status and long experience in working with FAO, we can further support the CIDSE involvement with regard to FAO advocacy and lobby work.

6.4. Cooperation at the IPC

Cooperation with IPC- International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty

The International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) is a self-organised and autonomous mechanism to facilitate the cooperation of the social movements and NGO/CSO's that are fighting for food sovereignty. It is a platform that was created in the follow up process of the WFS/NGO Forum 1996. Its main task was the preparation of the NGO Forum on Food Sovereignty in June 2002. After the NGO Forum/WFS: fyl it defined its new role as a kind of catalyst for strong NGO/CSO representation towards FAO and for powerful actions of NGOs in the field of world food. About 500 organisations working on food sovereignty are member of IPC. The IPC has focal points of 6 regions, thematic focal points (right to food, agri-ecological model, GMO's) and the focal points of the constituency farmers groups, rural workers, fisher folk, indigenous people and youth. Since MIJARC is the only international youth movement working on food sovereignty MIJARC is representing the youth constituency. MIJARC is the International youth focal point within the frame work of IPC. For the last 4 years, being the spokes person of the youth focal point, George Dixon Fernandez (President, MIJARC) has been committed to the work of IPC on a regular basis and doing the follow up of IPC and FAO related issues and events. In Latin America Nivaldo Ramos Silva, continental coordinator of MIJARC is the Latin American Youth focal point for IPC. MIJARC Asia also involved in the IPC Asian level activities in 2009. Anil Jose and Sarita Minz, MIJARC Asian coordinators had contact with IPC East Asia and South Asia respectively.

Annual IPC meeting January 14-18, 2009, Rome, Italy

Annual IPC General meeting took place from January 14-18, 2009 at Casa per ferie La Salle, Rome, Italy. George Dixon Fernandez participated in this meeting. "Global governance on food and agriculture", "Process of Assessment of 2003 Memorandum of understanding for the FAO –IPC partnership and preparation of new agreement"and "Madrid conference on global partnership for agriculture" etc were the major issues discussed during the conference. George Dixon Fernandez is nominated to the new working group on Fisheries. Other working groups such as Right to food, Indigenous Peoples, Animal genetic resources, Agri-research/ treaty, Emergencies, Agro ecology and Finances presented their actions too. Institutional meetings and discussions also took place with Thomas Price from ODGS, FAO on FAO Reform and the MoU and with Jean-Philippe Audinet from the Policy Division, IFAD on IFAD Farmers Forum and engagement of the IPC.

6.5. Cooperation at the FAO

As MIJARC has the status of a special observer within the UN, it is invited as an observer to the FAO Council and Committee Sessions. The representation towards FAO is accompanied by the participation of the representative in the meetings and activities of the NGO community such as the IPC (International Planning Committee on Food sovereignty) and the ad hoc group of International NGOs. During the last 5 years, George Dixon Fernandez has been the permanent representative of MIJARC towards FAO.

Workshop on Food crisis: education and training of rural people at stake"

The Education for Rural People (ERP) initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) organised a workshop which was held at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy, from 4 to 5 June 2009. The workshop aimed at fostering the partnership between and within countries and agencies that are necessary to strengthen education and training of rural people, sharing successful policies and practices as well as challenges and coming to a joint understanding of key actions to which the diverse stakeholders could contribute. The workshop gathered national and international policy-makers, managers and experts responsible for education and training for rural people as well as civil society organizations. Carolin Grieshop, Secretary General of MIJARC, participated and moderated the workshop "How to articulate basic education, secondary education and technical and vocational education and training, higher education, research and extension to contribute to promote food security, agriculture and rural development?" Outcomes of the workshop were the will of fostering the national capacities and institutions, organizations and individuals in charge of national and decentralized policies and programmes by governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.

World Food Week 2009

FAO organised a World Food Week this year with various programmes in Rome. There were three major events took place during the world food week as the path to the World Food Summit on Food Security. Actually these events prepared the ground of the Summit.

A) High Level Expert Forum: How to feed the World in 2050-High Level Expert Forum took place from 12-13 October 2009 in Rome. This forum examined policy options that governments should consider adopting to ensure that the world population can be fed when it reaches its peak of nearly 9.2 billion people in 2050. There were different round tables and debates with and among the experts. George Dixon Fernandez, President of MIJARC was specially invited for this high level expert forum by FAO.

B) Committee on World Food Security: 35th session of the FAO Committee on World Food Security was held from 14-17 October in Rome. It considered the reforms that will enable it to play a much more effective role in the global governance of food security. George participated in this meeting as well as involved very actively in the CFS reform process which have been taking place during the last nine months. FAO's 191 member governments had adopted a proposed reform of the CFS during the 35th Session of the CFS in October 2009. The CFS had been redefined to act as an authoritative global policy forum deliberating on food issues, including the global and national governance of food and agricultural systems and thus to defend the Right to Food of the world population. George made a common position statement during the first plenary session, right after the intervention of 5 governments, on behalf more than 30 CSO's and NGO's expressing the view point of the effected and vulnerable groups on CFS reform. He had been proposed and approved by the CFS plenary to be the observers of the drafting committee to prepare the final text.

C) World Food Day 2009- The theme of this year World Food day was "How to ensure Food Security in time of Crisis". FAO organised a big gathering on this day where Pope Benedict XVI and other major leaders participated. There was also symbolic action at the atrium at 1.02 pm to show the world that the number of hungry people in the world is now at 1.02 billion.

FAO-Civil society workshop

FAO together with Civil society organisations organised a side event on 16 October during the auspicious occasion of the world food day at IRAN room in FAO on attaining right to food at the time of food crisis. George Dixon Fernandez (President of MIJARC) was one of the panellist to speak on Role of young people in attaining

food security and right to food during the time of Crisis together with Chris leather (Oxfam international),Francisco saramento(Action Aid International),Yudhvir Singh(Via campesina),Gomes(FIAN international),Esther penunia (Asian farmers association) ;The workshop was moderated by Sergio Marelli from FOCSIV Italy ;Hundreds of people including Country delegations, Civil society organisations and FAO staff attended in this workshop.

Meeting with CSO department

CSO division of FAO organised a meeting at FAO to brief about the process related to the organisation of the World food summit. Along with Thomas Price, officers from the cabinet of the director general attended this meeting and clarified the questions from CSO's; George Dixon Fernandez participated in this meeting and raised the concerns of the youth forum in connection with the world food summit. The CSO steering committee explained the details regarding the organisation of parallel forum ahead of WSFS

Meeting with FAO youth focal point

George Dixon Fernandez and Carolin Grieshop had two different meeting with FAO youth focal point and coordinator of Yunga project Mr. Reuben Seussa and discussed about the youth involvement in various FAO projects and programmes as well as the process of youth forum in connection with the world food summit.

FAO Conference - November 2009, Rome

The special session of the 35th FAO conference has been convened to accelerate the implementation taken by the member nations on the approval of the reform of the committee on Food Security. It also committed to do the follow up and monitoring of the World Food summit declaration

Results

MIJARC did a great work on food and agricultural issues during the year as well as involved in various programmes of FAO. We made a good lobby work for the adoption of the renewed committee on food security. George made an intervention on behalf of all the CSO's in this regard as well as selected to be the observer of the CSO delegation for the drafting of the final text. MIJARC was specially invited by FAO Director General for the civil society consultation meeting to discuss about the problems related to food and agriculture and the role of CSO's as well as for high level panel of expert forum, workshop on capacity building of the rural institutions, World food summit etc. Raised the voice and perspectives of young people with regard to the reform of the CFS as well as World summit on Food security. MIJARC presented the final statement of the CSO forum in the official summit.

Outlook

The regular participation in FAO related activities gave MIJARC especially in the last years good recognition of being the voice of young people in rural areas. The role of MIJARC is quite vital in the coming years regarding the whole process of CFS reform, monitoring and follow-up of WFS and also a good partner for FAO to combat hunger and poverty in the world.

6.6. Cooperation with UNESCO

MIJARC has consultative status in UNESCO and MIJARC was very much involved in different committees and activities of UNESCO. Contacts have been established to the Youth Section of UNESCO, to the programme "Education for all", to the gender section, to the NGO liaison committee and to the Catholic Centre gathering all International Catholic Organisations working with UNESCO.

More over MIJARC is one of the founding members of the Joint Programmatic Commission on Youth (JPC on Youth). The JPC on youth was created during the International Conference of NGOs that took place from 14th to 16th December 2005 in Paris, with the explicit support of the UNESCO Youth Section. In UNESCO, the Joint Programmatic Commission on Youth of the UNESCO-NGO Liaison Committee federates youth organizations in official relations with UNESCO. Carolin Grieshop has been the permanent representative of MIJARC towards UNESCO.

Activities

Carolyn Grieshop participated on behalf of MIJARC in the following activities.

- UNESCO Youth Conference
- UNESCO NGO Conference
- UNESCO Partners Forum
- UNESCO General Conference
- JPC on Youth

Outlook

MIJARC will continue its advocacy for an education for food sovereignty, fostering youth involvement that guarantees better education for rural population and especially better vocational training in agriculture. MIJARC is observing the necessity to involve more in the JPC on poverty, which gathers movements and organisation which are involved in poverty related issues.

6.7. Cooperation with IFAD

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), a specialized agency of the United Nations, was established as an international financial institution in 1977 as one of the major outcomes of the 1974 World Food Conference. IFAD's Mission is to enable poor rural people to overcome Poverty. IFAD is dedicated to eradicating rural poverty in developing countries. Seventy-five per cent of the world's poorest people - 1.05 billion women, children and men - live in rural areas and depend on agriculture and related activities for their livelihoods. Working with rural poor people, governments, donors, non-governmental organizations and many other partners, IFAD focuses on country-specific solutions, which can involve increasing rural poor peoples' access to financial services, markets, technology, land and other natural resources. IFAD's goal is to empower poor rural women and men in developing countries to achieve higher incomes and improved food security.

MIJARC started to contact and collaborate with IFAD since 2006 onwards. MIJARC was invited for first time for the global farmers forum organized by IFAD in February 2008. George Dixon Fernandez represented MIJARC in this great event and given much contribution in the working groups on land reform and climate change and was able to include a small text on rural youth in the final synthesis of deliberations submitted to the IFAD governing council. George also had various meetings with Sappho Haralambous, Philip Audinet of the Policy Division and with Maria Hartl of the gender division to convince the need to get the IFAD small grant for our General assembly in Uganda 2008.

Objectives

- improved networking and collaboration between MIJARC and IFAD
- give contribution on the situation of rural youth especially in relation to IFAD report on Rural Poverty
- Deepen the involvement of MIJARC in IFAD farmers forum to have more collaboration with other farmers and rural producers organisations
- Possibility to look for resources for our actions related to rural youth

Activities

Hona Tibashoka participated in the International Expert Consultation on Gender in Agriculture on March 16-17, 2009, organised by World Bank and IFAD on behalf of MIJARC World.

Additionally IFAD organized a consultation meeting in Rome on 16th November 2009 with farmers and rural producer organization to discuss about the report on rural poverty which will be published in 2010. George Dixon Fernandez participated in this consultation process and gave some input on the draft report.

Results

- Good collaboration with IFAD is existing
- MIJARC is now a member of IFAD farmers forum
- MIJARC is invited for different meetings organized by IFAD
- Recognition of rural youth in IFAD policy discussions and programmes

Outlook

There is a lot of scope to work and collaborate with IFAD in the eradication of Poverty in Rural areas. MIJARC will contribute to the IFAD report on Rural Poverty and also will participate in the forthcoming third global meeting of the Farmers Forum in February 2010; we will also look for possible financial support for our rural youth programme.

6.8. Cooperation with ICMYO -International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organisations (ICMYO)

The International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organizations (ICMYO) is an informal network of membership-based, democratic, representative and accountable. MIJARC is one of the founding members of ICMYO. International Youth NGOs (INGYOs) and Regional Youth Platforms (RYPs). The main objectives of ICMYO is the strengthening of cooperation among youth organizations at the regional and global levels and the coordination of political inputs to global youth policy processes such as Youth Employment Network (YEN), the World Bank Youth Dialogue and the "World Programme for Youth to the year 2000 and Beyond" evaluation process (WPAY). Since its inception in 2004, ICMYO has gained international credibility with UN agencies, the World Bank, and other international institutions; and its successes have included ensuring youth voices are heard in high level policy frameworks such as the World Development Report 2007 and the World Programme of Action for Youth.

Activities

Sixth International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organizations Strasbourg, France, 5-7 June 2009

ICMYO meets at least once a year. High-level representatives of youth organisations from all continents met with several UN agencies and other intergovernmental institutions(UNEP,UNV,UN youth programme etc) at the youth centre in council of Europe, for the 6th International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organisations which took place between 5 and 7 June 2009. George Dixon Fernandez represented MIJARC in this important gathering.

Meeting with UNV

A special session was organised with UN volunteer service based in Bonn, Germany to know much about this programme as well as to strengthen the volunteerism among the Youth organisations.

Meeting with Alliance of Civilizations

During the International Coordination Meeting for Youth Organisations (ICMYO) in Strasbourg (5-7 June 2009) the programme in charge of the Alliance of Civilisations presented the future plans and the possible financial collaborations to work with youth. Youth Advisory committee who selects the project to give grants from the solidarity fund includes the representatives from ICMYO organisations.

Meeting with Council of Europe

Meeting with Council of Europe and representatives from Finland: ICMYO had a discussion session with the responsible of the CoE and the Finnish representatives in charge of youth and Education.

Results

- Exchange of information and sharing best practices
- To become stronger and overcome individual limitations (financial, geographic...)
- To influence political processes and decisions of international institutions working/impacting youth issues
- To work together in our common thematic priorities
- Increase our access to international institutions working/impacting on youth issues
- Face to face meeting with the responsables of the Various UN sections
- Share information about ongoing global youth issues and processes

Outlook

For ICMYO network MIJARC is the focal organization to the Rome based UN agencies thus as a task updates on food and agricultural issues has to be disseminated to the other members. In 2010 a world youth conference will take place in Mexico in collaboration with UN programme for youth, UNEP and the government of Mexico. ICMYO will take a key role in the organisation of this important conference. MIJARC delegation will participate in this conference in August 2010.

7. Contacts

7.1. MIJARC World

7.1.1. General Secretariat

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7.1.3 World Team

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7.1.4 Commission of MIJARC World

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7.2. MIJARC Africa

7.2.1. African Team

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7.3. MIJARC Asia			
7.3.1. Asian Office			
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7.4. MIJARC Europe

7.4.1. Office

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