

**1 BILLION
RISING**

**RISING
GARDENS**



HOW WE TREAT WOMEN, HOW WE TREAT THE EARTH

The Covid-19 pandemic has rapidly blown open the destructive veins of neo-liberalism, capitalism, racism, fascism and patriarchy, revealing violent and broken systems that have been forced upon us for far too long. With each day, we see that the majority of people who are dying are those who have been historically exploited, oppressed, marginalized and discriminated against because of race, gender, class, caste.

Additionally, the sacred connection that Indigenous communities hold with the land has been violated through colonization, broken treaties, and the continuous human rights violations made against Indigenous people.

Across the planet, the majority of front line workers, health care workers, home care workers, domestic workers, and farmworkers are women. Like the Earth, they are the least valued and protected.

We must RISE to value, protect and uplift those who are doing essential work. We must RISE for the Earth, which is the most essential to all life.

**WE CALL ON EVERYONE AROUND THE WORLD TO RISE
IN HONOR AND CELEBRATION OF OUR WOMEN WORKERS,
AND TO CREATE AND GROW RISING GARDENS.**

WHY RISING GARDENS?

Gardens remind us of our enduring connection to life, to each other and to Earth, which compels us to do everything in our power to protect and nurture life and all that is sacred without doing harm. The cultivation of plant life is also a means for survival. Growing food in a garden organically – be it your own indoor garden or a community garden – allows you to feed yourself and your community. It provides autonomy and underscores the need for food security in a world where so many are denied these essential resources. The UN World Food Programme (WFP) reported in April that the coronavirus pandemic could double the number of people suffering from acute food insecurity this year to around 265 million globally.

Maintaining a garden is an act of resistance because it does the opposite of what the capitalist machinery does – it connects people and communities with the Earth. To grow one's own food, to grow beauty and life – is revolutionary in this age of ecological, environmental, societal, spiritual collapse. To put our energies, our creativity, our hearts into everything that can grow and sustain all forms of life when the current world order is bent on destruction is a radical political act. The existence and persistence of community gardens in food deserts and low-income neighborhoods is a testament to the resilience of the Black and Brown communities who cultivate them.

Tending to a garden, like nurturing our own communities, requires patience, creativity, love, care, attentiveness, presence, diligence, mindfulness and commitment. Gardening centralizes growing and giving, it is not about taking or acquiring.

To care for a garden – to nurture it to bloom and grow – deepens our relationship to Mother Earth.

Gardens place us firmly and deeply in the art of honoring life, becoming artistic beds of Creative Resistance.

Gardens are sacred spaces that engage and awaken our senses, make us believe in wonder, beauty and connection to all living beings. Like theatre, they are a place of play and of transformation – where we can celebrate and contribute to life.

Rising Gardens are a defiant creative call for revival, restoration and transformation. They are, in many ways, a compassionate call for justice – because one of the greatest injustices of our time has been the destruction and eradication of Mother Earth, parallel to the ongoing and escalating gender-based violence. We cannot keep the ongoing extraction of women's labour and earth's produce, with no gratitude to both. We must honor and protect the Earth and women in order for any future life to exist.

To make a garden grow is to love.

To keep a community alive is to love.

Create and grow gardens.

Dance in them.

Raise the Vibration with your hands and bodies.

RISE FOR WOMEN AND
MOTHER EARTH

#RiseGardenResist
#RisingGardens
#RisingWorld

AROUND THE WORLD, ACTIVISTS HAVE HEARD THE CALL TO ACTION OF ONE BILLION RISING GARDENS,

a global grassroots call for revival, restoration and transformation, making the connection between violence against women and destruction of the earth. Survivors, artists, and activists planted gardens and created unique works of art while hosting events online and on the ground worldwide. RISING GARDENS participants highlighted the convergence of women's inequality and food insecurity, land ownership, healthcare access, and the impacts of the fossil fuel industry on frontline and marginalized communities.

One Billion Rising activists dug deep, dynamically activating their communities via a range of creative Rising Gardens initiatives and creative resistance events including – seed distribution through seed banks and exchanges in India, Congo, Bangladesh, Philippines, United Kingdom, and Sri Lanka; the planting of community gardens in India, Portugal, Congo, Hong Kong, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Cameroon, Eswatini, and Nepal; and education about herbal medicine and the effects of gardening to boost immunity in the UK, Mozambique, Singapore, Congo, and India, actions to advance women's rights to land and property in Indonesia, Malawi – among so many other initiatives.



HOW WE ROSE:

UK

Artist collaborations on alternative forms of employment/ webinars on planting urban gardens, rights of workers



CROATIA

OBR season was devoted to efforts to help the women of Banija and be in solidarity with them because of the earthquake that hit - artists and activists traveled from Zagreb to the town of Glina – where an OBR artistic event was held, and relief parcels were distributed (V parcels) that were organized and prepared by women workers unions. Women's organizations, teachers of schools and kindergartens.



NAMIBIA

Creation of songs giving thanks to the earth/ gardening as empowerment



MALI

Conference on women and agriculture, and violence against women farmers

USA

Planting groves and online webinars with farmers hosted by Alianza Campesina/ Numerous on the ground One Fair Wage events for workers/ solidarity actions for nurses and frontline workers/ online and physical OBR dancing/ online artistic events and webinars



MYANMAR

Had an amazing online launch with hundreds of youth, announcing their OBR plans that included tree planting, cycle rally, visits to organic farms and dancing there, online tshirt and art exhibits and competitions – but had to put all the plans on hold when their revolution happened. *OBR coordinators and activists are currently in hiding in the countryside, or moving from place to place as they are being followed by the military.

MALAWI

Planting of 1,000 trees with traditional leaders and local government

NIGERIA

Apart from martial arts sessions, also held a Rising Gardens artistic rising celebrating how women have been taking care of the environment, and have been doing farming and food sustainability



UGANDA

Created vegetable gardens in the Nakasongola district where communities have an over-dependence on cutting trees to burn and sell as charcoal for livelihood. And created gardens as an alternative to that.



KENYA

Farming and planting events/ planting trees/ clean up actions at Nairobi river and slum areas (sadly on the day of clean up, they picked up 2 dead fetuses that were a result of back street abortion – so their Rising Gardens event had to detour into a community discussion on safe sex, contraception and abortion)/ held various workshops on rape, land ownership, farming, tree planting, food security.



SOUTH AFRICA

Created community gardens in places with highest GBV cases/ created community kitchens for covid relief, as well as home gardens to supply the food/ had the Fridays in Red Campaign that is demanding better services for victims in support rooms at police stations/ held campaigns on backlogs of rape and femicide DNA kits in storage that have never been tested/ held campaigns on the looting of covid funds that have left many communities without food.



GHANA

Actions in 5 farms on planting/ Public rising they held in Accra, with women dancing and women farmers speaking on agriculture – which was streamed online, so women got very emotional dancing and being in an online event together with women from around the country

SENEGAL

Held 2 virtual panels on the themes “Women and local development” (highlighting the contributions of women farmers and artisan), and on the criminalization of rape and pedophilia in Senegal.



LESOTHO

Held community dialogues on the connection between gender based violence and the effect of mining on their land and resources, and their livelihood. As our OBR coordinator is a lawyer, clients were consulted on and land matters will be dealt with the proper authorities in order to get compensation for the expropriated land



CAMEROON

Held risings with the following themes: “Our Soil Our Survival”, “Self Care and Rising Gardens”, and “Rising Garden of Creativity”

SERBIA

Seedling planting, OBR dance action on main street

GUATEMALA

Rising gardens dance video, garden educational visits, interviews with women farmers



TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC GAMES

Tokyo Olympics: Women in Japan dance for female rights after Games chief's sexism row

BRAZIL

Held a community dancing and artistic rising in Favela da Paz

JAMAICA

Held a trauma release meditation series with community women survivors



POLAND

Held nationally coordinated physical and online events on the central theme of consent: “Only a YES, means consent”. With community dancing and national online dance zoom events.

JAPAN

Break The Chain dance in city center park/ creation of OBR videos

GERMANY

Nationally coordinated zoom online dance events simultaneously on Feb 14th in 63 towns and cities/ release of community OBR dance videos



CAMBODIA

Created an OBR youth group called gender warriors (to connect to youth around the country and globally)/ OBR camp - camping with youth groups with the theme "Rising and Dare To Speak"/ online photo challenge (to post on a woman they admire for the work they have done in the community)/ painting competition with the theme "Free From Violence"/ Poster creation with the theme "I dare to...."/ online webinars connecting youth with land activists on the issues of climate and natural disasters.



INDONESIA

Farmers rising in the fields and online/ Migrants creating OBR dance videos from all around Asia

SINGAPORE

Held several physical and online gatherings on urban organic gardening



INDIA

Creating community gardens/ exchanged of seeds/ sharing of traditional herbal and medicinal knowledge/ zero carbon footprint cycling across the Himalayas (2 women cyclists promoting OBR campaign)/ solidarity actions with and for farmers/ events on sustainable living/ creation of art for awareness of the earth/ conservation conversations/ food festivals highlighting organic farming practices, celebrating local traditional food, health and nutrition/ clean up and plantation drives/ re-creation and reclamation of public parks as spaces for learning and expression



SRI LANKA

Women travelling across districts gathering stories of traditional agriculture, documenting the lives of people living off the land, documenting their knowledge passed down from generations/ creation of coloring books for children on living in harmony with nature

SRI LANKA AND NEPAL

Creation of organic gardens

NEPAL AND PAKISTAN

Creation of feminist gardens – creating gardens as well as community, with feminist principles and leadership guiding it

NEPAL

Producing and engaging creative informational materials on how to grow food at home



NEPAL, PAKISTAN, SRI LANKA

Workshops on growing food organically (some have taken place online, so it was attended by regional participants)

SOUTH ASIA

Creating a virtual community to promote traditional knowledge, and highlight stories of women workers, and stories of solidarities forged in struggle/ producing the Rising Gardens Film Festival to bring stories of women, food, agriculture and communities to thousands across the world.



BANGLADESH

Planting trees and creating gardens/ dancing in parks and gardens/ in towns where no covid cases were identified, they put up short plays, cycle rallies, football matches and karate demos/ held online artistic events/ held an event called “Zero Waste Art” (to grow food where one is living – with 2 rules: everything had to be organic, and nothing could be sold – so they exchanged, distributed, and shared food/ in indigenous – women elders taught indigenous ways of growing food and gardens/ 150 OBR events on March 8 were about highlighting through discussions in communities and villages – all the forms of violence women are experiencing during the pandemic year, and all the ways they have survived to keep their families alive



BHUTAN

Instituted a large information dissemination program on domestic violence in the home during covid, and provided advocacy, outreach and counseling.



MEXICO

Support to domestic violence hotlines during lockdowns/ nationwide virtual OBR dance challenge (yielded 50 dance videos)/ held a caravan of traditional and alternative medicine/ produced Mexican version of “We Are Rising”/ online events/ candidate pledge to end human trafficking/ building orchards, gardens and planting trees



ESWATINI

Petition to Deputy Prime Minister on ending the rising cases of GBV during covid/ creation of ONR online magazine highlighting the work of women farmers, frontline workers and survivors of violence/ virtual conversations/ planting gardens with young girl survivors of violence/ planting gardens by survivors and street vendors/ creating gardens that feed orphans and vulnerable children



CONGO

Teaching children the protection of the environment and creating hanging gardens/ sensitization and training of women to stand up against exploitation of resources/ teaching farming techniques and creation of sustainable gardens



AUSTRIA

Online conference on rising gardens using art/ Garden of Empowerment online artistic workshops

PORTUGAL

OBR dancing and community gardening/ sharing information and knowledge on growing food across regions

MONGOLIA

Organized online discussions with representatives of each state and district, nationally, on the awareness and knowledge about eliminating virginity tests on girls nationwide. And educated people that a mandatory virginity test is a human rights violation.

ITALY

National use of hashtag #wecultivate non-violence/ interviews with women farmers/ creation of online theatre that was streamed on social networks/ guerrilla gardening/ creation of OBR dance videos/ flash mobs/ distribution of seedlings/ artistic readings of high school students on the themes of respect and non-violence/ demonstrations in support of Polish sisters



1 BILLION RISING 2021 COLTIVIAMO LA NON VIOLENZA
UN MILIARDO DI VOCI CONTRO LA VIOLENZA SULLE DONNE



HONG KONG

Physical forums in school about the myth about migrant workers/ outdoor OBR programs around the city and surrounding territories/ online “speak out” events by migrant and domestic workers/ HK farm visitation on the issue of how crowded cities can have sustainable sources of food, and on how farming has significant value for each race (because the migrant and domestic workers community in HK is multi racial)



PHILIPPINES

Creation of art, dances, poetry/ opening up and taking up spaces that were deprived to women – gardens, farms, streets – and planting in these spaces for the communities affected by hunger from covid lockdowns/ dance flashmobs/ creation of over 165 videos of OBR dancing from community groups, government departments (such as Department of Energy and Natural Resources, Police, Prisons, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Commission on Elections, National Economic and Development Authority, Department of Tourism, etc), and schools, as well as more aff/ creation of community kitchens run by grassroots OBR activists across the country (also then utilized as education, organizing and mobilizing forums)

ONE BILLION RISING HK PRESENTS

FARMING, SUSTAINABILITY, LAND RIGHTS, FOOD JUSTICE, & GENDER

AN INTER-ASIA CONVERSATION BETWEEN HONG KONG, INDONESIA, THE PHILIPPINES, THAILAND, AND NEPAL

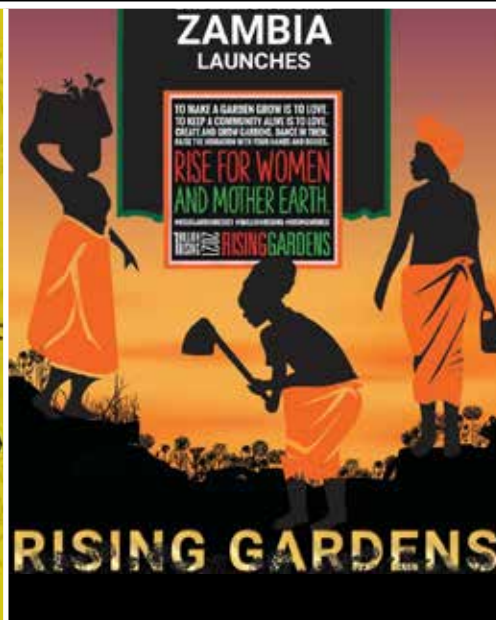
March 28, 2021 (Sun) | 1-3 PM
Sangwoodgoon, Yuen Long

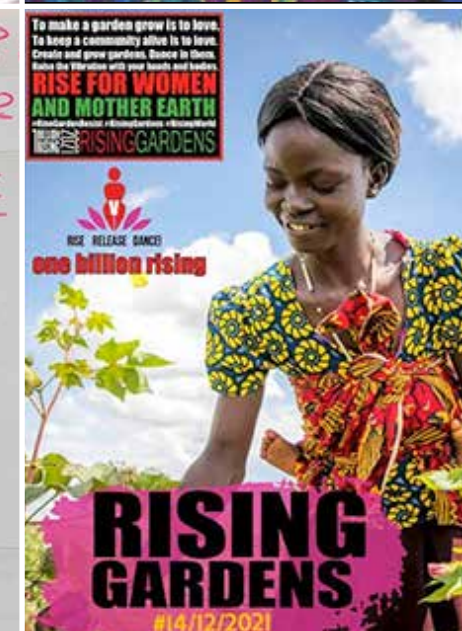
Speakers: ZHOW See Chang (Sangwoodgoon)
Thai Regional Alliance
Overseas Nepali Workers Association
Indonesian Migrant Workers Association, LPM
United Filipinas in Hong Kong
Filipino Migrant Workers Union

Moderator: Sonia WONG

Organized by: **ONE BILLION RISING**
Member of the **International Day of Women's Solidarity**

Co-organizer: **PHILIPPINE ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN**





QUOTES FROM OBR COORDINATORS

“The pandemic exposes the moribund capitalist system, a system that has taught and created a mindset of mindless consumption, individualism, destruction and profiteering. Gardening, on the other hand, teaches us the basics of patiently caring for everything that contributes to and provides life – seeds, plants, soil, water, air, sunlight. The same way that we unlearn individualism and capitalist consumption, we have to get rid of the systems and structures – capitalism, patriarchy, discrimination, racism, imperialism – that are keeping our communities apart, and destroying our environment. We will only be able to do this by building solidarity and common unities among individuals, communities and countries, by planting and nurturing a movement that will build new economic, political, socio-cultural systems that are not exploitative and oppressive.”

—FROM JOAN (GABRIELA/PHILIPPINES)

“From the earth comes life and we must take care of it. From the earth we learn to change, to evolve, to take care of all living beings and then of each other in a mutual exchange. Care, respect for the other and what surrounds us must be at the center of our lives. We need to implement a solidarity-based living system.”

—FROM NICO, SILVIA AND LUISA (ITALY)

“Rising Gardens campaign is an amazing campaign. We as African women, women of the soil, do not own land. We work the land, but it’s never ours. This campaign gave us the opportunity to also advocate for land, land to sustain us, but also land that will give us an opportunity to survive.”

—FROM LUCINDA (SOUTH AFRICA)

IN THE NEWS

Coverage of One Billion Rising kicked off in November with the launch events during 16 Days of Activism and continuing through April 22, Earth Day. Risings received vast International coverage with coordinators center stage in major media outlets in their countries. Coverage hit local papers across the world as well as major wire services.

One Billion Rising coordinators were featured in “What Earth Day Means to Women Facing Violence Around the World” by V in Ms. Magazine and in “This Earth Day, Global Women Activists Lead Their Communities In Rising Up Against Violence Toward Women And The Earth” by Susan, co-written with Marianne Schnall, in Forbes.



NOTEABLE REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL RISINGS AND REGIONAL EVENTS

4 WEEKENDS – 4 MONTHS – 4 THEMES AND CORRESPONDING ZOOM DISCUSSION EVENTS AFTER EACH WEEKEND

48 films from 11 countries (Australia/ Bosnia/Canada/ France/ India/ Nepal/ Netherlands/ Pakistan/ Philippines/ Sri Lanka/ USA)

THEME: Rising Gardens Film Festival (films of Courage, Compassion and Hope)

1. Cosmic Connections: Women and Nature
2. Fields of Sorrow, Fields of Hope: Women and Agriculture
3. Community and Sustenance: Women and Food
4. Moving Mountains: Women and Solidarities

ASIAN MIGRANTS: 3 RISINGS

THEME: “Indonesian Women Rising to Fight Covid 19 and All Forms of Plunder, Exploitation, Violence and Discrimination (Indonesian migrant women working around Asia and other migrant groups from Hong Kong, Philippines, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Taiwan, Macao, Indonesia – and activists from the USA, Philippines)

ASIAN INDIGENOUS NETWORKS: 1 RISING

THEME: “Rising In Strength, Solidarity and Power” – Rising for the rights and resources of our indigenous sisters (Network of Indigenous Women/ Asian Indigenous People’s Pact: Myanmar, India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Japan, Taiwan, China, Philippines)



OBR INDONESIA PRESENT:
RURAL WOMEN RISE FOR SYSTEM CHANGE

RISING GARDEN

V (Formerly known as Eve Essler)
Founder of One Billion Rising
Photo credit: Paolo Allen

Menique Wilson
OBR Director

Triana K. Wardani (Sejken SERUNI)
OBR Coordinator Indonesia

Aisyah
Member of SERUNI

February 10, 2021
08:00 PM JAKARTA TIME

Meeting ID: 880 7182 2280
Passcode: 329978

INDONESIA RURAL WOMEN: 1 RISING

THEME: “Rural Women Rise for System Change” – Rising to end land monopoly and for climate justice (Activists from all across Indonesia, and USA, Philippines)

AFRICA WOMEN FARM WORKERS: 1

THEME: “Our Land, Our Bodies, Our Resources” – Africa Women Farmers Virtual Rising (Women farmers from 20 countries: Eswatini, Zambia, Senegal, Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, Gabon, Togo, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Namibia, Rwanda, Mali, South Africa, Cameroon, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Botswana, Sierra Leone)

OBR AFRICA: 5 REGIONAL EVENTS

OBR Africa 2021 Virtual launch (21 countries)
“The Effects of Covid 19 on Women’s Rights Activists in Africa” (Speakers from Zimbabwe and Eswatini); “The Scourge of Covid 19 in Africa” (Speakers from Eswatini, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Ghana, Rwanda); “Gender Based Violence in the Africa Context” (Speakers from South Africa, Mozambique, Kenya); “How Culture Is Used To Justify Gender Based Violence” (Speakers from Zambia, Namibia, Uganda); “Exploitation of Women’s Bodies Over Land and Resources in Africa” (Speakers from Nigeria, Cameroon, Zimbabwe)

*At least 20 countries participated in each of these virtual risings

AFRICA WOMEN FARMERS VIRTUAL RISING

via **zoom**

SPEAKERS

Moderator

Conor Mulwase
OBR Africa
Regional Coordinator

V (Formerly known as Eve Essler)
OBR Founder
Photo Credit - Paolo Allen

Menique Wilson
OBR
Global Director

Namakefelo Phiso
Lesotho

4pm GMT+2 Thursday, 18 Feb
ID: 861 7313 2787 Passcode: 372862
LIVE One Billion Rising Eswatini

THEME: OUR LAND, OUR BODIES, OUR RESOURCES

Solidarity Messages from Africa Women Farmers

Maryline Minda
Ivory Coast

Siobhán Ní Ghallacháin
Ireland

Madison Andia
Tanzania

Just Amador
Cuba

Tamara Mwanabona
Zimbabwe

Farah Njorah
Kenya

Marcelle K. Mwanza
Zimbabwe

Labanyi
Malawi

Lindani Mkhize
South Africa

Christine M. Mwanza
Zimbabwe

USA ACTIVISTS: 13 EVENTS

CODE PINK: “One Billion Rising: Planting Seeds of Peace” (with peace and environmental activists) (Activists from New York, LA, Hawaii, Oakland)

USA International Women’s Day/Women Workers Risings events in 7 cities with One Fair Wage, Ultraviolet, Women’s March

USA Wage Strike events in 5 cities with One Fair Wage, Ultraviolet, Women’s March, Sunrise Movement, Fight for 15, Service Workers United for Power

Miami: Rising included intensive outreach, discussions and interviews as well as a nationwide podcast on the issue of human trafficking

FRANCE: 1 REGIONAL EVENT

Rencontres: One Billion Rising France: Women on the Frontlines of the Pandemic - Hosted by V, CNAM “Humanities and Health” chair Cynthia Fleury, V-Day, and One Billion Rising in partnership with Make.org, Aurore Association and Plateau Urbain for “Rencontres One Billion Rising - Les femmes sur le front du Covid : en première ligne face aux violences et à l’avant-garde des transformations” (One Billion Rising Meetings - Women on the frontlines of Covid: at the forefront of violence and of transformation).

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S ALLIANCE EUROPE: 1

THEME: “Rising Gardens: Imperialism, Resistance and Rising” (Activists from Netherlands, UK, Denmark, Switzerland and Kurdistan)

PRESENTED BY ONE FAIR WAGE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ULTRAVIOLET • VDAY / 1 BILLION RISING • WOMEN’S MARCH & RAISE HIGH ROAD RESTAURANTS



NYC WOMEN WORKERS RISING
JOIN US FOR A DAY OF DANCE, MUSIC, AND ACTION HIGHLIGHTING THE NEED FOR A \$15 MIN. WAGE, ONE FAIR WAGE, AND THE END OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AT WORK

MONDAY, MARCH 8 • 11PM EST
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2021

SEN. CHUCK SCHUMER'S OFFICE
700 THIRD AVENUE NEW YORK, NY



RSVP: bit.ly/wwwnyw2021

Rencontres One Billion Rising

2^{ème} édition

livestream

Les femmes sur
le front du COVID:
en première ligne
face aux violences
et à l'avant-garde
des transformations

15 AVRIL 2021
15h-17h



Présenté par V (Eve Ensler) et Cynthia Fleury



GABRIELA EUROPE: 1 EVENT

THEME: “Rising Gardens: Women In The Struggle, Rising for Land and Human Rights” (Activists from United Kingdom, Netherlands, Switzerland, Denmark, Italy, Spain)

GABRIELA USA: 2 EVENTS

THEME: “Defend Land Defenders and Human Rights in the Philippines” (Activists from around the US: LA, New York, San Francisco, Oakland, Seattle, Washington DC, Chicago)

(Activists from all across France and USA came together to highlight women on the front lines of covid: workers, survivors, academics, artists and politicians with the theme)

VOICE OF DOMESTIC WORKERS, UK: 1 EVENT

THEME: “One Billion Rising UK: Rising Gardens) (Activists from London, Norwich, Ireland, Scotland, Suffolk, Dalkeith, Cornwall, USA)

COMFORT WOMEN NETWORK: 1 EVENT

THEME: “Rise To End The Cycle of Militarism and Sexual Violence” (Activists from the Philippines, Japan, Korea, Myanmar, USA)

IMPACT: GENERAL

Rising Gardens became a call to challenge national governments to act on its responsibilities – in particular, on the issues of HEALTH, JOBS and RIGHTS.

OBR 2021 showed SOCIAL SOLIDARITY amid the call for social distancing. Rising Gardens showed the collective principles of care, community and connection – and where in times of need, we can only rely on each other.

Exposed the inutility and fallacy of neoliberalism, privatization of health services, corporate greed over people's welfare, and the criminal neglect of many governments

Allowed more opportunities for CLASS analysis – and the effects of colonization and imperialism – not just on a national scale, but on a more global scale.

Pushed advocacy on enactment of laws, not just on women's rights, but also on the environment.

Awakened people to the issues of environmental care and protection and the importance of gardens and food in connection with health and women's rights

Brought together farmers, artist, journalists, educators, agriculturalists, environmentalists, human rights activists, researchers, workers, healthcare workers, essential and frontline workers, youth

Helped people understand the connection and relationship of women exploitation and the exploitation of the earth.

Brought clearer understanding of the connection between rural and urban areas because of food issues

Rising Gardens also brought together other social justice movements – environmental justice, indigenous rights, farmers rights, workers rights, the wage movement, land movement, jobs movement, labor movement, healthcare movement and minority communities movement.

Highlighted the key issue of food security and food sovereignty. (aid, which keeps one dependent, as opposed to autonomy, which gives independence)

Exposed the issues of the need for sustainable sources of food, food importation and import dependency – and how this relates to capitalism, globalization, neo liberal policies

Brought significant behavioral transformation, in the field of health and wellness, more people were brought into understanding sustainability, recycling, organic produce.

Solidified connections between women's rights and food, self-sufficiency and the earth - Deepened the relationship and interconnectedness between women, earth, nature

The pandemic and the use of technology brought new possibilities in terms of connection, nationally and internationally, strengthening networks and widening opportunities for exchange.

Because more regional and international risings took place with the escalation of the technology aspect, more grassroots and marginalized regional organizations were able to speak out on national and global stages – and this gave them chances to talk about their local issues.

Strengthened global connection

Opened peoples eyes around the world on the ongoing systemic forms of patriarchy within governments and policies

OBR has become a pressure group for political changes

Forged a connection between growing gardens and self-care.

Showed that OBR movement has been growing as a strong unifying platform to multi sectors that were clustered before and dealing with specific focus issues. This has allowed more understanding of the intersectional issues that affect women

IMPACT: SPECIFIC

ZAMBIA:

OBR engaged with members of Parliament to discuss the importance of allowing children who fall pregnant back to school after delivery. Member of parliament supported the idea of having statutory instruments to support the readmission of pregnant girls after delivery as opposed to just having a policy in place. This is also in the context of child marriages – that OBR Zambia has been rising to end for many years now.

GABON:

The creation of a National Observatory For Women's Rights happened because of OBR efforts. And this began the study to vote on some laws relating to the elimination of violence against women, including discrimination.

NIGERIA:

During the Rising Gardens campaign OBR Nigeria was able to leverage locally the international efforts on the #EndSars campaign on police reform, through the global solidarity, as well as the call to end bad governance. The international focus gave local activists more voice, visibility, protection and influence.

KENYA:

In Kenya, there has been a tendency of local leaders, locally called chiefs, pushing widows to sell their lands and get cuts. Through Rising Gardens campaign, OBR approached the Ministry of Land to help curb the practice. A woman member of parliament, through a petition OBR did, will be sponsoring a bill on how to manage ancestral lands.

CAMBODIA:

OBR Cambodia is mostly led and fuelled by their youth, and through their OBR efforts, they successfully halted the draft of a law on public order that will restrict women's body self-autonomy which is a violation of human rights. The OBR youth of Cambodia are also now campaigning for the amendment of the domestic violence law in Cambodia.

MEXICO:

Because of OBR efforts, the government applied the "Olimpia law" (guaranteeing a woman a life free of violence, where digital violence is recognized as a crime). The law was passed in Mexico City in 2017, but now it has been passed to cover the entire country.

Because of OBR efforts, the "Ingrid Law" was also approved by government – which ensures that the data of the victims of femicide are protected – no leaks by public servants, and protection of image, audio and video files of crimes scenes and persons.

Initiated the "Commitment Against Human Trafficking and Violence Towards Women" agreement with candidates running for office– who sign the agreement and pledge to end human trafficking and all forms of violence against women. To date, candidates from 11 states in Mexico have signed the pledge. OBR Mexico's goal is to reach 20 states (out of 32), totaling 65 candidates.

NEPAL:

This year more than 90 local, regional and international civil society and non-government organizations were part of Rising Gardens.

UGANDA:

Political leaders in Migyera town, a sub locality in Nakasongola, were inspired by the OBR Gardens example to launch a huge street planting campaign as their contribution towards re-foresting the district.

SRI LANKA:

Rising Gardens provided an opportunity for the country to connect nationally. Women's organization and networks across Sri Lanka that were having diverse focuses such as VAW, women workers rights, women's economic rights, conflict related issues, rights of rural women and so on, adopted Rising Gardens and organized OBR in their communities. Women and men from different ethnic backgrounds, disability groups, ex militants, farmers and artists have joined the campaign.

ITALY:

OBR activists launched the first call for the creation of a political party for women – realizing in these times, the need for the presence of women in political, institutional and decision making roles.

GUATEMALA:

Through OBR efforts, an initiative is happening in the National Congress to protect Afro and diaspora women. CentraRSE, which is a central organization of over 300 companies for business social responsibility, got involved with OBR, and are starting to create a policy for women workers to have better opportunities and pay.

ANACAFE, the national association for all the coffee landers and production workers, have committed to improving women's conditions in their fields and work places, including better pay.

CONGO:

Using the Rising Gardens campaign - people are waking up to the laws that exist in DRC to protect the environment – and are being informed of illegal contracts signed between the DRC and multinationals to deforest natural reserves and benefit foreign investors.

Because children were so hugely involved in Rising Gardens, they have become ambassadors for the protection of the environment.

NAMIBIA:

OBR formed a coalition that is rising against plans by an oil and gas company called ReconAfrica to use fracking to extract oil and gas from Okavango Delta. The movement from this coalition is growing.

BANGLADESH:

On Earth Day, because there were 40 OBR village risings and the success of this, the youth activists of OBR were able to get a community to donate land in one district, for organic farming for the community.

OBR Bangladesh held many OBR webinar events, but their main Feb 14th one on Rising Gardens, garnered more than 17K views. This made politicians take notice of the theme – and so now a parliamentary caucus is being formed on the issue of women and natural resources.

INDIA

Creation of 9,000 herbal and vegetable gardens all across India.

ESWATINI:

Parliament, led by the speaker of the House, endorsed the 2021 call calling everyone in the country to Rise for women and girls and to grow Rising Gardens in honor of survivors of violence and of women workers.

AFRICA:

Establishment of a stronger regional presence of OBR in Africa – and creation of ongoing collective regional campaigns on regional issues of land, women's bodies and resources.

MONGOLIA:

A direct result of the OBR campaign was that the Ministry of Education and Science responded to OBR's recommendation and has instructed its agencies and all public and private schools throughout the 21 provinces and 9 districts – to stop the virginity tests on girls in all the schools.

SOUTH AFRICA:

“V-Day has saved so many families and women's lives during the hard-lockdown from Covid. The emergency support has made it possible to start 10 humanitarian kitchens. Covid has exacerbated the deeper inequalities of women in the Western Cape. It is a known fact that women in the Western Cape of Khoisan, of color, will get no support or help. V-Day made it possible for 10 women, in the 10 communities that have the highest rates of rape and violence in this hard lockdown, to be able to support other women and their families.” – Lucinda Evans, One Billion Rising Africa Coordinator

THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES TO RISE FOR IN 2022:

A VISION FORWARD:

Rise For Women And Mother Earth

Rise To End Systemic Violence Suffered By Women
(specially women workers, peasant women, urban poor women, indigenous women)

Rise For Peace And Security

Rise To Dismantle Patriarchy

Rise For Dignity And Peace

Rise For Unpaid Women's Work

Rise For Quality Of Life For Women And Girls

Rise To Defend And Protect Human Right And Human Rights Defenders

Rise For Basic Human Rights

Rise For Sustainable Livelihood For All The Marginalized In This World

Rise For State Accountability

Rise For People, Social Justice, Equality, And Freedom

Rise For Health, Jobs And Rights

Rise For Dignity Of Life

Rise For Community And Collective Care

Rise Against Discrimination

Rise For Liberation

Rise For Protection Of All Bodies And Of Mother Earth

RISE FOR SYSTEM CHANGE AND A NEW WAY OF LIVING