

The Peoples of the World Foundation

Education for and about Indigenous Peoples

Annual Report 2013

The Fate of Indigenous Peoples

Despite continued reforms in Burma (Myanmar) no firm peace deal was reached between the government and the Kachin Independence Organization. The Kachin people remain among the most marginalized in that country and reports have emerged of the trafficking of women and girls into China for forced marriage and child adoption.

In another war-torn region Mali suffered setbacks in its peace process despite French and African-led United Nations intervention and a national election. Indigenous Tuareg separatists pulled out of negotiations and a humanitarian crisis continues to ravage the country.

In a series of ‘occupy’ inspired events various indigenous groups in Brazil occupied an under-construction dam, Brazil’s Chamber of Deputies, a road in the capital, Brasilia and a former indigenous museum in Rio de Janeiro. Seven of their cousins in Canada trekked 1,600km overland to take their cause to the Canadian government.

In Bolivia a new national teaching curriculum now requires that lessons be given in an indigenous language as well as Spanish and a third, foreign language.

The European Parliament considered new laws requiring the pharmaceutical industry to compensate indigenous people when commercially exploiting their knowledge of, for example, plant-based medicines.

The Roma continued to be persecuted in Europe where Greek authorities were complicit in the trafficking of a Roma child because she has white skin and blond hair. This spawned a pseudo-vigilante movement as people sought to identify Roma children who had been ‘stolen,’ ‘kidnapped,’ ‘bought,’ ‘sold,’ or otherwise ‘trafficked.’

In Rome the Vatican discovered what is probably the earliest depiction (by Europeans) of indigenous peoples of the Americas in a painting dating from 1494. Meanwhile in the United States Josh Tucker’s documentary, *We Can’t Eat Gold*, shed light on how the indigenous peoples of Alaska have lived for thousands of years.

The entire October issue of the journal *Climatic Change* was devoted to indigenous peoples’ perspectives on that topic.

Despite these and other stories of human conflict, archaeological and linguistic discoveries — along with advances in paleoanthropology — shed more light on our common origins, including the uncovering of a 15,000 year old common Eurasian language.

Highlights

In 2013 we celebrated our tenth year as a registered non-profit organization. We undertook a major redesign of our Web portal making it more appealing as well as easier to navigate. This redesign built upon our technology refresh from 2012. We also continued to expand the reach and add to the content of our Web portal. We continued to support indigenous peoples education under our *Educational Scholarships* program.

Our assignments took us back to Central America where we completed production of our second feature-length documentary, *Peoples of the World: The Maya*.

Our Director of Research and Development, Teodora C. Hasegan, was accepted into the NC State University Ethnographic Field School program in Guatemala where she lived and worked with indigenous Maya from communities of Lake Atitlan.

The global, financial recession continued to have a bearing on our income and our donations were about the same as 2012.

Assignments

In 2013 we returned to Mesoamerica for the first time in three years to complete the production of our second feature-length documentary, *Peoples of the World: The Maya*.

Educational Scholarships

Helping to fulfill the first part of our mission — “education for indigenous peoples,” in 2013 our educational scholar from 2009, Martina, a young Kakchiquel woman from Guatemala, graduated with a Technical Degree in Social Work. We continued to fund her studies in 2013 with a \$1546

scholarship to study English at the *Instituto Guatemalteco Americano*.

In 2013 we received applications for our *Aissata Traore Memorial Scholarship* and we will announce the successful recipient in 2014.

Social Networking

Throughout 2013 we continued to regularly update our Facebook page with news and articles about or affecting indigenous people at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Peoples-of-the-World-Foundation/243657765700765>.

Publications

Helping to fulfill the second part of our mission — “education about indigenous peoples” — we continued to publish our monthly photo-essay article on our Web portal, *A Thousand Words*. Each month a photograph from our archives is featured along with the narrative relating the story behind the photograph — where it was taken and the story it tells.

A Thousand Words is updated at the beginning of each month on our Web portal at:

<http://www.peoplesoftheworld.org/thousandwords.jsp>.

In 2013 we also published our fifth, annual Indigenous Peoples Calendar. The calendar is available for free download from our Web portal at:

<http://www.peoplesoftheworld.org/calendar.jsp>.

In 2013 we also published new material under our *Publish your Work* program. The article, *The Baiga*, is available on our Web portal at:

<http://www.peoplesoftheworld.org/hosted/baiga/>.

Resources

In 2013 we continued to add new volunteer opportunities to our resource: *Volunteer Travel Opportunities Abroad*. It is available on our Web portal at:

<http://www.peoplesoftheworld.org/volunteering.jsp>.

Our Web portal continued to help fulfill the second part of our mission — “education about indigenous peoples.” It received almost 400,000 page views in 2013, up by over 25% from 2012. We attribute such a significant increase in part to the major redesign we undertook in 2013 and in part to the growing, global, social interest in indigenous peoples.

Our materials continued to be used by thousands of NGOs, non-profit and media organizations, students and educators from institutions around the world.

Programs

In 2013 we launched a new program, *Internships*. We currently have two internship openings, Fundraiser and Web Developer. Details are available on our Web portal at:

<http://www.peoplesoftheworld.org/internships.jsp>.

We also added a new entry in our *Causes and Campaigns* program. *Idle No More* is a Canadian grassroots protest movement. Founded in late 2012 which champions indigenous peoples’ struggles in Canada and elsewhere. Details are available on our Web portal at:

<http://www.peoplesoftheworld.org/idlenomore.jsp>.

Governance

In 2013 we regretfully accepted the resignation of Deborah Greebon from our Board of Advisors. We will miss her and we wish her luck in her future endeavors.

Finances¹

Our funding in 2013 came entirely from donations made by private citizens. Donations in 2013 were about the same as donations in 2012. On behalf of our 2013 beneficiaries, we extend our grateful thanks to all our past and present donors.

Table 1 below shows a summary of our 2013 balance sheet.

Income	\$ 2070
Expenses	(\$ 2008)
Balance	\$ 62

Table 1. 2013 balance sheet.

¹ Financial data appearing in this report have not been audited by a Certified Public Accountant.

Figure 1 below shows the breakdown of 2013 expenses by category.

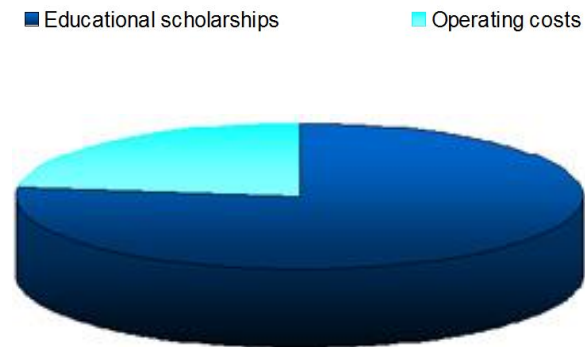


Figure 1. 2013 expenses by category.

We acknowledge the contributions of our donors, our Directors who personally funded 100% of our operating costs, our advisors and others who contributed their time and their belief in our mission to make 2013 a watershed year.

Plans for 2014

We begin our second decade as a registered non-profit organization with big plans. In 2014 we will release our second feature-length documentary, *Peoples of the World: The Maya* which we will submit to selected film and documentary festivals.

We will announce the recipient of our *Aissata Traore Memorial Scholarship*.

We will publish our sixth, annual Indigenous Peoples Calendar.

We will expand our Board of Directors.