

SPECIAL RELEASE

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BIOFUELS: A NEW WAVE OF IMPERIALIST PLUNDER OF THIRD WORLD RESOURCES

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The major justifications behind the current biofuels rush, namely high oil prices and climate change, are the natural results of a world economic system that is under the monopoly control of transnational corporations (TNCs).

The aggressive competition among corporations for market domination and increased rates of profit has led to wars of aggression and massive market speculation, which drive oil prices up. Likewise, as competition intensifies, the unplanned global economy has produced enormous amounts of commodities and wastes that have caused unprecedented harm to the environment, such as the case of climate change.

But the paradox is that while it is big business that is primarily behind the problems that biofuels are supposed to be addressing, it is also the one steering the global initiative for large-scale biofuels production and trade.

There is no major shift therefore in the framework with which to address the issues of global energy security and global warming, and expectedly the biofuels phenomenon has only raised more questions in addition to its actual impact on energy security and climate change, such as food insecurity, rural poverty, and underdevelopment.

This Special Release on “**Biofuels: A New Wave of Imperialist Plunder of Third World Resources**” is researched and written by Arnold Padilla. Mr. Padilla is a senior researcher of IBON Foundation Inc., an independent development institution established in 1978. IBON provides research, education, publications, information work and advocacy support on socioeconomic issues.

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PCFS is a growing network of various grassroots groups of small food producers particularly of peasant-farmer organisations and their support NGOs, working towards a People’s Convention on Food Sovereignty.

Pesticide Action Network (PAN) is a global network working to eliminate the human and environmental harm caused by pesticides and to promote biodiversity based ecological agriculture. PAN Asia and the Pacific is committed to the empowerment of people especially women, agricultural workers, peasants and indigenous farmers.



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