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### Language

[Protecting the 'Lungs of West Africa'. Conversation with Alfred Brownell, Liberian environmental lawyers recorded by Veronique Mistiaen](#) [1], New Internationalist, 2019, pp. 54-56

Brownell has been involved in a seven year campaign which succeeded in protecting half a million acres of Liberia's tropical rainforest from the Southeast Asia-based Golden Veroleum company, which had been granted the right by the government to clear and use the land to grow palm oil. He took up the cause of the indigenous community in Sinoe County whose forests and cultural sites were being destroyed by the company. The article outlines how the campaign succeeded and Brownell's wider role in creating the Alliance for Rural Democracy throughout Liberia to work for environmental justice. He had been forced by death threats to move with his family to the USA.

Mistiaen, Veronique, [Protecting the "Lungs of West Africa"](#) [2], New Internationalist, 2019, pp. 54-56

Brownell took up the case of indigenous people living in the rainforest against abusive violence and imprisonment for resisting the destruction of their environment and cultural monuments by the Southeast Asian agro-industrial company Golden Veroleum (GVL) planning to grow palm oil. Brownell's seven-year campaign invoked help from global NGOs to support a complaint to the Roundtable on sustainable Palm Oil, which froze GVL's expansion. He succeeded in saving over half a million acres of rainforest, but he had to flee to the US. He has also established a rural network - the Alliance for Rural Democracy - throughout Liberia to work for environmental justice.

Mistiaen, Veronique, [Protecting the 'Lungs of West Africa'](#) [3], July-Aug 2019, New Internationalist, 2019, pp. 54-56

Conversation with Alfred Brownell, Liberian environmental lawyers recorded by Veronique Mistiaen. Brownell has been involved in a seven year campaign which succeeded in protecting half a million acres of Liberia's tropical rainforest from the Southeast Asia-based Golden Veroleum company, which had been granted the right by the government to clear and use the land to grow palm oil. He took up the cause of the indigenous community in Sinoe County whose forests and cultural sites were being destroyed by the company. The article outlines how the campaign succeeded and Brownell's wider role in creating the Alliance for Rural Democracy throughout Liberia to work for environmental justice. He had been forced by death threats to move with his family to the USA.

Ramachandra, Guha, [The Unquiet Woods: Ecological Change and Peasant Resistance in the Himalayas](#) [4], expanded edition, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2000, pp. 244

Emphasizes local roots of movement. including development of 'non-secessionist regionalism' in Uttarakhand. The epilogue, written in 1998, adds historical perspective on the movement's achievements and reports on-going struggles. Seeks to offer 'corrective' to romanticized western and ecofeminist interpretations.

Walter, Emily, [From Disobedience to Obedient Consumerism: Influences of Market-based Activism and Eco-Certification on Forest Governance](#) [5], Osgoode Hall Law Journal, Vol. 14, issue 2-3, 2003, pp. 531-536

Reports on anti-logging campaign in British Columbia, Canada, in 1980s and 1990s and discusses shift from pressurizing state to directly confronting lumber camps. Critiques approach leading to establishment of global regulatory body, the Forest Security Council, but supports offering 'carrot' of 'certification' in combination with 'stick' of campaigning for a boycott.

Watts, Jonathan, [Yes. We. Canopy: Can alliances between indigenous people and young climate activists help](#)

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[to save the Amazon?](#) [6], Guardian Weekly, 22/11/2019, pp. 15-17

Account of preparation by indigenous communities to resist the destruction of the rainforest by farmers, miners and loggers backed by far right President Jair Bolsonaro. The article focuses on the discussions, held in the small riverine community Manolito in Terro do Meio, between indigenous people and international activists, including Extinction Rebellion UK organisers, Belgian activists in the School Strike and from the Russian feminist punk group Pussy Riot. Watts outlines the wider Brazilian context, and discusses how international participants revised their ideas and campaigning plans as a result of the meeting, which was named 'Amazon: Centro do Mundo'.

Watts, Jonathan, [Yes. We. Canopy: Can alliances between indigenous people and young climate activists help to save the Amazon?](#) [7], Guardian Weekly, 22/11/2019, pp. 15-17

Account of preparation by indigenous communities to resist the destruction of the rainforest by farmers, miners and loggers backed by far right President Jair Bolsonaro. The article focuses on the discussions, held in the small riverine community Manolito in Terro do Meio, between indigenous people and international activists, including Extinction Rebellion UK organisers, Belgian activists in the School Strike and from the Russian feminist punk group Pussy Riot. Watts outlines the wider Brazilian context, and discusses how international participants revised their ideas and campaigning plans as a result of the meeting, which was named 'Amazon: Centro do Mundo'.

Weber, Thomas, [Hugging the Trees: The Story of the Chipko Movement](#) [8], [1981], New Delhi, Penguin, 1989, pp. 175

Traces development of the 'tree hugging' movement to protect Himalayan forests, stresses the importance of the Gandhian style legacy in the strategy and tactics of the movement, discusses the role of women and profiles the leading men.

See also:

Margaret Keck; Kathryn Sikkink, [Activists Across Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics](#) [9], (1.c. Titles included in Volume 1, but also cited in Sections of Volume 2 [10]), on resistance to deforestation in Sarawak, pp. 150-60

Wangaari Maathai, [Unbowed: A Memoir](#) [11], (C.1.c. Organizations and Individuals [12])

John Knight, [The Forest Grant Movement in Japan](#) [13] In Kalland; Persoon, [Environmental Movements in Asia](#) [14] (C.1.a. General and International Studies [15]), (chapter 5)

Anny Wong, [The Anti-Tropical Timber Campaign in Japan](#) [16] In Kalland; Persoon, [Environmental Movements in Asia](#) [14] (C.1.a. General and International Studies [15]), (chapter 6)

Wangaari Maathai, [The Green Belt Movement: Sharing the Approach and the Experiences](#) [17], New York, Lantern Books, 2004

For information about the nonviolent direct action organization, San Francisco-based Rainforest Action Network (RAN) founded in 1985, see: <http://www.ran.org> [18]

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### Links

[1] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/2019/protecting-lungs-west-africa-conversation-alfred-brownell-liberian-environmental> [2] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/2019/protecting-lungs-west-africa> [3] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/2019/protecting-lungs-west-africa-0> [4] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio->



[item/2000/unquiet-woods-ecological-change-and-peasant-resistance-himalayas](https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/2000/unquiet-woods-ecological-change-and-peasant-resistance-himalayas) [5] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/2003/disobedience-obedient-consumerism-influences-market-based-activism-and-eco> [6] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/2019/yes-we-canopy-can-alliances-between-indigenous-people-and-young-climate-activists-0> [7] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/2019/yes-we-canopy-can-alliances-between-indigenous-people-and-young-climate-activists> [8] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/1989/hugging-trees-story-chipko-movement> [9] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/1998/activists-across-borders-advocacy-networks-international-politics> [10] <https://civilresistance.info/taxonomy/term/175> [11] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/2006/unbowed-memoir> [12] <https://civilresistance.info/taxonomy/term/222> [13] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/1999/forest-grant-movement-japan> [14] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/1999/environmental-movements-asia> [15] <https://civilresistance.info/section/c-green-campaigns-and-protests/c1-green-movements/c1a-general-and-international-studies> [16] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/1999/anti-tropical-timber-campaign-japan> [17] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/2004/green-belt-movement-sharing-approach-and-experiences> [18] <http://www.ran.org/>