

Spire

Youth of the Development Fund

by Christian Bull

leader



UTVIKLINGSFONDETS UNGDOM

About Spire

"Spire wishes to change those structures in society that maintains an unjust distribution and unsustainable management of economic, social, biological and cultural rights and resources. Environment and development can not be seen apart, and an environmentally sustainable development is central in Spire's work. We will achieve our goals through supporting and cooperating with local partner organizations that perform grassroots work in developing countries, together with information work and sensitization, exchange of knowledge and political advocacy in national and international fora."



About Spire

Solidarity

- Spire believes that global institutions of power such as the World Bank, the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and large multinational companies (MNCs) are contributing to an uneven and unjust distribution of the world's resources. Inequitable access to resources creates a difference in people's possibilities. Spire wishes to mitigate and reverse this trend.



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About Spire

The Environment

- Spire is not just interested in how resources are distributed, but we are also concerned about how they are managed. Spire believes that development must happen on the terms of the environment.

About Spire

Youth

- Youth are central in our international work. Spire believes that developing countries must participate in the creation of their own future. In many developing countries youth are still a marginalized group that do not have the possibility to participate in democratic processes. Our focus on youth is contributing to their voices being heard on the road to a better and more just world.



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About Spire

- 189 members
- HQ in Oslo
- Local chapter in Bergen

About Spire

- Main priority: Land Grab
- GMO and food policy
- Climate Change
- Trade

What is land grabbing?

- Foreign companies and state investment funds buy or lease agricultural land
- Over 1000 hectare

The Global Landgrab

- In recent years 50 million hectare of land agricultural land is grabbed
 - Half of it in Africa
- Used to food export, agrofuels and treefarms (also nature conservation)



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Why in deveveloping countries?

- Cheap labour force
- Cheap land
- Low taxes and tariffs, few expectations from investor

Whats the problem?

- Land often claimed to be empty are in fact being used by small-scale farmers and pastoralists
- “Race to the bottom”

GMO

- Genetically modified organisms
- Change in plants hereditary material
- Commercial GMOs owned by mainly 5 companies



GMOs are

- Unwanted
- Unnecessary
- Unknown

Climate Change



Climate Change

- The future of many young people is at stake
- Industrialized nations should pay damages to affected countries in the South



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Climate Change

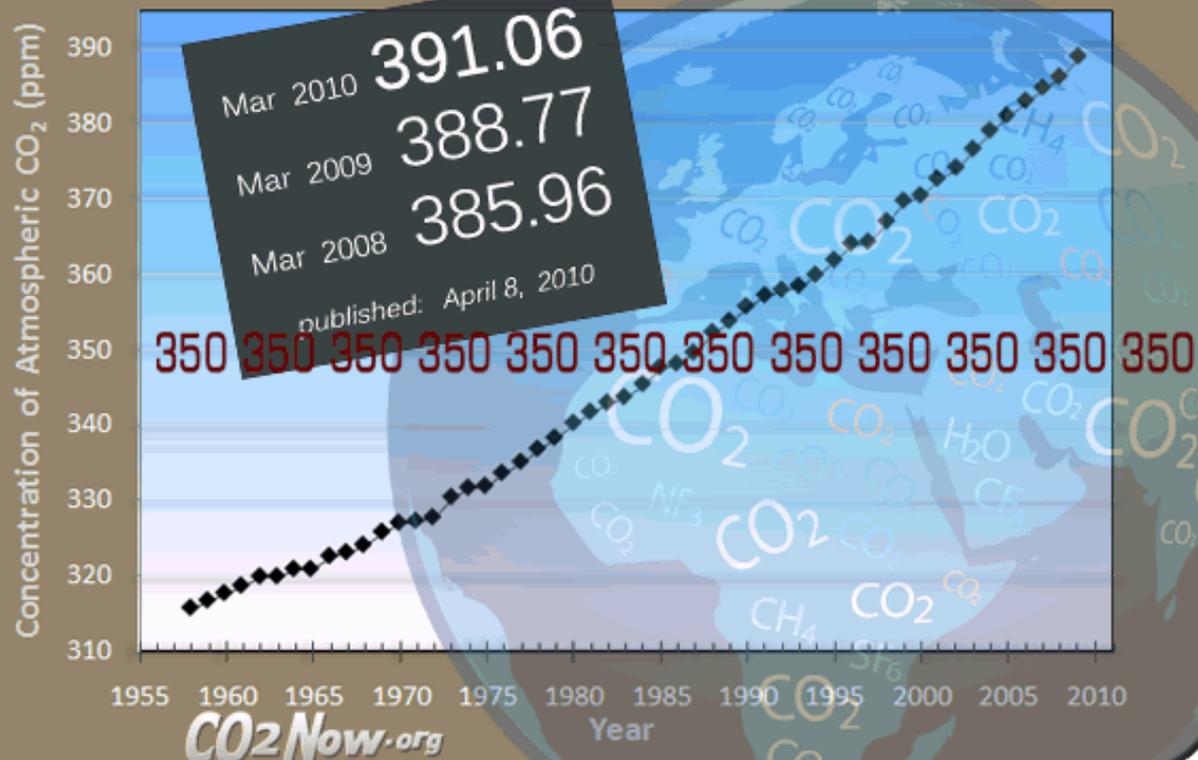
- James Hansen NASA researcher: we must stop global warming at 1,5 C
- 117 countries supports this target

Atmospheric CO₂

March 1958 - March 2010

March CO₂ | Year Over Year | Mauna Loa Observatory

Data: Scripps 1958-1974 | NOAA-ESRL since 1974



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What We Do

- We arrange seminars, debates, school visits and workshops
- We produces information brochures and "for dummies" booklets that are distributed to schools, relevant organizations and in the public space

What We Do

- We participate in the national and international debate through mainstream media, like newspapers, weekly magazines, and social media like facebook, twitter and blog



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What We Do

- participate in national and international workshops, civil society fora, youth fora etc. in creating policies for the future

What We Do

- advocate politicians playing a constructive role in engaging in public hearings, organizing political campaigns and petitions and facilitate meetings with politicians

What We Do

- participate and arrange spaces for knowledge exchange through partnership with national and international youth organizations outside Norway, having a close partnership with Network for Youth Development (NfYD) in Malawi and organizations in the UNFCCC Youngo network.

Thank You! (join Spire)

- Good luck with the rest of the seminar!