



## Learn more about Latin America

### **Some Films From The Dev-Zone Library:**

#### **The Take: A Film By Avi Lewis And Naomi Klein**

Barnia-Alper Productions and Klein Lewis Productions , 2004

Following Argentina's dramatic collapse in 2001, Latin Americas most prosperous middle class finds itself in a ghost town of abandoned factories. In suburban Buenos Aires, 30 unemployed auto-parts workers wanting to restart their machines starts The Take—an act with the power to turn the globalisation debate on its head.

#### **Granito de Arena = Grain of sand**

Corrugated Film, 2005

For over 20 years economic globalisation has been dismantling public education in Mexico. This is the story of a grassroots, non-violent movement of public school teachers who took Mexico by surprise and have endured brutal repression in their 25-year struggle to defend public education

#### **Mayday Colombia**

Justice for Colombia, 2003

In a country in which more trade unionists are murdered each year than in the rest of the world put together, teachers and lecturers are the most targeted group of workers. Not only does this severely undermine democracy but it also means thousands of workers are forced to live in poverty.

#### **Brazil's Land Revolution**

Television Trust for the Environment (TVE), 2004

In Brazil, almost half of the agricultural land is owned by just one per cent of the population. Now Brazil's President, Luiz Ignazio Lula da Silva, has announced plans to resettle more than 100,000 landless families this year, and promised an extra US\$500 million towards agrarian reform.

#### **Crisis In Montos Azules**

Action for Social and Ecological Justice, 2003

This film offers an excellent look at the latest developments in the Chiapas, Mexico rainforest where indigenous peoples are threatened with forced relocation by the Mexican government.

### **Some Books And Articles From The Dev-Zone Library:**

#### **People And The Environment On The Edge : Environmental Vulnerability In Latin America And The Caribbean**

Timmons Roberts and Bradley Parks, CIIR, 2004

Five hundred years of exploitation have severely damaged the environment in Latin America and the Caribbean. Today, it is poor people who continue to suffer most from the consequences of this environmental damage and degradation.

### **Central American Region: The Linchpin And Archilles Heel Of Corporate Globalization**

Anne Petermann and VT Burlington, ACERCA, 2002 Because of its geographical location and its narrow size, Central America has become a linchpin to economic global expansion. The domination of Central America is aided by "free trade" policies and development plans designed to get control from people and place it in the hands of the global corporate elite.

### **Disinherited : Indians in Brazil (2nd ed)**

Survival International, 2002

This book, illustrated by fabulous photographs, tells the history of Brazilian Indians from the time of the European invasion. It focuses on Brazil's most vulnerable peoples, telling the stories of some of the most isolated tribes. The book contains many first hand testimonies given directly to Survival and told here for the first time.

### **Indigenous Revolt Spreads: Colombian Activists Take Back The Farm**

Caleb Harris, *New Internationalist*, Issue 387 March 2006

Indigenous Colombians are not only benefiting from the wave of indigenous political power spreading over Latin America, they are providing one of its most compelling examples.

### **GM Soybean: Latin America's New Coloniser**

Miguel Altieri and Walter Pengue, *Seedling*, January 2006

In Latin America, the frontiers to soybean production are being pushed back aggressively in all directions at a breathtaking rate. Driven by export pressures and supported by government incentives, soybean fields and taking over forests and savannah in an unprecedented manner

## **Some Links From The Knowledge Centre:**

### **One Cup At A Time: Poverty Alleviation And Fair Trade Coffee In Latin America**

In the past decade, more than 500,000 farmers from 23 developing countries have become Fair Trade certified coffee producers. This report looks at both the benefits and the problems associated with the participation of producers, their families, their organizations and communities in the fair trade system. (Douglas Murray, Laura T. Reynolds, Peter Leigh Taylor, Colorado State University, March 2003)  
[www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=10064](http://www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=10064)

### **Wave Of Opposition Hits Hydroelectric Dams**

A wave of opposition is rising in Latin America against the construction of hydroelectric dams. In Guatemala, activists and residents recently blocked a multi-million-dollar project, while in Brazil, El Salvador, Chile, Honduras and Mexico, the fuse of conflict has been lit. (IPS News, 6 May 2006)  
[www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=10443](http://www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=10443)

### **International Financial Institutions Latin American Monitor**

This initiative aims to contribute to the Latin American and global IFI campaigns for reform of the Bretton Woods institutions by posting a wide variety of reports and articles.  
[www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=10150](http://www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=10150)

### **Coca, Drugs And Social Protest In Bolivia And Peru**

Bolivia and Peru are becoming a second pole of cocaine production in the Andes. The policies emphasised there in pursuit of the U.S.- led war on drugs are aggravating social tensions within the extremely fragile democratic institutions of both countries. New and better funded policies are needed with emphasis on alternative development and institution building, and less on forced eradication. (International Crisis Group, Latin America Report N°12 3 March 2005)  
[www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=8489](http://www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=8489)

### **Side By Side: Building And Sustaining A Culture Of Youth Participation In Reprolatina**

Reprolatina, in the city of Campinas in southeastern Brazil, is an organisation which works to develop

and implement sustainable solutions for ensuring sexual and reproductive health and rights. This report shares their organizational culture and idea which points out the critical contribution that young people can make to positive change. (Andrea Lynch, International Women's Health Coalition, 2005)

[www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=10713](http://www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=10713)

## **Take Action!**

### **Say No To The Project Pascua-Lama!**

Benath the glaciers in Chile's Valle de San Felix, huge deposits of gold, silver and other minerals have been found. To get at these, the company Barrick Gold will drill holes in the glacier, destroying the ecosystem and affecting the lives of the people in the area. The Chilean Government has approved the project to start this year, 2006. Visit this online petition and add your name.

[www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=10326](http://www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=10326)

### **Stop Bloodshed And Impunity In The Amazon Forest!**

On Saturday 12 February, 73 year old Sister Dorothy Stang, an American nun and Brazilian citizen who defended the Amazon national heritage from land grabbers was cruelly assassinated. Join Greenpeace and urge the Brazilian government to implement concrete measures to end the causes of this violence, and guarantee a sustainable future for the Amazon forest and its inhabitants.

[www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=8459](http://www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=8459)

### **Support Indigenous People In Ecuador!**

An estimated 700 people from a remote cloud forest region of Ecuador are asking citizens around the world to defend their rights against mining companies and help them prevent the relocation of several communities and the destruction of a cloud forest region known for its biological diversity. Please support them at this crucial time by writing to the president of Ecuador today.

[www.dev-zone.org/downloads/ecuador%20indigenous.doc](http://www.dev-zone.org/downloads/ecuador%20indigenous.doc)

### **Save The Amazon's Madeira River!**

The Amazon is under threat. The Brazilian government is planning to build two massive dams on one of the Amazon's most important tributaries, the Madeira River. But it is not too late. Write to the Brazilian Environment Minister and the Mines and Energy Minister telling them the Madeira is too important a treasure to destroy.

[www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=11029](http://www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/knowledge/jump.cgi?ID=11029)

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