



Annual Report 2017

Introduction



People-s Assembly, The Hague, October 2016 - Photo: [ESC](#)

Navdanya International's work in 2017 has centred on consolidating the alliance which converged at the People's Assembly and the Monsanto Tribunal held in The Hague in October 2016, through a series of joint initiatives against the corporate takeover of our food systems which took place throughout the year.

In particular, Navdanya International clearly highlighted the issues concerned and brought out the impact of agrotoxics and the industrial agriculture model on food and health and connected them with the effects of the deregulation of commerce, e.g.: free trade agreements, and with the climate change issue.

The main aim was to make clear how biodiversity based organic farming addresses the most critical issues, including increasing nutrition and health, and farmers' incomes, while restoring soil, water and biodiversity all of which enhance climate resilience.

We thus joined forces with diverse groups from across the world to connect the issues both on the basis of content and geographically. Through international campaigns, actions, advocacy, as well as research, we explored in-depth the context of our food systems and its connections with soil, climate resilience, biodiversity, equity and social justice. While analyzing the actual challenges that citizens' movements are facing in various parts of the world on the issues of Seed and Food Freedom, we brought together diverse actors to define common strategies of resistance, aimed at helping to make citizens, farmers and movements more aware empowering them to reclaim and defend peoples seed and food sovereignty, as well as the right to live in a healthy environment.

Movements have taken on Navdanya's analysis on the role of the industrial agriculture model as the key factor of global distress, as well as its holistic approach and the importance of seed resilience and biodiverse organic food system as the solution to multiple issues.

Our work continued to build on and strengthen our Seed Freedom Campaign, which has grown into a very strong and vibrant Seed Freedom global community and which continues to expand year by year.



In 2017 Navdanya International has set up a new office in Rome, in a neighbourhood area with a history of community involvement. The office is an essential asset from where we are able to coordinate all our activities: organisation of events, workshops, meetings, research, communication, publications, press, translations, databases, fundraising, administration and finance. The location has also enabled us to strengthen partnerships with diverse movements based in Rome, with the Municipality of Rome and policy makers in the Italian government, as well as to have easier access to international institutions, such as FAO. A new Senior Financial Consultant has joined the team, Mr Cristiano Colombi. He also leads [èCO](#) Cooperative, with whom future projects on Economic Democracy are being discussed. The strong collaboration established with [ESC](#) on communication in the last years has continued throughout 2017.

Partnerships

Movements



Launch of the Report "Il Veleno e' servito"

With [A Sud](#) and [CDCA](#) we have jointly drafted the report on glyphosate and other poisons: "Il veleno è servito" (see below) and Navdanya has played a key role in bringing the issue of food and agriculture systems in their work on climate change and climate justice. The close collaboration continues in the perspective on working together on other projects involving marginalized communities.

With the Italian movement [Stop TTIP Italia](#), Navdanya International continued its work in opposition to Free Trade Agreements and is actively cooperating in putting pressure on the Italian government not to ratify CETA. Future plans involve an intense campaign, called "Io Non Trattato" (I do not negotiate, based on the Italian play on words between "trattato" = treaty and trattare = negotiate). Further projects and events are being carried on with [Fairwatch](#) and [perUnAltracittà](#).



Protest in front of the Italian Parliament



Launch of "Alt Giornale Partecipato" at Scup

The collaboration with [SCUP Sport Cultura Popolare](#) started in 2016 when a [local People's Assembly](#) was held at their headquarters. A representative of Scup, on the invitation of Navdanya International, also participated in the People's Assembly in The Hague. Navdanya International [is working with them](#) on projects focused on creating local food systems and social and inclusive economy networks based on economic democracy, including educational programs, a farmers' market which links local organic farmers with the community, and a [newspaper](#) which will also regularly publish [Navdanya International's articles](#).

Our campaign for Seed Freedom and Agroecology saw new partnerships established with local movements and seed savers networks in Italy, such as [Mercato Castelli Romani](#), a strong "farm to table" local network, with whom we are now coorganising the 2018 edition of a Seed Freedom Day in Rome, [Seed Vicious](#), a national seed savers network based in Florence, with whom perspective of projects on seed events and urban gardening are being discussed, [Erbacce e Dintorni/Semilune](#), which have been organizing events for Seed Freedom and economic democracy with local producers and members from all over Italy since 2013. Internationally, our collaboration of many years with [Peliti](#) was strengthened by coorganising the Olympic Seed Freedom Festival, and in Indonesia Navdanya International organised a mobilisation tour in collaboration with [Mantasa](#) and [Jaga Indonesia](#), which catalysed citizens and farmers movements from across the country

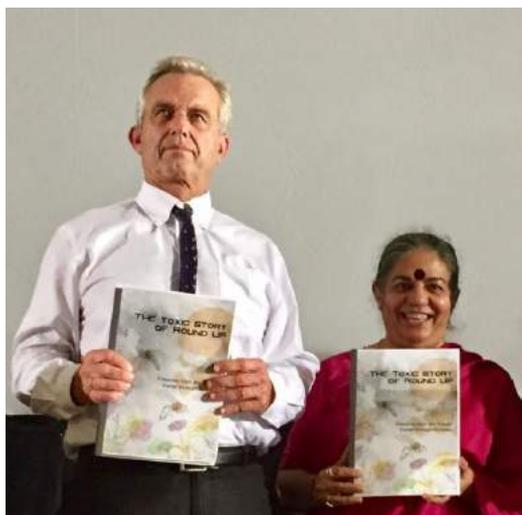


Navdanya International's work on the issue of agrotoxics consolidated the partnership with [ISDE](#), the network of doctors for the environment, with [Associazione Acrase Marialai](#) and [Terra Onlus](#) in Italy. Internationally, the collaboration with [grassroots movements in California](#) and Senator Robert F.



Dr Patrizia Gentilini, ISDE, with Ruchi Shroff

Kennedy Jr., led to the creation of a coalition to ban the use of RoundUp on state properties in 2017 and an ongoing campaign against pesticides. As a follow up of the work carried out in The Hague at the People's Assembly, the collaboration with the [International Meeting of Resistances to Gmos](#) enabled the creation of an International Front of Resistances to Gmos and Agrochemicals.



Senator Robert F Kennedy Jr with Dr Vandana Shiva



International Front of Resistances to Gmos and Agrichimicals



People-s Assembly in Cologne

Out of the People's Assembly in The Hague also came the strengthening of the collaboration with movements committed in resisting corporate mergers, such as the [Coalition against Bayer Dangers](#) in Germany

We also continued our work on climate change, climate resilience and climate justice through the activities in collaboration with [Regeneration International](#) and the [Soil Not Oil Coalition](#). By the latter, Navdanya International was invited to join the Steering committee for the organizing of a People's Blueprint on Climate change. which will be presented at the [Global Climate Action Summit](#), organized by the Governor of California in September 2018.

Communication

A strong partnership was established with a number of major webmagazines in Italy and abroad, which are publishing our articles on regular basis increasing the visibility of them by hundreds of times.

- [Lifegate](#), an international platform, which publishes in English and Italian, with a focus on environmental issues
- [Comune-info](#), Italian platform, with a strong link with social movements across Italy and Rome in particular.
- [Il Manifesto](#), historical magazine dealing with social and workers rights
- [Common Dreams](#), USA based webmagazine, focused on social justice, human rights, equality and peace.
- [Pagina 12](#), Argentina, on the forefront in political issues concerning human rights, widely popular in Latin America.

In addition to these, we are keeping a column on the [Huffington Post Italy](#) and have started a collaboration with the [Informatore](#), the magazine of the biggest cooperative network in Italy, Coop, which counts 8.5 million associates.

From 1st January to 31 December Navdanya International published more than **70** original articles and papers, which collected more than **31,560** views on Navdanya International and Seed Freedom websites. Added to this, content which was published on other websites or magazines collected at least **12,100** views or shares, provided that for several of them the no. of views or shares was not available. A [new blog](#) dedicated to the director's articles was opened.

See full list of articles and more statistics regarding websites and social media in the attached document.

Future Projects, Campaigns and Events

In 2018, Navdanya International's workplan will focus on the following:

- ✓ Project with movements opposing CETA
- ✓ Intensify our presence and support with Seed and Agroecology movements in Indonesia
- ✓ Poison Free Food and Farming campaign, particularly projects in Brazil and Central America
- ✓ Economic Democracy Campaign with regional movements working on food and agriculture systems, from field to table
- ✓ Possible project on fair trade in cotton and textile, outlining the cotton farmers' crisis
- ✓ Campaign opposing corporate mergers, including position papers and report
- ✓ Fundraising
- ✓ Seed Festivals are being co-organised with partners in Italy (Bergamo and Rome) and Greece

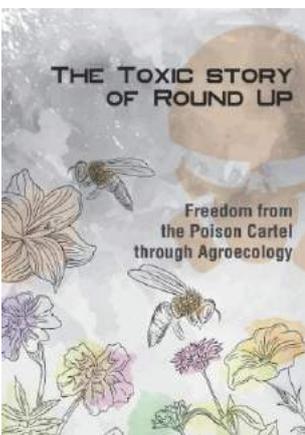
Poison-free food and farming

In a context where the world's agriculture and food systems are being hijacked by a handful of corporations, regardless of the impact on ecosystems, climate, people's health and farmers' livelihoods, Navdanya has continued its work for a paradigm shift towards a different food and agriculture model, which respects the Earth as a living, self-regulating system and the creativity and intelligence of all species and of us humans as Earth Citizens.

Navdanya International's research, campaign and movement building for Poison Free Food and farming brought together citizens and farmers movements that practice and promote biodiversity based organic food and agriculture systems, which, while providing food and nutrition, are at the same time providing solutions to the climate crisis, helping to halt the current march towards the sixth mass extinction, and have the power to make Big Ag and Big Food irrelevant.

Navdanya's publications on agrotoxics, food and health have shown the connection between the increasing consumption of nutritionally empty and toxic food with the spreading of malnutrition, hunger and chronic diseases all over the world.

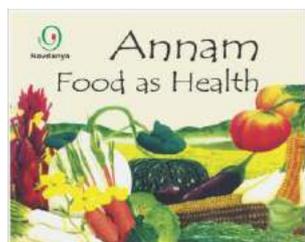
Navdanya International's reports "[The Toxic Story of Roundup: Freedom from the Poison Cartel through agroecology](#)" and "[Il Veleno è servito: glifosato e altri veleni dai campi alla tavola](#)" (Poisons in Our Plate: Glyphosate and other poisons, from field to table), describe the origins and growth of the Poison Cartel and the ways in which giant agri-business companies gain and keep control of their empires in collusion with governmental agencies, while also making evident the lack of national and international regulations necessary for the protection of our health and our environment.



They also highlight the way civil society movements are fighting back all over the world, as well as how the only possible response to the present ecological and climate crisis, poverty, malnutrition and health emergencies is through biodiversity-based agroecology, a toxic-free, harmless and vibrant agriculture, free of fossil fuels and poisons, and by redirecting economic interests



from the present linear, extractive and industrial paradigm to a regenerative ecological and nature-based circular approach.



Navdanya's book, [Annam: Food as Health](#), highlights the connection between the ancient science of Ayurveda and the most advanced western science of nutrition, with respect to the importance of how the root cause of many illnesses and poor health lies in the way we grow food, which must be organic, fresh, diverse and therefore nutritionally rich.

Navdanya International's work on movement building, along with multiple civil society organizations, which converged at the [Monsanto Tribunal and the People's Assembly](#), brought out the evidence on the dangers and impacts of pesticides, particularly glyphosate based herbicides, such as RoundUp and significantly contributed in raising attention on the issue at the global political level. For example, the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Hilal Elver, in her [2017 Report](#) (A/HRC/34/48 page 15) on the use of pesticides and its impacts on human rights, mentioned how "these efforts are helpful to publicize the problem and help to develop laws in the future".



Navdanya International was one of the initiators of the **Europe-wide movement to Stop Glyphosate** and, in 2017, it was part of the coalition which initiated the [European Citizen's Initiative to Stop Glyphosate](#), reform EU procedures for the approval of pesticides and promote a new model of agriculture based on ecological methods. By June 15th, 2017, the goal of collecting more than one million signatures in seven EU member states was [reached](#) .



Navdanya International also joined movements and organisations from 30 countries around the world at the [2017 International meetings of resistances against GMOs](#) in Lorient, **France**, in April 2017, where an [International Front of resistances to GMOs and Agrichemicals](#) was created and joint strategies against the corporate hijack of our seeds and the poisoning of our food were defined.

In **Italy**, Navdanya International joined forces with local Seed savers, farmers, local producers, movements, activists and concerned citizens at a [series of events](#) in Lazio, Tuscany and Lombardy.





Navdanya International's **workshops** on [Glyphosate and other poisons](#) in Bolsena and on the [Right to Health, Biodiversity and a Safe Environment](#) in Rome – San Lorenzo, offered the participants the opportunity to frame the pesticides issue in the much broader issue of the present broken agricultural food system.



Workshop on glyphosate and other poisons in Bolsena



Workshop on Right to Health, Biodiversity and Safe Environment in Rome, San Lorenzo

As the EU Appeal Committee approved the renewal of the license for the use of glyphosate based herbicides for more 5 years at the end of November 2017, Navdanya International pointed out how the question of a healthy and sustainable agriculture and food system is deeply linked to the state of our democracy, and [called for a new and enforced collective effort](#) to reverse an undemocratic system which has chosen to ignore the overwhelming stand expressed by civil society against toxic agriculture, as well as the actual concerns about loopholes, conflicts of interest, corporate interference and pressure towards undermining independent science, which have characterised the risk assessment analysis. We are committed to this challenge for an agricultural model that respects the environment, resources and health and takes care of the integrity of soil and biodiversity, working in harmony with natural processes.

Navdanya International joined movements and communities in **California**, at the 2017 National Heirloom Exposition, where the report [“The Toxic Story of RoundUp: Freedom from the Poison Cartel through Agroecology”](#), was launched, with the endorsement by Senator Robert F Kennedy.

Navdanya's workshops, on seeds and pesticides, brought out the emerging threats to seed, such as seed laws and trade agreements, as well as the imperative of consolidating a global movement for creating a network of biodiverse, poison-free, organic agriculture throughout the world. The collaboration with grassroots movements in California already had led to the creation of a coalition to ban the use of RoundUp on state properties in June 2017, through a testimony given at the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), which was covered by [CBS News](#), and followed by a meeting with the Governor of California to [request he activate the ban by issuing an executive order](#). A [“Stop the Spray” Rally](#) in State Capitol has been planned for January 3rd 2018

On 1st October 2017, in New Delhi, **India**, Navdanya brought together communities from across the world, from the Alps to the Himalaya, to pledge to use the gifts of nature and their shared knowledge and culture, for a world free of poisons - thereby [taking a pledge](#) on Poison free Communities for each one of us to be part of a **Global Network of Poison Free Organic Zones**.



Heirloom Expo, California 2017

Also read:

- ✓ [Poison Free Food and Farming](#) , Navdanya Campaign
- ✓ [How agricultural chemicals are poisoning our world. And all the \(false\) myths about them](#) , By Ruchi Shroff - Lifegate, 18 September 2017
- ✓ [New Study Shows Glyphosate Contaminates Soils - Half of Europe At Risk](#) , By Ruchi Shroff, 19 October 2017
- ✓ [Renewal of Glyphosate License in Europe: Deepens the Threat to Health, Environment and Democracy](#) , Navdanya International, 27 November 2017
- ✓ [9 FAQ about Pesticides](#), Fact-sheet
- ✓ [Poison Cartel fact Sheet](#)
- ✓ [Gene drive extinction technology is a war against the planet and biodiversity](#) , Navdanya International, 7 December 2017
- ✓ [Keep food diverse. It's healthy](#), By Dr Vandana Shiva – The Asian Age, 29 March 2017
- ✓ [World Biodiversity Day 2017 — Pact for Diversity](#), Navdanya 22 May 2017
- ✓ [Biodiverse Small ecological farms and Artisanal Processing feed the world, not corporations](#), Navdanya 27 May 2017
- ✓ [Satyagraha in 'post-truth' era](#), By Dr Vandana Shiva –The Asian Age, 27 February 2017
- ✓ [Protect farmers, don't target them](#) , By Dr Vandana Shiva - The Asian Age, 23 June 2017
- ✓ [The Farmers' Crisis](#), By Dr Vandana Shiva, 5 July 2017
- ✓ [Why Sarson Satyagraha is still needed](#), By Dr Vandana Shiva – Deccan Chronicle, 30 May 2017
- ✓ [Resistance to GM Mustard in India](#), By Ruchi Shroff, 29 June 2017
- ✓ [The fight against GM mustard in India is crucial for the global war on GMOs](#), By Ruchi Shroff - LifeGate, 1 August 2017
- ✓ [Enough! Don't allow GMO mustard](#), By Dr Vandana Shiva - The Asian Age, 9 August 2017
- ✓ [Peddling Poisons, & Selling Seeds Of Suicide](#), By Dr Vandana Shiva, 24 November 2017

Corporate Takeover of our Food, Health and Democracy



As Corporations which came out of the war industry have established monopolies through patents, IPRs and GMOs invasion, while further extending their control over agricultural and food production systems through free-trade [neoliberal policies](#) and deregulation of commerce, they are poisoning our ecosystem, destroying our biodiversity and the lives of small farmers, as well as attacking our democratically written laws and democratically shaped policies made in the public interest, in an attempt to control and profit from these essentials for life on earth.

After the successful mobilization for the [Monsanto Tribunal and People's Assembly](#) in The Hague, in October 2016, [the global mobilization continued](#) throughout 2017, and Navdanya International organised and co-organised [multiple actions](#) with movements across the world. The actions followed the [presentation of Monsanto Tribunal Judges' conclusions and legal advisory opinion](#) in The Hague in April 2017, which aims to contribute to the development of international law by the inclusion of new issues, such as the responsibilities of business with respect to human rights, and by formulating new concepts, in particular the concept of ecocide.



Stop Bayer-Monsanto Days of Action in Germany

Citizens' movements from across the world have taken a stand against [wider corporate control and monopoly](#) through mergers, acquisitions and agreements between giant corporations such as Monsanto-Bayer, Dow-Dupont, and Syngenta ChemChina which will result in a cartel of 3 giant seed/agro/chemical companies [controlling our food and](#)

[agriculture](#) with further [major negative impact on the rights of farmers and consumers](#), robbing them of their rights to seed and food sovereignty, with increased destruction of our biodiversity, pluralism and democracy, the systems that protect our food, health and livelihoods.

As it was agreed in The Hague, along with [AStA Uni Köln](#), [Colabora](#), [IFOAM Organics International](#), the [Coalition against Bayer Dangers eV](#)– and others, Navdanya International co-organised a [People’s Assembly and Town Hall meeting in Cologne](#), as part of a “[Stop Bayer / Monsanto](#)” [mobilization](#) across Germany. Farmers movements, environmental groups, trade unions and students organizations joined multiple events, which converged in Bonn on April 28th, for a demonstration in front of the World Conference Center where the 2017 Bayer shareholders meeting was held. The actions received unprecedented extensive [Press Coverage](#) on German and international media.



The Conference “[Poisons at the Door: Food, health and environmental risks in the new global market](#)”, held in Rome in July 2017, and organized by Navdanya International, in collaboration with [Esc Communications](#), at the invitation of the [Council for the Environment of the Municipality of Rome](#), brought together diverse groups focused on issues of free trade agreements, social injustice, climate change, food, health and agriculture, as well as institutional representatives in charge of environmental issues (such as MP Mirko Busto, Environment and Agriculture Commission), renowned environmental activist [Dr Vandana Shiva](#) – founder of [Navdanya](#), and eminent scientist [Dr Patrizia Gentilini](#), member of ISDE (International Society of Doctors for the Environment), among others. The core themes of the event were the impact of Free Trade Agreements, such as CETA, on our food and production systems, with a focus on how these tools are used by the agricultural industry to expand their pesticides market and how this has very negative effects on health and environment.

Over the last 2 years, Navdanya International had joined the widespread opposition against Free Trade Agreements. Particularly, Navdanya worked with the Italian coalition led by [Stop TTIP Italia](#), to put pressure on the Italian government not to ratify CETA (Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between Europe and Canada), as the potential exponential increase in the already massive amount of wheat imports from Canada would severely affect small and medium-scale national pasta producers. Navdanya international has underlined the issue of the additional damage on human health, because of the content of chemical products such as glyphosate based herbicides in imported grains, which are used for desiccation practices, whereby this is not obtained naturally, due to adverse climatic conditions in Canada. As a result, movements working on Free Trade Agreements have incorporated the issue of glyphosate and pesticides in their fights and actions. In 2018 a [major event](#) will take place in Florence at the end of January 2018, with Dr Vandana Shiva, president of Navdanya International, in collaboration with [Monica Di Sisto](#), journalist and spokesperson of Stop TTIP Italia and Fairwach and the local organisation perUnAltraCittà.

Also read:

- ✓ [Free trade: A corporate scam](#), By Dr Vandana Shiva – The Asian Age, 1 February 2017
- ✓ [Seeding the Future, Seeding Freedom, One Seed at a Time](#), By Dr Vandana Shiva, 8 February 2017
- ✓ [Food sovereignty is need of the hour](#), By Dr Vandana Shiva - The Asian Age, 26 December 2017
- ✓ [The Monsanto Tribunal's Legal Opinion reinforces movements' struggle for basic human rights](#), By Ruchi Shroff - Common Dreams, 19 April 2017
- ✓ [CETA: the EU says Yes, now it is up to local Parliaments](#), Navdanya International, 16 February 2017
- ✓ [CETA: an Agrotoxic Agreement](#), by Ruchi Shroff, 31 May 2017



Major of Rome Virginia Raggi with Dr Vandana Shiva



Protest against the shutdown of public water fountains in Rome "We must keep water a public common good"

Seed Freedom and Agroecology

Navdanya International's work of movement building, capacity building and network building has continued over the past 5 years under the umbrella of our Seed Freedom Campaign to bring seed at the centre of discourse of the multiple crisis we face.

As the global offensive against people's right to seed and food sovereignty is efficiently coordinated, mainly by large multinational companies and major corporations, abetted by the governments and institutions, all over the world farmers are losing their freedom to have seed and grow organic food, free of the threat of contamination by GE crops, and citizens are losing their freedom to know what they are eating. Seed saving, seed exchange and ecological agriculture practices are therefore powerful political acts of civil disobedience, and the foundation of food sovereignty and democracy in our times.

Navdanya International launched its Global Campaign for [Seed Freedom](#) in October 2012 to protect Seed as Commons, defend seed sovereignty and food sovereignty in the context of the deepening Seed Emergency and Food Crisis. Through the Seed Freedom Campaign, the Global Movement for Seed Freedom was formed as a unifying platform for awareness and mobilization on the Seed emergency which today has spread around the globe, bringing to citizens' attention the crucial role of seed in the battle to defend food sovereignty and food safety. In the last 5 years, the Seed Freedom movement has connected seed savers with seed defenders, as well as shown how our food sovereignty depends on our seed sovereignty.



In April 2017, Navdanya International joined Peliti, along with people and organisations from all over the world at the International [Olympic Seed Freedom Festival](#) in Greece, which came out of the [Seed Freedom workshop in The Hague](#). The program schedule of the Olympic Seed Freedom Festival saw two days of intense capacity building workshops on themes such as the situation of traditional varieties in the US, situations and strategies for Food Sovereignty in Africa, Seed Festivals and Seed Savers Networks Worldwide, European Legislation on Seeds. A joint [Declaration](#) was released at the Festival, where Navdanya International received the invitation by the agricultural minister in Greece to start a cooperation on national seed legislation and agricultural policies.

At the end of October 2017, Navdanya and [JAGA Indonesia](#) organized the mobilization tour “[Celebrating Seed Freedom & Agroecology](#)” in collaboration with local partners. The rich dialogues, exchanges and presentations with farmers, policy makers and citizens' movements laid the ground for a transition towards an agroecological food system for food sovereignty, nutrition, climate resilience and economic security.

Of major importance were 3 agroecology practical training workshops which covered seed saving, natural seed treatment, soil fertility management and natural pest management. Using traditional knowledge Mr. Negi, Navdanya's farmers' training coordinator, showed how in any natural environment it is possible to find the resources and ingredients to both control pests and weeds, as well as to regenerate soil fertility. The program also saw two main conferences in Jember and Bali, as well as two days of intense capacity building workshops and inspiring discussions in Jogjakarta. Discussions took place and knowledge was shared across different groups, from the comparison of the roots of the agrarian crisis in India, Indonesia and other parts of the world, to the importance of connecting citizens movements with farmers who cultivate diversity and of taking care of seeds and traditional knowledge as a community.



Photos: [ESC](#)

Navdanya International held workshops on Seed Freedom in [Greece](#), [Italy](#), [Zimbabwe](#), California and Indonesia, with the focus of the providing a broad perspective on the emerging global threats to seed, such as seed laws and trade agreements, as well as bringing a set of examples of the work carried out by the Seed Freedom Campaign in various parts of the world in blocking attempts of criminalising indigenous seeds, in empowering farmers and seed defenders network by establishing networks, sharing knowledge, using tools such as [The Law of the Seed](#) in order to make the difference in the debate on seed at local, regional and national level.

Also read:

- ✓ [Seeds of diversity, resilience and freedom](#), By Dr Vandana Shiva – The Asian Age, 6 December 2017
- ✓ [Seed Freedom and the Future of Farming](#), An Interview with Dr Vandana Shiva – Roar Magazine, 27 December 2017

Climate Change: solutions, mitigation, adaptation and resilience

Over the last decade, Navdanya International has defined the connection between food and agriculture systems with climate change and climate justice. The debate on the climate change issue cannot avoid considering how the dominant technological and economic model, based on fossil fuels, does not take into account the finitude of the Earth's resources and is blind to the living processes that create living soil, as well as to the fact that the fate of societies and civilizations is intimately connected to how we treat the soil and how we grow and distribute the food we eat. The last two decades of corporate driven globalisation have destroyed the biodiversity and cultural diversity of our indigenous food systems, the health of people and the planet.

Navdanya International's work on climate change, including the mobilization at COP21 in [Paris](#) with the Pact for the Earth in December 2015, has shown the impact of industrial agriculture, as major contributor to greenhouse gases emission, but also how the solution for building resilience for small farmers as well as adaptation and mitigation to climate change comes from local ecological agriculture, local seeds and care for the soil which has the ability of taking back carbon dioxide in the ground.



Workshop on "False Solutions to Climate Change" at Clim'Act Camp near Rome

Navdanya International's [workshops on Climate Change](#) also offered a detailed analysis on the false solutions promoted by the industry, such as Climate Smart Agriculture and Geoengineering, which are means of corporate power to perpetrate the same extractive model and find new ways to grab resources.

On the occasion of Clim'Act camp, a worldwide project on climate involving youth activists from all over the world, Navdanya International held 2 workshops, featuring [Dr Vandana Shiva](#) and [Ruchi Shroff](#) respectively. The camp was organized within the framework of the European project Clim'Act and coordinated by A Sud Onlus, Acción Ecológica, Environmental Rights Action – FoEN and ZaZemiata with the participation of dozens of young activists from Ecuador, Nigeria, Bulgaria, Thailand and India. They have been enabled to take on Navdanya's holistic approach and analysis and the role of the industrial agriculture model as the key factor of global distress, as well as the importance of seed resilience and biodiverse organic food system as the solution and incorporated this vision in their own work and advocacy actions.

On the same issues, Navdanya International joined the [Sequestering Carbon in Soil Conference](#) in Paris in the first week of May 2017, where a coalition of the Global South for a holistic approach to climate change was formed. Along with other participants, Navdanya International presented a statement that expressed their concern about the narrow focus on carbon sequestration as a primary tool for mitigating climate change, as well as about equity impacts, increased dispossession of peasant farmers of their land and further corporatization of nature.

In September 2017, Navdanya International joined the [Soil Not Oil International conference in California](#), this year at its 3rd edition, and inspired by Dr Vandana Shiva's book "Soil not Oil", who gave the keynote speech and launched the "[Seeds Of Hope, Seeds Of Resilience](#) – How Biodiversity and Agroecology offer Solutions to Climate Change", on experiences on the ground with communities across India, which conserve Biodiversity and practice Agroecology based on Biodiversity intensification. The report shows that not only can we address climate change and **rejuvenate the planet, one seed at a time**, but also that, in so doing we produce more and better food which could provide enough nourishment for two times the world population.

Navdanya International took part in the Panel debate on "Reclaiming our democracy: Resistance and Renewal", where particular emphasis was given to how the care for seed and soil are at the centre of the solution to the crisis of our democracy.

Navdanya International was invited to join the Steering committee for the organizing of a People's Blueprint on Climate change. which will be presented at the [Global Climate Action Summit](#), organized by the Governor of California in September 2018. Alongside the official event, the Soil not Oil Coalition will also organize a "People's Summit", a global ecological convergence on climate change to make view the People's Solutions to climate change, especially as regards to food systems.



Also read:

- ✓ [Sowing the seeds of Earth democracy in Trump Times : The Planetary Crisis, Responsibilities and Rights](#) (Reflections on World Environment Day of President Trump abandoning his responsibility to the Earth and the community of nations), By Dr Vandana Shiva, 4 June 2017
- ✓ [World Environment Day 2017 – A message from Dr Vandana Shiva](#), 5 June 2017
- ✓ [Food and farming: Two futures](#) , By Dr. Vandana Shiva – The Asian Age, 12 July 2017
- ✓ [Our biodiversity, our life, our future](#) , By Dr Vandana Shiva – The Asian Age, 6 October 2017
- ✓ [Seed Freedom and the Future of Farming](#), An Interview with Dr Vandana Shiva – Roar Magazine, 27 December 2017