

Feed the world- without destroying the planet!

Birmingham, 15th November 2011



We live in a world where soil erosion, desertification and famine is an ever-increasing reality for millions of poor people.

At the same time the profits of large landowners and supermarkets continue to soar. The issues of food production and food sovereignty – who controls the production, sale and distribution of food – have never been more crucial.

Monoculture – the industrial growing of a single cash crop – is a major contributor to soil erosion and desertification along with forest clearance for farming multi-nationals. Agribusiness calls for ever-increasing yields that may give short-term benefits but at a devastating long-term cost including pesticides polluting rivers and oceans. The cost to human communities is also immeasurable – peasants are thrown off their farms as land reform is reversed in the insatiable search for profit. Millions are forced to migrate to unsustainable cities – living in shantytowns with no infrastructure.

There is resistance – from the growth of militant peasant and indigenous organisations and the pioneering of organic agriculture in countries as diverse as Cuba, Venezuela and the Philippines to guerilla gardening in the deserts of post-industrial cities in the United States.

On **November 15th 2011 Socialist Resistance** and **Green Left** will be hosting a meeting in Birmingham to discuss these issues.

Our main speaker will be **Maria Neri** from Mindanao in the **Philippines**. Maria is a longstanding activist and ecosocialist and works for **CONZARRD** an NGO focusing on agrarian reform and rural development.

She will share her powerful experiences in the struggle for land reform and ecologically sustainable food production.

7pm, Tuesday 15th November, Committee Rooms 3 & 4, Council House, Birmingham, B3 3BD Call 07775942841 for further details or email midlands@socialistresistance.org