6.3 – Local and global resilience

**Civil Society Organizations**

The success of international civil society organizations in attempting to raise awareness about, and find solutions for, environmental and social risks associated with global interactions.

**WWF**

**What**

* Founded 1961
* World’s largest conservation society with > 5 million supporters worldwide
* Initial focus was protecting endangered species, but it has broadened with the 1990 mission statement and their current strategy

**Facts + Figures**

* >1,300 in projects in >100 countries
* >5 million supporters world wide

2014:

* 55% of funding from individuals
* 19% MGO’s (e.g. World Bank + USAID)
* 8% TNC’s

**1990 mission statement**

Stop degradation of natural environment + build toward future in which humans live in harmony with nature by

* Conserving biodiversity
* Sustainable use of resources such as timber
* Decreasing pollution and wasteful consumption

**Current Strategy**

* Restore populations of keystone species
* Decrease ecological footprints (CO2 emissions, cropland, grazing, forestry + water)
* *Uses aerial drone technology, animal tracking devices and infrared cameras to combat illegal poaching of endangered species*

**Political**

* Voices its opinion and reports on (climate) developments, e.g. 2008-10 it published reports criticizing the Canadian tar sands development program, as
  + it would contribute to climate change
  + carbon capture + storage (CSS) technology would not be as effective for tar sands as for other forms of oil + that
  + the money spent extracting oil would be better spent on R&D into renewable energy technology
* Educates people, e.g. through reports

**Criticism**

* Close contacts to TNC’s such as IKEA + Coca Cola; received $80 million in donations from corporations)
* In 2016: acused of Used eco-guards who abused the rights of indigenous in the rainforest of Cameroon

**OXFAM**

**What**

* Founded in Oxford, UK in 1942 for famine relief

**New aims + focus**

FOCUS: alleviation of global poverty + change through political will and human action;

more recently: addressing the causes of poverty and injustice (human rights)

Everyone has the right to

* a sustainable livelihood
* basic social services
* life and security
* have a voice + identity

**3 main areas of work**

* Development support
  + to lift people out of poverty with sustainable projects, e.g. the Saving for Change initiative (microfinance scheme)
* Humanitarian work following natural disasters + in conflict zones
* Lobbying and campaigning

FOCUS of work

Economic justice improving farming for farmers and laborers, fairer trade, reducing shocks from energy changes + climate change

Rights in crisis assistance during conflict + disasters, attempts to prevent conflict, improve peacekeeping an

Essential services health, education, water and sanitation

Gender justice supporting women’s leadership + increasing the # of females receiving an education

**Projects/initiatives**

2013 behind the brands project → providing information on companies’ policies based on

* transparency at a corporate level
* small-scale farmers and women farm workers in the supply chain
* land rights + sustainable land use
* water rights + sustainable use of water
* methods of reducing + adapting to climate change

Oxfam’s Make Trade Fair → aims to eliminate

* dumping in LIC’s of highly subsidized foods from HIC’s
* high import tariffs → makes good from LIC’s expensive
* unequal labor laws in which women earn less than male counterparts
* patent issues of seeds, medicines, software, etc.

**Criticisms**

* Oxfam is politically motivated
* Corporate-style internal structure
* Some trustees were tax avoiders
* 12,000 shops worldwide → forced the closure of specialist stores + other charity shops