

learning together...

Connecting social
justice movements



annual report | 2024



learning together



- Since 1975, Inter Pares has facilitated connections
- between activists, organizations and movements working towards social justice. We have learned from each other by sharing deep knowledge of the roots of injustice and communities' local solutions. We have built strong bonds based on mutual respect, shared values and collective commitment. **LEARNING TOGETHER:** *Connecting social justice movements* highlights the depth and richness of these connections—and the lasting change they foster.



decades of *shared* struggles

2024 brings to a close five decades of working in solidarity with movements for social justice—movements themselves forged in multi-decade struggles.

It has been a year marked by the roiling threat of neglected injustices the world over. And as you read this in 2025, you know how the story continues.

As we know well, crises provoke shock and reflection, but they seldom come out of nowhere. Over the decades, **our counterparts have taught us how to see the throughline in global attacks on human rights—** how this moment of orchestrated patriarchal and colonial restoration has already been tested on them.



Photo: Maryn Devine

We have much more to learn from our counterparts **about resistance, steadfastness and connection.**

2024 reminded us that human rights work is a long-term bulwark against and response to the social inequalities that lead to crises, disasters and crimes against humanity.

IT REQUIRES DEEP ENGAGEMENT AND LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIPS.

Two facets that lie at the core of Inter Pares and are highlighted in this annual report.

From West African agroecology to the unflinching defence of Sudan's LGBTQI+ community to the commonalities of fighting for sexual and reproductive health and rights across the Global South, to advocating for a fuller human rights

understanding in the stolen lands of Turtle Island, learning from our global counterparts teaches us humility, the place of bravery and the nuances of local conditions and strategies.

For Inter Pares, social justice is both the process and outcome of long-term relationships. BUILT OVER TIME.

As you read this report, Inter Pares is cueing up to mark our 50th anniversary in 2025. Now more than ever, our counterparts need us—and you, our Inter Pares family. Right now, we need each other. **TOGETHER, WE DRAW ON OUR STRENGTHS**, devise new strategies and remain resolute in our fight for global social justice.

- **Amanda Dale**
- Chairperson,
Inter Pares Board of Directors

IN FOCUS

- >>> planting seeds of change
- >>> bringing Sudan's crisis to Canada
- >>> breaking barriers to health

IN FOCUS • •

planting seeds of change

Women farmers from
West Africa and Canada
on tour



Photo: Marie Dulude/SeedChange

IN SEPTEMBER, Inter Pares welcomed seven feminist leaders from West Africa for an agricultural learning exchange. Over 10 days, counterparts from Guinea-Bissau, Senegal, Togo, Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire engaged with farmers, activists

and policymakers from across the Estrie region of Quebec, Montreal and Ottawa on gender equality and agroecology—a holistic approach to agriculture that works with our environments, cultures and local traditions to produce sustainable food.



For our counterparts, the tour was an opportunity to see firsthand how farmers in Canada, like Maude-Hélène Desroches from Les Jardins de la Grelinette, an organic micro-farm, apply agroecological principles in a different climate and socio-economic context. Visits to organic farms, cooperatives and seed-saving initiatives sparked exchanges on soil regeneration, biodiversity and farming tools that reduce the physical burden of farming—an issue particularly relevant to women farmers in West Africa.

Beyond the fields, counterparts met with local officials and allies, discussing shared struggles: corporate control over seeds, climate change and barriers women farmers face in accessing land and resources. At a public

forum with Vigilance OGM, a Quebec-based counterpart, our West African guests explored strategies to counter corporate control over food systems. Their stories of women-led farming cooperatives resisting land grabs and restoring traditional farming practices resonated with Canadian farmers in attendance, many of whom are fighting similar battles.




Photo: Thelma Grundisch/Inter Pares

“These struggles are common to both North and South,” said Pauline Ndiaye of Enda Pronat,

our Senegalese counterpart. “Each of us draws inspiration from the other’s best practices.”

Despite geographic and cultural differences, rural women and small-scale farmers across the world share common struggles and solutions. By exchanging strategies, challenges and successes, the tour strengthened the global movement for food sovereignty and gender equality.

These conversations remind us that **AGROECOLOGY** is not just about farming—it’s about transforming societies, one field at a time.

 Read the tour report, watch the public forum with Vigilance OGM, or listen to a podcast series recorded during the tour at <https://interpares.ca/EqualityInTheField>



IN FOCUS • •

bringing Sudan's crisis to Canada

Sudanese activists
share their stories




Photo: Thelma Grundisch/Inter Pares

IN AUGUST, we welcomed two Sudanese human rights activists to Canada for an urgent advocacy tour. As Sudan faces one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, our counterparts met with activists, policymakers

and civil society organizations about the realities of war, displacement and the struggles of LGBTQI+ communities.

For our Sudanese counterparts, sharing their own stories is not just advocacy—it is survival.



“The war isn’t just between the governmental Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF). The war is on the people, it’s against us,” shared one of the activists, who we are keeping anonymous for their safety.

With the crisis largely overlooked internationally, our counterparts’ testimonies bring urgency to the realities on the ground. They described warring parties weaponizing aid, collapsing essential healthcare systems and LGBTQI+ individuals facing extreme risks at checkpoints and displacement camps. Many LGBTQI+ people are forced to hide their identities or flee violence—even from their own families.

In discussions with Canadian officials and advocacy groups, our counterparts pushed for concrete action: expanding the UN arms embargo to include all of Sudan, renewing and resourcing the UN’s Independent Fact-Finding Mission and ensuring LGBTQI+ refugees are not left out of humanitarian responses. They also called for increased pressure on both warring parties in Sudan to end the conflict immediately, as well as an increase in humanitarian support for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees in neighbouring countries.



INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY

is most effective when those directly affected lead the conversation. By sharing their experiences, our Sudanese counterparts brought the crisis to Canadian audiences, strengthening solidarity networks and ensuring better support for Sudanese communities in Canada and overseas.

Advocacy tours like this ensure Sudan stays on the political agenda in Canada, pushing for policy change and keeping media, activists and decision-makers engaged. **THE FIGHT FOR JUSTICE IN SUDAN** continues and we remain committed to amplifying the voices of those on the frontlines.



IN FOCUS • •

breaking barriers to health



Photo: Rita Morbia/Inter Pares

Connecting
movements for
sexual and reproductive
health and rights



IN OCTOBER, three activists from Bangladesh, El Salvador and the Philippines traveled across eastern Canada for a series of conversations about sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). At public events, universities and community

gatherings, these women created space for learning, reflecting and sharing stories.

Sharaban Tohura, an activist from Bangladesh, described how systemic oppression transcends borders.

“When it comes to women across the globe, **MISOGYNY IS CONTAGIOUS**. Those of us resisting it must collaborate—we can’t lose the war against patriarchy,” she told one audience. Open conversations like these challenge misinformation and shift societal attitudes on reproductive rights, making space for change.

Canada is often seen as a leader in SRHR, yet access to sexual and reproductive healthcare remains unequal. In New Brunswick, abortion access is still restricted and trans rights have been under threat.

“Every country has its struggles,” reflected Estephanie Brigatay, an activist from the Philippines. “It’s a long battle, but don’t stop

advocating, don’t stop asking for rights—keep speaking up until you’re heard.”

At each stop, audiences saw connections between global and local struggles. In Newfoundland, attendees highlighted how rural communities face significant barriers to SRHR services, much like communities in the activists’ home countries. Participants explored how restrictive policies, societal stigma and lack of comprehensive sexuality education create common obstacles.

For Wendy Barreras Rivas, an activist from El Salvador, sustaining this work requires care.

“WE’RE IN CONSTANT RESISTANCE. We must focus on collective work and safety and ensure access to mental

health care. Because if they take away our right to be happy, then we’ve lost everything.”

These exchanges fuel a stronger movement. By bringing together activists, academics, students and civil society organizations, the tour fostered lasting relationships that will strengthen SRHR advocacy.

Whether fighting for abortion access, LGBTQI+ rights or comprehensive sex education, SRHR advocacy is a shared global issue—progress anywhere strengthens movements everywhere.



Photo: Thelma Grundisch/Inter Pares

In 2024, we continued to work collectively for social justice. Here are some of the highlights from our year.

2024 at a glance

The Inter-American Court of Human Rights reached a historic verdict in the Beatriz case in December. **THE COURT FOUND EL SALVADOR VIOLATED BEATRIZ'S RIGHTS**

when they denied her an abortion for a pregnancy that put her life at risk. Long-term counterpart La Colectiva Feminista para el Desarrollo Local accompanied Beatriz's case through the court since 2013 and has been working to decriminalize abortion since 2006.



Photo: Jessica Xiomara Orellana Ventura

Inter Pares and Sudanese Women Rights Action (SUWRA) coordinated a new Sudan working group for Canadian civil society to act as **A FORUM FOR SOLIDARITY, EXCHANGE AND ACTION.**

Carleton University journalism professor Matthew Pearson delivered **FIVE WORKSHOPS TO 61 JOURNALISTS AND EDITORS** from five Inter Pares-supported Indigenous media organizations from Burma.

Photo: Sam McGavin/Inter Pares

MORE THAN 3,000 PEOPLE SIGNED OUR PETITION to

- Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Mélanie Joly to call on the Canadian government to sanction Burma's state-owned energy firm Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) and ensure Canadian companies cannot do business with Burma's military regime.





Photo: DEMUS



Photo: La Colectiva Feminista

La Colectiva Feminista celebrated **20 YEARS OF MOVEMENT** building in the struggle for bodily autonomy in El Salvador.

The Musée de la Civilisation de Québec hosted a **PHOTO EXHIBIT** from May to August featuring our work with counterparts in West Africa. The photos, taken by researcher Emmanuel Luce, showcase counterparts strengthening community responses to the climate crisis in coastal and island regions.

- Inter Pares and University of Ottawa's School of International Development and Global Studies hosted a roundtable discussion with four human rights defenders on how grassroots social movements **CHALLENGE THE INVISIBILITY OF ANTI-2SLGBTQI+ VIOLENCE** during armed conflict in Colombia and Guatemala. Featured activists included members of Colombia Diversa, Fondo Lunaria and the Mayan community.



Counterpart SWRC opened an inclusive **"FEMINIST HUB"** in Cairo to provide a safe space for Sudanese refugees, particularly activists, to convene.



Photo: Kath Clark/Inter Pares

2024 at a glance

In April, we reunited with counterparts Tiniguena and Enda Pronat in Côte d'Ivoire for a regional workshop to discuss **ADVANCING WOMEN-LED AGROECOLOGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION** in vulnerable coastal areas.



- Youth in Bangladesh performed **27 STREET DRAMAS** to promote sexual and reproductive health



- and rights, supported by counterpart Nijera Kori.



Photo: Nikera Kori

MORE THAN 125,000 PEOPLE in Guatemala have chosen Inter Pares-supported, **FEMINIST MEDIA OUTLET RUDA** to be their main source of news.



Colombia released its first **NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY**, which included **37 MEASURES** for lesbian, bisexual and trans women—an achievement led by counterpart Colombia Diversa after years of advocacy.

Photo: Inter Pares

SISAY conducted a **WORKSHOP ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE FOR 30 WOMEN** in Ayacucho, Peru. The women, members of an association of victims of forced sterilization, learned about different types of violence and the importance of reporting incidents and seeking support.



Photo: SISAY

In Chiapas, the Centro de Derechos Humanos Fray Bartolomé de las Casas (Frayba) provided legal counselling and psychosocial support **TO 254 SURVIVORS** navigating cases of human rights violations.

The Sudanese Organization for Research and Development (SORD) provided mental health services **TO 326 DISPLACED SUDANESE WOMEN AND GIRLS** who have experienced sexual and gender-based violence.



Photo: Rita Morbia/Inter Pares

The International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group released Defending Civil Liberties in an Age of Counter-terrorism and National Security—**A PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTING ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY.**

MiningWatch Canada celebrated its 25th anniversary as the only national organization in Canada

SOLELY DEDICATED TO PROTECTING PEOPLES AND THE PLANET from the impacts of mining.





Inter Pares – which means *among equals* – believes in solidarity, not charity, as our approach to international cooperation. We work with courageous activists and inspiring organizations throughout the world to build peace, advance justice and globalize equality. In 2024, **WE COLLABORATED WITH MORE THAN 70 SOCIAL JUSTICE ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS 17 COUNTRIES.**

Photo: Deccan Development Society



>>> We put feminism into practice. Issues of equality are important elements of our political analysis. We value ways of working that promote collaboration, foster good processes and encourage the agency of those with less power.



>>> We believe in the strength of women. We promote women's leadership, economic well-being, health and autonomy.

>>> We promote food sovereignty. We work with farmers and others to promote food systems that support small farmers, sustainably feed communities and ensure a healthy planet.



>>> We engage in peacebuilding and reconciliation. We enable grassroots participation in peacebuilding efforts, and support those who challenge the power structures that lead to violence, displacement, poverty and corruption.



AMERICAS

Canada
Colombia
El Salvador
Guatemala
Mexico
Peru

AFRICA

Burkina Faso
Côte d'Ivoire
Guinea-Bissau
Senegal
Sudan
Togo

ASIA

Bangladesh
Burma
India
Philippines
Thailand



In partnership with

Canada



>>> We support refugees, migrants and displaced people.

We provide political, humanitarian and financial assistance to refugees, displaced people and those who support them. We document abuses, provide health services, build livelihoods, and promote peace and democracy.

>>> We promote fair economies.

We collaborate in the promotion of fair-trade agreements, support communities affected by resource extraction, and help rural communities develop management plans to protect resources and livelihoods.



>>> We advocate for strong, public healthcare systems.

We promote an approach that addresses the nexus of health, poverty, equality and social conditions. We advocate for integrated, accessible and publicly funded healthcare systems.

CLOSE-UP ON...

- >>> writing for political action
- >>> surviving funding challenges

CL⦿SE-UP ON ••

writing for political *action*



Photo: KSWDC

OPEN LETTERS TO THE GOVERNMENT

are a powerful tool to urge a political response to crises and conflict. They create a platform to call for political action guided by clear policy recommendations. In 2024, Inter Pares released three open letters to the Government of Canada. You can read the letters at interpares.ca.

>>> 2024 marked **three years since the military coup in Burma**, and seven years since the 2017 wave of genocide against the Rohingya. The **violence continues** and millions of civilians remain in danger. In September, Inter Pares and 78 other organizations sent an **open letter to Prime Minister Trudeau** and the Government of Canada, urging **stronger action to support the people in Burma**. The open letter called for sanctions against Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE), shifting to cross-border humanitarian aid, support for emerging governance bodies and more.



Photo: ICLMG

>>> On World Humanitarian Day, Inter Pares **reiterated solidarity with the people of Gaza** by sending a letter to Prime Minister Trudeau and members of Parliament. In the letter, we stressed the **government's obligations under international law** to preserve the life, dignity and humanity of all people affected by armed conflict. We called on the government to **ensure Canadian policy and action do not contribute to genocidal acts** or reinforce criminal abuses committed in Gaza.



Photo: Rita Morbia/Inter Pares

>>> The world's largest humanitarian crisis is currently surging in Sudan. In December, the Canadian Civil Society Working Group on Sudan, of which Inter Pares is co-chair, organized an open letter **to the Canadian government** calling for an immediate response to this disaster. The letter, co-signed by 64 civil society organizations and 46 individuals, demanded **10 key actions from Canada to address the crisis**, including political and humanitarian responses, immigration measures, and urgent calls for justice, accountability and the protection of civilians.

CL⊙SE-UP ON ••

surviving funding challenges

Our commitment to our donors

IN 2024, we saw governments around the world slash international assistance budgets, putting the work of many organizations, including some of our counterparts, at risk.

Since 1975, Inter Pares has weathered many political shifts and government funding droughts. Time and time again, it's our donors who have made our ongoing support to counterparts possible. This includes everyone, from those who have supported us for most of our 50 years, inspiring us with the depth of their dedication, to new donors who invigorate us with hope for the future.

If our local counterpart organizations are the lifeblood of our work at Inter Pares, our donors are the beating

heart: two essential elements working together in the pursuit of social justice. Just as we're committed to our counterparts, we're committed to our donors.

To every family who donates monthly, to every kid who empties their piggy bank to make a special gift, we make a steadfast commitment.

Whatever comes, **WE WILL CONTINUE TO:**

- **MOBILIZE** resources in pursuit of social justice.
- **LEARN** about the root causes of injustices alongside our donors.
- **HOLD** fast to our shared feminist values.

Funding cycles have ups and downs. Our commitment to our counterparts and our donors is unwavering.



celebrating our donor community

INTER PARES EXISTS BECAUSE OF OUR SUPPORTERS.

Since 1975, the long-term support of our generous donor community has empowered us to work among equals for social justice. Now more than ever we are committed to carrying on the struggle for a more just and equal world—with our donor community by our side.

We recently asked our donors what connects them to Inter Pares.

Here is some of what they shared.

"I support Inter Pares' important work, particularly its initiatives to improve the health and well-being of youth and their families in the Philippines. Partnering with the Likhaan Center for Women's Health has provided thousands of Filipina women with valuable information about sex education and reproductive health, strengthening their rights while countering misinformation."

Kim Graybiel



Photo courtesy of Kim Graybiel

"One of the ways I maintain a positive outlook is by sharing what I have to support work that I trust. In donating to Inter Pares, I have complete trust in the integrity of where my contribution is going and how it is being used. I am confident that the team at Inter Pares is supporting the kinds of initiatives I want to see in this world: important work empowering women to take charge of their lives and their futures."

Diane Saibil

"I've been with Inter Pares almost since its inception. I connected deeply with its values, especially the emphasis on gender justice, and I've always appreciated its flat hierarchy. It shows the organization truly walks the walk.

The warmth and connection that the Inter Pares staff share with their donors makes a real difference.

I've grown alongside Inter Pares, and I admire how it continues to evolve and sustain life, both within the organization and through its work across the world."

Chris Ross

Photo: Daniella Silveira/Inter Pares

in **2024**

We welcomed
69 new donors
to our community.

A total of **3,067** donors gave
\$1.8 million of which **\$462,329**
came from our dedicated monthly
Sustaining Donors.





our team



INTER PARES DRAWS ON 50 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AND A GLOBAL ACTIVIST NETWORK TO CHALLENGE INEQUALITY IN CANADA AND ABROAD.

Known for our progressive and innovative approach to international cooperation, Inter Pares supports people's struggles to build societies that are fair for all by using the power of solidarity. We collaborate with more than 70 counterparts and, together, identify the root causes of injustice and act for sustainable social change.

>>> OUR TEAM IN 2024

Fernande Abanda
Hughes Alla
Ashley Armstrong
Jai Benipal
Bharat Bishwakarma
David Bruer
Eric Chaurette
Kath Clark
Sofia Descalzi
Mitch Donovan
Bill Fairbairn
Thelma Grundisch
Rasha Hilal Al-Baiyatti

Lorraine Hudson
Amani Khalfan
Samantha McGavin
Rita Morbia
Maélie Morrisette
Marie José Morrisette
Nasya Razavi
Nikki Richard
Taina Roberts
Chandrabarna Saha
Nathalia Santos Ocasio
Jessica Stevens
Jean Symes

>>> BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN 2024

- Amanda Dale
- Dr. Ranjan Datta
- Philippe M. Frowd
- Sarah Hedges-Chou
- Beth Jordan
- Patricia LaRue
- Michael Manolson
- Deepa Mattoo
- Karen Moir
- Esperanza Moreno
- Shree Mulay
- Debbie Owusu-Akyeeah
- Barbara Wood



financial statements

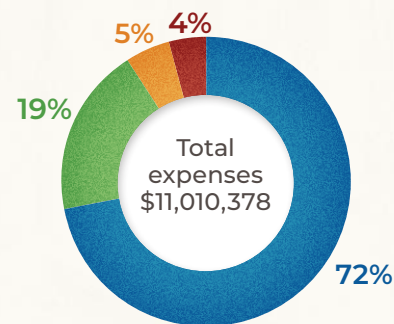
Statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 2,605,308	\$ 4,013,662
Short-term investments	458,571	1,302,118
Accounts receivable	236,818	213,661
Program advances	6,456,636	4,513,308
Prepaid expenses	52,577	79,925
	9,809,910	10,122,674
INVESTMENTS	5,195,939	3,863,485
CAPITAL ASSETS	559,857	513,215
	\$ 15,565,706	\$ 14,499,374
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 137,886	\$ 73,404
Deferred revenue	8,464,163	7,439,532
	8,602,049	7,512,936
YEARS OF SERVICE BENEFITS PAYABLE	182,884	169,682
	8,784,933	7,682,618
FUND BALANCES		
Unrestricted (deficit)	(58,954)	(12,312)
Invested in capital assets	559,857	513,215
Reserve Fund	1,077,268	1,039,654
Margaret Fleming McKay Legacy Fund	5,202,602	5,276,199
	6,780,773	6,816,756
	\$ 15,565,706	\$ 14,499,374

Statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2024

	2024			2023	
	General Operations	Reserve Fund	Margaret Fleming McKay Legacy Fund	Total	Total
REVENUE					
Donations	\$ 1,788,212	\$ -	\$ 68,917	\$ 1,857,129	\$ 1,909,430
Global Affairs Canada					
Buil-Mo	1,026,305	-	-	1,026,305	812,973
ACTIF Colombia	195,944	-	-	195,944	150,694
SCSM Burma	4,040,352	-	-	4,040,352	3,181,009
WLA West Africa	1,229,443	-	-	1,229,443	1,087,974
ACF-AO West Africa	2,461,258	-	-	2,461,258	2,001,576
PSOP Sudan	-	-	-	-	43,304
Interest and other	13,860	37,614	112,490	163,964	125,106
	10,755,374	37,614	181,407	10,974,395	9,312,066
EXPENSE					
Program					
Projects	7,919,078	-	-	7,919,078	6,464,389
Operations	2,102,818	-	-	2,102,818	1,793,180
	10,021,896	-	-	10,021,896	8,257,569
Administration	444,898	-	-	444,898	292,898
Fundraising	543,584	-	-	543,584	597,225
	11,010,378	-	-	11,010,378	9,147,692
NET REVENUE (EXPENSE) FOR THE YEAR	\$ (255,004)	\$ 37,614	\$ 181,407	\$ (35,983)	\$ 164,374

Inter Pares expenses in 2024



72% program projects:

Funds sent to counterparts working in Africa, Asia, Canada and Latin America

19% program operations:

Monitoring programs, management, program staff salaries

5% fundraising:

Receipting, online donation systems, printing costs, bank charges, donor stewardship, fundraising staff salaries

4% administration:

Office costs, governance, financial management, finance staff salaries



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Inter Pares

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