

SHORTLIST PUBLIC EYE AWARDS 2012

Corporation	Country / Reason for the nomination	Nominated by
Barclays www.barclays.com	WORLDWIDE Finance: Speculation in the most important at the expense of the poorest in favor of the richest: Barclays effectively bets on hunger by speculating on food prices, contributing to sharp rises and falls that cause hunger and poverty. The investment banking section of the UK-based giant, Barclays, has been the fastest growing food speculator in Europe – and arguably, worldwide. In the second half of 2010 alone, 44 million people were driven into extreme poverty due to rising food prices. Women, children and elderly people in the global south are often the hardest hit when families struggle to afford food. New European regulations could end the scandal of food speculation, but the UK government and its close allies in the financial sector, such as Barclays, are threatening to block effective rules.	World Development Movement www.wdm.org.uk
Freeport-McMoRan www.fcx.com	WEST PAPUA Mining: Precious metals in exchange for death and exploitation: The Arizona-based mining corporation has operated the Grasberg Mine, the world's largest gold and copper mine in West Papua, for 45 years without regard for nature and people. The mine produces 230,000 tons of tailings contaminated with heavy metals every day, resulting in a blanket of copper-laden waste covering over 200 square kilometers (90 square miles) and up to 15 meters (50 feet) deep that kills everything in its path and threatens a World Heritage site. Freeports activities lead to frequent and blatant human rights violations, including the torture of mine opponents. In a large strike at the end of 2011, two strikers were shot dead by the police and union members received death threats. Switzerland is the fifth-largest trading center for Freeport's precious metals (after the U.S., Japan, Indonesia and Spain).	Indonesia Human Rights Committee www.indonesiahumanrights.org.nz
Samsung www.samsung.com	SOUTH KOREA Electronics: High-tech gadgets built on the backs of workers: South Korea's richest conglomerate uses banned and highly-toxic substances in its factories, without informing and/or protecting its workers. As a result at least 140 workers were diagnosed with cancer, of which at least 50 young workers have died. Despite clear evidence, Samsung denies its responsibility and publicly discredits the sick and deceased, as well as their relatives. Samsung has a history of over 50 years of environmental pollution, trade union repression, corruption and tax flight. Samsung's power in South Korea is so great that many citizens speak of the "Samsung Republic."	Supporters for Health and Right of People in Semiconductor industry (SHARPs) stopsamsung.wordpress.com

<p>Syngenta www.syngenta.com</p>	<p>GLOBAL SOUTH Agrochemicals: Selling elsewhere what can't be sold at home: The Swiss company Syngenta is the world's largest agrochemical producer, and it sells numerous acutely toxic products that harm people and the environment. Thousands of farmers have suffered severe acute and chronic effects from occupational use. Despite being banned in Europe, Syngenta continues to aggressively market its paraquat herbicide in the Global South. The corporation conducted a smear campaign against a scientist critical of its atrazine pesticide, and even attempted to buy his silence. Atrazine has contaminated 90 percent of drinking water in the U.S. Midwest.</p>	<p>Pesticide Action Network www.panna.org</p>
<p>TEPCO www.tepco.co.jp</p>	<p>JAPAN Energy: Risk blindness led to a meltdown: Against its better judgement, Tepco, Japan's largest energy company, grossly neglected the structural safety of its nuclear power plants in order to cut costs. The meltdown at Fukushima and the resulting radioactive contamination of people, land and sea could have been prevented. Confronted with violent natural forces, first the equipment capitulated, followed by the on-site emergency management. The company also provided information that was verifiably false or very late in coming. A culture of favors, cover-ups and falsifications reigns at Tepco.</p>	<p>Finance Green Watch www.financegreenwatch.org</p>
<p>Vale www.vale.com</p>	<p>BRASIL Dams and Mining: Mines and dams at the expense of people and the environment: Vale is the second-largest corporation in Brazil, the second-largest mining corporation worldwide, and the largest global producer of iron ore. The corporation's 60-year history is tarnished by repeated human rights abuses, inhumane working conditions and the ruthless exploitation of nature. Vale is currently taking part in the construction of the Belo Monte Dam in the Amazon. The dam is likely to result in the forced relocation of 40,000 people, who have neither a voice in the matter nor will they likely receive compensation.</p>	<p>Justiça nos Trilhos www.justicanostrilhos.org</p>