

Plan Puebla Panama (PPP)

Increased global trade, an aging Panama Canal, and a rise in production in the Pacific Rim are a few factors driving the U.S. to intensify its grip on the entire region of Central America. The Plan Puebla Panama (PPP) is a project that links Puebla, Mexico to Panama constructing a series of massive industrial megaprojects. The PPP, the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) are a package of corporate globalization plans that in no way respond to the needs of the majority of the regions' peoples. The PPP promises to ruthlessly exploit southern Mexico and Central America's natural environment, labor, and indigenous communities to serve the interests of the transnationals.

The PPP: Transnational Corporations Develop Mesoamerica



The PPP is already creating the following megaprojects from Puebla, Mexico to Panama:

- North-South Pacific Coast industrial corridor (superhighway to move goods)
 - Free trade sweatshop zones and the dredging/privatization of deep water ports that will destroy critical fisheries
 - Connection of ports, the industrial corridor, and sweatshop zones with "dry canals" (superhighway & high speed railway) to move goods between Atlantic and Pacific coasts
 - The creation and privatization of a regional energy grid involving the construction of dozens of hydroelectric dams from Panama to Mexico to feed industrial development while flooding indigenous communities and ecosystems
- Privatization of basic services and natural resources enabling massive oil, mineral, forestry, and commercial agriculture development by transnational corporations

The PPP: Interamerican Development Bank (IDB), World Bank and Transnationals

The PPP was proposed by Mexican President Vicente Fox in March 2001, who declared, "The Plan Puebla Panama is much grander than *Zapatismo* or any other indigenous community...". While the Interamerican Development Bank (IDB) is the primary financial institution behind the planning, financing and execution of the PPP, the World Bank is also involved in this corporate globalization project. Additionally, the PPP has drawn transnational corporate investors including: International Paper, Monsanto, Duke Energy, Harken Energy, Applied Energy Services, ENDESA (Spain), and SIT Global.



Join with the III Foro Mesoamericano to Oppose the PPP



Between the 16th and 18th of July, 2002 in the city of Managua, Nicaragua, more than 1000 delegates from over 350 organizations in Mesoamerica and elsewhere met during III Foro Mesoamericano and analyzed the PPP, FTAA, and CAFTA. They declared: **"We call for mobilizations and demonstrations on the 12th of October as a demonstration of our total rejection of the PPP and the FTAA, to coincide with different expressions of struggle on this day of Mesoamerican resistance."**

Mobilize & Resist on October 12, 2002

For more information contact ACERCA & Action for Social and Ecological Justice: acerca@sover.net; 802-863-0571; www.asej.org