At the end of 2009, we delivered to the United Nations in Geneva, with 50 children and adults living in chronic poverty from across the world, a message of hope to those in charge of upholding human rights. We told them that the expertise of people with experience of extreme poverty must be sought when it comes to evaluating poverty programming. “Families refuse to be enclosed in their neighbourhoods and want to make their resilience, their courage and their initiatives known”, reiterated delegates from Haiti.

Less than a month later, tragedy struck Haiti in the form of the terrible earthquake. We were struck by this resilience of the very poorest people and communities to refuse to be considered as passive victims and to call on the authorities to take their knowledge into account in rebuilding the country’s future.

It is not just in Haiti where children and adults living in poverty call on decision makers to take their experience into account. Since 2008, a participatory action-research project has gathered over 1 000 knowledge-actors from across 5 continents to denounce the violence of extreme poverty and to set out pathways to peace. This process has also helped shape since 2011 a project to involve people at the sharp end of extreme poverty in evaluating the Millennium Development Goals, aiming to influence the discussion the international community has already initiated on a successor to the MDGs.

Extreme poverty cuts across continents. Humanity living in chronic situations has little voice and has to struggle just to have dignity in their lives. Yet, people in poverty wish to share with wider society the knowledge they possess to contribute to a more equitable world for everyone. Throughout 2010-2011, ATD Fourth World has mobilised thousands of people who resist poverty on a daily basis: through “People’s Universities” in New York or La Paz, children’s street libraries in Bangkok or Madrid, or “Working and learning together” projects in Antananarivo or Paris, they have revealed that they too are experts in defending human rights and building peace for all. This report offers some insight into our work in the over 30 countries where ATD Fourth World is active alongside the very poorest people and communities to ensure nobody is left behind in striving to end extreme poverty. I hope this report may mobilise ever more people to join their efforts.

The titles of the sections of this report reflect the plan of action chosen by the International Movement ATD Fourth World, for the period 2008-2012.

Nina Lim-Yuson

Cristina Lim Yuson, President of the International Movement ATD Fourth World, with children in Tulay, Manila, the Philippines
Today, entire families find themselves scorned and treated “as if we were not even human beings”. Whole communities have been left out of economic, social and environmental considerations “as if we had been wiped off the face of the planet”.

Faced with such injustice and violence, people are taking a stand, rallying to and acting upon Joseph Wresinski’s October 17th appeal: for globalisation to be based on human dignity. To add momentum to this gathering of human rights’ defenders and peace activists, we want the October 17th appeal not only to be engraved in places of significance to humanity, but also to be written into the constitution of every country.

Poverty is considered a danger to peace, security and democracy. What is worse, a person living in poverty is considered a violent human being. Our three-year action-research project, “Extreme Poverty is Violence – Breaking the Silence – Searching for Peace”, shows that our world, rocked by crises, is above all facing one crisis that underlies all the rest: the development of so-called “expertise” that negates, with unimaginable violence, the experiences of individuals and populations in situations of extreme poverty. Learning from these experiences is a precondition for creating a more harmonious society together.

This crisis demonstrates that the full enjoyment of human rights is only possible if all people are recognised as fellow human beings and as equal members of the local, national and international communities. People in poverty teach us that any peace-building process must begin with this recognition. In the coming years, we will redouble our efforts to collect their stories of resistance to the violence of extreme poverty and their stories of courage in building peace. This collection of stories can be the starting point in elaborating a new set of Guiding Principles “for a culture of peace forged by overcoming extreme poverty”. With 2015 in sight, these stories of resistance will be a resource for building a global governance that gives top priority to eradicating extreme poverty. But above all, we owe “this harvest” to future generations, in order that they may find new pathways to peace.

Eugen Brand

1. “Wherever men and women are condemned to live in extreme poverty, human rights are violated. To come together to ensure that these rights be respected is our solemn duty.” October 17th is the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
Creating peace together

“Since the earthquake, everyone is stricken, the rich along with the poor. During reconstruction, I would like for all people to be as one, without division.”

– Contribution of ATD Fourth World-Haiti to “One Voice for the People”, a project supported by the UN and Haitian civil society

Striving for peace in Haiti

Since the devastating 2010 earthquake in Haiti, our team (who have been based there since 1980) has seen first-hand that humanitarian aid can divide people when it is planned from the top down, with a lack of consultation with the people it is intended to benefit. Our ambition is that humanitarian assistance always be part of a long-term vision and strategy thought out with all stakeholders, putting an end to stop-gap, temporary approaches. Our Haiti team has worked simultaneously to ensure that aid reach the most vulnerable and isolated people, as well as enabling their voices to be heard during the long-term reconstruction.

The team was supported by young people from the 600 families living in extreme poverty with whom ATD Fourth World already had a strong link prior to the earthquake. Together, they reached out to a greater number of people unreached by any aid. Thanks to this partnership, ATD Fourth World is now in touch with 3000 families. In addition to continuing its pre-2010 cultural activities — Street Libraries, a pre-school, an early childhood family learning project, and a literacy project for young people — the team is currently consulting people living in extreme poverty to evaluate the Millennium Development Goals, particularly in terms of access to health care.

Around the world, some individuals and small organizations share similar approaches to searching for peace: creating and protecting spaces to bring together people from very different backgrounds who have been divided in the past. These efforts can reinforce and give visibility to ongoing mobilizations to strive together to end poverty, as an essential step towards human rights and peace. For many people and groups, October 17th — the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty — remains an important focal point for this work, a time to strengthen commitments by drawing inspiration from one another.

The International Committee for October 17th

The International Committee for October 17th (launched in 2008) continues to raise awareness of this international day to promote its observance in ways that respect the dignity and the contribution of people living in extreme poverty, and to protect spaces where people from very different backgrounds can work together against extreme poverty and violations of human rights, and to strive towards peace for all.

The composition of this committee is diverse, with members coming from different backgrounds, from people with first-hand experience of extreme poverty to high-level policy makers, all committed together against poverty and exclusion.

An international delegation of ATD Fourth World at the United Nations in Geneva

Haiti. Learning activities for 0-3 year-olds with parents’ active participation
On October 17, 2011, more than 250 events were organised in more than 40 countries.

**Developing a culture of Human Rights**

At the United Nations (where ATD Fourth World has general consultative status), work has been ongoing, throughout 2010 and 2011, to finalise the Draft Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights (DGPs), which will constitute the first international document to set out clearly the implications of international law in relation to the human rights of people living in extreme poverty. The DGP process has involved several hundred members of ATD Fourth World living in chronic poverty, from the initial local consultations through to the concluding consultation in Geneva in June 2011. ATD Fourth World’s representatives to the UN in Geneva advocated for the DGPs to be on the agenda for a March 2012 meeting. As a result, the Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights was invited to present the DGPs as part of a panel discussion on the right to development. A final draft of the DGPs will be submitted in September 2012 with a view to their adoption by the Human Rights Council.

Another priority in ATD Fourth World’s work with the UN was the 20th anniversary of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child in 2009 which ended a year-long campaign by Tapori, a worldwide network of children whose motto is “We want all children to have the same chances.” On Human Rights Day, 10th December, a delegation of 23 children and 16 adults from five continents, all with experience of chronic poverty, met with Mrs Kyung-wha Kang, Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights. Mrs Kang greeted the delegation by saying: “This is an important journey for both you and us because it is the opportunity to speak as equals, to share ideas and experiences, and for us to hear what your preoccupations and hopes are for a better, fairer world. We are here to learn from you”. The delegation from Africa said, “People who live in great poverty need consideration, recognition and dignity. We discovered that this was also true for the European delegates and we had no idea that in Europe so many children were separated from their parents because of destitution”.

On 17th October 1987, defenders of human rights across the world gathered in Paris to pay homage to the victims of hunger, ignorance, and violence, and to affirm their conviction that poverty is not inevitable. Joseph Wresinski, the founder of ATD Fourth World, unveiled a commemorative stone at the Trocadero Human Rights Plaza in Paris. On this marble stone, his call to action is engraved: “Wherever human beings are condemned to live in extreme poverty, human rights are violated. To come together to ensure these rights be respected is our solemn duty”. October 17th was officially recognised as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty by the United Nations in 1992.
Building knowledge and understanding

“All my life I have been fighting against poverty and discrimination, but fighting, and against are words of violence. In this gathering of people from different places and backgrounds I have learnt the language of building peace and creating peace together. This gives me hope for the future, not fighting, but building peace”.

— Moraene Roberts, United Kingdom, Colloquium “Extreme Poverty is Violence – Breaking the Silence – Searching for Peace”.

Starting in 2009, ATD Fourth World ran a three-year participatory action research project entitled “Extreme Poverty is Violence – Breaking the Silence – Searching for Peace.” This work was a way for people living in extreme poverty and others to consider the violence they face and the role of all stakeholders in forging pathways toward peace. More than 1 000 people participated in this work. The majority live in conditions of extreme poverty and insecurity; others, from different walks of life, act in solidarity with them. Around 300 people participated in seven regional seminars held in Africa, Europe, North and Latin America. Participants with direct experience of chronic poverty, alongside academics, non-profit representatives and international institutions, contributed actively to this work at all stages: planning, sharing their thoughts and experience, as well as analysing and drawing conclusions. This allowed for a new form of research, where people who have often been put under the microscope by others can draw on their resilience and experience of resistance to further a more comprehensive reflection on the relation between the violence caused by extreme poverty and the pathways towards peace.

The project, partly financed by UNESCO, has its roots in the work by ATD Fourth World’s founder, Joseph Wresinski, for whom, “The violence of contempt and indifference causes chronic poverty, since it inevitably leads to exclusion, to the rejection of one human being by other human beings.” This project was led by the Joseph Wresinski International Centre¹. Participants used a range of methods, based on a “merging of knowledge” approach², to forge a greater understanding of physical, social and institutional violence. They considered how these forms of violence create and reinforce extreme poverty, and discovered resistance undertaken to stem violence. A Colloquium held at UNESCO House, in Paris, France, in January 2012, concluded this project. A report on the findings will be published to coincide with the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on October 17th.

Evaluation Project for the Millennium Development Goals

In September 2010, ATD Fourth World participated in the preparation of the United Nations High-Level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which aimed to
accelerate progress towards all the MDGs by 2015. The meeting addressed challenges, acknowledged failures and sought for the international community to come together to overcome the obstacles to achieving the MDGs. ATD Fourth World’s Vice President, Marco Ugarte Ochoa, spoke at the UN Civil Society Hearings on “Equal and inclusive partnerships: Accountability in the fight against poverty”. His intervention, and a paper entitled “People in extreme poverty, absent partners in the Millennium Development Goals” called for four actions: to reach out to the most vulnerable; effective access to human rights for everyone; to ensure the participation of the most excluded people; and to evaluate the impact of the MDGs with the intended “beneficiaries” of development policies. This has led to the development of a participatory action-research project that started in 2011, and will run until September 2013, the date of the next high level UN summit meeting on the MDGs. The research, in which people living in extreme poverty are playing an active role, seeks to assess the impact of the MDGs on those most affected by the issue in both developing and industrialised countries. The research takes place in ten countries: Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Guatemala, Haiti, Madagascar, Mauritius, Peru and the Philippines. The project aims to provide people living in extreme poverty with the means to contribute their experience and knowledge to efforts to achieve human rights and evaluate the MDGs. It also identifies ways in which policies and actions can benefit people living in extreme poverty, within the framework of the MDGs and beyond the 2015 deadline, in order to make progress towards “world governance where decision-making is centred on real participation of people in extreme poverty, and goals are centred on the eradication of extreme poverty”. The work will serve towards developing a global framework following the MDG deadline in 2015, and contributes to efforts being made to bring together similar projects as part of a participatory research network within the Beyond 2015 Campaign which is made up of over 350 non-profit organisations across the world.

1. Joseph Wresinski, the founder of ATD Fourth World, firmly believed that eradicating poverty requires a continually renewed understanding of the daily experiences and thinking of the most underprivileged families. Opened in 2007, the Joseph Wresinski International Centre continues to record and archive writings, photographs, recordings and artwork sharing the histories and experiences of people living in extreme poverty. The purpose of the Centre is two-fold: for people living in poverty to develop their own collective identity and their sense of common history, and to allow society to understand the valuable contributions made by people living in poverty.

2. An approach developed for sharing knowledge and ideas among those living in poverty, professionals and academics, ensuring that people who use the same words differently have the tools to understand one another.

Ethical funding and access to decent work

“I’m proud to be part of a Movement that talks about funding with all of its members. It means that I’m not seen as a ‘beneficiary’. Instead, we’re making decisions together.”

– A member of ATD Fourth World who lives in poverty in Europe

The challenge is to provoke a debate on how we measure and value wealth and skills in the global and national economies and within local communities.

**A code of ethics**

In 2010, to enhance its long standing ethical budgeting and fundraising policies, the Fondation ATD Quart Monde and the Mouvement ATD Quart Monde France adopted a code of ethics in relation to partnerships with potential donors. The code will be adopted by the International Movement and national ATD Fourth World entities in autumn 2012. The code states that ATD Fourth World does not hire professional advertisers in order to appeal for donations. Its public communication never objectifies people and encourages those living in extreme poverty to choose how to communicate about their own situations, efforts and hopes. It is ATD Fourth World’s policy never to sell, buy, exchange or disclose the personal details or addresses of its members, friends or donors to third parties.

**The International Volunteer Corps**

Almost all of ATD Fourth World’s staff are part of a full-time International Volunteer Corps: more than 450 full-time volunteers from roughly 30 countries and who have different religious and philosophical backgrounds. Despite their varied training, professions, responsibilities and seniority, they agree to live simply, all receiving the same low stipend in solidarity with people living in extreme poverty. They are provided with social security coverage and are paid a stipend which, in France, stands at €550 per month each (after the first year, during which they receive only €360 per month), in addition to €75 to €165 per dependent child (depending on their age) and a housing allowance. This status applies regardless of the responsibility of the full-time volunteer. This means that, for example, the Director General, the European regional coordinator, and a Volunteer Corps member running an early childhood project in a low-income community in the Parisian suburbs all receive the same stipend. In each country, the stipend is generally based on the national minimum wage and the cost of living.

**Access to decent work**

In addition to looking closely at the ethics of its fundraising and the stipends of its Volunteer Corps, ATD Fourth World believes that employment for people with very little schooling or training can be created in a way that improves relationships among all employees and with their employers, enhancing the creation of decent work.

To this end, ATD Fourth World started a project, ‘Working and Learning Together’, in Noisy-le-Grand, France; Antananarivo, Madagascar; and Guatemala City, Guatemala. This project brings together people with experience of extreme poverty,
and others, with an aim to re-think business and company lifestyles, by working and learning together. Education and training are not sufficient to help the most excluded people earn a decent wage. A wider, supportive environment is necessary, tailored to the individual’s circumstances. Creating an environment for peer support among participants improves outcomes for all, and encourages mutual assistance and solidarity. Informal sector workers are productive and demonstrate ingenuity as true contributors to sustainable development.

In France, the team repairs and sells second-hand computers, as well as offering cleaning services and building work. In Guatemala, with people who work and live at the municipal garbage landfill as well as in the surrounding neighbourhoods, crafts are produced from recycled material, and sold locally and internationally. In Madagascar, ATD Fourth World works with people who recycle refuse collected from dumps on the outskirts of Antananarivo. Workers live in extremely unstable conditions. Barriers to accessing other livelihood opportunities are high for the refuse workers due to lack of possibilities elsewhere, stigma, and the fear of losing the small earnings that the dump ensures. Miasa Miantra Miaraka1 is an association, with 25 employees who live near the dump and in other very disadvantaged districts. The association, launched in 2006, achieved fair-trade status in 2011. Traditional Malagasy crafts are produced, such as embroidered linen, hand-woven scarves, wooden toys and traditional games, and handbags. Sales increased 80% from 2009 to 2010. Within the framework of the association, an environmental project was set up in July 2011, in Toliara, in the south of Madagascar, in partnership with the urban district. Fifteen men and women from disadvantaged communities are responsible for the creation and upkeep of public gardens in the area, thus contributing to reforestation. Employees are eligible for training workshops that are set up according to their needs. Different types of workshops are made available, such as adult literacy classes; French; sewing; woodwork; and horticulture.

Furthermore, also in Madagascar, a group of young people living at a garbage dump in a very disadvantaged district have made a commitment to helping one another to complete a unique computer training program. The idea that none of them would be left behind became a strong motivation and they went out of their way to work together. They did so well that despite not having completed high school, they have now been hired by a company that considers their work on a par with college-educated computer technicians.

1. Working and Learning Together

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The reforestation project of Miasa Miantra Miaraka – Working and Learning Together, Madagascar
1. The reforestation project of Miasa Miantra Miaraka – Working and Learning Together, Madagascar
2. Gardening workshop in a Street festival in the North of France
3. Street festivals are an opportunity for different worlds to meet and share, the Philippines
4. Hand-weaving in the fair-trade workshop in Antananarivo, Madagascar
5. A Street library in Bangui, Central African Republic
6. Mrs. Kang, Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, with the Tapori delegation on the 20th anniversary of the International Convention of the Rights of the Child
7. A replica of the Commemorative Stone, in Brussels, Belgium, the text of which celebrates the courage of people in poverty around the world
1. IT workshop in the Manila Street Festival, the Philippines
2. Children contributing to cleaning up and planting flowers in Saphan Phut slum, Thailand
3. Young Europeans preparing decorations for October 17 commemoration in 2010
4. The field library in Cuyo Grande, one hour from Cusco, Peru
5. Young people express their hopes and frustrations on Europe Day in Warsaw, Poland, through different workshops.
6. François Fillon, France’s Prime Minister in 2011, met up with a French delegation of young people
7. Delegations from Haiti and Honduras, met with the US under-Secretary of State
Youth Initiatives

“The face of poverty might change from one place to the next, but our shared experiences connect us. In the community where the Honduran Street Library takes place, sometimes kids have to miss school to help out their parents. Other times, if they do get to go to school, they might be unprepared, or get made fun of by their classmates. In Brooklyn, I see similar things. Education isn’t truly free, and extreme poverty makes kids miss out on it and forces them back into a life of ongoing violence. This is not right. The street library in Honduras creates a place of peace where youth who are dealing with violence on a daily basis participate and support each other. Like the young people in Haiti, they look for those who are hardest to reach and who have been forgotten about.”
– Crystal Dantzler, October 17th, New York, UN panel on Extreme Poverty and Violence Against Children

In 2010, Crystal got to know young members of ATD Fourth World from Honduras and Haiti who were part of events for October 17th in the United States, where she grew up participating in and then contributing to ATD Fourth World Street Libraries. ATD Fourth World aims to enable Crystal and other young people of all backgrounds to harness their enthusiasm to build a fairer society, while getting to know one another and exchanging experiences. For the new generation to innovate and contribute to their communities and countries, societies need to have ambitions for them and to believe in their capacities.

In New York, ATD Fourth World began a (still-on-going) youth project in September 2010 to bring together young people from low-income neighbourhoods. They organise cultural trips and fundraising events, and seek to highlight the situation of young people in poverty throughout the world today. The February 2011 UN panel which Crystal spoke at was organised by ATD Fourth World, the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence Against Children – Marta Santos Pais, and UNICEF.

Fighting against floods collectively
Another place where young people play a leading role in ATD Fourth World’s work is Guinaw Rail, a marginalised neighbourhood in Dakar, Senegal, which suffers from massive floods, and does not benefit from sanitation and refuse collection services. The floods leave pools of stagnant water that become breeding grounds for insects and bacteria that bring disease. In 2010, a group of young ATD Fourth World members from this neighbourhood realised that some families were making small dams to only protect their own homes, thus worsening the flooding in the homes of others, in particular of those in deepest poverty least able to cope with the consequences. ATD Fourth World supported the young people to set up a Youth Brigade Against Floods, in order to support their community. This involved digging canals to evacuate the stagnant water from all the houses and streets at once. They organised meetings to improve dialogue between different people in the community. The group also met with the municipal authority to discuss possible solutions, which has led to the authority investing in a machine to pump out the water.
Youth Initiatives

European youth unites against poverty

In Europe, more than 1,000 young people from 10 countries were at the forefront of 17th October 2010, after more than a year of events and dialogue to prepare their proposals. They drafted the Appeal of European Young People:

“We come from different backgrounds and different neighbourhoods. We lead different lives. Some of us were born here. Some are immigrants and refugees. Some of us have no roots. Others are responsible for our own families. Some of us have work. Others don’t. Some of us are students. Others have not had access to decent education or training. What unites us is our refusal to stand by and allow the poverty and exclusion we see all around us to continue.”

The appeal went on to testify on the difficulties of living in Europe for young people who face discrimination. As one young person said: “The hardest thing is knowing that you count for nothing, that your life has no value for anyone.”

This appeal was publicly presented to the European Parliament in Brussels by a delegation of 100 young people who then discussed issues with its Members. At the United Nations Geneva headquarters, a delegation of Swiss young people presented the same appeal.

Also in October 2010, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, the UN Secretary-General, met with ATD Fourth World’s Director General and a delegation of 11 young people, including some who have grown up facing poverty and exclusion in Belgium, France, Poland, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. This took place at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France, at the invitation of its then president, Mr. Jerzy Buzek. Mr. Ban congratulated them on their leadership in tackling questions of poverty. He encouraged their expression of solidarity to build a world free from poverty and reminded them of the UN’s shared commitment in this field. The meeting took place within the framework of the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion.

Together for Others, in Africa

Within the framework of the International Year of Youth, in January 2011, 40 young adults from 9 countries gathered in Bangui, in the Central African Republic, to discuss and assess their volunteering activities in their neighbourhoods. Most of the young people who attended live in difficult situations themselves, but through their actions they hope to improve the conditions in their community, in particular for the most vulnerable. Their final statement was a call for young people in Africa and elsewhere to unite, and to build a fairer world, leaving no-one behind.
Promoting access to art and culture

“IT is through learning that we can fight against the isolation of poverty.”

— A young Malian volunteer in Bamako’s “Under the Mango Trees” Street Library

The aim is to offer the best of culture and art to those who have the least access to humanity’s cultural heritage and to respond to people in extreme poverty who deserve and desire the right to learn, to access culture, to express themselves as equals as well as being offered opportunities for training and employment to progress. Art can change the way people see the world, and putting an end to poverty requires the creative expressions of people in extreme poverty and artists.

Street Libraries
The Street Library program has grown out of ATD Fourth World’s conviction that the most effective way to support children to break out of the cycle of poverty is to nurture their desire to learn and to assist in the development of their creativity. The focus is on those children who are the most excluded. ATD Fourth World Street Libraries engage children in disadvantaged communities in learning together with their families and communities through the use of books, art and computers. The Street Libraries take place on the pavement; in a local square; in a field; in the community, and strive to create conditions where children can succeed in learning. They take place throughout the countries where ATD Fourth World works: in an inner-city housing project in New Orleans; in an informal settlement in the heart of Bangkok; or in a field in the mountainous plains of Peru.

Street library teams regularly organise Festivals of Learning. These festivals take place in a festive atmosphere, one of the aims being that all those present should have the opportunity to be creative and feel empowered by their work. Workshops are set up; in slums, open fields, and other open spaces, that aim to create beautiful objects with the children living in the neighbourhood. Volunteers share their expertise in painting, music, dancing, and other creative arts with the children. In Bukavu, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for example, children learnt to make dolls and participated in singing activities.

In 2010 the Roma children of the Saint Denis Street Library, north of Paris, France, made a film about their neighbourhood — an official caravan site — together with students from a business management school. They interviewed the town mayor as well as other people. The film has since been screened several times, in schools and conferences.

Music to bring children together
In Bolivia, close to La Paz, a project was started in 2010, with the aim to bring children from very different backgrounds closer together through music. Musical workshops took place in the French-Bolivian school, as well as in the Urkupiña neighbourhood, with children living in
extreme poverty. Meetings for both groups of children were organised twice in the year, with a final gathering taking place on the 17th October, where the children played in a public concert. The project continued throughout 2011 and is on-going. A number of teenagers from Urkupiña, involved in this project, have started music classes at the music academy. The project has allowed the children involved to get to know and understand one another better within their very different life situations.

**Defending dignity**

ATD Fourth World Philippines’ Walking exhibit was launched on October 16, 2011 at the Rizal Park, Manila after the commemoration of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. The sketches were by artist Robert Alejandro. The people portrayed marched along with their banners. In this collective creation artists, communications experts, and people experiencing extreme poverty in their daily life, volunteered their time and their knowledge to allow a fair voice on poverty to be heard: a voice that defends the dignity of each and every person.
Finances and structure

The summarised financial statement, presented in the tables below, relates to income and expenditure incurred in carrying out the activities of the International Movement ATD Fourth World from its international centre in France.

This particularly relates to advocacy at the international level, the activities of the Permanent Forum "Extreme Poverty in the World", costs related to governance, as well as international projects and a share of the expenses of the Director General's office.

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**Expenditure and income table – Simplified financial report 2011**

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<td>231 481</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus</td>
<td>18 637</td>
<td>88 712</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>225 252</td>
<td>320 193</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total

225 252 320 193
Finances and structure

ATD Fourth World national entities have been created, where possible, in countries where there are people working in accordance with its guiding principles. These are linked as member organisations of the International Movement ATD Fourth World. This ensures public, administrative and financial independence in each country. There are 17 ATD Fourth World national organisations. The Fondation ATD Quart Monde in France provides financial support, when necessary, in the form of periodic grants to these national organisations. The organisation “Terre et Homme de Demain” provides administrative and financial support in every country where ATD Fourth World is present, outside of Europe and North America.

1. In Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Guatemala, Ireland, Luxemburg, Madagascar, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Mauritius, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States.

The total expenditure internationally for these activities amounts to 17 million euros. This consolidated figure has not been externally audited, however a certified financial synthesis is presented. It includes six entities with headquarters in France: the Mouvement ATD Quart Monde (France), the Fondation ATD Quart Monde, the Association Equipes Science et Service Volontariat International, ATD Quart Monde Terre et Homme de Demain, and, since 2008, the International Movement ATD Fourth World and ATD Quart Monde Noisy le Grand. The use of cash resources corresponding with this consolidation is externally audited. This represents 75% of the budget of ATD Fourth World throughout the world by including all of the projects carried out in France, Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Indian Ocean region, as well as the development of the International Centre and the accounts of the International Movement ATD Fourth World. This financial synthesis is certified by an independent auditor. The complete document is available on request.

### Use of cash resources 2011

1. Projects (86%)
2. Fundraising expenses (3%)
3. Operational expenses (7%)
4. Deferred expenses and dedicated funds (4%)

### Cash resources 2011

1. Donations (53%)
2. Other private funding (8%)
3. Public grants (30%)
4. Other resources (9%)
Getting involved

“All Together in Dignity: ATD Fourth World is a non-governmental organisation with no religious or political affiliation which engages with individuals and institutions to find solutions to eradicate extreme poverty. Working in partnership with people in poverty, ATD Fourth World’s human rights-based approach focuses on supporting families and individuals through its grass-roots presence and involvement in disadvantaged communities, in both urban and rural areas, creating public awareness of extreme poverty and influencing policies to address it. At the heart of our work is the daily struggle of people living in extreme poverty for a fairer world and the commitment of more than 100,000 people who are devoting their skills and time to serve the struggle against poverty. Come and join us!

Make a donation:
To buy books for street libraries in disadvantaged neighbourhoods, for a programme to improve child health in Haiti, or to support the commitment of full-time volunteers around the world. Those who choose to make a monthly pledge, even of a very small amount, help our projects to last over the long-term and to be planned based on the realities and hopes of families in difficult circumstances, rather than on the changing priorities of funders.

Raise funds:
In the Philippines, a group is producing and selling art work to finance projects with disadvantaged families.
In the United Kingdom, friends recently raised nearly US$6 000 to support respite breaks in Sussex for disadvantaged families.
In Poland, the renowned pianist Miguel Angel Estrella gave a recital which raised US$6 000 for Street Libraries and other activities, in Poland and Haiti.

The Forum on Overcoming Extreme Poverty:
The Forum on Overcoming Extreme Poverty is a network of committed people who invite others to join a worldwide movement to overcome extreme poverty, to rebuild communities from and with people living in extreme poverty. The aim of the Forum is to enable people to share their

“Poverty is not inevitable, it is the work of people, and only people can destroy it.”
– Joseph Wresinski, founder of ATD Fourth World
experiences. They also give us an appointment, every 17th October, to publicly show those everyday actions for dignity.

**Participate as a part-time volunteer:**
In a Street Library, a Festival of Learning, a People’s University, translating, administrative tasks... There are as many different ways to get involved as there are people, so get in touch with us to see how your interests and talents might be valued by others.

**Full-time volunteering:**
ATD Fourth World Volunteer Corps members work full-time alongside families living in extreme poverty and are involved in projects in their country and overseas, taking the time necessary to enable deep and long-lasting positive change. Members of the Volunteer Corps agree to live on the same basic stipend and make themselves available to go where their expertise and skills are most needed.
To learn more about the difference you can make by becoming a full-time volunteer visit our website and contact us.

“A lot of people have no idea what kind of life people in extreme poverty lead. Meeting and discussing with them changes your view of things.”
– a Volunteer from Honduras, in France.

“The difficulties of remoteness and the cultural differences I lived through almost made me go home, but the families living in extreme poverty brought me the strength to keep going.”
– A Guatemalan Volunteer who has worked in the Central African Republic and in Peru.

To find out more about how your involvement can make a lasting difference to the fight against poverty, and to discover our activities and projects around the world, visit [www.atd-fourthworld.org](http://www.atd-fourthworld.org) or write to us at:

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