

JOIN US ON MARCH 14!

Inspire better stewardship of our rivers by taking bold action. Every year on at this time, people around the world lift their voices to celebrate victories such as dam removal and river restoration; to demand improvements in policies and practices of decision makers; and to teach others about issues threatening rivers and communities. Join us for the International Day of Action. The rivers cannot speak for themselves.

*Before they dam our lives,
before they dam our joy,
before they limit the height of happiness
to which we could aspire;
it would be good to tear down a few walls
and come together on the international day of
action against dams and for water and life.*

*Antes que nos represen la vida,
que nos pongan un dique a la alegría,
que nos midan la cota de felicidad a la que
podemos aspirar;
sería bueno aprovechar para romper
uno que otro muro
y encontrarnos en el día mundial de
acción contra las represas por el agua y la vida.*

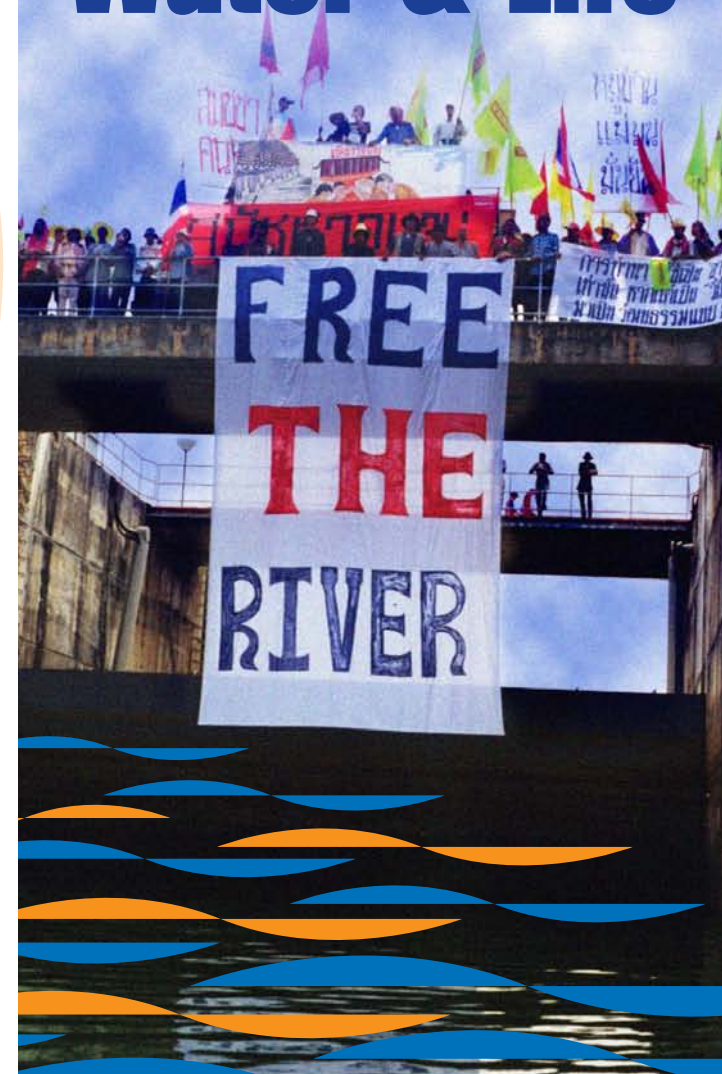
—Fundación Colombia Multicolor, Colombia, 1999

"What should move us to action is human dignity: the inalienable dignity of the oppressed, but also the dignity of each of us. We lose dignity if we tolerate the intolerable."

—Dominique de Menil
Human Rights Activist



Take Action for Rivers, Water & Life



Demonstrate! Educate! Celebrate!

What You Can Do

- March and/or protest to publicize your demands; consider bold signs, clothing, puppets, anything that increases your visibility
- Collaborate with other groups; use this as an opportunity to forge new relationships
- Paddle down a river
- Gather stories, quotes, photos of the river to display and distribute
- Hold a conference or symposium about the issues and opportunities facing your local river
- Deliver a letter to a decision maker
- Use theatre and music to connect the community to your message
- Hold a religious ceremony at the river
- Don't forget the children; have them create river art, poetry and music
- Give the media advance notice, invite journalists and photographers to your event, remind them that dozens of actions are happening simultaneously around the world



History of the Day of Action

The International Day of Action Against Dams: For Rivers, Water, and Life was inspired and mandated by the participants of the March 1997 First International Meeting of People Affected by Dams in Curitiba, Brazil. Representatives from twenty countries including Taiwan, Brazil, Chile, Lesotho, Argentina, Thailand, Russia, France, Switzerland, and the United States decided that the International Day of Action would take place on March 14, Brazil's Day of Action Against Large Dams.

International Rivers Network serves as coordinator of this annual event. Our aim is to raise our voices in unison against destructive water development projects, reclaim the health of our watersheds, and demand the equitable and sustainable management of our rivers. By acting together, we demonstrate that these issues are not merely local, but global in scope.



"Rivers are our mother, our lives and our family. We will never accept the destruction of our family."

—Frente Unido en Defensa de la Ecología, Panama, 2005

Working with IRN

What we can provide for you:

- Background materials on the Day of Action
- Information on the social and environmental impacts of large dams
- Contacts with other participants
- Increased visibility for your events and campaigns

What you can provide for us:

- Details about your event(s) as they develop
- Contact information for the event organizer
- Documents, press releases, and especially photos, audio and video from your event(s)

WATER FOR LIFE, NOT FOR DEATH!

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"I invite anyone, young and old, men and women, to come along with us on this year's journey. Anyone who is interested in supporting our cause is invited to come along."

—Innu Nation, Canada, 2000