



ANNUAL REPORT 2003



We, more than 300 people from 62 countries throughout the world, peoples affected by dams, fighters against destructive dams, and activists for sustainable and equitable water and energy management, have met in Rasi Salai, Thailand. We have met on land that is being restored to life after being flooded by a dam. The gates of the dam are now open, the river flows, the crops have ripened, the fish are starting to return, and community life is becoming vibrant once more. The dam-affected people of Thailand offer to us and to all peoples an example of determination and struggle to preserve lives, rivers, territories, culture, and identities.

These were the opening words of the *Rasi Salai Declaration* agreed to at Rivers for Life: the Second International Meeting of Dam-Affected People and their Allies, organized by International Rivers Network in 2003. Held in rural Thailand, the five-day conference was a resounding success, with activists and dam-affected people from all over the world exchanging strategies, sharing experiences, and gaining strength and inspiration from one other.

Our Thai hosts built a small village for the conference with meeting halls and dormitories made from bamboo, mud bricks, eucalyptus trees, and other local materials. The village was constructed by hand with volunteer labor from the local community that has been impacted by the Rasi Salai Dam. As a result of the dam, more than 15,000 people lost farmland, most without compensation. The dam blocked fish migration and destroyed a freshwater swamp forest that provided food and traditional medicine.

In 2000, the villagers of Rasi Salai succeeded in their campaign to open the gates of the dam. The Rivers for Life meeting site was located on a floodplain of the Mun River previously submerged by the reservoir. Many of the structures that were built for Rivers for Life will be used as a School of the River where the public can learn about the importance of healthy rivers.

The Rasi Salai struggle exemplifies the community-based campaigns that IRN supports. Our vision is a world in which Schools of the River are commonplace. "With unity and insistence, successes like in Rasi Salai can be achieved all over the world," declared Phrajit Silarak of Thailand's Assembly of the Poor. We agree.

An Indian participant was asked how he would know if the meeting was a success. He responded, "My hope is simply to put fire in the bellies, steel in the backbones and hope in the hearts of people fighting large dams around the world." We believe that this hope was realized during those five days in Thailand. The Rivers for Life meeting showcased the energy and commitment that exists within the movement for healthy rivers and human rights. Thank you for being a part of such important work.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Juliette Majot'.

Juliette Majot
Executive Director

Financial Statements 2003

Statement of Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2003 with Comparative Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2002

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	2003 Total	2002 Restated Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUE				
Grants	\$173,336	\$983,688	\$1,157,024	\$815,560
Contributions	143,640	306	143,946	149,461
In-kind contributions	106,587	0	106,587	8,000
Sales of publications	1,451	0	1,451	4,035
Contract revenue and service fees	15,031	0	15,031	3,710
Contributions and revenues from fundraising event	48,520	0	48,520	60,470
Direct fundraising event expenses	(22,396)		(22,396)	(16,987)
Interest	1,487	0	1,487	8,269
Net gain (loss) from investments	355	0	355	(70)
Gain (loss) from disposal of fixed assets	(2,993)	0	(2,993)	0
Other income	400	0	400	1,903
Net assets released from restrictions				
Purpose accomplished	1,054,924	(1,054,924)	0	0
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	1,520,342	(70,930)	1,449,412	1,034,351
EXPENSES				
Program Activities				
Campaigns	1,148,707	0	1,148,707	1,197,706
Information and Media	122,111	0	122,111	115,485
Supporting Activities				
Administration	127,768	0	127,768	119,274
Fundraising	119,694	0	119,694	145,148
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,518,280	0	1,518,280	1,577,613
Change in net assets	2,062	(70,930)	(68,868)	(543,262)
Net assets at beginning of year	121,588	629,553	751,141	1,294,403
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$123,650	\$558,623	\$682,273	\$751,141

2003 Staff and Board

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Katie Traverso

Selma Barros de Oliveira

Wil Dvorak

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2003 with Comparative Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2002

	2003	2002
ASSETS		
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$282,040	\$419,150
Grants receivable	412,500	250,000
Other receivables	829	1,901
Inventory	20,357	23,853
Prepaid expenses	5,791	3,909
Total Current Assets	721,517	698,813
Property and equipment	42,957	38,357
Grants receivable	0	112,500
Deposits	2,653	2,653
TOTAL ASSETS	\$767,127	\$852,323
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable, including current portion of leases payable	\$13,841	\$19,508
Grants payable	20,000	40,000
Accrued personnel liability	28,378	34,351
Total Current Liabilities	62,219	93,859
Lease payable	22,635	7,323
TOTAL LIABILITIES	84,854	101,182
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	123,650	121,588
Temporarily restricted	558,623	629,553
TOTAL NET ASSETS	682,273	751,141
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$767,127	\$852,323

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IRN staff at the Ubon, Thailand airport as they leave the Rivers for Life meeting, December 2005

IRN would like to thank all who supported our work in 2003, and especially the following:

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