The Community Resource Exchange is a system to facilitate collaborations and co-develop strategies with and among communities defending their rights in the context of international investments and development projects. Around 400 people from grassroots groups, indigenous peoples organizations, national, regional and international organizations provided feedback through online surveys and consultations to co-create the system. We are starting a 3-year pilot to put some of these learnings into action.

The Community Resource Exchange works at the direction of communities and their partners, to coordinate:

- Linkages with potential allies and collaborators
- Exchange of information and resources
- Cross-learning among communities leading similar struggles
- Access to small grants, including through regular calls
- Sustained collaborations

A secure database will house a roster of collaborators that can provide support at the local, national and international level. The CRE secretariat will monitor and track collaborations in order to promote ongoing learning.

KEY STRATEGY AREAS

- Advocacy with decision-makers
- Media and campaigning
- Community organizing
- Financial research & power mapping
- Scientific and technical analysis of impacts
- Security support for human rights defenders
- Courts and complaints to seek remedy
Around the world, communities are resisting harmful development projects by confronting powerful actors with vast political influence and seemingly unlimited resources.

To advance their collective power, communities often want to:

- Seek more information about the projects that might harm or are harming them
- Explore different strategies of resistance available
- Look for resources, including scientific and technical knowledge to complement the ones they have
- Connect with trusted allies and better understand who can do what
- Exchange experiences and learnings with other communities going through similar struggles

The Community Resource Exchange seeks to collaborate with communities in their efforts to build collective power in defending rights by making linkages and fostering collaborations. It recognizes the respective expertise, capacities, and skills of the different groups collectively involved in the Community Resource Exchange, which can be a formidable tool for communities waging struggles against harmful investment and development activities.

**THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE EXCHANGE IS**

1. **COLLECTIVELY**
   Collectively designed and led by collaborators around the world, who are at the heart of the system: communities, civil society organisations, Indigenous Peoples, social movements, networks, academics.

2. **HOSTED**
   Hosted by the Coalition for Human Rights in Development: a global network of social movements, civil society organizations, and grassroots groups.

3. **COORDINATED**
   Coordinated by 1 international coordinator + 3 regional facilitators (Asia, Africa, Latin America) hosted in organizations working closely with communities.

4. **GUIDED**
   Guided, monitored and evaluated by a 10-member Advisory Committee, through continuous consultations with collaborators, especially communities. Collaborations supported by regional community engagement grant working groups.