Dear Friends,

Groundswell International is celebrating 10 years of successful work, strengthening communities to build healthy farming and food systems from the ground up. We are looking to the future to build upon what is working best, adjust what can be improved, and grow our impact. Even as we celebrate the past and look forward, we are all now confronted with the unprecedented impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This crisis reminds us that we are one human family and community. We can build on the best that humanity has to offer to confront challenges locally and globally, and to generate real solutions. It also reminds us of the urgent need to act boldly to create farming and food systems that are regenerative and healthy for people and the planet.

The communities that Groundswell works with around the world have taught us much. They are, unfortunately, ‘experts’ in living through crisis. We have seen it over and over again, when mountainside farms in Central America are denuded of their trees and soil; when conventional farming practices in West Africa undermine the land’s potential to grow food; and when earthquakes, droughts and climate change devastate Haiti, Nepal and other countries where we work. Then people pull together in solidarity, rethink what they are doing, solve problems, and regenerate their land, lives and communities. This is the best of humanity and it inspires us to redouble our efforts.

Groundswell is a network of local partner organizations, which in turn strengthen wider networks of community-led action. This allows us to adapt and respond to the immediate crisis, while continuing to scale lasting alternatives from the ground up. We look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead to make this vision a reality.

Sincerely,

Steve Brescia
Five years ago, Groundswell’s local partner Association Nourrir Sans Détruire worked with women in the village of Tigba, Burkina Faso, to establish a savings and credit group. In 2018, 48 women from this group pooled their resources to purchase vegetable seeds to plant a large community garden. Using agroecological farming methods and water from a hand-dug well, women in Tigba have extended crop production into the dry season, allowing them to provide nutritious food for their families all year long. Women's solidarity groups and vegetable gardens are a critical element in improving food security and resilience in ecologically fragile regions like the West African Sahel.
1 global network

of 10 local partners

collaborating in 10 countries

working together for 10 years

with over 50,000 farmers each year to apply agroecology

to regenerate over 150,000 acres of degraded farmland

and improve the lives of 500,000 people...
In 2019, Yesenia Hernández and four other women from the Honduran village of San Antonio de las Guarumas created a small business that makes plantain chips. Today, they sell chips to five nearby villages, earning extra income to buy healthy food for their families and to pay for other priorities, such as school fees for their children.

We support partners and communities to rebuild local food systems in Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, and Mexico.
Groundswell International is a global network of farmers and local organizations that support them. Together, we strengthen communities to build healthy farming and food systems from the ground up by:

- Working with farmer leaders to test and adopt agroecological methods and spread them to more people through farmer-to-farmer training, allowing these farmers to produce more healthy food and restore hundreds of thousands of acres of degraded land.

- Empowering women farmers to participate in savings and credit groups, improve ecological production, gain access to productive assets, and diversify their livelihoods, which in turn improves their families’ food security, incomes and resilience.
Building local markets and increasing farmers’ incomes through savings and credit groups and community-based agricultural enterprises that add value to locally grown crops.

Nourishing vulnerable families by explicitly integrating gender equity and nutrition into agricultural programs. Our holistic approach links agroecological farming to family nutrition.

Creating enabling local policies and producing influential case studies, policy briefs, and reports to facilitate sharing across our networks and with other stakeholders to expedite the necessary transition to agroecology.
Ténin Damarius Sanou, a farmer leader from the village of Bokuy-Mankoina in central Mali, used agroecological techniques to regenerate native trees on her five-acre peanut field, which in turn has dramatically improved soil fertility and increased productivity. Ténin has also embraced agroecology to improve her family’s nutrition. She cultivates baobab and moringa shrubs on her farm year-round and grows vegetables with her women’s savings and credit group during the dry season. With the $40 a week she earns from selling surplus produce, Ténin pays school fees for her three children and supports her disabled husband. In West Africa, Groundswell has facilitated the spread of effective agroecological approaches, farmer-to-farmer, to tens of thousands of farmers like Ténin.
Since 2009, Groundswell International has invested over $15 million in strengthening rural communities in 10 countries to build healthy farming and food systems from the ground up.

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<th>Operating Expenditures 2019</th>
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<td><strong>Total Expenditures</strong></td>
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### ASSETS

**Current Assets**
- Cash and Equivalents $646,812
- Grants Receivable 297,463
- Contributions Receivable 26,082
- Prepaid Expenses 9,179
- Deposits 1,725

**Total Current Assets** $981,261

**Long-Term Assets**
- Investments 2,786
- Endowment 25,350
- Property and Equipment, Net 2,786

**Total Long-Term Assets** $28,136

**Total Assets** $1,009,397

### LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

**Current Liabilities**
- Accounts Payable $23,079
- Partner Grants Payable 85,655
- Accrued Vacation 15,118

**Total Current Liabilities** $123,852

**Net Assets**
- Unrestricted-Undesignated $23,954
- Board Designated Reserve 40,000
- Board Designated Endowment 24,750

**Total Unrestricted** $88,704

- Temporarily Restricted $796,241
- Permanently Restricted 600

**Total Net Assets** $885,545

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets** $1,009,397

FY 2019 Audit and 990 available on our website. Full financials available upon request.

[www.groundswellinternational.org](http://www.groundswellinternational.org)
Staff

Steve Brescia, Executive Director
Christopher Sacco, Deputy Director
Rhonda Devan, Director of Finance and Administration
Tsuamba Bourgou, Regional Coordinator for West Africa
Edwin Escoto, Regional Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean
Peter Gubbels, Director of Action Learning and Advocacy for West Africa
Anna Pollock, Development Manager
Gaylord Chambers, Operations Consultant

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Tim LaSalle, Board Member
Thank you for joining Groundswell International in empowering family farmers to create real and lasting solutions from the ground up.

There are many ways you can get involved.

Spread the Word
Wish more people knew about Groundswell? Share the latest updates with your friends on social media.

Cultivate the Movement
Interested in hosting an event to benefit Groundswell? Contact us to receive tools for a successful fundraiser.

Grow Real Solutions
We are grateful for all donations! Become a monthly donor to sustain and grow Groundswell’s impact.

Leave Your Legacy
Want to make a legacy gift that will continue to bear fruit for years to come? Please reach out to learn more.

Call 202.832.9352 or contact us at support@groundswellinternational.org.

Stay up to date with the latest from Groundswell International.
Sign up for our e-newsletter at www.groundswellinternational.org/enews.