



For Immediate Release

Contact: 303-945-1329, seeds@ciclovida.org

www.Ciclovida.org

Ciclovida calls for a counter conference and coordinated action in resistance to the 2012 International BIOTech Conference in Boston

BOSTON, MA—Ciclovida, Occupy Monsanto, Occupy Boston, farmers and environmental activists have banded together in solidarity against the June 18-21, 2012 International BIOTech Conference at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, Boston, MA.

The international activist group Ciclovida plans to speak out against this gathering of some of the biggest behemoths in industrial agriculture and the big pharma industry through a **counter conference** to discuss *people over corporate solutions* (June 20th) and a **coordinated direct action** (June 21st) to spread public awareness about the devastating effects of GMOs on our food systems and livelihoods.

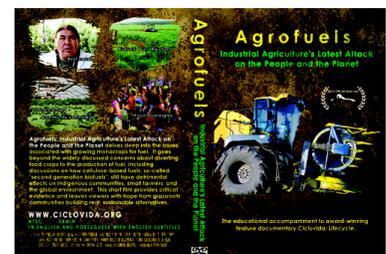
Ciclovida has spearheaded the counter conference “Seeds of Resistance: An Alternative Gathering for Environmental Justice and Movement Building” (**5:30 -9 p.m., Wednesday, June 20th at Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain**) to further strengthen movements and relationships among environmental and food justice groups fighting to dismantle the agenda and actions of the large companies at the BIOTech Conference.

Those in attendance at the “Seeds of Resistance” counter conference will then gear up for the public resistance action the following morning at **11 a.m. Thursday, June 21st in Dewey Square in Downtown Boston**. The action is a form of solidarity and means of raising awareness concerning the displacement of farmers and communities, as well as food contamination brought about by Monsanto and other GMO companies.

The counter conference and action also seek to bring further awareness to resistance happening against Boston University and the National Institutes of Health’s plans to open the highly opposed Level-4 Biolab in the non-consenting community of Roxbury/South End.

In addition to a discussion of people’s alternative solutions to industrial agriculture, the counter conference is set to include planning for a strategic and creative direct action, sharing natural and heirloom seeds, as well as a report back from a January *encontro* in Northeastern Brazil, and a premiere of Ciclovida’s newest short film *Agrofuels: Industrial Agriculture’s Latest Attack on the People and the Planet*.

This short film delves into depth about the issues of growing monocrops for fuel. Beyond widely discussed concerns about diverting food crops to the production of fuel, so-called "second generation agrofuels" - or cellulose-based fuels – also have detrimental effects on indigenous communities, small farmers and the environment. This short provides critical evidence and leaves viewers with hope from grassroots communities building real alternatives.



Interviews are available with organizers and filmmakers.

For more information contact: 303-945-1329, seeds@ciclovida.org, www.Ciclovida.org