

April 2009

# ERJ UPDATE

EDMUND RICE JUSTICE AOTEAROA NEWSLETTER

[www.erjustice.org.nz](http://www.erjustice.org.nz)



*Jakub Kalinowski working in Arusha, Tanzania*

## KIWI VOLUNTEERS IN TIMOR & TANZANIA

Earlier this year Jakub Kalinowski and Michael Davidson left for Tanzania and Timor Leste to undertake volunteer placements. Jakub is in Tanzania for three months as a teacher at Sinon School and Michael is working as an English teacher at Saloi Craic School and Samalete School. **They have shared their unique and challenging experiences with insights into their first weeks.** If you would like to read their reflections or are interested in volunteering in the future [click here](#)



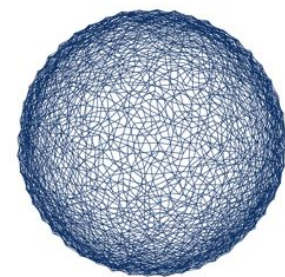
## G20: POVERTY AND RECESSION

A meeting of the world's 20 most powerful nations happened earlier this month in London. With the rapid shrinking of many major economies, world leaders decided on a US\$1.1 trillion package of stimulation to save the world's economies. **But what does this deal and the recession mean for the 1.4 billion people worldwide living on less than \$1.25 per day?** [Check out the issue wrap up online now.](#)



# EARTH HOUR BUILDS TO COPENHAGEN

Last month many Kiwis turned off their lights for Earth Hour, a global movement to send a clear message for action on climate change. A 3.5% reduction in power usage was recorded across New Zealand indicating **more and more Kiwis want to see decisive action from our Government**. Earth Hour builds to a UN Convention on climate change in Copenhagen during December. This will set the pathway for post-Kyoto climate action. [Make your voice heard here!](#)



COP15  
COPENHAGEN

# SPOTLIGHT: MAKING CHANGE HAPPEN

Many of us struggle with how to **make change happen for the world's poor with something more meaningful than mere charity**. This month's spotlight is on Kiva.org which links lenders to developing communities that find it difficult to get small loans (as little as \$100) for business development. By making small loans (such as \$25) your money is loaned and then paid back over an agreed time. A cool way for you or your workplace to make a difference. [Check it out here.](#)



# COMMUNITY GATHERING

On the 9th of May we are holding a community gathering looking at how **Governments use their promotion of free markets to dominate nations** in a practice that could only be labelled as modern day colonialism. We will be looking at a John Pilger documentary focussing on South American trade and politics, in particular the reign of Hugo Chavez, often referred to in the media as an evil dictator. For more details on the gathering [check out the website here.](#)



# THANKS

Thanks for checking out the second newsletter. There is a growing database of resources and information on our website [www.erjustice.org.nz](http://www.erjustice.org.nz). If you are keen to get involved in the actions and activities of ERJ then have a look at the website. We are particularly interested in **setting up an advocacy group** that meet monthly to create and join campaigns, [click here if that sounds of interest to you.](#)

