



For Immediate Release
Contact: Mary Cardona-Foster
mary_cardona-foster@wgbh.org
617-300-3732

Celebrate The Power of Community on WORLD Channel in April

3 New Documentaries Highlight Community Impact in April

March 11, 2019 – From environmental policy to the opioid crisis, the end of apartheid and the growing poaching problem in Africa, WORLD Channel focuses on the power of community impact this April with the premiere of three documentaries: *Doc World: Elephant Path – Njaia Njoku*, *Doc World: A Growing Thing*, and *Local USA: The Seven Generation River*.

Showcasing the impact a community can have on environmental issues, *Doc World: Elephant Path – Njaia Njoku* and *Local USA: The Seven Generation River* are set to premiere around Earth Day. *Doc World: Elephant Path – Njaia Njoku*, premiering April 21st at 10pm ET, follows elephant behavioral biologist Andrea Turkalo and indigenous tracker Sessely Bernard as they study elephants and the growing poaching activity fueled by the ivory black market. *Local USA: The Seven Generation River*, premiering April 22nd at 9pm ET, follows the journey of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians as they work to restore a traditional way of life as the environment around them is changing.

Doc World: A Growing Thing, premiering April 28th at 10pm ET, is a powerful documentary about a community of women in South Africa who have joined together to empower one another. The women in the Kopanang community work to create beautiful crafts to sell in order to support their families, while supporting one another spiritually and emotionally.

WORLD Channel continues the conversation this April around impact on the global community with documentaries about the end of the apartheid in South Africa, the opioid crises in the United States and autism, featuring films like *America ReFramed: Deej*, produced by DJ Savarese, who has autism, and his dream to attend college. These stories are told through the lens of individuals and their communities that have had first-hand experience with these diverse and important aspects of life.

“By profiling diverse communities and the similarity in values among us all, WORLD Channel hopes to expand our cultural awareness” said WORLD Channel Executive Producer Chris Hastings. “These films serve as reminders that we face common struggles in our global community, and that together, we can truly make a positive impact on our world.”



Additional WORLD Channel featured films in April will include *America ReFramed: Death of a Child*, *Local USA: Opioids from Inside*, and *Colorado Experience: Ghost Towns*. For a complete list of films broadcasting in April that are about the power of community, click [here](#).

Follow WORLD Channel on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for updates on all series/films coming up. For a complete list of original WORLD Channel programming, visit www.WORLDchannel.org/.

About LOCAL, USA

Local, USA is a weekly new magazine airing Mondays at 9pm ET that features fascinating stories of diverse people, culled from public television stations and independent producers, and curated around a single theme for each program. These “untold” local stories are shared with WORLD’s national audience.

About DocWorld

Doc World airs Sundays at 10pm ET on WORLD Channel and is available to stream on worldchannel.org and all station-branded PBS platforms including PBS.org, and on PBS apps for iOS, Android, Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV and Chromecast. *Doc World* is produced and curated by WORLD Channel. For more information or to view a trailer, visit worldchannel.org

About WORLD Channel

WORLD Channel tells stories that humanize complex issues. WORLD shares the best of public media in news, documentaries, and fact-based informational programming that helps us understand conflicts, movements and cultures that may be distinct from our own. WORLD's original content offers a national platform to makers examining issues too often ignored by mainstream media. These emerging and master filmmakers spotlight a diversity of voices, telling stories not heard elsewhere. WORLD has won a Peabody Award, an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award and numerous national honors—including an RTNDA Kaleidoscope Award, a Media for a Just Society Award, two Lesbian & Gay Journalist Awards, a Gracie, and an Asian American Journalists Award. Carried by 159 partner stations in markets representing 66% of US TV households, WORLD can also be experienced via WORLDChannel.org and social media platforms.

WORLD is operated by WGBH/Boston, in partnership with WNET/New York and American Public Television in association with PBS and National Educational Telecommunications Association. Funding for the WORLD Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Wyncote Foundation, The Kendeda Fund, the National Endowment for the Arts and WORLD Channel public media stations. For more information about The WORLD Channel, [visit www.worldchannel.org](http://www.worldchannel.org)

New Films – Full Descriptions

Doc World: Elephant Path – Njaia Njoku (April 21, 10pm ET on WORLD Channel)

The survival of the last wild herd of forest elephants in the Central African Republic is threatened by civil war and a poaching crisis driven by the global demand for ivory. *Elephant Path - Njaia Njoku* profiles four passionate guardians of the herd who are bonded by their commitment to these majestic creatures; Sessely Bernard, a tracker from the local Bayaka tribe, Andrea Turkalo, an American field biologist, Zephirine Mbele an eco-guard hired to fight off poachers and Nir Kalron, an Israeli who uses his military background to train the eco-guards when things really get rough. An indelible tale of devotion set against the luminous beauty of the “Village of Elephants” in the heart of the Central African Rainforest.

Doc World: A Growing Thing (April 28, 10pm ET on WORLD Channel)

A Growing Thing is about South African women who—living in abject poverty amidst the ravages of AIDS—have joined in an empowerment community called Kopanang. In Kopanang, the women have learned to make beautiful crafts to sell, in order to feed their families. The women support one another spiritually and emotionally. *A Growing Thing* is the inspiring story of one African woman trying to move from despair to hope.

Local USA: The Seven Generation River (April 22, 9pm ET on WORLD Channel)

In a time when America’s natural resources are caught in the crossfire of deep divisions between Americans, the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi Indians from the southwest corner of the Great Lakes might hold the key to healing our divisions, healing nature and healing ourselves. For the Pokagon, water is sacred. They are intimately tied to the lakes, rivers and streams that run through tribal lands. When the Federal government recognized the Pokagon as a sovereign tribal nation, the tribe launched a series of cultural preservation and environmental restoration efforts. The Pokagon are leading a major cultural preservation and environmental restoration effort in order to pave the way for the next seven generations.