



Amazon In Focus

FALL 2014



+ ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013



AMAZON WATCH

OUR MISSION & VISION

Our Mission

Amazon Watch is a nonprofit organization founded in 1996 to protect the rainforest and advance the rights of indigenous peoples in the Amazon Basin. We partner with indigenous and environmental organizations in campaigns for human rights, corporate accountability and the preservation of the Amazon's ecological systems.

Our Vision

We envision a world that honors and values cultural and biological diversity and the critical contribution of tropical rainforests to our planet's life support system. We believe that indigenous self-determination is paramount, and see that indigenous knowledge, cultures and traditional practices contribute greatly to sustainable and equitable stewardship of the Earth. We strive for a world in which governments, corporations and civil society respect the collective rights of indigenous peoples to free, prior and informed consent over any activity affecting their territories and resources. We commit, in the spirit of partnership and mutual respect, to support our indigenous allies in their efforts to protect life, land, and culture in accordance with their aspirations and needs.

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends of the Amazon:

As I write this, Amazon Watch is converging in New York City with a delegation of courageous indigenous leaders and Earth defenders. We join the largest climate march in history to mark the turning point for bold action toward averting catastrophic climate change on behalf of future generations and all living beings.

This climate crisis requires a complete shift not only away from a fossil fuel economy, but also in the way we see and relate to nature. Indigenous peoples of the forests have long called for a shift in our collective consciousness, a different worldview that celebrates our interdependence on a living, thriving earth.

The Kichwa people call on our “modern” world to consider their traditional philosophy of *Buen Vivir* (“Good Living”)—a perspective which redefines “progress” in important ways: choosing our responsibility to the seventh generation over quarterly earnings; regeneration over economic growth; and the pursuit of wellbeing and harmony over wealth and financial success.

The shift must start here and now. Humanity’s survival will depend on not burning two-thirds of our known global fossil fuel reserves while protecting vital biomes. So it makes no sense to be looking for more oil that our climate cannot afford to burn in highly biodiverse places like the Amazon rainforest—a majestic biome that serves as the engine of the planet’s weather system. This is why together with our indigenous partners, we’ve launched an international call to keep the oil in the ground in the Amazon.

We stand at a critical moment in history. Amazon Watch, the organization I am proud to have founded 18 years ago, is facing this challenge with great resolve and creativity. And as I begin to transition from Executive Director to President of the Board this January, I am excited to help usher in a new chapter in advancing our mission together with our extraordinary staff, Board, partners in the Amazon and each of you, our supporters.

We are a powerful community and without you and your support, none of our work would be possible. I invite you to join us today, to commit to invest in our shared future, and the critical work of Amazon Watch. I thank all of you long-standing friends and supporters for continuing to rise with us and with the local people who call the rainforest home at this great turning point for the Amazon and for all of humanity.

For the Earth and Future Generations,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Atossa Soltani'. The signature is stylized and fluid.

Atossa Soltani
Founder/Executive Director



Photo: Caroline Bennett/Amazon Watch

OUR STRATEGIES

Amazon Watch works directly with indigenous communities and at the regional and international levels to protect ecologically and culturally sensitive ecosystems in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, where millions of acres of rainforest and tropical wetlands are under threat from oil and gas development, mining, mega-dams, roads, big agriculture and other unsustainable infrastructure projects.

Amazon Watch's theory of change centers on advancing indigenous rights to their ancestral territories and protecting these territories. Recent studies confirm that community-based protected areas are more effective in conserving biodiversity and forest cover than traditional conservation strategies such as creating national parks. Within this context, we work on five cross-cutting initiatives—corporate accountability, indigenous rights, clean energy solutions, international finance and development, and climate change—to target systemic causes of deforestation in the Amazon.



Photo: Caroline Bennett/Amazon Watch

In partnership with indigenous peoples, non-governmental organizations, concerned shareholders and global citizens, we utilize the following strategies:

Campaign to persuade decision makers in corporations, international financial institutions and national governments to honor the rights of indigenous peoples to self-determination and free, prior and informed consent over “development” decisions in their territories and to fund full cleanup of areas devastated by past and present oil drilling. We use media exposure, legal action and shareholder campaigns to demand corporate social and environmental justice and accountability.

Strengthen capacity of indigenous organizations in the Amazon to defend their rights in local, national, and international fora. Through our small grants program, legal advocacy, media, technology training and the donation of equipment, we help our indigenous partners assert their collective and territorial rights and advance an alternative vision for conservation-based development of their territories.

Seek permanent protection of threatened areas and vulnerable indigenous populations in the Amazon rainforest. In partnership with civil society in South America, we promote new, sustainable alternatives to resource extraction-based

economic development. At the same time we monitor and publicize new threats in pristine or vulnerable Amazon frontiers and seek an end to public financing for destructive projects.

Educate corporate executives, shareholders, public officials and the general public using media coverage, websites, publications, storytelling and dialogue. We strive to foster widespread understanding of the intrinsic value of indigenous peoples stewardship and the global significance of the Amazon rainforest both as a storehouse for cultural and biological diversity and for the critical role rainforests play in regulating our climate. By building awareness and promoting green economic alternatives to the current export-oriented fossil fuel based development model, we are helping to bring about a paradigm shift within key institutions and society.

Leverage cutting-edge online organizing and social media tools to mobilize support for our indigenous partners. Amazon Watch’s network of online constituents has grown substantially over the past several years and includes nearly 200,000 email subscribers, 98,000 Facebook fans, and 32,000 Twitter followers. More than 800,000 actions have been taken on our websites since 2010. We engage these constituents through frequent bulletins, targeted email updates and action alerts.



Photo: courtesy of On the spot



Photo: Caroline Bennett/Amazon Watch

STRATEGIC MILESTONES

PROTECTING THE AMAZON & ADVANCING INDIGENOUS RIGHTS

Deterred or delayed industrial mega-projects in pristine areas while working towards long-term protections

- **Thwarted 11th Round oil auction:** Ecuador's latest oil round was a major failure. After being besieged by protests in Quito, Paris, Houston, and Calgary, only three bids were received on thirteen proposed blocks. Five of the initially included 21 blocks were excluded from the round due to ongoing resistance of some of our long-term partners—the Achuar, Shuar and Kichwa of Sarayaku. Over 100 Amazonian women from these and other nationalities marched over 300 miles to Quito to tell the government that their land was not for sale. More than one million people signed a petition calling for the government to defend the Kichwa community of Sani Isla and cancel the 11th oil round.
- **Deactivated Magallanes gas project:** In early 2014, Colombian state oil company Ecopetrol announced a new gas project “Magallanes” just outside the border of the U'wa reserve and within their ancestral territory. Concurrently, there was a series of guerrilla bombings on the Caño Limón – Coveñas oil pipeline, which runs through the northern portion of the reserve. In response, Amazon Watch coordinated an advocacy trip to Washington, D.C. and New York City for U'wa lawyer Aura Tegría, galvanizing an NGO solidarity letter with signatures from 27 organizations. Weeks later, Ecopetrol announced that it would deactivate the Magallanes exploration well.
- **Formed Yasunidos:** After Ecuador's President Correa pulled the plug on the Yasuni-ITT initiative that would have permanently kept in the ground crude from the ITT fields in exchange for international financial compensation, civil society organized. The result was the formation of *Yasunidos* (Spanish for “United for Yasuni”) a collective of environmentalists, artists, activists and indigenous leaders. *Yasunidos* collected nearly 800,00 signatures—some 7% of Ecuadorian voters—in attempt to push a national referendum on the government's drilling plans in Yasuni National Park.
- **Pressured Ivanhoe to leave Ecuador:** On August 26, 2014, Ivanhoe Energy announced plans to leave Ecuador, abandoning its planned project in Block 20, the traditional and titled territory of the Kichwa of Rukullacta. Amazon Watch has worked closely with Rukullacta to support community assemblies, workshops, legal actions and advocacy.
- **Exposed China in Ecuador:** Beijing has lent Ecuador nearly \$11 billion and has promised \$7 billion more in financing, and in exchange China purchased nearly 90% of Ecuador's available oil in 2013. We have continued to convene a working group with allied NGOs and the world's top Sino-Latin America experts, recently published a report about China's growing role in the Amazon, and helped investigative journalists to publish hard-hitting pieces on the topic.
- **Delayed the Belo Monte dam:** While Belo Monte's construction continues (50% completed), a series of legal rulings, protests and occupation activities have repeatedly paralyzed the project since 2011. Construction consortium *Norte Energia* reluctantly admitted in mid-2014 that it is one year behind schedule, threatening major cost overruns and fines. These delays represent a temporary victory that validate our efforts to expose the Brazilian government's lack of respect for the environment and human rights violated by the construction of the mega-dam.



Photo: Amazon Watch

Advanced Indigenous Rights to Territories and to Prior Consent

- **Provided advocacy support to indigenous movement in Peru:** AIDSESEP—Peru's national indigenous organization—continued promotion of their strategy to secure territorial recognition under the banner of “Indigenous REDD,” a multi-year advocacy campaign advised by Amazon Watch and a coalition of allies. As a result, in November 2013, the Forest Investment Program (FIP) approved \$19.5 million for an expansion of titled indigenous territories across the Peruvian Amazon and funding for community-based forestry management. This will form a foundation for Amazon indigenous peoples’ forest protection efforts at the December 2014 UN COP20 climate summit in Lima, Peru.
- **Challenged Peruvian government’s criminalization of protest:** Amazon Watch continued to provide strategic support and fundraising assistance for AIDSESEP’s ongoing legal defense of indigenous leaders who have been targeted with spurious criminal charges stemming from Bagua conflicts in June 2009. AIDSESEP president Alberto Pizango still faces legal charges along with 53 other indigenous leaders and community members. We have helped coordinate international allies and publicity around Wikileaks revelations on the role of the U.S. Embassy in potentially encouraging Peruvians to use hardline tactics against indigenous protesters back in 2009.

Promoted Clean Renewable Energy

- **Increased public debate about Brazil's energy future:** Since June 2013, Amazon Watch has collaborated closely with a Brazil Energy Working Group on the production of short videos highlighting opportunities for Brazil to diversify its energy matrix with clean alternative sources. This working group has expanded to include the Brazilian social movement Forum on Climate Change and Social Justice (FMCJS) and the Center of Life Institute (ICV), and continues to work with International Rivers, Greenpeace Brazil and the Socio-environmental Institute (ISA). We partnered with the *Gota no Oceano* network and are supported by leading energy specialists and Brazilian artists who are engaged in social and environmental activism. Together with our allies, we launched the “Energy for Life” campaign during the Social Forum on Energy, organized by the FMCJS with Amazon Watch support. The first of the series was released in the lead up to the 2014 presidential debates when candidates were compelled to clarify their positions on energy planning amidst mounting calls for reform.



Photo: Máira Irigaray/Amazon Watch

Promoted corporate accountability

- **Broadened the campaign to hold Chevron accountable:** Amidst unprecedented attacks by Chevron's army of 60 law firms seeking to discredit the Ecuador lawsuit and the plaintiffs and their lawyers, Amazon Watch continued to shine light on Chevron's egregious tactics while attempting to redirect media attention on the real tragedy of the people affected by Chevron's pollution in Ecuador. We coordinated an open letter condemning Chevron's attack on free speech signed by 43 environmental and human rights NGOs. As part of the inaugural International Anti-Chevron Day, we organized a protest at Chevron's Richmond refinery and helped to support protests in



Photo: Facebook/Amazon Watch

nearly 20 cities around the world. We released three videos from the “Donny Rico” series—satirical animations from Pulitzer Prize winner Mark Fiore that shed light on Chevron's abuse of the US legal system and the growing danger to corporate accountability work.



Photo: Atossa Soltani/Amazon Watch

OUR WORK

From the Tropical Andes to the heart of the Brazilian Amazon, Amazon Watch works in close long term partnerships with indigenous peoples to protect culturally and biologically diverse rainforests and indigenous peoples rights and livelihoods from destructive mega-industrial development projects that threaten fragile rainforests, local people and our global climate. Our work is primarily focused on the Amazon rainforests of Peru, Ecuador, Brazil and the cloud forests in north-eastern Colombia. Our overarching goals are:

1. Foster widespread understanding of the intrinsic value of indigenous peoples' stewardship and the global significance of the Amazon rainforest.
2. Increase the capacity of indigenous peoples to advance their rights, to legalize their territories and to challenge extractive industry's entry into indigenous lands.
3. Challenge industrial expansion into ecological and culturally sensitive areas.
4. Champion alternatives and solutions to unsustainable industrial development.
5. Hold corporations accountable for past harms and seek cleanup and reparation for damages.

ANDES-AMAZON PROGRAM

Defending the Sacred Headwaters of the Amazon

The rainforest and wetland ecosystems of the Napo and Marañon river basins in Ecuador and Peru host extremely high levels of biodiversity and endemism due to their location at the intersection of the equator and the transition from the Andes to the Amazon rainforest.

The majority of the region's rainforests are the ancestral territories of numerous indigenous peoples, including some of the last groups in the Amazon living with little or no direct contact with the outside world such as the Taromenane, Tagaeri, as well as the territories of the Waorani, Kichwa, Sápara, Achuar, Shuar/Wampisa, Candoshi, Cocama, Secoya, Siona and Cofan, among others.

Due to intensifying industrial development pressures, most notably oil and gas extraction, the region's biodiverse ecosystems, wildlife and indigenous communities are increasingly threatened. In Ecuador, the government is moving forward with oil drilling in blocks covering 1.5 million acres, as well as in the Yasuní National Park. In Peru, the government has announced that it will open 26 new oil blocks in the Peruvian Amazon covering an

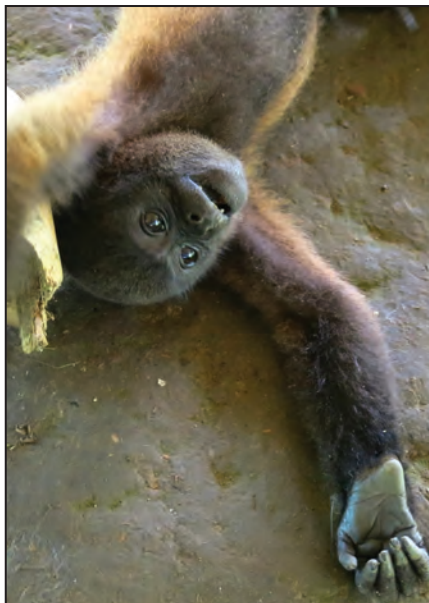


Photo: Branden Barber/Amazon Watch

estimated 16 million acres as part of the country's aggressive expansion of oil and gas exploration and production in the north along the Ecuador border.

In response, Amazon Watch is embarking on a global, multi-year campaign to protect the rainforests of Southern Ecuador and Northern Peru in partnership with indigenous communities who live in the region. The overarching vision of this campaign is for the rainforests of the Napo-Marañon to be protected as a globally significant eco-region and to gradually form a mosaic of mostly indigenous titled lands and protected areas that are off limits to industrial scale resource extraction, namely oil development. Our campaign also aims to support indigenous alliances

at the level of the Napo-Marañon watershed to strengthen indigenous peoples' capacity to recuperate, legalize, govern and protect their sacred ancestral territories.

The Climate Mandate: A Call to Keep the Oil in the Ground

For over a decade, Amazon Watch has worked with indigenous groups throughout southern Ecuador and northern Peru to achieve de-facto moratoriums on oil extraction in their rainforest homelands, keeping oil companies out of some of the most ecologically pristine and culturally sensitive areas on the planet. The relentless push of the oil industry and governments hoping to drill their way to prosperity is expanding the oil frontier deeper and deeper into the forest. *But they're looking for new reserves we can't afford to burn.* The International Energy Agency has confirmed that in order to avoid catastrophic climate impacts that would result from a higher than 2°C rise in global temperature, we must keep some 2/3 of all fossil fuels in the ground. So why are we looking for more oil in the Amazon?

Given this climate reality, we need to keep the oil in the ground. The Amazon functions as the planet's thermostat, helping to regulate our daily weather and global climate. It boasts the largest diversity of species on

the planet, and is home to hundreds of indigenous peoples. It's an ideal starting point for our much needed ecological U-turn away from a fossil fuel economy towards a clean energy future. Places like Yasuní National Park and the Sacred Headwaters of the Amazon in the Napo-Marañon basin—the ancestral territories of the Kichwa, Sápara, Waorani, Achuar and others—are eminently threatened by new oil drilling plans and should be immediately marked as critical zones where oil stays underground permanently.

As world leaders and civil society converge at climate summits over the next year seeking urgent action on climate change, together with our local partners in the Amazon, we're launching a global call to keep crude beneath the Amazon rainforest in the ground permanently. This

campaign will be backed by targeting companies operating in the Amazon and their shareholders, and joined by solution-oriented incentives and alternative proposals for Amazonian countries to leave their reserves permanently in the ground. This is a key moment to build linkages between indigenous, environmental and climate justice movements in the north and south leading up to the UN COP20 in Lima, and on the road to COP21 events in Paris (2015) and beyond.

Seeking Redress for Past Harm: Clean Up Ecuador

In February 2011, nearly 18 years after a group of indigenous and *campesino* communities in Ecuador filed a class-action lawsuit against Chevron, an Ecuadorian court ruled in favor of communities. In a decision now upheld

by Ecuador's highest court, Chevron was ordered to pay \$9.5 billion for the environmental and public health catastrophe it left in the Amazon.

Though Chevron has vowed to fight the verdict “until hell freezes over,” the landmark ruling represents the first time indigenous people have sued a multinational corporation in the country where the crime was committed, and won. Chevron now faces enforcement actions in Canada, Brazil and Argentina.

Amazon Watch continues to mobilize awareness about Chevron's actions in Ecuador and debunk myths promoted by the company to avert justice for the communities affected. While we campaign for justice, we continue to support the ClearWater project, working to bring clean drinking water to communities affected by oil pollution through the installation of 5,000 rainwater catchment systems over the next five years.

Peru: Defending Achuar Territory

In February Amazon Watch returned to Achuar territory to observe the 3rd Inter-Ethnic Congress involving leaders from the neighboring Kichwa, Awajún and Shapra peoples. Top on the agenda was the emerging national campaign to demand collective land titles. Demonstrating ancestral territory involves extensive mapping, census



Photo: Caroline Bennett/Amazon Watch

data, sociological studies, and agreements with neighboring communities about the boundaries in-between.

The Achuar have spent years doing this, and are now in the final stages. Next up will be an epic legal strategy, as Peru's indigenous land tenure laws are out of sync with the country's obligations under international human rights conventions. Supporting the Achuar in preparing their land claims and seeking binding legal rulings in favor of the Achuar is a multi-year process. Success in the Achuar case would set a precedent crucial for the rest of Peru's indigenous peoples.

While the Achuar painstakingly fight to secure their territory, they are confronting constant attempts to keep oil companies out. Since the 2012 withdrawal of Talisman Energy, the Peruvian state-owned company PetroPeru has been angling to take over exploration in Block 64. Divide-and-conquer strategies are on the rise, with corrupt former Achuar leaders attempting to convince the communities to accept oil operations. Amazon Watch was proud to attend and provide financial support to the 3rd Inter-Ethnic Congress. Since then, we have secured and channeled other support for Achuar-led initiatives to advance their ancestral territory claim. We remain ready to respond to their evolving needs as they advance their historic struggle for their territory and self-determination.



Photo: Maira Irigaray/Amazon Watch

BRAZIL PROGRAM

Challenging mega-dams in the Amazon

The Brazilian government continues to build the world's third largest hydroelectric dam on the Xingu River, one of the Amazon's major tributaries. Now 50 percent complete, the Belo Monte dam complex is diverting 80 percent of the Xingu River's flow, devastating 1,500 square kilometers of rainforest and displacing some 40,000 people. Belo Monte is already causing serious devastation on the lands and livelihood of thousands of indigenous and riverine communities. Meanwhile, the Brazilian government plans to build dozens of large dams in the Amazon over the next two decades.

Together with the people of the Xingu and a network of Brazilian and international NGOs, Amazon Watch is seeking to delay Belo Monte's construction as well as document and publicize the dam's devastating impacts on local and indigenous populations. We also seek to delay or stop the licensing process for future Amazon mega-dams, while campaigning for increasing investments channeled into clean and renewable energy alternatives.

We are directly supporting our partners on the ground including *Movimento Xingu Vivo Para Sempre*, Xikrin Kayapo, and the Munduruku of the Tapajós River, who have joined forces. Amazon Watch provides communications, advocacy, financial, and legal support to local groups

and organizes compelling digital and social media campaigns to influence opinion leaders and to engage millions of ordinary citizens in Brazil and internationally.

Advancing Clean Energy Solutions

Brazil's mega-dam-building boom continues to imperil human rights and destroy fragile river ecosystems across the Amazon. While we continue to support communities fighting to stop this senseless devastation, resistance is not enough. We are also working to promote viable alternatives to this destructive energy model and to build a grassroots movement for an alternative energy future.

Amazon Watch's Brazil "Energy for Life!" communications campaign seeks to dispel myths that large Amazon dams represent a "green" energy solution for the 21st century, given their significant methane emissions from deforestation and flooding, and instead advance a truly green energy vision for the country. Brazil has enormous potential to become a world leader in clean, renewable energy, aggressively diversifying its hydro-dependency to incorporate solar, wind, and biomass and distributed energy strategies into its energy matrix.

This Brazilian election year, Amazon Watch is working with a coalition of local NGOs and civil society to create short videos and online engagement tools that stimulate public debate, engage civil society to action, and ultimately aim to democratize top-down energy planning.

As Brazilians grow increasingly aware of the exorbitant cost and questionable benefits of large dams, they are demanding a seat at the table with government energy planners to have a say in their collective future. We aim to ride this wave, helping to articulate such sentiments toward the adoption

of a viable, alternative energy model that spares the Amazon's rivers, forests, and peoples.

As we battle the specter of a new wave of Amazon dams, "Energy for Life" is our solutions-based response to a fundamental question of our time: how do we power society while defending rights and safeguarding ecosystems that are so vital to our well-being? A new vision, articulated by a popular grassroots movement, could drive an energy revolution in Brazil leading the country to realize its potential – and indeed its responsibility – to be a clean energy leader for the 21st century.

Small Grants Program

Amazon Watch responds to the urgent needs of local partners across the Amazon basin via a small grants program that aims to support indigenous organizations and local NGOs in defending their collective rights, rainforest territories, cultures and livelihoods. Funds raised for our re-granting program enable us to respond to timely and strategic requests from partner organizations and communities.

Projects and activities include legal defense; travel to and from regional, national and international advocacy spaces; indigenous-led workshops and community assemblies; territorial and ecosystem mapping and land claims; community-led organizing and mobilizing actions; preparation of life plans and territorial management plans; communications initiatives for reaching grassroots and international audiences; leadership training and field monitoring.

Amazon Watch has raised and granted over \$2 million in small grants since 2008. In 2014, we expect to disburse an estimated \$170,000 in re-grants. Funds for this program are raised through foundation grants, individual donors, email appeals and online social media platforms.

PROFILE

PATRICIA GUALINGA

“We want the Amazon to be valued for what it is, not just an economic resource...We are standing up for our lives, yours, the entire world and for the lives of our future generations!”

“We can’t feed our children oil.” She stops, her eyes turning up toward an electric rainforest sky. She knows there’s another way.

Meet Patricia Gualinga, a Kichwa leader from the Ecuadorian

Amazon and one of the most courageous women found anywhere on the planet. Many miles up the winding Bobonaza River deep in the rainforest lives Patricia’s community, the Kichwa people of the globally celebrated community Sarayaku. They call themselves the *People of the Zenith*, stemming from an ancient prophecy of their ancestors claiming that Sarayaku would be a pillar of territorial, cultural, and spiritual defense – a beacon of light as strong as the sun the moment it reaches the highest point above their forest lands.

“When others have surrendered, Sarayaku will not back down!” And then they prove it again and again, continuously beating back oil drilling plans on their lands, winning landmark cases in the highest international courts, and rising to symbolize indigenous resistance in the Amazon and around the world. Their recent history is nothing less than tumultuous, starting in 1996 when the Ecuadorian government imposed oil concession blocks in their territory without permission from the 1,200 people who live



Photo: Boris Andrade Ramos

there. Communities only learned that their land had been opened for oil exploration when strange helicopters arrived, followed by “men with guns.” But instead of becoming another environmental war tragedy, the story of Sarayaku has been one of fierce resistance.

For years, Patricia has been on the front lines of Sarayaku’s struggle, a key protagonist in the recent historic indigenous rights victory at the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and an incredible leader of a rapidly-growing movement of women defending the Amazon and our global climate.

“We want the Amazon to be valued for what it is, not just an economic resource,” she declares with a confidence and grace that seems contagious to hundreds of Amazonian women rising with her. “We are standing up for our lives, yours, the entire world and for the lives of our future generations!”

Today Paty is the Director of International Relations for Sarayaku and an avid spokeswoman for women and indigenous people around the planet. Her wisdom and expertise are based in years of steadfast activism and a strong, democratic community process that has resulted in groundbreaking victories in defense of her people's ancestral territories. She endlessly promotes indigenous-led solutions to climate change—including the top priority of keeping the oil in the ground, and the internationally recognized "Living Forest" (*Selva Viviente*), "Good Living" (*Buen Vivir*) and "Rights of Nature" concepts. She has been a force for precedent-setting indigenous rights initiatives, advocating before multinational oil companies, judges at the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Ecuadorian congress, world leaders at UN climate summit events and countless other distinguished spaces.

Patricia's story is one of hope, fearlessness and determination. That Sarayaku beacon pours bright through glinting eyes, illuminating just one of the many courageous leaders Amazon Watch joins forces with daily in the fight for forests, the climate, future generations...for life.

In her words, Patricia Gualinga:

"I didn't chose activism, it chose me. I started fighting to defend the rights of my people from Sarayaku. This activism, including learning about the laws and informing myself about our rights, has turned me into the woman I am today.

"Within our indigenous territory, we will never allow oil drilling, mining, or any activity that is extractive and destructive. We are fighting so our lands are declared "Living Forests," as a new category of conservation on behalf of the planet and humanity.

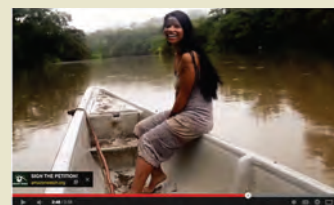
"Our indigenous communities, in which we are caretakers of the forests, are already feeling the impacts of climate change. Our elder wisdom-keepers have been warning us for many years, they knew about this but weren't listened to. They said there would be problems if we continued preying on mother nature, causing impacts so great they won't only affect nature but also humankind. We are out of time, now is the moment for us to be responsible and bet on life as the continuity of our existence on this planet depends on it."

"I want people to understand that the protection of nature, forests, ecosystems, and beings is the responsibility of everyone. What happens will ultimately affect us all."

Amazon Watch is honored to welcome Patricia Gualinga as a special guest at our 9th annual luncheon in San Francisco, CA as she travels the U.S. to promote indigenous-led solutions to climate change. Welcome Paty!

On the cover and also from Sarayaku

Nina Gualinga, a young Kichwa leader from Sarayaku featured in our recent video campaign to **Keep the Oil In the Ground**. Thank you Nina for your hard work to defend your Amazon home!



ATTACK ON INDIGENOUS RIGHTS

Christian Poirier & Adam Zuckerman

We believe that indigenous self-determination is paramount, and that indigenous knowledge, cultures and traditional practices contribute greatly to sustainable and equitable stewardship of the earth. We support indigenous peoples in advancing their rights because we see them as the best guardians of the rainforest.

Worryingly, Latin American governments are increasingly viewing indigenous peoples as impediments to “progress” and “development.” In Ecuador, the government has targeted indigenous rights organizations and has sought to divide communities that are opposed to oil exploitation. After closing the doors of ally organization Fundación Pachamama for opposing the government’s plans to auction off a swath of the Amazon to foreign oil companies, the Ministry of Hydrocarbons moved to file charges against 10 indigenous leaders opposed to the 11th Oil Round. The charges were so preposterous that other government ministries are not pushing them forward. As Chinese conglomerate Andes Petroleum submitted two bids in the same round on oil blocks 79 and 83 within Sápara territory, the government



Photo: Maíra Irigaray/Amazon Watch

backed pro-oil, non-Sápara immigrants to lead the decision-making Sápara Federation. This sparked tensions and created divides.

In Brazil, the hard-fought rights of indigenous peoples are under unprecedented assault from powerful economic interests in the country’s agribusiness, energy, and extractive industries. Rights are being threatened by a series of proposed laws and constitutional amendments that aim to undermine the integrity of indigenous territories, while stripping the indigenous right to participate in development decisions that directly affect their communities. Brazil’s anti-indigenous movement is rapidly gaining strength, in tandem with an alarmingly racist and reactionary discourse that increasingly condones violence to meet its objectives. Tensions reached a fever pitch last May when a hate-driven mob rained violence on a peaceful gathering of Mundurukú people protesting plans to build a mega-dam on the Amazon’s Tapajós River. The group – which included

women and children – was assaulted with rocks, explosive rockets, and gas bombs, injuring two young leaders and terrorizing the local indigenous community while local police stood watch. The town’s deputy mayor and local secretary of indigenous affairs were rumored to have sparked the assault.

In Peru the government has been similarly responsible for the crack-down on indigenous rights, but it has also had the backing of the U.S. State Department. In July, Amazon Watch and Public Citizen reported on recently revealed diplomatic cables showing the U.S. government’s role in the Bagua massacre of 2008 that resulted in the deaths of 34 people, most of them indigenous peoples protesting new laws that privileged the rights of international investors over those of local indigenous communities. Today, 54 protesters and ostensible instigators are on trial for the infamous *Baguazo*, and government prosecutors have accused high-profile indigenous leaders of inciting their people to violence.

Throughout the Amazon region, indigenous peoples are under attack because they are effective guardians of the forests, their rightful territory and home. They know that the Amazon—a living, breathing being where many peoples, creatures and the spirits of the forest live—is life, and worth so much more than the oil that lies beneath it.

Ecuador Breaks Its Amazon Deal

By Kevin Koenig, Ecuador Program Director at Amazon Watch

IN 2007, Ecuador pledged to forego oil drilling in the Amazon's Yasuni National Park in exchange for financial contributions from foreign governments. The Yasuni-ITT initiative, named for the park's Ishpingo, Tambococho and Tiputini oil fields, which together contain some 846 million barrels of heavy crude, sought to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, prevent deforestation, and protect one of the world's most biodiverse areas. To offset the foregone revenue, then estimated at over \$7 billion, Ecuador requested \$3.6 billion over thirteen years from countries with a historic responsibility for climate change. It was the first time a country had proposed keeping such a large reserve permanently in the ground.

The initiative, with a trust fund administered by the United Nations Development Program, was popular in Ecuador. But in 2013, with only \$13 million in cash raised, President Rafael Correa pulled the plug. Last month, the same week Mr. Correa condemned Chevron for its toxic legacy in Ecuador's northern Amazon, the country's environment ministry approved plans for drilling in Yasuni by Petroamazonas, a subsidiary of state-run Petroecuador. The first crude could flow by early 2016.

The green light to drill in Yasuni, one of the world's most biologically significant areas, is a major setback for wilderness preservation and human rights. It will come at an incalculable cost to Yasuni's unparalleled biodiversity, and harm the indigenous groups that live in the park. The International Energy Agency says no more than one-third of the world's proven fossil fuel reserves can be

consumed before 2050 if we are to prevent catastrophic climate change. Keeping Yasuni crude in the ground would prevent the emission of 400 million metric tons of heat-trapping CO₂, and preserve CO₂-absorbing forest cover. And the reversal of an initiative endorsed by many Ecuadorians may erode support for Mr. Correa.

Yasuni, named a world biosphere reserve by Unesco in 1989, is among the most biodiverse places on the planet. Scientists in 2010 counted an astonishing 2,700 plant species, and more tree species in one hectare than are native to all of North America. Yasuni boasts a record-setting 271 amphibian and reptile species, a projected 100,000 insect species in a single hectare, and one of the world's largest concentrations of jaguars.

Yasuni is also home to two nomadic clans of the Waorani indigenous people, the Tageri and Taromenane, among the last in the world living in voluntary isolation. Since 1972, when the first barrel of oil was celebrated in the Quito streets and blessed by the Archdiocese, Chevron (then Texaco) and a host of foreign and state-run companies have encroached upon indigenous lands just north of Yasuni. Increased rates of cancer, respiratory and skin ailments and miscarriages have already been documented there. Last year, Taromenane attackers killed two Waorani elders whom they erroneously blamed for "the noise... trees being cut down, and the kompaneapatá (oil platform)" in an area near Yasuni; seeking revenge, the Waorani killed some twenty Taromenane. In an official communiqué, the Waorani concluded that if "penetrative activities did not exist... these violent encounters would be reduced."

Two-thirds of Ecuador's Amazon is currently zoned for oil concessions, but there has yet to be an example of responsible drilling there. Petroecuador has caused hundreds of spills since 1992, when it inherited Chevron's vast network of rusty pipelines. Its drilling-related activities are similarly destructive: satellite photos published last year point to the illegal construction by Petroamazonas of an access road in an area adjacent to the ITT fields.

Today oil accounts for more than half of Ecuador's export earnings, and the country is caught in a cycle of dependence. Quito now claims that ITT revenue is needed to lift Ecuador out of poverty: "We're going to use oil to get off oil," Mr. Correa said last year, apparently without irony. But other options are available. Quito provides over \$3 billion annually in subsidies for gasoline, diesel, and cooking fuel; decreasing these could generate enough funds to revive the initiative. Ecuador's 110 largest companies are taxed at 2.9 percent; raising this rate by just 1.5 percent would yield an estimated \$20 billion.

Responding to protests following the reversal of Yasuni-ITT, Mr. Correa promised a referendum if petition signatures equaling five percent of the electorate could be obtained; in April, a collective called Yasunidos delivered almost 200,000 more than needed. Last month, Ecuador's National Election Committee invalidated thousands of signatures, and no vote was held. Alleging fraud, Yasunidos has appealed the decision.

Though Quito should be held to account, the stillbirth of Yasuni-ITT is a shared failure. Mr. Correa promises to transition from fossil fuels—after the oil is gone. But that may be too late for an area as ecologically fragile and culturally sensitive as Yasuni.



Photo: Caroline Bennett/Amazon Watch

CHINA IN THE AMAZON

Adam Zuckerman & Caroline Bennett

Amazon Watch has been working with Chinese, Ecuadorian and US-based experts to investigate China's growing influence in Ecuador and what it means for the nation's sovereignty, indigenous peoples and the fate of the Amazon rainforest. In a 2014 report *Beijing, Banks and Barrels: China and Oil in the Ecuadorian Amazon*, we analyzed how Ecuador's dependence upon Chinese loans has pushed the nation to open up its rainforest to large-scale industrial and extractive projects including oil drilling and mining.

The depth of that dependence is staggering. In 2013 China provided an estimated 61% of Ecuador's external financing and bought nearly 90% of its oil, most of which ended up in refineries in California, including some operated by Ecuador public enemy #1: Chevron. While Ecuadorian President Correa has publicly

criticized China's demands as "barbaric," "humiliating," and "attempts against the sovereignty of Ecuador," his government has privately pushed forward controversial and often secret deals with Beijing. Chinese regulations should forbid such deals, but China may break them in an attempt to get its loans back.

According to recently obtained official documents, Petrochina has the ability to seize assets from oil companies operating in Ecuador if the nation does not pay back China in full. Other documents reveal what some analysts have called a "sovereignty immunity waiver" that allows China to seize many of Ecuador's assets if the country fails to repay the loans. A leaked government power point shows that under Chinese pressure, the Ecuadorian government considered drilling Yasuni-ITT as early as 2009, four years before it announced that it was abandoning a revolutionary initiative to keep oil under ground in the highly biodiverse park.

While Ecuador only received three bids in the auction of 13 oil blocks—over six million acres—in the Ecuadorian Amazon, two of those bids came from Chinese conglomerate Andes Petroleum. Both concessions, 'Block 79' and 'Block 83', overlap lands belonging to the indigenous Sápara people. Earlier this year Sápara leaders Gloria Ushigua and Klever Ruiz lobbied the UN and international allies to reject oil operations on their ancestral territory.

"The existence of our people is in grave danger," they wrote. "We have resolved in multiple assemblies, congresses, and indigenous declarations that we don't want extractive industry like oil exploitation in our territory."

The very survival of the Sápara hinges on their ability to maintain control of and manage their own traditional territory. Though once numbering over 200,000 people, some estimate that the Sápara Nation in Ecuador is now comprised of just 200 people. In 2001, the United Nations declared the

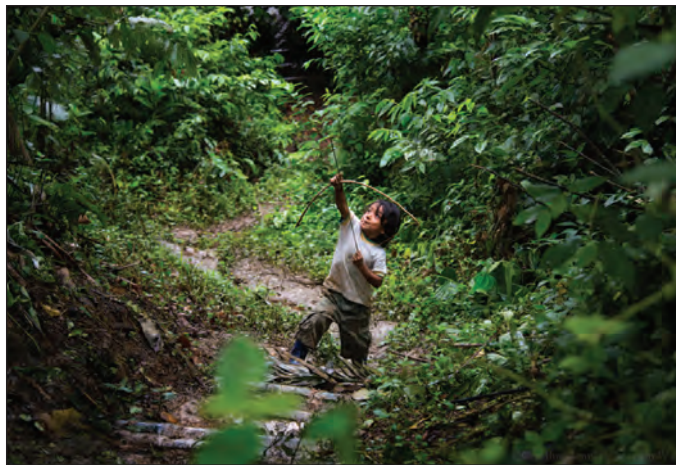


Photo: Caroline Bennett/Amazon Watch

Sápara a UNESCO cultural patrimony, a "masterpiece of the intangible heritage of humanity" stating that their cultural heritage "is the depository of their knowledge and their oral tradition...also the memory of the entire region."

Ushigua, the current president of the Sápara Women's Association (*Ashinwaka*), has long been a leader in the struggle to protect her people's territory, raising awareness about the urgent situation especially given an intensifying political situation where the Ecuadorian government has drastically cracked down on organizations and civil society opposing oil expansion. As an outspoken voice, Gloria has been targeted in public, harassed in her home, received threats and was included in a group of eight indigenous leaders who came under fire when formal complaints were filed with the Department of Justice.

"We are currently fighting a battle against oil companies that enter our territories and threaten our very existence," said Ushigua. "We have reached out to our allies, we are ready to fight with all the strength of our ancestors against the companies and government to protect the land from which we came, a land that must remain free from oil exploration."

AMAZONAS

WOMEN ON THE FRONTLINES

Caroline Bennett

"My name is Hueiya. I live in the Waorani community called Ñoneno. I fight so my children don't have to suffer, so that their land continues to be fertile and free of pollution, so that our rivers continue to be clean so they can drink clean water. I fight for all children who are yet to be born in this earth."

Meet Alicia Cahuilla—given name Hueiya—a courageous Waorani warrior from the Ñoneno community deep in the Ecuadorian Amazon. Alicia's Waorani family has lived on the edge of Ecuador's Yasuni National Park, one of the most biodiverse remaining wild places on the planet, for thousands of years. Like much of the Ecuadorian Amazon, until the 1960's this ancestral territory was a pristine expanse of life-giving trees and clean flowing streams. Today Ñoneno is wedged between two bustling oil fields, Cononaco and Armadillo, where the Ecuadorian government is pushing to expand oil production into the heart of Yasuni.

"We are struggling for Yasuni because it is our home," Cahuilla, who is also the vice president of the Waorani Indigenous Federation, told a crowd of women at an international Rights of Nature conference that included Yasuni ambassador Vandana Shiva. "Correa wouldn't like it if oil companies went to his home and tore it down like they come and cut trees and build roads in our rainforest homes."

Experts continue to state that in order to avoid the worst of impending climate change impacts, most of the planet's remaining fossil fuel resources should remain under ground. Ecuador's Yasuni-ITT initiative, launched in 2007, would have been an inventive plan to keep oil exploration out of the country's most pristine rainforest and to protect Alicia's homeland, the Waorani and the many other indigenous peoples living there. Ecuador abandoned the plan last year, and the global attempt to save the region now rests largely on the shoulders of indigenous peoples and their NGO allies who have pledged to fight to keep oil companies out.

The campaign to **Keep the Oil In the Ground** is on, and it doesn't stop at Yasuni. Alicia and a coalition of Amazonian women have bravely taken the lead in a rapidly growing movement to protect their rainforest homelands across Ecuador. In October 2013, hundreds of women from seven Amazonian tribes embarked on a 219 km march to the nation's capital, calling on the government to spare their ancestral lands from aggressive oil and mining policies. The women arrived in Quito carrying toddlers and waving colorful

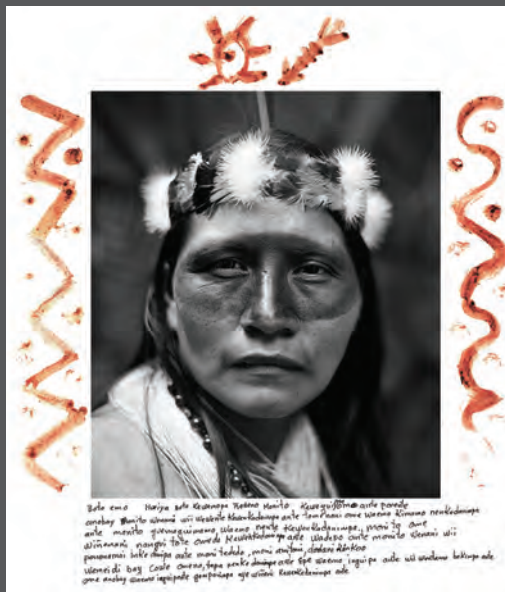


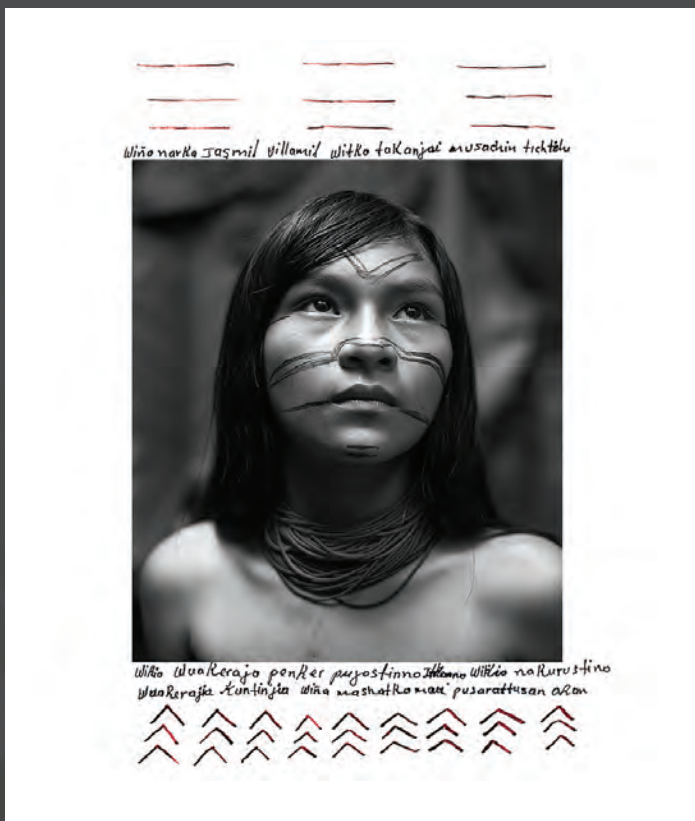
Photo: Felipe Jacome

flags, their faces painted with natural dyes in traditional patterns and symbols. Determined, they made their demands eloquently with a grace rarely seen.

While women have long played an active role in the historical struggle for indigenous rights in Ecuador, this was the first march in the nation organized and spearheaded entirely by women. As female givers of life, the women of the Amazon have felt a great responsibility to lead the fight against impending oil drilling and the destruction of *Pachamama*—our "life giving mother earth"—and are calling on the world to keep oil under ground in their ancestral lands.

Amazon Women on the Frontlines of Climate Change

Alicia's story is part of *Amazon Women on the Frontlines of Climate Change*, a growing project captured in intimate photographs and accompanied by written and live testimonies from indigenous women leading solutions on the frontlines of the Amazon as the region confronts the impacts of climate change. Selections from the series have toured with a delegation of women leaders to elite spaces around the UN climate summit and People's Climate March in New York City, and continue to travel with plans to exhibit during UN COP20 events in Lima and on the road to the 2015 COP21 in Paris.



Photos: Felipe Jacome

As in other developing countries, women in the Amazon bear a disproportional burden as climate change impacts their traditional territories and environment. It is in the daily lives of these women—who are highly dependent on local natural resources for their livelihood—that the battle to save the family, traditional ways of life and the future of their children is played out. In order to further preserve biodiversity and limit its degradation, indigenous people—particularly women—can and should play a leading role in the global response to climate change.



Photos: Caroline Bennett/Amazon Watch

Amazonian women hold a wealth of knowledge and expertise that can be used in climate change mitigation, disaster reduction and adaptation strategies. Courageous women are rising to become effective agents of change, and have taken the lead in a rapidly growing movement to protect their rainforest homelands throughout Ecuador, the Amazon and around the world.

These women and girls are true forces of nature, rising against great odds to lead the charge in the Amazon in unprecedented ways. *Amazon Women on the Frontlines of Climate Change* seeks to tell their stories through a representative selection of “speaking” images combining portraiture with written testimonies, along with a series of images documenting their perspectives and life in their traditional rainforest communities. The project was created in collaborative workshops with Kichwa, Shiwiar, Sápara and Waorani women; Ecuadorian photographer Felipe Jácome; Amazon Watch Editorial Director & Chief Storyteller Caroline Bennett; and in partnership with WECAN and Acción Ecológica.

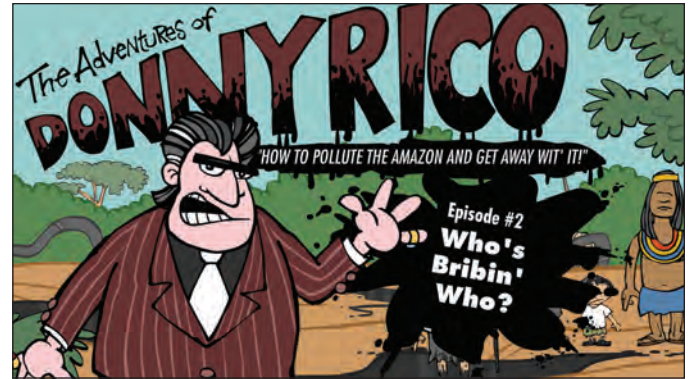
CHEVRON SEEKS TO TURN ADVOCACY INTO CRIMINAL ACTS

Paul Paz y Miño

The decades long case against Chevron for deliberately polluting the Ecuadorian Amazon by dumping 18 billion gallons of toxic waste has always been “too big to fail.” Because of world recognition of Chevron’s actions in Ecuador and beyond, the company now holds the mantle as *corporate criminal extraordinair*. Unable to adequately defend itself on the facts, Chevron has instead gone on the offensive, and their actions pose a grave threat to human rights and environmental advocacy everywhere.

Amazon Watch has helped coordinate coalitions of organizations over many years to join the call for justice and a full-scale clean-up in Ecuador. But that effort has reached a new level as more NGOs and allies have come to understand what is at stake. Alarmingly, Chevron’s recent retaliatory attacks have gone so far as to criminalize our work under the RICO statute. By labeling Amazon Watch, Rainforest Action Network and others as co-conspirators, Chevron claimed that our actions, press releases, and even “cartoons” were illegal and used the excuse to subpoena hundreds of thousands of documents in an effort to cripple our work and attack our credibility. While courts ultimately rejected Chevron’s efforts to criminalize honest activism, Chevron’s use of RICO suits to justify seeking discovery from those who challenge corporate acts in America is frightening. If left untouched, this precedent will invite other corporations to do the same.

This is precisely why The Sierra Club, Greenpeace, Amnesty International and over forty other human rights and environmental organizations joined us to oppose Chevron’s direct attack on free speech and the rights of corporate accountability advocates. Chevron’s bogus



Animation: Mark Fiore

RICO action—against the very people they poisoned in Ecuador and their allies—is already being lauded by pro-corporate advocates as a “new playbook” to “go after corporate gadflies.”

Chevron isn't just trying to crush opponents in the Ecuador case, they want to make sure no other human rights or environmental lawyers or NGOs will follow in their footsteps to pursue them (or Exxon, or BP or Shell, et al.) ever again.

The RICO verdict, if allowed to stand, poses a severe threat to the rights to expression, association, political participation, and access to courts guaranteed by the First Amendment. If the vaguely defined scope and heavy penalties of RICO – enacted to support law enforcement efforts against organized crime syndicates – may be wielded by private parties against public interest groups and activists who engage in First Amendment-protected activities to seek to hold those private parties accountable, democracy itself is threatened.

Chevron’s actions pose the biggest attack on corporate accountability efforts to date. Teaming up with Sierra Club’s “Sierra Rise” we generated over a quarter of a million emails to members of the U.S. Senate. That is only the beginning. This campaign must continue to broaden its base of support until Chevron’s tactics are discredited and the legal precedent is overturned.



Photo: courtesy of Munduruku Iperêg Ayu Movement

KEEPING THE TAPAJÓS FREE

Máira Irigaray

“For us everything is sacred: The river, earth, wind, fire, and the forest...when the government says it will do something on our land, it hurts our heart because we are all a part of it.” – Kabaiwun Kaba

The Tapajós River basin is one of the most preserved regions in Brazil, and the last major undammed river that flows into the Amazon River. It is a grand mosaic of the planet’s biodiversity consisting of protected forest reserves and indigenous lands. It is home to the Munduruku people and other riverine communities. Today the Tapajós and its principal tributaries – the Teles Pires, Jamanxim and Juruena rivers – are under threat by an unprecedented series of dams and industrial waterways that would cause immense social and environmental damage to the heart of the Amazon.

The ambitious plans of President Dilma Rousseff's administration for dam construction in the next five to 10 years include 29 large dams and some 80 smaller dams in the Tapajós River basin. Together the three large dams of the "Tapajós Complex" are projected to flood nearly 800 km² of rainforest, including indigenous territories and protected areas, portending even more severe impacts than Belo Monte. The Tapajós Complex would develop the basin into one giant industrial waterway to increase the profits of agribusinesses such as the Maggi Group and JBS who want to ship soy, corn and other agricultural goods to market. Much of the electricity from the proposed dams would power huge mining companies, such as Vale, Gerdau and Alcoa, which own shares of massive mineral reserves in the area.

In violation of the Brazilian Constitution and international human rights commitments, Brazil's Ministry of Mines and Energy set December 15, 2014 to auction the construction of the massive Tapajós dam, the first in a series of large dams slated for construction on the Tapajós River. The government has not adequately consulted indigenous populations, nor conducted a comprehensive analysis of the individual and combined impacts of this cascade of dams, especially with regard to the livelihoods of indigenous peoples and other traditional populations, biodiversity or the hydrological cycle.

This is a region marked by astounding biodiversity, with over 390 species of birds and 400 types of fish at stake. Endangered animals of this region include the jaguar, red

giant anteaters and ocelots. In addition to grave environmental costs, there are eminent threats to indigenous peoples, among them the Munduruku.

The Munduruku have made clear that they will not allow this project to happen on their territory! They have traveled some 900 kilometers to unite in solidarity with the Xingu people to occupy the Belo Monte dam construction site and to march together in Brasilia. Facing these struggles together in solidarity reinforces their actions. At a time when indigenous rights and territories are under attack, standing united is the only way to go.

Lessons from the Xingu

Our work to halt construction of the Belo Monte dam has long represented a struggle greater than defending the Xingu region and its peoples, with an overarching goal to help moderate the Brazilian government's "development" model for the Amazon basin by challenging large dams as fundamental threats to human rights and environmental protection. The Tapajós region has thus emerged as a key battleground in the global debate on the true costs of our 21st century development model and critical to our coalition's efforts to halt the Brazilian government's dam-driven agenda and promote truly clean and renewable energy. As is the case with the Xingu, the fate of the Tapajós could determine the future of the Amazon's rivers, forests and peoples.

VICTORY! THE U'WA REIGNITED

Andrew Miller

Early in 2014, the U'wa people of Colombia woke up one morning and realized something sinister was afoot. Heavy machinery started appearing by the 18-wheeler on a site meters from one of their sacred rivers. Without their knowledge much less consent, the national oil company Ecopetrol had begun construction on a gas exploration project denominated Magallanes. The U'wa, internationally known for their opposition to such projects within their territories, sounded the alarm and swung into action.

Fast forward to the present day: Ecopetrol has told the U'wa that the exploratory project will be dismantled. This is a stunning turn of events, given that high-level government officials were maintaining up until July that the project would move forward, "sí o sí" (yes or yes) as they say in Colombia. What helped turn the tide?

U'wa resolve: The U'wa have reiterated their opposition to any extractive projects within their territory many times. They nonviolently occupied a bombed oil pipeline site on their territory in March and April, even at the risk of a forceful government crack down.



Photo: courtesy of ASOU'WA

Increasing public awareness:

U'wa spokespeople have been quoted in numerous international outlets including *Reuters*, the *Wall Street Journal* and *The Guardian*. During a May tour to the United States, legal advisor Aura Tegria was interviewed on the regional TV network NTN24. Such coverage sent the signal that the U'wa message has resonance far beyond Colombia's borders.

National backing: A number of Colombian organizations have stepped forward to accompany the U'wa cause, including the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia, ONIC. Key areas have been media coverage and legal support.

International pressure: Global civil society networks in solidarity with

the U'wa have been reinvigorated in recent months, culminating in a letter signed by some 28 international organizations calling for the U'wa's demands to be respected. The U'wa delivered the letter to high-level government officials during a meeting in late June.

Why precisely did Ecopetrol decide to dismantle the Magallanes gas project? We might never know the exact mix of factors that tipped the balance. But it's safe to say the oil company miscalculated the fierce resistance they would reignite within the U'wa themselves and their allies.

This victory is important, but it is only one step. The U'wa struggle continues, as does the urgency of international support for their cause.

The road to Paris runs through Lima

“Legal forest rights for communities and government protection of their rights tend to lower carbon dioxide emissions and deforestation.” So concluded a recently published study by the World Resource Institute. “Where indigenous peoples have rights, there will be living forests to the benefit of all,” say Peruvian indigenous groups when asked about stewardship of the lands.

The central role of indigenous peoples in confronting the climate crisis will be on display at the UN COP20 climate summit in Lima this December, where an Amazonian country (Peru) will host the annual gathering for the first time. The event offers a great opportunity to support indigenous partners in pushing for needed reforms at a national and regional level. Protecting the forests through indigenous titling, keeping the oil in the ground and emphasizing the leadership of indigenous women in climate mitigation and adaptation are key strategies and advocacy points Amazon Watch will promote together with our indigenous and NGO allies.

The Paris summit in 2015 is supposed to produce a new global climate treaty; Lima is said to be a stepping-stone toward COP21. After great disappointments at Copenhagen in 2009, however, expectation management is warranted. Meanwhile, Amazonian indigenous groups will leverage this year’s summit in their ongoing campaign for forest protection and the defense of their rights.



KEEP THE OIL IN THE GROUND

Amount of time it would take to globally consume all the oil in the Ecuadorian Amazon:

1 month

AMAZON WATCH IN NUMBERS:

- 835k** Online actions taken
- 200k** Email subscribers
- 100k** Facebook likes
- 32k** Twitter followers
- 30k** Causes supporters
- 550k+** Viral video views first week of launch



Summary Financial Report 2013

January 1 to December 31

2013

INCOME

Foundation grants	531,245
Funds for Amazonian Groups	153,400
Individual Donors	731,025
Organizations & Businesses	287,490
Delegations & Other Income	9,017
TOTAL INCOME	1,712,177

EXPENSES

Programs & Campaigns	975,591
Grants to Amazonian Groups	176,354
Total Program Services	1,151,945

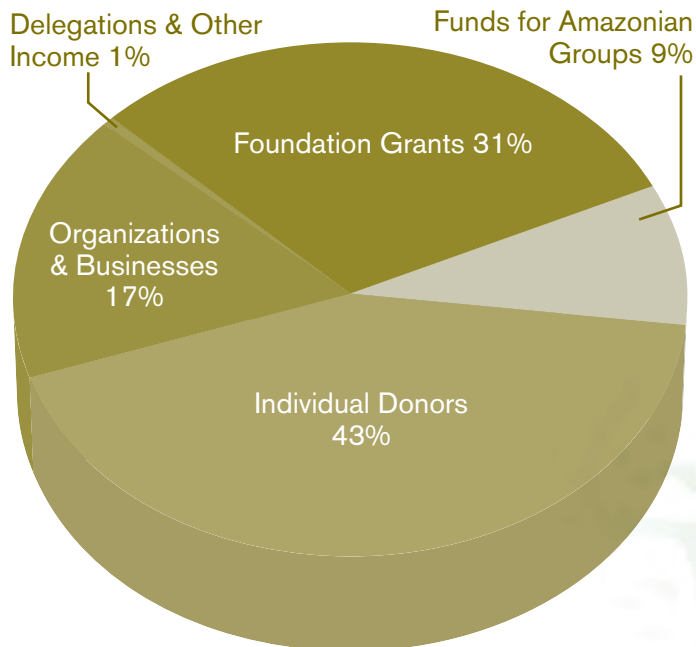
Management	110,081
Fund Development	192,258
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,454,284

Net Income	257,893
Net Assets on January 1	253,884
Net Assets on December 31	511,777

Net Assets on Dec 31 Include

Cash Assets	342,611
Short-term Investments	11,579
Grants Receivable	212,566
Net Equipment Assets	1,716
Total Liabilities	(56,695)
TOTAL NET ASSETS	511,777

2013 Income Sources



2013 Expenses

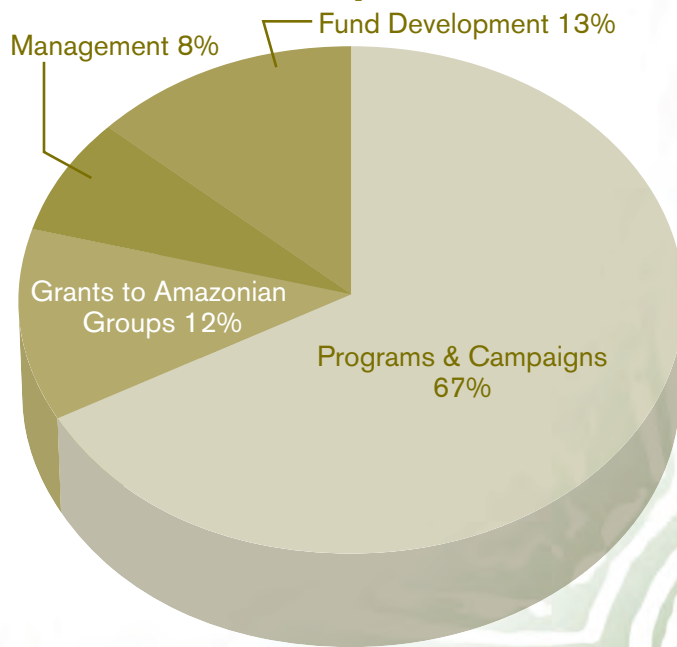




Photo: Caroline Bennett/Amazon Watch

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Instituto de Defensa Legal (IDL)
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Instituto Raoni
Instituto Socioambiental (ISA)
International Rivers
Justiça Global
Kichwa Community of Sarayaku
Kichwa Community of Rucullakta
Kicwha Community of Sani Isla

Land is Life
Movimento Xingu Vivo para
Sempre (MXVPS)
Mujer U'wa
Munduruku from Tapajós
Nacionalidad Achuar del Ecuador
(NAE)
NASHE (Nacionalidad Shuar de
Ecuador)
Obras Sociais Prelazia do Xingu
OilWatch
ONIC
ORACH
ORAU
PDDI
Racimos de Ungurahui
Rede-Brasil
Rede-FAOR
Selva Viva
Sociedade Paraense de Defesa
dos Direitos Humanos (SDDH)
Tapajós Vivo
Uma Gota No Oceano
VIS (Volontariato Internazionale per
lo Sviluppo)
WWF-Brasil

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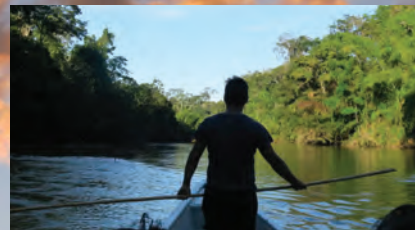
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Sandison
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Stella Sun
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Richard Wegman
Stephanie Willett
Julia Williams
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SPECIAL THANKS TO THE CREATIVE COMMUNITY!

Sacha Baron Cohen, Lance Bass, Nahko Bear and Medicine for the People, Ed Begley, Jr., Benjamin Bratt, Peter Coyote, Leonardo DiCaprio, Francesca Eastwood, Maria Paula Fernandes, Francis Fisher, Isla Fisher, Daryl Hannah, Bianca Jagger, Q'orianka Kilcher, Jared Leto, Mia Maestro, Sergio Marone, Debi Nova, Dawn Olivieri, Michelle Rodriguez, Raphael Sbarge, Leonor Varela, Mark Ruffalo, Sting & Trudie Styler



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We appreciate Amazon Watch for your vitally important work protecting of the Amazon and supporting the advancement of the rights of indigenous peoples there.

Patricia Gualinga, thank you and the Sarayaku for speaking from the heart of the Ecuadorian Amazon with the clear message that we must Keep the Oil in the Ground in the Amazon.

To our dear friend Atossa Soltani, thank you for your vision, inspiration, and 18 years of tireless efforts with Amazon Watch and as a leading global advocate for the Amazon and indigenous rights.


Earth Island Institute wishes you and Amazon Watch all the best!

earthisland.org Please join us for our 15th annual Brower Youth Awards on October 21st. broweryouthawards.org



Atossa, thank you for all of the sacrifice and hard work on behalf of the Amazon and the people who live there. You are a fierce warrior who people will tell stories about for decades to come.

**Ken Greenstein
GREENSTEIN & McDONALD
Bay Area tenant attorneys**

A woman with dark hair, wearing a black jacket and green rain gear, is on a boat. She is holding a camera and looking towards the camera. The background shows a calm body of water reflecting a blue sky with white clouds and a dense green forest on the far shore.

The Board of Directors offers congratulations to Amazon Watch on its 18th year of victories for indigenous communities and the rainforest!

Now more than ever, Amazon Watch's work is essential for ensuring the long-term health and survival of our beautiful, shared planet.

We are extremely proud of our staff and our Founder and Executive Director, Atossa Soltani.

Atossa has shown tremendous leadership, vision and tenacity. The world is surely a better place due to Atossa's dedication and determination.

Congratulations to Atossa on her transition to Board President and the continued success of Amazon Watch!

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for Protecting Our Planet



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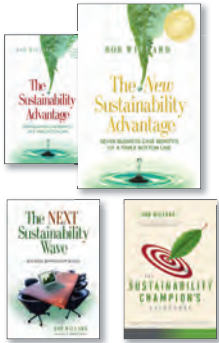
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