



CLIMATE WEEK 2024

From September 22 to 29, 2024, New York Climate Week, the largest annual event dedicated to global climate action, was held in New York. Coinciding with the United Nations General Assembly, this meeting is a key space not only for debates on climate policies, but also for social movements fighting for climate rights and equality.

This year, the COICA delegation, made up of Fany Kuiru (general coordinator), Jamner Manihuar (vice-coordinator), Gregorio Mirabal (climate change and biodiversity coordinator) and the president of CONFENIAE, José Esach, brought the voice of the Amazonian peoples to the dialog tables and side events, such as the Wokshop. Traduzido com a versão gratuita do tradutor - DeepL.com

on rights, participation and benefits for indigenous peoples and local communities from Climate Action, or participation in Casa Amazônia, where some ideas were shared on how indigenous peoples and their knowledge systems have all the conditions to guarantee the protection of biodiversity across the planet. The demands made during this year's climate week in New York focused on the severe droughts and fires that have occurred in the Amazon in recent months, which have devastated forests and destroyed more than 9.9 million hectares, a record never seen before.





Importance of indigenous representation

For indigenous peoples, participation in events like Climate Week in New York is fundamental. Not only to make the issues affecting the Amazon visible, but also to open doors for civil society, governments and global actors to commit to defending indigenous territories, insisting on the idea that there will be no solutions to the climate crisis without the participation of indigenous peoples. The time to act is now, more than ever, because Amazonian peoples are the ones who are suffering the most from the impacts of this crisis.

Cooperation between COICA, governments, civil society and non-governmental organizations is essential to move towards a more sustainable and inclusive future for indigenous peoples. Only through effective collaboration between all sectors will it be possible to defend territories, preserve biodiversity and successfully tackle the climate crisis.





III MEETING OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN OF THE AMAZON

From September 30 to October 3, 2024, the III Meeting of Indigenous Women of the Amazon was held in Cieneguilla, Lima - Peru. This event brought together 37 women leaders from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Suriname. Organized by Conservation International in partnership with COICA, and with the support of the Estée Lauder Companies Charitable Foundation and the French government, this event strengthens women's leadership in the Amazon region.



Outstanding projects by Bolivian women leaders

Three Bolivian beneficiaries stand out for their initiatives: Mariana Rodríguez (Puerto Yaminahua) promotes cultural empowerment through textile art; Edileuza Gonzales (San Miguel de Machineri) leads biodiversity conservation projects and medicinal traditions; and Viviana Torrez (Eyeyoquibo) promotes meliponiculture and women's leadership in the Esse Ejja community.

The vital role of women in territorial defense.

This meeting brings together the diverse voices of women leaders who, on a daily basis, play key roles in their communities. From the transmission of traditional knowledge to new generations, through words and examples, to their leadership and struggle to defend their territories, rights and ways of life.

Fany Kuiru, General Coordinator of COICA, emphasized that women are not only guardians of culture and biodiversity, but also agents of change who lead processes of transformation in the social, political and environmental spheres.





MEETING BETWEEN AIDSESEP AND AUTONOMOUS TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENTS

COICA's Deputy General Coordinator, Jamner Manihuari Curitima, took part in the Third Meeting between AIDSESEP and the Autonomous Territorial Governments (GTA) in Lima on September 30 and October 1. This event brought together indigenous leaders from all over the Amazon to articulate strategies in defense of their territories and fundamental rights in the face of the growing threat of illegal mining.

Under the slogan "Defending the Amazon from mining hell", they denounced the devastation caused by illegal mining, which has contaminated rivers with mercury and caused serious health problems.

The indigenous leaders made an urgent appeal to the countries that buy "dirty gold", such as the United States, Switzerland, India and Saudi Arabia, demanding that they stop its acquisition and promote investigations to trace its origin.

In addition, the AHGs strengthened their territorial control strategies, articulating autonomous security plans and community patrols. An international campaign was also announced to demand greater responsibility from the global community in the purchase of gold and the protection of Amazonian territories.

This meeting reaffirms the unity of the Amazonian peoples in the struggle for an Amazon free from illegal mining, demanding concrete actions from the Peruvian state and the international community to stop this threat.





CONFENIAE TERRITORIAL MEETING



The Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA) attended the Meeting of Territorial Leaders of Grassroots Organizations, organized by the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of the Ecuadorian Amazon (CONFENIAE). This event, held in the community of Unión Base, Puyo, brought together territorial leaders and some presidents of the 23 affiliated organizations, with the aim of strengthening indigenous governance in the Ecuadorian Amazon.

Camilo Huamoni, Territorial Leader of CONFENIAE, together with the technical team from SIT CONFENIAE, led the sessions, highlighting the importance of territorial articulation for the defense of indigenous rights. With its participation, COICA reaffirmed its commitment to protecting Amazonian territories.

The implementation of early warning systems was a central point in the discussions, highlighting their vital role in protecting territorial defenders from external threats such as illegal mining, logging and extractivism. These alerts not only allow for an immediate response, but are also essential for forwarding complaints to state and international bodies, protecting those who risk their lives to defend the Amazon.

This space was an opportunity to strengthen ties between the communities and to continue building joint strategies to guarantee the protection of the territories and their defenders.



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