

Call to action for Amazonia!

Protect Amazonia!

Life is One and is in Our Hands

We call on all governments, corporate leaders and investors in Amazonian countries and those who import, consume or trade products from the Amazon to act now to protect the Amazon and its people. Through the following actions:

- 1. RESOLVE LEGAL LAND-TENURE INSECURITY.**
- 2. ADOPT ONE HEALTH.**
- 3. GROW A JUST, EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY FROM COVID-19.**
- 4. COORDINATE PROTECTION AND RESTORATION OF THE AMAZON.**
- 5. SIGNATORIES TO THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY TO WORK TOGETHER ON A COHERENT FRAMEWORK OF ACTION.**
- 6. CORPORATE LEADERS MUST TAKE SCIENTIFIC ADVICE AND MEET AMBITIOUS TARGETS FOR CARBON NEUTRALITY AND ZERO DEFORESTATION.**
- 7. IMPORTING MARKETS AND CONSUMERS MUST ENSURE COMPANIES COMPLY WITH HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS.**
- 8. CIVIL-SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS TO UNITE FOR THE AMAZON AND ITS PEOPLES.**

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Background statement

We, organizations, groups and stewards who live and work in the Amazon, who have come together at the Global Landscapes Forum Amazonia 2021 with scientists, development agencies, governments and thousands of concerned others, call for coordinated action to prevent a tipping point that leads to the disappearance of countless forms of life and threatens human existence itself.

We acknowledge past achievements that have supported Amazonia's integrity, including legal and constitutional assurances of ancestral rights, national laws recognizing the rights of Mother Earth and policies that significantly reduce deforestation. We must maintain and act upon these.

We recognize Amazonia's social, cultural and political diversity and its many peoples, nationalities and groups living according to their own ways and traditions. This diversity must be maintained. Human rights for all who live in Amazonia must be ensured, including Indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants and other traditional communities, who are bearing disproportionately high violations, of human rights and of the right to their territories and ancestral lands, because of insecure land tenure, illegal activities and weak law enforcement.

Indigenous peoples and local communities have a deep spiritual connection to, and knowledge of, their territories and its management. Their knowledge is a treasure that can enrich a new paradigm of human–nature interaction: Rethinking the economics of our societies, with their overconsumption that is destroying the ability of our generous planet to sustain life. Economic change is essential for preserving the socio-cultural and biological diversity of Amazonia and the future of life on Earth.

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We call on all governments, corporate leaders and investors in Amazonian countries and those who import, consume or trade products from the Amazon to act now to protect the Amazon and its people. Through the following actions:

1. **ENSURE HUMAN RIGHTS ARE UPHELD AND RESOLVE LEGAL LAND-TENURE INSECURITY.** Strengthen the rights of Indigenous peoples and local communities to their lands, territories and natural resources. Indigenous peoples and local communities have been managing most of the remaining healthy and productive ecosystems for generations yet their rights to these lands are often not recognized, are insecure or are outrightly violated. We see a viable path for the protection and sustainability of the biological and cultural wealth of the Amazon that rests on legal security, recognition and protection of our rights through direct political representation by democratic processes.
2. **ADOPT ONE HEALTH.** Embed the well-being and health of nature and people in all land-use, economic and infrastructural planning in the Amazon. For the benefit of all beings, One Health will create an abundance of positive, cross-societal outcomes, including avoidance of future pandemics. The rights of nature must be a major priority and include non-market approaches to reduce overconsumption and exploitation of the Earth.
3. **GROW A JUST, EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY FROM COVID-19.** This must include a critical, scientific and respectful rethinking of our relationship with nature and how we define progress and economic growth.
4. **COORDINATE PROTECTION AND RESTORATION OF THE AMAZON.** Coordinated action on the ground and cross-sectoral, harmonized policies with just and effective law enforcement are crucial to conserving the Amazon's ecosystems. Such political structures already exist and must be streamlined and coordinated for greater and faster impact.

5. **SIGNATORIES TO THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY TO WORK TOGETHER ON A COHERENT FRAMEWORK OF ACTION.**
6. **CORPORATE LEADERS MUST TAKE SCIENTIFIC ADVICE AND MEET AMBITIOUS TARGETS FOR CARBON NEUTRALITY AND ZERO DEFORESTATION.** Companies must recognize their economic power and its impact on peoples, landscapes and ecosystems, from sourcing raw material through to offsetting carbon. Compliance with the gold standard for rights and other safeguards and transparent, public reporting on progress is critical.
7. **IMPORTING MARKETS AND CONSUMERS MUST ENSURE COMPANIES COMPLY WITH HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS.** Provisions must be in place to hold companies to account, ensuring compliance with due-diligence obligations to human rights and environmental safeguarding.
8. **CIVIL-SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS TO UNITE FOR THE AMAZON AND ITS PEOPLES.**

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We must act now.

While recognizing that our individual spheres of influence differ greatly, we also recognize the power that every single person has in changing our collective future. As individual members of society, we take responsibility for being part of the solution.

The undersigned individuals and those who represent organizations understand that urgent action must be taken now to maintain the bio-cultural diversity, ecological functions and beauty of the Amazon's forests and rivers.

We commit ourselves to do all possible within our spheres of influence to help maintain Amazonia for its peoples and all of humanity.

We will lead by example, inspiring, but also holding accountable, others to do the same, particularly those with power and influence.

Endorse the statement and see the signatories list [here](#).