

NEWSLETTER

YUNIBARI- TROPICHE CORRIER

DECEMBER, 2024

CTI IN ACTION

Publication gathers data on biodiversity in the Yavari-Tapiche Territorial Corridor

Launched during the Cop 16 (Biodiversity Conference) in Cali, Colombia, the publication *The Biodiversity of the Yavari-Tapiche Territorial Corridor* gathers data from a megadiverse region on the border between Brazil and Peru, in the Western Amazon.

Prepared by the *Centro de Trabalho Indigenista* (CTI), in partnership with the Union of Indigenous Peoples of the Javari Valley (Univaja) and the Organization of Indigenous Peoples of the East (Orpio), with support from the Rainforest Norway Foundation (RFN), the document highlights the rich variety of species present in the region, including mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians and plants, and highlights the importance of the area for the conservation of global biodiversity.

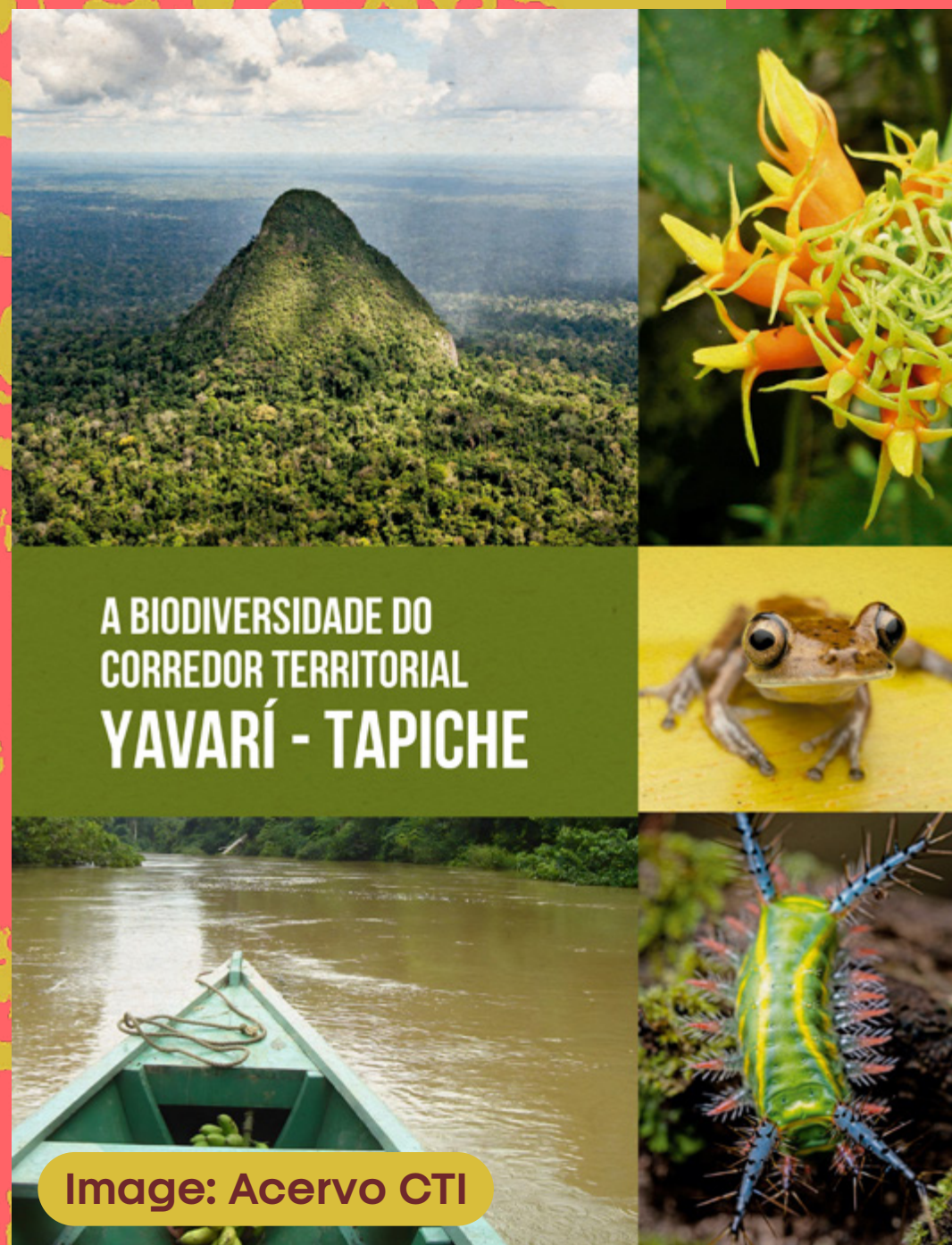
By compiling data from biological surveys carried out in the region, mainly the rapid biological inventories carried out by The Field Museum in Chicago in cooperation with governmental and

non-governmental organizations, indigenous organizations, and universities and research institutes in Peru, and the environmental surveys carried out by CTI, in collaboration with the indigenous peoples of the Vale do Javari Indigenous Land and their organizations, it is possible to get an idea of the richness and importance of the region's biodiversity.

The region is home to an exceptional variety of species, many of them rare, threatened or endemic, with high rates of biodiversity and healthy populations of animals at risk of extinction in other areas.

There are at least 59 species of medium to large mammals, including big cats. With 17 species, the region has one of the greatest diversities of primates in the world, especially the red uacari and the goeldi marmoset. The area is home to several species of birds, including curassows, hawks, parrots and migratory birds.

Its rivers and streams are home to a rich fish fauna, with estimates exceeding 500 species,



including pirarucus, aruanãs and several species of commercial importance. The region is home to several species of reptiles and amphibians, including caimans, turtles and frogs, with the discovery of several species new to science.

In addition, the corridor has one of the most diverse forests on the planet, with communities of trees and shrubs among the most biodiverse in the world, including timber species of high commercial value such as cedar and samaúma.

Access the publication ‘Biodiversity in the Yavarí-Tapiche Territorial Corridor’ here





HIGHLIGHTS

Orpio at COP 16: promoting Territorial Corridors for Indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation as Indigenous climate solutions

As part of COP 16 of the United Nations Biodiversity Conference in Cali, Colombia, the Organización Regional de Pueblos Indígenas del Oriente (Orpio) promoted the Territorial Corridors for Indigenous Peoples in Isolation and Initial Contact initiative.

Since 2014, Orpio has led the Yavari-Tapiche Territorial Corridor initiative. In the process, it has joined forces with the Aidesep Ucayali Regional Organization (Orau) and the Union of Indigenous Peoples of the Javari Valley (Univaja) to develop joint

work focused on protecting indigenous territories and ensuring the governance of these spaces through a cross-border approach.

This initiative aims to protect the immense territories of indigenous peoples in isolation and initial contact who live and move along the Corridor, located between the departments of Loreto and Ucayali in Peru and the states of Amazonas and Acre in Brazil.

Find out more on the Orpio website



What are Indigenous Reserves and the protection of peoples in voluntary isolation in Peru?

Check out the video by the Regional Organization of Indigenous Peoples of the East (Orpio) and learn what indigenous reserves are and why they are essential for the protection of Indigenous Peoples in Isolation and Initial Contact in Peru.

Within the boundaries of the Yavari-Tapiche Territorial Corridor, in its Peruvian part, there are three officially established Indigenous Reserves: Yavari-Tapiche, Isconahua and Sierra del Divisor Occidental, as well as the proposed Yavari-Mirim reserve.

These territories allow indigenous peoples in Isolation and Initial Contact in Peru to maintain their traditional ways of life and their right to exist without interference. In addition, the native communities living around these reserves maintain their rights to the sustainable use of natural resources, such as artisanal fishing and hunting, while respecting their ancestral practices and the conservation of biodiversity.

Find out more about the importance of these reserves for the protection of the Amazon and the fight against the global climate crisis.

Watch the video and join Orpio's campaign in defense of the rights of indigenous peoples

Image: Orpio

PEOPLES IN ISOLATION ON THE AGENDA

MPI participates in Peruvian government event on policies for indigenous peoples in isolation and initial contact

29/11/2024 - The Ministry of Indigenous Peoples, through the Department of Indigenous Peoples in Isolation and Initial Contact, took part in an event promoted by the Peruvian Ministry of Culture on the work experiences of Amazonian countries in protecting indigenous peoples in isolation and initial contact. The event was also attended by the National Foundation for Indigenous Peoples (FUNAI) and representatives of the governments of Ecuador and Colombia.

Called *Conversatorio sobre Experiencias de Trabajo en Ambito Piaci de Países Amazônicos*, the debate was promoted by Peru's Ministry of Culture on the morning of November 14 in Lima. The dialogue promoted the exchange of experiences on strategies for working with indigenous communities in isolation and initial contact, with the presence

of academic experts and government representatives to identify plans to promote the protection and promotion of the rights of these peoples.

Find out more on the Federal Government's website 

New group of indigenous in isolation and initial contact has been exposed for more than a year in Amazonas

15/11/2024 - On August 12, 2023, a team led by the Pastoral Land Commission (CPT) was surveying riverside and indigenous communities near the Uatumã River, in the municipality of Itapiranga (AM), when it came across a group of indigenous people in voluntary isolation.

The casual encounter astonished indigenousists because the group was not listed in FUNAI's database, which lists 114 records of indigenous peoples in isolation in the

country, in three main categories: information under qualification, reference under study and confirmed reference. The record in the creek has now been incorporated into FUNAI's database.

The big concern now revolves around the future and safety of the people in isolation. The point in the forest where the indigenous people were spotted is a management area exploited by a timber company, Mil Madeiras, and is around 30 km from the boundaries of blocks owned by an oil and gas company, Eneva.

So far, however, FUNAI has not published an ordinance restricting its use, nor has set up a monitoring base to prevent possible attacks on the group. The presence of indigenous people could run counter to economic interests in the region.

Read more in the Agência Pública report 

FUNAI promotes dialog to improve protection actions for indigenous peoples in isolation and initial contact

05/11/2024 - In November, FUNAI held a meeting of the Ethno-Environmental Protection Front Coordinators (FPE). With the support of the Indian Museum - FUNAI's scientific and cultural body - the meeting brought together the decentralized units of the FPEs and the General Coordination of Indigenous Peoples in Isolation and Initial Contact, linked to the Territorial Protection Directorate (CGIIRC/DPT).

The topics included FUNAI's restructuring process; the functioning of the Ethno-Environmental Protection Bases (BAPEs); progress on the actions envisaged by the Claim of Non-compliance with Fundamental Precept (ADPF) 991; the monitoring of indigenous peoples in isolation and initial contact; the reactivation of the Council for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Isolation and Initial Contact; and dialogue with the Ministry of Indigenous

Peoples (MPI) on training and plans for dis-intrusion and territorial protection.

Find out more on the Federal Government's website



Indigenous peoples in isolation approach village in Mamoadate Indigenous Land and Manxineru people fear conflict

01/11/2024 - Indigenous people from the Mamoadate Indigenous Land (TI) are worried about the possibility of conflicts with the Mashco-Piro group in isolation - considered the largest indigenous peoples in isolation in the world - who are getting closer and closer to the Extrema village. On October 31st, the group in isolation ransacked one of the village's houses, taking shovels, clothes and blankets. "They came and went back the same way. This appearance is happening, and the monitoring and surveillance team went to the site to check it out," says Lucas Manxineru, leader of the Extrema village and

president of the Manxinerune Ptohi Phunputuru Poktshi Hajene Association (MAPPHA).

After recent episodes of sightings and confrontations in Peru, in the Madre de Dios region, close to the border with Acre, the TI Mamoadate surveillance monitoring group carried out an expedition on September 30 to record traces of the "suspicious" relatives, as they are called by the Manxineru people. Tracks and footprints were found, as well as traces of the group fishing.

The situation in this border region is serious. In September of this year, two logging workers were killed in the Mashco-Piro territory, in Peru, after a confrontation with the people in isolation. The local organizations *Federação Nativa Madre de Dios e Afluentes* (Fenamad) and *Asociación Interétnica de Desarrollo de la Selva Peruana* (Aidesep) have been denouncing that, "due to the massive invasion of the territory in which they live by legal and illegal loggers", the appearances have become increasingly frequent and worrying.

Find out more on the CPI-Acre website





NEWS FROM THE BORDER

MPI presents protection plan for TI Vale do Javari at hearing in Washington

11/22/2024 - A public hearing in Washington on November 13 was held by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to address security in the Vale do Javari Indigenous Land, an area that is part of the Yavari-Tapiche Territorial Corridor.

The hearing dealt with the precautionary measures issued by the IACHR in 2022, at a time when indigenist Bruno Pereira and journalist Dom Phillips were still missing. The meeting was called so that civil society and government representatives could present the progress made in complying with the precautionary measures and make a general assessment of the current situation.

Among the actions to comply with the precautionary measures, MPI was responsible for drawing up and implementing the Protection Plan for the Vale do Javari Indigenous Land.

The MPI presented the figures for the operations carried out under the plan so far: there have been 36 Fundai inspection actions, 4 major Ibama inspection operations, 34 Federal Police operations against environmental crimes and 118 against drug trafficking.

Between June 2023 and the present, the coordinated action promoted by the MPI through the Territorial Protection Plan for the Vale do Javari Indigenous Land resulted in the seizure of 98 mining dredges; the destruction of 17 tugboats and 53 engines used in illegal mining

activities. 28 environmental infraction notices were issued, totaling R\$15 million in fines. More than 2 tons of game, almost 4 tons of fish, 634 chelonians and 6,567 tracajá eggs were seized, all the fruit of illegal hunting and fishing.

Seized were 76 guns and 352 rounds of ammunition of various calibers, 35 chainsaws, 322 logs of wood, 70 boats, 47 outboard motors, 2,400 meters of mesh and various fishing gear, 114,000 liters of diesel and 7,665 books of gasoline, 11 cell phones and 29 starlink antennas.

Read more on the news published on the federal government's website ➤

FUNAI repudiates erroneous statements and reaffirms commitment to protecting indigenous rights and the safety of its employees

02/11/2024 - In the face of erroneous statements made at a deliberative meeting of the Federal Senate's Constitution and Justice Committee, held on 30/10/2024, which dealt, among other matters, with the carrying of firearms for members of the National Foundation for Indigenous Peoples (FUNAI) in inspection activities, the indigenous agency issued a clarification note.

In a statement, FUNAI emphasized that the deaths of Bruno Pereira and Dom Phillips are not isolated cases, recalling that cases of threats to the lives of the Foundation's employees are recurrent throughout the country. The note contextualizes the escalation of violence in the Vale do Javari region, especially since 2018. That year alone, FUNAI's

Ethnoenvironmental Protection Base, responsible for monitoring and controlling access to the Vale do Javari Indigenous Land, located at the confluence of the Ituí and Itaquai rivers, was shot at seven times. The following year, Maxciel Pereira dos Santos, a former Air Force military officer and Funai employee in the Javari Valley for more than twelve years, with extensive experience in operations to combat mining, illegal logging, illegal hunting and fishing, was executed at the age of 34 with a gunshot to the head, in the center of the city of Tabatinga/AM.

The note also points out that the case, initially investigated by the Amazonas Civil Police, was taken over by the Federal Police in 2022. According to a new line of investigation, Maxciel was executed by the same illegal fishing group and drug traffickers who ambushed and murdered Bruno Pereira and Dom

Phillips in 2022. Both investigations are still ongoing.

[Read Funai's full statement](#) 

Who is Colombia, identified by the PF as the mastermind behind the deaths of Dom Phillips and Bruno Pereira?

04/11/2024 - Rubén Dario da Silva Villar, known as Colombia, has been named as the mastermind behind the murders of Brazilian indigenist Bruno Pereira and British journalist Dom Phillips, killed in June 2022 in the Vale do Javari indigenous land in Amazonas. Colombia is accused by the PF of also being a drug trafficker and head of a criminal organization that practices illegal fishing and hunting.

[Read more on the BBC website](#) 

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