



August 2019

Dear friends,

Greetings from the Global Alliance of Territorial Communities. We are a partnership of indigenous and local communities conformed by the Indonesian Alliance of Indigenous Peoples of the Archipelago (AMAN), the Mesoamerican Alliance of Peoples and Forests (AMPB), the Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA), and the Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (APIB). Since 2014, we have been highlighting the challenges faced by our communities and working towards five common goals:

- The respect and recognition of our territorial rights.
- Respect for free, prior and informed consent.
- Access to specific climate change mitigation funding.
- A halt to the threats, criminalization and murder of our leaders.
- Recognition of our ancestral knowledge on climate change mitigation policies.

Despite some advances in the struggle for our rights, our communities remain under a state of alert; the systematic murders of our leaders, the violations and lack of recognition of our land rights, as well as a prevalent economic model based on the unsustainable exploitation of our territories constitute a constant threat to our existence.

Our response to these and other threats has been a strategy of proactive resistance. We want to show the world our contributions to climate change mitigation and environmental protection, and to mobilize solidarity for our cause, which is also the cause of millions of people who care about the future of our planet. **In this context we are planning worldwide digital mobilization from August to September 2019.**

On August 9th we will celebrate the UN Indigenous Peoples Day with a worldwide call to action: sending a thank you note to the Guardians of the Forest in the form of a photo or a short video using the hashtag #GuardiansOfTheForest. During the UN Summit for Climate Change, we will project those pictures and videos in public buildings in NYC and will call decision makers from all over the world to take a stand in support of our communities.

We want to ask your organization to join our campaign by promoting the call to action on your social media pages, inviting your followers to submit their thank you notes via Instagram, as well as engaging your staff and leadership to submit their own photos. In retribution, we will share back pictures of their image projected on our social media channels. In the following days we'll provide all the necessary instructions, as well as a social media toolkit and online assets for the campaign.

In case of a positive response we'd appreciate if you could assign a point of contact that we can continue to engage to make this project a reality.

! We are counting on you!

*Global Alliance of Territorial Communities*

