



## **Reduce global deforestation with Indigenous territoriality and Full Life Plans**

***Statement of COICA to “Governors’ Climate & Forests”-GCF (Barcelona, 16.6.15)***

**We welcome** this annual meeting to GCF, on behalf of COICA, legitimate and representative organization of 70 people in isolation and 400 indigenous peoples, with a territorial backbone that have 5000 base communities, articulated in 400 local federations and these in national confederations of the 09 Amazonian countries like COIAB (Brazil), AIDSEP(Peru), OPIAC (Colombia), CIDOB (Bolivia), CONFENIAE (Ecuador), Venezuela (ORPIA), Guyana (APA), Surinam (OIS), French Guyana (FOAG). As the largest Amazon indigenous territorial network, located in the largest continuous forest block, this implies a strategic responsibility of the indigenous Amazon to expand the alliance of indigenous peoples of the world's tropical forests to face the serious challenges of climate crisis, based on our collective rights and self-determination *with Full Life Plans* in our ancestral territoriality.

**We fully share** the principles and objectives of the Working Group of “Governors’ *Climate & Forests*” (GCF), to reduce deforestation in sub-national governments associated in GCF, especially of Declaration of Rio Branco (August, 2014) where we participate actively and with the objective of ***“reduce deforestation 80% by 2020 in the 26 sub-national and state and development of transparent mechanisms for a substantial part of the emission reduction benefits is delivered indigenous peoples”***

In this framework, we formulate to the GCF **our indigenous Amazonian commitments and contributions** to achieve this great challenge:

- ✓ We contribute **240 million hectares** of tropical forests, owned by indigenous communities, which contain 26,250 million tons of carbon, equivalent to 96,075 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>, Similar to global emissions of 2010, 2011 and 2012.
- ✓ We provide integrated management of these 240 million hectares to hold **24 ecosystem functions of the Amazon**, including those of direct climate impact, such as the balance and carbon storage, but also solar refraction and evapotranspiration, involving a wider holistic view of forests.
- ✓ We provide commitments for reducing forest emissions in our territories, although they are already minimal, but they can be reduced further by promoting **agroforestry, hydro biological management or natural regeneration**, to stop deforestation and degradation temptations; and it includes advance agreements with “*Foro de Bienes de Consumo*” for supply chains with zero net deforestation.
- ✓ We provide organizational strength and territorial surveillance, to help governments, subnational and central, to stop the expansion of large **oil palm** plantations and other agribusiness and destructive monocultures, as well as major motors of deforestation and degradation projects such as illegal logging, oil, mining, roads, waterways, railways, hydroelectric.
- ✓ We provide approaches and **weather, effective and innovative tools**, in the debate and climatic processes, which are: holistic view of forest, *Redd+ Indígena*, MRV Indígena (Monitoring, Reporting and Verification), targeting and intercultural adaptation of global climate fund, integrated approach between mitigation and adaptation.

Indigenous peoples are ready to face these strategic contributions to global climate disaster, because they are based on our culture, territory and organization. To move in that direction **we call upon the GCF** joint institutional arrangements such as:

- Flesh out and boost our proposal of **Indigenous Territorial Jurisdictions**, in Amazon subnational areas, to establish commitments and actions with sub-national governments of the Amazon countries, for reducing forest emissions, mitigation and adaptation, through the consolidation of rights, territorial management and governance, including certification of 100 million hectares that are pending.

- Sign ***an agreement of understanding between GCF and COICA***, where becomes noticeable the shape and quality of COICA participation in the structure and actions of GCF, as well as issues and strategies of common action and responsibility for its implementation.
- Organize joint incidence in the COP21 around on the protocol definitions ***post Kyoto***, "national contributions to reduce emissions" (***INDC***) and the "information system of safeguards" (***SIS***) and targeting indigenous and intercultural adaptation of ***Fondo Verde del Clima*** and other climate funds; where we should come together in the connection between human rights and climate crisis, the contribution of indigenous territorial consolidation, the expansion of experiences in *Redd+ Indígena* and regulations on extractive pressure megaprojects.

We wish that Barcelona, Catalan city of diversity, have success in this annual meeting, in the goals of GCF of such importance for humanity.

***Edwin Campos Vásquez, HuitotoPeople  
General Coordinator de COICA***