

# POLICY REPORT

Empowering Indigenous communities to protect our forests and its biodiversity through videos and geospatial data



PEOPLE'S  
PLANET  
PROJECT

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# WHO WE ARE



**We believe that video technology and geospatial data could be used as a tool for the advancement of Indigenous rights and the preservation of nature.**

People's Planet Project is a global movement, empowering Indigenous communities to protect our forests and its biodiversity through videos and geospatial data. We support Indigenous communities and equip them with filmmaking skills and cartography tools to capture environmental change and Indigenous forestry destruction, telling first-hand stories that will create social and policy change at local and global levels. We are driven by the belief that providing Indigenous communities with a skill set to tell powerful visual stories on the unsustainable practices faced, will enable policy action around issues that affect the livelihood and well-being of the most vulnerable communities.



# WHAT'S AT STAKE

**AN ESTIMATED 18 MILLION ACRES OF FOREST, WHICH IS ROUGHLY THE SIZE OF THE COUNTRY OF PANAMA, ARE LOST EACH YEAR.\***

Indigenous communities are the first people to experience changing climates ranging from extreme droughts to long-lasting rainfall causing floods and havoc. Indigenous forests are cleared for commercial purposes, releasing carbon into the atmosphere to drive global warming while leaving Indigenous communities landless. Those communities are left with no avenues to resist the unsustainable land grabbing and address this on a local and global level.

\*United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)



# OUR APPROACH

**01**

## **WE TELL...**

...stories with purpose. Indigenous peoples are on the frontline of the dangerous fight for the world's forests. We bring Indigenous rights to the attention of civil society and policy makers through participatory films and geospatial data.

**02**

## **WE SUPPORT...**

...Indigenous communities and equip them with filmmaking and cartography skills to capture their daily struggles regarding Indigenous forestry destruction and tell first-hand stories that would allow social and policy change at a local and global level. The goal is to use videos and spatial data as proof of evidence to reclaim Indigenous forestry lands back.

**03**

## **WE COLLABORATE...**

...with environmental lawyers involved in ground breaking environmental and human rights issues globally. The strategic partnerships and the geostorytelling approach will enable Indigenous communities to advocate and campaign for environmental and Indigenous rights on a local and global level.

04

## OUR ULTIMATE GOAL...

...is to transfer filmmaking and cartography skills to the communities who are on the frontline of the dangerous fight to protect the forests of our planet. The video content and maps produced by those communities will help to document the human rights abuses and deforestation faced everyday. We connect Indigenous communities with environmental lawyers to help them use the video content and maps as a proof of evidence in court to reclaim and protect forest territories from deforestation.



**COMMITTED TO SUPPORT THE GUARDIANS OF THE FORESTS  
IN THEIR JOURNEY TO PROTECT THE LUNGS OF OUR PLANET.**



# GEO STORY CAMPS



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# GHOSTORY CAMPS AT HEART

## WHAT IT ENTAILS

- We train a new generation of Indigenous community members by providing the tools and skills to produce video content and develop geospatial maps to capture environmental change and tell first-hand stories that would allow social and policy change at a local and global level.
- We organize GeoStory Camps, i.e. filmmaking and cartography workshops. The GeoStory Camps are realized while partnering with local filmmakers and geospatial analysts who are able to offer those workshops in the local spoken language. The ultimate goal is to use video content and geospatial data as a proof of evidence to reclaim Indigenous forestry lands back.
- Indigenous community members who attend a GeoStory Camp will have the opportunity to receive a training of trainers. This will allow for a sustainable knowledge circle among the community.



# GHOSTORY CAMPS AT HEART

## OBJECTIVES

01

To use video technology and geospatial data as a tool for the advancement of Indigenous rights and the preservation of nature.

02

To transfer filmmaking and cartography skills to the communities who are on the frontline of the dangerous fight to protect the forests of our planet.

03

To ensure local ownership and long-term project sustainability.

04

To connect Indigenous communities with environmental lawyers and use the video content and maps as a proof of evidence in court to reclaim and protect forest territories.



# BOARD AND GOVERNANCE

Comprised of representatives from the film industry, academic institutions, Indigenous activists and lawyers, the Advisory Board is responsible primarily for strategy and oversight of the Management Team who are responsible for the daily operations of People's Planet Project. Members of the Advisory Board do not receive a salary or any other compensation for their work, and typically meet twice a year to discuss the long-term strategy. The following list includes all members of the Advisory Board:

***Note: Members of the Board do not receive a salary or any other compensation for their work.***

## **JÉRÉMIE GILBERT, ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER**

Jérémie Gilbert is a Professor of Human Rights Law. His main area of research is on the rights of Indigenous communities, particularly their rights to land and natural resources. Jérémie has worked with several Indigenous communities across the globe and regularly serves as a consultant for several international organizations supporting Indigenous rights. As a legal expert, he has been involved in providing legal briefs, expert opinions and carrying out evidence gathering in several cases involving Indigenous peoples' land rights across the globe.

## **MARINE CALMET, ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER**

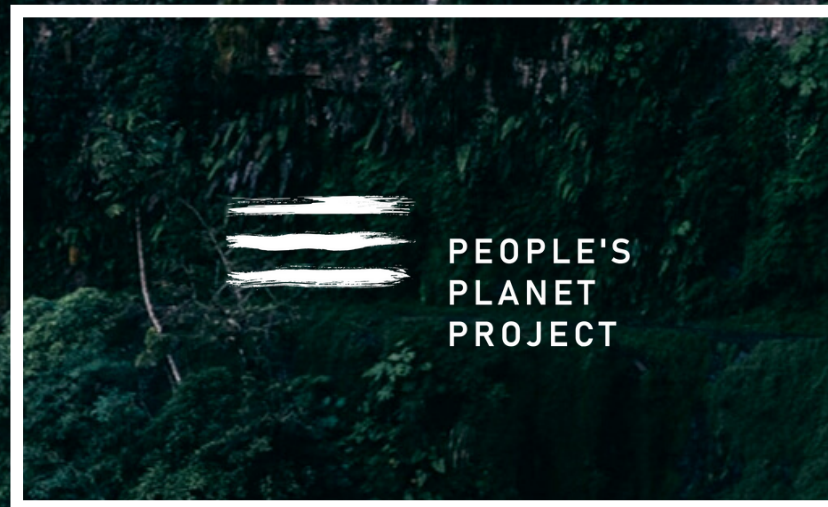
Marine Calmet is a lawyer and environmentalist, committed to the recognition of the rights of nature and Indigenous peoples. She is the co-founder of Wild Legal, a nonprofit organization that promotes the study, practice and advancement of environmental law. Marine is committed to ignite new effective responses to the ecological problems that surround us.

## **JULIAN BUSQUESTS, ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER**

Julian Busquets is an award-winning documentary film director who started Veedro Films, a film production company in São Paulo. Julian is known for working directly with Indigenous tribes throughout the Brazilian Amazon. He is currently in post production for “The Spirit of Tatá”, a feature length documentary about a 103-year-old shaman from the Yawanawá Tribe. Julian's hands on experience also led to a documentary about the “Guardians of the Forest” from the Guajajara Tribe, premiered on Good Morning America in conjunction with the ABC News Investigative Unit.

## **ABDEL MANDILI, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER**

Abdel Mandili founded People's Planet Project with the aim to assist Indigenous communities in their battle against deforestation. He has focused on raising awareness of issues about climate change and Indigenous livelihood destruction through his work as a filmmaker. His most recent documentary ‘The Indigenous Quest’ is about the massive forest loss in Borneo caused by big multinationals to clear land for palm oil plantations at the cost of Indigenous customary lands.



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People's Planet Project is a nonprofit registered in The Netherlands under RSIN: 860079363