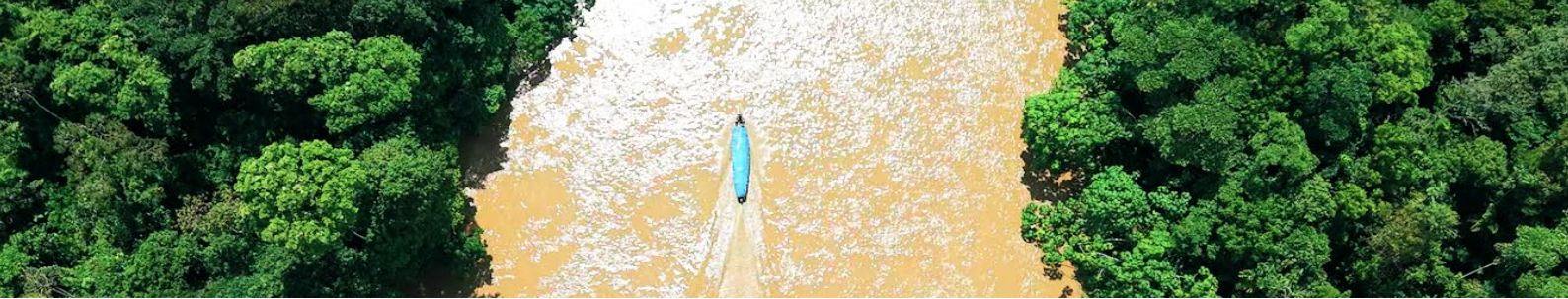




FOSPA ECUADOR - ONE TERRITORY
12th Pan-Amazonian Social Forum

August 16–22, 2026



1. Title

12th Pan-Amazonian Social Forum - FOSPA ECUADOR

A Single Territory, Free from Extractivism

2. Context and Rationale

The **Pan-Amazonian Social Forum (FOSPA)** is a biannual, autonomous, and pluralistic regional process that brings together Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendant Peoples, local communities, social movements, civil society organizations, academia and communities from the nine countries of the Amazon basin: Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, Bolivia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname, and French Guiana. Its objective is to coordinate struggles in defense of life, territorial rights, environmental and social justice, and self-governance systems in the face of the environmental, social, and civilizational threats facing the Amazon in the current context of the global climate crisis.

The Amazon region continues to face structural threats stemming from extractive development models and colonial legacies, such as oil and mining exploitation, agribusiness, and infrastructure megaprojects, which cause deforestation, biodiversity loss and climate instability, while undermining the autonomy, cultures and rights of Amazonian peoples and communities. This dynamic is pushing the Amazon toward a critical point of no return: deforestation already accounts for approximately 18% of the forest, and an additional 38% is degraded, affecting the connectivity and functioning of the ecosystem¹, increasing the risk of an ecological, social and climatic collapse with irreversible consequences on a regional and global scale.

In the face of this scenario, **FOSPA** has established itself as a fundamental space for collective reflection, coordination and political action from within the Amazonian territories. Since its creation in 2002 as part of the mandate of the World Social Forum, FOSPA has promoted the defense of territories, the strengthening of self-governance, and the guarantee of the rights of the peoples inhabiting the Amazon. Recent editions have reaffirmed the urgency of confronting extractivism and advancing collective strategies for ecological integrity and social justice throughout the Pan-Amazon region.

Added to this context is an international situation of geopolitical disputes over strategic resources, which intensify the pressure on the Amazon and position it as a key territory in the reconfiguration

of global power. Armed conflicts and economic crises exacerbate this situation, promoting the relaxation of environmental standards and the expansion of the military presence in the region. This dynamic is part of a broader crisis—ecological, economic, political, and civilizational—that demands strategic responses from FOSPA commensurate with the depth of these historic changes.

Within this framework, the 12th Pan-Amazonian Social Forum (XII FOSPA 2026) will be held in Ecuador from August 15 to 23, 2026, as part of a political and strategic decision for regional coordination. This process is neither isolated nor disjointed; on the contrary, it builds upon, gives continuity to and deepens the mandates established in previous editions, such as the Action Initiatives, the Pan-Amazonian Declaration of the 10th FOSPA in Belém (Brazil), and the Mandates of the 11th FOSPA in Rurrenabaque (Bolivia). Thus, the 12th FOSPA in Ecuador is designed as a process aimed at solidifying commitments and building an action plan that translates these agreements into coordinated actions across the territories and throughout the Pan-Amazon region.

The holding of the FOSPA in Ecuador come at a strategic moment, marked by the intensification of extractivism and the violation of rights in the region. In this context, Yasuní has emerged as a global symbol of the struggle—co-led by indigenous peoples and civil society—to keep fossil fuels in the ground. This case reflects a key process of democratic participation, in which citizens have defended their territories and nature against extractivism. These processes reaffirm the need to strengthen participatory processes and democracy, making FOSPA Ecuador 2026 an opportunity to project and consolidate these struggles.

In this sense, the 12th FOSPA Ecuador 2026 represents a unique opportunity to strengthen the governance of Amazonian peoples, revitalize the coordination of social movements, and consolidate a common political agenda in the face of multiple crises. As a FOSPA co-led by Indigenous Peoples and civil society, it will allow for deepening regional alliances, advancing shared demands, strengthening resistance strategies and promoting alternatives based on autonomy, self-determination and the rights of Mother Earth.

¹ Scientific Panel for the Amazon. 2025. Available at: <https://www.sp-amazon.org/es/publicaciones>

3. Objectives

Overall Objective

To convene the peoples and communities of the Amazon basin—including Indigenous Peoples and Nationalities, Afro-descendant Peoples, local communities, civil society organizations, academic partners, and allies from the region and other territories—to collectively strengthen resistance to extractivism, articulate common agendas and build action-oriented networks.

Specific Objectives

- Critically assess the current state of extractivist pressures in the Amazon and their impacts on territories, ecosystems, human rights, the rights of Nature and the integrity of peoples and communities.

- Articulate coordinated strategies at the regional and territorial levels, led by Amazonian peoples and communities, for the defense and protection of the Amazon and to promote rights-based alternatives with a gender, intergenerational and intercultural focus.
- Consolidate FOSPA's mandate to strengthen actions to defend and protect the Amazon and the peoples who inhabit it as a key territory for humanity.
- Create and strengthen spaces for intercultural, intergenerational and intergender dialogue that promote the exchange of knowledge and collective shared learning.
- To highlight and position, through the voices of the diverse actors in the Amazon basin, the territorial threats, rights violations and proposals for moving toward an Amazon free of extractivism, where rights and livelihoods are guaranteed.





4. Houses and themes: the architecture of FOSPA

The themes to be addressed at the 12th FOSPA form the basis of its methodological structure, which is organized into thematic houses that are divided into specific working groups. These houses are not conceived as isolated spaces, but as territories for dialogue, coordination and the collective development of proposals.

Each house will be a living, self-managed space where experiences, knowledge and strategies from the territories converge. The agreed-upon houses reflect the region's main struggles and priorities:

- Territorial defense against extractivism.
- Autonomy and self-governance.
- Rights of nature.
- Participation and consultation.
- Climate justice and transitions.
- Gender and diversity.
- Youth

Four main houses were established to organize the 12th FOSPA, in addition to a Permanent Youth Camp that will remain active throughout the event. Each house will address specific themes, as detailed below:

1 House of Extractivism-Free Territories for an Amazon with Rights

This house is configured as a political-strategic space for the comprehensive defense of the territories of Amazonian peoples against extractivism. It seeks to build a Pan-Amazonian action plan for the promotion and strengthening of territories free from extractive activities, especially hydrocarbons (oil and gas) and mining, highlighting the need to move toward territories free from fossil fuels. Through the coordination of territorial, legal, and political strategies, the aim is to curb the expansion of extractivism, restore affected territories and move toward post-extractive horizons based on the self-determination of peoples, agroecology, ecotourism, sustainable productive alternatives and the rights of nature.

The specific working groups for this initiative are:

- Fossil fuel-free territories (oil and gas)
- Mining-free territories
- Defense of the rights of nature (Amazon)

Cross-cutting subtopics for all three groups:

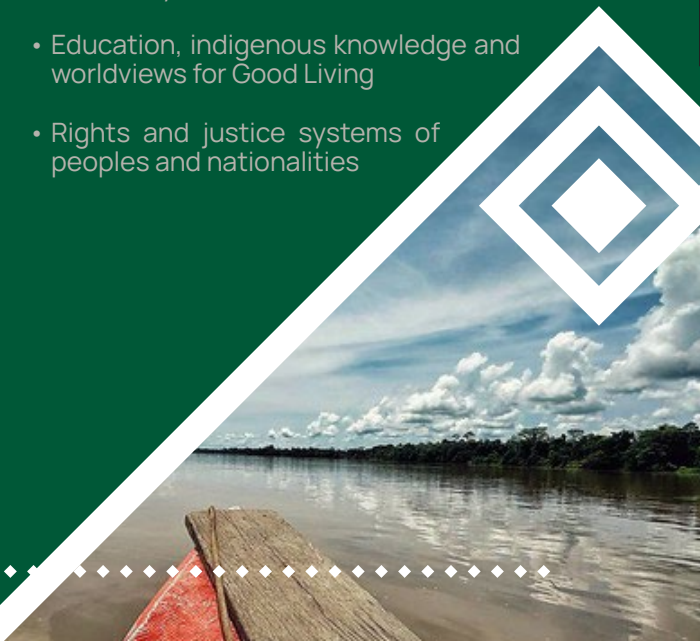
- Territorial governance
- Legal strategies
- Protection of Human Rights Defenders
- Strategic communication
- Mobilization and Advocacy

2 House of Autonomy, Self-Governance, and Rights of Peoples and Nationalities

This house positions itself as a political space to reaffirm the self-determination of Amazonian peoples and nationalities in the face of state and economic structures that have historically violated their rights. It advocates for self-governance as a key principle for the protection of territories and the Pan-Amazon region, and promotes concrete actions for the recognition of collective rights, indigenous justice systems, and the political and effective participation of peoples and nationalities at various levels of decision-making. It also reaffirms the value of indigenous knowledge, worldviews and educational systems as the foundation of Good Living.

The working groups for this house are:

- Self-determination, self-government and autonomy
- Education, indigenous knowledge and worldviews for Good Living
- Rights and justice systems of peoples and nationalities



3 House of Economies for Life and Climate Justice: From Debt and Extractivism to Transition and Transformative Economies

This house challenges the logic of dispossession in the Amazon, affirming horizons of transformation rooted in the peoples, territories and struggles for life. It seeks to articulate a critical reflection on the structures that subordinate life to the logic of capital and, at the same time, to highlight and strengthen proposals and political frameworks oriented toward territorial self-determination, climate justice and transformative local economies. It also promotes debate on the transition from extractive economies to economies for Good Living, challenging false climate solutions, financing structures and debt that perpetuate dispossession, and proposing alternatives from the territories.

The working groups for this house are:

- Alternative Economies for Life and Transformation
- Climate finance, justice, governance and false solutions
- Debt, Extractivism and Just Structural Transitions
- Illegal economies, violence and territorial control

4 House of Women's and Diversities' Resistance

The House of Women's Resistance has established itself as a collective space to highlight and confront the multiple forms of violence affecting Indigenous women across the Pan-Amazon region—in their bodies and territories—resulting from the extractivist, patriarchal and colonial model. It promotes an agenda addressing issues such as climate change, governance, gender-based violence, health, education and political participation, articulating proposals for Good Living. Likewise, it strengthens alliances and positions itself as an ongoing process of resistance and political construction for the rights, autonomy and sustainability of life in the Amazon.

The working groups for this house are:

- Democracy, political participation and fundamentalisms (political, social and religious)
- Criminalization, militarization and defenders of nature
- Comprehensive health, sexual and reproductive rights
- Traditional knowledge and cultural identity

This camp is a political and intergenerational space: a meeting point where young people from collectives, social organizations and indigenous communities across the Amazon basin and Ecuador come together. In the face of an extractivist model that strips territories of their resources and violates life, rights and Nature, as well as power structures that have historically excluded young voices from decision-making spaces, this space reaffirms the leading role of youth—indigenous, community-based and organizational—as a key force in the defense of the Amazon and the construction of post-extractive horizons.

Through the exchange of knowledge and intergenerational collaboration, the camp promotes political advocacy rooted in their own identities and strengthens collective action aimed at territorial, climate and cultural justice. In this way, it serves as a space for building post-extractive horizons, where young people not only participate but also lead processes of transformation.





5. Structure and Program

The 12th FOSPA will take place over **seven days**:

Dates	Main Activity
August 14	Arrival of international delegates
August 15	Trip to the Amazon
August 16–17	Field visits Participants will engage in territorial exchanges to gain firsthand knowledge of the impacts of extractivism and local land management initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Waorani Territory – removal of oil infrastructure• Toxic Tour with the Union of People Affected by Texaco's Oil Operations (UDAPT)• Territories affected by mining in the Amazon
August 18–20	Forum in Puyo, which will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plenary assemblies;• Thematic workshops and roundtables;• International Tribunal on the Rights of Nature;• Intercultural dialogues and case studies;• Cultural performances and youth forums;• Drafting and adoption of the FOSPA action plan.• Demonstration for Yasuní (3 Years of Non-Compliance)• Entrepreneurship Fair
August 21	Return to Quito – Demonstration for presentation of FOSPA results to authorities in Quito
August 22	Music Festival sponsored by FOSPA in Quito, as a platform designed to showcase and highlight the results of FOSPA
August 23	Delegations return





6. Expected outcomes of FOSPA

1) Pan-Amazonian political mandate adopted and disseminated

Approval and dissemination of the Mandate of the XII FOSPA Ecuador 2026, which articulates a common political position of Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendant Peoples, local communities and social organizations from the nine Amazonian countries, and includes concrete recommendations to influence international agendas on biodiversity and climate change, aimed at the comprehensive defense of the Amazon.

2) Regional Action Plan Against Extractivism – Common Agenda

Definition of a strategic regional and transboundary agenda, with priorities, concrete actions and commitments—including the coordination of continental mobilizations—to confront extractivism in the Amazon and prevent the situation from reaching the point of no return.

3) Strengthening capacities and territorial governance

Strengthening the political, organizational, and technical capacities of Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendant Peoples, local communities, civil society organizations, academia and allies in the

Amazon basin for territorial defense, the exercise of self-governance and the protection of collective rights and Nature.

4) Coordination and strengthening of Pan-Amazonian networks

Consolidation and expansion of coordination networks among Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendant Peoples, local communities, academia, social movements, women and youth in the Amazon basin, strengthening regional, intergenerational and intercultural coordination for sustained collective action beyond the Forum.

5) Visibility and political advocacy at the regional and international levels

Positioning the 12th FOSPA Ecuador 2026 as a regional and international reference point for the defense of the Amazon, raising awareness of the struggles, proposals and alternatives of Amazonian peoples and communities and bringing them to the attention of decision-makers at the national, regional and international levels, with a focus on guaranteeing human rights, collective rights, the rights of Nature, and the effective respect for consultation processes and democratic participation.



7. Guiding Principles

The 12th FOSPA Ecuador: An Opportunity to Turn Mandates into Action

FOSPA is not an event, but a living process that:

- Connects territories, peoples and organizations
- Builds collective thought and action
- Influences local, national and global agendas
- Upholds a vision of the Amazon as a territory of life

FOSPA is a process built over more than 20 years that has consolidated a historical trajectory of regional coordination. Within this framework, the International Committee Meeting ratified a course of action that builds on its recent major milestones: the Pan-Amazonian Declaration of the 10th FOSPA in Belém in 2022, the Mandates of the 11th FOSPA in Rurrenabaque in 2024, and its outlook toward the 12th FOSPA in Ecuador in 2026, with the aim of advancing the development of an Action Plan.

Building on this foundation, the 12th FOSPA emerges with the mandate not to focus on producing new declarations, but rather to prioritize the main risks facing the Pan-Amazon region and concentrate collective efforts on them, moving toward binding outcomes through concrete action plans with objectives, deadlines and monitoring mechanisms. In the context of a global climate and political crisis, this process is projected as a strategic opportunity to articulate a long-term agenda and translate mandates into concrete actions in the territories, strengthening unity in diversity and regional alliances

Indigenous co-governance, a central theme at the 12th FOSPA Ecuador

The 12th FOSPA will be deeply shaped by the leadership of the indigenous peoples and nationalities of both the Ecuadorian Amazon and the entire Amazon basin. This approach seeks to strengthen the territorial, intercultural and political character of FOSPA, ensuring that its design and organization are built upon Amazonian realities and with effective and binding participation, grounded in fundamental principles:

- Respect for the autonomy and governance systems of indigenous peoples.
- Recognition of the leading role of indigenous peoples in the defense and protection of territory as the basis of life.
- The centrality of human rights, both individual and collective.
- The guarantee of the right to free, prior and informed consultation.
- The centrality of life as a guiding principle.
- Recognition of nature as a subject of rights.
- The community as the foundation for the organization, care and sustenance of life.

Thus, the 12th FOSPA Ecuador 2026 is conceived as a process of territorial construction and intercultural coordination, aimed at consolidating legitimate collective leadership among all Amazonian indigenous peoples in alliance with social organizations and all actors within the Amazon region. Its vision is clear: to strengthen unity in diversity and to project, from the Amazon, civilizational alternatives that place life, territory and the rights of peoples at the center.

Rights of Nature and Peace: Unifying Frameworks

Both Peace and the Rights of Nature are established as key themes of the 12th FOSPA. This approach allows for:

- Position peace, in a cross-cutting manner and within a global context of conflict, as a firm political stance of FOSPA.
- To build bridges between Indigenous knowledge and contemporary legal frameworks.
- Strengthen territorial defense through legal, political and cultural tools.
- To rethink the relationship between society and nature from a holistic perspective.

Within this framework, the Rights of Nature are understood not merely as a legal category, but as a cultural, political and civilizational tool that enables the forging of alliances and the development of common languages among diverse perspectives.



Territories Free from Extractivism

The 12th FOSPA will consolidate itself as a space for resistance to extractivism and the construction of alternatives. It reaffirms:

- The need to move toward territories free from extractivism
- The defense of the Amazon as a subject of rights
- The urgency of halting the expansion of fossil fuels
- The promotion of economies for life, based on the territory and other forms of transition.

It is recognized that the struggle is not only against specific projects, but against a model that threatens the ecological and cultural integrity of the Amazon. Likewise, the need to coordinate these struggles with other processes was recognized, such as the Conference for Fossil Fuel-Free Territories in Santa Marta, in order to strengthen common agendas and guide territorial struggles.

Weaving Together from Diversity

The plurality of perspectives, contexts and experiences are all elements that come together at the 12th FOSPA. Far from being a weakness, this diversity is recognized as one of its main strengths. It was reaffirmed that:

- Differences do not fragment collective processes; rather, they enrich them.
- We must build common languages without losing our identity or homogenizing our perspectives.
- Intercultural dialogue is a fundamental pillar for coordination and joint action.

In this sense, FOSPA establishes itself as a vibrant space for encounter, where multiple voices converge to build consensus and plan collective actions in defense of the Amazon.

Communication, advocacy and regional coordination

The 12th FOSPA will promote:

- A communication strategy that amplifies the voices of the territories.
- Coordination with international climate and environmental agendas.
- The development of our own narratives about the Amazon, from the perspective of its peoples and realities.
- The strengthening of alliances and networks at the regional level.

Within this framework, FOSPA positions itself as a key actor in the debate over the present and future of the Amazon. Likewise, stakeholders from the region will be officially invited to the 12th FOSPA to ensure a broad, representative and coordinated process.

8. Implementation Notes

The Forum will operate with an Indigenous co-leadership approach, featuring a participatory budget structure; it will prioritize gender-inclusive spaces, ensure safety protocols and align with regional and global movements for climate, environmental and social justice.



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