

12TH PAN-AMAZONIAN SOCIAL FORUM
(FOSPA), PUYO, ECUADOR, 2026

ACTION PLAN OF THE HOUSE OF SOVEREIGNTY AND SELF-DETERMINATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND NATIONALITIES



House 2. Sovereignty and Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples and Nationalities

I. Indigenous Peoples and Nationalities

The following proposals reflect the discussions held in House 2 and outline concrete actions to advance the implementation of *the Mandate of Indigenous Peoples and Nations in Puyuk 2026*. The Mandate must be incorporated as a framework for FOSPA's actions related to Indigenous Peoples and their territories, ensuring that their priorities and these actions are addressed across the board in FOSPA's various Houses, themes, forums, processes, and action plans, while respecting the structures, forms of representation, and autonomous spaces for coordination of Indigenous Peoples.

1. Self-determination, self-governance, and indigenous legal systems

1. Exercise self-determination and autonomy directly from within the territories, strengthening organization, resistance, and territorial defense, and promoting actions such as the recovery and official recognition of indigenous names and their recognition beyond national borders, as well as respect for indigenous legal systems by NGOs, states, and international organizations.
2. Strengthen self-governance and indigenous decision-making structures, including authorities, norms, procedures, Life Plans, and mechanisms for information, consultation, feedback, and accountability among leadership, authorities, and grassroots members.
3. Strengthen the technical training of youth, women, and other community members through scholarships and training programs that enable them to participate on an equal footing in environmental impact assessments, prior consultations, and legal proceedings, without relying on external professionals.
4. Promote legal actions to ensure that processes of free, prior, and informed consent with Indigenous Peoples are binding, mandatory, and have a decision-making rather than merely consultative character, explicitly including the right to say no.
5. Advance the legal recognition of all Indigenous Peoples of the Amazon Basin, including by launching an international campaign to urge France to legally recognize the Indigenous Peoples of French Guiana and ratify ILO Convention No. 169.
6. Organize gatherings and exchanges similar to FOSPA within the territories to exercise the right to self-determination and promote the exchange of experiences within communities, including children, youth, and women.

2. Protection and Integrity of Indigenous Territories

1. Strengthen collective mechanisms for territorial protection and solidarity, especially in the

face of armed groups, extractive industries, and other actors that threaten communities, including territorial, organizational, legal, political, and communications-based responses to protect leaders, authorities, and defenders.

2. Demarcate and document territories in writing, complementing oral traditions with indigenous planning tools, land-use practices, legal defense, and strategic territorial management.
3. Strengthen governance and indigenous decision-making mechanisms regarding infrastructure projects that may affect or cross Indigenous territories, including measures for prevention, monitoring, and response to spills, pollution, and other impacts, with full respect for the rights of Indigenous Peoples.
4. Strengthen the control, monitoring, and protection of territories by coordinating indigenous guards, indigenous surveillance systems, early warning mechanisms, information sharing, and legal support to respond to extractivism, illegal economies, land invasions, pollution, and other threats.
5. Strengthen indigenous surveillance and oversight mechanisms to monitor compliance with agreements, mandates, and decisions that affect the territories.
6. Halt the creation or expansion of protected areas imposed on Indigenous territories and strengthen technical, legal, and political capacities to defend Indigenous governance and territorial management in the face of such measures.
7. Strengthen mechanisms for reporting and responding to impacts on the body-territory, enabling the documentation of harm, the activation of legal and political responses, and the monitoring of threats that simultaneously affect territories, bodies, health, and community life.
8. Identify and document cases in Ecuador where indigenous territories have been occupied or registered by third parties, and promote actions for their recovery and the recognition of the corresponding collective rights.

3. Indigenous Economies and Just Transitions Beyond Extractivism

1. Strengthen indigenous economies and alternatives to extractivism, based on indigenous ways of life and knowledge, reciprocity, and balance with the territory, to ensure the material conditions for continued existence, sustain community life, and reduce external dependencies.
2. Promote direct funding to Indigenous Peoples and their communities, without intermediaries, so that resources reach grassroots communities and are managed from there, including young people and women in decision-making.
3. Strengthen indigenous education, youth training, and intergenerational transmission, promoting solutions specific to each territory and the participation of children, youth, and women, as well as the transmission of knowledge, languages, culture, memory, and experiences of resistance.

4. Participation, Coordination, and Advocacy by Indigenous Peoples

1. Promote legally institutionalized and permanent institutional mechanisms for participation and decision-making, as well as for coordination, accountability, monitoring, and evaluation between Indigenous Peoples and States.
2. Strengthen Panamazonian coordination and monitoring by reinforcing existing coordination structures, their connection to grassroots communities, and their capacity to follow up on mandates and agreements and coordinate actions on common priorities.
3. Develop joint strategies for political, legal, and communications action in response to conflicts, threats, and violations of the collective rights of Indigenous Peoples and Nations and their territories, integrating indigenous justice, political advocacy, national and international legal actions, and mobilization—including actions to halt extractive activities, restore damaged territories, and ensure non-repetition.
4. Promote the creation of a regional network of Indigenous youth in the Amazon Basin, focused on defending territory, raising awareness of shared threats, and providing political, technical, and spiritual training for new leaders.

II. Afro-descendant Peoples

The following proposals reflect the priorities put forward by the Afro-descendant peoples participating in the 12th FOSPA to strengthen their identity, territoriality, participation, and decision-making capacity in the Amazon.

1. Identity and Knowledge

1. Strengthen Afro-descendant identity, culture, spirituality, and generational continuity, including education, ethno-education, and youth participation.
2. Protect, strengthen, and raise awareness of Afro-descendant ancestral knowledge and knowledge systems, ensuring their protection against registration, patenting, or commercialization without prior collective authorization and ensuring the fair distribution of benefits.

2. Land, Territoriality, and Protection

1. Promote land titling and legal security for Afro-descendant collective lands and the protection of their traditional territories, establishing public channels to resolve pending applications.
2. Ensure respect for the appropriate consultation and consent processes regarding projects and activities that may affect their lands and territories, including the review of concessions, the assessment of damages, and comprehensive reparations.
3. Strengthen collective protection systems and community monitoring, including the Guardia Cimarrona, as well as the recognition of Afro-descendant authorities and forms of organization.

3. Participation and Coordination

1. Ensure the effective participation and decision-making capacity of Afro-descendant peoples in matters affecting their rights, lands, territories, and ways of life, while respecting their identities, agendas, and their own forms of organization.
2. Strengthen Pan-Amazonian Afro-descendant coordination, including a monitoring and early warning mechanism, a permanent coordination body within FOSPA, and the organization of a Pre-FOSPA meeting for Afro-descendants.
3. Strengthen the Afro-Amazonian population's own data and visibility through specific censuses and characterizations, as well as their own capacity to produce and manage territorial information.
4. Promote the recognition and visibility of Afro-descendant ethnic and cultural diversity in the Pan-Amazon region, while respecting the self-identification and specific identities of the communities concerned.

4. Women and Youth

1. Strengthen the organization, leadership, and effective participation of women and youth of African descent, including their participation in decision-making, resource management, and advocacy.
2. Strengthen the protection of women of African descent, female leaders, and defenders against violence, discrimination, and racial profiling, by promoting safe environments and community-based care systems.

5. Funding and Self-Sustaining Economies

1. Promote direct, transparent, and traceable funding mechanisms for organizations and authorities of African descent, with requirements tailored to community realities and transparency regarding amounts, beneficiaries, and intermediary costs.
2. Ensure safeguards against environmental markets, including comprehensive information, independent legal counsel, transparent benefits, and community control over data.
3. Strengthen locally defined local economies, directing investments and funding toward their priorities and territorial sustainability.

III. Appendix: Cases for Monitoring and Action

The following cases and situations of general scope were identified in the working groups based on the realities, threats, and priorities raised by the territories. Their resolution must respect applicable rights and ensure the effective participation of the communities, organizations, and stakeholders directly involved, in accordance with their own forms of organization and representation. Progress and measures adopted will be reviewed at the next FOSPA, which may also identify and prioritize new cases requiring attention.

1. Yasuní – Oil Exploitation and Territorial Rights, Ecuador

Monitor the situation of indigenous territories within and around Yasuní National Park, including the impacts resulting from oil activity in Blocks 31 and 43, the status of legal certainty and territorial rights within the Park, and the demands of the communities that continue to defend the territory. Pay special attention to the situation of the Waorani communities and their defense of Yasuní through autonomy, self-governance, and territorial continuity.

2. Texaco/Chevron Case – Pollution and Comprehensive Redress, Ecuadorian Amazon

Promote and support actions to advance the demands for comprehensive reparations put forward by communities and organizations affected by oil contamination—including contamination of water, soil, ecosystems, and communities—as well as the monitoring of environmental liabilities, obsolete infrastructure, and abandoned wells. Promote actions to halt ongoing contamination, remediate affected territories, and establish measures to prevent recurrence.

3. Protected Areas Overlapping with Indigenous Territories and the Law on the Strengthening of Protected Areas, Ecuador

Monitor measures and reforms related to protected areas that may affect indigenous territories, particularly concerns expressed regarding the Law on the Strengthening of Protected Areas and the involvement of private actors in their management. Promote political, technical, and legal actions in response to measures that disregard the territorial rights, self-governance, and authority of Indigenous Peoples over their territories.

4. Warintza Mining Project/Lowell Mineral Exploration, Morona Santiago, Ecuador

Monitor the Warintza Mining Project and the activities of Lowell Mineral Exploration in Morona Santiago, particularly regarding their impacts and risks to territories, collective rights, and water sources. Promote information campaigns, territorial monitoring, advocacy, and political and legal support.

5. Mocoa Project, carried out by Copper Giant Resources Corp. (formerly Libero Copper & Gold Corporation), Putumayo, Colombia

Monitor the territorial threats associated with the project in Mocoa carried out by Copper Giant Resources Corp. to promote actions addressing the impacts and risks to rights, territories, and the Amazon.

6. Illegal Mining and Threats to Indigenous Territories, Peru

Raise awareness of and support cases prioritized by indigenous organizations in response to the advance of illegal mining, including its impacts on water sources, wildlife, livelihoods, and community safety, as well as threats and murders of indigenous leaders and youth involved in territorial defense. Promote advocacy and solidarity actions at the national and Pan-Amazonian levels.

7. Oil pollution, flaring, and environmental liabilities, Sucumbíos and other Amazonian territories

To identify and support cases of pollution linked to oil flares, abandoned wells, oil infrastructure, and other environmental liabilities, strengthening independent technical documentation and the legal and political actions driven from within the territories.

8. Carbon credit and carbon market projects in Indigenous territories, the Pan-Amazon region

Identify and monitor carbon credit and carbon market projects that may affect indigenous territories, assessing their impacts on collective rights, territorial control, and self-governance, as well as who promotes, finances, and benefits from these initiatives.

9. Expansion of roads and large-scale infrastructure, Pan-Amazon region

Identify highway and large-scale infrastructure projects that may affect indigenous territories and monitor their impacts on territorial integrity, ecosystem connectivity, and the influx of extractive activities and other external actors.

10. Threats and Criminalization of Leaders and Defenders, Panamazonia

Identify and prioritize cases of threats, persecution, criminalization, violence, and murders targeting authorities, leaders, youth, and defenders, and implement coordinated actions for protection, solidarity, advocacy, and legal and political support.

11. Comprehensive Protection of Indigenous Peoples in Isolation and Initial Contact (PIACI), Pan-Amazon Region

Identify and prioritize cases of threats, invasions, extractive activities, concessions, infrastructure, the presence of third parties, and other impacts on the territories of Indigenous Peoples in Isolation and Initial Contact (PIACI), and implement coordinated actions for prevention, monitoring, early warning, protection, and advocacy to guarantee the inviolability of their territories, the principle of no contact, their self-determination, and their right to remain in isolation.

12. Alluvial Mining Throughout the Amazon Basin, Panamazonia

Map, identify, and prioritize the territories and communities affected by alluvial mining, documenting its impacts and critical issues, to implement coordinated actions for prevention, monitoring, reporting, territorial protection, political advocacy, and legal support in response to its impacts on rivers, forests, biodiversity, local economies, health, and security.

13. Southeastern Round and Sub-Andean Round – Oil Expansion in Indigenous Territories, Ecuador

Monitor the Ronda Suroriente and Ronda Subandina, as well as any bidding, concession, or expansion of oil activities that may affect Indigenous territories, promoting information, monitoring, advocacy, and territorial defense efforts, with full respect for the collective rights of Indigenous Peoples and Nationalities over their territories.