

No Nature Protection Without Rights

Indigenous Leadership at the Center



Sigrid Deters, Greenpeace Netherlands

CBD COP17, 19 October 2026

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01 **Hugo Jabini - *Suriname***

Association of Samaakan Communities VSG



Hugo Jabini:

Mi Mату, mi leti



About the Saamaka people

About the Saamaka territory

- **Size:**
1'417.700
Hectares
- **Forest:**
1'194.700 ha
(84% of the
total area)
- 300 years of
**effective
forest
protection**





Gold mining



Logging

Major land rights threats



Training young people to monitor threats



Having elders documenting our territorial management system - APAKIs

My forest, my right: Some of the action taken

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SAAMAKA PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM



Apaki:

A Calabash which Saamaka people use to store precious goods or food that need to be preserved for a long time.

Each community protected area is an Apaki:

Sonu go
50,055 Ha

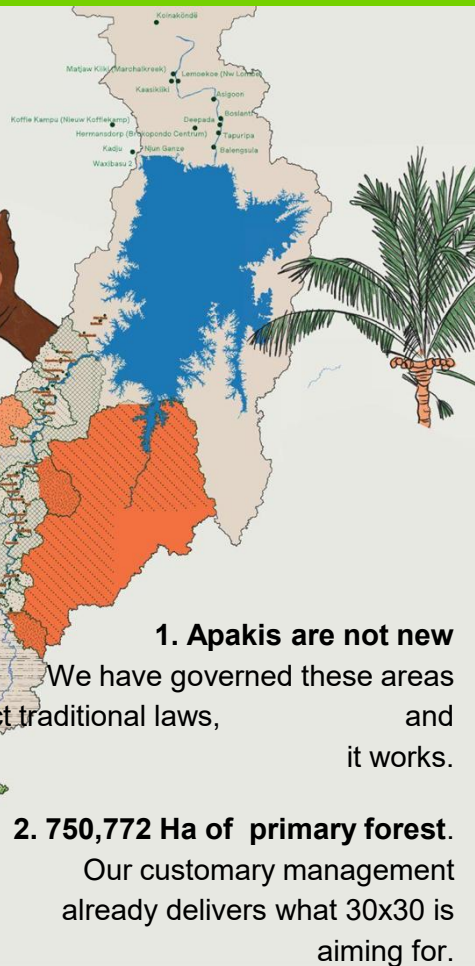
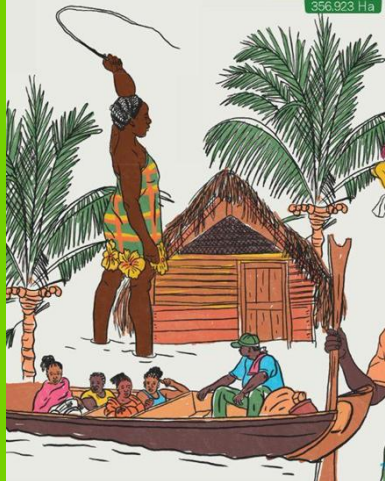
Sonu kumutu
120,000 Ha

Munyawajo
59,572 Ha

Lio hedi Gaan Lio
356,923 Ha

Lio hedi Piki Lio
356,923 Ha

Langu
143,350 Ha



1. Apakis are not new

We have governed these areas under strict traditional laws, and it works.

2. 750,772 Ha of primary forest.

Our customary management already delivers what 30x30 is aiming for.

Final remarks

- The 1762 peace treaty with the Dutch recognized our ancestral territory, but it was never formalized.
- Without legal recognition, we cannot fully defend our territory against encroachment by logging and mining.
- **We need the Netherlands as allies: As you discuss reparations for slavery, the most meaningful reparation for us is to stand with us. Use your diplomatic voice to support legal recognition of our collective land rights in Suriname.**
- With collective land rights, we can keep enforcing the traditional laws that have proven to protect the forest.

02 Fransiska You - West Papua

**Indigenous Youth Representative from Mee Tribe, West
Papua & Forest Campaigner - Greenpeace Indonesia**

Fransiska You:

Free Prior and Informed Consent



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02 Ariene Wapichana - *Brazil*

Brazilian Indigenous Fund Podáali

An aerial photograph showing a dark, winding river flowing through a vast, dense green rainforest. The river curves through the center of the frame, surrounded by thick vegetation. The sky is visible in the far distance, showing a hazy horizon.

Ariene Wapichana:

Direct access to money

02 Luana Kaingang - ***Brazil***

Coordination of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (APIB)

Luana Kaingang:

Direct access to money

Title

Add here your text

Add here your text