AMAZON EMERGENCY FUND
FACT SHEET:

COVID-19 THREATENS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES:

• Indigenous populations are disproportionately vulnerable to contracting the illness due to the persistent lack of access to equal and adequate public services, such as housing and health care, and the consequences of centuries of colonization and racism.

GENERAL AMAZON-WIDE FACTS

• According to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), 34 million inhabitants live in the region, accounting for 11% of the population of the Amazon countries, with 420 different indigenous and tribal peoples speaking 86 languages and 650 dialects.

• COICA estimates that more than 9 percent of the Amazon population (more than 3 million) is made up of indigenous peoples and that at least 60 of such peoples live in total isolation.

WHAT IS THE FUND?

• The Amazon Emergency Fund is a newly-formed donor collaborative working in close coordination with COICA (Coordinating Body of Indigenous Peoples of the Amazon Basin) and its 9 national organizations, as well as partners and allies across the Amazon and around the world, to support emergency COVID-19 response.

WHO IS THE FUND FOR?

• Indigenous peoples – particularly the elders, wisdom-keepers, and those living in voluntary isolation – who are gravely at risk by the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

• Traditional forest communities are similarly threatened, including riverine, quilombola, rubber-tappers, and other extractive populations, who have been defending the forest with their lives.

HOW IS IT MANAGED?

• Ally organizations are providing in-kind operations and technical support. We are pooling resources and
sharing the work of raising funds and directing rapid response grants.

• The Fund will be fiscally sponsored by the Rainforest Foundation U.S.

• All grant and governance decisions will be carried out under strict coordination and communication by an established Governing Council which includes indigenous leaders from COICA and its member organizations, representatives of participating NGOs, donors, and advisors who together have formed the Founding Solidarity Circle.

• The Governing Council will also enlist a Circle of Advisors composed of organizations and individuals with a proven track record to guide and support effective grantmaking strategies.

HOW MUCH IS IT RAISING?

• $3 million through May
• $5 million through July

WHAT IS IT FUNDING?

• Donations to the fund will go toward Rapid Response Grants for:
  Urgent and Immediate Prevention and Care
  Food and Medical Supplies
  Emergency Communications and Evacuation
  Protection and Security for Forest Guardians
  Food Sovereignty and Community Resilience

• 100% of each donation will go directly to indigenous and forest communities and organizations facing COVID-19 in the Amazon Rainforest.

WHO ARE THE FOUNDING SOLIDARITY CIRCLE MEMBERS?

• Amazon Watch
• COICA
• CASA
• Fundacion Pachamama
• Fundação Amazonas Sustentável (FAS)
• Rainforest Foundation US
• Amazon AID Foundation
• HAHKU
• Rainforest Action Network
• Pachamama Alliance
• Climate Alliance
• Amazon Frontlines
• Global Wildlife Conservation
• SDSN
• WECAN
• DAR
• Digital Democracy
• Interfaith Rainforest Initiative
• Avaaz
• Rainforest Alliance
• HIVOS
• AIDESEP (Peru)
• COIAB (Brazil)
• CONFENAE (Ecuador)
• APA (Guyana)
• CIDOB (Bolivia)
• FOAG (Guyana Francesa)
• ORPIA (Venezuela)
• OIS (Surinam)
• OPIAC (Colombia)