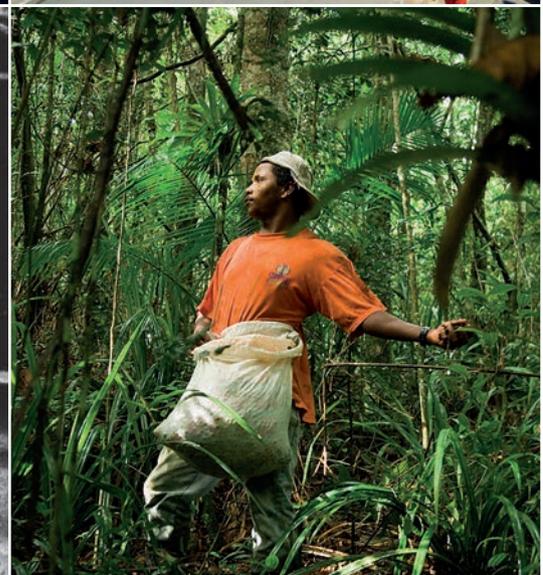




 **ISA**
25 years

together for diversity





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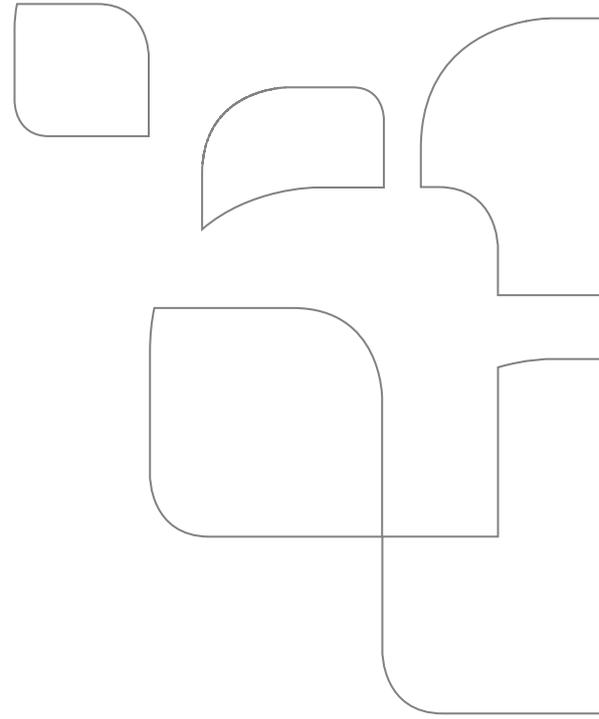


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Introduction



ISA celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2019 as a reference, consolidated national and international organization in the defense of the rights of indigenous peoples, traditional communities and the environment. During the period since its founding, in 1994, much has changed. In the Brazil, in the world and also in the way ISA operates.

It has adapted to the demands of an increasingly digitized world, incorporating new languages and creating platforms to better disseminate its collection of images, maps and documents, expanding its communication and mobilization with the various sectors of society. Without diminishing its capacity for research and knowledge production, political articulation and defense of social and environmental rights, it strengthened the field work in the basins of the Negro, Xingu and Ribeira rivers and its partnerships with forest peoples associations and organizations. ISA works with them for them.

Since its foundation, ISA has faced the challenge of seeking alternatives for the protection and territorial management of Indigenous Lands and traditional peoples, for strengthening the political participation of these communities and for enhancing their culture and traditional knowledge, as well as generating income.

Over these 25 years, ISA has built trust with indigenous, *quilombolas* (members of *quilombos*, communities of

descendants of runaway slaves) and extractivist partners through projects that respond to the priorities of their communities and by monitoring legislative, judicial and executive actions that impact their rights. Maps, books, videos, real-time monitoring and mobilization actions are also part of ISA's work to credibly inform and engage different political actors and society at large. ISA works in the articulation of a variety of social actors to propose alternative policies and promote the debate about the development model underway in Brazil, aiming at social and environmental sustainability.

The present publication summarizes this history and shows ISA's current approach. It rescues important achievements and efforts to promote and articulate local, regional, national and international initiatives.

In times of serious setbacks, we reaffirm our commitment to fight in defense of the forest peoples, of constitutional rights and of social and environmental sustainability. We thank all those who have walked and are walking along with us, helping ISA become and continue to be a reference and a qualified source of information. We invite everyone who shares the same ideals to join us.

André Villas-Bôas
Executive Secretary, ISA



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(left) Beto Ricardo (speaking on the radio) and André Baniwa (wearing a cap) during the demarcation of the Alto Rio Negro Indigenous Land (State of Amazonas)

(right) Planting of mix of seeds (muvuca) in a degraded area at Rancho 60 farm, in Bom Jesus do Araguaia (State of Mato Grosso), during the 3rd Expedition for Ecological Restoration and Seed Network

ISA's way

ISA's work is based on field projects with populations that are strategic for forest conservation and on political and legal action to guarantee their rights

The socio-environmental approach, which deals with environmental issues taking into account human presence, and the image of a large “root antenna” – at the same time aimed at all of Brazil and at the world and with roots in the territories where it performs its work – define how Instituto Socioambiental works. Founded in 1994, having its origins in the Centro Ecumênico de Documentação e Informação (Ecumenical Documentation and Information Center, Cedi) – an organization created in the 1970s that became the largest database on indigenous peoples in Brazil at the time –, ISA connects the experience of working with communities and traditional peoples with political action to help create public policies based on the needs and demands of these populations.

Through ISA's local offices and teams, the roots spread in three major watersheds, where robust regional programs, chosen for their strategic characteristics and with relationships established by the founders of ISA,



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of work

are carried out: the Negro River, Brazil's most remote and preserved area; the Xingu River, in the eye of the hurricane of the agribusiness advance in the Amazon; and the Ribeira de Iguape River, home of the largest remnant of Atlantic Forest, walled between major national metropolises. In common, their immense protected biodiversity is largely shaped by the presence of indigenous, extractivist and riverside and quilombola (descendants of runaway slaves) communities. Their livelihoods currently foster perhaps the largest agrobiodiversity on the planet. "That's why populations are strategic for forest conservation," says André Villas-Bôas, ISA's Executive Secretary and founding partner.

ISA's work is carried out through ground-based partnerships with associations formed by local communities and articulations with other partners and regional, national and international networks. They guarantee concrete results, many of them through paradigmatic actions. Among them, the unprecedented victory in Court, in 2000, of an indemnity lawsuit against the Union and the Fundação Nacional do Índio

(National Indian Foundation, Funai, Brazil's federal government agency in charge of Indian affairs) for the Panará Indians for the material and moral damages caused by the contact with Brazilian society. Or the lawsuit, led with the Rede de ONGs da Mata Atlântica (Atlantic Forest NGO Network), to prevent the Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis (Brazilian Institute of the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources, Ibama) from authorizing plans for the management of endangered species in the Atlantic Forest. The lawsuit ended with the federal environmental agency ordered to invest resources in forest restoration in the State of São Paulo.

According to ISA advisor and public policy expert Adriana Ramos, not all victories translate into visible actions. Many of them are really not allowing proposals contrary to the interests of these populations and the environment to advance in the Legislative, the Judiciary or the Executive. "In times of threats and setbacks such as the present one our job is to ensure the maintenance of rights already conquered."

In the Xingu area, ISA seeks to engage indigenous and traditional populations with the rest of the population to stop deforestation and its consequences

Xingu's green island

The strategic location of this immense Indigenous Land and ISA's longstanding working relations with leaders of the 16 ethnic groups of the Xingu Indigenous Park were decisive for the choice of the Xingu River Basin as one of ISA's territories for action. In addition, the park, renamed in 2017 by Xinguns as Território Indígena Xingu (Xingu Indigenous Territory, TIX), is a green island surrounded by land cleared in the expansion of the agricultural frontier. This only reinforces the importance of indigenous and traditional peoples in forest conservation in Brazil.

"The region was in the eye of the hurricane, surrounded by roads both North-South and East-West. Since the 1980s, governmental incentive projects have increased the area for livestock, which later were converted into grain farms. They are located right at the headwaters of the Xingu River, which are outside the Indigenous Park", recalls ISA Executive Secretary André Villas-Bôas.

But working only with the Indians has proved to be insufficient. Xinguns began to report that the occupation around TIX already had impacts on the calendar of fields, with silted rivers, affected fish and climate changes.

Despite the guarantee of territory ownership, the Indians realized that their lands were a regional drain of environmental problems and asked for help to 'tame their white relatives'. From then on, ISA's activities expanded into the surroundings of the Indigenous Territory, with the production of diagnostics, intersectorial dialogue. A campaign that included public authorities, farmers and other traditional populations promoted forest restoration, environmental adequacy and the creation of chains of products to guarantee better quality of life for the population and the conservation of biodiversity.

The milestone of this work came in 2004, with the launching of the campaign Y Ikatu Xingu (Save Xingu's Good Water, in the Kamaiurá indigenous language), whose focus was to draw attention to the importance of preserving springs. According to ISA advisor Rodrigo Junqueira, in most of the municipalities in the region a work agenda was adopted, focused on the forest restoration of springs and riverside woods, done in a technically feasible and culturally adapted way at a relative low cost. "We developed the no-tillage technique, *muvuca*, which consists of a mixture of native seeds planted with green manure."



© Kelly Lima/ISA, 2017

Start of the 4th Canoada Xingu, which toured the Volta Grande do Xingu, passing by the municipalities of Altamira, Senador José Porfírio and Vitória do Xingu

The principle is based on understanding how the natural dynamics of forest regeneration or occupation works and taking advantage of local knowledge and conditions. The involvement of researchers and the validation of the system by the Academy led this innovative technique to be exported to other regions of Brazil, motivating articles in scientific publications. The technique was the subject of documentaries and press reports.

Seed network

The seeds were guaranteed with the creation of the Rede de Sementes do Xingu (Xingu Seed Network), an initiative that uses the knowledge of the Indians and the family farmers in the region. It currently involves more than 550 people, who make a living from collecting, trading and selling seeds. In 12 years, it generated more than 5 million reais (approximately 1.2 million U.S. dollars, in 2019 values) for collecting families, with the sale of 220 tons of seeds of 220 native species for restoration.

Rodrigo Junqueira says that around 6,000 hectares have been restored, mostly in Permanent Preservation Areas

Where and who we work with

51 million hectares: Xingu River Basin (States of Mato Grosso and Pará)

28 million hectares: Xingu's Biodiversity Corridor

16 indigenous peoples and riverside partners from three Extractivist Reserves (Riozinho do Anfrísio, Rio Iriri and Rio Xingu, in Terra do Meio, State of Pará)

Our main partners

Amazon Fund • Associação dos Moradores da Reserva Extrativista Riozinho do Anfrísio • Associação dos Moradores da Reserva Extrativista Rio Iriri • Associação dos Moradores da Reserva Extrativista Rio Xingu • Associação Indígena Kisêdjê (AIK) • Associação Rede de Sementes do Xingu • Associação Terra Indígena Xingu (Atix) • Associação Yudja Miratu da Volta Grande do Xingu (Aymix) • Climate and Land Use Alliance (CLUA) • Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) • European Union • Imafloa • Instituto Bacuri • Moore Foundation • Mott Foundation • Norway's Rainforest Foundation • Rede de Cantinas da Terra do Meio • Rede de Cooperação Amazônica (RCA)

and Legal Reserves, by rural owners. Their motivations varied, ranging from the recognition of changes caused by deforestation – such as the disappearance of springs – to legal issues and pursuit of differentiated markets and certification. “The great innovation of this movement was the creation of a solution agenda for all who inhabit the area, based on technical knowledge, rooted principles, diminished prejudice and trust among the people of the region.”

Some partnerships for economic incentives with companies, such as Natura, were also made. The Amazon Live project alone, a partnership of ISA, the Fundo Brasileiro para a Biodiversidade (Brazilian Fund for Biodiversity, Funbio), Rock in Rio and Conservation International, between 2017 and 2019, resulted in the planting of nearly 2 million trees in the Xingu River Basin.

Deforestation and pesticides

In spite of all this work, two ghosts still prowl the TIX and the entire region: the indiscriminate use of pesticides – an invisible, cumulative threat – and climate change, both felt by the Indians. With higher temperatures, the forest is drier and more vulnerable to fires, and the occurrence of fire outbreaks in the region has increased. To deal with the situation, ISA, along with Ibama, has been working to teach Indians how to have greater control over the fires they use to prepare planting fields and to fight fires efficiently. In 1994 ISA initiated monthly monitoring of deforestation in the region and, since 2017, of pesticide contamination in the Kisêdje Indians’ Wawi Indigenous Land, in TIX, in partnership with the Federal University of Mato Grosso and the Federal University of São Paulo. The results are expected to be published later in 2019.

In addition, ISA collaborates with the peoples of Xingu on cultural and institutional strengthening, supporting their associations and the preparation of their Territorial and Environmental Management Plans. Another front is the deployment of solar energy in Xingu villages. Through this project, funded by the Mott Foundation, solar energy is now available in more than 40 communities, including in schools and primary care facilities. “Atix [Associação Terra Indígena do Xingu, or Xingu Indigenous Land Association] has a longstanding partnership with ISA, which is our great advisor. When, in 1994, the Xingu leadership decided to create Atix, it



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was a big challenge, as there were almost no indigenous-run associations. ISA helped us understand how it works – the legal format – and is important in this process to this day. Over time, we started developing projects together. One of the most important was the leaderships’ desire to replace white teachers with indigenous teachers for cultural reasons. It is a reality today,” says Atix president Ianucula Kaiabi Suiá.

The Indians of the TIX plus the other indigenous and riverside peoples of the region make up the Rede Xingu+ (Xingu+ Network), an articulation for the defense and consolidation of the Xingu corridor of social and environmental diversity, which covers 28 million hectares and includes Indigenous Lands and Conservation Units. Parallel to its work on and around TIX, ISA made several expeditions in 2000 to Terra do Meio, in the State of Pará, which resulted in a major survey of the Altamira region and the recommendation, accepted by federal government, to create a mosaic of Conservation Units that recognized the occupation of the populations living there. Among the protected areas are three extractive reserves (Riozinho do Anfrísio, Xingu and Iririri), with which ISA began to operate, especially in the product chain developed by their communities. “Our first work with these populations was to help bring



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Left: (top) Installation of a plate during activity of the solar energy course at Piyulaga village, of the Waurá people; (below) Pedro Pedreira de Castro, canteenier in Terra do Meio (State of Pará). Above: ISA and Xingu Seed Network team prepare mix of seeds (muvuca) in Canarana (State of Mato Grosso)

infrastructure, because they were marginalized, without State policies. ISA facilitated the communications, boat transport, education and health systems. That was the basis for the Diversity Territories project, which has been working on the formation of value chains for forest products and bridging the populations of the Xingu area, Indians or not, with companies and consumers in the cities,” says André Villas-Bôas (see page 19).

Among the various actions promoted to strengthen the production chain in the Extractive Reserves, the highlight is the formation of the Rede de Cantinas (Canteen Network), organized by riverside, indigenous and peasant groups for the production and sale of forest products. Today there are 27 canteens, with the participation of 15 indigenous and riverside associations. The network also has eight mini-processing plants. Through technology and traditional knowledge, they add value to the products.

Belo Monte and the right to consultation

The defense of the forest peoples and their territories was the great cause that gave rise to ISA, whose founders had been following the Belo Monte Hydroelectric Power Plant construction project since the 1980s. Therefore, since the plant’s installation license was granted, in 2010, ISA has

been monitoring the implementation of the constraints assumed by Norte Energia, the company responsible for the enterprise, regarding the affected indigenous and riverside peoples. For that reason, ISA has developed strategies to inform indigenous communities about the legislation, helping them to understand what it means and to materialize their desire to have their own consultation protocol. Currently, most of them have protocols and are exercising with governments, in their various instances, ways to be consulted on road and small hydro projects.

This dialogue may avoid cases such as that of Volta Grande do Xingu, a 100-kilometer bend of the Xingu River that bathes Indigenous and riverside lands, where the impacts of Belo Monte are already felt. In this region, ISA, in partnership with the Yudja Miratu Association of Volta Grande do Xingu, has been conducting independent fisheries monitoring, whose first results were released in 2018. It was in Volta Grande, before and after the construction of the dam, that ISA has carried out one of its most innovative initiatives: the Canoada Xingu (Xingu canoe expedition), which has had five editions.

In Brazil's most remote region, in the States of Amazonas and Roraima, ISA helps indigenous people to secure their right to land and well-being

Appreciation of the culture and the territory

With borders with Venezuela and Colombia, in the northwest of the Amazon region, the Negro River Basin is the most Indian region in Brazil: 23 peoples make up 10% of the country's indigenous population. "It is a remote area and the most isolated Brazilian geopolitical frontier, with conserved landscapes and great diversity of peoples. The people who founded ISA already had relations with several groups because we had followed, in the 1980s, the founding of the Federação das Organizações Indígenas do Rio Negro [Federation of Negro River Indigenous Organizations, Foirn]", says anthropologist and ISA founding partner Beto Ricardo.

These relationships were built from partnerships of Cedi with the Indians in a work to ensure the permanent recognition of their rights in the 1988 Constitution, enabling indigenous citizenship, and, already as ISA, collaborating with the demarcation of their territories.

The partnership with Foirn and the installation of an ISA base in São Gabriel da Cachoeira, in 1995, led to the beginning of projects and activities in the Middle and Upper Negro River Indigenous Lands even before they were demarcated and approved. The demarcation, made by Funai and ISA between 1997 and 1998, created Brazil's largest continuous indigenous territory.

In the area of the State of Amazonas known as Cabeça do Cachorro (Dog's Head, because its territory resembles the head of this animal), São Gabriel encompasses part of the Negro River Basin in Brazil. But the headwaters of the forming rivers of the Negro River are in Colombia and Venezuela, not in Brazil. For this reason Beto Ricardo argues that the basin should be known as Tromba da Anta (Tapir's Trunk) – not Dog's Head – and include the neighboring countries. The creation of the Rede Amazônica de Informação Socioambiental Georreferenciada (Amazon Georeferenced Socioenvironmental Information Network, Raisg) helped to materialize this vision (*see page 24*).

Having as a starting point the incorporation in 2009 of the Comissão Pró-Yanomami (Pro-Yanomami Commission, CCPY) and the establishment of partnerships with the Hutukara Associação Yanomami (Hutukara Yanomami Association) and other indigenous associations, ISA's work in the basin expanded.

There are several fronts. They range from territory monitoring and inspection to income generation projects, supporting the production and marketing of forest products, and institutional strengthening of indigenous associations, such as advising on the



© Moreno Saraiva Martins/ISA, 2017 (above) and © Claudio Tavares/ISA, 2019 (detail)

Optimisoma Sanõma, Kolulu community leader in the Awaris region (State of Roraima), is one of the pioneers of the collection and sale of the Yanomami mushrooms project

Planos de Gestão Territorial e Ambiental (Territorial and Environmental Management Plans, PGTA), required by the Política Nacional de Gestão Ambiental em Terras Indígenas (National Policy on Environmental Management in Indigenous Lands, PNGATI). By the beginning of 2020, 11 plans will be ready – from a macro plan with the whole region to thematic plans. They have been in preparation for three years.

These plans and mappings are important not only for the management of Indigenous Lands, but also to ensure permanent recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples. Thanks to them it is possible to make public denunciations, such as the largest invasion of prospectors on the Yanomami Indigenous Land since their inception in the 1990s, one of the most dramatic cases of threat to indigenous peoples in Brazil today. The invasion started in the beginning of the current decade, when gold prices had a hike. It is estimated that today 15,000 prospectors are in Yanomami land.

Illegal mining has been monitored, mapped and reported by ISA and the Hutukara Yanomami

Where and who we work with

23 indigenous peoples in the Upper Negro River directly or indirectly involved: a population of about 24,000 Indians and 3,500 families living in seven Indigenous Lands: Alto Rio Negro, Rio Apaporis, Balaio, Cué-cué Marabitanas, Médio Rio Negro I, Médio Rio Negro II and Rio Téa

2 indigenous peoples in the Yanomami Indigenous Land (States of Amazonas and Roraima) – the Yanomami and the Ye'kwana – directly or indirectly involved: a population of about 27,000 Indians

Our main partners

Amazon Fund • Associação das Comunidades Indígenas do Médio Tiquié (Acimet) • Associação das Comunidades Indígenas do Médio Rio Negro (Acimrn) • Associação das Comunidades Indígenas e Ribeirinhas (Acir) • Associação do Conselho da Escola Pamáali (Acep) • Associação Escola Indígena Tukano Yupuri (Aeity) • Associação Escola Indígena UtapinoponaTuyuka (Aeitu) • Associação Indígena de Barcelos (Asiba) Boston University • Cafod, Bem te vi • Conselho Indígena de Roraima (CIR) • Coordenadoria Regional da Funai em São Gabriel da Cachoeira (CRRN/ Funai/SGC) • European Union • Fastenopfer • Federação das Organizações Indígenas do Rio Negro (Foirn) • Fundación Gaia Amazonas (Colombia) • Galeria Amazônica • Garupa • Hutukara Associação Yanomami (HAY) • Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia (Inpa) • Instituto do Patrimônio Histórico e Artístico Nacional (Iphan) • Instituto de Pesquisas da Amazônia (Inpa) • Instituto de Pesquisas Jardim Botânico do Rio de Janeiro • Kew Royal Botanical Gardens • Museu do Índio/Funai • Museu Paraense Emilio Goeldi • Norway's Rainforest Foundation • Organização Indígena da Bacia do Içana (Oibi) • Rede Rio Negro • Royal Embassy of Norway • Universidade Federal de São Carlos (UFSCar) • Wariró Casa de Produtos Indígenas

Association. In 2017, ISA published the map *Garimpo Ilegal nos Territórios Yanomami e Ye'kwana (Brasil-Venezuela)* – Illegal Mining in the Yanomami and Ye'kwana Territories (Brazil-Venezuela) –, depicting the destruction of the forest and the rivers, with great national and international repercussions. In 2016, a study conducted by the Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Fiocruz) in partnership with ISA showed that this invasion of prospectors has brought serious damage to the health of the Indians: some villages have up to 92% of the people examined contaminated by mercury.

In 2011, in partnership with the Conselho Indígena de Roraima (State of Roraima Indigenous Council) and the Federal University of Maranhão, ISA began working on the Raposa-Serra do Sol Indigenous Land in the project called Cruviana: a pilot for the production of solar and wind energy, it will be the first wind generation system to be installed in an Indigenous Land through the federal government's program Luz para Todos (Light for Everybody).

Income generation

In another front, ISA is looking for economic alternatives to the co-optation of Indians for gold mining. Projects such as Yanomami Indigenous Land's native cocoa chocolate, to be launched soon, or community tourism such as expeditions to Pico da Neblina (Yaripo) – at 2,995 meters Brazil's highest point – have this goal. Another example of income generation is the Yanomami mushrooms, marketed since 2016, which have been conquering national and international markets. In three years, the Yanomami have collected and marketed more than 8 tons of mushrooms from 15 different species. A survey and a catalogue of mushrooms in 2017 resulted in the book *Ana Amopö: Cogumelos Yanomami* (Ana Amopö: Yanomami Mushrooms), which won the Jabuti Award – Brazil's most prestigious literary award – in the category Gastronomy.

In the same line is the Baniwa Pepper. From a demand of Baniwa women were conceived the Casas da Pimenta (Pepper Houses) to sell the pepper only they produce. The first was inaugurated in 2013; today there are five houses in various areas of the Alto Rio Negro Indigenous Land. Like the mushrooms, pepper is conquering national and international markets.

But ISA's partnership with the Baniwa is older. It began in the late 1990s with the support for the marketing of Baniwa basketry, which gained the shelves of trendy stores like Tok & Stok. "We work together and have the same goals, such as cultural enhancement, education, income generation for our peoples and conservation of biodiversity," says André Baniwa, president of the Organização Indígena da Bacia do Içana (Içana Basin Indigenous Organization, Oibi). "It's a partnership in which we have full autonomy to decide what we want and ISA supports us on the technical side."

Indigenous tourism initiatives on the Negro River also gained space. The first of these was the Pesca Esportiva Sustentável no Rio Marié (Sustainable Sport Fishing on the Marié River), a project started in 2014 as part of the struggle of indigenous organizations and leaders to remove illegal fishermen from the region and regulate sport fishing. Then came the Expedições às Serras Guerreiras de Tapuruquara (Expeditions to the Tapuruquara Warriors Mountain Range), which began in 2017 with the participation of five indigenous communities of Santa Isabel do Rio Negro. A Yanomami project, the technical expeditions to the Pico da Neblina (Yaripo), in 2017 and 2018, made it possible to climb to Brazil's highest mountain.

Science and culture

One of ISA's most fruitful works in the region, however, is the production of knowledge with the Indians through collaborative intercultural research. It took more than ten years of indigenous school education, remodeling schools, creating an innovative model for communities, with teaching via research and material in their own languages. Years later, with several groups of students trained in these schools, was born a network of 50 indigenous environmental management agents (known as aimas, from the Portuguese-language acronym), who produce knowledge about the environment and promote good management practices. Part of the results obtained can be seen in the three editions (2017, 2018 and 2019) of the *Aru – Revista de Pesquisa Intercultural da Bacia do Rio Negro, Amazônia* (Negro River Basin Intercultural Research Journal, Amazon). Issues related to environmental and climate monitoring and agricultural systems in the region have gained scientific treatment and have become sources for further research.



© Carol Quintanilha/ISA, 2018 (above) e © Claudio Tavares/ISA, 2018 (detail)

Opening of the fifth Baniwa Pepper House, in the Canada community

Since 2010, daily experiences and rituals of Negro River communities have been the focus of various projects and activities. Many were registered and published by ISA and Foirn in the book *Manejo do Mundo: Conhecimentos e Práticas dos Povos Indígenas do Rio Negro, Noroeste Amazônico* (Management of the World: Knowledge and Practice of the Indigenous Peoples of the Rio Negro, the Northwest Amazon), which won the 2011 Jabuti Award in the category Human Sciences.

That same year, with technical support from researchers from various institutions and ISA, the Negro River Traditional Agricultural System was recognized by the Instituto do Patrimônio Histórico e Artístico Nacional (Institute of National Historical and Artistic Heritage, Iphan) as a Brazilian intangible cultural heritage.

An initiative to identify and map important places in the narratives of Negro River indigenous peoples was the Mapeo project, which involved ISA, Foirn, Colombia's Gaia Foundation and the Ministries of Culture of Brazil and Colombia. Through it, two trips were made from Manaus to the Ipanoré waterfall, considered the origin of the Tukano peoples of the Uaupés River Basin, leading a group of indigenous connoisseurs. The result, among other products, was the documentary *Pelas Águas do Rio*

de Leite (On the Waters of the River of Milk) – in the mythology of the Tukano people, the Negro is a river of milk –, screened in 2018.

Other projects aimed at strengthening traditional knowledge and dialogue between indigenous and non-indigenous knowledge were the *Manual dos Remédios Tradicionais Yanomami* (Yanomami Manual of Traditional Remedies), on medicinal plants; and the *Manual de Etnobotânica: Plantas, Artefatos e Conhecimentos Indígenas* (Manual on Ethnobotany: Indigenous Plants, Artifacts and Knowledge), whose research involved Brazilian and British institutions, to reconnect Indians with the observations and collections of English botanist Richard Spruce.

From the need to generate and circulate quality information in indigenous communities, in view of the growing dissemination of fake news, came in 2017 the initiative Rede de Comunicadores Indígenas do Rio Negro (Negro River Indigenous Communicators Network). Indigenous communicators carry out and distribute the news produced by indigenous correspondents and editors, connecting communities with the territory.

Support for the production mode of the quilombo territories marks ISA's performance in the Atlantic Forest

Traditional crops ensure food and conserve the forest

ISA's trajectory in the Ribeira Valley began in the late 1990s, with the Socio-Environmental Diagnosis of the Ribeira Valley. Since then ISA has strengthened its relations with the traditional communities of the region, especially the *quilombolas*. Located in the south of the State of São Paulo, the Ribeira de Iguape River Basin is a strategic region because it keeps the largest continuous area of the Atlantic Forest that remains. A mosaic of Conservation Units protects this sociodiversity corridor, also made up of indigenous, *caiçara* (traditional coastal fishing communities), riverside and other traditional communities, as well as many *quilombos*, all of them vulnerable.

According to ISA's advisor in the region, Raquel Pasinato, ISA seeks to find development models based on the potentialities of the region, i. e., the environmental wealth and the knowledge of the population. "We started to work with Quilombo de Ivaporunduva and expanded to other communities. Currently we have direct partnership with 19 *quilombola* associations," she says.

Keeping the philosophy of thinking the territory from the standpoint of the watershed, ISA also works with the region's basin committees. The threat of dams on the Ribeira de Iguape River – the only large river without dams in the Atlantic Forest – brought ISA closer to local

organizations, such as the Movimento dos Ameaçados por Barragens (Dam-Threatened Movement, Moab), to combat high-impact enterprises. The campaign against the construction of the Tijuco Alto hydroelectric dam began in 1998 and continued until the project was finally discarded by Ibama, in the end of 2016, thanks to years of protests from local communities with ISA support.

Launched in 2007, the campaign *Cílios do Ribeira* (Ribeira's Cilia) called for the recovery of riparian forests [TN: called *mata ciliar* in Portuguese, thus the campaign's title] in the Ribeira Valley. While the campaign took place, restocking efforts of *juçara* palm – an endangered native species of the Atlantic Forest whose logging is prohibited – were carried out in eight *quilombola* communities. During that time, ISA participated in discussions, also held in 2017, for the creation of the Jacupiranga Mosaic, which encompasses 14 continuous Conservation Units in the region.

The work with the *quilombolas* has always been aimed at helping them to create alternatives for survival that would allow them to stay on their lands. Examples are beekeeping, forest management and sewing workshops for banana straw crafts, which resulted in a book released by Quilombo de Ivaporunduva Association in 2006. Another



© Claudio Tavares/ISA, 2018

Quilombolas participate in the 11th Fair of Seeds and Seedlings of the communities of the Ribeira Valley and announce the campaign Tá na Hora da Roça (It's time for farming), to pressure the government of São Paulo to issue licenses for their fields

publication, in 2007, shared the experience in this *quilombo* with the production of organic bananas and initiated the access of communities to governmental food acquisition programs for schools, kindergartens etc., such as the Programa de Aquisição de Alimentos (Food Acquisition Program, PAA) and the Programa Nacional de Alimentação Escolar (National School Feeding Program, Pnae).

The partnership with the *quilombolas* also resulted in a project for the development of the Circuito Quilombola de Turismo de Base Comunitária (Community-Based Tourism *Quilombola* Circuit) and tours of six communities, put into practice in 2013 and carried out to this day by the *quilombolas* themselves. “ISA is always with us, helping us. We need ISA because it is a firm and strong partner,” says João Fortes, from Quilombo de Bombas.

Traditional agricultural system

Such works have helped ISA realize the potential of the production model of these communities, based on a diversified agriculture that produces food and income for the population. In 2013 ISA concluded the Inventário

Where and who we work with

19 quilombos with about 900 families in 6 municipalities of the Ribeira Valley: Eldorado, Iporanga, Itaóca, Iguape, Jacupiranga and Cananéia

234 quilombola farmers from Cooperquivale, a cooperative supported by ISA

150 farmers involved with organic certification processes

Our main partners

Associação Bem-te-Vi Diversidade • Associação Biodinâmica • Associações dos Quilombos Abobral Margem Esquerda, André Lopes, Galvão, Mandira, Morro Seco, Bombas, Cangume, Poça, Ivaporunduva, Maria Rosa, Nhunguara, Pedro Cubas de Cima, Pedro Cubas, Pilões, Piririca, Porto Velho, Praia Grande, Sapatu e São Pedro • Cooperativa dos Agricultores Quilombolas do Vale do Ribeira (Cooperquivale) • Equipe de Articulação e Assessoria das Comunidades Negras do Vale do Ribeira (Eaacone) • European Union • Fundação Florestal (FF/SMA-SP) • Fundação Instituto de Terras José Gomes da Silva do Estado de São Paulo (Itesp) • Fundo Estadual dos Recursos Hídricos/Comitê de Bacia Hidrográfica do Ribeira de Iguape e Litoral Sul (Fehidro/CBH-RB) • Good Energies • Grupo de Pesquisa em Ecologia Humana de Florestas Neotropicais • Iniciativa Verde • Instituto Auá • Instituto de Cooperativismo e Associativismo (ICA)/Secretaria de Agricultura do Estado de São Paulo • Instituto de Desenvolvimento Sustentável e Cidadania (Idesc) do Vale do Ribeira • Instituto do Patrimônio Histórico e Artístico Nacional (Iphan) • Movimento dos Ameaçados por Barragens (Moab)

Cultural de Quilombos do Vale do Ribeira (Cultural Inventory of the Ribeira Valley's *Quilombos*), showing that the diversity found in the region has to do with the way the territory was occupied. "We used Iphan's methodology in the production of the inventory and concluded that agriculture is central for culture and for conservation in these communities," says Pasinato.

The *quilombolas*, with the help of ISA, filed a request for the recognition of the Ribeira Valley's Quilombola Traditional Agricultural System as Brazilian Cultural Heritage, following what had already been achieved for cassava production in the Negro River region, in the Amazon (see page 13). The recognition by Iphan came in 2018, and it has been possible to build, with the *quilombolas*, strategies to keep this mode of production alive.

The system comprises a set of knowledge and techniques applied in the cultivation of a variety of plants used in food, medicine and material culture. It includes the spaces where activities are carried out, local arrangements for work organization, ways of processing food, artifacts made for this purpose and social contexts of consumption. The existence of each of these components promotes – and at the same time results in – a mode of intergenerational transmission of knowledge based on orality and on presential and practical learning.

Always seeking to bring to its partners successful, already tested experiences, ISA has supported the creation and management of the Cooperativa dos Agricultores Quilombolas do Vale do Ribeira (Ribeira Valley's *Quilombola* Farmers Cooperative, Cooperquivalente) and is encouraging the creation of a Seed Network in the region. It is also opening talks with the São Paulo State government to create specific environmental laws that fit the needs of local production. This is because some rules that prohibit deforestation are restrictive and prevent communities from opening their fields as they have done for hundreds of years.

It's Time for Farming

With the Tá na Hora da Roça (It's Time for Farming) campaign, held in 2018, ISA, with *quilombola* organizations and other partners, invited the Brazilian population to speak up and support the change in legislation. The more than 7,000 signatures obtained contributed to the publication of a new resolution in December of 2018, which provides



© Claudio Tavares/ISA, 2019



© Felipe Leal/ISA, 2006

Top: Urias Morato with his son Eulisses Morato during the puxirão (joint effort) in his cornfield, in Quilombo São Pedro, in Iporanga; above: plaque of the Quilombo de Ivaporunduva, the first ISA worked with in the Ribeira Valley

solutions to facilitate the licensing of the fields. "Now let's follow up so that the new rules are implemented. This traditional system guarantees food autonomy, income and identity, and strengthens the much needed struggle for land titling," says Pasinato.

In 2017, ISA also launched the platform O Ribeira Vale! [TN: this is a wordplay: vale in Portuguese means both "valley" and "it's worth it"; thus the name means "The Ribeira Valley Is Worth It"]. A web series starring designer Marcelo Rosenbaum anchored a petition demanding legal recognition of quilombola territories in the Ribeira Valley.

ISA also seeks to involve young people by publicizing the importance of this way of life in schools and combating prejudice against work in the fields. "The challenge is to guarantee income, since the main distribution channel for the products was the federal government programs, a policy that has been reduced," explains Pasinato. "Our focus now is to look for new markets in São Paulo, make bridges with fairs, chefs, based on the Diversity Territories project (see page 18). Without commercialization, there is no way to keep the population in the countryside."

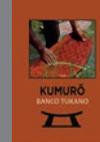
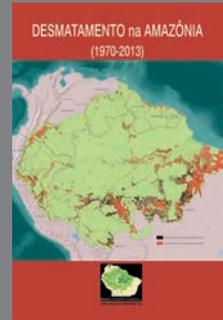
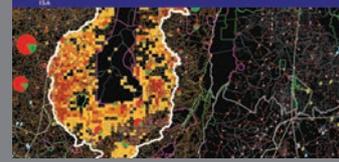
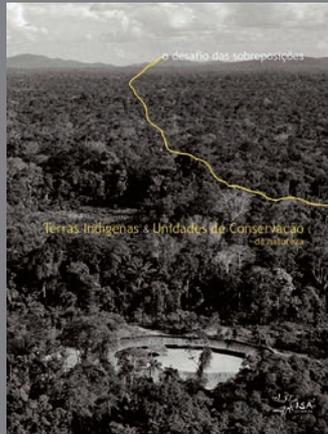
ALMANAQUE BRASIL SOCIOAMBIENTAL



UMA NOVA PERSPECTIVA PARA ENTENDER A SITUAÇÃO DO BRASIL
E A NOSSA CONTRIBUIÇÃO PARA A CRISE PLANETÁRIA

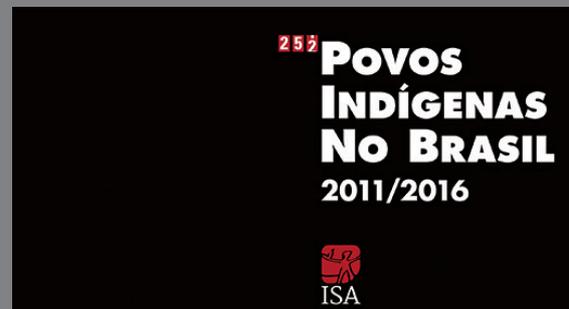
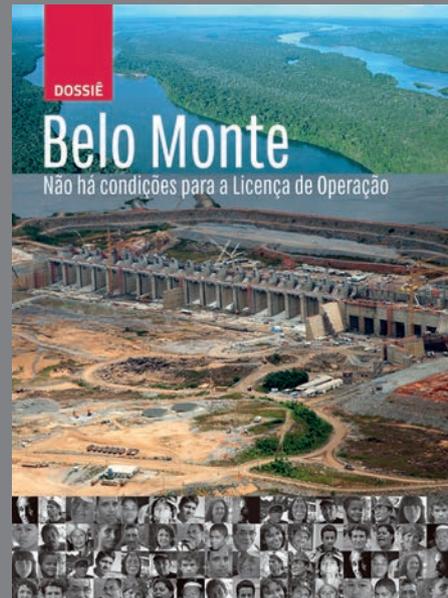
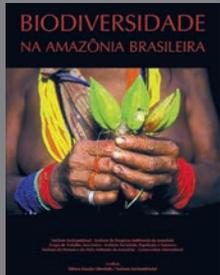
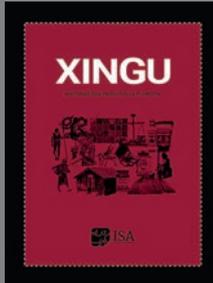
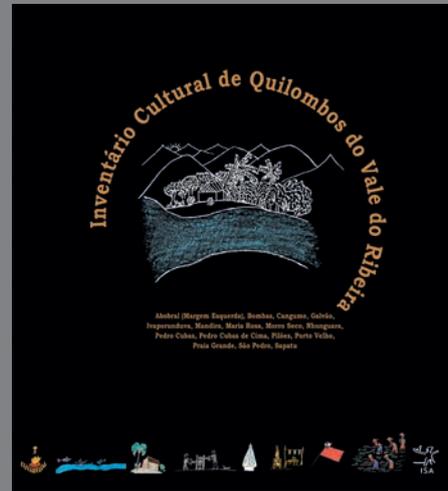
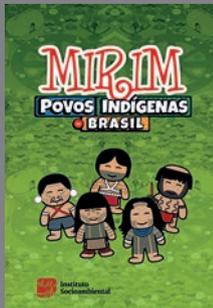


Our bookshelf



**EDUCAÇÃO ESCOLAR
INDÍGENA DO RIO NEGRO
1998-2011**

Relatos de experiências e lições aprendidas





From forest

© Rogério Assis/ISA, 2018

(left) Waiwai collectors, in the State of Roraima, participants of the Diversity Territories project, wash nuts on the Anauá River

(right) Raimunda Rodrigues, canteenier and manager of the Rio Novo mini-processing plant, in the Rio Iriri Extractivist Reserve, in Terra do Meio (State of Pará), visits the Amazônia/ Mata Atlântica box at the Pinheiros Municipal Market, in São Paulo

Guaranteeing the well-being of traditional populations in their territories depends on their autonomy

ISA argues that it is not enough to identify the numerous products with which traditional populations work: it is important to prepare markets to receive them. Thus emerged the project Territories of Diversity, which promotes the connection of associations and cooperatives with the market. The purpose is to structure long-term partnerships with companies to supply products *in natura* or with little processing, as well as partnerships and projects for government food purchases. It also aims at structuring markets for finished and higher added value retail products.

The first two strategies can move larger volumes and resources, such as supplying nuts to the Wickbold food company and supplying seeds for reforestation projects. In 2018, the associations and cooperatives sold more than 3.5 million reais (approximately 900,000 U.S. dollars) to municipalities, hospitals and social organizations in the States of São Paulo and Pará.



© Lilo Claretto/ISA, 2019

to market

The third strategy leads directly to community-branded finished products for the consumer. Baniwa pepper, Yanomami mushrooms, Xingu nuts, pequi oil from Xingu's Kisêdjê people and honey from Xingu Indians are examples of finished products sold for retail. Raimunda Rodrigues, from the Iriri River Extractive Reserve, is coordinator of the Terra do Meio Canteen Network, a collective of riverside inhabitants, indigenous people and peasants organized for the production and marketing of forest products. She explains how the relationship takes place: "ISA advertises our products and contacts companies. We speak directly with them, as well as with other riverside and indigenous communities in the region, with whom we work together."

One of the main initiatives to connect communities with the market is the Origens Brasil (Brazil Origins) network, which began as a joint experience between ISA and the Instituto de Manejo e Certificação Florestal e Agrícola

(Institute of Forest and Agricultural Management and Certification, Imaflora) in the Xingu region. The network, formed by community organizations, civil society organizations and companies, has the objective of facilitating fair and transparent relations, with guarantee of origin and product traceability. It ensures, in a participatory way, that the products come from recognized traditional territories, called Territórios da Diversidade Socioambiental (Territories of Social and Environmental Diversity), and are produced in such a way as to promote the way of life of communities, their knowledge and their relationship with the forest. "Studies show that the forest and its biodiversity are partly the result of traditional indigenous management practiced for generations. Promoting products from the traditional farming systems of these communities is promoting lifestyles that protect territories, protect forests and enhance biodiversity rather than suppress it," says ISA advisor Jeferson Straatmann.

Monitoring of Indigenous Lands and Conservation Units subsidizes ISA's activities and has national and international recognition

Indigenous peoples and protected areas

From scientists from all over the world to public managers and students doing schoolwork, it is almost impossible for anyone to research indigenous peoples in Brazil today and not come across ISA. Systematic monitoring and production of data are activities that have defined ISA's actions since its foundation. They are the main heritage left by the Ecumenical Documentation and Information Center (Cedi), one of the organizations that gave rise to ISA.

“Since the 1980s we had a network of collaborators on the theme of indigenous peoples. We received news clippings on Indians from newspapers around Brazil and organized and processed all this material at Cedi, an organization that originated ISA,” remembers anthropologist and ISA advisor Fany Ricardo. “This work gave rise to the book *Povos Indígenas do Brasil* [Indigenous Peoples of Brazil], which has had several editions since 1980. Updated every five years, it has been increasing the knowledge about these peoples,” explains Ricardo, editor of the book and in charge of the Indigenous Peoples of Brazil website, as well as of a wealth of products that include encyclopedias, maps, books and studies on indigenous peoples produced at ISA. The last edition of the book covers the period 2011 to 2016. A new edition is underway.

Once established, ISA began working with geographic information systems. It was the first Brazilian NGO to map the Amazon. “We started to insert, in addition to the Indigenous Lands, also the Conservation Units, and we noticed they overlapped”, says Ricardo.

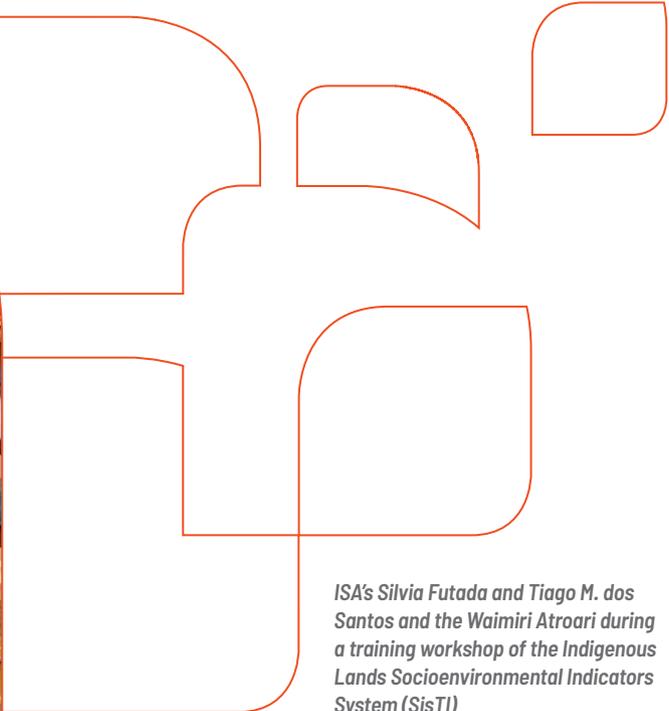
To keep this data updated ISA collects information on Conservation Units and Indigenous Lands in the Amazon published daily in the *Diário Oficial da União* (Federal Official Gazette). It also seeks information on these areas State by State, as well as from outside the Amazon. With the creation of the Rede Amazônica de Informação Socioambiental Georreferenciada (Amazon Georeferenced Socioenvironmental Information Network, Raisg) (see page 24), ISA began mapping the entire Amazon biome in six countries.

Diverse platforms and products

Based on monitoring, which includes the follow up of public policies related to social and environmental issues and the pressures that hover over protected areas, ISA also produced the virtual *Enciclopédia dos Povos Indígenas* (Encyclopedia of Indigenous Peoples), unique of its kind in Brazil, and the website *Povos*



© Walter Blos/Programa Waimiri Atoari, 2014



ISA's *Silvia Futada* and *Tiago M. dos Santos* and the *Waimiri Atoari* during a training workshop of the Indigenous Lands Socioenvironmental Indicators System (SisTI)

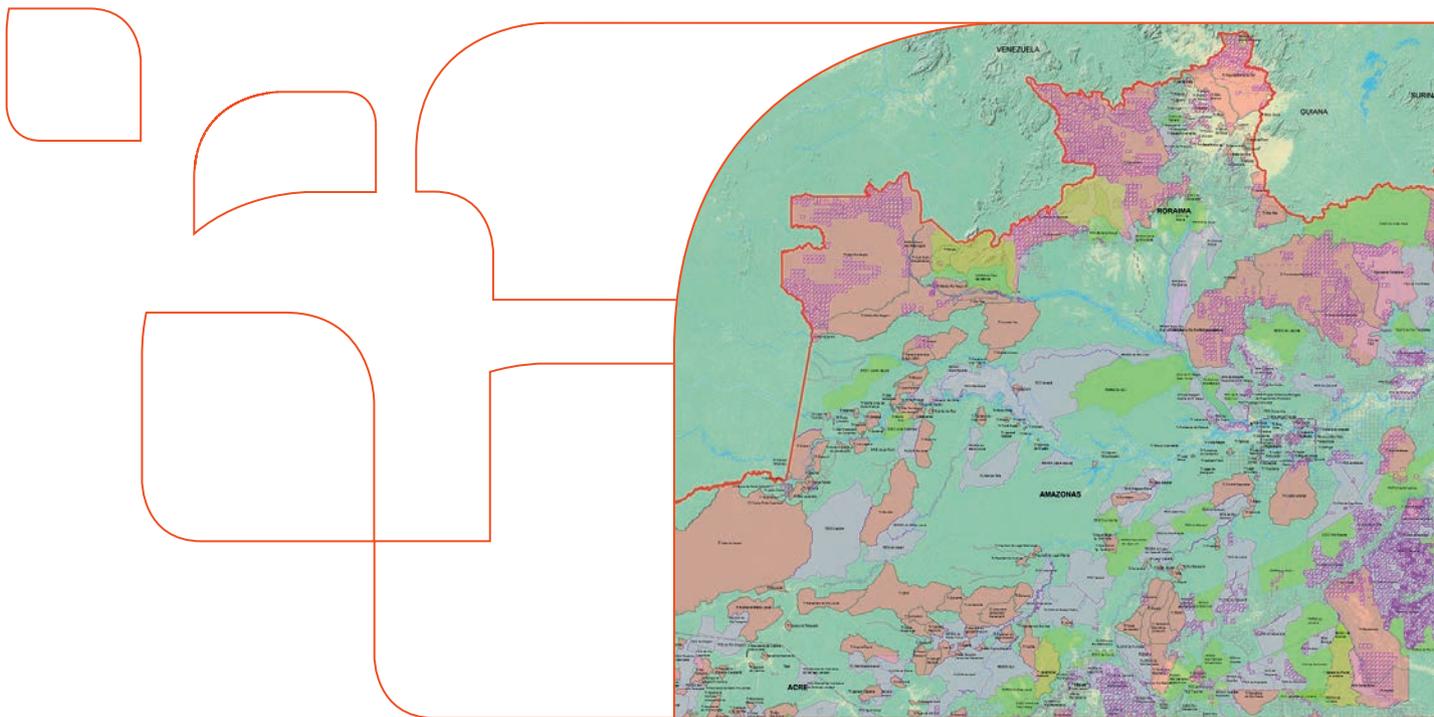
Indígenas do Brasil Mirim (Indigenous Peoples of Brazil for Children), aimed at children and educators, which has been translated into English, Spanish, German, French and Norwegian.

These websites have up-to-date information on who the Indians are, how many they are and how they live, as well as their culture and their organizations, the products they make available, and where they can be purchased. They also have analysis, what is available on legislation related to Indigenous Lands and Conservation Units, and a databank with more than 180,000 articles, captured daily, with material in English and Spanish. “We seek to generate data transparency. Therefore we have a large database of public policies related to Indigenous Lands and Conservancy Units,” says Ricardo.

All the information obtained are mapped and give rise to different products on mining, infrastructure works, agribusiness, overlaps, logging, land tenure and land grabbing, in a joint work with the areas of Socio-Environmental Policy and Socio-Environmental Law and Communication. An example of this is the publication *Terras Indígenas e Unidades de Conservação*

– *O Desafio das Sobreposições* (Indigenous Lands and Conservation Units – The Overlap Challenge), winner of the 2005 Jabuti Award in the category Human Sciences. Another example is the *Webmapa da Amazônia Legal* (Legal Amazon Webmap), launched in 2017, with information on basins, biomes, Indigenous Lands and Conservation Units, deforestation (with data from the Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais – National Institute for Space Research, Inpe) and infrastructure works.

“Our maps feature a system that allows researchers and journalists to assemble information as they need it,” explains Ricardo. That same year, Google Earth launched an interactive map platform with stories about indigenous peoples, some written by ISA’s monitoring team. In 2018, ISA also launched the *Terras+* website, an indicator panel that presents an assessment of the main territory balance vectors: legal stability, environmental integrity, surrounding environmental integrity, territorial integrity, presence of construction works, planned construction works and governance. In it, the indicator with the highest grade is the recognition of land property, considered the basis for everything else.



Building this system implied field operations in 14 Indigenous Lands and more than 50 villages in the States of Roraima, Amazonas and Rondônia, with specific socio-environmental diagnoses of each territory. This resulted in eight publications that were distributed to the communities participating in the survey. The idea is to do the same with Conservation Units.

ISA produced other analytical documents. One of them is *O que o Governo Dilma Fez (e não Fez) para Garantir o Direito à Terra e Áreas para Conservação* (What the Dilma Government Did (and Did not Do) to Guarantee the Right to Land and Conservation Areas), on the Dilma Rousseff's administration (2011–2016). Another is *Impactos da Proposta de Emenda Constitucional nº 215/2000 sobre os Povos Indígenas, as Populações Tradicionais e o Meio Ambiente* (Impacts of Proposed Constitutional Amendment Nr. 215/2000 on Indigenous Peoples, Traditional Populations and the Environment). ISA also conducted a study on infrastructure construction works that threaten isolated indigenous peoples in the Amazon and monitored deforestation monthly in four pilot areas with records of isolated peoples – in the Yanomami, Arariboia, Uru-Eu-Wau-Wau and Ituna/Itatá Indigenous Lands – using a new radar-based technology, through which it is possible to detect



© Claudio Tavares / ISA, 2010

deforestation through the clouds that cover the region at certain times of the year.

ISA participated in the elaboration of studies on deforestation and carbon emission in the Legal Amazon and the publication of the article "*Litigância Climática: Em Busca da Efetividade da Tutela Constitucional da Amazônia*" (Climate Litigation: In Search of the Effectiveness of the Constitutional Protection of the Amazon) in the book *Litigância Climática: Novas Fronteiras para o Direito Ambiental no Brasil* (Climate



Map made by the monitoring team shows mining activities in Indigenous Lands and Conservation Units in the Brazilian Amazon, updated to January 2019

Litigation: New Frontiers for Environmental Law in Brazil). In partnership with Imazon, Ipam and WHRC, it launched the Projeta platform, a manual for public forest concessions in the Brazilian Amazon. And, in partnership with the Centro de Inteligência Territorial (Center for Territorial Intelligence) of the Federal University of Minas Gerais, it has been developing studies on the impact of public policies and infrastructure construction works in the Amazon.

ISA maintains content partnerships with several museums, such as the Museum of the Portuguese Language, in the city of São Paulo, Cais do Sertão, in the State of Pernambuco, and the Vienna Museum, with collections of indigenous objects, and with the exhibition *O Olhar de Hercule Florence sobre os Índios Brasileiros* (The Regard of Hercule Florence on Brazilian Indians) [TN: Hercule Florence (1804-1879) was one of the pioneers of Brazilian photography] -, at the Guita and José Mindlin Library of the University of São Paulo. During the preparation of the report of the National Truth Commission, which investigated human rights violations during the military dictatorship in Brazil (1965-1985), ISA's team was responsible for the research and support for the chapter dealing with indigenous peoples.

Since 2017 ISA has been releasing the weekly newsletter *Fique Sabendo* (Get to Know), featuring key facts of the week regarding Indigenous Lands and Conservancy Units, *quilombos*, traditional populations and related policies. It is produced from information published in over 100 news sources, as well the official gazettes of the Union and the States of the Legal Amazon. Recognized nationally and internationally, the websites managed by ISA had, in 2018 alone, approximately 6 million hits.

ISA's monitoring of isolated indigenous peoples has resulted in the book *Cercos e Resistências* (Sieges and Resistances), published in July, 2019. Many of these peoples live in threatened Indigenous Lands and Conservation Units.

“One of the main goals of our work is to combat prejudice against Indians. We have achieved this by showing that protected areas, including Conservation Units and Indigenous Lands, provide an important environmental service to the country and the planet. In addition, our monitoring effort became even more important after the government began pulling out information from the internet. That's why we replicated everything that has been done, every action taken by the federal and state governments,” says Fany Ricardo.

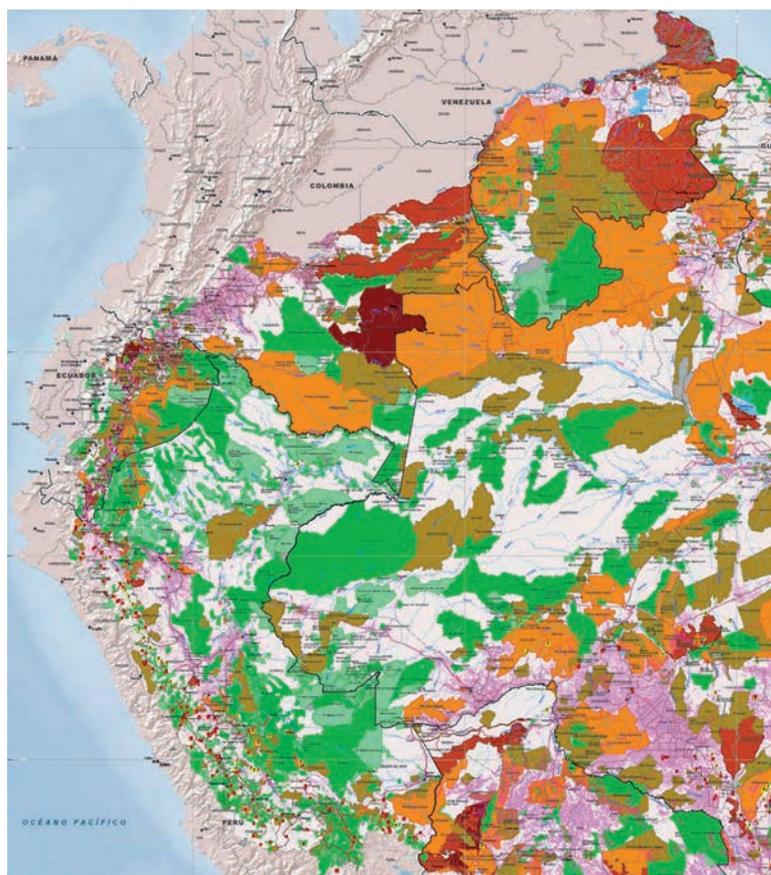
ISA promotes the creation of a cross-border network of organizations for the production and dissemination of geospatial socio-environmental information in Pan-Amazon

For an integrated vision of the Amazon

(below) Map of pressures and threats on Indigenous Territories and protected areas, one of several products that Raisg has launched

ISA, the pioneer NGO in Brazil to have a geospatial laboratory, was born placing Indigenous Lands and Conservation Units on maps. Initially, it worked to build a complete vision of the Brazilian Amazon; then it built an integral vision of the Pan-Amazon in association with organizations from the Andean countries, where the headwaters of the basin are located, and from the Guyanas, which share the Amazon rainforest. To this end, it sought organizations similar to ISA in other Amazonian countries to create the Amazon Georeferenced Socioenvironmental Information Network (Raisg).

Formed in 2007, Raisg today is comprised of eight organizations from six Amazonian countries, all of them with long experience working with the Amazon and its peoples: Fundación Amigos de la Naturaleza (Friends of Nature Foundation, FAN, Bolivia), Instituto del Bien Común (Common Good Institute, IBC, Peru), Fundación Gaia Amazonas (FGA, Colombia), Fundación Ecociencia (Ecoscience Foundation, Ecuador), Provita and Wataniba (Venezuela), Instituto do Homem e Meio Ambiente da Amazônia (Amazon Institute of Man and Environment, Imazon, Brazil) and ISA, which designed and coordinated the initiative. In its 12 years of experience, it has





© Rogério Assis/ISA, 2018

Aerial view of illegal mines in the Yanomami Indigenous Land near the Ye'kwana community, Waikás region



proved to be one of the most important networks for the production and dissemination of social and environmental information in the Pan-Amazon. It has become a reference.

The result was a previously unheard-of integrated view of the Amazonian environment: protected areas and indigenous territories, as well as pressures and threats on them, starting with products such as the 2009 Amazon map, which is updated annually, highlighting connectivity across borders. Also in 2009, Raisg began mapping deforestation in all countries using the same methodology and period. The results are in the atlas *Desmatamento na Amazônia (1973 a 2013)* (Deforestation in the Amazon – 1973 to 2013). Among the various products launched by the network some stand out. From organizing information on natural resource concessions in all countries (mining, oil and gas, hydropower), as well as on roads and fires, and analyzing threats to Indigenous Lands and conservation units resulted the atlas *Amazônia sob Pressão* (Amazon under Pressure). In the end of 2018 was launched the Web map *Garimpo Ilegal na Amazônia* (Illegal Prospecting in the Amazon). Since 2018, in partnership with MapBiomass Brasil, ISA has been evaluating changes in land use and ground cover in the entire Amazon region, giving rise to the MapBiomass Amazonia.

ISA acts in the formulation, analysis and search for solutions for policies and legislation, building articulations that expand the impact of actions

Defending the rights of forest people

A multidisciplinary team, aligned with all other ISA programs and acting in the Executive, Legislative and Judiciary powers in articulation with other institutions, networks and organizations make the Programa de Política e Direito Socioambiental (Socio-Environmental Policy and Law Program, PPDS) one of the pillars of ISA. It is within it that lawsuits are prepared, such as the one that forced the Union to compensate the Panará Indians for the death of 2/3 of their population caused by contact in the 1970s, when they were forcibly removed from their lands and taken to the Xingu Indigenous Park. Or the one that, in the 2000s, forced Eletronorte – one of Brazil's State Power Companies – to indemnify with land the Gavião da Montanha Indians, who had ceded part of their territory for the construction of the Tucuruí Dam, in the State of Pará, in the 1980s. Another lawsuit, in partnership with Rede de ONGs da Mata Atlântica (Network of Atlantic Forest NGOs), forced Ibama to reforest critical areas of the Atlantic Forest in the State of Santa Catarina, for having authorized irregular deforestation.

"We do a work of monitoring public policies and advocacy actions in the three branches of government regarding socio-environmental topics. We help in formulating, analyzing, finding solutions for policies and

legislations. In practice, we maintain a routine of reading the *Diário Oficial*, of following up bills in the National Congress, lawsuits and measures taken by the Executive that affect, or are of interest to, traditional peoples and communities. We also monitor everything that relates to environmental issues in general," explains ISA advisor and public policy expert Adriana Ramos.

To guarantee the constitutional rights of these peoples and of the Brazilian population regarding the environment, ISA develops partnerships with social movements and a variety of organizations. An example is the support of the Acampamento Terra Livre (Free Land Camp, ATL), which has been held annually in Brasilia for 15 years.

The PPDS works in conjunction with ISA's regional programs and other institutions to bring local demands to the federal level. This is the case of the defense of the rights of the Guarani Indians of the Morro dos Cavalos Indigenous Land, in the State of Santa Catarina, which ISA has taken up with other partner institutions. The demarcation of their lands is being challenged in Court by the State government, which claims that the Guarani were not in the area at the time of the promulgation of the 1988 Constitution. "This is an emblematic case, as it



© Christian Braga/MNI, 2018

The Terra Livre camping site in Brasília in 2018

refers to the thesis of the Temporal Milestone, by which only the indigenous communities occupying them on October 5, 1988, when the Constitution was promulgated, would be entitled to their traditional territories," says Adriana. "The thesis ignores the history of forced removals and other violence experienced by many indigenous peoples. And since it is well documented in the case file that the Time Frame theory does not apply to Morro dos Cavalos, ISA was available to contribute to the defense of the Guarani in the Federal Supreme Court".

The thesis of the Temporal Milestone was highlighted during the Supreme Court's 2009 trial on the Raposa-Serra do Sol Indigenous Land. ISA also acted at that time, supporting the defense work carried out by the Conselho Indígena de Roraima (Roraima Indigenous Council, CIR) and conducted by the lawyer Joênia Wapichana, who became in 2018 the first Indian federal representative elected in Brazil. ISA published a special feature on its website detailing the controversy, with news, documents, photos, maps and videos.

Another case was the defense of the decree regulating the titling of *quilombola* territories, which was challenged in the Supreme Court. In this case ISA participated as

amicus curiae and, together with other organizations, won the case in 2018, with the recognition of the validity of the decree. The lawsuit was supported by the campaign #NenhumQuilomboAMenos (Not One *Quilombo* Less), aimed at clarifying public opinion about what was happening.

National Congress

Monitoring legislative processes is one of the guiding principles of ISA's political action since its inception. It includes drafting proposals and suggestions to members of Congress, articulating organizations and opinion makers, supporting representatives of interested populations to gain access to the authorities and disseminating information to the press. This was the case with the amendments to the Forest Code, which the PPDS followed for more than a decade until the final vote in 2012; and the creation of the bill of the Sistema Nacional de Unidades de Conservação (National System of Conservation Units, Snuc), in 2000.

The regulation of the law on access to genetic heritage and to traditional knowledge is another highlight of ISA's activities: the follow-up began in 2001 and lasted until the promulgation of the Biodiversity Law in 2015.



ISA's Adriana Ramos (standing) and Joênia Wapichana, indigenous federal representative, during the Energy and Communities Fair – Energy Solutions for Amazonian Communities, in Manaus

© Silvia Futada/ISA, 2018

ISA publications are references in this area, such as the books *Seria Melhor Mandar Ladrilhar?* (Would it Be Better to Have it Tiled?), *Biodiversidade: Como, Para Quê, Por Quê* (Biodiversity: How, What For, Why) and *Socioambientalismo e Novos Direitos – Proteção Jurídica à Diversidade Biológica e Cultural* (Socio-environmentalism and New Rights – Legal Protection of Biological and Cultural Diversity).

The monitoring of proposals pending at the Chamber of Deputies detected, in 2018, one that called for the reduction of Jamaxim National Park, in the State of Pará, and helped mobilize NGOs and social movements. The proposal was blocked.

Adriana Ramos points out that ISA's work is not only reactive. With the Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amazônia (Amazon Environmental Research Institute, Ipam) and social movements, ISA was the protagonist of a regional development proposal for the area impacted by the highway Cuiabá-Santarém (BR-163) in the State of Pará, which was to be paved in the early 2000s. The proposal was adopted by the federal government and bore fruit, such as the creation of Conservation Units and more appropriate forms of planning construction works in the region. These practices, unfortunately, have not been properly incorporated into government policies.

ISA was also the contractor of a study, which had the participation of several organizations, to calculate the cost to control deforestation of the Amazon. The result of this work was presented to the Brazilian government and to Norway's international partners and was one of the elements behind the \$ 1 billion donation that gave rise to the Amazon Fund in 2008. Today, the fund is in danger of being extinguished by the Jair Bolsonaro administration.

On the world stage, ISA seeks to articulate with international networks to give visibility to cases in Brazil, also taking advantage of major global events such as the Conferences of the Parties (COPs) of the Climate Convention and the UN Biodiversity Convention. During the COP 8 of the Biodiversity Convention in Curitiba in 2006, for example, it organized Coptrix, a set of alternative events with a critical approach to the official event. At COP 15, in Copenhagen in 2009, and the COP 21, in Paris in 2015, ISA organized several events with various partners, with debates on the impacts of climate change on their territories. In Paris, it presented the film *Para Onde Foram as Andorinhas* (Where the Swallows Went, made in partnership with the Instituto Catitu (Catitu Institute). It also promoted, in 2008, with the Comissão Pró-Índio de São Paulo (São Paulo Pro-Indian Commission), an international seminar on the



© Gustavo Amora/Comova, 2017

Quilombolas deliver over 110,000 signatures collected in the campaign *O Brasil é Quilombola! Nenhum Quilombo a Menos!* (Brazil is quilombola! Not one quilombo less!) to the Court (STF)

International Labor Organization’s Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, which resulted in a special feature on ISA’s website and a publication.

Communications

ISA’s political presence also encompasses communication. “The objective, in this case, is always political, such as the creation of *Copiô, Parente*, a podcast aimed at indigenous peoples and traditional communities. For two years this project has been sending to more than 1,800 people each week, via WhatsApp, information about what is happening in Brasilia of interest to the Indians and the forest peoples,” says Adriana Ramos. “More than 100 editions have already played an important role in quickly communicating to these communities the threats that appear against them.”

In this work developed by PPDS, the involvement of the interested populations is always intense. This is the case of the web series *Floresta Iluminada – Energia Limpa para os Povos da Amazônia* (Illuminated Forest – Clean Energy for the Amazonian People), launched by ISA in March, 2019. With three episodes, it shows a trip through riverside communities and indigenous villages of the Tapajós River, the Xingu Indigenous Park and the Raposa-Serra do Sol Indigenous Land. The message of the film is clear: Brazil

needs to find modern and sustainable solutions to guarantee energy to the Amazonian communities.

According to Ramos, for ISA it is not enough to collaborate or support the forest peoples: the aim is to give them a voice. To this end, training activities are carried out to enhance the political impact of indigenous leaders and the actions of indigenous communicators. An example is the climate change training, organized by the PPDS, aimed at indigenous leaders and partners of the *Articulação dos Povos Indígenas no Brasil* (Indigenous Peoples Articulation in Brazil, Apib) and the *Rede de Cooperação Alternativa* (Alternative Cooperation Network, RCA) in Brasilia, in 2017 and 2018.

Motivated by the early departure in 2015 of the Federal District Prosecutor Juliana Santilli, at the age of 50, ISA launched, in 2018, the *Prêmio Juliana Santilli de Agrobiodiversidade* (Juliana Santilli Agro-biodiversity Award). One of ISA’s founding partners, Santilli, who was a lawyer and a journalist, was a staunch activist in the defense of farmers’ rights and traditional knowledge. “She helped build the theoretical foundations of socio-environmental law,” says Ramos. The award, which has had its first edition and will be biennial, supports research and community initiatives for the conservation of agro-biodiversity.

ISA innovates in formats and languages to increase society support to forest communities and Brazilian biodiversity

More reach, more impact

Giving visibility to its causes, partners and projects has always been a priority for ISA. Since the beginning of its activities, it has invested in the production of news, publications, videos and documentaries, as well as in maintaining a portal and disseminating information online. An example is the daily *Manchetes Socioambientais* (Social-Environmental Headlines), a news clipping created in 2000 emailed to over 11,000 people today. As for social media, ISA uses Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, Medium and Twitter.

Highlights of this performance were the participation in the UN Environment Conference in Rio de Janeiro, with the *Radar Rio +20* initiative – with website, publication, workshop for journalists; and the campaigns *De Olho nos Mananciais* (With the Eyes on the Springs) and the *Abraço da Guarapiranga* (Embrace Guarapiranga), in 2006, when the São Paulo reservoir turned 100 years old. Partnering with the agency NBS resulted in iconic institutional ads, such as *Equilíbrio Socioambiental* (Socio-Environmental Balance) and *Pense Bem Antes de Mexer* (Think Well Before Touching It), as well as posters, signs and podcasts of the campaign *Y Ikatu Xingu*, starring Gisele Bündchen.

For many years, however, ISA had its communication focused more on specific audiences, such as governments, partners, the press and researchers. It lacked talking directly with the citizens, especially those connected with the Internet, via social media. About three years ago, ISA decided to prioritize this broader communication and began conducting campaigns aimed at broadening support for it and its causes.

ISA advisor Bruno Weis explains that since 2016 participation platforms, messaging and content production systems have been created for websites and social media – some of them in English –, as well as two major campaigns that included TV, film and offline media. “Campaigns seek engagement and mobilization through 360-degree coverage, i. e., encompassing as many information channels with society as possible,” he explains. The first campaign, of 2017, was the *#menospreconceiromaisíndio* (less prejudice, more Indians), in which ISA invited Brazilians to look at indigenous peoples with more generosity, respect and without prejudice. The aim was to deconstruct the idea that Indians are not less Indians because they have incorporated non-indigenous habits and technologies into their daily lives.



© Tadeu Jungle, 2016



© André Albuquerque/ISA, 2016

Fogo na Floresta (Fire in the forest), a virtual reality movie (top); on the Negro River, young Baniwa during recording of the campaign #Menospreconceitomaisindio (Less prejudice, more Indians) (below)

Launched this year in celebration of ISA’s 25th anniversary, the campaign #PovosDaFloresta (Forest Peoples) seeks to broaden support for Indians, *quilombolas*, riverside peoples and extractivists who resist attacks on their rights and the destruction of their territories. The campaign shows people from these communities speaking directly to the Brazilian government, politicians and businessmen, especially prospectors, loggers, land grabbers and other invaders of their lands: “We’ll keep resisting.” Both institutional

campaigns were supported by JWT agency (ads) and producer Pródigo (films).

Another prominent campaign was the #NenhumQuilomboAMenos (Not One *Quilombo* Less), a mobilization of signatures, via social media, against the legal challenge to the titling of *quilombola* lands. More than 110,000 people signed the petition, and several Black Movement celebrities and activists recorded videos and took photos with the campaign shirt. “We also seek to be attuned to new technologies. So, in 2017, we produced the movie *Fogo na Floresta* [Fire in the Forest] in a virtual reality format activated by glasses, showing life in the villages and the danger of fire and climate change in the Xingu Indigenous Park”, explains Weis. Filmed in the Piyulaga village of the Waujá people, it was the first virtual reality film made with an indigenous people.

The film, directed by Tadeu Jungle, was activated in several cities and events in Brazil, including Rock in Rio 2017, and was the first in history to be part of the Mostra Internacional de Cinema de São Paulo (São Paulo International Film Festival) and the É Tudo Verdade (It’s All True) documentary festival, taking the message of the Indians to many new audiences.

2nd cover

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3rd cover

1. ©André Dusek/Agil, 1988: During the discussion of the chapter on Indians in the Constituent Assembly, Cedi (which would give rise to ISA) presents a map with Brazil's Indigenous Lands
2. ©Pedro Martinelli/ISA, 2002: ISA team in expedition through Riozinho do Anfrísio, in Terra do Meio (State of Pará), which resulted in a proposal to the federal government to create a mosaic of Conservation Units in that region of the Xingu Basin
3. ©Orlando Brito, 2000: Teseia Panará before the Federal Regional Court (TRF-1), in Brasília, which concluded in favor of the Panará, condemning the Union to indemnify them, in a lawsuit brought by ISA lawyers
4. ©Pedro Martinelli/ISA, 2000: The Xikrin do Cateté celebrate the first delivery of logs resulting from sustainable forest management plan, developed with ISA support
5. ©Murilo Santos/ISA, 1989: Closing of the First Meeting of Forest Peoples, held in Altamira (State of Pará), which debated the government's plan to build the Belo Monte hydroelectric dam, called Kararaô at the time
6. ©Rafael Hupsel/ISA, 2019: Davi Kopenawa Yanomami at ISA's 25th anniversary celebration event and the launching of the Peoples of the Forest Campaign at Unibes Cultural, São Paulo
7. ©Beto Ricardo/ISA, 1988: Demonstration of indigenous peoples in front of the Brazilian Congress, in Brasília, during the Constituent Assembly
8. ©Camila Gauditano/ISA, 2001: Graduation of the first class of teachers of the teaching course promoted by ISA in the Xingu Indigenous Park (State of Mato Grosso)
9. ©Tatiana Cardeal, 2008: Symbolic hug of the Guarapiranga Reservoir, ISA's initiative for the preservation of São Paulo's springs
10. ©Orlando Brito, 2002: ISA team in front of the Federal Regional Court (TRF-1) in Brasília after the trial of the Panará Indians' lawsuit for post-contact damages against the Union
11. ©Claudio Tavares/ISA, 2009: In Adrianópolis, in the Ribeira Valley (State of São Paulo), ISA-supported demonstration against the construction of the Tijuco Alto hydroelectric dam on the Ribeira de Iguape River
12. ©Pedro Martinelli/ISA, 1997: Team of the newly founded ISA in São Gabriel da Cachoeira (State of Amazonas). From the left: Beto Ricardo, Enrique Svirski, Nilto Tatto, André Baniwa and João Paulo Capobianco
13. ©Felipe Leal/ISA, 2006: *Quilombola* farmer during restocking of Juçara palm, Quilombo Galvão (State of São Paulo)
14. ©Beto Ricardo/ISA, 1989: Composer and singer Milton Nascimento with Benki Ashaninka, a young boy at the time, in the Amônia River Ashaninka community (State of Acre), on a trip promoted by Cedi in support of the forest peoples, which resulted in Nascimento's CD Txai
15. ©Laércio Santos Miranda, 2003: Sustainable BR-163 Meeting in Sinop (State of Mato Grosso). From the left: Minister of National Integration Ciro Gomes, Minister of the Environment Marina Silva, and Mato Grosso State Governor Blairo Maggi
16. ©Pedro Martinelli/ISA, 1997: Bronze landmark indicating the demarcation of the Negro River Indigenous Lands
17. ©Lulu Costa, 2006: Brazilian top model Gisele Bündchen supported the Y Ikatu Xingu campaign to restore Xingu River forests and springs by recording videos and podcasts.
18. ©Luana Capobianco/ISA, 1999: ISA-sponsored Macapá Meeting discussed priority areas for biodiversity conservation in the Amazon
19. ©Marcelo Botelho/ObritoNews-ISA, 2004: Xingu Indians arrive for the Canarana Meeting (State of Mato Grosso), which resulted in the Y Ikatu Xingu (Save Xingu's Good Water) campaign, which for the first time brought together Indians, small and large farmers, researchers, authorities and the Academy
20. ©Carlo Zacquini, 1993: Haximu massacre survivors carry the ashes of 16 Yanomami Indians who were killed by prospectors on the Venezuelan border
21. ©Pedro Martinelli, 1995: After three years of preparation, the Panará leave the Xingu Indigenous Park to return to part of their ancestral land on the Iriri River
22. Map of the headwaters of Xingu River between 2000 and 2003, prepared by ISA for the Canarana Meeting in 2004, showing the situation around the Xingu Indigenous Park
23. ©André D'Elia, 2013: Chief Piracumã Yawalapiti is barred by the Federal District Military Police at the entrance of the Brazilian Congress during an Indigenous National Mobilization
24. ©Claudia Andujar, 1988: a Yanomami wields the Brazilian flag in Brasília during the Constituent Assembly
25. ©Carol Quintanilha/ISA, 2016: ISA team at an annual meeting at Sesc Pinheiros, in São Paulo



We shall resist.



peoplesoftheforest.org/

Indigenous peoples, Quilombola, riverside peoples and extractivist communities.
The guardians of our future need help. Support #PeoplesOfTheForest.