



## Climate Fund for Amazonia

### Taking joint responsibility on global climate action

Climate Alliance has launched a fund that is not an offset, but instead supports projects of indigenous partners with a comprehensive perspective for the preservation of their rainforest territories and their livelihoods. Forests throughout Amazonia that are managed by indigenous peoples still store more carbon than they emit, while areas outside indigenous territories have generally turned into carbon sources.

Yet the entire Amazon basin still absorbs more CO<sub>2</sub> than it emits – thus playing an important role in global climate action. Amazonia is also the largest and one of the most diverse rainforests in the world. This vast area is home to one third of the world's plant and animal species and holds 20% of its fresh water. More than 500 different indigenous groups live here and sustainably protect the environment in their territories. Climate Alliance has been standing alongside indigenous peoples for more than 30 years, supporting them in their efforts to protect the rainforest.

#### CLIMATE AND RAINFOREST IN CRISIS

The climate crisis, forest fires, deforestation for cattle pasture and soybean cultivation as well as the extraction of fossil fuels, gold and other resources pose great challenges to the area and its people. About 17% of the original Amazon region has already been lost. This corresponds to 85 million hectares of rainforest, with the greatest losses in Brazil (almost 60%), followed by Peru (about 4%), Colombia (almost 3.5%), Bolivia and Venezuela. If forest destruction is taken into account, the rate of loss reaches approximately 25%.

Scientists warn that the Amazon system is on the edge. This means that the rainforest is disappearing and the area would, in total, begin to emit more CO<sub>2</sub> than it would absorb. In some parts of the Amazon basin, these tipping points have already been reached.<sup>1</sup> The situation is not only a threat to the forests and their inhabitants, but may also disrupt the global system.

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<sup>1</sup> Amazonia against the clock: <https://amazonia80x2025.earth/amazonia-against-the-clock>



## **WITHOUT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES THERE WILL BE NO RAINFORESTS**

Recent studies also confirm that indigenous territories and national protected areas are essential for the preservation of the Amazon, together covering almost 50% of Amazonia. About half of the intact forest in Amazonia is located in indigenous territories – an area larger than France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Spain and the UK combined.<sup>2</sup> These territories contain about one-third of the total carbon stored in the forests of Latin America and the Caribbean and 14% of the carbon stored in tropical forests worldwide.

Indigenous peoples and the forests in their territories thus play a crucial role in global and regional climate protection measures as well as in the fight against poverty, hunger and malnutrition on the continent. In addition to large amounts of carbon, they contain a high level of biological and cultural diversity and are critical for (global) water cycles. They thus make an important contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs; Agenda 2030), biodiversity conservation and the Paris Agreement.

## **TAKE RESPONSIBILITY WITH THE CLIMATE FUND!**

Local climate action and global responsibility mean that we must continue to prevent large-scale destruction of rainforests in the future. Our most important allies in this endeavour are our indigenous partners in Amazonia. Together, we can strengthen their rights, contributing to the protection of their territories and thus of the rainforests – with the Climate Alliance Climate Fund!

Your donation supports specific measures such as planting deforested areas, improving family gardens and strengthening cultural identity. With the Climate Alliance Climate Fund, we are bundling all activities and projects that contribute to sustainable climate action and more climate justice!

## **WHAT DO WE GAIN?**

- Strengthening the rights and self-determination of indigenous peoples
- Protection of the Amazon rainforest
- Preservation of biological and cultural diversity
- Local value creation
- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- Contribution to the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals
- Contribution to global climate action
- And much more!

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<sup>2</sup> FAO-FILAC 2021, S.12-13: <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb2953en>



## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

The Climate Fund is open to Climate Alliance members as well as other interested parties. By pooling resources, we have the possibility to support projects and programmes both large and small in the Amazon region directly and unbureaucratically.

## WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR CONTRIBUTION!

Climate justice is alive in Climate Alliance! Together with our indigenous partners in Amazonia, we have been working to preserve the rainforests for more than 30 years. The indigenous peoples have a very important role to play: as defenders of the rainforests and their territories, they make a decisive contribution to all of us – and to the climate.

## Contact

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## THE CLIMATE ALLIANCE

For over 30 years, Climate Alliance member municipalities have been acting in partnership with indigenous rainforest peoples for the benefit of the global climate. With nearly 2,000 members spread across more than 25 countries, Climate Alliance is Europe's largest city network dedicated to comprehensive and equitable climate action. Recognising the impact our lifestyles can have on the world's most vulnerable people and places, Climate Alliance pairs local action with global responsibility. [climatealliance.org](https://climatealliance.org)