

LAND APPLICATION SAN MARTIN

On the 6th of February finally a meeting took place between the representatives of the San Martin de Amacayacu and the Tikuna Cocama and Yagua reserve (TICOYA) and the Colombian National Land Agency (*Agencia Nacional de Tierras, ANT*). Before this meeting numerous of attempts were done in order to speak with someone on the phone from the Indigenous affairs of the ANT. Sadly, the connection was lost almost everytime and when we did get to speak with someone we received the answer either that no one was yet working in the department or that the person in question was not present. Finally we succeeded to make an appointment for a meeting on the 6th of February.

San Martin send one representative (José Gregorio Vásquez) and the reserve itself four representatives (Humberto Monje, Sergio Silva, Lilia Java and Wilson Laureano). Also Javier Díaz was present to take the minutes.

The results of this meeting were very positive. The representatives got the chance to meet the executive-director of indigenous affairs (Julia Venegas) and the staff member who took responsibility over our application (Sérgio Leon) and a new agenda was worked out with the following important topics:

- 1) Recognition of the ancestral lands of San Martin de Amacayacu and Palmeras.
- 2) Recognition of the territory of the communities Ticoya, Patrullero, 20 de Julio, Puerto Esperanza and Valencia.
- 3) The selling of private properties that still exist within the TICOYA reserve.

The reserve has taken the responsibility to provide the needed documents in order to make the process go as smoothly as possible. On the 3rd of March the next meeting took place and we will tell you more about it in the next newsletter.





The group of representatives took the opportunity to also visit the Ministry of Environment in order to receive information about the CO₂ negotiations with the NGO [Southpole](#). As we mentioned before, many things were unclear about the agreements made between TICOYA and the NGO.

During the month of February many meetings took place about this theme in the reserve. As most of the times, it is San Martin who takes the responsibility to sort out a case. Many people think it would be the best solution to stop working together with Southpole and to start negotiating directly with the companies. Some of the representatives of the TICOYA reserve, though, seem not to want to let go yet, probably because they fear to dive into something yet unknown and which might become complex.





The visit to the ANT was made possible by the Small World Foundation, which financed the costs of the flights and the stay in Bogotá. We are very thankful that this is possible, thanks to all your contributions.

MILIEUPATROUILLE SAN MARTIN

From the 9th till the 12th of february the environmental patrol of San Martin de Amacayacu walked a very long route and examined a big part of the ancestral lands. They discovered a camp where wood had been cut but which must have been left already sometime ago. They also found a track where people have been walking from the north to the Amazone river, most probably caring cocaine or gold in their backpacks. The environmental patrol made use of the journey to also plant trees for wood that in the future can be used for the building of houses.





Would you like to help the Small World Foundation to support the people of the indigenous community San Martin de Amacayacu and keep updated about the local developments in this far corner of Colombia?

You can transfer a yearly amount of 15 euros (or more...!) to:

Rabobank IBAN: NL28RABO0132726203

Bankaccount name: Stichting SMALL WORLD FOUNDATION at Baarle-Nassau,
Under the reference of 'newsletter' and Your Name (BIC: RABONL2U)

Or check out the online contribution module on www.smallworldfoundation.org/?page_id=68

Do not forget to e-mail your e-mailadress to smallworldfoundation@hotmail.com. For alternative (forms of) contributions you can also write to us via the e-mailadress mentioned above. As mentioned before, all contributions will be exclusively spent on the development and implementation of local initiatives. We will inform you about these projects as much as possible via the newsletter.

You can subscribe for the newsletter at any time. If you would like to receive again one or more old editions of the newsletter do not hesitate to contact us or have a look on the website: www.smallworldfoundation.org