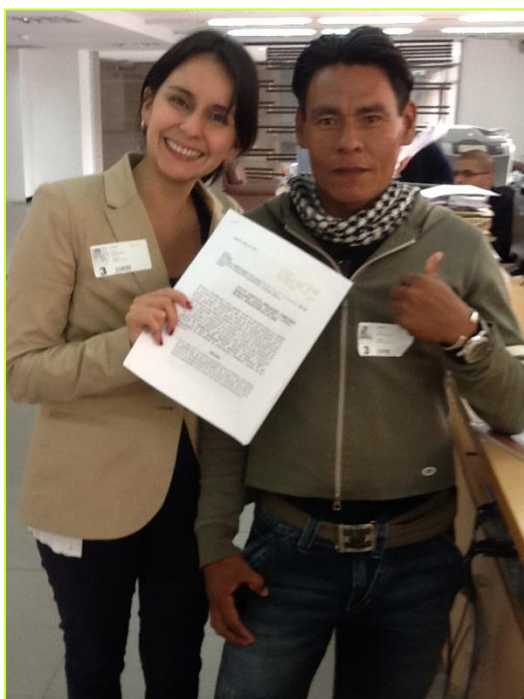




the small world foundation

APPLICATION HANDED OVER!!

For most Small World Foundation newsletter readers, it is no news anymore. But to assure that everyone is informed of this historical fact: The application for recognition of the ancestral lands of San Martin de Amacayacu was handed over to the Colombian Institute for Rural Development - INCODER (www.incoder.gov.co) last July 17th! The recognition of these lands will be as an extension of the existing Tikuna Cocama Yagua indigenous reserve, to which San Martin de Amacayacu belongs. In Bogotá, the community's lawyer (picture below, with the application in her hand – and also Newsletter 39) was present at each visit to relevant institutions and she showed herself very much involved with the case.



As a result of this event, which the community and the Small World Foundation have been expecting for years, there have already been a lot of phone calls and conversations. An important meeting has been planned for the third week of October. Representatives of the INCODER, National Parks, the community and the Tikuna Cocama Yagua reserve will get together for analysis and consultation. Without any doubt, the available Small World Foundation funds will (thanks to you!!) play a very influential role for the following steps of the process coming up.



In Bogotá, time also was taken to visit the Ministry of Interior Affairs and that of Justice to check on the progress (or better, the lack of it) of the project aiming to tackle the (still) restless internal political situation of the Tikuna Cocama Yagua reserve (Newsletter 43). This project was supposed to have started in June this year, but did not do so until the third week of September. In the meantime, another reserve president has been elected, whereas the agreements have been signed by the previous one... As you can read: Time to organise things!

HELP US TO GET SHIT DONE!

“GET SHIT DONE” + GIVASHIT = 20 TOILETS FOR SAN MARTIN!

At different festivals this summer (De Parade, Extrema Outdoor, Appelsap, Solar) GET IT DONE raised money for a variety of projects with the GIVASHIT concept. GET SHIT DONE was one of these projects. This Small World Foundation project aims to install another 20 toilets in San Martin de Amacayacu. In total, GET IT DONE raised 860 euro for GET SHIT DONE. Volunteers of the Small World Foundation also kept a lot of toilets clean at the Farmers Day and Tractor Pulling in Alphen (NB). Unfortunately, the second Tractor Pulling day was canceled due to heavy rainfall. Only in the afternoon, the dedicated toilet ladies provided their cleaning services for the visitors of the afterparty in the tent. In total, the Farmers Day raised 938 euro and the Tractor Pulling event about 1500 euro! Thanks a lot Stichting Trekkertrek Alphen (www.stta.nl): Thanks for the invitations and see you again next year! Volunteers: Thanks too!! At the moment of writing, the project reached 2347 of the required 5000 euro. Over the coming months, everyone can still chip in on the GET IT DONE project website specified below! For more pictures, comments and reactions (please!!) you can visit the project's Facebook page.



PROJECT KLEUTERSCHOOL

WWW.GETITDONE.ORG/PROJECTS/POSTED/TYPE/VIEW/ID/158
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PAGES/GET-SHIT-DONE/299897286770994

KINDERGARDEN PROJECT

In the previous edition of this newsletter, Sanne Buursma wrote about her experiences in San Martin de Amacayacu in July this year. She also mentioned that a group of local people were brainstorming about a project to renovate the community kindergarden "Tuirupü". By now, this project has a solid description and a budget (6340 euro) has been determined. The kindergarden was constructed 21 years ago with government funds. After that, there has been little to no maintenance, nor is there any interest from the Colombian Institute for Family Welfare (Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar – www.icbf.gov.co) to do something about it.

The result is easily guessed: The floor and wall planks are rotten, the water tank is damaged and the roof leaks. There are hardly any toys and there is only an improvised kitchen where the daily lunch for the 25 kids is prepared with ingredients from the city Leticia or the community, bought with ICBF funds. The kids have a teacher from the community and she is also paid by the ICBF. The emphasis of the teaching program is on Tikuna culture: Indigenous language, agriculture, fishing, hunting, mythological stories, rituals, etc.

Do you want to make a specific contribution to the renovation of this kindergarden, please do so on the Small World Foundation bank account (details on the next page), specifying "kindergarden" and your name.

Thanks in advance!! You can also follow the project at the above mentioned Facebook page. Please leave a comment!!





SUCCESSFUL PRESENTATIONS

For those interested, two presentations were held (by Heike van Gils) this summer about the Small World Foundation activities. At the beginning of August, we were guests once again at the Baarle-Nassau/Hertog Public Library. A special occasion this time, because the foundation celebrated her fifth birthday! Sanne Buursma put the directive board in the spotlight on behalf of Eetcafé De Twee Leeuwen (dinner!) and Artinez (beautiful flowers!). At the end of the presentation, two videos were shown: One of the toilet project and one about the progress made concerning the ancestral lands. Both videos spoke for themselves!



The sale of jewellery was also a huge success. The second presentation in Zaal Bellevue in Chaam at the end of August was on invitation by Natuurvereniging Mark en Leij (www.markenleij.nl). Of course, the emphasis here was little more on nature and nature management, but even so it was impossible not to end up talking about San Martin de Amacayacu and her activities. The Small World Foundation experienced both presentations as very fruitful and considers both worth repeating!

Library Baarle en Natuurvereniging Mark and Leij: Thanks a lot!!

Would you like to support the Tikuna indigenous community of San Martin together with the Small World Foundation, and stay in touch about the local developments in this remote corner of Colombia?

Please transfer 15 euro yearly (or more!) to the following bank account in the Netherlands:

Bank name: Rabobank
Bank Address: Singel 4
5111CD
Baarle-Nassau
The Netherlands
Account number: 13 27 26 203.
Account name: Stichting SMALL WORLD FOUNDATION
SWIFT/BIC Code: RABONL2U
IBAN code: NL28 RABO 0132 7262 03

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

Please DON'T FORGET TO INFORM US ABOUT YOUR NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS!!
(heike_van_gils@hotmail.com)

The contributions will be spent exclusively on the development and realization of local initiatives in San Martin de Amacayacu in the Colombian Amazon. No wages are being paid to anyone. The expenses will be mentioned as much as possible in the newsletters. For alternative contributions, please contact Heike van Gils at: heike_van_gils@hotmail.com.

For more information about this initiative, please check the website:
www.smallworldfoundation.org.