

LANDAPPLICATION 5 COMMUNITIES

During the first months of 2024 many meetings took place between the community of Puerto Nariño and the five indigenous communities (Ticoya, Patrullero, Veinte de Julio, Puerto Esperanza and Valencia), whose territory is still designated as “no man’s land” (on the map this is the territory with the green stripes).

When the Tikuna Cocama and Yagua (TICOYA) indigenous reserve was founded in 2000-2001 there did not exist a lot of knowledge on this theme within the 22 communities. Apparently the government had decided by itself that this territory would serve as an expansion of the city of Puerto Nariño in the future (pink dot on the map), the second municipality in the department of the Amazon (after Leticia). In 2013 it became clear that the territory designated with the green stripes was not an administrative mistake, like the people of the reserve believed. This assumption existed because they were actually told that the territory was theirs. They also received subsidies like all the other 17 communities. In 2019 the territory was included in the land application of San Martin and Palmeras.

Before the government can recognise any territory it is indispensable to have a very precise idea of the future borders of the city of Puerto Nariño and this is a very difficult topic of discussion. The communities do not want the city center to expand and take over territory which they always thought was their property. The municipality of Puerto Nariño,

however, wants to be able to expand in the future.

One of the possible solutions would be to buy the pieces of land which have been occupied by colonizers since the eighties, when the landrights did not yet exist. These pieces of land have always been respected as being private property and could come into the hands of the municipality.









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

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