



For Dom, Bruno & the Amazon



Amazon forest, Brazil.

“The Indigenous people say that Dom and Bruno have become guardian spirits of the forests and the forest people. So they continue to work to protect life.”

Alessandra Sampaio, Dom’s widow

On 5 June 2022, British investigative journalist Dom Phillips was murdered alongside his friend and guide, Indigenous expert Bruno Pereira, while on a trip researching organised criminal networks in the Amazon. Three years later, when this exhibition was updated, the illegal fishermen and ‘criminal organisers’ accused of their murder were still awaiting trial.

This exhibition honours the many people who have lost their lives while fighting to protect the Amazon rainforest.

It aims to continue Dom’s and Bruno’s work to expose the destruction happening in the Amazon and the violence perpetrated against its people. It also amplifies Dom’s message of hope that there are sustainable and just solutions to these problems, and that many of these come from Indigenous people.

The destruction of the Amazon impacts us all through its effect on climate and biodiversity loss. Much of this destruction is driven by consumer demand in the global North, for food, minerals, illegal drugs, and other products. So, we ask you to think about how you can make a difference.

← Tweet



Chico Pinheiro
@chico_pinheiro

Néscios! Mataram Marielle e ela se tornou cidadã do mundo: não se mata uma ideia! Sepultaram Dom e Bruno: enterradas, as sementes brotam, viram árvores frondosas e surgem as florestas!!

Translated from Portuguese by Google

fools! They killed Marielle and she became a citizen of the world: you can't kill an idea! They buried Dom and Bruno: buried, the seeds sprout, become leafy trees and the forests appear!!

Vale do Javari, 2018. Dom first met Bruno when he joined Marubo, Matis and Korubo Indigenous people on this 77km rainforest expedition organised by Bruno.



A poem for Dom, for Bruno, for the Rainforest

*Because you are no longer here
I am cast into darkness
My sun has set in shame and grief*

*May the trees bend their boughs heavy
With all the imprints of your steps
Marking each path of your journey*

*May the birds sing their heart-deep songs
Mark each moment of the fading
Of the light of defiant eyes*

*May all of nature dance for you
As you melt to join with the Earth
Embracing from whence you had come*

*I grieve
I grieve*

**Judy Ling Wong,
Black Environment Network**

Acknowledgements and further information

This exhibition was first produced in 2022 by Fiona Frank, Alison Cahn, Domonique Davies and Rhiannon Davies, helped by many other writers, contributors and campaigners. It has been updated in 2025 with financial support from the National Union of Journalists, and additional editorial support/input from Alessandra Sampaio, Dom Phillips Institute; Sian Phillips, Dom Phillips’ sister; Priscilla Schwarzenholz, Survival International; Jos Barlow and Juliana Silveira, Lancaster University Environment Centre; Jonathan Watts, Global Environment Editor, The Guardian; Hannah Peck, Cool Earth; Danny Tregidgo, Mamirauá Institute for Sustainable Development, Tefé, Amazonas; and Greenpeace.

You can see a list of all original contributors and supporters at www.haltonmill.org.uk/dombruno where you can also download a low res version of this exhibition with hyperlinks to all the articles mentioned.

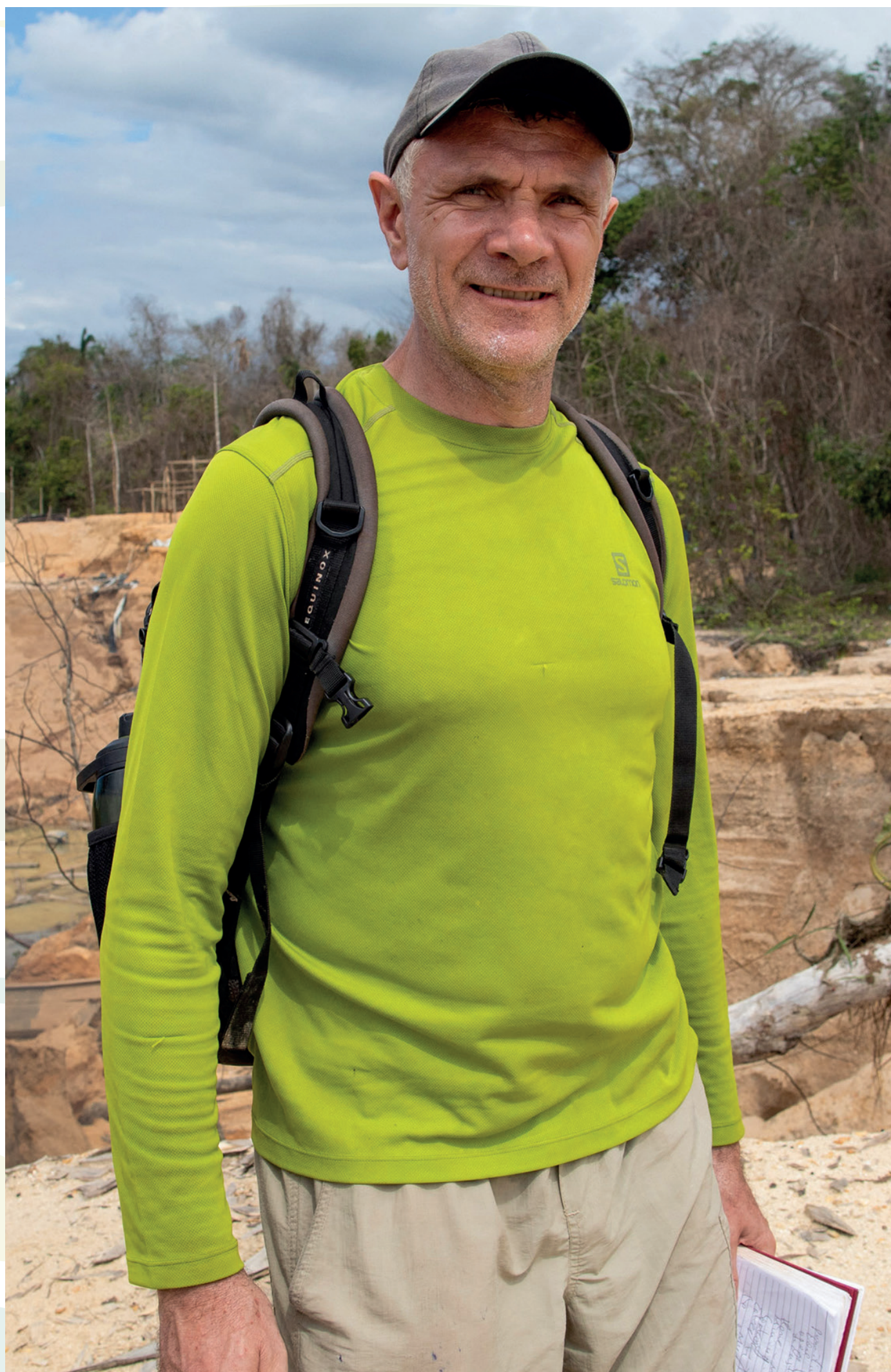
Why not host this exhibition in your venue!
Please contact dombrunoexhibition@gmail.com

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Dom Phillips travelling to the Yanomami Indigenous Lands, 2019.

© Jolo Laet



© Jolo Laet, AFP

Dom Phillips

“There is a war on nature. Dom Phillips was killed trying to warn you about it.”

Jonathan Watts, *The Guardian*

Dom Phillips was a versatile journalist. As a young man he was passionate about football and music, and began his career producing music fanzines. In 2007, while writing a book about DJs, Dom visited Brazil - and never left.

The country fascinated him with both its natural wonders and its people, who he described as ‘musical and fluid’.

Dom’s keenness to highlight social injustice led him to the favelas, protests, and the Amazon. His interest in environmental issues increased, and he covered stories on mining, dam collapses, and the destruction of the Amazon rainforest. He became very concerned about the destruction of Indigenous communities in the rainforest, and the violence they faced, and this prompted numerous expeditions into the Amazon.

Dom wrote for the Washington Post, the Times, Financial Times, Reuters, New York Times, Bloomberg, The Intercept, the energy news agency Platts, the football magazines FourFourTwo and Arena, The Face, ID Magazine and, most frequently, the Guardian.

Dom’s first trip to the Javari Valley with his friend, Indigenous expert Bruno Pereira, was in 2018. At the same time, Jair Bolsonaro was elected president of Brazil and environmental devastation rose rapidly. Dom reported extensively on this and, in 2019, set out to write ‘How to Save the Amazon’, part travelogue, part guidebook highlighting political and social issues contributing to the crisis of the Amazon and offering solutions, often based on Indigenous knowledge.

On 5 June 2022, Dom and Bruno were murdered by illegal fisherman during the final research trip for his book.

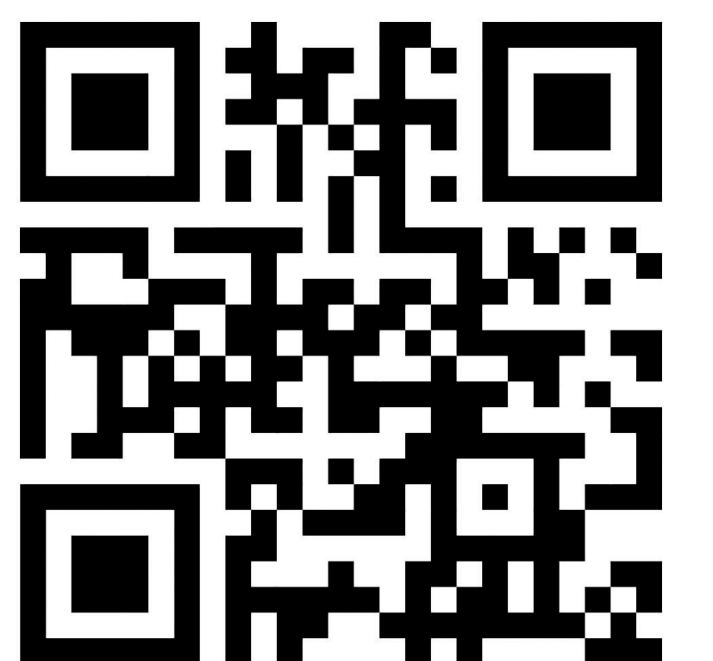
‘How to Save the Amazon: a journalist’s deadly quest for answers’ has now been completed, by a group of journalists and environment experts.

“Among the nuts things I saw was a logging truck, laden with huge trees, totally illegal, no number plate – like something out of Mad Max – rumbling late afternoon out of the reserve, broad daylight.”

Dom Phillips, writing to his nieces, Domonique and Rhiannon Davies

Read Jonathan Watts’ obituary of Dom Phillips.

www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jun/24/dom-phillips-obituary





Bruno Pereira directing FUNAI colleagues during an expedition to Javari Valley, 2018.

Bruno Pereira

Bruno Pereira devoted his life to protecting Brazil's Indigenous population and their lands. Close contact with nature from childhood prompted him to take up a position with FUNAI, Brazil's state Indigenous agency.

Bruno was drawn to working with remote tribes that had little to no contact with white society. This led him to move to the town of Atalaia do Norte in the Javari Valley in 2010 as Funai's regional coordinator. Bruno formed an incredibly strong bond with the Indigenous communities, joining with them for spiritual ceremonies and learning five Indigenous languages.

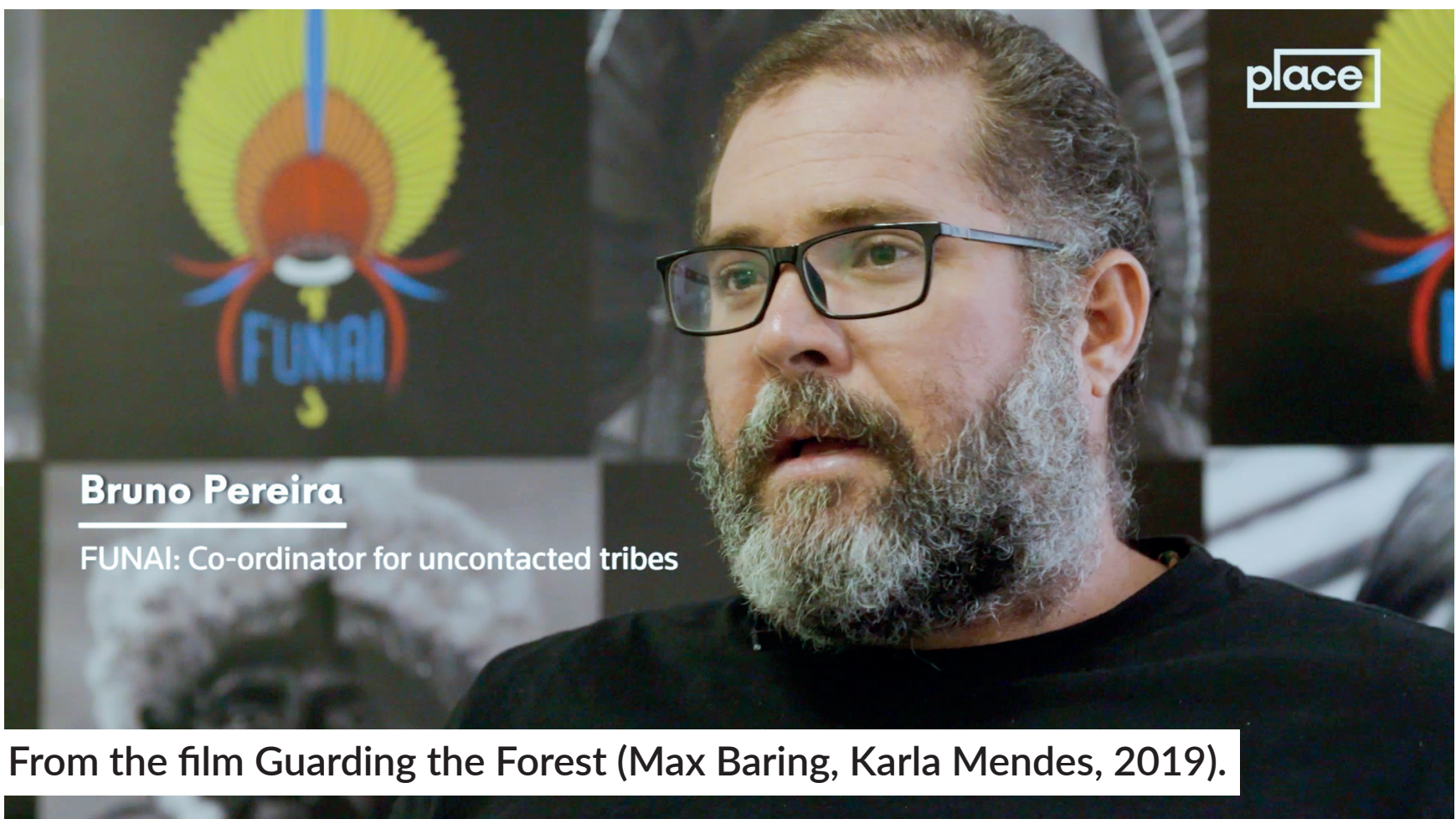
In 2019, under the Bolsonaro regime, Bruno was forced out of FUNAI and

instead worked with UNIVAJA,¹ an Indigenous organisation, and with OPI,² a human rights organisation which he helped to set up. He continued exposing environmental crimes, protecting Indigenous communities, and raising money to help these communities deal with the increasing challenges facing them.

Bruno received repeated death threats because of his work and had been shot at just a month before he and Dom were murdered.³

In 2023, after Bruno's death, his widow, anthropologist Beatriz Matos, was invited to take up a position within the Ministry of Indigenous

Peoples, leading the Department for Isolated and Recently Contacted Peoples. She has been working with FUNAI to reinstate policies protecting these peoples, which were removed under Bolsonaro, and to defend Indigenous territories.⁴



From the film Guarding the Forest (Max Baring, Karla Mendes, 2019).



Beatriz Matos, Bruno's widow.

"If Bruno were still alive, he could very well have been given this job. I feel like I'm carrying on his work because we were partners, we worked together."

Beatriz Matos, Bruno's widow, speaking in May 2023 about her new role in the Ministry for Indigenous Peoples.⁴

¹ UNIVAJA: União dos Povos Indígenas do Vale do Javari - Union of Indigenous Peoples of the Javari Valley ² OPI: Observatório dos Direitos Humanos dos Povos Indígenas Isolados e de Recente Contato - Observatory for the Human Rights of Isolated and Recent Contact Indigenous Peoples ³ Dom Phillips and contributors. How to Save the Amazon: a journalist's deadly quest for answers. Ithaca 2025. ⁴ Carolina Conti, Mongabay. After Bruno Pereira's murder, widow Beatriz Matos strives for Indigenous rights. 1 May 2023.



Read Andrew Downie's obituary of Bruno Pereira.

www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jul/06/bruno-pereira-obituary



Remembering the murdered environmental defenders

“Close to our village there is a white man who promised to kill me ... because I defend the forest ... They don’t arrest loggers, but they want to arrest the Guardians ... We feel very alone here with no help.”

Paulo Paulino Guajajara, 10 months before he was murdered

As well as Dom and Bruno, there are thousands of other environmental and land defenders who have been threatened, attacked and killed for protecting our environment. More than 1,700 were murdered globally between 2012 and 2021, with Brazil and Colombia being amongst the deadliest countries. The figure is probably an underestimate.¹ In 2023, 25 environmental defenders were murdered in Brazil and 79 in Colombia, according to Global Witness.²

Land disputes over mining and extractive industries, logging and agribusiness are the most common motives for a murder when a cause is known.

Indigenous peoples are most at risk, comprising only 6% of the world population yet making up almost a third of all human rights defenders killed globally.³ They depend on the forest for their food and livelihood, and are suffering. They are the best defenders of the forest.⁴

Although the number of environmental defenders murdered in Brazil has fallen since President Lula da Silva took power from Bolsonaro, not enough is being done and the killings continue. Here are the stories of just a few of those murdered in Brazil in the past few years.



Maxciel Pereira Santos

Vale do Javari Indigenous territory, Amazonas state

6 SEPTEMBER 2019

Maxciel Pereira Santos worked alongside Bruno Pereira at the FUNAI Brazilian Government Indigenous agency. He was killed in front of his family following his fight against illegal invasions by hunters, loggers and gold miners in the Javari Valley Indigenous Territory. The area is home to more uncontacted tribes than anywhere else in the world.



Paulo Paulino Guajajara

Guajajara Indigenous people Arariboia Indigenous Territory, Maranhão state

1 NOVEMBER 2019

Paulo, the 26-year-old father of a young son, was shot dead in his forest home. He was a member of the Forest Guardians, started by the Guajajara in 2012 to monitor and ward off illegal loggers and miners. Forest Guardians are often the target of attacks.



Ari Uru-Eu-Wau-Wau

Uru-Eu-Wau-Wau Indigenous people Uru-Eu-Wau-Wau Indigenous Territory, Rondônia state

18 APRIL 2020

Ari was a leader of the Uru-Eu-Wau-Wau people, and formed part of their Indigenous Guardians team, monitoring invaders’ movements and protecting the borders of their Indigenous territory. His body was found with significant head injuries.



Alex Lopes Guarani

Guarani Kaiowá Indigenous people Mato Grosso do Sul state

21 MAY 2022

Alex, 18, was killed when he was leaving the Taquaperi reservation to look for firewood. The Brazilian government has failed to demarcate the Guarani’s territory as the law requires. So land has been stolen illegally: Guarani people who try to reoccupy their territory are often attacked.



Nega Pataxó

Pataxó Hãhãhã Indigenous people Bahia state

21 JANUARY 2024

This shaman, vocalist and spiritual guide was brutally attacked by a 200-strong group of ranchers who were trying to evict a Pataxó community from ancestral land they had reclaimed. She died and her brother, Chief Nailton Muniz, a prominent political leader, was badly injured.



Neri Ramos de Silva

Guarani Kaiowá Indigenous people Mato Grosso do Sul state

18 SEPTEMBER 2024

Neri, 23, was shot in the back of the head by military police in the southwestern state of Mato Grosso do Sul, where the Guarani Kaiowá territory overlaps with private property. The Guarani Kaiowá have been trying to reclaim their land for two decades.

1 Ali Hines, Decade of Defiance, Global Witness. 28 Sept 2022. 2 Global Witness. Missing voices: The violent erasure of land and environmental defenders. 10 September 2024. 3 Decade of Defiance, Global Witness (2022). 4 UN Food & Agriculture Organisation/Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean. Forest governance by indigenous and tribal peoples. An opportunity for climate action in Latin America and the Caribbean. 2021.

Photos: Maxciel Pereira Santos – Personal Archive (Globo.com); Paulo Paulinho Guajajara – Sarah Shenker; Ari Uru-Eu-Wau-Wau – Gabriel Uchida/SIMI, Smoke Signal (Socio Environmental Monitor); Alex Lopes Guarani – Personal archive (CIMI); Nega Pataxo – Teia dos Povos; Neri Ramos de Silva – used with permission of the Ramos de Silva family.



Black squirrel monkey in the Tapajós region, where illegal logging and mining is rife.



Wildfire in Santarem region, Brazil.

The Amazon in crisis

Indigenous lands have lower rates of deforestation than Government protected areas.¹

At 7 million square kms, the Amazon is the world's largest tropical forest, extending into nine countries. It contains one in ten known animal species and its plant life is the most biodiverse on the planet, with many species still undocumented.

Amazonia also has incredible cultural diversity, containing 30 million people from 350 different ethnic groups. There are hundreds of Indigenous and traditional groups, including isolated societies and those recently contacted.

It plays a critical role in regulating the global climate and mitigating climate change. Up to 17% of the rainforest has already been lost, mainly due to cattle ranching, but also logging, mining, drug production and urbanisation.

Deforestation escalated dramatically in Brazil when Jair Bolsonaro became president in 2019 and encouraged development in the Amazon, jumping 60% by the time he left office four years later.²

Some areas now emit more carbon than they absorb.³

Invasions of Indigenous territory by land grabbers trebled under Bolsonaro

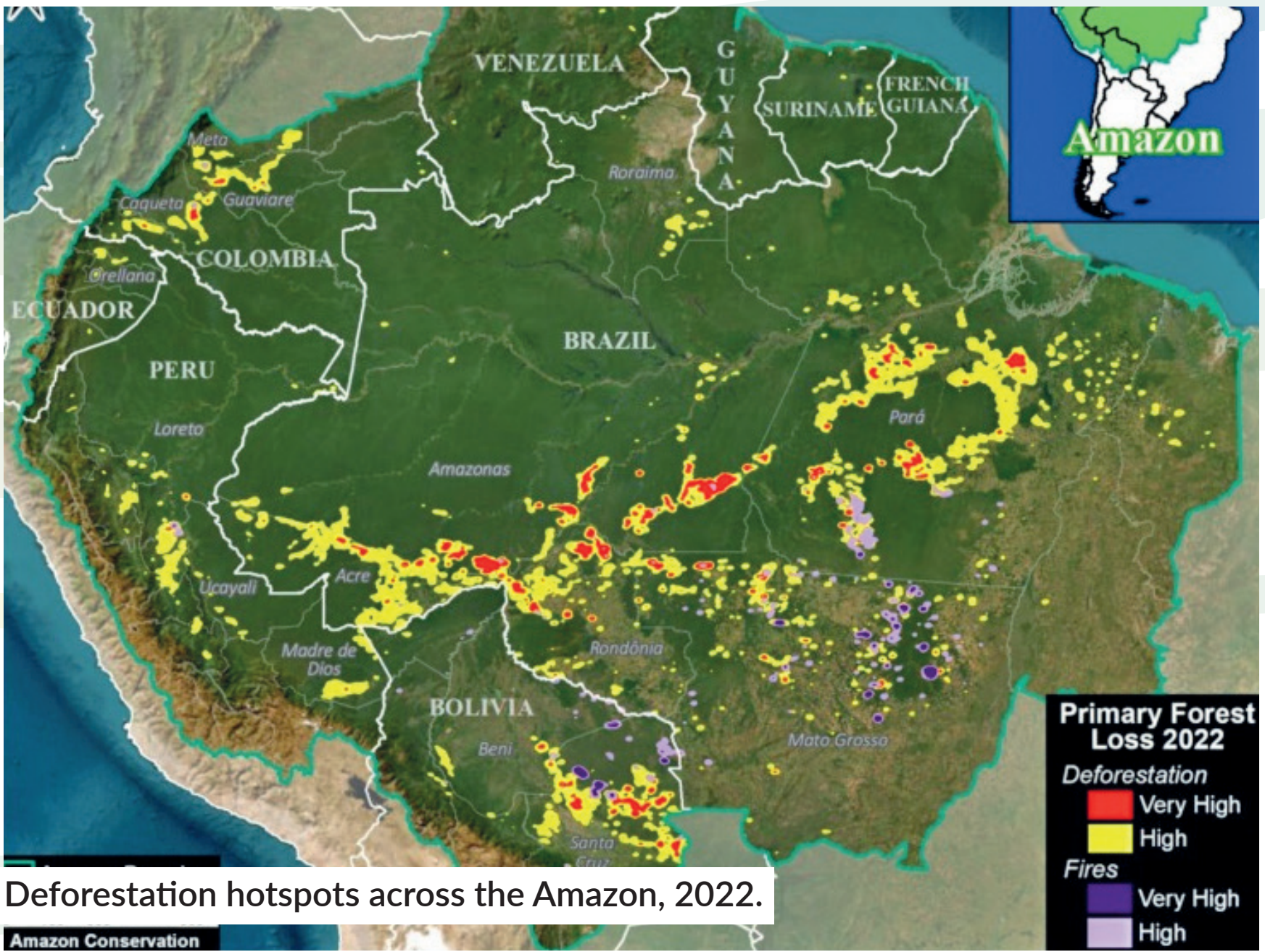
and illegal mining more than doubled.² More hopefully, when President Lula da Silva took over, he pledged to halt deforestation by 2030, strengthening environmental enforcement, supported by the military. Deforestation fell by nearly a third in the year to July 2024, the lowest level since 2017.⁴

But Lula's government continues to promote major projects that threaten the forest, including new roads and oil mining.

Climate change is leading to both unpredictable rains and hotter dryer weather, making the forest more flammable. Wildfires are increasing, releasing huge amounts of carbon and destroying habitat. This exacerbates the damage done to already fragile ecosystems.⁵

Amazonian forests are humid, so should not burn – wildfires were rare in the past, so species haven't adapted to cope with them.

More than 10,000 species of plants and animals are at high risk of extinction. Latin America and the Caribbean,



Deforestation hotspots across the Amazon, 2022.

including the Amazon, has lost 95% of its wildlife population since 1970.⁶

Scientists have recently warned that 38% of the Amazon has been degraded and projections show that, unless more determined action is taken, much of the remaining forest could be damaged by 2050.⁷



Watch this 4 minute UN Food & Agriculture film - about the importance of protecting indigenous lands.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=28hdsEvNjrE

¹ UN Food & Agriculture Organisation/Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean. Forest governance by indigenous and tribal peoples. An opportunity for climate action in Latin America and the Caribbean. 2021. ² Climate Observatory Brazil. Never Again (Nunca Mais Outra Vez). 2021. ³ Damian Carrington, Guardian. Amazon rainforest now emitting more CO2 than it absorbs. 14 July 2021. ⁴ Climate Observatory Brazil. 2021. ⁵ Rhett Ayers Butler. Mongabay. Amazon deforestation in Brazil plunges 31% to lowest level in 9 years. 10 Nov 2024. ⁶ IPCC Sixth Assessment Report. Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. ⁷ WWF/ZSL Living Planet Report Index, 2024. ⁸ David M Lapola et al. The drivers and impacts of Amazon forest degradation: Science 27 Jan 2023, Vol 379 Issue 6630



Fish market.



Guaviare river, Colombia.

© Luis Barrero, WWF UK

Endangered fish and endangered lives

The Amazon contains 20% of the planet's fresh water. It is home to over 2700 species of freshwater fish, nearly 65 times the number found in British rivers, with hundreds of species still undocumented. They are a vital source of food and income for the 30 million people living there, providing a major portion of their diet.

Endangered fish like pirarucu – the 'Amazon Giant' - are highly prized and can fetch many hundreds of dollars. It is believed that the illegal fishers accused of murdering Bruno and Dom were after pirarucu.

Fishing regulations are strict in Brazil. It is illegal to fish in nature reserves or Indigenous territories (except for local people), or to fish outside the fishing

season. Catch and fish sizes are limited for at risk species. But regulation is weakly enforced: illegal fishing is the second most common illegal activity inside protected areas.¹

Violence against those trying to prevent illegal fishing is common and often linked to organised crime: drugs have been smuggled across borders hidden in pirarucu.

Alongside overfishing, habitat loss is also a major threat to fish stocks. Large dams block migration routes and change river ecology. Urbanisation, agriculture and mining pollute rivers and destroy floodplains, where fish feed and breed. And global demand for ornamental fish adds yet more pressure.



Fishing for pirarucu.

© Ricardo Oliveira

¹ Kauano et al (2017), PeerJ; Illegal use of protected resources in federal protected areas of the Brazilian Amazon



(And photo below) Overflight records areas of illegal mining within the Yanomami Indigenous Land in Roraima, April 2021, Greenpeace.



January 2024: Child from the Hokomau community being treated at the Surucucu base, Yanomami Special Indigenous Sanitary District.



www.greenpeace.org.uk/news/victory-for-the-mundurucu-people-and-their-forest-home

Learn more about Greenpeace's work in the Amazon.

Illegal mining costs lives

Though mining in Indigenous reserves is illegal under Brazil's constitution, President Jair Bolsonaro encouraged illegal mining during his four year rule. This led to large scale deforestation, pollution and violence against Indigenous communities.

One of the worst atrocities was in the Yanomami territory, where 570 Yanomami children died of starvation, disease and mercury poisoning as 20,000 illegal miners, known as garimpeiros, went searching for gold, tin and other minerals used in the high-tech products we use every day. They poured mercury into rivers, built roads and air strips, damaging the land and water on which the Yanomami depend. They also occupied government health stations intended for the Yanomami.¹

After coming to office in 2023, President Lula da Silva declared a health emergency in the Yanomami territory, spending hundreds of millions of dollars restoring the health service.²

Lula also promised to rid the area of the garimpeiros, ordering raids to destroy their airstrips, machinery and infrastructure. The government claims that 80% of the garimpeiros have been expelled, but observers say that once the military withdrew, miners started to return.³

Mining causes damage, even when it's legal, polluting land and rivers, and reducing habitat for wildlife. About 10% of deforestation in the Amazon is due to mining.

The UK is the third largest importer of Brazilian gold, of which more than a quarter is mined illegally.⁴

“More than a humanitarian crisis, what I saw.... was genocide, a premeditated crime against the Yanomami.”

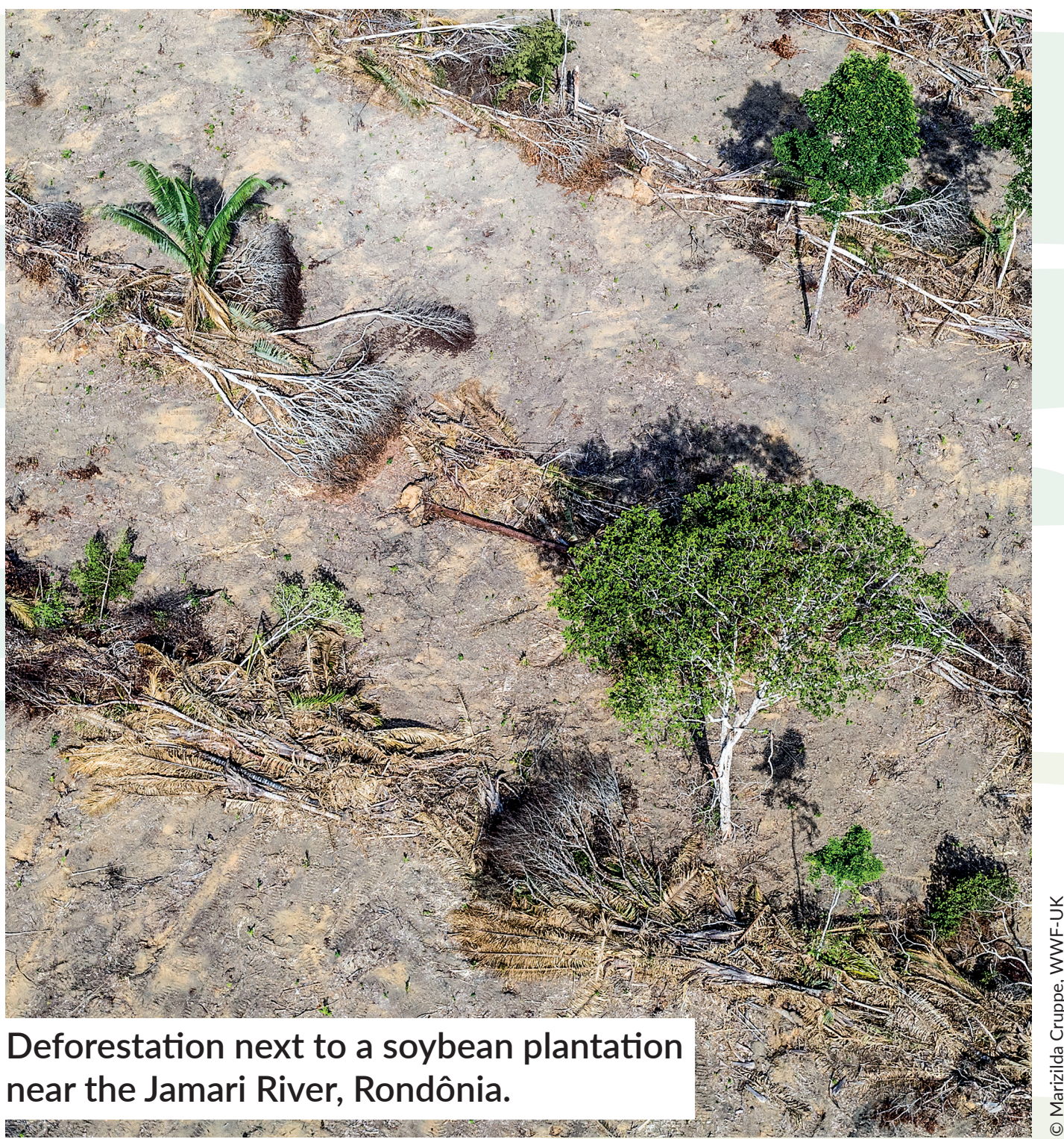
President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva



¹ Michael Swan & Yone Samidzu: America: The Jesuit Review. Indigenous peoples struggle to recover from genocidal campaign unleashed under Brazil's President Bolsonaro. 2 Feb 2024. ² Tom Phillips: The Guardian. 'Hope has returned': tribe hails Lula's fight against illegal mining in Amazon. 3 Feb 2025. ³ Amanda Perobelli & Anthony Boadie: Reuters. Brazil says it has nearly cleared gold miners from Amazon Yanomami reservation. 14 September 2024. ⁴ Lucy Jordan: Greenpeace, Unearthed. Indigenous 'blood gold' almost certainly exported to UK, say Brazilian researchers. 1 Sept 2021.



The forest burns.



Deforestation next to a soybean plantation near the Jamari River, Rondônia.

Destroying trees for livestock

“Many of those starting fires (in the Amazon) are illegal land grabbers...They are burning forests to clear land for other uses, such as cattle ranching, growing animal feed or illegal logging.”

Greenpeace

Industrialised agriculture is by far the biggest cause of deforestation in the Amazon and is especially destructive in places like Brazil. Livestock farming is a major culprit: large swathes of the forest have been cleared for cattle ranching and vast areas planted with soybean - around 80% of soya produced in the Amazon is fed to livestock.¹

Fire is often used to clear land illegally, which can get out of control and cause wildfires, destroying millions of hectares of the forest. In August 2022, there were 33,116 illegal fires registered in the Amazon, the highest number in 12 years.²

In 2022, major supermarkets in the UK and EU banned many Brazilian meat products because of their link to deforestation.³

Multinational meat companies, which supply the world meat market, claim they only buy meat from legal farms with good practices, but there is evidence that some illegal farms ‘launder’ their meat by transferring cattle to legal farms just before slaughter.⁴

Recent increases in global demand for meat, dairy and fish has led to even more crops being grown to feed cattle, pigs, poultry and farmed fish. This destroys habitats, threatening wildlife and biodiversity. It contaminates water and soil, and damages the livelihoods and wellbeing of local people.

In Britain, we eat twice as much meat and three times more dairy than the global average. More than half of the soya we import for animal feed comes from Brazil,⁵ and we also import fruit, vegetables and other products from the Amazon.

Farming animals for meat is inefficient, wasting huge amounts of land and crops that could otherwise feed people directly, making more space for nature – so we need to be moving towards a mainly plant-based diet.

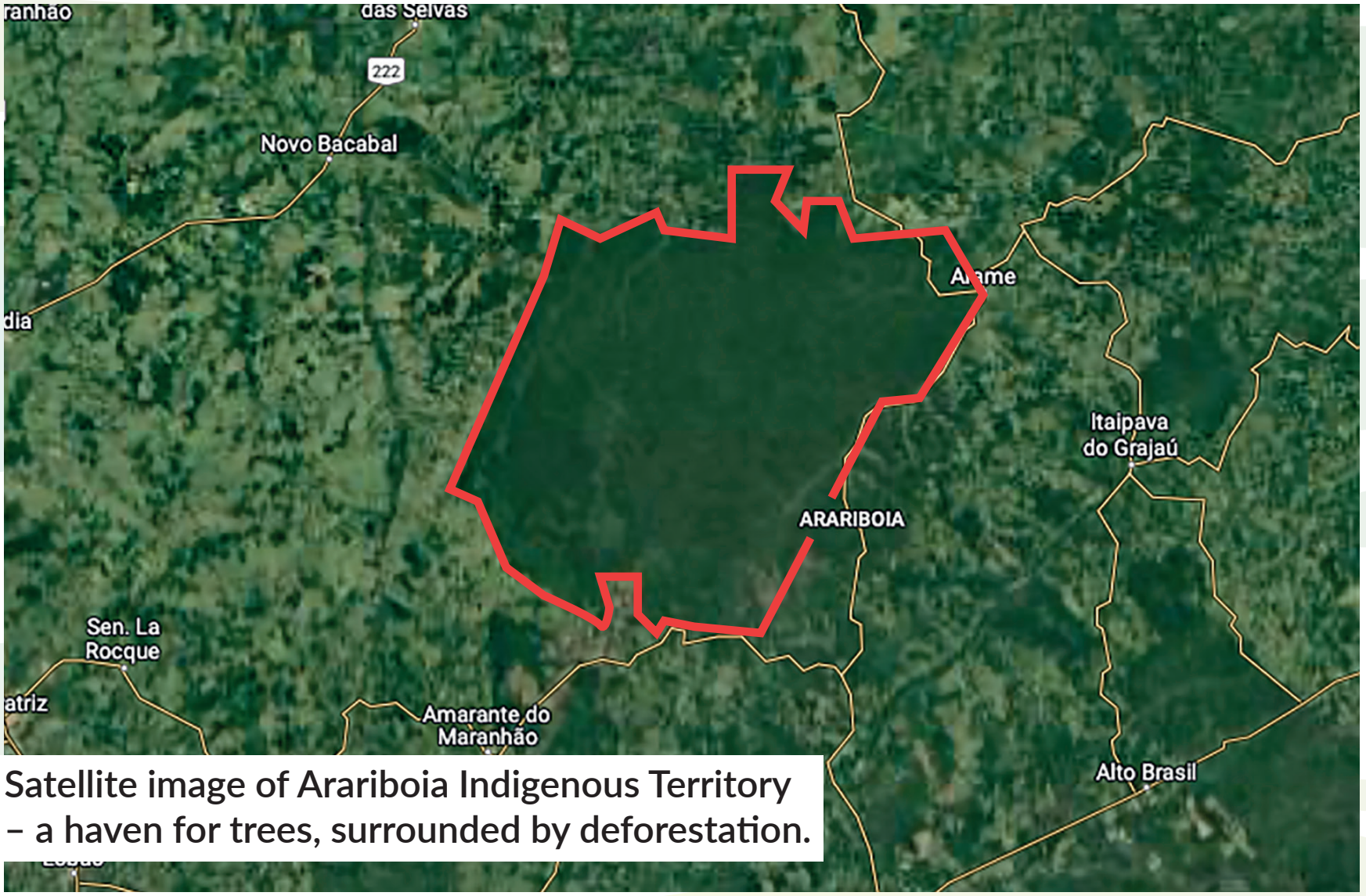


Cattle grazing on cleared land in Brazil.

¹ WWF: Nature is threatened by unsustainable production and consumption of soy. ² Greenpeace International. Illegal fires in the Brazilian Amazon reach highest number since 2010. 1 September 2022. ³ Adam Woods. Irish Farmers Journal. Supermarkets drop Brazilian beef over deforestation report. 17 December 2021 ⁴ Youssr Youssef. Forbidden Stories. The Amazon Cut: how beef linked to deforestation is exported to Europe by major companies. 2 June 2023. ⁵ Cesar Revoredo-Giha. LSE Blog. How to delink the UK's soybean imports and livestock supply chains from deforestation in the Amazon/HMRC code: 230400000 26 August 2021.



Forest guardians defending Arariboia lands.



Satellite image of Arariboia Indigenous Territory – a haven for trees, surrounded by deforestation.



Illegal deforestation found in the Indigenous Uru-Eu-Wau-Wau territory.

Resisting illegal logging



Learn more about Survival's campaigning work taking action for Indigenous peoples in Brazil.

www.survivalinternational.org/events/takeactionbrazil

Under President Bolsonaro, government institutions responsible for safeguarding Indigenous lands were starved of funds and stripped of political backing. Illegal loggers felt they could enter and exploit these territories, and attack and kill Indigenous people, with impunity. Rates of illegal logging and the destruction it brings skyrocketed.

Indigenous peoples across Brazil fought back in many ways, including by setting up or boosting groups of Indigenous Forest Guardians. In the Arariboia Indigenous Territory, the Javari Valley Indigenous territory, and several others, the Guardians are patrolling their forests, identifying logging activity and stopping the loggers. This is crucial for the survival of their families and also of their neighbours, uncontacted tribes, the most vulnerable peoples on the planet. Bruno Pereira was involved in setting up the Guardians in the Javari Valley, one of the reasons he was targeted by organised criminals there.

Since the Guajajara Guardians in Arariboia started their work, bandit loggers have struggled to operate in Arariboia. Without the Forest Guardians' work defending Arariboia

lands, the uncontacted Awá people with whom they share their territory would almost certainly no longer be alive. But the Guardians' work is dangerous. In recent years, at least six Guajajara Guardians have been assassinated, and many of their relatives killed.¹

Protection of Indigenous territories has improved and deforestation has fallen under President Lula da Silva. He appointed Sônia Guajajara, an Indigenous activist from Arariboia, as Brazil's first Minister of Indigenous Peoples.

But more needs to be done. The Guardians, and many other Indigenous peoples, urgently need outside support, and for the Brazilian government to abide by its constitution and international law by effectively monitoring the borders of Indigenous territories and keeping outsiders away.

Survival International has provided communications equipment and campaigning support to the Guardians so they can conduct their work and denounce illegal invasions even more effectively. Survival works with the Amazon Guardians and Indigenous peoples across Brazil to ensure international visibility for their fight.



Illegal timber seized.



Sônia Guajajara, Brazil's first minister for Indigenous peoples. Photo taken during a Greenpeace overflight in the Amazon.

¹ Survival: Brazil: 5 years on, Amazon Guardian's killers still escape justice. 24 October 2024.



Catching the 'Amazon Giant' pirarucu fish.

© Ricardo Oliveira



Monitoring the pirarucu catch in a managed area.

© Manejo-AndreDib



Fish management, São José Sector Fishing Accord, Amanã Sustainable Development Reserve, Marãã.

© Amanda Lelis



Participatory pirarucu management, Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve, Marãã, Amazonas State.

© Manejo-AndreDib

Saving the 'Amazonian Giant'

In 2021 Dom Phillips visited the Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve in Brazil to witness how community-based fish management can offer a solution to overfishing. The pirarucu ('Amazonian Giant' fish) weighs up to 200 kg and reaches 3m in length. It can fetch large sums, but stocks were at serious risk of extinction during the 2000s. Fishing restrictions and bans did little to help, and instead encouraged an illegal trade. So local fishers and scientists in the Mamirauá Reserve worked together to develop a community-based solution.

Pirarucu go to the lake surface to breathe air, and local fishers have long exploited this to locate them and estimate their body size. This local knowledge was transformed into

"I think all of our lives changed after pirarucu management. Fishing families have televisions, they have phones, in every house. We are harvesting what we sowed."

Jorge de Souza Carvalho (Tapioca), fisher

a standardised method to estimate fish populations and develop quotas, which allow 30% of adults over 150cm to be caught. Local fishers police protected lakes to prevent illegal fishing from outsiders, and in the low-water season return with their fishing nets to reap the benefits!

This community-based approach has been so successful that it is now being used in over 500 fishing communities. Pirarucu populations benefit after just a few years, with up to 30-fold increases in some protected lakes. Pirarucu sales and local profits have skyrocketed, benefitting thousands of local people.



Jaime, Asháninka Leader, Cutivireni community, Peru.



Asháninka village, Peru.



All photos © Cool Earth

Giving cash without conditions



Learn more about Cool Earth's work in the Amazon.

www.coolearth.org/radical-solutions/cash-giving



Maria, Asháninka Chief & cacao-grower.

Less than 1%¹ of the \$1.5 trillion invested² to fight the climate crisis trickles down to Indigenous peoples and local communities. When money does reach them, they are often told what to do with it by people thousands of miles away from their rainforest homes.

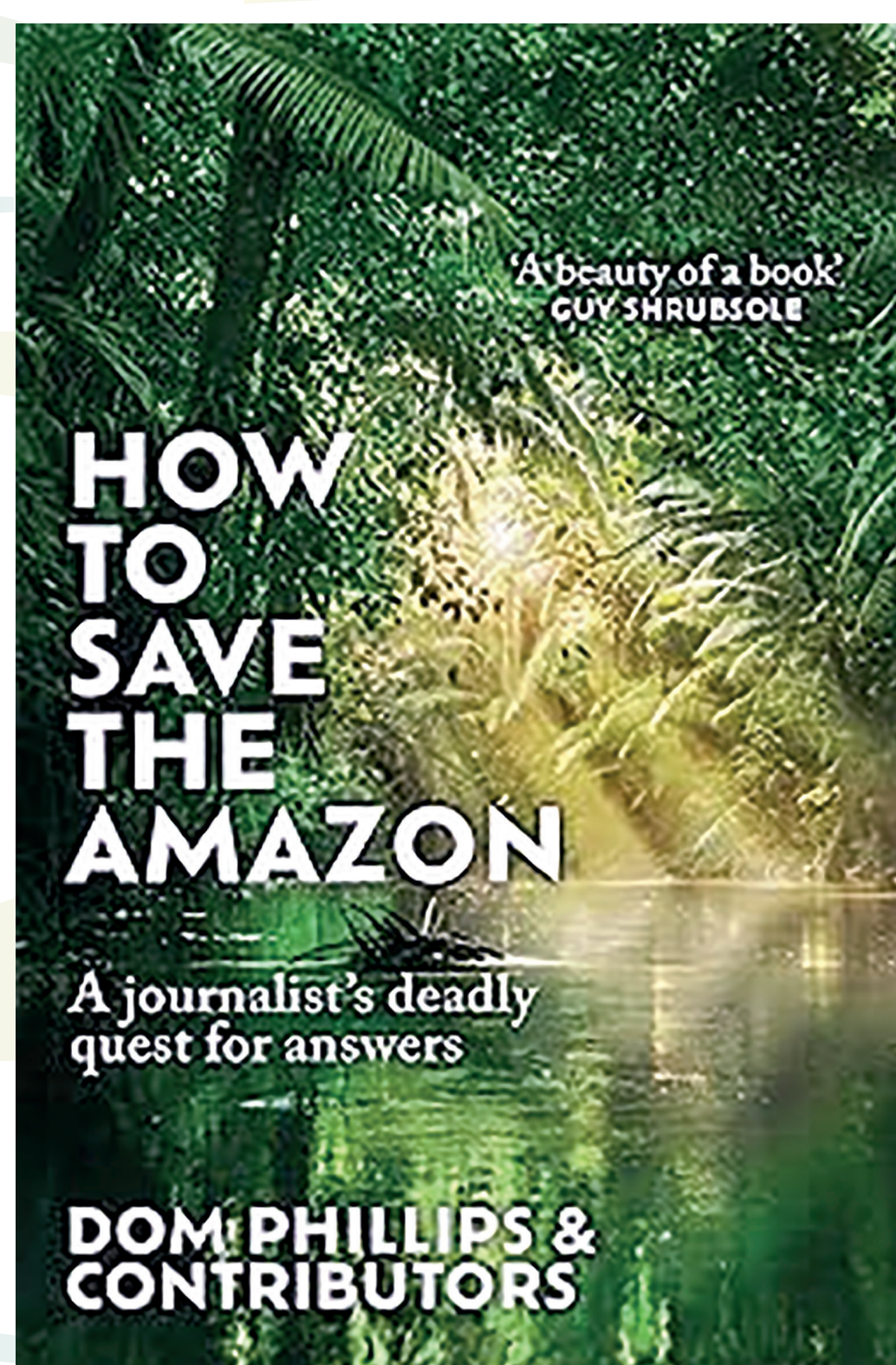
In 2008, Cool Earth was first approached by an Indigenous village in the Peruvian Amazon to help them fend off a group of loggers. The charity gave the villagers cash to stay on their territory and keep their resources.

Since then, Cool Earth has been providing cash to rainforest people. This has shown that whether it is used to improve communal infrastructure, enhance individual wellbeing or respond to emergencies such as the coronavirus pandemic, it ultimately enables Indigenous peoples to continue living in and shaping their lands.

Cool Earth has gone a step further to give more choice and dignity to people living in the rainforest by launching the first basic income pilot of its kind with an Indigenous village in the Peruvian Amazon. Everyone in the community, including children, is paid cash every month, without having to justify what they do with it. The aim is to assess whether provision of money with truly no strings attached enables people to remain on their ancestral lands and to conceive their own vision of a sustainable and thriving future in the rainforest.

“The grant we're receiving from Cool Earth is a big help for everyone in the community including all the children, because the funds are used for education, health and emergencies” *Adelaida Bustamante*

¹ Rainforest Foundation Norway. Indigenous people receive little climate funding ² Climate Policy Initiative: Global Landscape of Climate Finance 2024.



How to Save the Amazon

A journalist's deadly quest for answers



www.bonnierbooks.co.uk/books/ithaka/how-to-save-the-amazon

Dom Phillips was halfway through a book when he was murdered. He wanted not only to highlight the destruction of the Amazon but also to look for “ways to stop it and heal it.” His approach was to write “a character driven, deeply researched, campaigning, environmental travel book that aims to entertain, inform and, most importantly, mobilise readers.”

He wanted to introduce us to the Amazon he loved and the amazing people he had met there and to inspire us to get involved in the fight to save it.

A group of expert writers led by Jonathan Watts, a fellow journalist based in Brazil and the Guardian's global environment editor, took up his partially completed manuscript, committed to Dom's mission of uncovering the truth about deforestation and searching for solutions. These contributors include Jon Lee Anderson of The New Yorker, Rio-based investigative journalist Andrew Fishman, award winning writer, journalist and filmmaker Eliane Brum, and Beto Marubo, an Indigenous campaigner from the Javari Valley.

Blending in-depth reporting and encounters with Indigenous activists, ecologists, farmers and political figures, the book is a dazzling, readable, heartbreaking and hopeful account of how we can fight ecological destruction and stand in solidarity with the Earth's environmental defenders.

To discover more, please buy Dom's book, *How to Save the Amazon: a journalist's deadly quest for answers*, published by Ithaka Press.

“How to Save the Amazon is a work of courage interrupted by tragedy. It is a tribute to Dom Phillips' passion and open-heartedness that his friends came together to finish his work.”

Elizabeth Kolbert, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Sixth Extinction*

“Bold, pacy, bursting with optimism and filled with vivid descriptions, this is the work of an indomitable soul.”

Guy Shrubsole



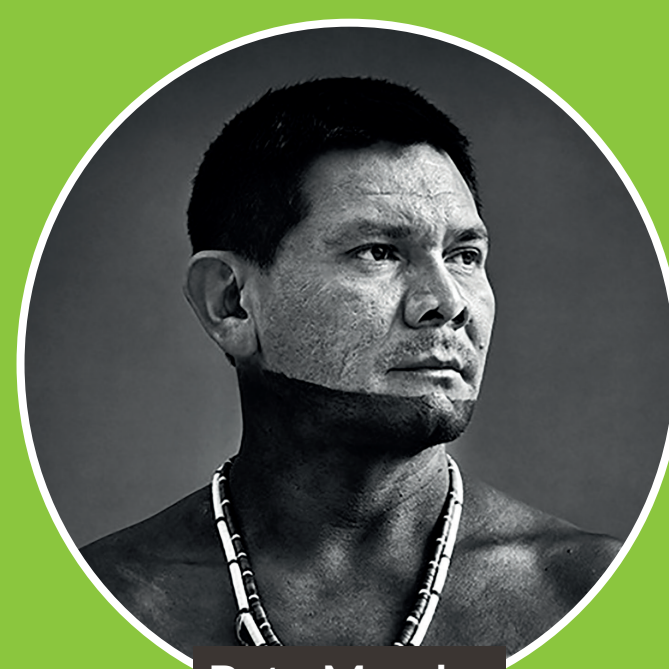
Eliane Brum



Andrew Fishman



Jon Lee Anderson



Beto Marubo



Jonathan Watts

Contributors to Dom's book.



Instituto Dom Phillips

The Dom Phillips Institute was created to echo the voices of the Amazon and the knowledge of its peoples and caretakers.

It aims to foster educational projects in Amazonian territories, empower networks of people and organisations working for the Amazon, and share the knowledge of the forest and its peoples, fighting against disinformation and lack of awareness about the Amazon.

Its first project, Amazônia Sua Linda, is based in the Vale do Javari, where Dom and Bruno were murdered. It is the second-largest Indigenous territory in Brazil, the size of Portugal. It's home to over 6,000 Indigenous people from 7 ethnicities who speak 7 distinct languages and concentrates the largest number of isolated Indigenous groups in the world.

The project is delivering training to young communicators from the Javari Indigenous organisation, UNIVAJA. It aims to strengthen the connections and communication between Indigenous villages and the non-Indigenous world.

"We believe new leaders will emerge from projects such as this," said Alessandra Sampaio, widow of Dom Phillips and President-Director of the Institute.

"We were born from the mourning of yet another act of violence that occurred in the Amazon Rainforest and, at the same time, from the enchantment Dom Phillips had for its richness and peoples." *Dom Phillips Institute*

Taken in the Javari Valley at the launch of the Dom Phillips Institute.



"We have already started a training programme on Indigenous Rights at the request of the young Indigenous people, who want to be better prepared to defend their territories and their causes."

The project includes audio-visual training so that the Indigenous communicators have the means to film what they consider important to share with non-Indigenous people.

This material will also be made available in schools and educational institutions in Brazil and around the world.

Please donate to the Institute to help to strengthen the Indigenous cause among the youth of the Vale do Javari.



Alessandra Sampaio



<https://institutodomphillips.org.br/en>

Dom Phillips Institute



Still no justice for Bruno and Dom

Samira de Castro, President of FENAJ, Brazil's National Federation of Journalists, explains how Brazil still fails to protect those who defend the Amazon

Bruno Pereira and Dom Phillips represented two fundamental pillars of democracy: the defence of human rights and freedom of the press. They both knew they were at risk. And they died for it.

The threats to journalists, environmentalists and human rights defenders have not stopped. From June 2022 to May 2024, at least 85 cases of aggression against journalists were recorded in the nine states of the Amazon. Not to mention the veiled threats, self-censorship and fear that, as local communicators themselves report, have spread like a cloak of silence over the forest.

Violence in the Amazon is not episodic - it is structural. It is the result of decades of omission by public authorities, collusion with environmental crime and the absence of public policies to guarantee the presence of the state where it is most needed.

The people under threat still have no real guarantee of protection, and the territory of the Javari Valley itself, where Dom and Bruno were murdered, continues to be

exposed to invasion and violence. Brazil is still not protecting those who are fighting to protect the country. The lack of effective action against those responsible for Bruno and Dom's murder, three years on, is a symptom of the historical neglect of the Amazon and its defenders.

But it is also an opportunity to turn this page.

The Brazilian state needs to give a clear and firm response that goes beyond speeches and translates into concrete actions: judgement and punishment of those responsible, effective protection for threatened communicators and leaders, a permanent institutional presence in the territories and valuing Indigenous peoples as legitimate guardians of the forest.



Bruno and Dom were silenced, but their legacy lives on.



What you can do to help save the Amazon

The destruction of the Amazon can seem very far away, but it impacts species throughout the globe. Here are some ways you can help.

- **Talk about these issues** with your friends, family, and colleagues.



- **Write to your MP** demanding that the Government uphold the *August 2024 Joint Statement by UK and Brazil ministers on International Climate Cooperation*. It commits the two governments to work together to halt and reverse forest and biodiversity loss, and to support the interests of Indigenous people and local communities.

- **Look into your pensions and investments.**

Do they have a readily available sustainability charter? If not, write and ask why.

- **Be mindful of what you buy and where you save and invest your money.** Food, clothes, furniture, cleaning and other products can have links to destructive activities like large scale soy production, cattle ranching, illegal logging or mining. *STAND.earth*, *Ethical Consumer* and *Deforestationfreefunds.com* have great information.



- **Get savvy with your tech.** Avoid the cycle of replacing your gadgets with the next best model. Instead, look for ways to improve the longevity of what you have, and if you need to replace anything, opt for refurbished items to help reduce the need for new materials sourced from mining.

- **Eat less meat, dairy and farmed fish.** We need to be moving towards a diet that is mainly plant-based to reduce pressure on the rainforest.

- **Follow and support independent journalism**, free from government and corporate influence, such as Amazon-based *SUMAÚMA*, *Reporters without Borders* and *Forbidden Stories*, an international network of journalists who pursue the investigations of other reporters who have been silenced.



- **Support the campaigning organisations mentioned in this exhibition** like *Survival International*, *Greenpeace*, *World Wide Fund for Nature* and *Cool Earth* which work to protect the Amazon and its communities.



- This article by *Global Citizen* lists **seven more organisations you can support** to protect the Amazon Rainforest.



- **Donate to the Instituto Dom Phillips**, founded to continue Dom's work of highlighting the issues facing the Amazon and the solutions offered by the people who live there.



- **Buy Dom Phillips' book**, *'How to Save the Amazon: a journalist's deadly quest for answers'*.