



COP28
UAE



INICIATIVA
INTERRELIGIOSA PARA LOS
BOSQUES TROPICALES
EN EL PERÚ

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BUILDING A SACRED MOMENT TOGETHER: HEALING OUR WORLD!

CALL TO ACTION

The Interfaith Rainforest Initiative (IRI Peru) is an alliance that unites faith communities to work in an articulated way with indigenous peoples, governments, civil society and the private sector. Since 2018 we have been working with the deep conviction to help care for the Amazon forests. These are fundamental systems for life and health within the great system of life that is our planet, but they are being destroyed at an alarming rate by unbridled ambition with the consent of those who have the responsibility to ensure their conservation and sustainable use. Far from that, we have created a system to satisfy human voracity that is endangering life.

From November 30 to December 12, governments from around the world will be meeting in Dubai at COP 28 at a critical time for our planet, when the temperature is rising dangerously and approaching the 1.5 degree limit, with its chain of diseases, extreme rains and droughts and damage to infrastructure, aggravating the precariousness of the health and food security of the most vulnerable populations. These phenomena put us on the brink of the abyss due to an industrial model addicted to the consumption of fossil fuels, addicted to the massive deforestation of forests, addicted to the degradation of water and ecosystems, which are the guarantors of life.

Our planet is very sick and instead of seeking to heal it, we continue to make it sick. COP 28 may be our definitive opportunity to engender hope for a possible change, but it may also be a new source of promises that lead to more frustration. From the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative (IRI Peru) we ask the authorities to take this serious responsibility in their hands and offer our Mother Earth and all her living beings the possibility to defend and ensure full life, with binding agreements, and actions that can be accompanied and monitored by all.

To the authorities of our country, plunged in its multiple problems by the exponential increase of illegal activities in the Amazon, such as logging, mining, drug trafficking, human trafficking, species trafficking, land trafficking, and hired killings against environmental defenders, which are carried out before the silence or inaction of the competent authorities, we ask for the following concrete actions that would help mitigate the effects of Climate Change:



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- **INDIGENOUS TITLING**

The titling of indigenous territories and their legal status are fundamental rights that allow communities to exercise their autonomy and protect their natural and cultural heritage. The State must take steps to fulfill its commitment to title all indigenous communities by 2030.

- **STOP DEFORESTATION**

Every day more than 400 hectares of forest are deforested in Peru. Firmly confronting illegal activities and promoting alternatives for sustainable and productive development of communities based on standing forests is urgent in order to heal the forest and not endanger human health.

- **ELIMINATE FOSSIL FUEL SUBSIDIES**

This year, Peru has allocated around 650 million dollars to subsidize these fuels. It is urgent to implement the Energy Transition Plan.

- **CREATE THE GRAU TROPICAL SEA NATIONAL RESERVE**

Peru's northern sea has a high ecological importance due to the marine biodiversity it contains, many of whose species are in danger of extinction, including a great variety of fish, corals, marine mammals and birds. This Reserve will give sustainability to fisheries for human consumption and tourism, and will help to heal a little of the terrible degradation suffered by our oceans.

- **SECURITY FOR DEFENDERS**

The protection mechanism created by the State suffers from lack of budget and other requirements for its effective implementation, meanwhile, defenders are at the mercy of organized mafias and associated hired assassination; 32 leaders have been killed since 2013. The State must commit to properly implement the functioning of this mechanism and defend people's lives.

- **COMBATING ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES**

Mechanisms for the prosecution and punishment of environmental crimes need to be strengthened for decisive and effective action in combating illegal activities, which have grown exponentially in the Amazon, mainly mining, logging and drug trafficking.



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- **STOP THE ROAD PROJECTS THAT PROMOTE ILLEGALITY.**

Roads have facilitated invasions, deforestation and illegal extraction of Amazonian goods: forests, minerals, fauna and flora. These highways do not respond to State planning but to interests, often mafia interests. Existing unique ecosystems are fragmented and deteriorated due to this cause, aggravating the impacts of climate change.

- **RATIFICATION OF THE ESCAZÚ AGREEMENT**

Resolutely promote the ratification of the Escazú Agreement so that Peru has better tools for access to justice, information and participation in environmental matters. This instrument is very important, especially for the protection of environmental defenders.

Our country still has a great opportunity to face the future by ensuring healthy forests, so that they continue to contribute to the health of the population. A healthy nature is the greatest gift from our Creator, and we can only honor that gift by keeping it in equal or better condition for those who will come after us. Without healthy forests we will not be a viable and healthy society and nation.

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