

Apprentices of the Forest

Learning and Teaching to Protect
2013 Annual Report



the
Amazon Conservation Team

Letter from the President



In 2013, scientists made a remarkable discovery in the cloud forests of Ecuador and Colombia: the first new carnivorous mammalian species identified in the Americas in 35 years. Amazingly, one specimen of this fluffy relative of the raccoon—the olinguito—toured zoos across the United States in the 1960s while mistaken for a related species.

The story highlights an important lesson: As conservationists, we've got a lot to learn. For better or often for worse, we continue to be surprised by unexpected events and changing conditions.

Around the world, scientists, activists, indigenous communities, and others are struggling to protect the last intact forest ecosystems and the traditional knowledge of their original inhabitants. To address these challenges and remain at the forefront of this fight, education and lifelong learning must be a priority.

In all of its activities, ACT seeks partners who share this belief. When assessing partnerships with indigenous groups, ACT favors those communities with the greatest commitment to learning how to adapt and thrive under rapidly changing ecological, social, and political contexts. These kind of people possess the necessary drive to protect their traditional territory and knowledge, as well as to transmit this capacity to future generations and neighboring groups.

Since its inception, ACT has relied upon the bridging and blending of modern and ancient ways of knowing to forge the most effective solutions in biocultural conservation. In this effort, equally useful information and lessons can be obtained from scientific publications, novel technologies, or fireside chats with tribal chieftains. In the example of the olinguito discovery mentioned previously, the carnivore would likely have been recognized as unique years earlier if researchers had consulted more closely with local indigenous groups.

Education is at the heart of each of ACT's programs, from our ethno-education initiative (see page 5) in the northwest Amazon to the Shamans and Apprentices Program in the northeast Amazon. In particular, we value collaboration and synergy between Western and traditional education systems.

There is no quaintness in this: advanced environmental and agricultural science students in modern universities clamor to learn precisely that which has long been passed down by the knowledge-keepers of traditional societies. As we cope with the growing effects of climate change, increases in deforestation, and the continued degradation of our oceans,

the old sciences have much to teach the new sciences about adaptation—in effect, we should all be apprentices.

As the conservation story continues to evolve, ACT's flexible, ambitious, and unwavering commitment to learning and traditional knowledge will ensure that we remain a cutting-edge and resilient organization at the forefront of the battle.

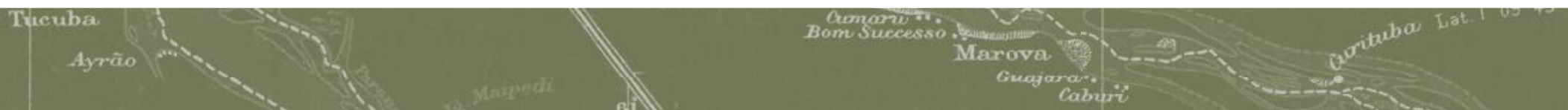
Mark J Plotkin

Mark J. Plotkin, Ph.D., L.H.D.
President and Cofounder



"I am still learning."

– Michelangelo, at age 87





*“Live as if you were to die tomorrow.
Learn as if you were to live forever.”*

– Mahatma Gandhi

The mission of the Amazon Conservation Team is to partner with indigenous people to protect the rainforest.

Small but robust, we occupy a unique niche among international environmental nonprofits working in the tropics: ACT works hand-in-hand with local indigenous communities to devise and implement conservation strategies.

Among our Core Values: A Commitment to the Integration of Modern and Traditional Knowledge

- * ACT believes that the knowledge and practices of indigenous and other forest communities are important and useful for natural resource conservation. Moreover, we believe that combining traditional knowledge with modern science and technologies creates the local conditions for optimal long-term environmental solutions and positions those communities to be ideal stewards.
- * ACT considers the role of traditional healer within Amazonian indigenous communities as essential, and deeply esteems the knowledge systems that have been handed down to successive generations of healers. Additionally, we believe that their knowledge is enriching to western healthcare systems.



Traditional healer Mama Margarita of Colombia's Kamentsa people guides apprentice Charito in medicinal plant collection

ACT's Cross-Cutting Goals:

- * Promote the protection and conservation of tropical forests, with an emphasis on indigenous lands and their borderlands.
- * Promote the environmentally and socioeconomically sustainable management of tropical forests, with an emphasis on indigenous lands and their borderlands.
- * Strengthen and preserve traditional culture
- * Create the conditions to preserve, transfer, and strengthen traditional medicinal knowledge and promote community health
- * Promote optimal conditions for the recognition and safe and equitable use of traditional health systems
- * Strengthen indigenous communities' capacity to promote and advocate for their rights

Youth Education

To ensure that indigenous youth will thrive in both their traditional contexts and the world at large, ACT promotes a unique teaching approach called ethno-education, where students are taught ancestral subject matter—such as subsistence agriculture, native language, and traditional healing practices—alongside standard modern curricular elements such as math and science.

- * ACT worked with a team of ACT-trained park guards to create Junior Park Ranger manuals. These booklets teach children about local flora and fauna, as well as basic principles of conservation. They are in high demand in four indigenous communities in Suriname.
- * ACT continued to fund the ethno-education schools it established in three remote indigenous villages in Suriname.
- * In collaboration with the NGO PCOS, ACT provided 15 Trio and Wayana indigenous youth from Suriname’s rainforest interior with the financial assistance and networking support necessary to pursue higher education in the country’s capital.
- * ACT provided educational materials on Trio indigenous culture to Suriname’s National Environmental Education Kit project, slated for distribution to the children of 360 primary schools across the country. The materials help young people understand the connection between indigenous land stewardship and the nation’s near-pristine forests.
- * In Colombia, ACT guided the Kamentsa Bilingual School of the Sibundoy Valley in a redesign of their school curriculum to better incorporate traditional knowledge, and will collaborate with the regional indigenous organization OZIP to replicate this initiative in the department of Putumayo.



A shaman's apprentice demonstrates medicinal uses of local flora to Kwamalasamutu village students in Suriname

- * With ACT’s guidance, the Yachaikury Ethno-education School of the Inga people became the first private indigenous school in Colombia to be transformed into a public school. This change ensures Yachaikury’s sustainability without sacrificing its autonomy. Further, ACT and the Juligon Architectural Foundation have worked closely with Yachaikury students and faculty in the planning and design of renovated buildings and grounds.
- * In Colombia, ACT trained the indigenous organization of the Inga people of Caquetá in accounting software and annual budgeting. As a result, association members have the skills to oversee the replication of the Yachaikury School model to a network of 12 Inga schools, a role formalized by the Caquetá Secretary of Education.



Indigenous graduates of Colombia's Yachaikury School are prepared for both higher education and sustainable stewardship of their communities

“The education model we have applied at Yachaikury is a product of the collective work of many communities. We find our inspiration in training boys and girls to embrace strong cultural values and a loving friendship with the earth. Of the 900 students that have come through Yachaikury’s doors, some have returned to teach at the school or now hold important leadership positions in their communities.”

*- Wairanina Jacanamijoy Mutumbajoy
Longtime Leader of the Inga people*



Ceremonial structures constructed through ACT support at Jaba Tañiwashkaka, a Kogi sacred site in the La Guajira department, Colombia



Kogi youth welcome ACT and other supporters to the grounds of their newly acquired sacred site

Guiding and Advising Communities

ACT works closely, inclusively, and respectfully with local communities over the long term to ensure the lasting protection of biodiversity and traditional cultures in the rainforest.

- * ACT enabled the Caquetá Departmental Indigenous Council (CODIC) to receive substantial funding from the Colombian National Royalties Fund by guiding them through the application process and advising them in their ongoing communications with national agencies. The funding, the first of its kind, was used for a project to strengthen eight indigenous groups' administrative capacity.
- * ACT and its NGO partner, SynBio Brasil, provided guidance and an irrigation system for a sustainable traditional agriculture initiative of the Waurá people of the Ulupuene village in the Xingu Indigenous Reserve, Brazil. ACT also supported the village's work to maintain healthy fisheries and clean the Batovi River and its tributaries.
- * ACT assisted seed jewelry craftswomen in Kwamalasamutu, Suriname, to create new hybrid designs more attractive to urban Surinamers and tourists.
- * ACT provided technical guidance in sustainable agriculture to small farmer and indigenous families located near Colombia's Alto Fragua Indi Wasi National Park. The changes will reduce pressure on the park while improving food security for families living in the park's buffer area.
- * Through a partnership with ACT and the Colombian government, the Kogi people of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta (northern Colombia) acquired the Jaba Tañiwashkaka sacred site, which was subsequently declared a national cultural site—a new type of protected area for Colombia representing a location with both significant biological and cultural importance. The Kogi's historic return to the coast was celebrated with the construction of two traditional ceremonial houses, one for men and one for women, in accordance with traditional Kogi architecture. The new facilities guarantee a permanent onsite presence for the land's protection. ACT is also providing technical guidance and training to local indigenous authorities to ensure the lands are demarcated and incorporated into the Kogi-Arhuaco indigenous reserve.

"If you have knowledge, let others light their candle in it."

– Margaret Fuller



ACT and partner SynBio Brasil collaborate to teach Ulupuene village community members sustainable agricultural practices in Brazil's Xingu Indigenous Reserve



Children from the Waura, Kogi, Inga, and Trio communities

For schoolchildren of the indigenous village of Kwamalasamutu, Suriname, the race is on to secure their future and that of their forests



Partners in Training

From its inception, ACT has believed indigenous people are the most committed stakeholders in the fate of the forest. Our collaborative efforts over the last 17 years prove that, when indigenous cultures are strong and vibrant, they will defend their traditional lands with their lives. Today, we continue to foster partnerships that empower communities and strengthen their traditions.



Trio Indigenous women learn sustainable pepper cultivation and marketing with ACT's Minu Parahoe, Tepu, Suriname

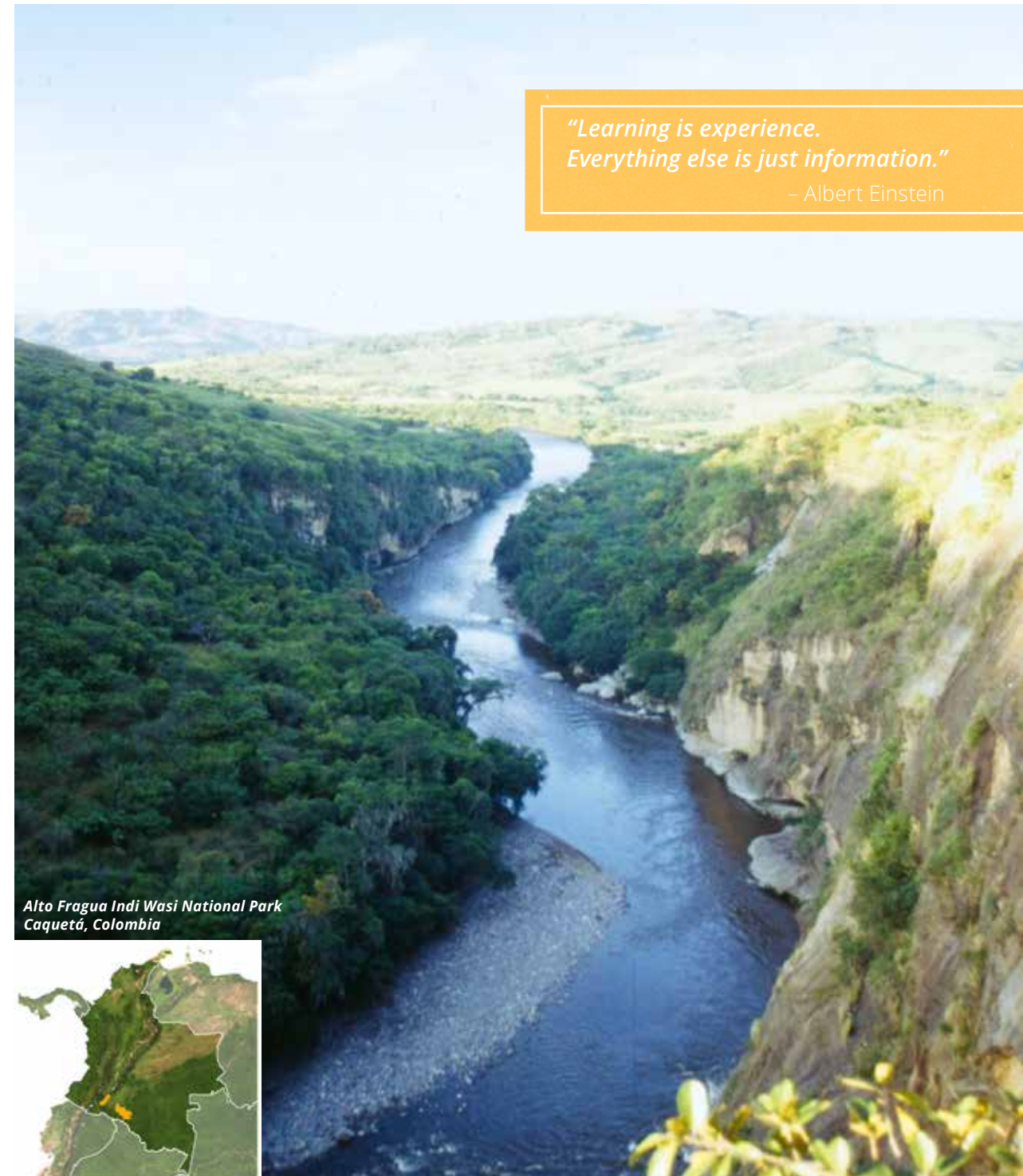


Indigenous groups of the lower Caquetá River exchange traditional seeds, Solano, Caquetá, Colombia

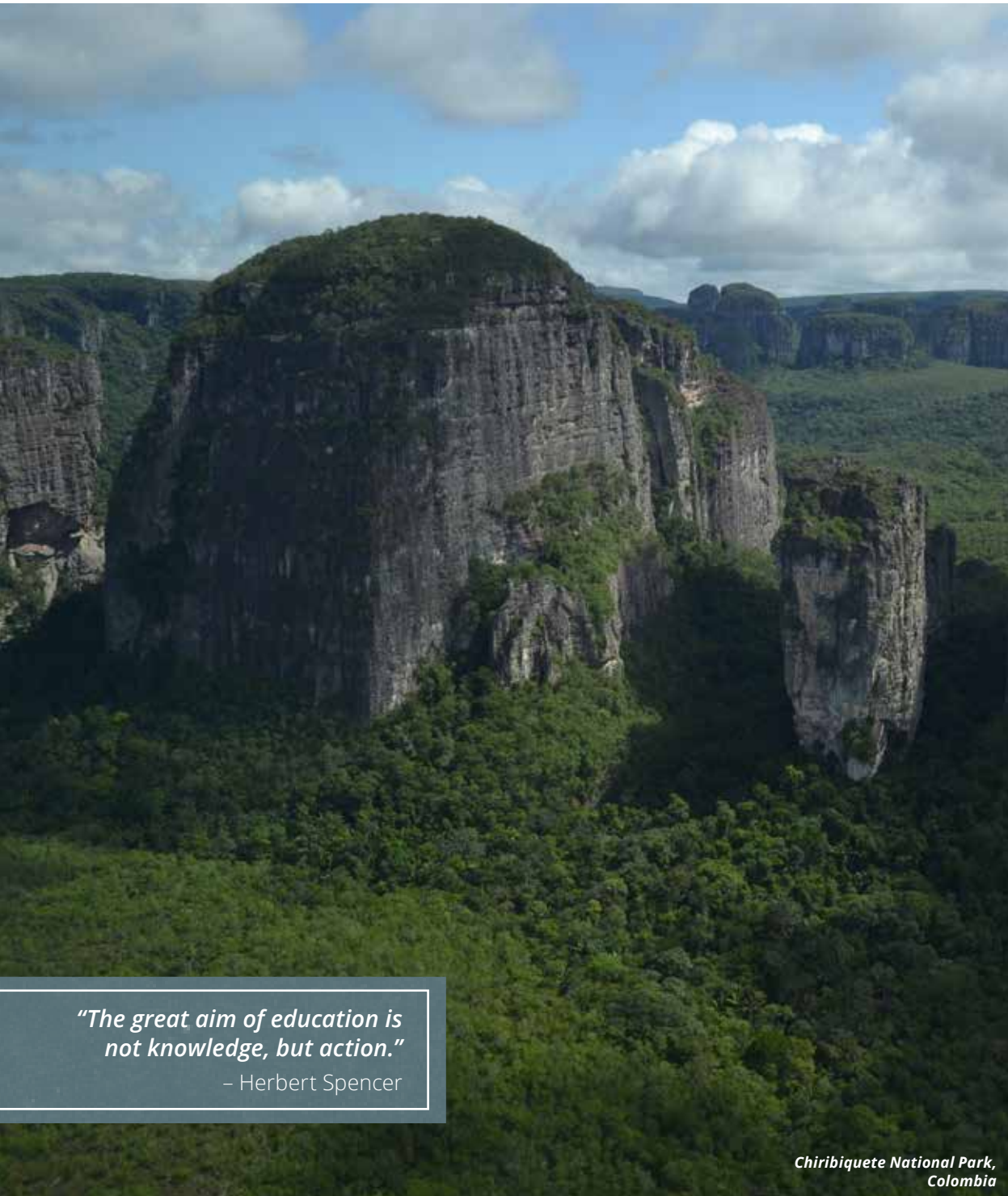
- * ACT provided ongoing training in environmental research, monitoring and reporting to indigenous park guards active in southern Suriname.
- * In the interior village of Tepu, Suriname, ACT continued to provide training to a group of Trio women engaged in a sustainable income generation project to produce hot pepper products. Activities included cultivation, organic composting, propagation, harvesting, pest management, and financial administration. In 2014, ACT will help the women of Tepu diversify their vegetable production for food security while expanding the initiative to additional communities.
- * As a partner in the USAID-sponsored Net Zero Deforestation project, ACT led a traditional heirloom seed recovery training course and sponsored a river expedition for seed exchanges between distant indigenous groups of the lower Caquetá River watershed in Colombia. These activities increase food security in local communities.
- * ACT commenced a four-year, USAID-sponsored project to establish a conservation corridor between two national parks—Alto Fragua Indi Wasi and Churumbelos. This was accomplished through partnerships between the Fondo para la Acción Ambiental y la Niñez, Colombian government agencies, the Universidad de la Amazonia, and regional indigenous and small farmer groups. The project will train local communities in conservation-friendly food production systems and strengthen local governance capacities of these groups.

*"Learning is experience.
Everything else is just information."*

– Albert Einstein



*Alto Fragua Indi Wasi National Park
Caquetá, Colombia*



"The great aim of education is not knowledge, but action."

– Herbert Spencer

Chiribiquete National Park,
Colombia

Empowering and Promoting Through Information

ACT's vision is that the vast, life-sustaining rainforests of the Amazon basin are forever preserved and protected. ACT believes that empowering rainforest people and strengthening their cultures is the most promising route to that future.

- * In 2013, the Colombian government announced the expansion of Chiribiquete National Park, more than doubling its already vast extent and making it one of the largest protected areas in the entire Amazon. Toward this declaration, ACT provided essential information on the territorial range of regional isolated peoples.
- * In Suriname, ACT introduced GPS data collection to the Matawaai Maroon community to assist them in a community mapping exercise that will improve land management planning.
- * ACT enabled Colombia's Kogi people to conduct expeditions to distant sites included in their network of traditional sacred lands. The aim of these trips was to gather data on sites' environmental integrity and the viability of their permanent protection.
- * In collaboration with local communities and indigenous associations, ACT prepared socio-economic, legal, land tenure, and topographical survey studies supporting expansion of the Inga reserves of Yurayaco and San Miguel in the department of Caquetá in Colombia. Results will help establish a biocultural conservation corridor linking the reserves to a national park—as well as the expansion of the Yunguillo Indigenous Reserve to an area five times its current size.
- * Through the USAID-sponsored Net Zero Deforestation project, ACT enabled the enrollment of 17 indigenous project promoters in a course at the Universidad de la Amazonia to learn new approaches to indigenous sustainable livestock-raising in the Colombian Amazon. With the assistance of the ACT technical team, the promoters completed sustainable production assessments for eight indigenous communities.
- * ACT worked with Colombia's National Parks Service and Ministries of Culture and the Interior to supply technical and legal consultation that lays the groundwork for a more enlightened public policy in Colombia regarding isolated indigenous peoples. The final outcome will be a comprehensive contingency plan that addresses healthcare and other critical subjects in the event of contact.



ACT Program Director Minu Parahoe helps prepare Suriname's Matawaai community for land use mapping

Mapping to Inform



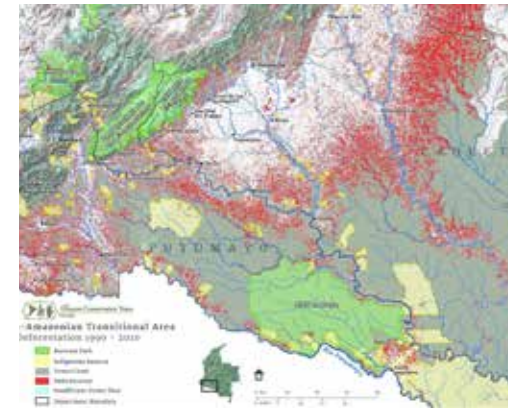
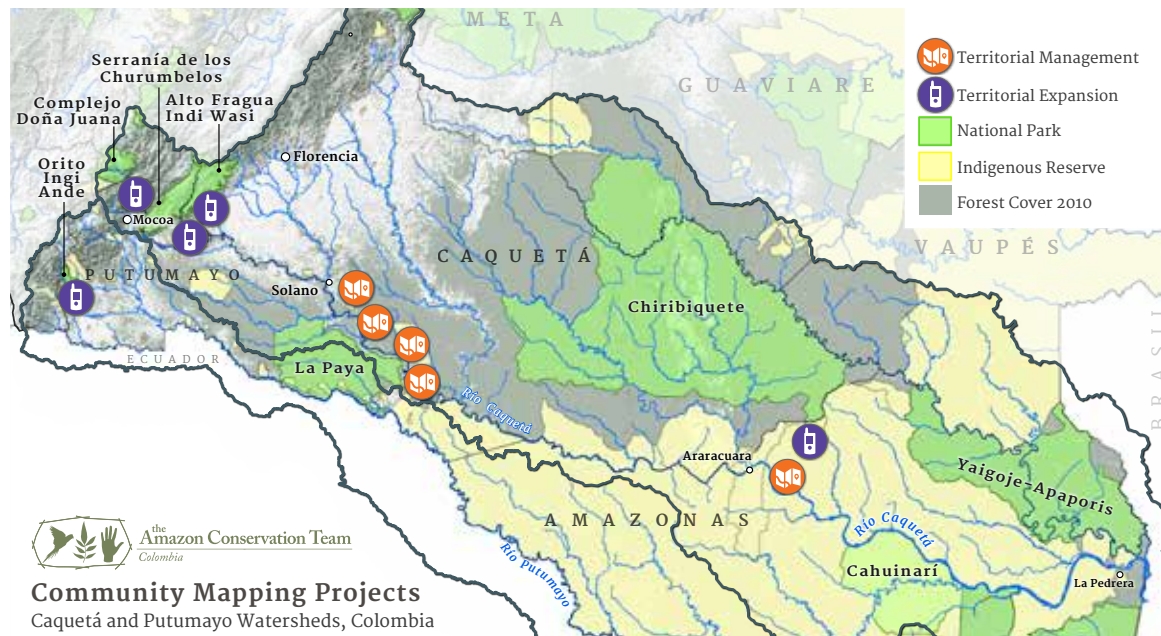
Community members of the La Teófila reserve in Caquetá, Colombia use satellite imagery to locate new chagras (gardens)



The community of Nonuya de Villazul (Amazonas, Colombia) create a management plan for their recently expanded indigenous reserve

Indigenous Community Mapping

Mapping techniques have long been an integral part of ACT's conservation work with indigenous communities. ACT conducts capacity building exercises so that indigenous communities can create maps of their territories that record traditional land use patterns and document existing natural resources. These mapping initiatives have helped communities create management plans for their territories to ensure the preservation of important rainforest ecosystems and traditional practices such as the use of medicinal plants and agricultural systems. Community mapping initiatives in 2013 were carried out in nine Koreguaje, Uitoto, and Matapi communities in Colombia.

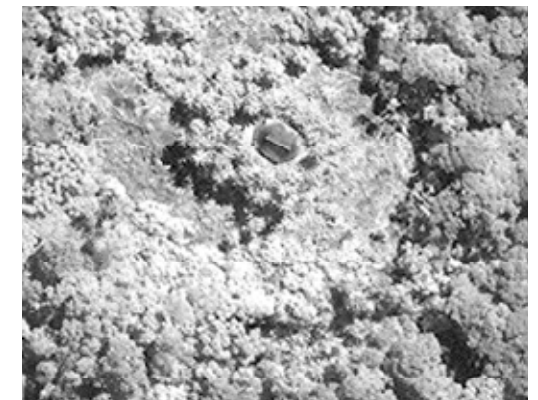


Environmental Threat Mapping

ACT is using geographic information systems (GIS) to monitor environmental threats including deforestation for cattle ranching, mining activity, and overall extraction. The ability to show the geospatial distribution of these environmental pressures helps indigenous communities better understand their regional context, thus galvanizing improved conservation practices, and also helps ACT to determine priority conservation areas to form contiguous biocultural conservation corridors. In 2013, ACT finalized a series of environmental threat maps for both Colombia and Suriname.

Isolated Indigenous Tribes

ACT is utilizing high resolution satellite imagery to locate and protect isolated indigenous tribes that reside in the remote corners of the Amazon rainforest. Satellite imagery has proven to be an effective method to study the land use patterns of these vulnerable groups so that improved protective measures can be implemented. Satellite imagery has allowed ACT to find several isolated malocas (longhouses) without risk of disturbing the inhabitants, and a temporal analysis of satellite imagery has revealed potential migration patterns of these groups by showing when and where garden clearings were made.



Strategic Partnerships

ACT has formed a collaboration with DigitalGlobe LLC to use their high resolution imagery within ACT's conservation initiatives. This imagery is being used to identify and study isolated indigenous groups at an unprecedented level of detail. High resolution imagery is also allowing ACT to monitor forest cover changes at a more detailed level than ever before, providing us with the means to better analyze the effectiveness of past and present conservation strategies and to show these results to the world.

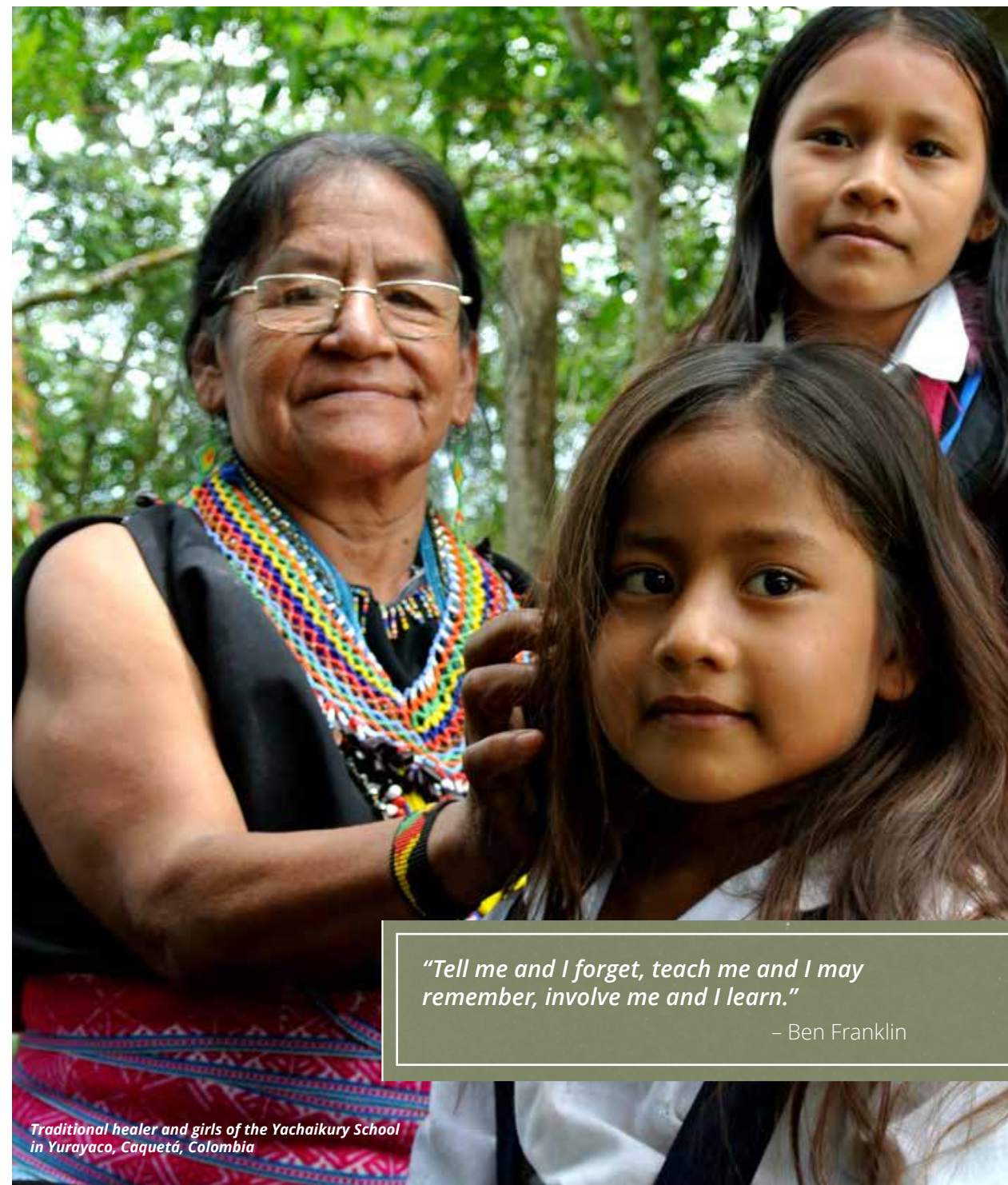
Strengthening the Transmission and Practice of Medicinal Knowledge

ACT's founders took cues from Richard Evans Schultes, the great Harvard professor and explorer of the Amazon, who taught that traditional shamans and their medicinal knowledge are central to cultural survival. ACT thus initiated the Shamans and Apprentices programs to ensure that rainforest knowledge and culture are perpetuated. ACT works to strengthen the role of traditional healers and promote their role as agents for conservation. In fact, two Colombian national parks were created in part because of the strong advocacy of local healer groups in partnership with ACT.

- * ACT continued to provide all operational supplies and healer stipends for ACT-constructed traditional medicine and teaching clinics in four remote villages of Suriname.
- * ACT helped tribes of Colombia's Nonuya de Villazul Indigenous Reserve design and print illustrated medicinal plant guides to help ensure the perpetuation of their knowledge.
- * Colombia's 60-strong Union of Women of Traditional Medicine (ASOMI) of the Colombian Amazon—a group dedicated to the preservation of indigenous knowledge—is supported primarily by ACT. This year, the group celebrated 10 years of success through a significant enhancement of the association's center, including an enlarged kitchen, an improved water filtration system, and trails between the different property facilities. In 2013, ACT facilitated the union's successful application for national funding for the infrastructure improvements.
- * ACT continued to provide the sole support for UMIYAC, a union of 40 male indigenous healers and their apprentices of five tribes of the Colombian Amazon. The support allowed the men to focus on the restoration of traditional medicinal practices in their communities and to conduct health brigades to underserved and remote communities.
- * UMIYAC and ASOMI both assigned members to share their medicinal plant knowledge and oral history at community schools in order to enhance students' appreciation of their heritage and legacy.



Representatives of the ASOMI and UMIYAC healer's associations gather to exchange traditional medicinal knowledge in Putumayo, Colombia



"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn."

– Ben Franklin

Traditional healer and girls of the Yachaikury School in Yurayaco, Caquetá, Colombia

Partners in Research

We have long envisioned working throughout the Amazon basin—an area that covers many countries, as well as hundreds of languages and ethnic groups. Although the human history of the Amazon varies between countries, the rainforests know no borders. Trees, genetic diversity, medicinal plants, wildlife, rivers and their headwaters, and indigenous tribes themselves do not stop at a nation's boundaries. Because all should be understood and protected, we work to bridge language and cultural gaps through research collaborations.

- * In Suriname, in close collaboration with local communities, ACT is developing a five-language illustrated encyclopedia of biodiversity within Trio and Wayana indigenous territory.
- * In forests of Caquetá, Colombia, in partnership with the Universidad de la Amazonia, ACT has been leading research in sustainable income-generating products for locals as well as forest-friendly cultivation in order to mitigate soil erosion and prevent expansion of pastures.
- * In Suriname, under ACT and government supervision, indigenous park guards were prepared to conduct biological surveys and research to inform REDD+ projects and climate-change-related initiatives.
- * ACT is partnering with Suriname's Anton de Kom University to enable science and anthropology students to conduct field projects under ACT supervision.



ACT-trained indigenous park rangers teach Trio children how to help protect local wildlife in Suriname



Liliana Madrigal, ACT cofounder, with women of the Kogi community



Tico Torres visiting Kogi indigenous territory, Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Colombia

"The most important vehicle for the sustenance of our rainforests is the education of our children. They—and only they—can change our world for the better."

- Tico Torres, ACT Board Member

Financial Overview

Over the past 17 years, ACT has been able to accomplish so much on the ground because we always have made careful use of our resources, with more than 75% of funding going directly toward programmatic work.

In 2013, overall support and revenue grew five percent over prior year. A 57% increase over 2012 in the In-Country Grants revenue category was attributable to the strong reputation of ACT's country offices as highly valued partners both institutionally and in the field. Programmatic efficiency remained strong, while an increase in fundraising costs reflects several small special events held during the year to increase awareness of ACT's mission and work on the ground.

ACT's staff and indigenous partners are deeply grateful for the support of many generous donors who believe in the effectiveness and importance of our work.

Karla Lara-Otero
Director of Financial Operations

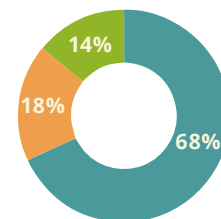
"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."

– Ben Franklin

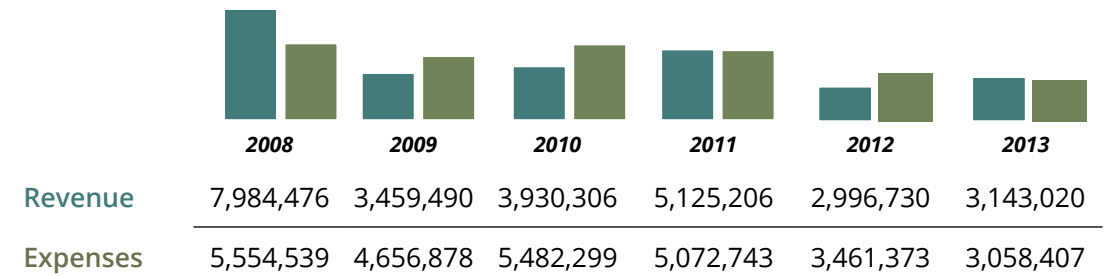
Contributions Invested in Program Services

From 2008 through 2013, ACT invested over \$22 million—more than 80% of revenue received in the same period—in Program Services, directly benefiting our field projects. This sum was expended across the following classifications:

Mapping, land management, and biodiversity protection	15,100,000
Traditional knowledge & culture preservation, and educational opportunities	3,990,000
Healthcare knowledge capture and transmission	3,080,000
Total	22,170,000



Revenue and Expenses Trend



Support

	FY 2013		FY 2012		
	In US \$	Percent	In US \$	Percent	
Individuals	1,780,748	57%	1,585,510	53%	
Foundations	752,653	24%	963,462	32%	
In-country grants	513,758	16%	326,680	11%	
Other revenue	54,221	2%	86,078	3%	
Corporations	41,640	1%	35,000	1%	
Total Revenue	3,143,020	100%	2,996,730	100%	

Organizational Efficiency

	FY 2013		FY 2012		
	In US \$	Percent	In US \$	Percent	
Program services	2,308,607	75%	2,815,609	81%	
General and administration	573,683	19%	512,478	15%	
Fundraising	176,117	6%	133,286	4%	
Total Expenses	3,058,407	100%	3,461,373	100%	

Financial Statements

Information reflects combined financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012.

Combined Statement of Financial Position

	FY 2013 In US\$	FY 2012 In US\$
Assets		
Cash and equivalents	1,313,321	1,545,304
Grants and pledges receivable	647,805	407,227
Property and equipment, net	146,462	159,714
Other assets	35,950	23,599
Total Assets	2,143,538	2,135,844
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	93,071	120,764
Deferred revenue	9,165	10,120
Deferred rent and lease incentives	100,457	147,552
Other liabilities	-	1,176
Total Liabilities	202,693	279,612
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	486,450	1,070,613
Temporarily restricted	1,454,395	785,619
Total Net Assets	1,940,845	1,856,232
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	2,143,538	2,135,844



Combined Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

	FY 2013 In US \$	FY 2012 In US \$
Revenue and Support		
Contributions	1,433,031	1,472,911
Grants	1,655,768	1,437,742
Investment income	41,566	18,353
Other	12,655	67,724
Total Revenue and Support	3,143,020	2,996,730
Expenses		
Program Services:		
Biodiversity	1,102,759	1,627,976
Culture	642,765	924,253
Health	563,083	263,380
Total Program Services	2,308,607	2,815,609
Supporting Services:		
General and administration	573,683	512,478
Fundraising	176,117	133,286
Total Supporting Services	749,800	645,764
Total Expenses	3,058,407	3,461,373
Change in Net Assets	84,613	(464,643)
Net Assets, beginning of year	1,856,232	2,320,875
Net Assets, End of Year	1,940,845	1,856,232

Funds are presented according to the accrual method of accounting.

ACT's audited financial statements, which reflect an unqualified opinion, can be obtained online at www.amazonteam.org or by calling 703-522-4684.

Partner Organizations

Alcaldía Municipal de Belén de los Andaquíes
Caquetá, Colombia

Alcaldía Municipal de San José del Fragua
Caquetá, Colombia

Alcaldía Municipal de Solano
Caquetá, Colombia

Anton de Kom Universiteit van Suriname, Faculteit der Medische Wetenschappen
Paramaribo, Suriname

Asociación de Autoridades Indígenas de la Pedrera
Amazonas, Colombia

Asociación de Autoridades Indígenas del Pueblo Miraña y Bora del Medio Amazonas
Amazonas, Colombia

Asociación de Cabildos Indígenas del Mirití-Amazonas
Amazonas, Colombia

Asociación de Cabildos Nukanchipa Atunkunapa Alpa
Cauca, Colombia

Asociación de Cabildos Tandachiridu Inganokuna
Caquetá, Colombia

Asociación de Cabildos Uitoto del Alto Río Caquetá
Caquetá, Colombia

Asociación de Cacaoteros de San José del Fragua
Caquetá, Colombia

Asociación de Médicos Indígenas Kofanes
Putumayo, Colombia

Asociación de Mujeres Indígenas de la Amazonía Colombiana “La Chagra de la Vida”
Putumayo, Colombia

Asociación de Reforestadores y Cultivadores de Caucho del Caquetá
Caquetá, Colombia

AVINA
Bogotá, Colombia

Bureau voor Openbare Gezondheidszorg
Paramaribo, Suriname

Cabildo Indígena Huitoto Ismuina
Caquetá, Colombia

Cabildo Indígena Mayor de Tarapacá
Amazonas, Colombia

Cabildo Inga Mandiyaco
Cauca, Colombia

Cabildo Kametzá Bijá de Mocoa
Putumayo, Colombia

Cabildo La Cerinda
Caquetá, Colombia

Cabildo La Esperanza
Caquetá, Colombia

Cabildos Inga de Yunguillo
Putumayo, Colombia

Cabildos Inga Kametzá del Alto Putumayo: San Francisco, Sibundoy, Colón, Santiago, San Andrés, San Pedro
Putumayo, Colombia

Cabildos/Resguardos Ingas de Puerto Guzmán: Villa Catalina la Torre, Alpa Manga, Alto Mango, Nukanchipa Alpa, Wasipanga, Calenturas
Putumayo, Colombia

Centrum voor Landbouwkundig Onderzoek Suriname (CELOS)
Paramaribo, Suriname

Comité Departamental Indígena del Caquetá
Caquetá, Colombia

Confederación Agrosolidaria de Colombia
Caquetá, Colombia

Consejo Regional Indígena del Medio Amazonas
Amazonas, Colombia

Consejo Regional Indígena del Orteguaza Medio Caquetá
Caquetá, Colombia

Conservation International Suriname
Paramaribo, Suriname

Coordinadora de las Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica
Quito, Ecuador

Corporación para el Desarrollo Sostenible del Sur de la Amazonía
Putumayo, Colombia

DigitalGlobe
Arlington, VA

Fondo Acción para la Protección Ambiental y la Niñez
Bogotá, Colombia

Fundación Juligon
Bogotá, Colombia

Fundación Puerto Rastrojo
Bogotá, Colombia

Gobernación de Caquetá
Caquetá, Colombia

Gobernación del Amazonas
Amazonas, Colombia

Instituto Colombiano de Desarrollo Rural
Bogotá, Colombia

Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología y Estudios Ambientales de Colombia
Bogotá, Colombia

Instituto de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander Von Humboldt
Bogotá, Colombia

Instituto Geográfico Agustín Codazzi
Bogotá, Colombia

Juntas de Acción Comunal de Belén de los Andaquíes y San José del Fragua
Caquetá, Colombia

Kabinet van de President van Suriname/ Ordening Goudsector Suriname
Paramaribo, Suriname

Medische Zending Suriname
Paramaribo, Suriname

Mesa de Diálogo Permanente
Bogotá, Colombia

Mesa REDD
Bogotá, Colombia

Ministerie van Regionale Ontwikkeling
Paramaribo, Suriname

Ministerie van Ruimtelijke Ordening, Grond en Bosbeheer
Paramaribo, Suriname

Ministerio de Cultura
Bogotá, Colombia

Ministerio de Educación
Bogotá, Colombia

Ministerio del Interior, Dirección de Asuntos Étnicos, ROM y Minorías
Bogotá, Colombia

Nationaal Herbarium Suriname
Paramaribo, Suriname

Nationaal Instituut voor Milieu & Ontwikkeling in Suriname
Paramaribo, Suriname

Organización de los Pueblos Indígenas de la Amazonía Colombiana
Amazonia, Colombia

Organización Gonawindúa Tayrona
La Guajira, Colombia

Organización Zonal Indígena del Putumayo
Putumayo, Colombia

Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia
Bogotá, Colombia

Patrimonio Natural
Bogotá, Colombia

Peace Corps
Paramaribo, Suriname

Resguardo Coreguaje Jericó Consaya y Comunidad Buenavista
Caquetá, Colombia

Resguardo Curare Los Ingleses
Amazonas, Colombia

Resguardo Huitoto Bajo Agua Negra
Caquetá, Colombia

Resguardo Huitoto Coropoya
Caquetá, Colombia

Resguardo Huitoto Huitorá
Caquetá, Colombia

Resguardo Huitoto Manaye El Quince
Caquetá, Colombia

Resguardo Indígena Coreguaje La Teófila Arenosa
Caquetá, Colombia

Resguardo Kogui-Malayo-Arhuaco
La Guajira, Colombia

Royal Tropical Institute
Amsterdam, Netherlands

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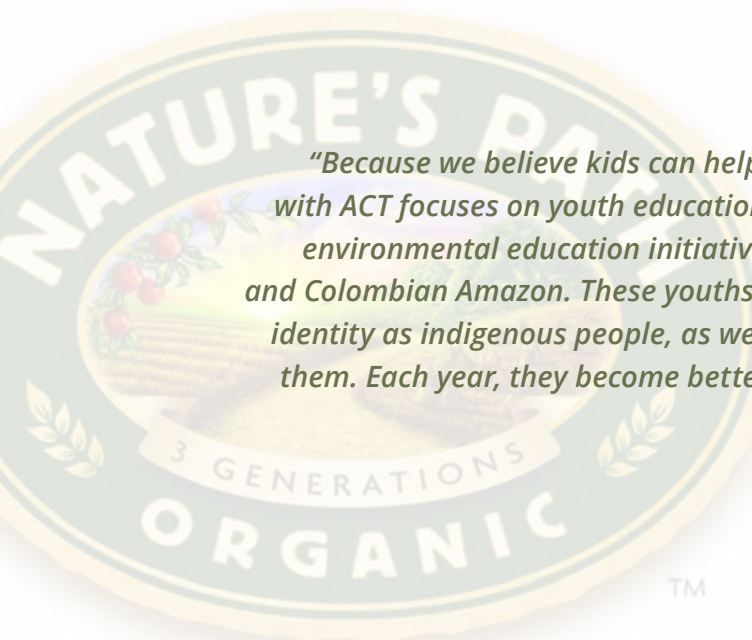
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“Because we believe kids can help save the world, our partnership with ACT focuses on youth education. Since 2001, we’ve funded ACT’s environmental education initiatives for children in the Surinamese and Colombian Amazon. These youths now have a better sense of their identity as indigenous people, as well as of the natural world around them. Each year, they become better equipped to be stewards of the rainforests they call home.”

– Jason Boyce

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The Team

Who makes up the Team?

ACT's staff is a select group of fearless and committed people who believe in the power of alliances between indigenous communities, scientists, policymakers, activists, and funders to sustainably manage and protect the resources on which we all depend. While the work can be exciting and inspiring, it can also be dangerous and difficult; however, our commitment does not waver.

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Intern

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Who oversees the Team?

ACT's Board of Directors is another highly motivated set of individuals, professionally involved in a wide spectrum of fields and interests. They share our belief that they can—through and with ACT—make a difference in the protection of Amazonia and the empowerment of its traditional peoples.

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In Honor of the Late Melinda C. "Mo" Maxfield

After several years of failing health, our dear friend and mentor Melinda C. "Mo" Maxfield passed away in 2014. We are profoundly grateful for Mo's sage counsel and generous support dating back to ACT's early years, and will miss her company, kindness, and wisdom more than we can adequately express.

As a Board member for both ACT and The Foundation for Shamanic Studies, and as executive director of the Angeles Arrien Foundation for Cross-Cultural Education and Research, Mo made enormous contributions to the protection of indigenous knowledge traditions across the world. Mo received a Ph.D. in Transpersonal Psychology at the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology. Her doctoral work on the effects of indigenous drumming methods, as well as her subsequent book *Drumming the I Ching*, are well known among practitioners of alternative healing modalities. In her work with ACT, Mo's support was particularly vital to the continuity of healing traditions of Colombia.





If you'd like to learn more about ACT, log on to www.amazonteam.org.

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