

**Survival**



**The global movement  
for tribal peoples' rights**

**Survival International Annual Report 2016**

**You are the only ones  
who always look out  
for our wellbeing**

**Guarani** Brazil

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **OBJECTS AND PURPOSES**

Survival International is the global movement for tribal peoples' rights. We help tribal peoples defend their lives, protect their lands and determine their own futures. Our principal objects and purposes are:

- to promote good race relations for the public benefit between indigenous and non-indigenous peoples by endeavouring to eliminate discrimination on the grounds of race, nationality, or ethnic or national origins.
- to relieve poverty malnutrition and ill health among indigenous peoples.
- to promote for the public benefit the human rights of indigenous peoples (as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent United Nations conventions and declarations including ILO Conventions 107 and 169).
- to promote education and research into the history, institutions and ways of life of indigenous peoples and to publish and disseminate the results of that research.
- to promote and support such other charitable purposes for public benefit pertaining to indigenous peoples as the directors shall think fit.

### **ACTIVITIES**

In order to achieve these objectives, Survival:

- works in partnership with tribal peoples, offering them a platform to address the world;
- carries out research into tribal areas, particularly where the survival of tribal peoples is threatened or where violations of their human rights are taking place;
- uses this information to educate the public about tribal cultures, and to publicize the problems which tribal peoples face;
- makes representations to governments, companies and other institutions and individuals whose activities may affect tribal peoples, and seeks to influence them into acting in tribal peoples' interests;
- seeks to eliminate all discrimination and prejudice against tribal peoples, and promotes legislation which protects their rights;
- supports the activities of representative indigenous organizations and other organizations with similar aims;
- supports appropriate projects in tribal communities.

### **PUBLIC BENEFIT**

The Trustees of Survival International confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission guidelines on public benefit and the need to provide an explanation of the achievements during the year under review.

All our activities focused on defending the lives and protecting the lands of tribal peoples benefit both specific peoples and the public in general. Tribal peoples number more than 150 million individuals worldwide and add hugely to the diversity of humankind. We also believe that campaigning to put tribal peoples – the best guardians of the natural world – at the forefront of the environmental movement benefits all humanity.

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

### KEY CAMPAIGNS

#### **“Uncontacted Tribes: Let Them Live”**

*Uncontacted tribes are the most vulnerable peoples on the planet. We know very little about them. But we do know there are more than a hundred around the world. And we know whole populations are being wiped out by violence from outsiders who steal their land and resources, and by diseases like flu and measles to which they have no resistance.*

*Survival is a world authority on uncontacted tribes and has been successfully campaigning for their lands to be protected since 1969. Our campaign objectives are simple: Protect their lands and ensure their right to remain uncontacted is respected. Only then will they, and the environments on which they depend, continue to thrive.*

#### Amazon Uncontacted Frontier

The Amazon Uncontacted Frontier is a region straddling the borders of Peru, Brazil and Bolivia and is home to the largest concentration of uncontacted tribal peoples on the planet. As such, in 2016 we decided that it was paramount to give the region better recognition in the public domain. Through our investigations we identified the major threats to uncontacted Matsés and Mashco-Piro Indians in Peru.

The uncontacted Matsés' land in northeastern Peru is being encroached upon by a number of illegal activities including logging and drug trafficking. An oil concession overlaps onto their land, and Canadian oil company, Pacific E&P, has been awarded the rights to explore inside. We lobbied Peruvian ministries, urging them to cancel the oil concession and to forbid further oil exploration activities. We staged a “virtual rally” against the company, mobilizing supporters to post a comment on its Facebook page urging it to withdraw from the region. Over 400 comments were posted in English, French, Spanish and Italian. We also lobbied the government to fulfil its legal obligation to create an indigenous reserve, which will offer greater protection to the uncontacted indigenous people inside.

Our research and investigations regarding the recently-contacted Mashco-Piro demonstrated the importance of having an effective policy and budget in place to mitigate the urgent situation that follows contact. Such a policy needs to prevent the spread of fatal diseases, protect the land of the tribe making contact and oversee the policing of the territory's boundaries. If not, the results can be catastrophic. Survival lobbied the Peruvian government to respect both domestic and international law by protecting uncontacted peoples' territories and to follow its policy of “no contact.”

Survival urged the Peruvian government to veto plans for a road that would divide and destroy the territories of a number of uncontacted tribes in the Amazon Uncontacted Frontier, and also submitted a complaint to the UN Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples about the disastrous impacts of the proposed road.

#### Awá, Brazil

In August, forest fires raged through parts of the Brazilian Amazon, threatening to wipe out uncontacted members of the Awá tribe. Our communications team motivated thousands of our supporters to send an email to the government, urging it to bring in its own fire-fighting teams rather than leave poorly-equipped members of the neighbouring Guajajara tribe (who call themselves the Guajajara Guardians, because they work to protect their forest from illegal loggers) to extinguish the fires themselves. Combined with our lobbying, this pressed the government to finally release extra resources which, together with the arrival of the rains, led to the fires being extinguished. We continued to urge the government not to cut its financial support to the Guajajara Guardians and to provide more long-term support to the Awá. Two uncontacted Awá sisters, who had become seriously ill with tuberculosis post-contact in 2014, decided to return to their lives in the forest after fully recovering in September. The sisters had been living on the run from encroaching loggers for a

long time, and were contacted by fellow settled Awá, who feared for their safety, two years ago. The sisters would certainly have died if Survival had not pushed Brazil into providing urgent medical care post-contact. After eighteen months of living in a settled Awá village, the sisters returned to their forest – deliberately hiding their tracks so that no one could follow them. It was thanks to Survival's campaign that they were well enough to return to their home this year.

#### Ayoreo, Paraguay

We continued lobbying cattle ranching companies Carlos Casado (a subsidiary of Grupo San José S.A. of Spain) and Yaguareté Porã S.A. (Brazil), urging them to stop destroying the Chaco forest, home of the last uncontacted Indians outside Amazonia. Part of the Ayoreo's ancestral land has been classified as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, and suffers the fastest deforestation rate in the world because of the encroachment of these cattle ranching activities. We reinforced our demand that this forest be returned to its original owners and wrote to Yaguareté Porã S.A., Grupo San José S.A. and relevant government ministries. Our legal team wrote a "shadow" report to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), which was then included in its review of Paraguay's human rights conduct. If Survival had not made this submission, CERD would not have included the theft of Ayoreo land and destruction of their biodiverse forest in its report.

#### Kawahiva, Brazil

On Brazil's "Day of the Indian" in April, the Minister of Justice signed a decree which officially recognized the boundaries of the Kawahiva's territory. As a result of Survival's campaign, nobody can lodge an objection to the territory's boundaries – the major hurdle to the protection of the tribe's land is now over. Following this great success, we continued to apply pressure on the Brazilian government's Indigenous Affairs Department (FUNAI) to officially demarcate the Kawahiva's territory, and to ratify and enter it into the land registry.

#### Uncontacted rights

Survival continued to challenge dangerous proposals by US anthropologists Kim Hill and Robert Walker for "controlled contact" of uncontacted peoples. In July, we coordinated an open letter severely criticizing Hill and Walker's proposed policies, which was signed by experts on uncontacted tribes from the Brazilian government's Indigenous Affairs Department. The following indigenous groups also signed the letter: the Coordinating Body of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon, Indigenous Organization of Peru's Eastern Amazon, the Ayoreo-Totobiegosode Organization of Paraguay and the Aty Guasu Guarani Association of Brazil. Various Brazilian NGOs such as the Missionary Council for Indigenous Peoples, the Socio-Environmental Institute and the Center for Indigenous Work have also denounced the proposals by Hill and Walker. We publicized the letter on our website, and sent it to hundreds of indigenous organizations, leaders and experts in the field to inform them of our "Uncontacted Tribes" campaign, which aims to draw people's attention to the risks of forcing contact on uncontacted tribes and prevent Hill and Walker's proposed policies from gaining ground.

#### **"Stop the Con! Listen to Tribal Conservationists"**

*Tribal peoples have been dependent on and managed their environments for millennia and evidence proves that they are better at looking after their environment than anyone else. They are the best conservationists and guardians of the natural world and as such we are working to ensure they are at the forefront of the environmental movement.*

*But tribal peoples are being illegally evicted from their ancestral homelands in the name of conservation and accused of "poaching" because they hunt to feed their families. They face arrest and beatings, torture and death, at the hands of anti-poaching squads funded by big Western conservation organizations, while big game trophy hunters are encouraged. But targeting tribal hunters diverts action away from tackling the true poachers – criminals conspiring with corrupt officials. Targeting tribal hunters harms conservation.*

*Survival International is leading the fight against the abuse of tribal peoples in the name of conservation: for tribes, for nature, for all humanity.*

### Best Conservationists

In order to drive our campaign to succeed in the long term, we emphasized through all our correspondence and media the fact that tribal peoples are the best conservationists, and that the best way to protect the environment is to ensure their land rights are upheld. We contacted dozens of conservation organizations and thousands of experts in the field with information about our campaign, which helped both challenge the agents responsible for abusing tribal peoples' rights in the name of conservation and build a groundswell of public support in favour of tribal conservationists.

### Congo Basin Tribes

Expanding on our work in Cameroon last year, we carried out new investigations across the Congo River basin into the situation of the Baka, Bayaka and neighboring tribes in Central African Republic and Congo Republic. In February our legal team issued a 172-page complaint against WWF for failing in its duty under the OECD guidelines to respect the human rights of the Baka "Pygmies" of southeast Cameroon, which included charging the conservation organization with contributing to violent abuse and land theft against the Baka. This is the first time that such a complaint has been admitted against a non-governmental organization, and multiple sources inform us that it had a huge impact on WWF at the highest level. In December, the complaint was officially admitted by the Swiss National Contact Point, which is a giant step for vulnerable peoples – they can already use OECD Guidelines to try and stop corporations riding roughshod over them, but this is first time ever it's agreed that the rules also apply to industrial-scale NGOs like WWF. We continued to investigate the French company Rougier's illegal logging operations – which have been endorsed via a partnership with the WWF – and publicized the reality of harmful "shoot on sight" policies on the ground for Baka and neighboring communities. Our campaign received significant coverage when we issued a press release exposing eco-guard abuse against the Baka on their land, which had been stolen to make way for a trophy-hunting concession.

### Exposing the crimes of green militarism

Over the past year we lobbied thousands of conservation experts, organizations, anti-poaching outfits and militarized conservation advocates in an attempt to generate discussion around the issue of innocent tribal peoples being used as scapegoats for poaching, which has afforded our "Stop The Con!" campaign much greater visibility in the public eye. We continued to apply pressure on local and national governments to recognize the consequences that their militarized conservation policies have on tribal peoples, and to remove the immunity anti-poaching squads and park rangers enjoy with regards to "shoot on sight" policies. Our legal team submitted an entry to the Assam Human Rights Commission, requesting information on whether they are investigating the use of "shoot on sight" in Kaziranga National Park, and drawing attention to the fact that the chances of forest guards being prosecuted is minimal and there is no form of appeal for victims. As well as denouncing the specific cases of militarized conservation crime against tribal peoples in Indian tiger reserves and in national parks across the Congo Basin, our campaign was increasingly directed towards addressing the issue on a global level.

### Tiger reserves, India

We continued our work to challenge the illegal evictions of tribal communities from protected areas across India. The Forest Department is responsible for carrying out the evictions, but the big conservation organizations are also implicated as they provide funding and material support for the reserves, and they do not speak out against the evictions or "shoot on sight" policies. Our campaign activities included ramping up the visibility of the issue by lobbying the government departments involved, as well as some of the most influential tiger conservation organizations, such as 21st Century Tiger, United for Tigers, Tiger Time Now, Save Wild Tigers, Protect the Tiger, Save our Tigers, and WWF Tigers. We filed a complaint to the Chhattisgarh Human Rights Commission regarding a number of villages due to be evicted from Achanakmar tiger reserve, and mobilized supporters to send an email to the Indian government urging officials to declare a moratorium on further evictions of tribal peoples from tiger reserves, and to ensure that any "resettlement" conforms to Indian law. We collected evidence in seven tiger reserves across India including footage of tribal people's testimonies on the effects conservation has on their lives, and received strong letters from communities in Achanakmar and Amrabad tiger reserves calling on the authorities to allow them to stay on their land.

## **“Tribal Future”**

*Land theft is the biggest problem tribal peoples face. Around the world, industrialized society is stealing tribal lands in the pursuit of profit. This is a continuation of the invasion and genocide which characterized the European colonization of the Americas and Australia. But for tribal peoples, land is life: It fulfils all their material and spiritual needs and is also the foundation of tribal peoples’ identity and sense of belonging. The theft of tribal land destroys self-sufficient peoples and their diverse ways of life. It causes disease, destitution and suicide.*

*The key to tribal peoples’ survival and prosperity is to ensure their land remains under their control. We are doing everything we can to secure it for them.*

### Arara, Brazil

In April, we publicized a success for the Arara tribe, after Brazil’s president signed a decree which formally protects their land, known as Cachoeira Seca. The Arara had fought for decades for thousands of illegal settlers and loggers to be removed from their ancestral land. Survival publicized their plight in the 1990s and applied pressure on the Brazilian government to officially recognize the territory.

### Dongria Kondh, India

Survival continued to lead international resistance to the Odisha state government’s latest attempt to start large-scale mining in the Dongria Kondh’s sacred Niyamgiri hills. We publicized the struggle of the Dongria Kondh and gave them a platform from which their voices could be heard across the world. In May, India’s Supreme Court rejected the Odisha state government’s plans to take over the Dongria Kondh’s ancestral lands again: This represents yet another victory in a war the Odisha state has been unsuccessfully waging against the tribe for many years now.

### Guarani, Brazil

Guarani leader Tonico Benites travelled to Europe to draw attention to the ongoing genocide of Brazilian Indians. Survival’s press team arranged a number of interviews for him and organized a Q&A on popular internet forum Reddit’s “Ask Me Anything” section, which gained a lot of interest from the general public. We continued to bring attention to frequent attacks on the Guarani tribe orchestrated by ranchers and plantation owners, and worked hard to publicize the violence through various press releases and social media posts. At the beginning of the year, we published a new illustrated report, “Progress Can Kill”, which revealed that the appalling suicide rate among the indigenous Guarani Kaiowá people of southern Brazil is the highest in the world.

### Ogiek, Kenya

Survival urged the Kenyan authorities to organize an immediate, independent investigation into the killing of an Ogiek man, who was shot dead by a settler within sight of local police in March. The Ogiek have lived in the Mau Forest since time immemorial, but have long been victims of state-sponsored landgrabs. In 2014, Kenya’s courts ordered that the Ogiek’s land be identified as soon as possible. This ruling was never implemented, however, so we continued to urge the Kenyan authorities to recognize the Ogiek’s land rights according to international law.

### Omo Valley tribes, Ethiopia

Survival’s legal team filed a 66-page complaint against the Italian engineering giant Salini to the Italian government’s National Contact Point highlighting its violations of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development’s guidelines for multinational enterprises over its construction of a controversial dam on the Omo River. The complaint focuses on Salini’s failure to respect the rights of the tribal peoples living along the lower Omo river downstream of the dam and to obtain their free, prior and informed consent to the project. The tribes now face hunger and a bleak future, as the dam has ended the natural flood on which they relied to cultivate crops. We continued to expose the urgent situation of the Omo tribes through press releases.

### Orang Rimba, Indonesia

Survival publicized the eviction of the nomadic Orang Rimba tribe from a palm oil plantation on their ancestral land. Although a national park was created to protect local wildlife and – unprecedented in Indonesia – the tribe, the Indonesian government signed over most of the Orang Rimba’s ancestral lands to palm oil, timber and other plantation companies. Following field investigations by Survival and subsequent lobbying, we led the international call for the Orang Rimba’s right to their ancestral lands to be recognized.

### Rio Olympics and PEC 215, Brazil

PEC 215 is a raft of proposed changes to Brazil’s constitution which would seriously undermine indigenous land rights; threaten to nullify existing indigenous territories in Brazil; and impede recognition of future land demarcation. We capitalized on media hype surrounding the Olympics to draw attention to the threats posed to tribal peoples in Brazil by launching a publicity drive, “Stop Brazil’s Genocide.” We persistently pushed these issues through the national and international media, and staged a protest outside the Brazilian embassy in London to increase pressure on Brazil to stop the ongoing genocide of its tribal peoples.

## **TRIBAL VOICE**

*Survival’s Tribal Voice project gives remote tribes communications technology so they can speak out against the governments and multinationals and others that are trying to silence them.*

We continued to build on the success of our project to give tribal peoples a platform for their voices to be heard across the world. Over the year we released 20 new videos recorded by tribal peoples and shared them on our website, through our social media channels and with our supporters. Some of the video submissions received were from tribes which had never before used the project such as the Orang Rimba of Indonesia and the Pataxó of Brazil. A number of videos were sent straight from the scene of attacks. More indigenous people are engaging in the project and are viewing it as a fundamental tool to make their voices heard. Both the Guarani and Guajajara Indians regard the project as their “greatest weapon.”

## **MEDIA**

Our social media presence continued to grow rapidly, with our following on Facebook in English alone growing from 200,000 at the start of 2016 to just under 290,000 at the end of the year, representing growth of 45%. We have followers in over 100 countries worldwide thanks to the massive potential reach of social media platforms. Both Facebook and Twitter were successfully used as campaigning tools to contact key campaign targets, such as WWF and other big conservation organizations, and the Canadian oil company Pacific E&P, who responded with a bespoke letter following our “virtual rally” in September. Several of our videos achieved viral reach, and we used Facebook as a platform to allow tribal peoples to speak to the world. A video in which a Matsés man speaks about the experience of first contact was seen by over 4 million people, and a video taken by a Guarani man as his community was being attacked by gunmen, which was seen by over 100,000, helped secure coverage of the attacks in global media, including Al Jazeera.

Survival’s presence in “traditional” media remained very strong, with articles on our campaigns regularly appearing in the Guardian, Times, Telegraph, Independent, Daily Mail, Washington Post, Vice, Reuters, Associated Press and many others. Our campaigners were frequently interviewed on radio, in the United States, South Africa, Botswana and Brazil, as well as the UK and Europe. We had a significant breakthrough in media coverage in Brazil – one of our key target countries: Major outlets such as Globo and Folha de São Paulo often covered our “Uncontacted Tribes” campaign, and we now have a growing social media following in the country. The pressure we applied on the Botswana government in the fiftieth anniversary of the country’s independence was a success from a media point of view, with our press releases frequently being covered in leading Botswana newspapers and radio stations. Survival’s “Stop The Con!” campaign also continued to shape the debate about conservation in the Indian press, with journalists from major outlets like RPI, the Hindu,

and the Times of India covering our “Save the Tiger, Keep the People” case. Articles by Survival staff and consultants were published and widely shared online. An article on due diligence in conservation policy continues to be tweeted by activists, and another article explaining the rationale behind our complaint against WWF in The Ecologist has helped frame the terms of the debate among interested bloggers. Our relationship with several U.S. online publications like Truthout and Counterpunch has allowed us to reach a growing American audience, and we are getting more opinion pieces into the Guardian, including a recent piece on the “right to hunt.”

## **EDUCATION**

We gave a talk at an International Schools Conference in Bali, highlighting the work of Survival and the positive role that tribal peoples can have in conserving their ancestral lands and the species found on them. This was also a good opportunity to publicize the “Progress Can Kill” aspect of our campaign to students in Southeast Asia, many of whom were so inspired by our work that they contacted us afterwards about their plans to do some campaigning for the rights of tribal peoples themselves.

## **SUPPORTERS**

Survival is a global movement which draws its campaigning strength from our many thousands of supporters. We depend on them. From donating to our appeals, running fundraising campaigns, and buying from our catalogue to sending lobbying emails, spreading the word on social media and attending protests, their money, energy and enthusiasm is what enables us to fight one of the most urgent and horrific humanitarian crises of our time.

### **X-Files T-Shirt Fundraising**

Survival ambassador and actor Gillian Anderson launched an exclusive X-Files t-shirt in aid of Survival, sold through the charity platform Omaze, which raises funds and awareness through celebrity support. In total 2,233 t-shirts were sold, raising more than \$16,700 for our campaigns.

### **Hackney Brewery charity beer**

In collaboration with Hackney Brewery and Honest Brew, Survival ambassador Sir Quentin Blake designed the label art of a limited-edition “Artist Series” of charity beers, with proceeds to Survival.

### **Jewellery sales**

Survival ambassador and jewellery designer Pippa Small made a donation of £4,000 from the sale of some of her works.

### **Wedding Gift donations**

Supporters Beatrice and Jeffrey asked for donations in lieu of gifts at their wedding in Italy. They invited more than 400 guests and Survival was one of five charities to benefit from their generosity.

### **Black Diamond Ball fundraiser**

Supporter Pete took part in a Black Diamond Ball fundraiser in the English Lake District. He shared Survival literature with guests and nominated Survival to benefit from the event. We were mentioned in local press as one of twelve charities to get a share and received over £1,000.

A more detailed account of the work undertaken worldwide by Survival International can be found at [www.survivalinternational.org](http://www.survivalinternational.org).



## FINANCES

Survival rejects government funding. We won't compromise our independence or our integrity. We're proud of all we achieve on such a limited budget.

### Trustees' Statement

This summary financial information is extracted from the full unqualified audited group accounts approved by the Trustees on 9 May 2017 and subsequently submitted to the Charity Commission and to Companies House. They may not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. For further information regarding the full accounts, the Auditors' Report on those accounts and the Trustees' Annual Report should be consulted; copies of these can be obtained from 6 Charterhouse Buildings, London, EC1M 7ET.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees. M. Davis, Treasurer, 9 May 2017.

## SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR 2016

	2016 £	2015 £
<strong>INCOMING RESOURCES</strong>		
Donations & Fundraising	928,057	1,416,294
Legacies	172,814	157,018
Investments & Other Income	49,545	45,395
	<strong>1,150,416</strong>	<strong>1,618,707</strong>
<strong>RESOURCES EXPENDED</strong>		
Project, Publication and Education	916,809	883,479
Fundraising and Publicity	106,278	123,073
Governance	18,189	18,530
	<strong>1,041,276</strong>	<strong>1,025,082</strong>
Net Incoming Resources	109,140	593,625
Investments & Exchange	309,521	-21,916
<strong>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</strong>	<strong>418,661</strong>	<strong>571,709</strong>

## ASSETS & LIABILITIES AT 31 DEC 2016

	2016 £	2015 £
<strong>ASSETS</strong>		
Tangible Fixed Assets	790,172	791,505
Investments	2,455,088	2,295,459
Current Assets	1,451,518	1,192,144
	<strong>4,696,778</strong>	<strong>4,279,108</strong>
<strong>LIABILITIES</strong>		
Amounts falling due within one year	129,379	130,370