

# Governing Indigenous Territories Enacting Sovereignty In The Ecuadorian Amazon

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addressing decades of rain forest destruction concerned scientists often in concert with various environmental movements have amassed an impressive amount of information on deforestation in areas throughout the world in tropical forests rudel draws upon hundreds of these studies to develop a broader perspective on the problem of deforestation through a meta analysis rudel identifies the forces that have driven forest cover change since 1980 and spells out their implications for efforts to conserve biodiversity and expedite sustainable development in the tropics rudel builds on local studies to offer clear explanations of what has happened in each of the world s tropical forest regions he assesses global trends while also offering vivid descriptions of the effects of deforestation in specific areas his work concludes with a chapter that describes policy directions for conserving biodiversity and promoting sustainable development in each region

several studies have analyzed the situation of the forestry sector in ecuador with different focus for instance owen and thiel 2006 assess the influence of policies on the economic dynamics of the forestry sector ibarra et al 2008 explore the implications of forestry legislation in small scale forest management by smallholders alazco et al 2010 adopt a more comprehensive perspective to consider the current problems faced by the forestry sector and indicate the challenges to advance towards sustainable forest management unlike these the analysis here is centered in the dynamics of timber harvesting in the amazon undertaken by smallholders colonists and indigenous people and their relations with the domestic timber market the most relevant studies on related issues were focused on describing the internal uses and trade flows of timber wunder 1996 as well as the timber value chains

with a national perspective ministerio del ambiente del ecuador 2011

comprises maps and color photos together with information on each of more than 40 community ecotourism projects in some of the amazon s most spectacular areas includes also chapters on the characteristics of community based ecotourism the cultural and environmental context the role of the responsible traveller and tips for travellers

welcome to the wildest place on earth ecuador s upper amazon basin referred to locally as the oriente awaits you spanning most of the sucumbas province this region is unquestionably one of the most biologically diverse regions on the planet here you can experience incredible wildlife viewing and bird watching nature photography jungle hikes dugout canoe excursions and a unique mix of native people adapted to life in the heart of the tropics from bird size butterflies to butterfly size birds from piranhas to vampire bats from poison arrow frogs to monster anacondas and from spider monkeys to howler monkeys the sky is the limit for the spirited soul the area surrounding tena and misahualla is the most visited rainforest destination in the country one of the more developed regions of the upper amazon it is also the most accessible jungle excursions abound and there are still small patches of primary forest mostly in the form of private reserves outstanding rafting kayaking swimming tubing and hiking opportunities are available as well as birding botany medicinal study cultural and general nature travel farther down the ra o napo the land becomes more pristine in the south especially along the eastern slopes of the andes and around macas the rugged topography and lack of access have preserved some of the best wildlife viewing opportunities and intact indigenous cultures in ecuador in this region virgin rainforest and the communities of the unique achuar and shuar nations await the true adventure seeker as the andes descend dramatically eastward into the napo region the true tropical lowland rainforest begins with the headwaters of the ra o napo the central oriente offers ecological life zones similar to those in the northern region see the upper amazon basin with many

species that live here and nowhere else on earth this is due primarily to the mixture of different microclimates created by drastic elevation changes between the andes and the amazon resulting in small pockets of life that evolved separately from their close neighbors thus biologically the oriente a with up to 5 of the earth s plant species a is arguably the richest place on the planet this guide gives you all the details on where to stay where to eat what to do how to get around the entertainment and arts the history and culture complete with maps and photos throughout

an ethnography showing that collective land titling for native peoples is both an enormous accomplishment and a source of new expectations obligations and subjectivities within the legally established indigenous territories

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an interdisciplinary anthology of work from and about ecuador including nonfiction poetry journalism history and cultural analysis with many primary resources never before published in english

an exploration of radical megaprojects in the ecuadorian amazon considering the fate of utopian fantasies under conditions of global capitalism from 2007 to 2017 the citizens revolution launched an ambitious series of post neoliberal megaprojects in the remote amazonian region of ecuador including an interoceanic transport corridor a world leading biotechnology university and a planned network of two hundred millennium cities the aim was to liberate the nation from its ecologically catastrophic dependence on amazonian oil reserves while transforming its jungle region from a wild neoliberal frontier into a brave new world of twenty first century socialism this book documents the heroic scale of this endeavor the surreal extent of its failure and the paradoxical process through which it ended up reinforcing the economic model that it had been designed to overcome it explores the phantasmatic and absurd dimensions of the transformation of social reality under conditions of global capitalism deconstructing the utopian fantasies of the state and drawing attention to the eruption of insurgent

utopias staged by those with nothing left to lose

this report presents a broad analysis of the amazon region within the framework of ecuador s national economic development this approach is based on the observation that isolated policy analyses that focus narrowly on a region of concern generally result in policies that are 1 wrong from a national development perspective and or 2 ignored unless the region in question has decisive political influence the amazon region presents some very special characteristics some of which may be considered constraints others unique opportunities the foremost characteristic that conditions the range of options for this region is the extreme fragility of the region s natural resources it also offers unique biological diversity this potential may remain unknown and lost forever if the tropical rainforest is permanently destroyed through inappropriate land use the report will also examine the area s development issues and policy options

like many other indigenous groups the huaorani of eastern ecuador are facing many challenges as they attempt to confront the globalization of capitalism in the 21st century in 1991 they formed a political organization as a direct response to the growing threat to huaorani territory posed by oil exploitation colonization and other pressures the author explores the structures and practices of the organization as well as the contradictions created by the imposition of an alien and hierarchical organizational form on a traditionally egalitarian society this study has broad implications for those who work toward cultural survival or try to save the rainforest

rainforest radio follows napo kichwa media producers performers and consumers across a disrupted amazon rainforest to understand the effects of different methods and media in language reclamation projects

over the past decade people have learned about oil contamination in the ecuadorian amazon through

toxic tours in which a guide brings participants students lawyers environmental activists journalists and foreign tourists to visit contaminated sites these toxic tours combine personal experience and local knowledge to convince visitors of the immediacy of environmental issues drawing on extensive research and fieldwork toxic takes the reader on a visual toxic tour through the amazon following the story of three fictional participants this graphic novel paints a visceral picture of the waste pits gas flares and precarious lives of people in this region the book challenges the reader to consider what it means to live in a place and historical moment where victims of industrial toxicants are continually required to prove that harm has occurred toxic is a vivid reflection on the role of pollutants in our everyday lives ultimately asking readers to reflect on how we are each implicated in the production consumption and exposure of pollution both in the amazon and at home

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