



# ANNUAL REPORT 2020



PEOPLE'S  
PLANET  
PROJECT



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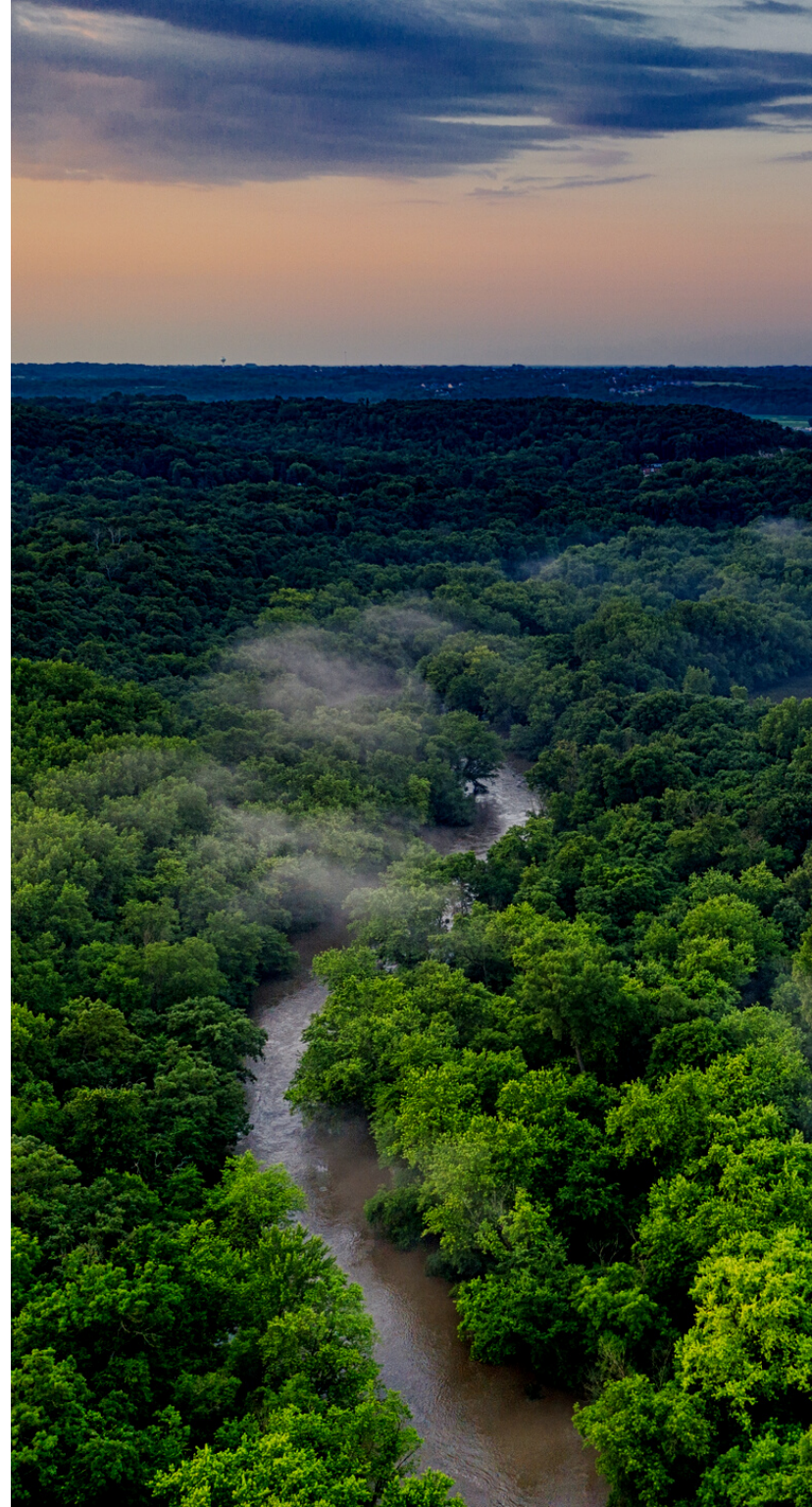
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# INTRODUCTION



Dear Reader,

The year of 2020 had its challenges. It has not only exposed and aggravated the unequal access to healthcare, social security and education around the world, but it has also forced us to pay attention to the acute situation faced by our Indigenous friends, who are resisting large-scale deforestation in isolation.

Indigenous leaders and local NGOs have reported rising levels of illegal deforestation and violence during the pandemic with little government aid or oversight. The arrival of illegal loggers and miners is also accelerating the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases within these Indigenous communities. Indigenous peoples have been especially vulnerable during this difficult time, as they are not only losing their ancestral forests to big corporations, but their Indigenous elders are passing away in alarming numbers due to COVID-19.

‘When this pandemic hit us, our leaders in their 70s, 80s and 90s, they vanished. So week by week, sometimes day by day, we are having that tough feeling of grief, mourning our losses and mourning gigantic losses to our cultures. In the end, we have to keep fighting and honor their passing.’ - **Kretã Kaingang** - Indigenous leader, activist, and the co-founder of the Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (APIB)

Despite facing such adverse circumstances, as well as being some of the first to experience the negative consequences of environmental destruction, Indigenous communities have proven to be resilient and determined to organize and defend themselves.

People's Planet Project exists to connect Indigenous groups to local legal representation and advocacy strategies, and empower the communities seeking justice. We have developed a teaching curriculum in collaboration with Indigenous communities to transfer filmmaking and cartography skills to the communities who are on the frontline of the dangerous fight to protect the forests of our planet. The collaborative films and spatial maps created and produced by Indigenous communities aim to be used both for advocacy and as evidence in court cases.

People's Planet Project understands that there is power in collaborative filmmaking and evidence-based storytelling from the perspective of the communities at the frontlines of both Indigenous rights violations and advocacy campaigns. We want to facilitate a transfer of knowledge, and power, so that communities can tell their own stories, and so that these stories can be utilised for the most impactful purpose: To be used as evidence in court cases against Indigenous livelihood destruction. By using film and cartography as a medium of witnessing, communication, and activism, People's Planet Project addresses two interconnected problems faced by Indigenous communities:

- An infringement of their environmental and human rights by continued deforestation and destruction of their land.
- A pattern of outside representation of Indigenous peoples and issues.



Despite the challenging situation we live in, People's Planet Project has provided a shortened, online version of our workshop (GeoStory Camps) to a small group of community members from the Ogan Komering Ilir of Indonesia. This took place in October, 2020, during the coronavirus pandemic, as an online Camp. We used our storytelling curriculum during this online workshop, with adjustments for the shortened time frame of the workshop and its unique online format. This has been developed through consultation with Indigenous communities, and includes not only technical filmmaking lessons, but also how they connect specifically to human rights aims. Following this workshop, Indigenous community members have already produced several short pieces of film. Our full GeoStory Camps will be scaled-up and provided in-person while using our filmmaking and cartography curriculum in conjunction with our toolkit on the principles of evidence-based storytelling.



**Abdel Mandili**

Founder and Executive Director  
People's Planet Project



# TRIBAL STORIES PLATFORM

Stories matter for our planet and even more to the people of the planet, the Indigenous communities, who are the guardians of our forests and its biodiversity. Comprising less than 5% of the world's population, Indigenous peoples protect 80% of global biodiversity. However, the forest areas managed by those tribes are under attack by commercial interest. New satellite measurements show accelerating forest loss in the Amazon basin. Data published by Brazil's space agency INPE shows that more than 300 square miles of rainforest - an area about the size of New York City - was lost between January and March 2020. In the first three months of 2020, the destruction of the Brazilian Amazon rainforest increased by more than 50%.

On August 9th, 2020, commemorating the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, we launched the geostorytelling platform: Tribal Stories. It is an initiative by People's Planet Project created in partnership with several Indigenous associations representing communities who are on the frontlines of the dangerous fight for the world's forests. Tribal Stories serves as an evidence-based platform for Indigenous peoples to resist large-scale forest loss on a legal level. It enables communities to document evidence of deforestation within their territories through videos, geospatial data and images of environmental change across the globe.





# THE FIGHT FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE CONTINUES

Recognizing Indigenous knowledge, resilience, and vast experience in guarding the world's cultural and biological diversity, we are determined to dedicate the year of 2021 to empowering Indigenous peoples, amplifying their voices, and advocating for their rights. Currently, we are working to expand our network of environmental and human rights lawyers to integrate their perspective into our geostorytelling curriculum. This will allow us to continuously improve our efforts to use video technology and geospatial data as a tool for the advancement of Indigenous rights and the preservation of nature.

Our main goal for 2021 is to organize the first in-person GeoStory Camps for Indigenous tribes in Brazil. The GeoStory Camps are built to empower a new generation of Indigenous leaders by providing them with tools and skills needed to produce video content and to develop geospatial maps that can be used as evidence in court cases against human rights and environmental violations.

We are grateful for all the support given to our movement in the past year. In the midst of a global pandemic, People's Planet Project continually found unique ways to adjust to this new reality and improve its efforts to advocate for the rights of Indigenous peoples. As we enter a new year, we are committed to build on our experiences and advance the movement. 2020 gave us the opportunity to pause and imagine a better future; now we must act on it.



# ADVISORY BOARD AND GOVERNANCE

Comprising representatives from the film industry, academic institutions, Indigenous activists and lawyers, the Advisory Board is responsible primarily for strategy and oversight of the Management Team who are responsible for the daily operations of People's Planet Project. Members of the Advisory Board do not receive a salary or any other compensation for their work, and typically meet twice a year to discuss the long-term strategy. The following list includes all members of the Advisory Board:

## **- Jérémie Gilbert, Advisory Board Member**

Jérémie Gilbert is a Professor of Human Rights Law. His main area of research is on the rights of Indigenous communities, particularly their rights to land and natural resources. Jérémie has worked with several Indigenous communities across the globe and regularly serves as a consultant for several international organizations supporting Indigenous rights. As a legal expert, he has been involved in providing legal briefs, expert opinions and carrying out evidence gathering in several cases involving Indigenous peoples' land rights across the globe.



### **- Marine Calmet, Advisory Board Member**

Marine Calmet is a lawyer and environmentalist, committed to the recognition of the rights of nature and Indigenous peoples. She is the co-founder of Wild Legal, a nonprofit organization that promotes the study, practice and advancement of environmental law. Marine is committed to igniting new effective responses to the ecological problems that surround us.

### **- Julian Busquets, Advisory Board Member**

Julian Busquets is an award-winning documentary film director who started Veedro Films, a film production company in São Paulo. Julian is known for working directly with Indigenous tribes throughout the Brazilian Amazon. He is currently in post production for “The Spirit of Tatá”, a feature-length documentary about a 103-year-old shaman from the Yawanawá Tribe. Julian's hands-on experience also led to a documentary about the “Guardians of the Forest” from the Guajajara Tribe, premiered on Good Morning America in conjunction with the ABC News Investigative Unit.

### **- Abdel Mandili, Executive Board Member**

Abdel Mandili founded People's Planet Project with the aim to assist Indigenous communities in their battle against deforestation. He has focused on raising awareness of issues about climate change and Indigenous livelihood destruction through his work as a filmmaker. His most recent documentary ‘The Indigenous Quest’ is about the massive forest loss in Borneo caused by big multinationals to clear land for palm oil plantations at the cost of Indigenous customary lands.



**COMMITTED TO SUPPORT THE GUARDIANS OF THE FORESTS IN THEIR  
JOURNEY TO PROTECT THE LUNGS OF OUR PLANET.**





# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## Balance Sheet 2020

**Financial year:** January 1, 2020 until December 31, 2020

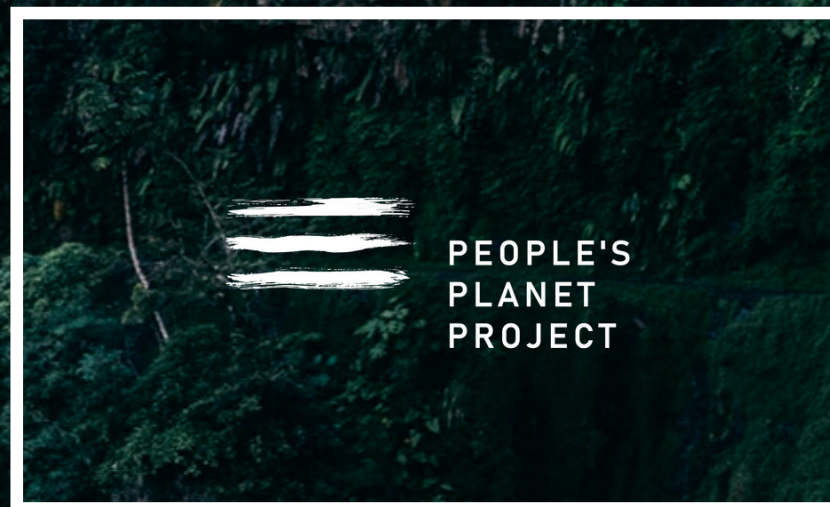
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
	EUR	EUR
<b>Assets</b>		
Tangible fixed assets	-	-
Cash at bank	14	106
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>Reserves, funds and liabilities</b>		
Reserves	-	14
Balance of income and expenses for the period	14	92
Destination fund	-	-
Current Liabilities	-	-
<b>Total Reserves, funds and liabilities</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>106</b>

**Statement of revenue and expenditure for the period ended December 31, 2020**

	<u><b>2019</b></u>	<u><b>2020</b></u>
	EUR	EUR
<b>Source of income</b>		
Income from own organizational fundraising	34	270
Interest income	-	-
<b>Total income sources</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>270</b>
 <b>Expenses</b>		
<i>Operational and administrative expenses</i>		
Bank costs	20	161
Salary and operations	-	-
Expenses made for strategic objectives	-	-
Video communications costs	-	17
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>178</b>
<b>Result</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>92</b>

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People's Planet Project is a nonprofit registered in The Netherlands under RSIN: 860079363