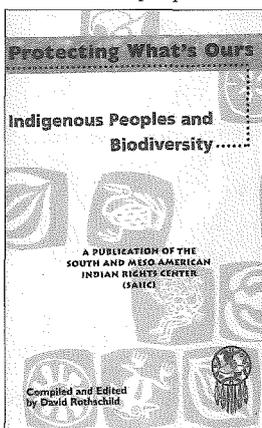


# Recommended Publications and Events

## PROTECTING WHAT'S OURS: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND BIODIVERSITY

Compiled and edited by: David Rothschild. 1997. 93 pp + appendices, glossary, bibliography. Published by: The South and Meso American Indian Rights Center. PO Box 28703. Oakland, CA 94604.

**"W**e need to be part of these [scientific] projects because the knowledge that they are taking is from our people, from our forests" (from Interview with Eudicio Castillo, page 78).



Protecting What's Ours: Indigenous Peoples and Biodiversity is designed specifically for use by Indigenous peoples and organizations. Its introductory discussion of the issues

surrounding biodiversity is simultaneously accessible and comprehensive. Written in plain language from an Indigenous perspective, the book explores major Indigenous concerns about protecting biodiversity. It defines and discusses bioprospecting, intellectual property rights, the Human Genome Diversity Project, and agricultural diversity. The book also overviews international instruments dealing with biodiversity and indicates how these can be potentially utilized by Indigenous communities in the struggle to conserve biodiversity and control the commercialization of knowledge and resources.

Protecting What's Ours: Indigenous Peoples and Biodiversity also includes three particularly compelling interviews with leaders of Indigenous organizations that deal with biodiversity issues. Marcela Mendieta of the Bartolomé Aripayalla Association discusses her organization's work conserving seed diversity with the Quispillacta in Peru. Eudicio Castillo talks about the his work with PEMASKY (the Study Project for the Management of Wilderness Areas of Kuna Yala,) which acts to conserve biodiversity and regulate access to

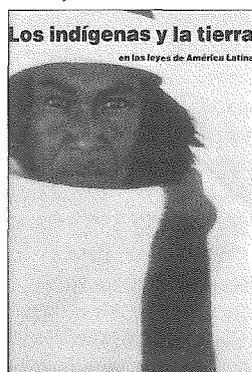
genetic resources found in Kuna territory in Panama. Leonardo Vitieri of the Amazanga Institute of Science and Technology, an organization of Indigenous technical and scientific experts, discusses his organization's work in environmental planning and the management of natural resources found specifically in the Quichua and Shiviari territories in Ecuador. These three interviews present various strategies, concerns, and goals of Indigenous groups working to preserve biodiversity and protect against bioprospecting on Indigenous lands. In addition, there are suggestions for the establishment of Indigenous guidelines on these issues, an extensive glossary of terminology, and valuable appendices that contain relevant excerpts of international agreements and conventions on biodiversity.

Protecting What's Ours draws a clear picture of the complex issues surrounding biodiversity while providing possible strategies and solutions to Indigenous communities, organizations and people confronting this latest symptom of Globalization. It is an invaluable resource in the struggle for control and conservation of knowledge and genetic resources.

## LOS INDÍGENAS Y LA TIERRA EN LAS LEYES DE AMÉRICA LATINA

By Wilfredo Ardito. Published by Survival International, 11-15 Emerald Street, London WC 1N 3QJ, UK.

**T**his informative report is designed for Indigenous organizations and their supporters throughout Latin America. The bulk of the report is a detailed country-by-country analysis of all national legislation relevant to Indigenous peoples, particularly relating to land and territory rights. Every country in Meso and South America is examined, from Belize to Surinam, El Salvador to Argentina. Other sections deal more specifically with the varying concepts of 'Indigenous', the importance of land to these communities, laws relating to cultural



rights, and a historical analysis of legislation pertaining to and affecting Indian peoples.

This report is a valuable resource for Indigenous communities and provides a concise yet thorough analysis of the laws surrounding Indigenous peoples and their territories. It is only available in Spanish, and is currently being updated for a second edition. It is free to all Indigenous communities and organizations; for all others it is US\$ 15.00. For a copy please contact Survival International, 11-15 Emerald Street, London WC1N 3QJ, UK. Fax: 44 171 242 1771. Email: survival@gn.apc.org

## Book Release

You are cordially invited to a reception celebrating the release of SAIIIC's latest publication, "Protecting What's Ours: Indigenous People and Biodiversity"

Mission Cultural Center  
Mission Street  
(between 24th & 25th Streets)  
San Francisco  
on Friday November 21, 1997

Refreshments: (6-7 pm)  
Program: (7-9 pm)  
Presentation of the book  
Native American Dance by Gina Pacaldo  
Video Showing of  
Encuentro con los Mayas  
Indigenous Photo Exhibit  
and Ethnic Music

Tickets available at the door  
Sliding Scale: \$10 and Up  
For More Info. Call: (510) 834-4263