

**A short declaration**  
**Eden on fire: there is hope in Amazonia**  
17/01/2021



To the entire planetary community, from Manaus, the heart of the Amazon forest, an outcry! But also a cry of hope!

Although it is renowned for its socio-biodiversity, unfortunately when the Amazon makes the nightly news in Brazil and worldwide, it is with images of the forest suffering devastating attacks. Sadly, São Paulo and other major cities in Brazil only recently started paying attention to the forest, and that was when clouds of ashes from centuries-old trees and animals of extraordinary beauty darkened the sky, and the rains washed the asphalt and concrete with soot. The rainy season has come to extinguish the forest fires for a while, but there is still a lot of smoke.

Even more than the fires or the advance of agribusiness and mining in Amazonia, the crisis that the pandemic has brought us makes the consequences of the socio-economic problems of under-development that are part of daily life, and that affect those who are most severely poor, more evident than ever.

Someone said to me, 'Unfortunately, when the time has come ...', but this is absurd. The time had not come for any of the more than 200,000 Brazilian lives lost due to the irresponsibility of our leaders, the denial of science and the genocidal mediocrity of chloroquine and Ivermectin. Most people in Amazonia do not have a permanent job or

the possibility to work remotely from home; they live in informality, always invisible in their day-to-day lives, but today they are on the front pages of newspapers. The government has cut financial aid to people, making them even more socially and physically vulnerable. They did not succumb to Covid; they were murdered by the irresponsible policy of vaccine wars, misinformation, selfishness, denial and perversity. Were it different, many would possibly be here today with their usual smiles. On the day that Manaus feels one of the worst blows of the pandemic, the President of the Republic affirms that he will guarantee the right of those who do not want to be vaccinated. Now a new more transmissible strain of the virus is circulating in Manaus.

Manaus is the largest and main city in the Brazilian Amazon. Half the population of the state of Amazonas, which is more than 4 million people live there, and it has had a 25 % increase in its population over the last decade. Big city, bigger problems, more poverty. But what is the true reality of what is currently happening in the best known postcard of the rainforest?

The collapse of the health and funeral systems that was experienced in Manaus during 2020 is being repeated. This time the scenario is even worse, because there is not enough oxygen to supply all the hospitals. ICUs have turned into suffocation chambers. Before the pandemic, Manaus had approximately nine ICU beds and 27 respirators for every 100,000 inhabitants, which shows the great precariousness of the health system even without having to deal with a pandemic. In addition, the capital is the only city in the state with infrastructure for patients with Covid. But now some patients are being transferred to other states in complex logistical operations and at high financial costs. All of this could have been avoided had there not been widespread denial, neglect, corruption and administrative malfeasance.

Today there is not enough oxygen, but we will continue to fight until our last breath! Fight to save the remaining air! How can we talk about and want to advance sustainable development in the Amazon rainforest, if practically all rivers in the urban area of Manaus are polluted? If the capital's landfill has reached its limit, and no alternatives are put in place, although there is a plan to open another hole in the forest and continue the contamination of streams with polluted run-off? Even now there are people who blame the inaccessibility of Manaus as an excuse not to build more roads to the Amazon, but 150 years ago it was considered the Paris of the tropics, so what's changed? Ain't there the opposition to indigenous land demarcation and the dismantling of government agencies that inspect and control deforestation as forms of avowed environmental racism of our leaders? There is a lack of consistency between words and actions. The Amazon is still a colony, a heavy burden that can no longer be carried. The defense of the socio-biodiversity of Amazonia, a heritage of humanity, our piece of Pachamama, can only be maintained if there is social justice. This includes looking after our common home and those who live with us. Only then can the lungs of the world continue to breathe and our heart to beat!

There is other local news that does not reach everyone that can raise our collective hopes: numerous solidarity actions are underway in Manaus, and in the Amazon as a whole, and have been since the beginning of the pandemic. Expeditions by fearless

warriors who take food, medicine, masks and hygiene kits to those in need. There are also actions that support the solidarity economy and food security and sovereignty in the capital and in the interior. Today we see dynamic and spontaneous cooperation by residents to share information about any stocks of oxygen tanks taking place via networks and social media. This prevents these channels from becoming overloaded with news about deaths and acts to effectively save lives!

May these words be a call to build a broad humanitarian front for Manaus and the Amazon. Yes, there are many people here who truly care for and protect the forest and its people, but it is necessary to disclose what is really happening, create social pressure and thereby promote the necessary changes effectively. To help and support one of the aid efforts that already exist, please see below. Together we are stronger and we will win any battle!

In solidarity,

Ariel de Andrade Molina  
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### [Humanitarian and solidarity efforts in Manaus](#)

**Projeto Somar** - The NGO is making donations of PPE and oxygen. For more information about the Somar Project, contact us on the phone: +55 92 98103-8708 (Italo Malveira). Instagram: @projetosocial.somar

**Instituto Ágape Manaus** - The institution promotes school support, environmental education and donation of basic food boxes. At the moment, it is receiving donations for the purchase of hospital supplies and oxygen cylinders. For more information, call: + 55 92 99498-8675 / [suelenaraujo8@gmail.com](mailto:suelenaraujo8@gmail.com) Instagram: @institutoagapemanaus

**Bora Ajudar** - The NGO promotes voluntary work and is receiving donations for the purchase of PPE, oxygen and hospital supplies. For more information on bank account, call: +55 92 98134-0832. Instagram: @boraajudar

**Mais amor Manaus** - The NGO distributes basic food boxes and is receiving donations for the purchase of PPE, oxygen and hospital supplies. For general information and bank account call +55 92 98134-0832. Contact: [projetomaisamormanaus@gmail.com](mailto:projetomaisamormanaus@gmail.com) (Cezar Mirabel). Instagram: @maisamor.am

**Salaada Solidário** - The NGO distributes food to isolated people in the Amazon and is receiving donations for the purchase of PPE, oxygen and hospital supplies. For more information call: +55 92 98134-0832. Instagram: @salaadasolidario

**Amor sem Caô** - The NGO donates food boxes, toys and children's activities in Amazonas and is receiving donations for the purchase of PPE, oxygen and hospital supplies. For more information call: +55 92 98157-8588. Instagram: @amorsemcao

**Medicines donation:** For those in Manaus, the donation of medicines, disposable supplies and PPE can be donated to the Central de Medicamentos do Amazonas (CEMA) at Avenida Duque de Caixas, 1.998, neighborhood Praça 14. The agency is state. More info: [direcaocema@saude.am.gov.br](mailto:direcaocema@saude.am.gov.br) ; tel. +55 92 3131-2802 ; +55 92 3131-2800.

**REMA** – The Maniva Network has been for 10 years contributing in the Amazonas state by promoting Agroecology and solidarity partnerships. Rede Maniva de Agroecologia is working together with local CSAs (Community Support Agriculture) and Slow Food Manaus, and they need support to help family farmers. REMA works to guarantee the safety of the operations from the only organic farmers market in Manaus during the pandemic, so that farmers can keep food production and contribute to the health of everyone. The network also make periodical donations of vegetable food boxes to people in need, financially contributed by consumers and other supporters. Crowdfunding: <https://www.vakinha.com.br/vaquinha/sem-agricultores-nao-ha-alimentos> Instagram: @redemaniva

**Onisafra** - The Solidarity Market is an initiative of Onisafra with the Polo Manaus Digital Association and the Mão Solidária Campaign. At the beginning of the Pandemic, more than 20 tons of food were donated and this time we want to help again. The donations received will be used to purchase basic food and vegetables to be delivered to families in social vulnerability. <https://onisafra.com/manaus/mercado-solidario/> Instagram: @onisafra

**Instituto Mana** – The organization works with women's emancipation, promotion and defense of women's rights and combating gender violence against cis and trans women. Instituto Mana is accepting financial donations to offer diapers, milk, potable water, masks and aprons, gloves, bouffant caps, cylinders of oxygen. Instagram: @oinstitutomana

**Rede de Solidariedade das Mulheres de Manaus** - Supports more than 100 women “For the Right to Stay at Home” for the heads of families, from the outskirts of Manaus, an action coordinated by the Manaus Permanent Forum of Women (FPMM), Gender Violence Observatory in Amazonas, Luisa Mahin Collective and Feminist Collective Banzeiro. During the quarantine and lock-down imposed by the pandemic of the new coronavirus, basic boxes, organic vegetables, bars of soap and bleach will be donated. Crowdfunding: <https://www.vakinha.com.br/vaquinha/ajude-a-rede-de-solidariedade-das-mulheres-de-manaus>

Manaus’ Women Solidarity Network aid campaign coordinators:  
Florismar Ferreira: +55 92 99326-1943 ; Antonia Barroso: +55 92 99204-4578 ; Keila Serruya: +55 92 99108-1080

## [Indigenous people and traditional communities in Amazonia in need of aid](#)

### **Comunidade Parque das Tribos, em Manaus**

Parque das Tribos, considered the first indigenous neighborhood in Manaus, needs your help! In the face of the Covid-19 pandemic, many families are without income and, consequently, without food. There are about 700 families currently living in the Parque das Tribos, 80% of whom are indigenous from 35 ethnic groups. The kitty was created with the aim of raising money for the purchase of bales of food for families. Many are in an emergency! To contribute to the virtual kitty access:

[https://www.vakinha.com.br/vaquinha/ajude-os-moradores-do-parque-das-tribos?utm\\_source=isa&utm\\_medium=&utm\\_campaign](https://www.vakinha.com.br/vaquinha/ajude-os-moradores-do-parque-das-tribos?utm_source=isa&utm_medium=&utm_campaign)

Contacts: Ana Cláudia Martins Tomas – Baré +55 92 99150-6744  
Vanderlecia Ortega dos Santos +55 92 9370-8333

### **Associação das Mulheres Sateré-Mawé (AMISM), em Manaus**

Samela Lorena V. Marteninghi

Contact: + 55 9 8159-2712

### **Coordenação dos Povos Indígenas de Manaus e Entorno (Copime), Manaus**

Contacts: Icles Nascimento da Costa (Turi Sateré) + 55 92 98437-6451

Marcivana Rodrigues Paiva + 55 92 99391-5135

### **Associação Comunidade indígena Wotchimaücü (ACW), Manaus**

Contact: Delmir Santana + 55 92 99376-9106

### **Centro de Medicina Indígena – Basherikowi, Manaus**

Associação Indígena Yepá-Mahsã

Contact: + 55 92 98249 5991

### **Associação das Mulheres do Médio Solimões (AIMSA), Tefé**

Contact: Ercília da Silva Vieira + 55 07 99154-6575 / + 55 97 98409-9216

### **Rede Jogue Como Uma Garota de São Gabriel da Cachoeira**

40 indigenous families from São Gabriel da Cachoeira

Contact: Edneia Teles +55 92 9 8404-3516

### **Federação Indígena do Povo Kukami Kumamiria do Brasil, Peru e Colômbia (Povo Kokama)**

Contact: Glades Rodrigues Ramires +55 97 99184-0332

### **Conselho Geral do Povo Hexkaryana CGPH, Nhamundá (AM)**

Contact: Guilherme Txehkeku + 55 92 99207-3318

**TUMUPE – Organização das Lideranças Sateré-Mawé dos Rios Marau, Miriti e Urupadi e Manjuru, Maués (AM)**

Contact: +55 92 99182-0272

**Aldeia Sahuapé, na Vila de Ariaú, Iranduba (AM)**

75 people from Sateré-Mawé ethnic group

Contact: Ismael da Silva Freitas (Sahu) +55 92 8465-8951

**Associação EtnoAmbiental Beija-Flor, Rio Preto da Eva (AM)**

640 people from seven ethnic groups: Sateré-Mawé, Tukano, Dessana, Tuyuka, Munduruku, Mura e Arara.

Contact: Fausto de Andrade Costa Filho +55 92 9361-3029

**Conselho Indígena de Roraima (CIR)**

Provides support to 242 indigenous communities from 32 territories, among them Raposa do Sol Indigenous Land. The ethnic groups are Macuxi, Taurepang, Wapichana, Taurepang, Wai Wai, Ingarikó, Patamona, Sapará and Yekuana. They need food, soap, hand sanitizer and personal hygiene materials. Contact: Enock Taurepang + 55 95 98803 1331.

**Centro Huwã Karu Yuxibu, Rio Branco (AC)**

Contact: + 55 68 99212-0961.

Cacique Bismani: + 55 68 99600 3287

Mirna Rosário +55 68 99935-5541

**Wauru ethnic group, from Xingu**

Associação Indígena Tulukai

Contact: Yanahim Matala Waura +55 66 99682-2137 / 99917-7419

**Instituto Tenho um Pé na África/Associação das Crioulas de São Benedito**

Contacts: Otto Franco Pereira + 55 99153 5579