

RAINFOREST AGRIBUSINESS, FRONTLINE COMMUNITIES, AND THE BIOFUELS BOOM: Testimonies from the Global South

Rainforest Action Network (RAN) is hosting a delegation of Indigenous and community leaders and small farmers from Brazil, Paraguay and Papua New Guinea to highlight stories of communities living on the frontline of the newest threat to the world's tropical forests -- soy and palm oil plantations. U.S. agribusiness giants, **ADM, Bunge, and Cargill**, are driving the expansion of these massive monocrop plantations into some of the world's last remaining rainforests, forcing communities off their lands, and intensifying climate change by clearing and burning rainforests. One of the greatest drivers for agribusiness expansion, also known as *agrisprawl*, is the global biofuels boom. RAN's Rainforest Agribusiness Campaign is working to defend forests, family farmers and our climate from this destruction. Join us in a city near you to hear directly from people living on the frontline and to find out how to join our campaign to stop global agrisprawl.

WASHINGTON D.C.: SATURDAY, NOV. 3RD

11:00 - 12:15 P.M.

1:30 - 2:45 P.M.

Panels at Power Shift conference
University of Maryland, College Park
Marriot-Chasen

Invited Speakers include:

Hiparidi Toptiro, Indigenous leader and President of the Mobilization of Indigenous People of the Cerrado (MOPIC) in Brazil. Mr. Toptiro is actively involved with MOPIC in exposing the impacts of massive soy plantations, such as those associated with ADM, Bunge and Cargill, on Indigenous communities and the environment of the *Cerrado*, the world's largest tropical savannah.

Francisco Avalos, *Campesino* leader from the department of San Pedro in Paraguay. In the 1970's he was part of a community settlement which was brutally repressed and evicted--he was only 14 years old. He has now returned to occupy and win legal title to this land. He is a major symbol of the struggle of the landless people in the department of San Pedro--an area increasingly surrounded by soy plantations that produce for ADM and Cargill.

Lynette Hambuga, Small farmer from Oro Province, in Papua New Guinea. She has been active in the struggle against the expansion of oil palm plantations, particularly those of Cargill. She actively travels throughout her home province teaching women about the problems associated with oil palm, and warning them against growing the crop.

George Laume, Oil palm campaigner for the Center for Environmental Law and Community Rights (CELCOR) based in Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea. He has traveled throughout PNG to help a wide variety of local communities engage in legal battles against palm oil.

For more information on these events, please contact Andrea Samulon, at
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