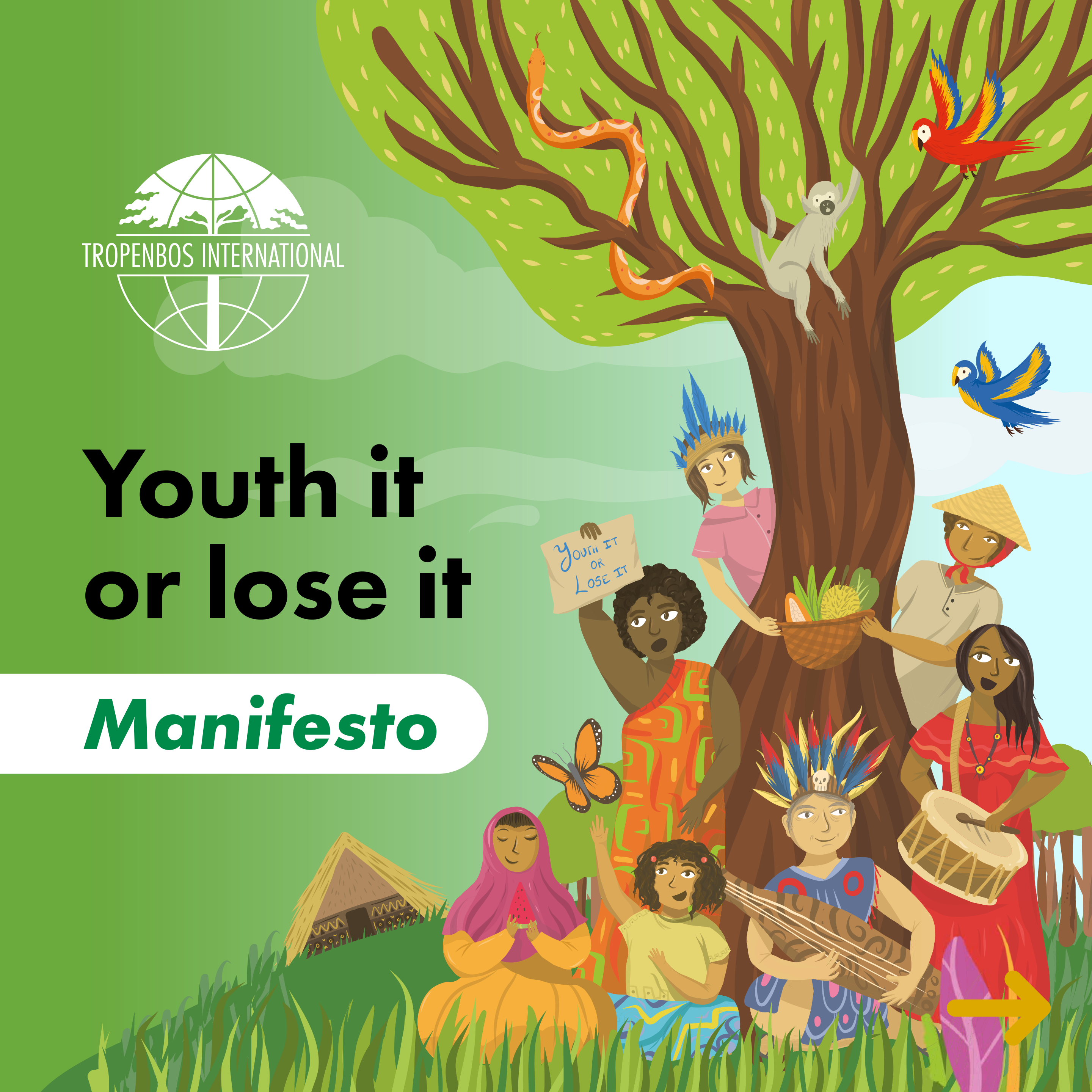




# Youth it or lose it

## *Manifesto*



We are a group of **young people** working together.

We are Indigenous and Afro-descendant **people whose home is the Amazon forest of Bolivia, Suriname, and Colombia.**

We are Koreguaje, Muruy, Tanimuca, Saamaka, Yukuna, Huitoto, Monkoxi and Guarayos.

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**Our elders and ancestors have protected more than 10 million hectares of forest.**

Now, it is our moment to protect it because **our home is threatened by extractivism, corruption, deforestation, and wildfires.**

The youth that today gathers feel the urgency to take an active part

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in protecting the Amazon because, in that way, **we are protecting our lives and our mother nature, and we honor the fight of our ancestors.**

**Since 2022, we are walking a path together.** We are weaving a basket of experiences, knowledge, strengths, needs, concerns, and solutions.

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We have called that process of weaving: ***Tejiendo Katumare***.

**United as Youth it or lose it, we prepared this manifesto:**



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- 1.** Protect our home and **guarantee the life of Indigenous and Tribal people** from the Amazon.
- 2.** Respect our **autonomy and livelihoods**.
- 3.** Ensure **land rights for unrecognized territories** are immediately upheld, particularly for the Saamaka people.

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**4. Support our local educative initiatives, our own solutions, and our ideas for projects that seek to invigorate our traditional economies.**

**5. Empower the youth to be part of the change.** Recognize that we have the power to change things, and support us. The path is not easy.

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We want to close with this message:



**The youth is the strength of the elders, and elders are the spiritual strength of the youth.**

**We raise our voices together, because our lives matter... without the Amazon there is no life.**



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See more about the   
**Youth it or lose it programme:**

