THIRD ISSUE

OCTOBER 2026

FOREST NEWS · NOTÍCIAS DA FLORESTA

BÀNHO PIOK

The Kayapo Project — including **Biome Conservation**, **Associação Floresta Protegida**, **Instituto Kabu**, and **Instituto Raoni** — present the October 2026 edition

Thank you for reading this issue of Bánho Piok Forest News. In this edition, we highlight the various local, regional, and global strategies deployed by the Kayapo organizations to ensure political and territorial autonomy. This issue focuses on protests of the soy highway, women's leadership, the increasing threat of fire, and expanding the Kayapo Project's global network.

COVER STORY · TERRITORIAL RIGHTS

Kayapó and Panará Mobilize on BR-163 to Demand Compensation for the Highway's Impacts



Kayapó and Panará leaders gather on the BR-163 — the "soy highway" — in Novo Progresso, Pará, on September 25, 2026.

On September 25th, 2026, a protest in Novo Progresso (Pará) brought together three Indigenous organizations to demand action from Via Brasil and the completion of the definitive Indigenous Component Basic Environmental Plan (PBA-CI) for the impacts of the BR-163 highway, also known as the 'soy highway.'

Leaders from the Kayapó and Panará peoples — represented by the Kabu Institute, the Iakiô Association, and the Mantinó Indigenous Association — held a protest on Friday, September 25th along the BR-163 highway in Novo Progresso, Pará.

The peaceful demonstration demanded that Via Brasil BR-163 immediately renew the emergency measures designed to mitigate the highway's impact on Indigenous territories. Read more about the protest ›

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP

Instituto Kabu and Instituto Raoni Bring Together More Than 300 Indigenous Women



Women's assemblies met to discuss territories, participation, and collective priorities.

INSTITUTO KABU

The Rikaro Department

The gathering of Mekragnoti and Panará women from the Rikaro Department took place on September 10 and 11 at Baú village, within the Baú Indigenous Territory in Pará. These were days of vital conversation, learning, and exchange among the more than 150 female representatives present, all of whom are taking a renewed sense of unity back to their villages to continue their projects and struggles.

The event included representatives from the neighboring Parana Iakio Association, a representative from the Associação Floresta Protegida's Menire Ty Department, the Association Terra Indígena Xingu, the Instituto Socioambiental, and participation from PrevFogo/IBAMA fire brigade members.

The event was also joined by leaders from the Federation of Indigenous Peoples from the state of Pará (FEPIPA) and the National Articulation of Indigenous Women Ancestral Warriors (ANMIGA), who helped connect the Rikaro Department to the regional and national landscape of Indigenous women's organizations.

INSTITUTO RAONI

The Ropni Department

From September 22 to 25, 2026, more than 150 women from the Mẽbêngôkre, Tapayuna, Trumai, Yudja, and Panará peoples gathered at Piaraçú Village, within the Capoto/Jarinã Indigenous Territory, for the 3rd Assembly of ROPNI — the Women's Department of the Raoni Institute. Over four days, women from diverse villages, generations, and territories engaged in an extensive process of listening, assessment, and collective planning.

Alongside teams from ROPNI and the Raoni Institute, they discussed challenges facing their communities, threats to their territories, participation in consultation and decision-making, territorial management, public policies, and income-generation alternatives compatible with environmental protection and Indigenous ways of life. Partners included Conservation International, the Federation of Indigenous Peoples and Organizations of Mato Grosso, the Special Indigenous Sanitary District (DSEI), and the Prevfogo Indigenous Firefighting Brigade.

At the close, participants approved a document consolidating the key reflections, demands, and commitments of the four days. Strengthening Indigenous women means strengthening their territories. See more about the meetings ›

FIRE & CLIMATE

Fire Workshops: Preparing Kayapo Brigades for a Resilient Future



Indigenous fire brigade members train with IBAMA and PrevFogo.

The southern Amazon of Pará and Mato Grosso is marked by an extreme dry season that typically begins in May and ends in October. Changes to the climate, coupled with human-driven deforestation, have led to an increase in the incidence and severity of forest fires in the region.

To address these emergent concerns, the Kayapo, in association with partners like Re:wild and the Bezos Earth Fund, have organized workshops and training sessions across the territory with Brazil's environmental agency (IBAMA) and PrevFogo to train and prepare Indigenous Fire Brigades to prevent and control fire outbreaks.

Training includes best practices for traditional swidden agriculture and capacity-building exercises to support Kayapo fire brigades across the block of territories. Read about it here ›

GLOBAL NETWORK

The Kayapo Project at NY Climate Week



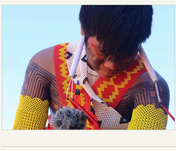
The AFP and Biome Conservation team in New York.

From September 20–24, Patkore Kayapo, Thiago Schinaider, and Matthew Aruch from the Associação Floresta Protegida and Biome Conservation met with global leaders to discuss and promote Indigenous-led conservation as climate action.

During an action-packed four days of events, meetings, and dialogue, the team met with colleagues from Nia Tero, the Bezos Earth Fund, Health in Harmony, the Open Society Foundations, and others to explore synergies and opportunities for collaboration with the Kayapo and their allies.

Read about the Kayapo Project at NY Climate Week ›

ON THE FIELD

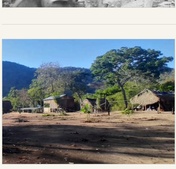


MEDIA MAKER & COMMUNICATOR

Karazim Kayapo

Karazim Kayapo is a young photographer from the Ngomejti village in the Kayapo Indigenous Territories. He discovered his passion for photography through YouTube tutorials and a love for capturing the life and traditions of the Kayapo people.

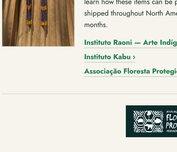
> *"I began by following our traditional Kayapo festivals. Photography allowed me to capture the life, colors, and stories of our people, the Mebengokre, and share them with others."*



CAUGHT ON CAMERA

White-Throated Capuchin "Kukoj"

This capuchin monkey (*Cebus capucinus*, *kukoj*) has his mouth and hands full of Brazil nuts — a staple in Kayapo diets and now in their commercial economy. Kayapo stories say the monkeys taught them how to open the hard-shelled nuts by banging them on rocks until they opened. Only three mammals — capuchin monkeys, agoutis (*kuke*), and humans — can crack the hard outer shell of Brazil nuts, all three contributing to seed dispersal!



GUARD POST FEATURE

Rio Vermelho

The Rio Vermelho guard post sits at the highly contested eastern edge of the Kayapo Indigenous Territories, acting as a buffer between Kayapo communities aligned with the Kayapo Project alliance and other communities involved in illicit, extractive regional economies. Supplying the post takes a three-day boat trip to transport bulk supplies for six months, and each guard team rotation requires a 30 km overnight hike through forest and across savanna-cerrado. Read about the Kayapo Guard Post Program ›

SPOTLIGHT

Browse Kayapo Crafts and Online Stores



Kayapo artisans are responsible for world-renowned crafts including beaded jewelry, hand-painted textiles, and other pieces made from wood, gourds, palm, and other forest materials. Stay connected to learn how these items can be purchased and shipped throughout North America in the coming months.

Instituto Raoni — Arte Indígena ›

Instituto Kabu ›

Associação Floresta Protegida ›

GET INVOLVED

DONATE

Or share our newsletter link and email communications@kayapo.org.

Learn more: **kayapo.org**