

# A terrible threat is hanging over Ecuador's Yasuni National Park

by YasunÃ- depends on you!  
Monday, 25 January 2010

Friends:

For almost three years we have kept alive the proposal to keep the oil underground in the ITT block of Yasuni National Park in Ecuador.

International support has been impressive. However, we are now in a high-risk stage.

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The initiative to keep the oil underground needed a trust-fund as a tool to, amongst other things:

Â Â Â 1. Guarantee the use of the money according to environmental principles

Â Â Â 2. Guarantee that future governments donâ€™tÂ exploit these fields

Â Â Â 3. Keep the proposal outside the carbon trade mechanisms

Now the government is threatening to begin the oil exploitation of the ITT block in June, despite of violating more than 20 articles of the Ecuadorian Constitution, among them:

Â Â Â Article 407 which prohibits oil related activities in protected areas

Â Â Â Article 57 which protects indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation

Â Â Â Article 414 which imposes the obligation to promote protection measures to face climate change

Also, local organisations and communities have opposed these oil operations.

Finally, the international and national community backs this initiative of non-exploitation of the oil in YasunÃ- and there have been many offers of economic contributions by governments, institutions and persons.

If this initiative fails it is not because of lack of support, it will be because of the lack of political willingness of the Ecuadorian government. As a proof of that, since many months the Ecuadorian government has been promoting the oil exploitation in the ITT block and has been preparing the legal instruments for the international bidding for this block. They have maintained and promoted oil activities in other parts of the YasunÃ- national park.

What can we do now? What do we have to do now?

Prevent the exploitation of Yasuni with our own efforts.

YasunÃ- must live, it is our paradise!!

If you want to express your opinion here you will find some useful e-mail addresses to which you can write

(please donâ€™t forget to send us a copy to [info@amazoniaporlvida.org](mailto:info@amazoniaporlvida.org) so we can also deliver a hard copy of your letter to the presidents office)

Presidency of Ecuador

Rafael Correa

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Constitutional Tribunal

Patricio PazmiÃ±o

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National Assembly

Fernando Cordero

President of the Assembly

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National Assembly

Biodiversity and Natural Resources Commission

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Sign the petition to incorporate Bloc 31 in the proposal to keep oil underground.

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<http://www.sosyasuni.org/>