

A photograph of a lush rainforest landscape at sunrise. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow that filters through the dense canopy of trees. The foreground is filled with dark, silhouetted foliage, while the background shows misty, rolling hills and more forest layers.

# Rainforest Partnership

**Linking People to People for a Sustainable Future**

[RainforestPartnership.org](http://RainforestPartnership.org)

In celebration of our efforts, the City of Austin proclaimed the week of November 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 2009, Rainforest Partnership Week.

Rainforest Partnership, launched in 2007 and located in Austin, is the only Texas-based nonprofit focused on reducing tropical deforestation and raising awareness of its effects on global climate change.

Our team partners with Latin American rainforest communities to develop and implement sustainable means of earning an income. When trees are more valuable standing, rainforest lands are preserved.

During the Global Climate Conference in Copenhagen in December 2009, we met with climate change experts and rainforest preservation organizations from around the world. **The resounding consensus?** Global acknowledgement of the importance of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD). Rainforest Partnership's approach, based on community level focus and cross-national partnerships, is an essential part of a comprehensive solution to solve this critical issue.



With your help, we can ensure long-term ecological and economic sustainability for our rainforest partner communities and better the lives of people here, in Austin, and around the globe!

# Chipaota, Peru

In 2009, with donations from Rainforest Partnership supporters, we successfully partnered with the community of Chipaota in the Peruvian Amazon .

Together, we conserved 9,000 acres by creating a management plan to sustainably harvest the principal economic asset of the community — fiber of the Piassaba Palm growing in their forest. To ensure long-term sustainability, we established a community-run business comprised of 84 community members to harvest and market this palm fiber in new ways.

We now work with a group of 15 women artisans from the community to produce traditional handicrafts and utensils from seeds, fibers and vines from this land. Rainforest Partnership provides local workshops on the production and marketing of these goods and is currently evaluating opportunities to bring these products to the international market.



The Prince of Wales' Rainforest Project recognized our work in Chipaota as a global example of a sustainable development model that works!



# Sani Isla, Ecuador

In traditional societies of the Amazon Basin, women are excluded from most income-producing activities. However, after much deliberation the indigenous community of Sani Isla proposed an idea that featured a traditional woman's job — Kichwa arts and crafts.

Rainforest Partnership is partnering with the Ecuadorian nonprofit *Conservación y Desarrollo* to provide education and training and build an “art studio” that provides women with a place to work together, exchange ideas and experiences, and sell their products to visitors from the community's nearby ecolodge and other markets. These crafts use natural forest materials such as seeds and fibers, which can be grown between rows of cacao on pre-cultivated land. **This allows the community to harvest multiple crops from the pre-cultivated area, prevent further deforestation, and improve their quality of life.**





New Year.  
New Projects.  
New Opportunities  
for Success...

## Pampa Hermosa, Peru

The Pampa Hermosa community in central Peru recently prohibited the collection of butterflies and orchids, hunting of birds and bears, extraction of wood, and cutting and burning of forests for pasture. The decision to conserve their cloudforest and its treasures gives them the opportunity to be a significant "ecotravel" destination and offer tourists accessible waterfalls and a diversity of wildlife unique to this region.

To help the community of Pampa Hermosa maximize their potential, **Rainforest Partnership** provides training and tools to construct sustainable infrastructure that will help support the influx of tourists, build the economy, and protect greater amounts of forest land.



Rainforest communities have limited income options.

They turn to deforestation when they believe they have no alternative.



# deforestation

Deforestation accounts for about **20%** of annual carbon dioxide emissions worldwide.

This is more than all the world's cars, trucks, trains, boats, and planes combined.

**When trees are more valuable standing, rainforest lands are preserved.**



There is a dire need for more projects like ours, community projects that protect the earth, cultivate life, and address climate change.



# We need your help.

Any amount of money, time, or services makes a difference.





## BECOME A RAINFOREST GUARDIAN!

A gift of \$250 or more will make you a Rainforest Guardian – a special community of people who have made a significant commitment to advance our work. The generosity of Rainforest Guardians provides us with the core financial support we need to fulfill our mission.

### **\$250 Ishpingo**

(ISH-PEEN-GO)

*Ishpingo Guardians receive:*

- Free admission to a premium or gala Rainforest Partnership event
- Recognition of your commitment in our publications and on our website

### **\$500 Piassaba**

(pee-ah-SAH-bah)

Your gift of \$500 will fund our project coordinator in Sani Isla, Ecuador, for one month.

*Piassaba Guardians receive:*

- Free admission for two to a premium or gala Rainforest Partnership event
- Recognition of your commitment in our publications and on our website



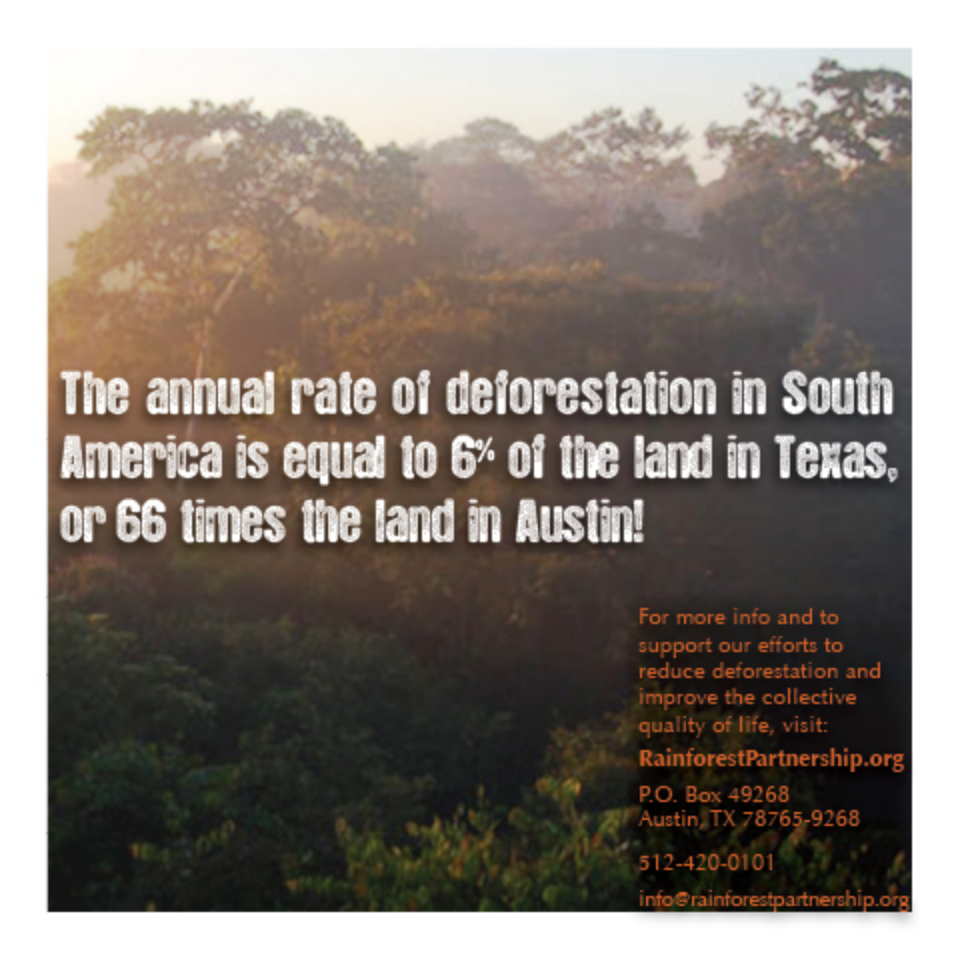
Rainforest Partnership works because of the generosity of its many supporters and partners. Our organizational model and high in-kind support allows us to dedicate over

**90%**

of your tax-deductible donation to fund projects that benefit us all.

Learn more about ongoing, higher level, and corporate sponsorship opportunities: Visit us online at [RainforestPartnership.org](http://RainforestPartnership.org), or call us 512-420-0101. Thank you for your support!





**The annual rate of deforestation in South America is equal to 6% of the land in Texas, or 66 times the land in Austin!**

For more info and to support our efforts to reduce deforestation and improve the collective quality of life, visit:

**[RainforestPartnership.org](http://RainforestPartnership.org)**

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