

La Cabaña - Resistance for a Territory

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Indigenous AWA have been victims of armed conflict in Colombia. As the conflict escalated, they found new land to live on, far away from Nariño, their ancestral territory. Puerto Asis (Putumayo) was the place where they could find some rural lands to live on and continue their ancestral way of life. On the other hand, Putumayo is one of the areas in Colombia with a significant presence of the oil industry, covering at least 167,000 hectares of indigenous lands that are under analysis by the Land Agency to become indigenous reserves, with La Cabaña being one of them. In 2009, the oil industry began exploration and exploitation activities in the Quinde, Cohembi, and Quillacinga projects. Up to now, these projects have experienced at least 18 incidents that have contaminated the soil and water, including the lands of La Cabaña. This story tells of how this community defended their territory and resisted not only violence but also the pressure from the oil industry