

# TAKING CARE OF LIFE, PRESERVING THE FOREST



INDIGENOUS  
HEALTH  
UPGRADING  
PROGRAM



EDS



# PROVIDING DIGNITY AND HEALTHCARE TO INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES SINCE 2003



## WHO ARE WE

- ▶ Expedicionários da Saúde (EDS) is a Brazilian nonprofit health organization established in 2003 by a group of **volunteer doctors**.
- ▶ With over two decades of experience, we have acquired the necessary expertise to provide **free access to surgical healthcare for indigenous people** residing in geographically isolated areas of the **Amazon Forest**.
- ▶ To date, EDS has conducted 54 Humanitarian Expeditions across the Amazonian Forest, performing nearly **10,000 SURGERIES, 71,000 CONSULTATIONS, 128,000 MEDICAL EXAMS AND PROCEDURES, AND DONATED 6,900 EYEGLASSES.**

## OUR DIFFERENTIAL

- ▶ We have designed a **Mobile Hospital Model**, a modern and adaptable structure developed by **volunteer engineers** equipped to withstand the challenging conditions of the Amazon Forest.
- ▶ It comprises portable tents that accommodate five surgical rooms, clinical spaces, examination rooms, and outpatient facilities. These tents can be transported and assembled in numerous locations within the Amazon, whether by river, air, or land.
- ▶ These facilities are equipped with modern and safe equipment, **meeting the same high standards** available in major **Brazilian hospitals**.

## HOW DO WE OPERATE

- ▶ Our operations are sustained through **donations** from the private sector, individuals, and international foundations. We undergo annual audits conducted by **EY (Ernst & Young)**.
- ▶ Our extraordinary **volunteer health team**, composed of approximately 300 members, including doctors, registered nurses, and a dedicated technical crew responsible for logistics and support.
- ▶ We maintain a close relationship with **indigenous organizations**, receiving their strong institutional backing. Additionally, we are endorsed by the Ministries of Health and Indigenous Peoples.



# WHY SHOULD YOU DONATE



Caring for the health of indigenous people living in geographically isolated areas of the Amazon is essential for the survival of the planet.

## GLOBAL CLIMATE IMPACT

The Amazon Biome plays a crucial role in global climate regulation. With **115.8 million hectares** of indigenous lands in Brazil, representing 23% of the Amazonian territory, the **guardians of the forest** play a vital role in its protection, directly contributing to the **preservation** of this critical ecosystem. The Amazon Rainforest acts as a natural water pump, absorbing, storing, and releasing water through plant transpiration. This process helps regulate regional and distant rainfall patterns across the globe.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The **demarcation** of indigenous territories has proven to be one of the most effective strategies for forest preservation. Analysis of deforestation trends reveals that forest loss is much higher in the areas surrounding **indigenous lands** as compared to the areas inside them (ISA, 2023). Indigenous lands alone are responsible for **safeguarding 20.3% of the forests** in Brazil, and the Amazon region holds 98% of these territories. Notably, the highest forest coverage preservation has been observed in the indigenous territories, with a minimal 1.2% loss of forest coverage until 2022 (ISA, 2023).

## CARBON STORAGE

According to data from the national census from IBGE (2022), there are **1,693,535 indigenous people in Brazil**, with **867,100** of them residing in the Brazilian Legal Amazon region. An estimated **12.9 billion tons** of carbon are stored within the 115.8 million hectares of indigenous territories in the Amazon (Saatchi, 2007). In other words, it's possible to assert that, on average, each individual contributes to the **protection of 14,877 tons of carbon** in the soil, thus making a substantial contribution to global climate change mitigation.

Climate change affects the health of people worldwide, whether through resource scarcity, the increase in climate-related diseases, or natural disasters. Therefore, donating to this cause is a significant action, not only for the preservation of the Amazon Forest but also for the well-being of indigenous communities that safeguard this treasured land. Believe it or not, global health is intricately linked to taking care of indigenous peoples.







# INDIGENOUS HEALTH UPDGRADING PROGRAM

The **Indigenous Health Upgrading Program (IHUP)** attempts to benefit the **indigenous communities** distributed along five Special Indigenous Sanitary Districts (DISEI): 1) Alto Rio Negro; 2) Alto Rio Solimões; 3) Leste de Roraima; 4) Vale do Javari; and 5) Yanomami.





According to SISAI - Sanitation Information System in Indigenous Areas (2023), the five DSEI account for a population of 194,397 people, covering an area of 481,068 km<sup>2</sup> spread across the borders of Brazil with Guyana, Venezuela, Colombia, and Peru, as portrayed in the table below:

Special Indigenous Sanitary District (DSEI)	Community Base Hubs	Villages	Ethnic Groups	Population	Area (in km <sup>2</sup> )
ALTO RIO NEGRO	25	677	48	27,532	137,242.17
ALTO RIO SOLIMÕES	12	220	34	71,943	78,802.66
LESTE DE RORAIMA	34	337	30	57,590	69,179.96
VALE DO JAVARI	7	66	10	6,412	90,317.76
YANOMAMI	37	378	14	30,920	105,525.29
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>194,397</b>	<b>481,068</b>

Straightening EDS efforts in the 5,342.70 km<sup>2</sup> of Brazilian borders is a strategic approach to consolidate alliances with the Ministry of Health from the neighboring countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), uniting forces to promote access to essential healthcare services for indigenous peoples and reducing deforestation of the Amazon rainforest.

To provide essential healthcare services in each DSEI, it's required to upgrade the public health infrastructure to ensure dignity and respect for the local health agents that are taking care of the **guardians of the forest**. This encompasses the implantation of water treatment and purification systems; waste management; installation of solar energy supply and reliable communication systems, such as Starlink satellite internet, satellite phones, and high-frequency radios.

The long-term impact of the Indigenous **Health Upgrading Program (IHUP)** program is to ensure the continuous maintenance of public health facilities, as well as providing capacity building with local health agents to support the Secretary of Indigenous Health (SESAI).

## OUR TEAM

1 Project Manager, 1 Operations Specialist,  
1 Master Builder, 6 Construction Assistants,  
1 Engineer, 2 Cooks and 1 Janitor

# BUDGET TO FUND THIS EXPEDITION

**US\$ 306,188.95**  
(1 Community Based Hub)

**US\$ 612,377.70**  
(2 Community Based Hubs)

**US\$ 918,566.54**  
(3 Community Based Hubs)

Expense Item	Unitary Value (US\$)	Quantity	Observation	Total (US\$)	%
Hiring 1 Project Manager for 3 months	2,970.30	3	Daily pay of R\$ 500 for 30 days/per month total of 3 months	8,910.89	1%
Hiring 1 Master of Construction	1,782.18	3	Daily pay of R\$ 300 for 30 days/per month total of 3 months	5,346.53	0%
Hiring 1 Engineer	2,376.24	3	Daily pay of R\$ 400 for 30 days/per month total of 3 months	7,128.71	1%
Hiring 6 local construction assistants	5,346.53	3	Daily pay of R\$ 900 for 30 days/per month total of 3 months	16,039.60	1%
Travel Expense Operational staff - Food for 12 people	5,702.97	3	Daily pay of R\$ 960 for 30 days/per month total of 3 months	17,108.91	1%
Travel Expense Operational staff - Lodging for 10 people	1,485.15	3	Daily pay of R\$ 1500 for 5 days/per month total of 3 months	4,455.45	0%
Travel Expense Operational staff - Air ticket for 5 people	7,920.79	4	Each airline ticket R\$ 8000 / for 5 people total of 4 round trip tickets	31,683.17	2%
Exploratory/site visit from EDS Coordinators - Food and Lodging 4 people	237.62	5	Daily pay of R\$ 300 for 4 people during 5 days	1,188.12	0%
Delivery/site visit from EDS Coordinators - Food and Lodging 4 people	237.62	5	Daily pay of R\$ 300 for 4 people during 5 days	1,188.12	0%
Visits from EDS Coordinators - Airtickets for 4 people	6,336.63	2	Each airline ticket R\$ 8000 / for 4 people total of 2 round trip tickets	12,673.27	1%
Visits from EDS Coordinators - Land or river transport 4 people	1,980.20	2	R\$ 10,000 of boat renting / total of 2 trips	3,960.40	0%
Construction materials	79,207.92	1	Hydraulic network, electrical network, solar panel, biodigester, roof replacement	79,207.92	6%
Cargo transportation for revitalizing local infrastructure	39,603.96	1	Cargo transportation fee	39,603.96	3%
Buying and donation of equipment for the Health Hubs	29,465.35	1	35 items of equipment	29,465.35	2%
EDS technical team cost (8 people team)	1,699.43	12	EDS technical team allocated in the project	20,393.10	1%
<b>Subtotal (US\$)</b>				<b>278,353.50</b>	
<b>Reserve Fund (10%)</b>				<b>27,835.35</b>	
<b>Total Cost (US\$)</b>				<b>306,188.85</b>	

