

To request interviews or attend the embargoed press briefing, please contact:
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****MEDIA ADVISORY****

VIRTUAL PRESS BRIEFING ON WEDNESDAY, 5 APRIL 2023

**SCIENTISTS TO PRESENT PEER-REVIEWED FINDINGS
UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL 11 A.M. NEW YORK// 12 P.M. BRAZIL// 4 P.M. LONDON,
TUESDAY, 6 APRIL**

New peer-reviewed research to quantify “critical impact” of Indigenous-managed forests on disease, healthcare costs linked to release of deadly pollutants during Amazon burning season

Global health expert to join top climate, fire experts at briefing that could add new urgency to President Lula’s promise to protect Indigenous peoples, as UN climate scientists call for action to stop deforestation linked to climate change, pandemic risk

EDITOR’S NOTE: To attend the embargoed press briefing on April 5, and/or to receive embargoed materials, kindly write to Andrea Rizkallah, mediarequests@burness.com, committing to respect the embargo set by the Nature journal group. **It will lift at 10 a.m. (London), Thursday, April 6, 2023.**

New research to be published by the Nature Group’s [Communications, Earth & Environment](#), will for the first time quantify how many cases of illness and associated costs are avoided because of the presence of Indigenous forests in the Amazon and their ability to absorb noxious pollutants released by fires that have ravaged the rainforest during the dry season that begins at the end of July.

Exposure to smoke from forest fires has been shown to cause increased respiratory symptoms, heart disease, stroke, emphysema, lung cancer, bronchitis, asthma, chest pain, chronic lung and heart problems, and increases in the risk of death.

The authors of the new report in [Communications, Earth & Environment](#), will argue their findings represent the latest evidence supporting the need to act quickly to protect the Amazon, particularly the carbon-rich and biodiverse forests managed by Indigenous peoples.

Drawing on expertise from the fields of public health, economics and geospatial analysis and remote sensing, the authors of the new study will show that populations across the Amazon, urban and rural, have much to gain from the protective role of Indigenous territories during the fire season.

Researchers and Indigenous leaders from Brazil will participate in the embargoed briefing, providing a full picture of the growing body of evidence supporting the challenging quest of Indigenous peoples in Brazil for recognition of their land rights. Significant obstacles remain, despite [research](#) citing secure tenure for Indigenous peoples as the most cost-effective solution for combating the deforestation

fueling climate change, biodiversity loss and health threats linked to fires and other drivers of environmental destruction.

WHAT & WHEN

- **The findings of new peer-reviewed paper will be presented under embargo at a remote press briefing, held on Wednesday, April 5, at 10 A.M. EDT (11 A.M. in Brazil)**
The report findings are strictly embargoed until Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 5:00 a.m. EDT/6:00 in Brazil/10:00 a.m. London and 11:00 a.m. CET

To RSVP to attend the briefing, or to preview the embargoed report and receive press materials, please confirm your willingness to respect the embargo in an email to Andrea Rizkallah, mediarequests@burness.com.

WHO

- **Researchers and Indigenous leader**
 - [Dr. Paula Prist](#), Senior research scientist, Ecohealth Alliance, and lead author of new study to be published on April 6 in *[Communications, Earth & Environment](#)*.
 - Dr. Carlos Nobre, moderator, is a climate scientist and expert on the growing severity of the [tipping point](#) that is endangering the Amazon, and co-chair of the [Science Panel for the Amazon](#), a bioeconomy initiative that would Dr. Carlos Nobre, moderator, is a climate scientist and expert on the growing severity of the [tipping point](#) that is endangering the Amazon, and co-chair of the [Science Panel for the Amazon](#), a bioeconomy initiative that seeks to partner with Indigenous peoples.
 - [Dinamam Tuxã](#), PhD, Indigenous Tuxã activist, legal advisor and executive coordinator of the Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil ([APIB](#)), an umbrella group representing the country's Indigenous peoples organizations.(TBC)
 - [Toya Manchinjeri](#), coordinator, COIAB (**Coordination of the Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon.**)
 - [Dr. Marcia Macedo](#), an ecosystem ecologist and water program director and associate scientist with the *Woodwell* Climate Research Center.
 - [Dr. Patricia Pinho](#), deputy science director at the Brazilian Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amazônia (Institute for Amazonian Environmental Research – [IPAM](#)) and a leading expert on climate change, impacts, adaptation and vulnerability as member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change ([IPCC](#)).

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