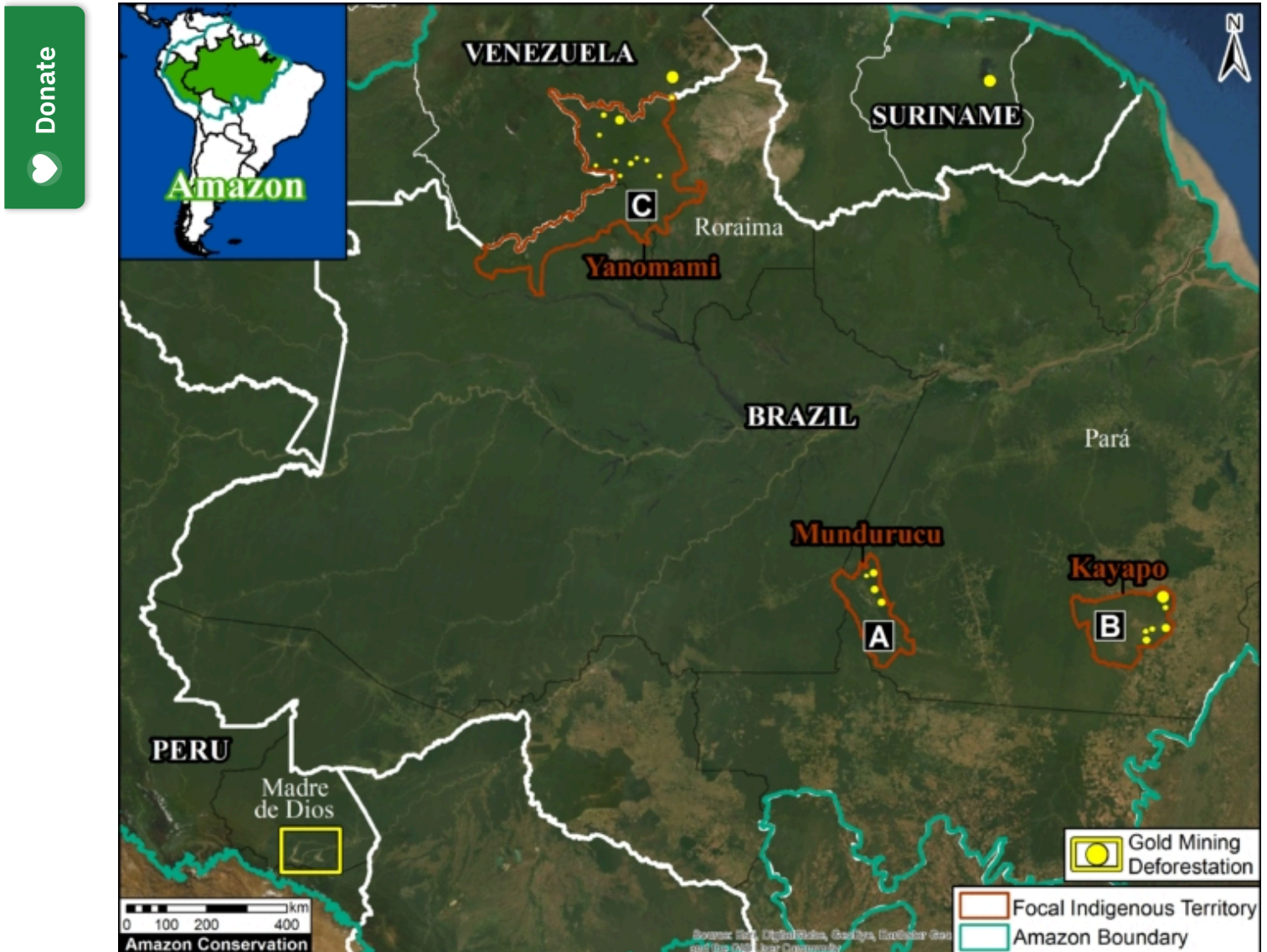


MAAP #116: Amazon Gold Mining, Part 2: Brazil

April 6, 2020



(<https://www.maaprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/maaproject.org-maap-116-amazon-gold-mining-part-2-brazil-Basemap-BrazilAmz-Mining2017-2019-Eng-300dpi-v4-scaled.jpg>)

Base Map. Major gold mining deforestation zones across the Amazon. Data: MAAP.

We present the second part of our series on **Amazon gold mining**, with a focus on the **Brazil***
Specifically, we focus on mining in **indigenous territories** in the Brazilian Amazon.

Extractive activities, such as gold mining, are constitutionally not permitted on indigenous lands, but the Bolsonaro administration is advancing a bill (<https://news.mongabay.com/2020/02/bolsonaro-sends-congress-bill-to-open-indigenous-lands-to-mining-fossil-fuels/>) (PL 191) that would reverse this.

The **Base Map** indicates three Brazilian indigenous territories where we identified recent major gold mining deforestation:

- A. **Munduruku (Pará)**
- B. **Kayapó (Pará)**
- C. **Yanomami (Roraima)**

We documented the gold mining deforestation of **10,245 hectares** (25,315 acres) across all three indigenous territories over the past three years (2017 – 2019). That is the equivalent of **14,000 soccer fields**.

Below, see more detailed data, including a series of **satellite GIFs** of the recent gold mining deforestation in each territory.

*Part 1 looked at the **Peruvian Amazon** (see MAAP #115 (https://www.maaprogram.org/2020/mining_frontiers_peru/)). For information on Suriname, see this report from Amazon Conservation Team (<https://www.amazonteam.org/maps/suriname-gold/>). For all other countries see this resource from RAISG (<https://mineria.amazoniasocioambiental.org/>).

Mining Deforestation Increasing

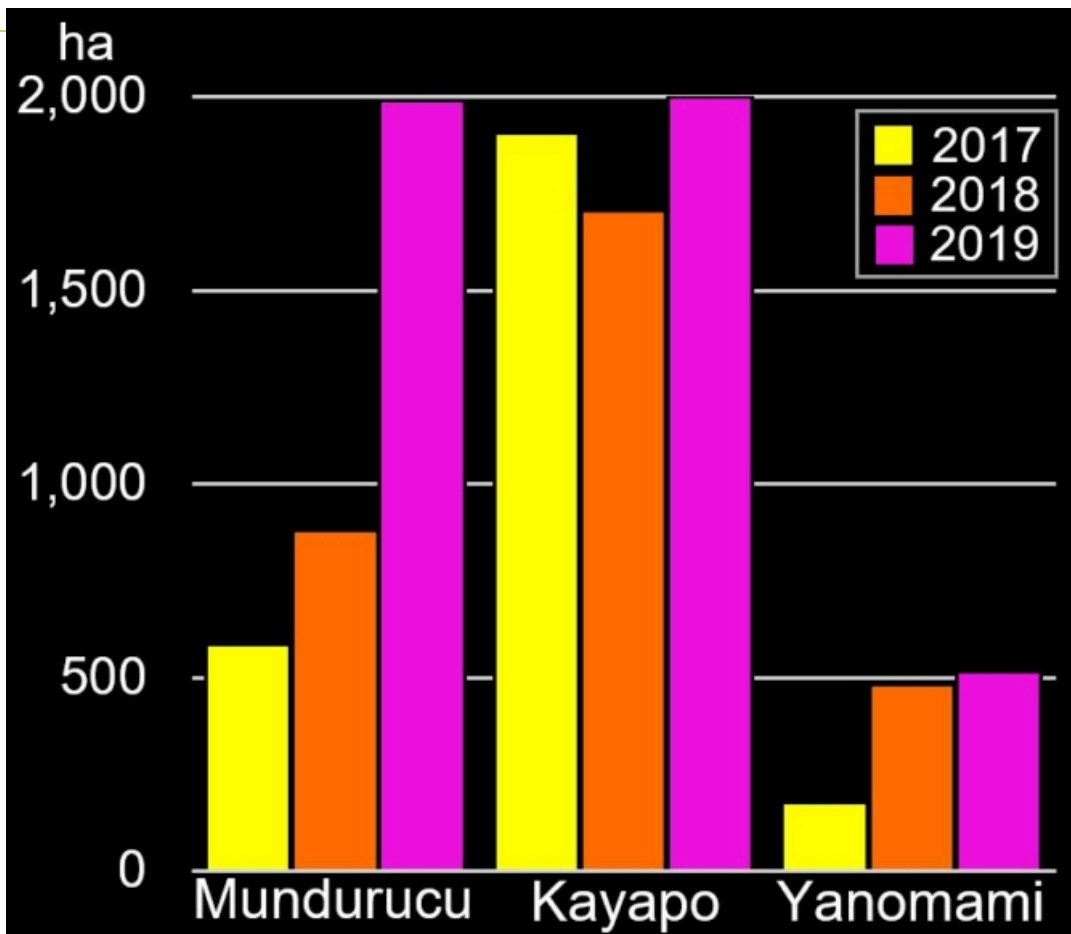
In 2019, all three territories experienced an increase in gold mining deforestation.

In **Munduruku** Territory, we documented the loss of **3,456 hectares** due to mining activity between 2017 and 2019. Note the major spike in 2019, where mining deforestation reached 2,000 hectares.

In **Kayapó** Territory, we documented the loss of **5,614 hectares** between 2017 and 2019. Note that mining deforestation also reached 2,000 hectares in 2019.

In **Yanomami** Territory, we documented the loss of **1,174 hectares** between 2017 and 2019. Note that mining deforestation reached 500 hectares in 2019.

Overall, 44% (4,500 hectares) of the gold mining deforestation occurred in 2019, indicating an increasing trend.



(<https://www.maaprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/maaproject.org-maap-116-amazon-gold-mining-part-2-brazil-Mining-IT-Brazil-2017-2019-v2.jpg>)

Graph 1. Gold mining deforestation in three indigenous territories in the Brazilian Amazon.

A. Munduruku (Pará)

The GIF below shows an example of gold mining deforestation in Munduruku Territory between 2017 and 2019.

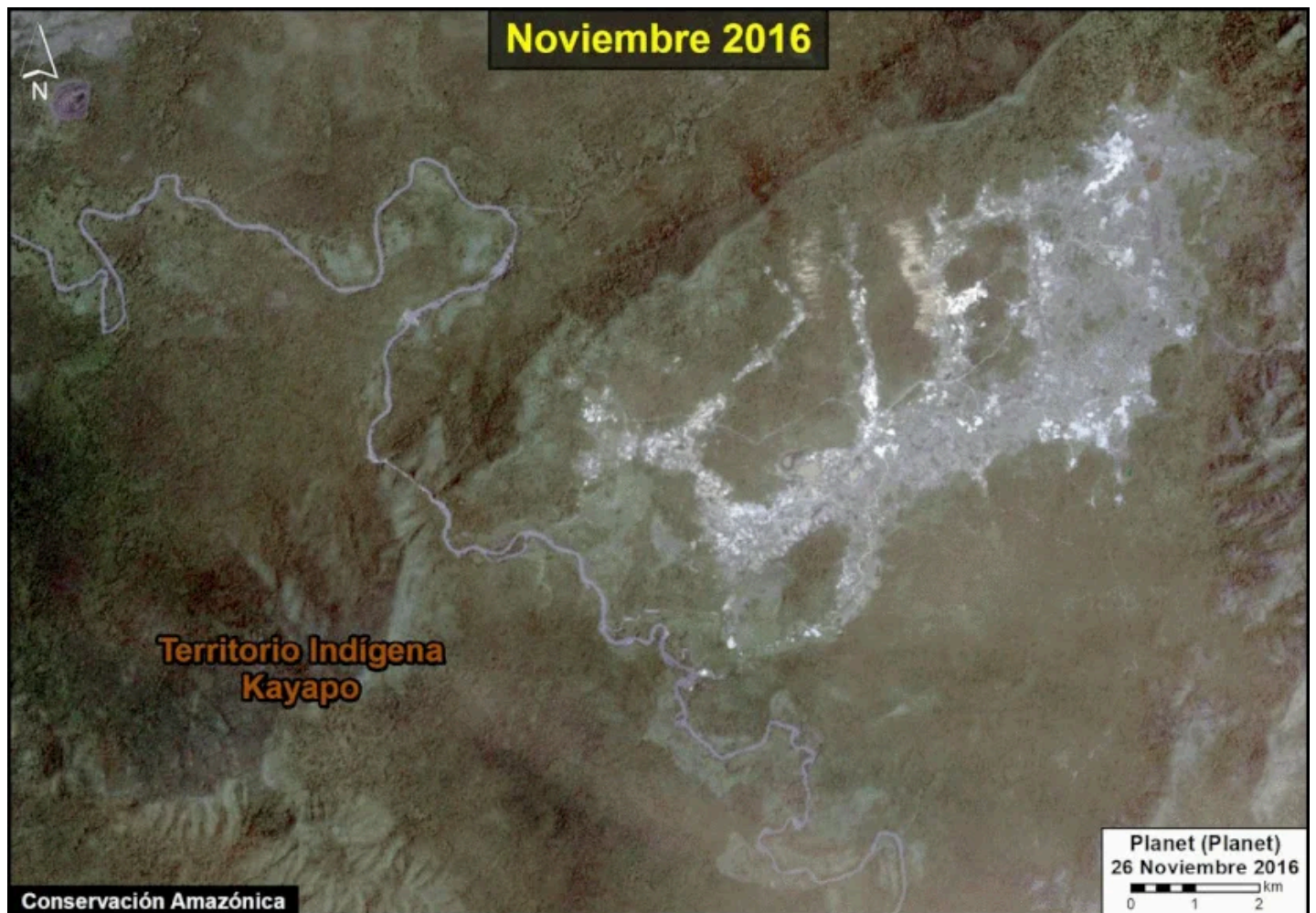


(<https://www.maaprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/maaproject.org-maap-116-amazon-gold-mining-part-2-brazil-ezgif.com-gif-maker-mundu-1.gif>)

Gold mining deforestation in Mundurucu Territory between 2017 and 2019. Data: Planet, MAAP.

B. Kayapó (Pará)

The GIF below shows an example of gold mining deforestation in Kayapó Territory between 2017 and 2019.



(<https://www.maaprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/maaproject.org-maap-116-amazon-gold-mining-part-2-brazil-ezgif.com-gif-maker-kayapo.gif>)

Gold mining deforestation in Kayapó Territory between 2017 and 2019. Data: Planet, MAAP.

C. Yanomami (Roraima)

The GIF below shows an example of gold mining deforestation in Yanomami Territory between 2017 and 2019.



(<https://www.maaprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/maaproject.org-maap-116-amazon-gold-mining-part-2-brazil-ezgif.com-gif-maker-Yanomami.gif>)

Gold mining deforestation in Yanomami Territory between 2017 and 2019. Data: Planet, MAAP.

Annex: Detailed Territory Maps

Below see detailed gold mining deforestation maps for all three Brazilian indigenous territories detailed in this report. Click each image to enlarge.

(<https://www.maaprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/maaproject.org-maap-116-amazon-gold-mining-part-2-brazil-Anexo-A-Munduruku-Mining2017-2019-200dpi-v4.jpg>)

Gold mining deforestation in Munduruku Territory between 2017 and 2019. Data: MAAP. Click to enlarge.

(<https://www.maaprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/maaproject.org-maap-116-amazon-gold-mining-part-2-brazil-Anexo-B-Kayapo-Mining2017-2019-200dpi-v1.jpg>)

Gold mining deforestation in Kayapó Territory between 2017 and 2019. Data: MAAP. Click to enlarge.

(<https://www.maaprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/maaproject.org-maap-116-amazon-gold-mining-part-2-brazil-Anexo-C-Yanomami-Mining2017-2019-200dpi-v1.jpg>)

Gold mining deforestation in Yanomami Territory between 2017 and 2019. Data: MAAP. Click to enlarge.

Acknowledgements

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