

The Colombian Government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) signed a peace agreement on August 24, 2016, yet it failed to be approved by the National Referendum held on October 2, 2016. Despite this setback, the Congress approved a revised accord in November amongst protests from opposing groups. National politics aside, the

to light at the national level two often overlooked issues: *land rights and conservation*. For the Colombian Amazon, a reality with a peace agreement poses both a unique opportunity to resolve deep-rooted inequalities in land distribution and resource use and a challenge to

social isolation.

², of which 45% is Amazon forest, and it is one of the most biodiverse countries in the world. The Colombian Amazon is also renowned for its cultural diversity; it is home to 62 ethnic groups from twelve linguistic families, representing 17% of

of its Afro-Colombian population. The Amazon

mulation by few landholders, and pushing colonists further into the forest. This generated new violence to control land, and made indigenous groups eager to protect their ancestral lands.

In the 1960s, oil was discovered in Putumayo, which attracted more migration to the otherwise was a third wave of migration motivated by drug confrontation over production and distribution.

2000, armed guerrilla groups such as the FARC already deforested lands that were in the hands of *colonos*.

surge of indigenous land recognition and protected area creation in the Colombian Amazon. Currently, two thirds of the land in the Amazon is allocated for conservation and sustainable development, distributed in three large blocks: indigenous territories (53% with 25.6 million hectares), National Park System (almost 20%), tional Constitution recognizes the right to indigenous governance, and indigenous territories or *Resguardos indígenas* are collective lands





