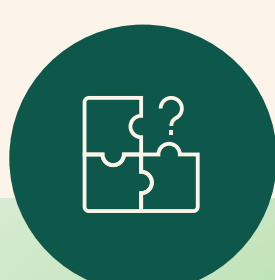




General
Assembly
2025 **Panama**

A Global First: Indigenous Community Achieves FSC Rubber Certification

First Global Rubber Certification
of an Indigenous Community
– Nasa Kiwe, Colombia



Problem

- Indigenous Peoples protect forests, wildlife, and biodiversity, yet face economic challenges.
- Lack of market recognition for sustainably produced Indigenous rubber.
- Global demand for natural rubber often linked to deforestation and biodiversity loss.
- No Indigenous community had previously been FSC-certified for rubber production.



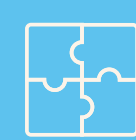
What we did

- Partnered with **ASOHECA** (Asociación de Reforestadores y Cultivadores de Caucho del Caquetá) for group certification in FSC natural rubber.
- Trained community members in sustainable forestry and rubber tapping.
- Certified **85 new smallholders** (10 from Nasa Kiwe).
- Achieved **Chain of Custody** certification for Emprocaucho processing plant to ensure sustainable traceability from forest to product.



Learnings

- Indigenous leadership is key to effective forest conservation.
- Certification can link global markets with local sustainable practices.
- Combining ancestral knowledge with modern sustainability standards delivers stronger conservation outcomes.
- Partnerships among Indigenous communities, producers, and processors are vital for scaling impact.



Solution

- Achieve FSC Forest Management certification for the Nasa Kiwe community's rubber production.
- Integrate ancestral knowledge with sustainable forest management practices.
- Strengthen livelihoods while protecting forests and biodiversity.
- Position Colombia as a leader in Indigenous-led sustainable rubber production.



What we achieved

- First Indigenous community in the world with FSC-certified rubber.
- Colombia entered the **top 10 global producers** of FSC-certified rubber.
- Complete sustainable production system from forest to final product.
- Strengthened protection of biodiversity and community territory.
- Created new income opportunities while preserving cultural heritage.

