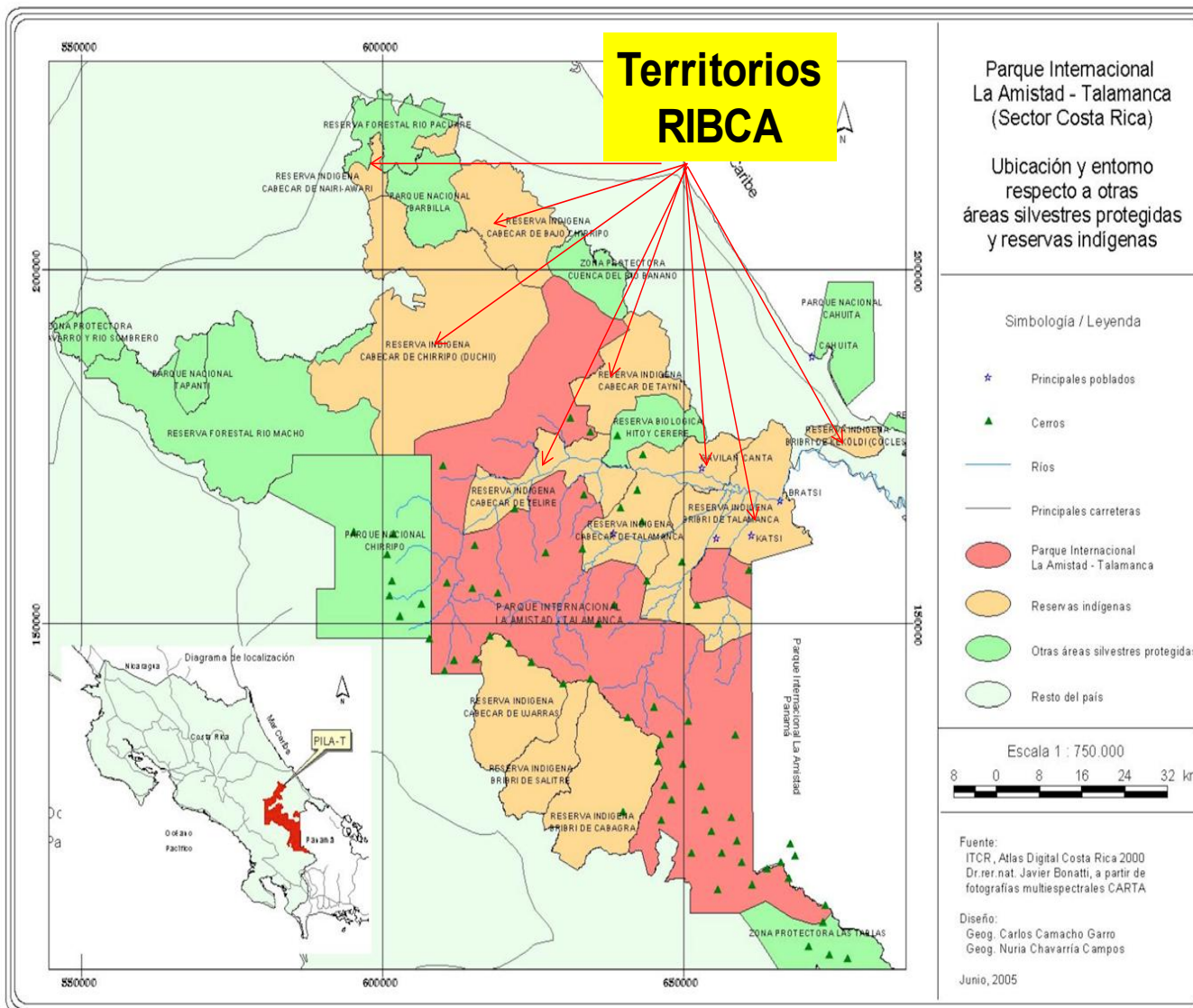


Bribri and Cabecar Indigenous Network (RIBCA)

8 Indigenous Territories in the Costa Rican Caribbean



1. The issue facing Indigenous Peoples

There was no consultation mechanism that allowed State institutions to implement projects and initiatives. Since 1977, when the indigenous law of Costa Rica was promulgated, 41 years passed. Nothing was done to order dialogue and agenda-setting with the indigenous territories.

This led to a lag in the indigenous territories in relation to the rest of the country, which is today the area of greatest poverty in the country.

2. What laws or policies affect this issue

- ✓ **Indigenous law N ° 6172 of November 29, 1977**
- ✓ **ILO Convention 169, ratified by Costa Rica on April 2, 1993**
- ✓ **United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, dated September 13, 2007**

THERE ARE NO REGULATIONS IN THE COUNTRY

3. What is the importance of opening data and citizen participation

- ✓ It allowed us to have information in time to generate our proposals based on government initiatives.
- ✓ The information came to us with less "distortion" of political interests to the Territories.
- ✓ It was easier to build an agenda with the government and monitor its implementation.
- ✓ It allowed for more disclosure of the actions of the leaders, with certainty, to the members of the community .
- ✓ It gave us the opportunity to "educate" officials of institutions about the dialogue, rights and cultural particularities of indigenous people.

4. What is the work of RIBAC

- ✓ Through a unified approach, the Indigenous Territories present joint management and advocacy before the government.
- ✓ We established a mechanism for dialogue and agenda-setting with the government on education, infrastructure, health, etc.
- ✓ We function as a horizontal training element for indigenous leaders, making it easier for young people and women to be included

5. What have been the main results

- ✓ **For the first time after more than 40 years, the General Mechanism for indigenous consultation decree # 40932-MP-MJP of March 6, 2018 was created.**
- ✓ **The creation and implementation of decree # 37801 - MEP that establishes the Indigenous Education Local Councils, which aims for indigenous professionals to be the ones who teach lessons in the territories, and establishes codes for teachers of language and culture among others.**
- ✓ **Major institutions such as the CCSS, the courts of justice and others have translators in the indigenous language.**
- ✓ **The infrastructure of health, transport, education, among others, improved greatly.**
- ✓ **It was possible to develop production plans based on the indigenous worldview and it was implemented in the most remote communities without access.**
- ✓ **It was possible to generate non-formal training of officials of the institutions through the dialogue mechanism.**
- ✓ **A program of Payments for environmental services exclusively for indigenous people was developed that respects the culture and the form of indigenous organization.**

6. How can the parliament collaborate with civil society organizations

- ✓ **In the case of Costa Rica, establish the mechanism for Consultation as Law of the Republic. It is currently a decree and only applies to the Executive.**
- ✓ **As part of parliamentary oversight, promote models of permanent dialogue mechanisms with civil society based on jointly established agendas.**
- ✓ **Legislate to open the information to the public or be the means for information to reach people.**