Killings of ‘environmental and land defenders’ (2002-2018)

72% in Latin America
77% in 6 countries
(Brazil, Philippines, Colombia, Honduras, Mexico, Peru)

Global Witness, 2019
EJAtlas: c. 3100 environmental conflicts

www.EJAtlas.org
(2020)
The supply chain of violence. Nature Sustainability

Middeldorp & LeBillon 2019

‘murder in the middle’
Atmospheres of violence

• Direct, cultural and structural violence

• Threats, intimidation, criminalisation and smear campaigns

Slow violence (Nixon 2011)

• Green violence (Buscher & Ramutsindela 2015)

• Necropolitics (Mbembe 2003)
José Claudio Ribeiro dos Santos & Maria do Espírito Santo
Murdered in 2011, Pará, Brazil

“I would be lying if I said I wasn’t afraid. Of course I’m afraid. People keep saying to me: ‘it’s not worth it.’ But, to me, it is worth it.” Maria

“I live from the forest. I will protect it at all costs. And for this I live with a gun to the head” Zé Claudio

Photo: Felipe Milanez
Recommendations from defenders

• Training and support to improve security: personal, digital, legal

• “Visibility is a double-edged sword”

• International pressure on governments to protect rights, hold perpetrators accountable, and on companies to be held responsible for violence linked to all different actors within their supply chains

• Care for families, of those killed and of those currently threatened (financial support, security)