BRITISH PETROLEUM (BP)
OIL SPILL
IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

RIGHTS OF NATURE TRIBUNAL
January 17, 2014
Quito, Ecuador
The Catastrophe

On April 20, 2010 the exploration platform of the Deepwater Horizon, which BP operated with the Swiss firm Transocean, suffered an explosion.

Two days later, it sunk.

Only in July 2010 did the disastrous spill stop.
BP Oil Spill in The Gulf of Mexico

The spill affected the ocean, the atmosphere, the marine life, the coast of the United States, Mexico and the northern Caribbean Ocean.
The Oil Spill
The Oil Spill

Between 12,000 and 19,000 barrels of oil spilled per day
The oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico threatened the extinction of at least 7 species.
Mockingbird
Blue Tuna of the North Atlantic
Marine turtle
Tiger shark
Dolphins
Pelicans
One of the smallest seahorses
Ma of the Sargasso
Marine grasses
Mangroves
Micro-bios
The effects of the chain of actions
Rights of Nature under Ecuador’s Constitution

• To exist, maintain and regenerate their vital cycles, structures, functions and evolutionary processes (Art. 71)
• To defend and have the information to defend (Art. 71)
• To integral restoration (Art. 72)
• To caution (Art. 73)
• To the conditions that permit “sumak kawsay”, meaning “buen vivir” or “good life” (Art. 74)
RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

- BP Executives
- The Government of the United States
Demands

- Information
- Restoration
- Monitoring
- Compensation
- No repeated spills
Kogi creation myth:

First there was the sea. Everything was dark. There was no sun, no moon, no people, animals, or plants. Only the sea was everywhere. The sea was the mother .... She was the spirit of what was to come and was thinking and memory.