

FIRE GRAND CHALLENGE



Our collaborator Senia Cabello fights fires in Bolivia

X The Fire Grand Challenge: Tending the Spark

As fire frequency and severity increase worldwide, megafires, deforestation fires, and landscape fires jeopardize communities and ecosystems and contribute to global climate disruption and extinction.

Indigenous, traditional, and rural communities have deep experience and knowledge of living with fire. Yet in remote, low-resource areas, with rapidly changing environments, communities often manage lands and fires with little outside help.

The Fire Grand Challenge is an open innovation mechanism dedicated to sourcing and scaling solutions that braid together place-based engagement and knowledge with cutting-edge innovation, science, and technology to impact global fire stewardship.

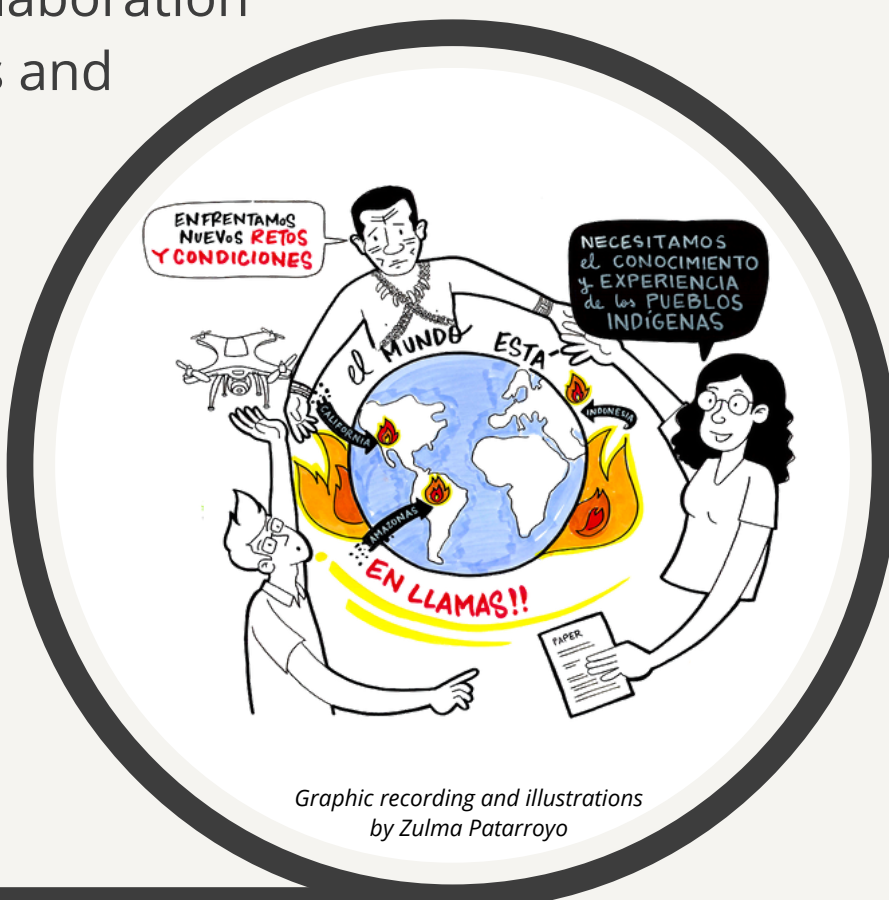
X Blending Breakthrough Innovation and Ancient Knowledge for Fire Into the Future

Join us in **reimagining how we coexist with fire through cutting-edge innovation and community engagement.** The challenge aims to transform fire stewardship at local and systemic levels, bringing together traditional knowledge with state-of-the-art technology.

We are calling for solutions that promote Indigenous, traditional, rural, and place-based practices while fostering collaboration across sectors. Emphasizing economic benefits and community-centered management, we seek to incentivize locally-appropriate fire strategies.

The challenge will include a testing and business development 'CoLab' accelerator to immediately put solutions on the ground.

The goal of the challenge is to restore fire to its appropriate place in the natural and social fabric, benefiting biodiversity, ecosystem health, and human well-being.



X Innovating in Three Key Regions

The Amazon, Indonesia, and Western North America share histories of traditional fire management, high fire impacts on people and biodiversity, and rapidly changing fire realities.



These divergent contexts capture a broad swath of global fire dynamics. The Fire Grand Challenge will source solutions that are relevant and scalable to one or more of these contexts and beyond, with implications for how we live with fire globally.

CONSERVATION X LABS (CXL) is a tech organization with a conservation mission. We are working to prevent the sixth mass extinction by **developing breakthrough technologies** in our labs, **harnessing planetary genius** through open innovation competitions, and **building a new community** of innovators across disciplines to create transformative products that serve our planet.



THREE CRITICAL SUB-CHALLENGES

The three sub-challenges were carefully drafted to allow for solutions appropriate for widely varying ecological and socioeconomic contexts across the diverse challenge focal geographies.



Graphic recording and illustrations by Zulma Patarroyo

Shaping the Land to Tame Destructive Fires

Ecosystem Stewardship Sub-Challenge

Innovations that incentivize and scale locally-appropriate ecosystem stewardship throughout the fire cycle including reducing ecologically damaging fire, providing alternatives to destructive uses of fire for land management, promoting beneficial, prescribed, or cultural fire where appropriate, or managing or restoring degraded or transformed ecosystems.

Fires and their impacts known by all

Information Sub-Challenge

Innovations that promote transparency, knowledge exchange or application, and broad access to information on fire dynamics and fire impacts throughout the fire cycle.



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Equipping communities for a fire-adapted future

Equipment Sub-Challenge

Innovations that provide novel or newly-adapted equipment or technology that enable communities to better respond to and manage fire and fire impacts or to more effectively use fire for landscape management where appropriate. Innovations could also address logistical barriers to the delivery of technology, information, or supplies to remote, difficult-to-access areas.

CHALLENGE TIMELINE



Be a part of the solution

We are currently consolidating the resources and partnerships needed to make the Fire Grand Challenge a reality. This community holds an enormous depth of expertise, connections, resources, and the potential needed to bring this challenge to the world.

If you're interested in partnering with us on the challenge, or know an organization who would be a great fit for this work, please contact us at fire@conservationlabs.org to explore opportunities for collaboration and ways to support the challenge.