

## **U.N. IN ACTION**

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## **HEALTH BRIGADES IN ECUADOR'S AMAZON**

<u>VIDEO</u> <u>AUDIO</u>

NARRATION

MONTAGE TRAVELING SHOTS, DIRT BUMPY ROAD.

OIL DRILL SITE

MOVING SHOT/DUSTY ROAD.

PEOPLE AT THE BACK OF THE TRUCK.

ARRIVING AT THE HOSPITAL CENTER. PEOPLE WAITING. UNLOADING OF MEDICAL SUPPLY FROM PICK-UP

HEALTH BRIGADES SETTING
UP CLINIC IN CLASSROOM.

WS. CHILDREN WALKING IN THE FIELD.

This is the road less traveled...
a dusty path built mostly for trucks... trucks
to carry gear for drilling oil deep in the
Amazon forest... (10.5)

A road that few poor settlers -- and fewer still native Kichwa here, in this remote corner of Northeastern Ecuador, will take.

(7)

This despite the fact that for many of them it's the <u>only</u> road that leads to a hospital...

And so, the doctors, and the nurses, and the equipment– must come to them. (12.25)

These are the 'health brigades' of Ecuador's Orellana province— always on the road ... setting up makeshift clinics in village classrooms... bringing basic medical care to the needlest. (10.5)

Many of the people they attend to have

MS. TIRED PATIENTS WAITING	walked through the jungle, sometimes for
	hours, to get here. (5)
	DR. ERIC MACIAS (in SPANISH) M
DR. ERIC MACIAS ON CAMERA	"These are people in need". (2)
	<u>NARRATION</u>
DR. MACIAS PREPARES HIS	Health brigade director, Dr. Eric Macias
DESK	(2.30)
	DR. ERIC MACIAS (in SPANISH) M
VARIOUS SHOTS OF TIRED	"Sometimes we come to communities where
PEOPLE WAITING FOR CHECK	there are 120 people waiting for us – and
UP.	there's only one doctor, and one dentist,
DENTIST WORKING.	it's hard to give them all quality service// so
DR. MACIAS CHECK CHARTS	we try to give priority to pregnant women
NURSE AT DESK.	and children 5 years old and younger."
	(18)
	NARRATION
ONE PREGNANT WOMAN IN	While some 75% of pregnant women in the
TOWN	state capital, El Coca, will give birth safely
A PREGNANT WOMAN IN	in a hospital, not even ¼ of women in these
VILLAGE.	rural areas will. (11)
	ISABEL GOICOLEA (In SPA) F
ISABEL GOICOLEA ON CAMERA	If you don't reach them, they will only get to
	hospital in a life or death situation. (5.25)
ISABEL WALK INTO THE	NARRATION
CLINIC	Isabel Goicolea is a Spanish doctor who
	has been working in the Amazon region for
WS. VILLAGE HOUSES	12 years. She says that it's by reaching

communities like these that the global battle

to reduce child mortality and improve

maternal health is fought. (13)

ISABEL ON CAMERA

WOMEN & CHILDREN WAITING.
HEALTH WORKERS DOING
TESTS & CONTRACEPTIVES
WOMAN CLEANING AT THE
LAKE

MELANIA, YOUNG MOTHER WITH HER BABY.

MELANIA WITH HER BABY
FACING CAMERA,
ANSWERING QUESTIONS
FROM ISABEL (OFF-CAMERA)

MELANIA ON CAMERA

ISABEL GOICOLEA (in SPANISH) F

"These kids won't get medicines, these women won't get pregnancy checks, much less ask for contraceptives or pap tests."

(7)

**NARRATION** 

Even seemingly routine services: 'PAP' tests for detecting cervical cancer, or giving out contraceptives, can change lives here, given that most women have many babies – and some start as young as 12. (12)

This girl, Melania, is just 16. She is already having trouble in her marriage, which was arranged by her parents -- in a traditional practice called "la pedida" – "the asking". (10)

<u>ISABEL</u> (IN SPANISH) **F** 

"Your parents must've at least asked you if you liked the boy or not?" (2.5)

MELANIA (IN SPANISH) F

"No, they just decide, just like that...without asking." (3.75)

<u>ISABEL</u>: (SPANISH)

"And did you have a wedding yet?" (1.5)

MELANIA (SPANISH)

"No, not yet..." (1)

MELANIA AND HER BABY.	NARRATION
MELANIA SITS BY HERSELF	For Melania, the priority now is making sure
	that her baby Julie is healthy. Melania is too
WOMAN TAKING "PAP" TEST	timid to take the "PAP" test, but others here
	will. They have seen how cancer can kill
	when detected too late. (12.5)
ALBA PERALTA ON CAMERA	ALBA PERALTA (SPANISH) F
	"Pollution has brought many problems here,
	not only cervical cancer." (4)
ALBA TALKING TO THE	NARRATION
PATIENTS, SHOWING A	ALBA Peralta is a public health worker
PLASTIC JAR.	specialized in reproductive health. (3.6)
ALBA ON CAMERA	ALBA PERALTA
	"We've also seen cancer in the whole body,
	skin infections, malnutrition from the fact that
	petroleum is polluting the land – it's a huge
	issue." (8.20)
WS. DRILL PUMP STATION	NARRATION
WOMEN AND CHILDREN	The impact of oil pollution is especially
COOKING AND CLEANING	devastating for native people used to living
OUTDOOR	off the land and taking their water from
OOTBOOK	rivers and streams. (8.30)
MAURICIO NARVAEZ POINTING	VOX POP MAURICIO NARVAEZ (SPA) M
TO THE RIVER/TALKING	"this water is polluted
	There's no way you can fish here in the
	Napo river anymore." (4.0)
SHOTS OF JUNGLE.	
	NARRATION

UNLOADING OF SUPPLIES FROM PICK UP TRUCK.

DR. MACIA WORKING PEOPLE WAITING

ALBA AND ISABEL BUSY
WORKING WITH THE PATIENTS

DR. MACIAS ON CAMERA

DR. MACIAS CARRYING SUPPLIES

ALBA ON CAMERA.

ALBA WITH HER FAMILY

ISABEL ON CAMERA.
ISABEL WORKING WITH
SUPPLIES.
ISABEL ON BOARD THE PICK-

UP TRUCK

**UN LOGO** 

And while many used to cure illnesses with plants from the jungle, oil pollution has left them dependent on medical care brought to them by the health brigades. (8.20)

Dr. Macias says that their work is a drop in the ocean compared to the real needs – and yet, he – like Alba Peralta and Isabel Goicolea –cannot think of any work that is more meaningful despite the sacrifices it entails. (14)

DR. ERIC MACIAS (SPANISH) M

"You work 22 days on, 8 days off, and it gets tiring... but at the end of the day... you feel you've achieved something, you've helped the people in these communities feel taken care of." (12)

ALBA PERALTA (SPANISH) F

"The hardest part is leaving my family behind –because we end up forming a second family, which becomes the main one, with our colleagues from work, and the people we serve." (10.5)

ISABEL GOICOLEA (SPANISH) F

"This is why is studied medicine, to do this kind of work... it's a challenge to work in place where there are so many things that need to be done...! like this place... and I love what I do...That's the truth." (15)

NARRATION
This report was prepared by Michele
Zaccheo for the United Nations. (4)