

**The rapid expansion of the soy frontier was first triggered by fodder demand from Dutch and other European livestock industries.**

**Agrofuel demand has already lead to a steep rise in soy price, and thus to further soy expansion.**

**This is partly triggered by US farmers switching to corn**

**Agrofuels add to the existing problems created by beef exports. European meat production is based on soy fodder, South American meat production is based on deforestation.**

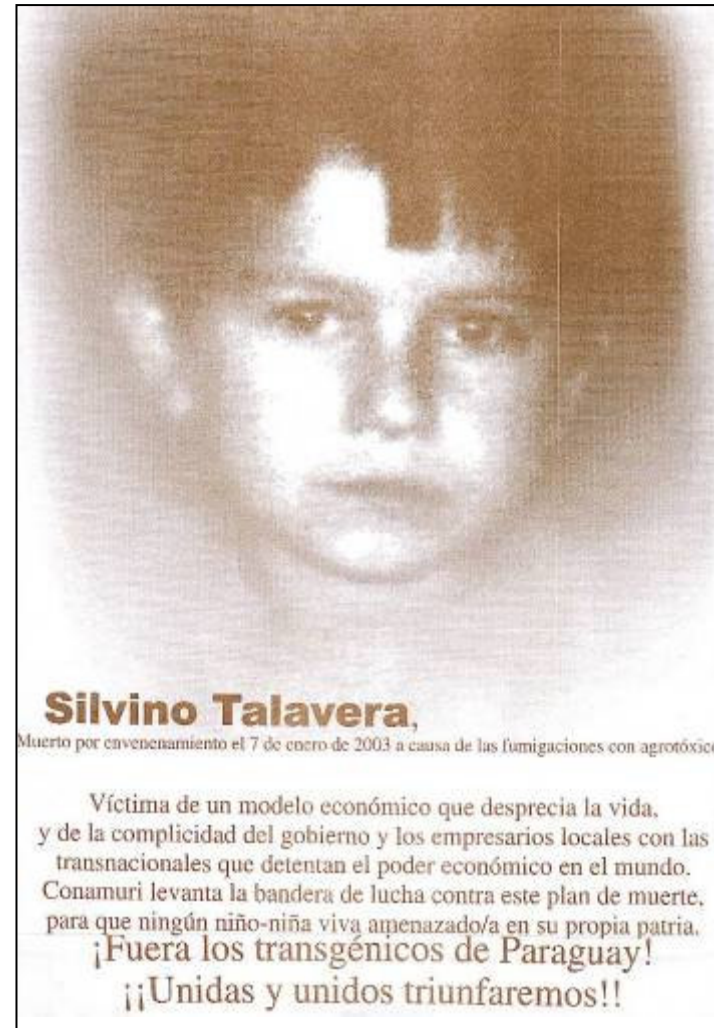


# Indigenous environmental refugees: Mbya Guarani people on the streets of Asunción



# Impacts of agrotoxics

- 35 million liters of herbicides and insecticides were utilized during 2006 to combat plagues affecting genetically modified soy plantations.
- 2.5 million hectares of soy are planned for cultivation this year. Soy planters expect to reach 4 million hectares within the next two years.



# Certifying “responsible” soy?



- Soy is a labor-extensive, capital-intensive crop
- Certification does not prevent further land concentration, depopulation and rural and urban misery amongst Indigenous Peoples and landless farmers
- Certification cannot address price increases due to other farmers switching crops (e.g. corn and sugar cane)
- Investing in agricultural commodity production in times of climate change is a risky development option

# Certifying responsible soy?

- The Basel principles for responsible soy allow deforestation, provided compensation is paid to a nature conservation organization or other area manager
- Only High Conservation Value Areas are protected
- Paraguayan law sets a higher standard for the Eastern half of the country: zero deforestation



The National Federation of Farmers in Paraguay, the national association of NGO networks, and many other movements and NGOs reject the “Roundtable on Responsible Soy” because of the conceptual aberrations of the process



# Paraguayan Government about (responsible) soy:

- President Nicanor Duarte: “Soy production model is an a-social model”.
- Former Environmental Minister and current Agricultural Minister Alfredo Molinas: “Soy land is wasted land.” - currently engaged in an initiative to halt the soy frontier.
- Molinas: “Agrofuels are only beneficial if they contribute to small farmer’s economies.”





**Demonstration with fisherfolk, against the “Responsible Soy” Initiative, Asunción - September 2006**