



CENTRAL AMERICA A DIVERSE REGION

CONSEJO INDIGENA DE
CENTRO AMERICA
CICA

During the fifteenth century
80 million people lived
in ABYA YALA
(Schwerin, 1984)



The original people of Abya Yala
had developed an advanced
level of civilization



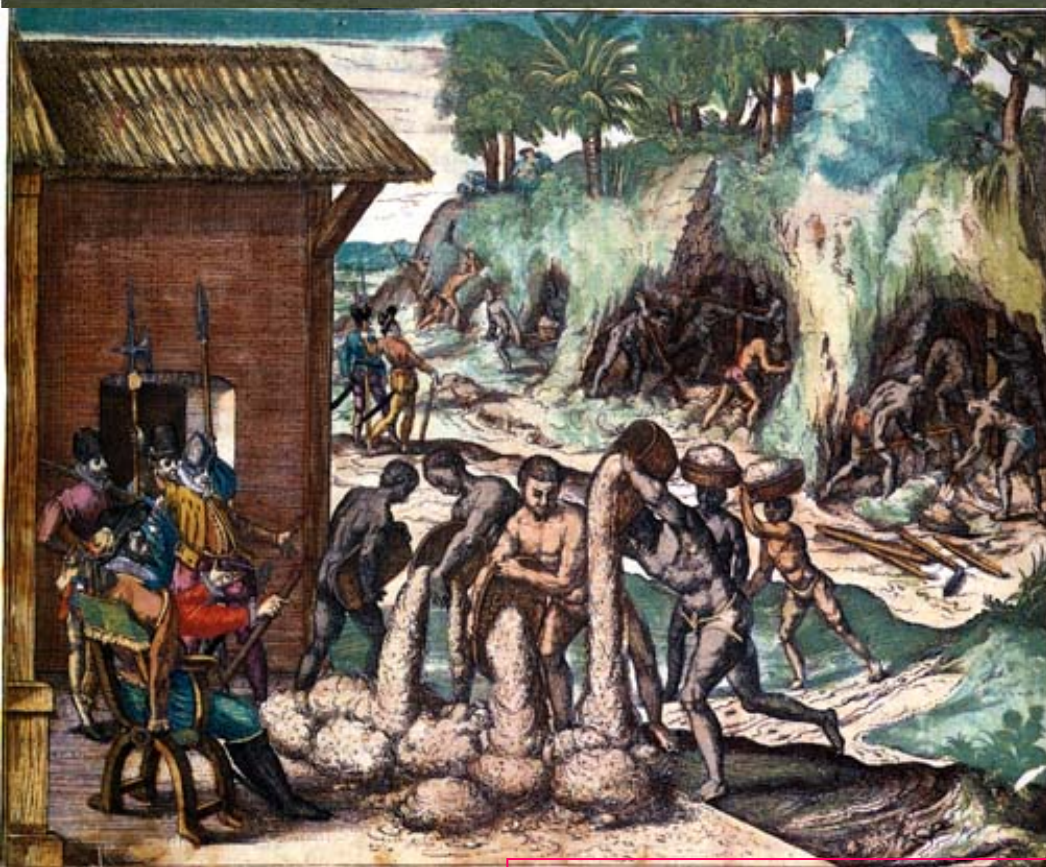
Mayan
Calendar

The European invasion upset the dynamics of our people



- 96% of the indigenous population in the American continents decreased over the course of 130 years.
- The indigenous population in the Caribbean was almost eradicated in less than 50 years (Schwerin, 1984).





Causes of the demographic catastrophe

- New diseases
- Violent death (Schwerin, 1984)

Colonization

Slavery

The Republic



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE



- The indigenous people are "...people in independent countries, considered indigenous because they come from populations that inhabited the country or a geographic region during the colonization or conquest period, and who preserve all of their own social, economic, cultural and political institutions, or part of them."

• 169 Convention, ILO (1989)

CENTRAL AMERICAN INDIGENOUS POPULATION AND PEOPLE

- 38 million inhabitants
- 60 indigenous towns
- 11 million



CHARACTERISTICS OF THE REGION

- ANTHROPOLOGICAL
VISIÓN
- COSMOGONIC VISION
- IDENTITY CRISIS
- "MODERN"
DEVELOPMENT
- FUTURE PERSPECTIVES



Photo: PAHQ,2000

Photo: Rocío Rojas

COMMUNITARIANISM



CURRENT REALITY

- Vulnerable situation
- Immigration
- Monolingualism
- Communication
- Traditional medicine system.
- Own justice system



DISCRIMINATION AND RACISM

CHALLENGES OF THE STATES

- Resources
- Laws
- Consensual strategies
- Culturally relevant programs
- Personnel
- Promotion



FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

- Identify the reality of the indigenous people
- Legal Framework
- Public Policy
- Cultural relevance.
- Specific programs
- Coordination with Society
- Traditional medicine systems.



MATIOX
MUCHAS GRACIAS!
THANK YOU!

