



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



## USAID AMAZON REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

USAID envisions a healthy and resilient Amazon Basin that is valued by society, ensures human well-being, and safeguards our global climate. The Amazon Region hosts a third of the world’s known species of plants and animals –many of which do not occur anywhere else– and is home to the largest river system in the world, representing 15 percent of the freshwater feeding the world’s oceans. Unsustainable economic development and illegal extraction of resources is causing contamination and degradation that threaten the entire Amazon ecosystem.

The Amazon forests, and the 1.6 million indigenous people living within the Amazon basin, face the uncontrolled expansion of agriculture, large-scale infrastructure development, small- and large-scale mining, petroleum extraction, and unsustainable logging (both legal and illegal). Warmer temperatures and less rainfall are increasing destructive fires, degrading, and destabilizing Amazon ecosystems. As the Amazon region’s fourth largest conservation donor, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) plays an important role in supporting and collaborating with the governments of the region, global and local environmental organizations, civil society groups, and corporations.

DIEGO MONTOYA / USAID

The vision of a healthy Amazon depends on achieving four goals: 1) decreasing deforestation, forest degradation, and greenhouse gas emissions; 2) fostering an environmentally friendly economy; 3) protecting key landscapes and species; and 4) securing the rights, resources and health of forest-dependent communities.

To achieve this vision, USAID promotes sustainable natural forest management, including the creation and improved management of protected areas and indigenous territories. We also help strengthen local, national and cross-border governance systems to support conservation and sustainable development, combat conservation crime, and to generate the scientific evidence needed to understand and address environmental challenges.

To reduce threats to the Amazon's forests, waters, and peoples, USAID's Amazon Regional Environment Program (AREP) implements activities across Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, and Suriname to complement bilateral work in these countries. AREP has four strategic approaches:

- Support improved representation of indigenous peoples in political and economic governance, promoting their rights, livelihoods and opportunities.
- Address key drivers of deforestation by developing strategic approaches to conserve biodiversity and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Use science to monitor natural systems, improve decision-making, and address effects of global climate change.
- Promote information sharing and communications among internal and external audiences to build regional knowledge and strengthen strategic approaches to conservation and sustainability.

## **AREP ACTIVITY SUMMARY**

### **AMAZONIA CONNECT**

The Amazon rainforest is the largest remaining tropical rainforest in the world. By absorbing more than 3 percent of global carbon dioxide emissions, it helps avoid global climate change's worst effects. However, deforestation driven by unsustainable land use change for agriculture, threatens to turn the region into a net carbon producer. The project seeks to reduce commodity-driven deforestation and associated greenhouse gas emissions from high biodiversity regions that supply agricultural products to international and domestic companies.

Countries: Brazil, Colombia, and Peru

Duration: March 2022 – March 2027

Implementing Partner: Solidaridad North America

Total project investment: \$16.3

### **AMAZON INDIGENOUS RIGHTS AND RESOURCES**

The Amazon Indigenous Rights and Resources (AIRR) activity aims to incorporate the rights and interests of indigenous peoples into public and private sector development planning to balance human welfare and environmental conservation. The project also promotes existing

indigenous enterprises and helps them grow, through a combination of grants, loans and market analysis.

Countries: Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador Guyana, Peru and Suriname

Duration: August 2019 – August 2024

Implementing Partner: WWF

Total Project Investment: \$17,962,505

### **ASM MINING IMPACT CALCULATOR TOOL**

In the Amazon basin, most government authorities do not have standardized, proven and reliable protocols which would allow them to do economic evaluations of the environmental and social impacts caused by artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM). This project will adapt the Illegal Gold Mining Impact Calculator, an economic valuation tool for environmental and social damages that will improve governments' ability to estimate the monetary impact of ASM.

Countries: Ecuador Guyana and Suriname

Duration: December 2022 – December 2024

Implementing Partner: Conservation Strategy Fund (CSF)

Total Project Investment: \$250,000

### **ECOS**

Transnational conservation crimes are fast growing, high-value, and low-risk, generating hundreds of billions of dollars for criminal organizations worldwide each year. This project will improve regional cooperation and the capacity of enforcement and justice system actors to detect, interdict, investigate and prosecute conservation crimes in border regions.

Countries: Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Suriname

Duration: April 2021 – April 2025

Implementing Partner: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Total Project Investment: \$9.8 million

### **FIRE**

This alliance will build capacity and strengthen partnerships for fire management among Amazonian countries. Efforts focus on improving fire prevention and response with strategic planning, coordination, and training across the region, and on improving interagency and international collaboration.

Countries: Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru

Duration: August 2020 – August 2025

Implementing Partner: U.S. Forest Service International Programs

Total Project Investment: \$6 million

### **FOR FISHERIES**

Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing threatens the sustainability of important artisanal fisheries and associated biodiversity, as well as the livelihoods and resilience of coastal communities. This partnership will promote sustainable and profitable fishing practices, and will significantly reduce IUU fishing by artisanal fishing fleets targeting four socio-economically important artisanal fisheries in Peru and Ecuador, including the Galapagos Marine Reserve

Countries: Ecuador and Peru  
Duration: September 2022 – September 2027  
Implementing Partner: Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental (SPDA)  
Total Project Investment: \$21.1 million

### **PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLY MANAGED FISHERIES**

This partnership aims to halt Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing while promoting sustainable management of critical marine species and ecosystems by: 1) Effectively enforce domestic fisheries regulations and international fisheries agreements, 2) Document and share relevant information across government agencies and with neighboring countries, and 3) Develop and implement plans to sustainably manage economically and ecologically important species or areas within coastal and marine.

Countries: Colombia, Ecuador and Peru  
Duration: June 2021 – June 2026  
Implementing Partner: The U. S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)  
Total Project Investment: \$5 million

### **SERVIR AMAZONIA**

SERVIR is a joint initiative of USAID and NASA to develop Amazon nations' capabilities to improve environmental management and resilience to climate change, through geospatial technologies. This activity has established an Amazon Hub in Latin America as part of the SERVIR Global Network.

Countries: Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Suriname  
Duration: December 2018 – December 2023  
Implementing Partner: International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)  
Total Project Investment: \$9.9 million

### **THE BUSINESS CASE FOR COLLECTIVE LANDSCAPE ACTION**

This activity aims to reduce commodity-driven deforestation, contribute to global climate and biodiversity goals, and drive investment and inclusive development across some of the world's most important tropical landscapes.

Countries: Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru  
Duration: September 2021 – September 2026  
Implementing Partner: Rainforest Alliance  
Total Project Investment: \$19.6 million

### **TOGETHER FOR CONSERVATION**

Transnational conservation crimes are fast growing, high-value, and low-risk, generating hundreds of billions of dollars for criminal organizations worldwide each year. This project will strengthen civil society's capacity to oppose conservation crimes and connect urban and rural areas with the conservation of the Amazon. Its major goals are fostering an environmentally friendly economy; protecting key landscapes and species; and securing the rights, resources, and health of forest-dependent communities.

Countries: Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru

Duration: October 2021 – September 2026  
Implementing Partner: Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)  
Total Project Investment: \$18.2 million

## **CONTACTS**

### **MISSION**

Amy Paro, Director USAID/ Perú  
Av. La Encalada 17, Surco, Lima, Perú  
Telephone number: +51 1-618-1200  
Email: [wusaidperu@usaid.gov](mailto:wusaidperu@usaid.gov)  
Website: [www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov)