The Amazon Basin is constantly changing and threatened due to large-scale infrastructure development, rapid agro-industrial expansion, natural resources extraction and a fluctuating environment. Using state-of-the-art geospatial and satellite technologies, SERVIR-Amazonia will empower authorities to track environmental changes in near real-time, evaluate the impact of climatic threats on resources, and rapidly respond to natural disasters. SERVIR is a joint global initiative between NASA and USAID.

SERVIR-Amazonia is part of SERVIR Global, a joint development initiative of the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Since 2005, SERVIR has worked in partnership with countries to use information provided by Earth-observing satellites and geospatial technologies.

SERVIR-Amazonia will support sustainable development throughout the Amazon region by strengthening the capacity of governments and other key stakeholders to integrate Earth observation and geospatial technologies into improve decision-making and to better incorporate the voice of women, indigenous peoples and their communities.
HOW DOES THE ACTIVITY WORK?

SERVIR connects space to villages: SERVIR-Amazonia will promote collaboration among governments, universities, non-governmental organizations, community groups and U.S. scientists to use geospatial information services to foster sustainable development across the Amazon region. SERVIR-Amazonia will distribute the services and knowledge to the national and international end users of the Amazon region.

RESULTS ACHIEVED

To make geospatial information easily accessible to decision makers such as indigenous communities and/or government authorities, SERVIR is codeveloping 12 tools. Below three of them described:

- It is now possible to track gold mining (gold) activities and deforestation in the Amazon regardless of weather conditions and in near real time with the use of Earth observation satellites. This information is available through the Radar Mining Monitoring Tool (RAMI). MINAM announced that with this tool it is better able to monitor gold mining.

- The Deforestation Monitoring and Reporting in Ecuador service will impact the global effort to reduce emissions by improving the Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system, which allows countries to measure their progress against baseline emissions levels reported to the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) and climate change mitigation funds, among others. Ecuador’s greenhouse gas inventory will have greater precision and accuracy in its emissions estimates and its documentation of conservation practices, which will move the country closer to receiving payments for results and provide decision-makers better information for targeting emissions reduction.

- The TerraOnTrack (Increase the Protection of Forests Managed by Community-Based Initiatives in the Brazilian Amazon) service is a web application that will introduce resources that will allow traditional communities and indigenous people to quickly identify potential threats to their territories and monitor illegal activities on the ground, which in turn will increase forest protection and territorial management capacity. The service contributes to community-based initiatives and will initially focus on the north region in the Para State where there are several protected areas, indigenous people, and territorial projects running. It will be applied in territories managed by traditional communities and indigenous people after conducting a consultation process with them.

PROJECT INFORMATION

IMPLEMENTER: International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) and a consortium of local and international partners, including Instituto de Manejo e Certificação Florestal e Agrícola (IMAFLORA) in Brazil and Asociación para la Conservación de la Cuenca Amazónica (ACCA) in Peru.

ACTIVITY DURATION: December 21, 2018 – December 21, 2023

USAID FUNDING: $9 million

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

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