



AMAZONIA 2.0

Connected
for our
forests

Amazonia 2.0 Connecting our forests through local monitoring

April 2021

A **amazonia 2.0** started in 2017 as a strategic alternative to fight against threats and pressures exerted on the Amazon forests, through the proper management of indigenous, *campesino* and maroon territories. It is a project financed by the **European Union**, coordinated by **IUCN South America** and implemented by a consortium of organizations in **Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Suriname**.

The objective of the project is to **reduce deforestation and degradation of Amazonian forests**, the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services, empowering a group of indigenous, *campesino* and maroon organizations to act and respond in an organized manner to the threats their forests face, together with national and international NGOs.

Amazonia 2.0's intervention model focuses on populations that **"live in the forest and from the forest"**, in a bottom-up approach. It is an initiative that strengthens local capacities to create their own management models to prevent, address and mitigate damage, safeguarding the natural and cultural heritage.

The project's fundamental tool is **community monitoring** which allows indigenous, *campesino* or maroon peoples to become a technical figure that oversees the sustainable management of their resources.

The work of local **monitors or rangers** generates resonance in their communities, influencing decision-making in local, provincial and national authorities.

This **advocacy** allows for the reduction of threats and pressures through monitoring and attention to cases; and at the same time, territorial governance with a local and intercultural perspective, in order to achieve the purpose of conservation, restoration and sustainable use of natural resources.

In this sense, part of the project's current work has to do with the analysis of its impact, including the study of the project's contributions to the climate agenda considering the FLEGT and REDD+ processes.

The area of indirect influence of Amazonia 2.0 totals more than **9 million hectares**. The project positively affects indigenous, *campesino* and maroon communities and organizations, as well as forestry and environmental authorities in the 6 implementation territories.

Amazonia 2.0 is possible thanks to the work of the consortium of organizations implementing the project: **IUCN in Brazil, Fundación Natura in Colombia, Fundación EcoCiencia in Ecuador, Amerindian Peoples Association in Guyana, ECO REDD in Peru and The Amazon Conservation Team in Suriname**. Each organization applies the project intervention model adapted to the context of their areas of work and the cosmovision of the communities with which they collaborate, generating different processes and experiences in each country.



In **Brazil**, **IUCN** implements the project in three territories in the **state of Acre**: Indigenous Lands of Mamoadate and Alto Rio Purús, as well as the Chandless State Park (PEC). These territories constitute a continuous massive area of forest with more than **1.2 million hectares**, where four indigenous peoples (Kaxinawa, Madjá, Manchineri and Jaminawa) and riverbank peoples (comuneros) live. While there is a good degree of conservation in these areas, by being in the border line with Peru they are subject to threats such as forest and wildlife trafficking, drug trafficking, and invasions, among others. In this country, actions are coordinated with the State Secretariat for the Environment, the Climate Change Institute and the Pro-Indio del Acre Commission, with whom there are technical cooperation agreements, joining efforts to strengthen territorial management.

In **Colombia**, **Fundación Natura** is implementing the project in nine indigenous and *campesino* communities, represented by the Cabildo del Resguardo Indígena Inga de Niñeras and the Asociación Campesina de Prodesarrollo de Mononguete, in the municipality of Solano, **department of Caquetá**. As this is a territory where communities with different needs and worldviews adjoin, an intercultural dialogue has been developed on the basis of which territorial governance is being worked on. An important ally for the project in Colombia has been the *Universidad de la Amazonía*, which has trained the environmental monitors.

In **Ecuador**, the **EcoCiencia** Foundation implements Amazonia 2.0 in the provinces of Napo and Pastaza, in **10 Waorani communities**. It operates with the support of the Waorani Nationality of Ecuador (NAWE) and the Association of Waorani Women of the Ecuadorian Amazon (AMWAE). In Ecuador, the model of the "Veeduría Territorial" has been replicated, forming the *Veeduría Waorani (Waorani Monitoring Unit)*, whose members have strengthened their capacities and are prepared to adequately record and manage environmental threats in their territory using state-of-the-art technology. EcoCiencia, together with AMWAE, also develops and provides technical follow-up to **sustainable productive activities** as mechanisms to reduce deforestation, including cocoa cultivation and handicraft production. The result is the establishment of a territorial model of integrated management for the conservation and management of their forests, which is innovatively articulated with the private sector.

In **Guyana**, the project is being implemented by the **Amerindian Peoples Association (APA)** in 7 indigenous communities: Campbelltown, Micobie, Moruwa, Karisparu, Chenpou, Kopinang and Monkey Mountain; in **Region 8, Potaro-Siparuni**. Five of these communities are members of the North Pakaraimas District Council (NPDC). One of the particularities of this territory is the presence of mining activities, legal and illegal, which is part of the livelihoods of many communities. An important part of the monitoring carried out in Guyana has to do with this activity and its effects on the forest and its communities.



In **Peru**, the project is implemented by **ECO REDD** in 12 Ashéninka communities in the department of Ucayali, **province of Atalaya**. The project works closely with important indigenous institutions such as **AIDSESP** (Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Rainforest) and government agencies such as **SOFSSA** (Forestry and Wildlife Operational Headquarters Atalaya), **SERFOR** (The National Forestry and Wildlife Service) and **OSINFOR** (Forestry and Wildlife Resources Supervisory Agency). A relevant characteristic of the Peruvian intervention area is that 80% of the communities are involved in timber extraction and have logging permits. Another important characteristic in this country is that the *Veedurías (Monitoring Units)* are already recognized by the state as a model for management, governance and monitoring of forests and indigenous territories.

In **Suriname**, **The Amazon Conservation Team (ACT)** implements Amazonia 2.0 in 6 indigenous communities (Trio and Wayana) and 10 maroon villages (Matawai) in the **Sipaliwini District**. The work of the environmental rangers in Suriname seeks to prevent communities from being threatened by harmful activities such as illegal logging or gold mining, as well as to ensure their food security and protect the vegetation. In this sense, different data on the forest is monitored, including wildlife, threats to food production and changes in biodiversity. An important ACT initiative is its efforts to generate income in the communities by using sustainable forest products, such as chili peppers or honey from forest bees.

Amazonia 2.0 is not only a collection of national experiences, but a set of efforts connected in a **regional social-technological platform** that articulates collective

learning and enables knowledge management through a social network of actors and technological tools. In addition, it is an intervention model that allows for the analysis of forest governance on a larger scale. In this sense, an important contribution of the project will be the **adaptation of local indicators and the development of tools** to measure and strengthen governance at the regional level.

Among the main results, the following stand out:

- **Regional platform** designed participatively and in operation, comprised of social and technological components, such as the Web Portal, the Cross-Learning Strategy, the Media Library, the GeoVisor - an important technological component that allows geospatial reporting of information collected through monitoring by local actors.
- **Six community groups share experiences and are interconnected in the regional platform**, which allows them to exchange information, express their local voices, and improve their governance processes to conserve their forests and territories; all of this is supported by a **Regional Communication Strategy** with an intercultural approach.
- In **47 territorial units** totaling **420 thousand hectares directly monitored**, and with an indirect area of influence of 9 million hectares in the Amazon basin, **local monitoring systems are being implemented** with **31 Monitoring Teams and 57 monitors or rangers**, who alert, report and act in the face of pressures and threats to forests and improve their governance systems.



- To date, **1.864 reports** have been generated, and cases have been prosecuted as a result of the timely action of the monitors.
- Governments, indigenous organizations and communities work in coordination to strengthen governance and monitoring of community forests in the intervention countries. There are **21 agreements** signed with communities, organizations and governments.
- Representatives of **34 communities, villages and action boards, and 7 indigenous or campesino organizations** have strengthened their technical and organizational capacities through various training processes. A total of **191 workshops** have been held, with a total of **2,103 participants**.
- Adaptation and rapid response to the unforeseen scenario of COVID-19 through a **contingency strategy** that reflects the social spirit of A2.0 through direct attention and support to affected local groups and adaptation to the virtual management of the project.
- **Thirteen internal virtual sessions** were held with A2.0 partners and **four regional virtual seminars** were held for a wide audience as part of the project's cross-learning strategy, with a total of **918 participants** (65% women and 35% men) from 20 countries.
- **Five regional studies** were carried out based on national processes, including topics such as: i) regional analysis of forest governance scenarios in the six intervention zones; ii) systematization of experiences in adapting forest

governance indicators; iii) analysis of A2.0 contributions to the climate agenda; iv) analysis of the possibilities for linking the A2.0 platform to national and regional platforms; v) systematization of the conformation and operation of monitoring units or systems. In addition, a process of systematization of the implementation and lessons learned from the project was carried out to facilitate learning and contribute to the replicability, scalability and sustainability of A2.0.

- **Innovative communication material** is available to report on and make the project visible, as well as a variety of national publications on management tools for oversight, teaching, learning and community monitoring processes.



More information:

Project Website: <https://amazoniadospuncocero.com/index.php/es>

Explanatory Video 2021: <https://youtu.be/7Z2PLfcAAts>

Animated Short film CONEXIÓN AMAZONÍA (Amazon Connection): <https://youtu.be/rzkuawjzVhg>

More videos: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLegdcFhKopqIJ5iS0w9_xpYyF4qnBDeYZ

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