

WWF IN PERU

Our national vision is that by 2020 Peru conserves its biological diversity in priority landscapes and maintains its environmental and cultural contribution to the world, in a framework of equity, enhanced livelihoods, and reduction of ecological footprint.



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Why we are here
To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.
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AMAZON PROGRAM

BIODIVERSITY, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE SOURCE OF THE AMAZON

PERUVIAN AMAZON: UNIQUE AND BIODIVERSE



The Amazon River originates in Southern Peru at 5,500 m. above sea level. Peru also has the second largest expanse of Amazon forest. Here, the presence of the Andean Mountain Range is the foundation for one of the world's most astonishing and biodiverse ecosystems: from unique cloud forests to massive flooded rainforests. These forests harbor record numbers of diverse birds, plants, insects and mammals endemic to the area, i.e. species that do not exist in other areas. Moreover, it is home to over 50 ethnic groups, and refuge of some of the last indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation, who envision in these forests and rivers their main livelihoods.

Whether contributing towards the design and implementation of policies that promote sustainable development models, supporting the participatory management of natural protected areas, assisting indigenous communities towards the forest management certification, furthering best extractive practices, or leading a research on wildlife, **WWF works alongside authorities, communities and the private sector in order to ensure the sustainable development of the Peruvian Amazon and the local people's welfare.**

2020 GOALS

Biodiversity

- 50% of priority territories are under categories of protection that ensure healthy population of emblematic species and the continuous provision of ecosystem goods and services

Ecological Footprint

- All regions encompassing priority sites in the Peruvian Amazon embrace green development approaches
- Adoption of sustainable infrastructure, hydrocarbon and extractive practices



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LANDSCAPE PLANNING AND INDIGENOUS TERRITORIES THE IMPORTANCE OF SHARING CONSERVATION



The Peruvian Amazon comprises one of the most biodiverse ecosystems worldwide. Its high productivity provides livelihoods for over 300,000 indigenous peoples, and today, its various ecosystem functions provide water, climate regulation and a wide array of valuable resources to the world. However, unsustainable practices from the oil industry, infrastructure, and illegal mining and logging are putting unprecedented pressures on these unique forests and biodiversity, and thus disturbing indigenous communities and causing irreversible impacts to people in voluntary isolation.

In response to these threats, **WWF Peru works to ensure – through political reinforcement, provision of human and financial capacity, and participatory processes with civil society – the forests ecosystem viability and provision of**

environmental goods and services from conservation areas and indigenous territories within priority landscapes.

In addition to having contributed to the creation and management of some of the most emblematic protected areas in the Amazon, such as the Manu National Park, WWF is currently working on the consolidation of conservation corridors that go beyond our borders, such as the one connecting the recently declared Güeppi Sekime National Park with protected areas of Colombia and Ecuador, or the Alto Purus National Park – the largest in Peru and refuge of some of the last indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation – which borders conservation corridors in Brazil and Bolivia.

AT A GLANCE

70+ MILLIONS OF HECTARES
50+ ETHNIC GROUPS



Key facts:

- The Amazon River originates in Southern Peru at 5,500 m. above sea level.
- Peru is the second country with the largest expanse of Amazon forest.
- The Peruvian forests are home to some of the last indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation.
- Junikuin, Sharanahua, Asheninka, Amahuaca, Yine, Eseeja, Achuar, Kandozi, Quechua, Urarinas and Cocama-cocamilla indigenous peoples are the main allies of WWF Peru for the conservation of the Amazon biodiversity and the sustainable resources management.
- Jaguars and river dolphins are key Amazon species prioritized by WWF Peru for its research and conservation.
- Mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*) is the most valued and overexploited timber species, therefore, WWF Peru promotes sustainable forest management by prioritizing species diversification and respect for the forest.

SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT AND BETTER LIVELIHOODS THE FOREST AS SOURCE OF RESOURCES

The idea of extracting resources, such as timber, from Amazon forests might be seen inconsistent with its conservation. However, sustainable forest management is an excellent opportunity to bring together sustainable resources use, nature conservation and better livelihoods for local people.

In this regard, **WWF Peru is working with aims to achieve major contributions from the forest sector to the Gross Domestic Product in regions such as Madre de Dios and Ucayali, within a context in which indigenous federations and communities, concessionaries, businessmen and authorities, promote the sustainability of forest activities from the forest itself to the market, as a way to preserve the Amazon and improve local people's livelihoods.**

Moreover, WWF embraces better forest policies that consolidate regulations and a legislation platform that clarifies, organizes and formalizes the management of Amazon forests and its resources.

Today, WWF promotes fair contracts between certified companies and communities, as well as the capacity building for indigenous organizations regarding resources monitoring, and has assisted them in the certification of almost 1,000,000 ha of forests – over 90% of the total certified nationwide.

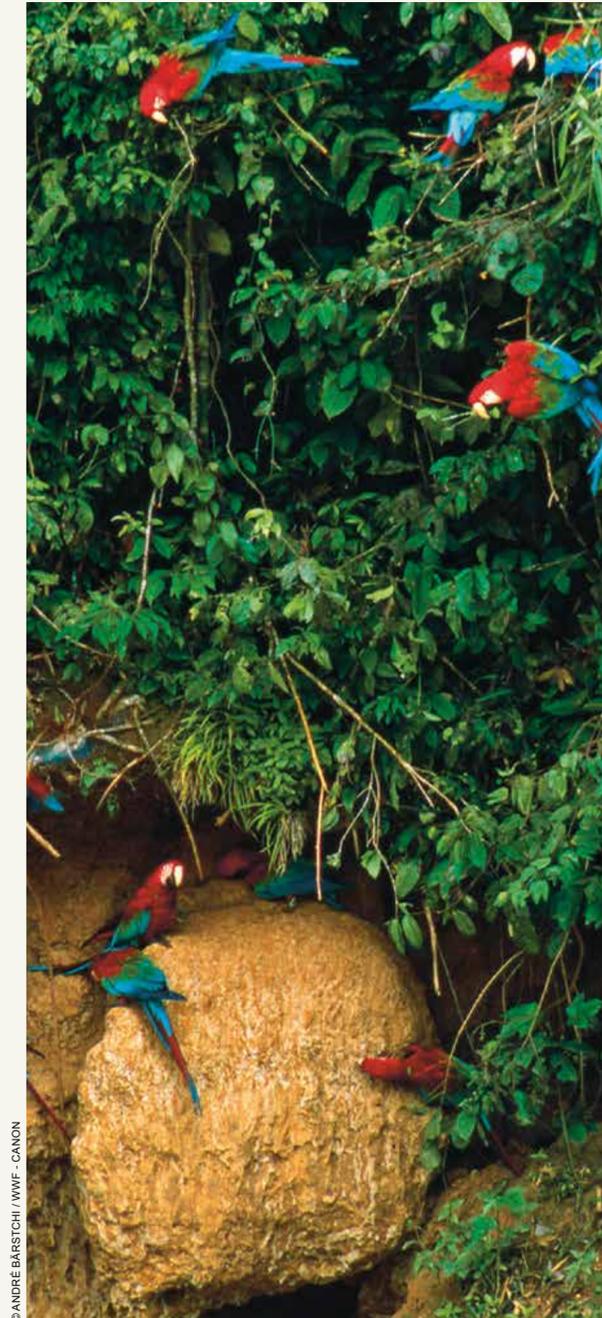


FOREST CARBON TOWARDS LOW CARBON DEVELOPMENT

With deforestation we lose more than forests, biodiversity and other natural resources, we also lose the forest's capacity to store high volumes of carbon – such as carbon dioxide – that when released increases global warming. The burning of forest and other land-use changes generate almost 20% of the total world emissions. In Peru, it exceeds 40% of the annual total emissions.

To address these threats, **WWF Peru promotes the implementation of REDD+ (Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation). Moreover, WWF Peru supports a Low Carbon Development approach in order to reduce degradation and deforestation of Peruvian forests, with a net emissions balance close to zero.**

WWF is working with diverse public and private organizations to standardize methodologies for projecting or modeling deforestation and degradation threats in priority sites throughout the Amazon. Thus, during the past few years major progress on policies has been achieved, and important scientific priorities for the implementation of the REDD+ mechanism in Peru have been undertaken. WWF has also fostered the creation of REDD roundtables as spaces for dialogue to define the technical, legal and financial priorities for REDD+ and other mechanisms of environmental services valuation in strategic regions in Peru.



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SPECIES CONSERVATION KNOW MORE TO CONSERVE MORE

In Peru, the Andes merge with the Amazon, creating some of the most biodiverse ecosystems worldwide. Despite this, many of the emblematic species of our Amazon region are threatened by illegal poaching and logging, climate change, and the lack of knowledge related to these species, or their habitats and needs.

WWF Peru prioritizes the work with **key species, such as the mahogany, jaguars and river dolphins in order to ensure healthy and viable populations in the future.** We are working with an eye toward the future, and by 2020 aim to improve conservation in priority sites and ensure that conservation plans have been implemented for each one of these species in order to improve connectivity between habitats and reduce climate and non-climate threats.

In this regard, one of the most interesting research experiences with Amazon wildlife species is the work that WWF has carried

out for several years in Southeastern Peru – Tambopata National Reserve, Bahuaja Sonene National Park, and forest and conservation concessions – where a team of Peruvian and foreign scientists have conducted one of the most important studies with radio-transmitters and camera traps on jaguars, pumas and other key species. This experience has been replicated in other priority conservation areas. The objective is to better understand the species' behavior patterns and define minimum areas to maintain healthy populations, as well as to provide solid arguments for the creation and management of natural protected areas, and other conservation strategies.



EXTRACTIVE AND INFRASTRUCTURE INDUSTRIES FOR A GREEN DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMAZON

The development of megaprojects without the proper environmental and social measures causes major problems between the State, companies and local peoples. The construction of highways or hydrocarbons exploitation in fragile areas like the Amazon can cause unexpected effects, such as disorganized migration, environmental degradation and severe cultural impacts.

In order to address this, **WWF Peru has been identifying high conservation value areas and promoting, along with authorities, local communities and the private sector, the implementation of higher standards related to these initiatives, with the aim that by 2020, the extractive and infrastructure projects developed in priority landscapes of the Amazon follow better environmental and social practices.**

As part of the strategy to recover the Abanico del Pastaza Wetland Complex (largest Ramsar Site in the Peruvian Amazon) WWF Peru has worked in the Corrientes River in Loreto for over 10 years, contributing towards local capacity building for oil activities monitoring and promoting important studies that finally enabled the State and the company involved to recognize the existing pollution effects and make commitments to change this situation.

Also, WWF Peru works alongside national and local authorities at the highest technical level, contributing towards the design of a policy and regulations framework to manage alluvial gold mining activities with the goal of reducing impacts in priority conservation regions, such as Madre de Dios.