



ECOS, Regional Cooperation to address environmental crimes (CTCCA)

Annual Report

Year # 3 October 2023 – September 2024

Approved Date: April 21, 2021

Award Number: 720527211O00001

Implementing Partner: UNODC

ACTIVITY SUMMARY DATA

- Activity name: ECOS, Regional cooperation to address environmental crimes
- Short name (or other denomination) ECOS
- Period of implementation: April 21, 2021, to April 20, 2025
- Budget: \$9,800,000.00
- Subcontractors or key partners: TRACE
- Activity Team:
 - Leopoldo Fernández, Regional coordinator environment team leo.fernandezherce@un.org
 - Carla Suárez Jurado, Chief of Party carla.suarezjurado@un.org
 - Cristina Barros, Project Coordinator in Ecuador cristina.barros@un.org
 - [Francisco Albuja, Legal Specialist](mailto:francisco.albujaguaynalla@un.org) francisco.albujaguaynalla@un.org
 - [Andrea Villalba, Gender Specialist](mailto:andrea.villalbafiallos@un.org) andrea.villalbafiallos@un.org
- Danilo Quijo Palacios, Legal Specialist in Ecuador, danilo.quijopalacios@un.org
 - Juan Martín Pastor, Communication Specialist in Ecuador juan.pastorvelasco@un.org
 - Pedro Oñate, Operation Specialist in Ecuador; pedro.onateparedes@un.org
- Natália von Gal Milanezi, Project Coordinator in Brazil natalia.vongalmilanezi@un.org
 - Priscila Leal Topázio, Project Assistant in Brazil priscila.lealtopazio@un.org
- Yimmy Gomez Quevedo, Project Coordinator in Colombia yimmy.gomezquevedo@un.org
 - Dora Marcela Abella Tovar. Senior Leader in Environmental Programs in Colombia dora.abellotovar@un.org
 - Greys Angelica Alarcon Fandiño, Administrative and financial assistant in Colombia greys.alarcon@un.org
 - Johanna Lizeth Diaz Poveda, Project Assistant in Colombia johanna.diazpoveda@un.org
 - Angelica Viviana Camacho Martínez, Project Assistant in Colombia angelica.camachomartinez@un.org
 - Niskar Peña, Technical Assistant, niskar.pena@un.org
 - Maria Alejandra Maysundo, Communication Specialist, maria.maysundorios@un.org
 - Amilcar Revello, Programme Management Assistant, amilcar.revello@un.org
 - Jaime Zubiaur, Programme Management Assistante, jaimenzubiaur@un.org
- USAID Management:
 - Dino Delgado, AOR didelgado@usaid.gov, USAID AREP
 - Kevin Fox, Alternate AOR kfox@usaid.gov, USAID AR
 - Katia Villanueva, MEL Point of Contact -PoC kvillanueva@usaid.gov

CONTENTS

1.	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
2.	INTRODUCTION	6
3.	RESULTS AND PROGRESS	7
	3.1 RESULTS AND PROGRESS BY COUNTRY	7
	3.1.1 BRAZIL YEAR # 3 RESULTS	7
	3.1.2 ANTICIPATED RESULTS FOR NEXT YEAR	22
	3.1.3 SUMMARY OF RESULTS IN THE YEAR	22
	3.1.4 COLOMBIA YEAR # 3 RESULTS	25
	3.1.5 ANTICIPATED RESULTS FOR NEXT YEAR	34
	3.1.6 SUMMARY OF RESULTS IN THE YEAR	35
	3.1.7 ECUADOR YEAR # 3 RESULTS	35
	3.1.8 ANTICIPATED RESULTS FOR NEXT YEAR	64
	3.1.9 SUMMARY OF RESULTS IN THE YEAR	65
	3.1.10 GUYANA YEAR # 3 RESULTS	65
	3.1.11 ANTICIPATED RESULTS FOR NEXT YEAR	66
	3.1.12 SUMMARY OF RESULTS IN THE YEAR	66
	3.1.13 PERU YEAR # 3 RESULTS	66
	3.1.14 ANTICIPATED RESULTS FOR NEXT YEAR	82
	3.1.15 SUMMARY OF RESULTS IN THE YEAR	84
	3.1.16 SURINAME YEAR # 3 RESULTS	86
	3.1.17 ANTICIPATED RESULTS FOR NEXT YEAR	¡Error! Marcador no definido.
	3.1.18 SUMMARY OF RESULTS IN THE YEAR	¡Error! Marcador no definido.
4.	CROSS-CUTTING THEMES RESULTS AND PROGRESS	90
	4.1 GENDER AND VULNERABLE POPULATION	90
	4.2 YOUTH	96
	4.3 PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT	97
	4.4 LOCAL CAPACITY	97
	4.5 BENEFICIARY FEEDBACK	98
5.	MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS	102
	5.1 AWARD MODIFICATIONS	102
	5.2 MEL PLAN IMPLEMENTATION	102
	5.3 MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS TASK STATUS	102
6.	LEARNING AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT	104
7.	ANNEXES	105

7.1.	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR TRACKING TABLE	105
7.2.	SUCCESS STORIES	105
7.3.	TEMPLATE FOR REPORTING PPR AND PMP INDICATORS	113
7.4.	DELIVERABLES AND MATERIALS PRODUCED	114
7.5.	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION PLAN REPORT	116
7.6.	LIST OF TRAINED PEOPLE	116
7.7.	LIST OF CONSULTANCIES	122
7.8.	BASELINE REPORTS	125
7.9.	OTHERS	125

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

USAID	United States Agency for International Development
AREP	USAID Amazon Regional Environment Program
CENcomm	Customs Enforcement Network communications platform
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
ECOS	ECOS Regional cooperation to address environmental crimes
EDS	Electronic Data System
IGO	International Government Organization
ICCWC	International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime
IF	Indicator Framework
INL	Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs
INTERPOL	International Police Organization
MLAT	Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties
NGO	Non-Government Organization
OAS	Organization of American States
SudWEN	South American Wildlife Enforcement Network
Toolkit	Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit
TCC	Transnational Conservation Crime
TOC	Transnational Organised Crime
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNCAC	United Nations Convention against Corruption
UNTOC	United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
US FWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WCO	World Customs Organization

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This annual report is a compilation of the main activities and results achieved during the implementation of ECOS project in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024, the information compiled belongs to the period between October 2023 and September 2024 and presents the expected results starting from October 2024 until April 2025 (planned date for finishing ECOS regional project).

Within this report, information about the implementation of the project in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Suriname has been summarized according to the format required by USAID.

About Brazil, it is important to mention that during this FY the project worked in the thematic areas of wildlife, fisheries, forest and mining, covering all the thematic areas of the project, upon request of the country. Also, during this FY ECOS project received two requests for technical assistance from the Brazilian Government; as a result of the implementation of the ICCWC Indicators Framework, the Government requested assistance for the elaboration of the National Action Plan for the Prevention and Combat of Wildlife Crimes, and, after the activities conducted on fisheries for identifying challenges in the value chain, the Government required assistance for the development of the Fisheries Origin Control System. These two activities are expected to be funded by a buy-in that will be made from USAID Brazil.

About Colombia, during this FY the implementation of activities of the project increased planning to accomplish the goal of 500 trainees by the first quarter of FY 2024-2025. ECOS Colombia during this FY has been the leading country on providing mentoring for improving the investigation of environmental crimes at a national level but also at a regional level. In addition, considering the Conference of Parties (COP) regarding the Convention on Biological Diversity will be done in Cali, Colombia, highlights of ECOS project will be presented in November 2024 as part of the side events of the COP 16.

About Ecuador, despite the political changes and constraints that the country has been facing, the activities planned for this FY have been successfully implemented. ECOS Ecuador is, by now, the only country of the project, implementing a prevention initiative for children in schools. While this initiative is designed for strengthening skills among the educational system, it has been shared with the private sector and the team is currently working on the engagement of private actors in the spread of the tool. ECOS project presented a proposal for a buy-in but no further notice of its acceptance has been received.

About Peru, during this FY the activities planned have been successfully implemented. One of the main highlights of ECOS Peru has been the support given to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru as well as the Specialized Unit of Environmental Crimes of the General's Attorney Office. By October 2024, the First SudWEN Regional meeting will be conducted and it is expected that the action plan for SudWEN for the next year will be approved.

About Guyana, despite the efforts to engage with national authorities, there has been no success but for the next fiscal year a re-engagement activity is planned, and it is expected to conduct a first workshop for the identification of priorities of the countries regarding environmental crimes. However, during this FY delegates from Guyana participated in a specialized training in Brazil and it is expected their participation in the SudWEN meeting as well.

About Suriname, during this FY the identification of the focal point for the project was achieved and a first workshop for identification of the priorities of the country regarding environmental crimes was conducted. The report of the workshop is elaborated and it is expected to be delivered to the national

authorities to define which recommendations or activities they would like to be the starting point for the implementation of ECOS in their country.

Regarding the reporting of activities during this Fiscal Year, as agreed with the AOR of the project, the activities are described by country rather than by component or objective. This way of reporting is consistent with the implementation of the project considering that not all the countries required assistance in all the components and/or thematic areas of the project.

Finally, this report provides updated information about the cross-cutting themes that are applicable to the project such as gender, youth, private sector, among others.

This report has been structured following the GUIDE & TEMPLATE FOR PREPARING AN ACTIVITY ANNUAL REPORT provided by USAID.

2. INTRODUCTION

Transnational conservation crimes (TCCs) are considered some of the fastest growing cross-border, high-value, low-risk enterprises, and are causing irreparable damage to the Amazon. TCCs are robbing communities of natural resources and posing multiple health and security risks to people and states, while contributing to the growing illicit economy. Along with extraction, TCCs degrade the region's biodiversity and threaten the viability of the complex Amazon ecosystem.

While foremost driven by strong global demand for natural resource products, it is widely accepted that the persistence of TCCs is facilitated by a few endemic factors. Entrenched corruption and organized criminal networks are among the most ubiquitous elements, along with weak transboundary institutional and operational cooperation, mismatched legal frameworks including lack of incentives to abide by legal procedures, along with variable transboundary enforcement capacity, and lack of conscientious consumers and watchdog groups.

Tackling TCCs in Latin America is further challenged by the limited baseline knowledge of the extent of conservation crimes as well as the dynamics and structure of illegal supply chains and networks. These challenges will be addressed by the ECOS project.

The overall objective of the ECOS project is to improve regional cooperation and the capacity of enforcement and justice system actors to detect, interdict, investigate and prosecute transnational conservation crimes in the Amazon. Specifically, the project sets to address the threat to the Amazon from wildlife, forestry, fisheries and minerals related crimes and illegal trade in these natural resources. This will be accomplished by improving the regional cooperation and applying a holistic “from crime scene to court” approach- building the capacity of criminal justice system actors to detect, interdict, investigate and prosecute transnational conservation crimes, in close coordination with other partners working in this area and focusing on tri-border areas.

As a result of this approach, the criminal justice system actors will be better equipped with the tools and skills to enforce the law, conduct intelligence led investigations, prepare strong cases for prosecution and adjudication of TCCs. The regional interventions will help to maintain TCCs higher on the political agenda and support the trust building between the law enforcement, prosecutorial and judicial authorities, while encouraging information and intelligence sharing and exchange of best practices and lessons learnt. This project will not directly support operations which are beyond UNODC mandate. It will, however, provide capacity building support to the practitioners to be more actively involved in the regional operations, where other actors with the operational mandate can capitalize on it.

3. RESULTS AND PROGRESS

ECOS regional cooperation to address environmental crimes is a four-year project that works in four thematic areas (wildlife crimes, forestry crimes, crimes related to the fisheries sector and crimes related to the mining sector) under the implementation of six components that are:

Component A Coordination of transnational enforcement action

Component B SUDWEN

Component C Fisheries Crimes

Component D Inventory and analysis of regional communication platforms and databases

Component E Evidence gathering of drivers of conservation crimes

Component F Regional capacity building activities

Considering that the project is implemented on demand, not all the countries of the project (Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Suriname) requested technical assistance or support in all the thematic areas nor in all the components.

In this regard, this section will be reported under the rationale of each country

3.1 RESULTS AND PROGRESS BY COUNTRY

3.1.1 BRAZIL YEAR # 3 RESULTS

Name of the activity: Regional Workshop to Advance Timber Identification Field Techniques

Objective of the activity: Present the activities developed under the technical-scientific consultancy for obtaining images and near-infrared spectra of wood samples of native species from xylotheques in Brazil; formalize the partnership between UNODC and the Brazilian Forest Service (SFB) and present the upcoming activities to be developed jointly; strengthen interinstitutional work on timber identification aimed at investigating forest crimes; reinforce interagency communication channels to generate exchanges of information and resources to improve processes; and learn about existing timber identification initiatives from institutions in Peru, Colombia, and Ecuador.

Brief description of the activity: The workshop brought together institutions that participated in the Technical Meeting on Timber ID Initiatives (May 2023) and also involved participants from xylotheques and institutions from Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia. The results of the consultancy contracted by UNODC to build the image and spectra bank were presented, along with the machine learning work being developed by the Technological Innovation Center of São Paulo State University (Citi/Unesp).



Participants		
Regional Workshop to Advance Timber Identification Field Techniques (November, 2023)		
Female	Male	Total
14	17	31

Describe the results achieved with this activity: Over the three days of the event, the results obtained so far by the UNODC-contracted consultant were presented and discussed. The methodology used, potential biases, and possible improvements were addressed. Thus, with technical-scientific support from specialists, the next steps were outlined for the development of the two field techniques for timber identification.

Indicators: Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established |

Name of the activity: International Conference on Mercury Trafficking

Objective of the activity: To create a space for cooperation among government agencies directly or indirectly involved in mercury-related issues; strengthen interagency efforts in developing norms and criteria for mercury control in Brazil, and meet the commitments made under the Minamata Convention; and exchange information on illegal mercury trafficking routes in Brazil.

Brief description of the activity: Over the two-day event, that took in Brasília, Brasil, on 13 and 14 November, participants presented their institutions' expertise and field experiences, including mercury trafficking investigations, enforcement of mercury-related activities, and the impact of mercury on the environment and human health. There were participants from 25 public institutions, civil society organizations, Embassies and international cooperation entities.



Participants International Conference on Mercury Illicit Trafficking (November, 2023)		
Female	Male	Total
14	25	39

Describe the results achieved with this activity: Due to the cross-cutting nature of the issue, topics such as enforcement operations in indigenous territories and conservation units, environmentally sound disposal of seized mercury, raising public agents’ awareness of mercury-related risks and problems, health and environmental effects, crime and trafficking route convergence, gold traceability, and paths toward mercury eradication in Brazil (and globally) were intensively addressed. The event served as a starting point for comprehensive dialogue between institutions working with mercury and resulted in an invitation from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MMA) for UNODC to join the Working Group on the implementation of the Minamata Convention in Brazil.

Indicators: Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established |

Name of the activity: ICCWC Indicators Framework Exercise

Objective of the activity: To implement the Indicators Framework in Brazil, focusing on wildlife crimes.

Brief description of the activity: The exercise was conducted over two days, in November 2023, in Brasília, Brazil, with participants divided into two groups to discuss and evaluate 50 indicators across 8 outcomes, which helped measure the national response's performance on effective law enforcement against wildlife crimes. Information gathered during discussions was used to draft a report diagnosing Brazil's situation, including recommendations for strengthening law enforcement capacity and the effectiveness of state actions against wildlife crimes, particularly fauna-related crimes.



Participants		
ICCWC Indicators Framework Exercise (November, 2023)		
Female	Male	Total
23	27	50

Describe the results achieved with this activity: Following this activity, MMA requested UNODC's support in organizing workshops to gather inputs for developing a national plan to combat and prevent wildlife crimes. The plan aims to coordinate national efforts to combat and prevent these crimes.

Indicators: Number of countries with established data baseline on TCCs through Toolkit and/or Indicator Framework: 1 country (Brazil) with established data baseline on TCCs through Indicator Framework.

Name of the activity: WIRE 2023

Objective of the activity: support to two delegates from Brazil (one from customs and one from Ibama) to attend the WIRE meeting in Abu Dhabi in November 2023.

Brief description of the activity: The participants exchanged information in bilateral meetings with other Latin American countries and the project coordinator had meetings with the delegate from Ibama to discuss a joint workplan to develop activities regarding wildlife trafficking in 2024.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: The partnership with Ibama turned to be the most

important for UNODC’s environmental area in 2024. The workplan contained more than 30 activities that were developed by different projects, including ECOS.

Participants WIRE 2023		
Female	Male	Total
1	1	2

Indicators: Number of countries increasing cooperation on TCCs I

Name of the activity: Virtual Workshop to Advance Timber ID Field Techniques

Objective of the activity: To present the results of the machine learning tests developed by Citi/Unesp and to set the date for the field mission to test the tools.

Brief description of the activity: Considering that the consultancy carried out in 2023 received significant support from various xylotheques and other scientific institutions, the event aimed to update these partners on the steps and decisions related to the development of field techniques for timber identification.



Participants Virtual Workshop to Advance Timber ID Field Techniques		
Female	Male	Total (virtual)
11	12	23

Describe the results achieved with this activity: Since the Technical Meeting on Timber ID Initiatives, held in May 2023, a group of specialists was formed. These specialists come from various public institutions that work with timber identification techniques, either in research or field application. The workshop, along with other virtual meetings that followed, aimed to keep this group together to support the development of timber identification field techniques under the ECOS project. These meetings, beyond the decisions made within the project with the experts' support, also proved beneficial for the institutions themselves, strengthening relationships between individuals and the institutions they represent, paving the way for the creation of a Brazilian xylotheque network (an initiative currently under internal study by the institutions).

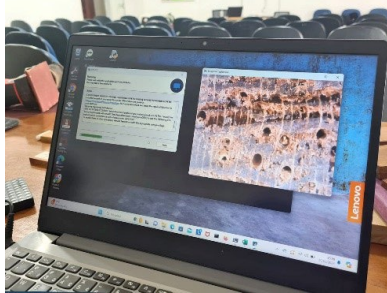
Indicators: Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established |

Name of the activity: Field Mission in the Jamari National Forest, Rondônia, Brazil

Objective of the activity: To test algorithms for supported field wood identification techniques.

Brief description of the activity: Field trips were conducted in the National Forest in March 2024 to collect reliable wood samples (along with botanical samples) of timber species included in the 1st testing phase (15 species). Samples were sent to LPF's wood library. Simultaneously, samples from the same species were collected at the logging site of the company responsible for managing the National Forest, and the algorithms for the two supported techniques (NIRS and imaging) were tested.

Participants Field Mission in the Jamari National Forest, Rondônia, Brazil		
Female	Male	Total (virtual)
2	4	6



Describe the results achieved with this activity: The field tests showed promising results, leading to continued algorithm development by partners (Forest Products Laboratory - LPF and Technological Innovation Center of São Paulo State University – UNESP) and an expansion of the image and spectra database (adding 25 more species).

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance 6

Name of the activity: II Virtual Workshop to Advance Timber ID Field Techniques

Objective of the activity: To present the results of the field mission to Flona Jamari, Rondônia.

Brief description of the activity: As a result of the field mission to the National Forest of Jamari, Rondonia, in March, the project organized the II Virtual Workshop to Advance Wood Identification Field Techniques in April to present the field mission results, discuss the equipment (NIRS) calibration and other findings.



Participants		
II Virtual Workshop to Advance Wood Identification Field Techniques: field mission results (April, 2024)		
Female	Male	Total (virtual)
19	25	44

Describe the results achieved with this activity: Considering that the field tests represented great potential for the development of a timber ID cell phone application to be used in the field based on the supported techniques (imaging and NIRS), the project started two hiring processes: 1) for a new consultancy to expand the database to support the improvement of the two field techniques (inclusion of 25 other species) and 2) for the development of a Timber ID app that will use the database and algorithm for the identification of timber species.

The project also organized a field mission to Brasilia to bring Dr. Carlos Affonso, researcher from State University of São Paulo - Unesp, to work on the calibration of the equipment to adjust the reading of the spectra (NIRS) obtained during the mission to the Jamari Flona. This adjustment was necessary so that the samples collected on the mission can be integrated into the same bank of spectra as the samples collected during the first consultancy in 2023.

Based on requests from representatives of Brazilian xyloteques, who took part in the timber identification workshops in 2023 and 2024, the project also organized the 1st Virtual Meeting to discuss the formalization of a network of Brazilian xyloteques in May. The aim of this meeting was to discuss the formalization of technical cooperation among the xyloteques, not only in the context of the initiatives that the ECOS project is supporting, but also considering the long-term sustainability of the relationship among them and the benefits that can arise from this partnership.

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance 44

Name of the activity: Basic Environmental Enforcement Intelligence Course - International

Objective of the activity: To train employees from institutions involved in the oversight of harmful environmental activities on the basics of intelligence and counterintelligence, as well as techniques to be used in intelligence operations, aiming to develop skills in knowledge production to support the fight against environmental crimes. Additionally, to enhance the investigative capabilities of police and environmental institutions in South American countries, as well as information exchange between them, enabling effective combat against transnational crimes in the region.

Brief description of the activity: The course was attended by 34 participants from Brazilian institutions and 21 participants from counterpart institutions from other countries in the region (Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, French Guiana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay) and the United States. Over five days, participants were trained in intelligence and counterintelligence fundamentals, as well as techniques for intelligence operations, to develop skills in knowledge production to support the fight against environmental crimes.



Participants		
IV Basic Environmental Enforcement Intelligence Course (May, 2024)		
Female	Male	Total
17	38	55

Describe the results achieved with this activity: In addition to training participants in environmental enforcement intelligence techniques, the course helped establish a network of contacts between authorities from South American countries, facilitating information sharing and joint operations.

Indicators: Number of countries increasing cooperation on TCCs; Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance 55

Name of the activity: Shark Fin Identification Program

Objective of the activity: To train employees from institutions involved in environmental enforcement in identifying fins from CITES-listed shark species; to support the strengthening of national institutions in combating the international shark fin trafficking; and to enhance investigative capacities and information sharing between law enforcement institutions.

Brief description of the activity: The course was attended by representatives from national (federal and state) law enforcement institutions and held over three days, offering training on identifying different shark products in commerce, the fundamentals of the international shark fin trade, identifying shark fins at different processing stages, with a focus on CITES-listed species, among other topics. The training was conducted in partnership with the USFWS in Itajaí, Santa Catarina.



Participants Shark Finn ID Training (June, 2024)		
Female	Male	Total
7	13	20

Describe the results achieved with this activity: Besides training participants in morphological techniques to identify shark fins from CITES-listed species at different processing stages, the course helped establish a network of contacts between authorities in the southern region, facilitating information sharing and joint operations.

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance 20

Name of the activity: 1st Expert Workshop for the Development of NDFs for *Handroanthus*, *Tabebuia*, *Dipteryx*, and *Cedrela*

Objective of the activity: To present the data compilation made so far by collaborating researchers and Ibama's team for the purpose of preparing the Non-Detriment Finding (NDF) for tree species, discuss the methodology applied, and receive expert contributions.

Brief description of the activity: The workshop was held in a hybrid format over two days of technical discussions and included national and international institutions, including CITES scientific and administrative authorities from other countries.



Participants		
1 st Expert Workshop for the Construction of the NDF of Brazilian tree species: <i>Cedrela</i> , <i>Dipteryx</i> , <i>Tabebuia</i> , and <i>Handroanthus</i> spp. (June, 2024)		
Female	Male	Total (virtual + in person)
34	55	89

Describe the results achieved with this activity: This was the first of three workshops aimed at sharing and gathering inputs for developing the NDF for *Handroanthus*, *Tabebuia*, *Dipteryx*, and *Cedrela*, four genera included in the Cites appendix II.

Indicators: Number of laws, policies, or regulations that address biodiversity conservation or transnational conservation crimes officially proposed, adopted, or implemented

Name of the activity: 27th Meeting of the CITES Plants Committee (PC27)

Objective of the activity: To participate in the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Brief description of the activity: Considering UNODC's support in developing the NDF for Brazilian tree species listed in CITES appendices, Ibama requested that the Coordinator of the ECOS Project accompany the Brazilian delegation to participate and contribute to the discussions and decisions made during this meeting. The meeting took place in Geneva, Switzerland, in July/2024.



Describe the results achieved with this activity: Given the importance of the discussions held during the meeting, which had direct impacts on the NDF development process, UNODC's support for the Ibama delegation was significant, as was aligning all aspects involved in NDF development.

Indicators: Number of laws, policies, or regulations that address biodiversity conservation or transnational conservation crimes officially proposed, adopted, or implemented |

Name of the activity: 1st Modeling Meeting for the Fishery Origin Control System

Objective of the activity: To gather requirements for modeling the Fishery Origin Control System.

Brief description of the activity: Over two days of meetings, fishing specialists from the Ministry of Environment (MMA), Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (Ibama), and Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture (MPA), along with the consultant hired for the service, discussed the system's key features, challenges, and opportunities. The meeting was held in Brasília, Brasil, in August/2024.

Participants		
1 st Modeling Meeting for the Fishery Origin Control System		
Female	Male	Total (virtual + in person)
4	13	17

Describe the results achieved with this activity: Considering the Brazilian fishery management scenario, in which oversight has changed hands several times in the past 20 years, gathering the institutions involved in promoting, monitoring, and controlling fishing activities was a gain in itself. The challenge to overcome during the system modeling process is to bring institutions closer together and resolve historical bottlenecks that hinder harmonious fishery management in the country.

Indicators: Number of laws, policies, or regulations that address biodiversity conservation or transnational conservation crimes officially proposed, adopted, or implemented |

Name of the activity: 1st Workshop to Develop the National Action Plan for the Prevention and Combat of Wildlife Crimes

Objective of the activity: To receive contributions from state environmental agencies and police for the development of the National Action Plan for the Prevention and Combat of Wildlife and Exotic Crimes, and to understand specific demands, state legislation, and existing/enforced monitoring systems in the states.

Brief description of the activity: Since early 2023, UNODC has been planning, along with the MMA, the steps to develop a participatory national plan consistent with the response capacity of federal and state entities.

This first workshop focused on state entities. Each day of the workshop, about 40 representatives from state environmental agencies, military and civil police (approximately 110 over the three days), and 8 representatives from the federal executive participated virtually and had the opportunity to bring their demands and points of view regarding the construction of the National Plan. For 2024, three workshops were planned for distinct audiences, and two for 2025.



Participants		
1st Workshop to Develop the National Action Plan for the Prevention and Combat of Wildlife Crimes		
Female	Male	Total (virtual + in person)
55	42	97

Describe the results achieved with this activity: The workshop was an opportunity for MMA and UNODC to engage with state entities, creating a space for state demands to be addressed and contributions to the plan to be received.

Indicators: Number of laws, policies, or regulations that address biodiversity conservation or transnational conservation crimes officially proposed, adopted, or implemented |

Name of the activity: 2nd Expert Workshop for the Development of the NDF for the Genera *Handroanthus*, *Tabebuia*, *Dipteryx*, and *Cedrela*

Objective of the activity: To present the data collected and compiled so far by collaborating researchers and the Ibama team with the goal of drafting the Non-Detriment Finding (NDF), discussing the applied methodology, and gathering contributions from specialists.

Brief description of the activity: The workshop was held in person in Belém, Pará, over three days of technical discussions, with the participation of national and international institutions, including scientific and administrative authorities from CITES in other countries.



Participants		
2nd Expert Workshop for the Development of the NDF for the Genera <i>Handroanthus</i> , <i>Tabebuia</i> , <i>Dipteryx</i> , and <i>Cedrela</i>		
Female	Male	Total (virtual + in person)
45	90	135

Describe the results achieved with this activity: This was the second of three workshops aimed at sharing and gathering inputs for the development of the NDF for the *Handroanthus*, *Tabebuia*, *Dipteryx*, and *Cedrela* genera.

Indicators: Number of laws, policies, or regulations that address biodiversity conservation or transnational conservation crimes officially proposed, adopted, or implemented 135

Name of the activity: 2nd Meeting for the Modeling of the Fisheries Origin Control System

Objective of the activity: To gather requirements for the modeling of the Fisheries Origin Control System.

Brief description of the activity: Over two days of meetings, fisheries specialists from the Ministry of the Environment (MMA), the Brazilian Institute of the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (Ibama), and the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture (MPA) met with the consultant contracted for the service to discuss the main functionalities, challenges, and opportunities of the system.

Participants		
2nd Meeting for the Modeling of the Fisheries Origin Control System		
Female	Male	Total (virtual + in person)
4	8	12

Describe the results achieved with this activity: Progress was made compared to the first meeting, with some points of contention being resolved. Periodic virtual meetings with the group or individual institutions continue to be held to better define the system.

Indicators: Number of laws, policies, or regulations that address biodiversity conservation or transnational conservation crimes officially proposed, adopted, or implemented |

3.1.2 ANTICIPATED RESULTS FOR NEXT YEAR

Name of the activity: Ipê and Cumaru Week at CITES: New Rules for the Export of *Handroanthus*, *Tabebuia*, *Dipteryx*, and *Cedrela*

Expected results for next year: Presentation of the results from the NDF (Non-Detriment Findings) documents for tree genera *Handroanthus*, *Tabebuia*, *Dipteryx*, and *Cedrela*, included in the appendices of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and training for the CITES administrative authorities responsible for issuing wood export licenses.

Name of the activity: 2nd Workshop to Develop the National Action Plan for the Prevention and Combat of Wildlife Crimes

Expected results for next year: This workshop represents the second consultation with the 27 federal states of Brazil, providing an opportunity for environmental institutions and state police forces to contribute to the development of the Action Plan by suggesting actions and key focus areas.

Name of the activity: 3rd Workshop to Develop the National Action Plan for the Prevention and Combat of Wildlife Crimes

Expected results for next year: This workshop focuses on gathering input from civil society for the construction of the Action Plan. Institutions with recognized expertise in the field of wildlife have been invited, with prior approval from the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA).

Name of the activity: 3rd Meeting for the Modeling of the Fisheries Origin Control System

Expected results for next year: This round will gather input from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MMA), the Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (Ibama), the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture (MPA), and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAPA) to deliver product 3 of the consultancy for the modeling of the Fisheries Origin Control System: system functionality vision.

Name of the activity: Finalization of the Consultancy for Expanding the Image and Spectra Database for the Two Field Wood Identification Techniques Supported by the ECOS Project

Expected results for next year: Upon the completion of the consultancy, the database to be used in the mobile app for field wood identification will be expanded from 15 to 40 species.

3.1.3 SUMMARY OF RESULTS IN THE YEAR

Exhibit I. Summary of Objective I tasks

TASKS	RESULTS THIS YEAR	PLAN FOR NEXT YEAR
<p>Development of two timber identification field techniques:</p> <p>1) Regional Workshop to Advance Timber Identification Field Techniques</p> <p>2) Virtual Workshop to Advance Timber ID Field Techniques</p> <p>3) Field Mission in the Jamari National Forest, Rondônia, Brazil</p> <p>4) II Virtual Workshop to Advance Timber ID Field Techniques</p>	<p>Between October 2023 and September 2024, events and activities were held with the group of wood identification specialists to advance the development of the two field wood identification techniques and to maintain an active network of interaction between Brazilian xylotheques and government institutions. Following the presentation of the results from the consultancy on the creation of the image and spectra database in November 2023 at the Rio de Janeiro Botanical Garden, and the beginning of the Artificial Intelligence work by UNESP, a field mission was carried out to test the algorithms. Subsequently, a new workshop was held to present the results. Given the positive outcomes, it was decided to expand the image and spectra database through another consultancy, with completion expected by December 2023. Additionally, in October 2024, the contracted company began the development of the mobile application to accommodate both techniques.</p>	<p>Delivery of the first version of the app containing images and spectra of the 40 selected species. The app will undergo field and <i>in silico</i> testing. An event will be held to present the results and officially hand over the app to the Forest Products Laboratory (LPF).</p>
<p>International Conference on Mercury Trafficking</p>	<p>The Conference served as a starting point for comprehensive dialogue between institutions working with mercury and resulted in an invitation from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MMA) for UNODC to join the Working Group on the implementation of the Minamata Convention in Brazil.</p> <p>39 participants attended the workshop.</p>	<p>Considering the activities planned for the ECOS Brasil buy-in, which do not directly include activities related to illegal mining, there are no activities planned for this theme in 2025.</p>
<p>ICCWC Indicators Framework Exercise</p> <p>Ist Workshop to Develop the National Action Plan for the Prevention and Combat of Wildlife Crimes</p>	<p>50 participantes attended the Indicator Framework Exercise. They were government representatives from the state and the federal levels, civil society, universities and international cooperation.</p> <p>The 1st workshop to develop the National Plan was attended by 93 government representatives, most of them from the state level (only 8 were from the federal level – Ministry of Environment, Ibama and ICMBio).</p>	<p>Four more workshops will be held from October/2024 to May/2025 with the aim of drawing up the National Action Plan for the Prevention and Combat of Wildlife Crimes</p>

WIRE 2023	2 Brazilian government representatives attended the meeting (one from Ibama and one from the Federal Revenue)	Evaluate the importance of taking Brazilian representatives to the WIRE 2024
Basic Environmental Enforcement Intelligence Course - International	The course was attended by 34 participants from Brazilian institutions and 21 participants from counterpart institutions from other countries in the region (Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, French Guiana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay) and the United States.	Use SudWEN as a platform to promote the development of a regional network of intelligence.
Shark Fin Identification Program	The course was promoted in partnership with USFWS and attended by 20 representatives from national (federal and state) law enforcement institutions.	Identify other trainings that can be offered in partnership with USFWS, specially on wildlife.
1st Expert Workshop for the Development of NDFs for <i>Handroanthus</i> , <i>Tabebuia</i> , <i>Dipteryx</i> , and <i>Cedrela</i>	Two workshops were held this year to present and gather contributions to the development of the Non Detriment Findings Document of the four tree genera included in Cites. National and international institutions participated, including CITES scientific and administrative authorities from other countries.	Presentation of the NDF documents drawn up by Ibama and the new rules valid from November 2024 for the <i>Handroanthus</i> , <i>Tabebuia</i> , <i>Dipteryx</i> and <i>Cedrela</i> genera (Ipê and cumaru week at cites).
27 th Meeting of the CITES Plants Committee (PC27)	The first workshop was held in a hybrid format and attended by 89 people. The second workshop was held in Belém, Para, also with some virtual participations, and was attended by 135 people.	Training for the new administrative authorities appointed by Ibama to work on issuing timber export licenses.
2nd Expert Workshop for the Development of the NDF for the Genera <i>Handroanthus</i> , <i>Tabebuia</i> , <i>Dipteryx</i> , and <i>Cedrela</i>	The participation of the ECOS coordinator in the 27 th Meeting of the CITES Plants Committee was requested by Ibama, considering the discussions that were held regarding NDF construction and the new exportation rules from the European Union.	
1st Modeling Meeting for the Fishery Origin Control System	17 representatives from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Chnage, Ibama and the Ministry of Fisheries attended the first meeting, 12 attended the second meeting.	3rd Meeting for the Modeling of the Fisheries Origin Control System
2nd Meeting for the Modeling of the		

3.1.4 COLOMBIA YEAR # 3 RESULTS

ECOS COLOMBIA

Activity name: Application of the Global ICCWC Indicators Framework Tool for Colombia

Objective of the activity: To conduct a self-assessment of the effectiveness of the responses of the criminal and administrative justice system to wildlife and forest crimes

Brief Description of the Activity: The application of the global tool consists of four (4) stages: 1) **Planning Stage**, which allowed for the careful selection of attendees, their technical profiles, and the entities involved, thus representing the six regions of Colombia; 2) **Information Collection Stage**, through a workshop held on May 8 and 9, 2024, in Bogotá. This workshop was conducted jointly with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) and included participation from 44 entities and over 98 attendees from the Regional Autonomous Corporations and Sustainable Development, the Attorney General's Office, National Police (DICAR, SIJIN, DIJIN), Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Judiciary, General Command of the Armed Forces, National Natural Parks, Research Institutes, International Cooperation, among others, whose work is transversal to environmental crime control; 3) **Data Processing and Analysis Stage**, where the following activities are being carried out: i) verification, consolidation, and tabulation; ii) technical analysis; iii) processing and transcription of audio and video information; iv) collection of data for the indicators based on ED data requested from the CARs, Police, Judges, and Attorney General's Office. Once the analysis is complete, a preliminary country report will be presented for validation by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, which will include a diagnosis of the current situation and a series of recommendations and opportunities for strengthening the state's response; 4) **Publication Stage**, for which administrative processes are underway to contract the services for designing, layout, style correction, and printing of the country report.

Participants Application of the Global ICCWC Indicators Framework Tool for Colombia		
Female	Male	Total
48	50	98



Describe the Results Achieved with This Activity: The workshop achieved the participation of entities and stakeholders representing the six regions of the country, as well as encompassing the dimensions involved in the fight against environmental crimes, particularly against the illegal trafficking of wildlife species; including the administrative, criminal, and law enforcement dimensions. Additionally, it included participation from academia, research institutes, and international cooperation, which are crucial actors in the prevention and combat against environmental crimes. Furthermore, strengths were identified for enhancement and opportunities for improvement to increase the effectiveness of the application of laws related to environmental crimes.

Indicators: Number of countries with established data baseline on TCCs through Toolkit and/or Indicator Framework I

Activity Name: Training Workshop on General Aspects of CITES for Personnel of Colombia's Regional Autonomous and Sustainable Development Corporations

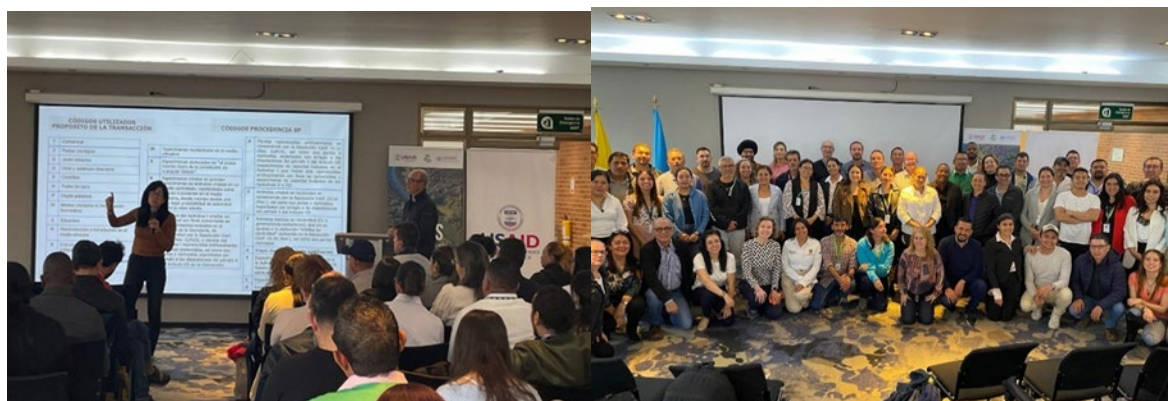
Objective of the Activity: To strengthen the technical and scientific support structure needed by the Administrative Authority (A.A.) and the Scientific Authority (A.C.) for the effective implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in Colombia.

Brief Description of the Activity: On August 27 and 28, the training workshop on general aspects of CITES was held in Bogotá, aimed at personnel from the Regional Autonomous and Sustainable Development Corporations of Colombia. This was a collaborative effort between the ECOS project (USAID-UNODC) and the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the latter serving as the CITES Administrative Authority for the country.

The workshop successfully introduced the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), its concepts, generalities, regulatory framework, and scope of application in Colombia. It identified the country's need to strengthen the technical and scientific support structure provided by the Regional Autonomous and Sustainable Development Corporations, which are crucial for the effective implementation of CITES.

Participants

Training Workshop on General Aspects of CITES		
Female	Male	Total
33	37	70



Describe the Results Achieved with This Activity: After twenty years without holding this type of workshop, 70 attendees from Regional Autonomous and Sustainable Development Corporations, research institutes, international cooperation, and other organizations were convened. There was a significant exchange of knowledge and experiences regarding the interpretation and application of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance 70

Activity Name: Workshops for Strengthening Environmental Oversight Management for the Environmental Delegate Comptroller

Objective of the Activity: To support the Environmental Affairs Comptroller in the workshop for strengthening environmental oversight management for Regional and Delegated Comptrollers.

Brief Description of the Activity: Since August, the ECOS project, in collaboration with the Environmental Affairs Comptroller, has conducted the following workshops:

- August 23: Medellín
- August 30: Bucaramanga
- September 25: Santa Marta
- September 26: Barranquilla
- September 27: Cartagena

In these workshops, the procedure for verifying principles and assessing environmental costs is shared, along with the Guide for Auditing Environmental Instruments. The ECOS project also supports the topic of environmental sanctions and environmental crimes associated with non-compliance of the control instruments of the Environmental Authorities.

These sessions aim to strengthen the knowledge of regional comptroller officials to promote transparency in public management. Additionally, they provide conceptual tools to ensure the efficiency of oversight of

Colombian environmental authorities (Regional Autonomous Corporations and Sustainable Development Corporations) in the protection of natural capital. The workshops generate understanding and updates on the sanctioning processes arising from audited environmental instruments and their relationship with environmental crimes.

Participants		
Workshops for Strengthening Environmental Oversight Management for the Environmental Delegate Comptroller		
Female	Male	Total
186	176	362



Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance 362

Activity Name: Implementation of the TRACE Methodology for First Responders at Environmental Crime Scenes

Objective of the Activity: To apply the first and second parts of the capacity assessment survey for managing wildlife crime scenes—TRACE

Brief Description of the Activity: The TRACE Wildlife Forensics Network (TRACE) is a nonprofit organization that helps national agencies assess their internal capacity for evidence management and develop institutional standard operating procedures for safety. It also provides training for experts, forensic specialists, and administrative, environmental, and judicial authorities.

As part of the ECOS project and in coordination with TRACE, two TRACE surveys were conducted during the workshops of the ICCW and CITES Indicators Framework, considering the participation of experts on wildlife issues from various Colombian entities. The surveys were aimed at determining the capabilities of environmental authorities on the ground to address the scene of environmental crime as first responders and to preserve evidence and material elements of proof



Describe the results achieved with this activity: Two surveys were conducted, one in May with 22 questions and another in August with 22 questions. Based on the analysis of the results obtained, the TRACE workshop "Mastering Evidence Tracking: A Guide for Crime Scene Investigators and First Responders, Colombia" will be held in November. This workshop aims to create a high-level discussion space about the current state of crime scene management and evidence handling capabilities in the country related to environmental crimes.

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance

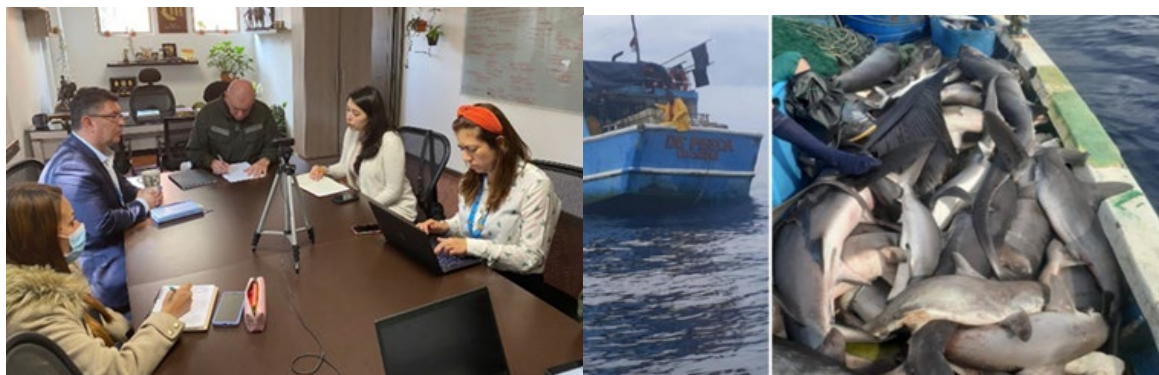
Activity Name: Mentorship and Support for SIJIN DICAR in Transnational Environmental Crime Cases

Objective of the Activity: To support the management of investigations into transnational environmental crimes to strengthen the evidence base for each case, seeking effective convictions for wildlife crimes. To achieve this objective, there are two lines of joint work: i) technical support from the expert team to improve the organization and review of information by creating a monitoring matrix, technical fiches for each case, and supporting documentation files that assist internal requests to other entities such as research institutes and environmental authorities; ii) support to facilitate the engagement of Colombian prosecutors and investigators with their counterparts in other countries where the criminal financial network of trafficking transcends.

Brief Description of the Activity: The ECOS Colombia project, as part of strengthening the capacities of both the Police and the Prosecutor's Office to address crimes "from the crime scene to the courtroom," has been working collaboratively with the National Police, the Carabineros Directorate (DICAR), and its criminal investigation unit (SIJIN).

To date, nearly 10 informative and supportive meetings have been held regarding cases: 4 meetings with the supervisors of the SIJIN investigative team to gather information on investigations while safeguarding the confidentiality of each case, 2 meetings with prosecutors related to cases of timber trafficking (balso and achapo) and shark finning, and 4 meetings with investigators on cases involving kambó, poison frog trafficking, shark finning, and balso trafficking.

Participants		
Mentorship and Support for SIJIN DICAR in Transnational Environmental Crime Cases		
Female	Male	Total
15	23	38



Description of the Results Achieved with This Activity: Support has been provided for six (6) transnational trafficking cases: i) Tropical frogs from Chocó; ii) Shark fin trafficking; iii) Trafficking of toxin (kambo) extracted from the Phyllomedusa frog; iv) Trafficking of 38 wildlife specimens; v) Alleged illegal entry of exotic aquatic species from Asia; and vi) Timber trafficking with Ecuador destined for Asian markets.

Currently, we are conducting meetings with the Prosecutor's Office and case investigators, working on the planning of two upcoming meetings. The first involves the travel of a prosecutor and investigator to take a witness statement in Tarragona, Spain, which is crucial for the "Shark Finning" case (shark fin trafficking to Asian markets). This is scheduled for November 12 and 13, with a request for judicial assistance to validate the procedure within existing legal cooperation frameworks, supported by the Spanish Civil Guard (SEPRONA). The second meeting is planned for November 19 and 20 in Quito, Ecuador, for the "Entre Rutas" case (timber trafficking).

We are also collaborating with ECOS colleagues from other countries who are regionally supporting the information collection, always respecting judicial autonomy and the principles of compartmentalization and confidentiality of information.

Indicators: Number of countries increasing cooperation on TCCs |

Activity Name: Integration and Experience Sharing Among Prosecutors with a Regional Focus

Objective of the Activity: To strengthen mechanisms for cooperation and direct information exchange between the Prosecutor's Offices of Colombia-Ecuador and Colombia-Peru, to contribute to the development of investigations into environmental crimes and natural resource offenses affecting all three countries. Additionally, to establish sustainable bilateral technical mechanisms that facilitate coordinated work among specialized environmental crime prosecutors, information sharing, consolidation of technical knowledge, and mutual support among counterpart authorities.

Brief Description of the Activity: In coordination with the International Affairs Office of the Attorney General's Office (Environmental Protection Network of the Ibero-American Association of Public Prosecutors) and the Amazonia Mia USAID project, two binational technical meetings for prosecutors were held in Bogotá in November and December 2023. These meetings were focused on working collaboratively in the region to establish agile, timely, and secure communication channels that enable effective and coordinated action in investigations of environmental crimes and offenses against natural resources.



Description of the Results Achieved with This Activity: A work plan has been developed between Colombia-Peru and Colombia-Ecuador for transnational environmental crimes related to wildlife and forests, identifying seven common border cases as follows:



Se suscribió un plan de acción que está en ejecución.

Principales delitos: tráfico de madera; explotación minera; comercio ilegal de oro y tráfico de mercurio.

Principales áreas: Cuenca del río Putumayo; triángulo de Telembí.

RADICADOS FGN

Radicado 860016099053202001150

Radicado 110016000000201700967

Radicado 110016099034201900035



Se suscribió un plan de acción que está en ejecución.

Principales delitos: tráfico de madera; explotación minera; deforestación; tráfico de mercurio

Principales áreas: Pto Leguizamo; El Encanto-Puerto Alegría; cuenca del río oPutumayo

RADICADOS FGN

Radicado 520016000496201-00080

Radicado 110016000000202100104

Radicado 10016000000202202115

Radicado 910016000659202000024

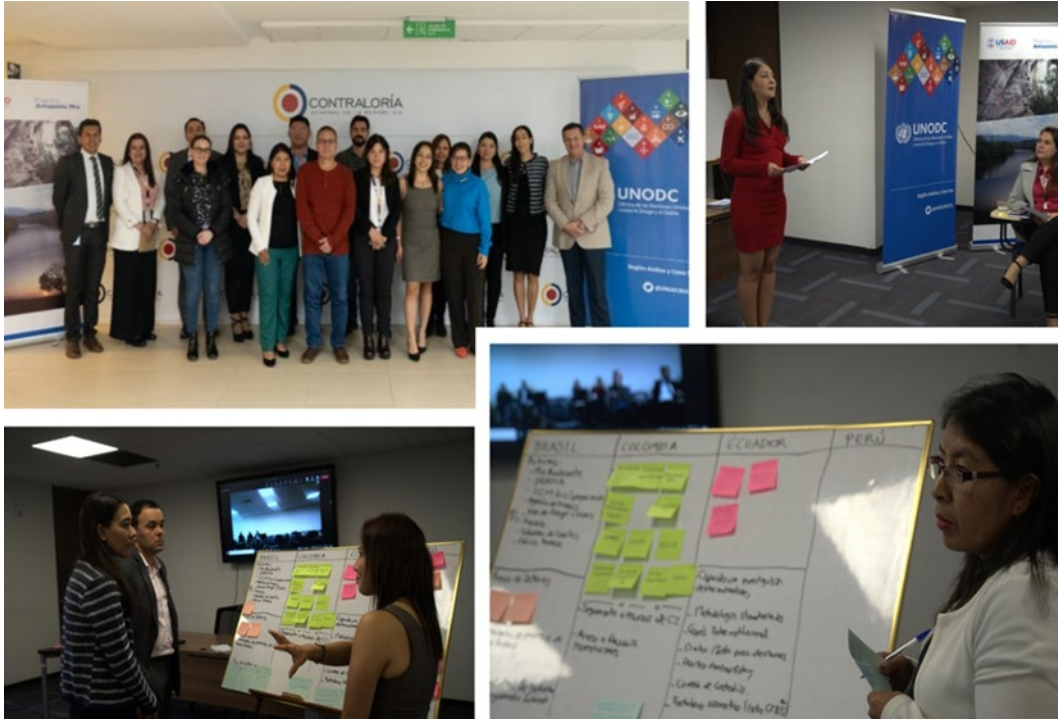
Indicators: Number of countries increasing cooperation on TCCs 3

Activity Name: First Multilateral Working Meeting of Supreme Audit Institutions (Comptroller's Office) on Environmental Matters from Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru at the facilities of the Comptroller General of the Republic, in the city of Bogotá DC, Colombia.

Objective of the Activity: To strengthen the international network of environmental oversight and control entities in the Amazon biome through a memorandum of understanding, with the aim of establishing a joint work plan that facilitates the exchange of good practices and successful experiences in addressing environmental crimes, while fostering technical collaboration among the oversight and control institutions of Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. This will be achieved through platforms for information exchange, consolidation of technical knowledge, legal procedures, and mutual support.

Brief Description of the Activity: As part of the coordination between the ECOS – UNODC programs and the Amazonia Mía (AM) program of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), a Multilateral Working Meeting of Supreme Audit Institutions (Comptroller's Offices) on Environmental Matters from Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru was held in Bogotá in October 2023. The meeting aimed to strengthen the joint and coordinated actions of these units by creating a multilateral working group with oversight and control entities. This group will facilitate agreements that contribute to best practices and share experiences in addressing deforestation and related environmental crimes and offenses in the Amazon biome.

Participants		
First Multilateral Working Meeting of Supreme Audit Institutions (Comptroller's Office) on Environmental Matters from Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru at the facilities of the Comptroller General of the Republic, in the city of Bogotá DC, Colombia		
Female	Male	Total
10	6	16



Description of the Results Achieved with This Activity: The mechanisms of fiscal oversight related to environmental issues in each country were reviewed and compared, along with their regulatory frameworks and successful experiences. A common work plan was developed.

Indicators: Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established |

Activity Name: First Bilateral Working Meeting of UIAF Colombia and UIF Peru

Objective of the Activity: To promote active collaboration and the exchange of information and successful experiences in monitoring and tracking financial movements associated with environmental crimes between UIF Colombia and Peru.

Brief Description of the Activity: On October 5 and 6, 2023, the first bilateral session between Colombia and Peru was held at the UIAF facilities in Bogotá. This session aimed to foster active collaboration and the exchange of information and successful experiences in monitoring and tracking financial movements associated with environmental crimes. A work plan was developed to identify macro cases in the Amazon biome (transboundary cases related to deforestation and related crimes), as well as to consolidate a reference document of open-source information according to each country's financial intelligence entity.

Description of the Results Achieved with This Activity: Official bi-national contact points were defined at both coordination and technical levels for each UIF, allowing for support requests if either UIF wishes to develop specific actions related to their joint project. Actions include the exchange of tools for learning, such as analytical tools.

The work plan developed by the UIFs of Colombia and Peru in 2021 was updated to include an environmental focus, aligned with planned activities and operational issues associated with cases, prioritizing the Amazon biome.

An international network of financial intelligence and analysis units was created among Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru to facilitate effective communication and information exchange for addressing macro cases of deforestation and related crimes in the Amazon biome. It was concluded that the UIAF Colombia considers the possibility of using the tool from the World Customs Organization (Egmont-Customs).

Indicators: Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established |

3.1.5 ANTICIPATED RESULTS FOR NEXT YEAR

Name of the activity: Application of the Global ICCWC Indicators Framework Tool for Colombia

Expected results for next year: The country report is expected to be published pending validation, approval, and authorization from the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. Additionally, there are hopes to have a space to socialize this report with participating institutions and/or other interested parties.

Name of the activity: Training Workshop on General Aspects of CITES for Personnel of Colombia's Regional Autonomous and Sustainable Development Corporations

Expected results for next year: Continue strengthening the technical and scientific support structure needed by the Administrative Authority (A.A.) and the Scientific Authority (A.C.) for the effective implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in Colombia. This will be achieved by conducting a second training workshop on general aspects of CITES in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, inviting environmental authorities from across the national territory

Name of the activity: Workshops for Strengthening Environmental Oversight Management for the Environmental Delegate Comptroller

Expected results for next year: To continue with the workshops to strengthen the knowledge of officials in regional control entities, to promote transparency in public management. Additionally, conceptual tools will be provided to ensure the efficiency of oversight of Colombian environmental authorities (Regional Autonomous Corporations and Sustainable Development Corporations) in the protection of natural capital.

Name of the activity: Implementation of the TRACE Methodology for First Responders at Environmental Crime Scenes

Expected results for next year: Based on the analysis of the results obtained, the TRACE workshop "Mastering Evidence Tracking: A Guide for Crime Scene Investigators and First Responders, Colombia" will be held in November. This workshop aims to create a high-level discussion space about the current state of crime scene management and evidence handling capabilities in the country related to environmental crimes.

Name of the activity: Mentorship and Support for SIJIN DICAR in Transnational Environmental Crime Cases

Expected results for next year: In November 2024, support is planned for a key witness statement taking in Tarragona, Spain, for the shark finning case, as well as a meeting of prosecutors and investigators in Quito for the transnational timber trafficking case.

Name of the activity: Integration and Experience Sharing Among Prosecutors with a Regional Focus

Expected results for next year: Continue with the action plan to strengthen cooperation mechanisms and direct information exchange between the Prosecutor's Offices of Colombia-Ecuador and Colombia-Peru, to contribute to the development of investigations into environmental crimes and natural resource offenses affecting the three countries. Additionally, explore the possibility of involving the Prosecutor's Office of Brazil. In this context, a bilateral technical meeting between Colombia and Ecuador will be held on November 19 and 20, with the participation of prosecutors and investigators.

Name of the activity: First Multilateral Working Meeting of Supreme Audit Institutions (Contraloría) on Environmental Matters from Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru at the offices of the General Comptroller's Office of the Republic in Bogotá, D.C., Colombia.

Expected results for next year: This activity was finished, and the work plan and the experiences were known by all the participants

Name of the activity: First Bilateral Working Meeting of UIAF Colombia and UIF Peru

Expected results for next year: This activity was finished, and the reference document of open-source information according to each supreme audit institution in each country were known by the participants

3.1.6 SUMMARY OF RESULTS IN THE YEAR

Enter text here.

Exhibit 2. Summary of Objective 1 tasks

TASKS	RESULTS THIS YEAR	PLAN FOR NEXT YEAR
(Example: Training on AAA to law enforcement agencies)	(Example: 65 police officers trained)	(Example: Online course delivered by the National Police)

Add lines as needed

3.1.7 ECUADOR YEAR # 3 RESULTS

October 2023

Name of the activity: Workshop "From Journalism to Action: Combating Crimes Affecting the Environment through Information"

Objective of the activity: To provide training for journalists and communicators, aiming to effectively address environmental issues and promote public awareness regarding the urgent need to combat crimes affecting the environment.

Brief description of the activity: On October 19, 2024, a workshop titled "From Journalism to Action: Combating Environmental Crimes through Information" was held in Quito as part of the ECOS project, aimed at training over 15 journalists and communicators from various media outlets and public sector institutions. The workshop covered the legal framework for prosecuting environmental crimes in Ecuador and included a case study on turtle trafficking in Galápagos. Participants learned to identify and cover environmental crimes while understanding the importance of confidentiality and rigorous investigation. The second part provided insights on investigative tools and approaches, alongside discussions on the need for inclusive participation of local and indigenous journalists. This initiative aims to empower journalists to significantly contribute to reporting and preventing environmental crimes, ultimately raising public awareness about these critical issues.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: The workshop "From Journalism to Action: Combating Environmental Crimes through Information" successfully equipped participants with essential knowledge and skills to address environmental issues in their reporting. Key results included enhanced understanding of the legal framework surrounding environmental crimes in Ecuador and the practical application of investigative techniques through real case studies. Journalists gained insights into the complexities of environmental crimes, including the importance of confidentiality during investigations. The collaboration with experts provided participants with valuable tools for conducting robust investigations, while discussions on the involvement of local and indigenous voices emphasized the significance of an inclusive approach. Overall, the activity fostered a network of informed journalists committed to raising public awareness and effectively reporting on environmental crimes, contributing to ongoing efforts to combat these issues in their communities.

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance.

F2.3 Other specialized trainings/mentorship support based on the gaps identified in the countries (linked to action A) in response to the Toolkit/Indicator Framework-implementation of recommendations, including work with justice sector authorities

Workshop "From Journalism to Action: Combating Crimes Affecting the Environment through Information" Participants		
Female	Male	Total
9	6	15





Name of the activity: Participatory Validation Workshop for 'Animals in Danger' with Galápagos Authorities and Stakeholders (12/11/2023)

Objective of the activity: To create an impactful educational narrative by involving local institutions, the author, and the editorial coordinator in a collaborative validation workshop. Through active participation and valuable feedback, the aim is to enhance the construction of the story "Animals in Danger Galápagos," ensuring alignment with the local context and incorporating diverse and expert perspectives.

Brief description of the activity: In Galápagos, in collaboration with USAID, in October 2023 the validation process of Animals in Danger, an educational tool designed for children to learn about wildlife trafficking, was finalized. This initiative is based on the ICCWC Indicator Framework recommendations and aligned with the Curricular Contextualization. The validation process has received support from various organizations, including Galapagos Government Council, Galapagos National Park, Charles Darwin Foundation, Agreement for Education Galapagos, ABG Galápagos, Ministry of Education, USFQ, ECOS Foundation, and NAVEducando.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: Secured support from the Galapagos National Park (PNG) and the Ministry of Education for project advancement. Established collaboration with San Francisco University of Quito (USFQ) to validate scientific information, engaging biologists with a presence in the islands. Completed the validation phase in partnership with PNG, the Charles Darwin Foundation, and various NGOs in Galapagos, including key stakeholders from local governments, National Park, ABG, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Education, Accord for Education in Galapagos, USFQ, and local NGOs.

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance.

Participants Participatory Validation Workshop for 'Animals in Danger' with Galápagos Authorities and Stakeholders		
Female	Male	Total
4	5	9



November 2023

Name of the activity: Interagency workshop the chain of custody manual for wildlife evidence in Galapagos.

Objective of the activity: The objective is to enhance investigations and prosecutions of wildlife crimes by developing technical tools and reference guides to strengthen interagency coordination and the chain of custody for evidence.

Brief description of the activity: On October 11, 2023, a technical workshop was held in coordination with WCS to identify the institutions, roles, and competencies of first responders. Case simulations were conducted to assess the current chain of custody procedures and the necessary coordination with institutions on the Ecuadorian mainland. Critical points were identified, and a general outline of the process was established. All the representatives and participants emphasized the importance of inter-institutional collaboration and the need to standardize minimum security and evidence management protocols across all institutions with a participation of over 10 organizations.

The technical data collected during the workshop further refined the chain of custody manual in collaboration with the National Forensic Sciences Service. Feedback from participants has been incorporated, and the process flowchart was reviewed, considering the Galapagos' geographical attending to Galapagos geographical background. Two additional technical work sessions are planned to advance the joint construction of the manual, ensuring that it reflects the realities of field operations and enhances coordination between institutions.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: The activity identified key institutions, roles, and competencies for first responders in the chain of custody for wildlife evidence in the Galapagos region. Simulated cases, critical nodes, and the lack of inter-institutional collaboration, standardizing security and the need of evidence management protocols were emphasized and provided critical insights into current procedures and gaps in coordination, which are now being addressed in the Chain Custody Manual approved by the National Forensic Service.

Indicators: Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established |

Participants Interagency workshop the chain of custody manual for wildlife evidence in Galapagos		
Female	Male	Total
9	20	29



Name of the activity: Gender study to understand the role of women in wildlife trafficking, addressing and preventing TCCs.

Objective of the activity: The objective of this activity is to gather in-depth insights into the dynamics of illegal wildlife trade in the Amazon region of Ecuador. It aims to understand the complexities of illegal wildlife trade, particularly the availability of illegal wildlife products in known illicit markets, while emphasizing the vital role of indigenous women in environmental protection and conservation leadership.

Brief description of the activity: This activity involved a mission to Ecuador as part of the IWT & Gender LATAM research project, where a team assisted UNODC researcher Shannon Rivera in

conducting semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders in the Sucumbíos and Orellana provinces. The activity aimed to gain insights into the illegal wildlife trade dynamics in the Amazon region by engaging law enforcement officials, non-governmental organizations, and leaders from indigenous communities. Through these interviews, the team explored the availability of illegal wildlife products in illicit markets, emphasized the critical role of Indigenous women in conservation, and assessed the technological surveillance mechanisms used by communities. The data collected will contribute to a comprehensive UNODC research brief focusing on gender-disaggregated data and illegal wildlife trade analysis.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: The activity yielded significant preliminary results supporting objectives for the forthcoming quarter. Key achievements include the initiation of the consolidation of critical datasets, particularly focusing on gender-disaggregated data, which will enhance understanding of the roles of various stakeholders in the illegal wildlife trade. Additionally, an in-depth analysis of illegal wildlife trade data has been initiated, laying the groundwork for identifying trends and patterns that inform intervention strategies.

Indicators: UNODC research brief published in the UNODC Wildlife Crime Report 2024, which aims to synthesize findings and provide actionable insights for policymakers and practitioners.

Participants Gender study developed to understand the role of women in addressing and preventing TCCs		
Female	Male	Total
4	7	11



Name of the activity: Interagency workshop the chain of custody manual for wildlife evidence in Quito.

Objective of the activity: The objective is to enhance investigations and prosecutions of wildlife crimes by developing technical tools and reference guides to strengthen interagency coordination and the chain of custody for evidence in the Continental region.

Brief description of the activity: The workshop focused on establishing a Technical Commission responsible for creating an Instruction Manual on the handling of evidence related to wildlife offenses in the Continental Ecuador. This initiative aimed to reinforce the chain of custody concerning the possession, control, management, and transfer of physical evidence in wildlife crime cases, thereby safeguarding the integrity of evidence throughout the investigative and judicial processes.

During the workshop, participants were presented with the initial findings from the consolidation of Ecuadorian regulations, along with updates on the progress of the Instruction Manual's development. An exchange of experiences, case studies, and best practices from Africa and Asia was facilitated by TRACE Wildlife Forensics Network, aimed at enhancing local and regional capabilities in addressing environmental crimes effectively, from crime scene management to judicial procedures.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: The activity identified key institutions, roles, and competencies for first responders in the chain of custody for wildlife evidence in the continental region

of Ecuador and complement the task III in the Galapagos Region. Simulated cases, critical nodes, and the lack of inter-institutional collaboration, standardizing security and the need of evidence management protocols were emphasized and provided critical insights into current procedures and gaps in coordination with the National Forensic Service.

Indicators: Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established |

Assistants Interagency workshop the chain of custody manual for wildlife evidence in Quito		
Female	Male	Total
10	16	26



January 2024

- **Name of the activity:** Technical Meeting of Wood Identification and Traceability
- **Objective of the activity:** Make known to the Directorate of Forests as the governing body the findings of needs and work opportunities with public institutions, the judicial function and academia
- **Brief description of the activity:**
Due to the change of authorities in the Direction of Forests of the Ministry of Environment of Ecuador, a presentation was made by the Interagency Technical Group of Timber and Traceability. The activities carried out by the technical group were presented. Just as the needs were made known in the areas of regulations; training, information resources, equipment required to improve the control and investigation processes of forest crimes in Ecuador. It is

important to mention the role of the academy through the University of Loja to promote species identification resources that contribute to the investigations of justice operators.

- **Describe the results achieved with this activity:**

There is a mapping of the needs of the institutions and priority activities are identified, especially to work on a wood repository and standardize methodologies with a view to a national wood library that is an input and contribution for the competent environmental institutions, specialized police units and justice operators

- **Indicators:** Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established I

- **Participants:**

Participants Technical Meeting of Wood Identification and Traceability		
Female	Male	Total
7	14	21



Legislación y Normativa

1. Revisión y mejoramiento de la legislación y normativa existente (tipificación de delitos forestales)

2. Cadena de valor:

Crear un manual de procesos operativos interinstitucionales – protocolos y criterios de homologación.
Normas para el manejo y administración forestales (regencia).

3. Acceso al recurso:
Norma secundaria para aprobación de programas forestales con información clave (nombre científico especies)

4. Control Forestal:

Norma secundaria de control forestal
Protocolo o manual de normativa secundaria de control forestal

Acceso a Recursos

1. Control forestal

Recursos humanos en puestos de control

2. Desarrollo recursos para el control que dependen de una base de datos
Trazabilidad y control documental:
Creación de módulo de control forestal

3. Recursos para el control que dependen de una base de datos para Identificación de maderas (con apoyo de instituciones que ya poseen bases de datos)

4. Acceso a la información

Disponibilidad de base de datos (para asegurar la transparencia)
Facilidades de acceso a sistemas de información forestal generada por el MAATE.
Acceso a colecciones de maderas para su caracterización.

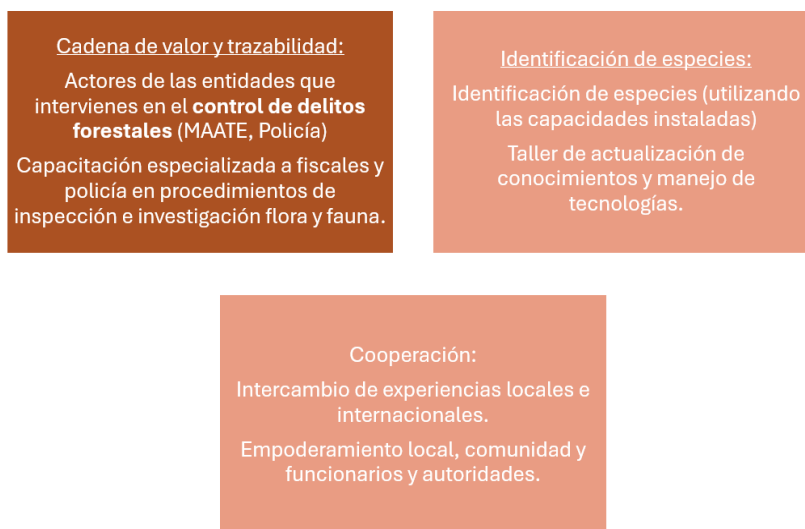
5. Aplicación de la información

Guías y manuales para la identificación de especies e información estandarizada.
XILOTECA VIRTUAL_UNL.
Gestión de obtención de Xylotrón (a nivel académico para que se vayan construyendo capacidades).

6. Recursos de infraestructura y bienes muebles:

Infraestructura física y tecnológica (prioridad).
Implementar/evaluar la instalación de CITEmadera Ecuador (CIMT).
Recursos Humanos.

Capacitación



February 2024

Name of the activity: 2nd Workshop for the Creation of Pedagogical Guides for Teachers

Objective of the activity: To validate pedagogical guides with local teachers, ensuring alignment with the Contextualized Curriculum of Galápagos, thus enhancing educational outreach.

Brief description of the activity: On February 26, the 2nd Workshop for the Creation of Pedagogical Guides for Teachers, was organized to align educational resources with the Contextualized Curriculum of Galápagos within the framework of the "Animals in Danger Galápagos" initiative, was held with active participation from key stakeholders. During the workshop, discussions were held to validate reports and pedagogical guides for each grade of the target group (5th, 6th, and 7th grade). Teachers provided valuable feedback to refine the resources, fostering a shared understanding of the educational objectives of the "Animals in Danger Galápagos" initiative and the importance of integrating crime prevention themes into the curriculum.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: Overall, participation and development in the 2nd Workshop for the Creation of Pedagogical Guides for Teachers contributed to the advancement of educational outreach and conservation efforts in the Galápagos region. By aligning educational resources with the Contextualized Curriculum of Galápagos, the workshop aimed to empower teachers to effectively communicate conservation messages and inspire their students to protect the unique biodiversity of the Galápagos Islands. The guide is part of the Animals in Danger initiative and kit for teachers.

Participants		
Female	Male	Total
6	2	8



March 2024

Name of the activity: Regional Bilateral Working Meetings between Financial Intelligence Units from Ecuador and Peru.

Objective of the activity: The objective is to strengthen regional collaboration among the Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) of Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia in tackling environmental crimes and illicit financial flows through joint case work and enhanced understanding of regulatory frameworks.

Brief description of the activity: The initial bilateral meetings were held from March 18th to 22nd, 2024 in Lima, Perú, with participation from the Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) of Peru and Ecuador (UAFE). The primary aim of these meetings was to enhance regional cooperation in tackling cross-border environmental crimes such as deforestation, illegal mining, and shark fin trafficking.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: The bilateral meetings resulted in the successful transfer and adaptation of best practices related to managing open and closed databases, enhancing the analytical capacity and information exchange between the Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) of Ecuador and Peru. This outcome will be showcased to the Latin American Financial Action Group (GAFILAT) as a replicable model for other countries in the region. Additionally, a comprehensive roadmap was developed to outline further collaborative activities among the FIUs of Peru, and Ecuador, which will be submitted for validation by national authorities.

Indicators: Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established |

Assistants Regional Bilateral Working Meetings between Financial Intelligence Units from Ecuador and Peru.		
Female	Male	Total
5	11	16



Name of the activity: Technical meetings in the commission for the protocol for the management of indications and/or evidence related to crimes against the environment.

Objective of the activity: Development of Chain Custody Protocol for Managing Evidence Related to Wildlife and Forestry crimes.

Brief description of the activity: This activity involved conducting three technical meetings within a dedicated commission aimed at developing a protocol for managing indications and evidence associated with environmental crimes. The meetings were held on February 14th, March 4th, and March 5th, 2024, and included participation from over nine key institutions, such as the National Criminalistics Service, National Police, Ministry of the Environment, and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). The UNODC provided technical assistance in drafting the protocol and reached the results and technical data from the tasks III and V from Galapagos and Continental Region.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: The technical meetings successfully consolidated a technical protocol that will enhance coordination and adherence to standards in managing evidence related to Wildlife and Forestry crimes. This protocol has been successfully approved and officially validates procedures for various operational entities involved in preserving the chain of custody for this type of offense and felonies. Additionally, the UNODC plans to develop a specialized guide summarizing the protocol for field personnel, ensuring it is practical and tailored to first responders.

Indicators: Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established |

	Technical personnel attended on the Technical meetings for the protocol for the indications and/or evidence related to crimes against the environment		
	Female	Male	Total
14-02-2024	7	10	17
04-03-2024	5	11	16
05-03-2024	7	16	23
Total	19	37	56



April 2024

Name of the activity: FiTI Meeting to review and provide feedback on the first draft FiTI report

Objective of the activity: The main objective was to present a first draft of the FiTI report based on information from open sources and to have comments from the institutions that make up the multi-stakeholder group.

Brief description of the activity:

The first technical workshop to validate the progress of the FiTI report will be held on April 25 and 26. It is a first validation that only considers open sources.

Virtual meetings (19/02/2024 and 28/02/2024) and a face-to-face meeting (12/03/2024) were held with the team of 3 experts in charge of updating the report for fisheries transparency. It was agreed that a first advance will be made with desktop information focused on open sources of information. Additionally, induction meetings have been held to explain the methodology of the FiTI report.

The meeting was chaired by the Vice Minister of Aquaculture and Fisheries, Rafaela Hurtado. At the meeting, the First Draft of the Annual Report for Fisheries Transparency FiTI-EC was presented.

During the meeting, members of the Multi-Stakeholder Group provided feedback on the content of the first draft through recommendations and observations in an open debate space.

The 12 indicators of the report were presented, which are related to current regulations, vessel authorizations, status of fishing resources, socioeconomic information, data on imports and exports, labor regulations, subsidies and development projects in the country, as well as the final beneficiaries of the sector.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: First Draft of the Annual Report for Fisheries Transparency FiTI-EC was presented it contains the information of open resources of official web pages. Feedback from institutions is available for the twelve indicators of the report.





Indicators: Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established I
Participants:

First FiTI Meeting		
Female	Male	Total
8	18	26

Name of activity Launch of the University of Loja Xylotheque and III Technical Meeting Interagency Group on Forest Traceability and Wood Identification Ecuador (21-22 of May 2024)

Brief description of the activity: Through the I Technical Meeting on Forest Traceability and Timber Identification held in March 2023 in Ecuador and the subsequent Study Visit of the Delegation of Ecuador to Lima in November of the same year, inter-institutional coordination between the two countries has been promoted to strengthen the exchange of knowledge, information, tools and resources. This with the aim of improving inter-institutional coordination in the areas of traceability and identification of timber species in Ecuador.

In April 2024, the aim was to further promote this exchange of tools for the identification of wood. The National University of Loja (UNL) presented its specialized collection of wood samples (Xiloteca), which will contribute to improving the identification, classification and conservation of wood from forest species. This in turn will improve the administrative and judicial processes of law enforcement authorities in Ecuador.

In addition, the UNODC Environmental Team reaffirmed its commitment to continue working in an interagency, participatory and regional manner to address forest crime in the Amazon. This is evidenced in the support provided to facilitate these spaces for technical exchange between Ecuador and Peru.

Similarly, the III Meeting was held that sought to learn about the work that the institutions have done during the year, its scope and strengthen the channels of communication and articulation so that there is no duplication in actions but a strengthening in them.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: As a result of the meeting, some agreements and commitments were generated, one of them the strengthening of the capacities of the specialized police and first responders for the identification and investigation of forest crimes, as well as continuing with the spaces for participation and articulation on forestry issues.

Participants		
Female	Male	Total
48	77	125



Indicators: Number of laws, policies, or regulations that address biodiversity conservation or transnational conservation crimes officially proposed, adopted, or implemented |

Name of the activity: First Cycle of introductory and intermediate-level Technical Training about Spatial Analysis Tools focused on Environmental Crimes

Objective of the activity:

- Conduct an introductory and intermediate-level training session on spatial analysis tools focused on illegal mining and its extrapolation to crimes that affect the environment, especially those linked to transnational organized crime, using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) tools.
- Provide technical assistance and build capacity, fostering inter-institutional and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Brief description of the activity:

Describe the results achieved with this activity: 25 officials, delegated representatives of the different entities that make up the Special Commission for the Control of Illegal Mining (CECMI), especially the ministry of Interior, ministry of environment, additionally, officials from the Financial and Economic Analysis Unit (UAFE) They received introductory level training that improves the analysis of illegal mining and its connection with related crimes.

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance 25

Participants

	Male	Female	Total
Tools for Spatial Analysis of Environmental Crimes (Introductory and Intermediate Level)	14	11	25





May 2024

Name of the activity: Training for First Responders on Securing Evidence Management in Wildlife Crimes in the Northern Amazon Region.

Objective of the activity: The objective of the activity consists of the enhancement of the capacities of first responders in securely managing evidence related to wildlife and forestry crimes, thereby improving the prosecution and judicial processes associated with environmental crimes in the northern Amazon region of Ecuador.

Brief description of the activity: A training workshop was conducted in Francisco de Orellana (Coca), focusing on the secure management of evidence related to wildlife crimes. This training, organized in collaboration with TRACE Wildlife Forensics Network, was designed to equip first responders with the necessary techniques and tools for evidence handling. The workshop featured practical demonstrations of the Chain Custody Protocol for Managing Evidence Related to Wildlife and Forestry crimes.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: The training successfully enhanced the skills of 34 participants (7 women and 27 men) in evidence management in the field, ensuring they can apply secure and standardized procedures of the Chain Custody Protocol for Managing Evidence Related to Wildlife and Forestry crimes (Task IX). This initiative is expected to significantly improve the chain of custody for evidence in wildlife crime cases, contributing to more effective prosecution efforts.

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance 34

Personnel trained on the Course for first responders to secure management of evidence related to Wildlife crimes in the Northern Amazon Region, Francisco de Orellana (Coca)		
Female	Male	Total
7	27	34



June 2024

Name of the activity: Launch of "Guardianes Galapaguitos: Salvando a los Animales en Peligro"

Objective of the activity: To raise awareness among children in the Galapagos Islands about the importance of protecting local wildlife and preventing species trafficking, through an engaging educational narrative and accompanying resources.

Brief description of the activity: The activity centered around the launch of the book "*Guardianes Galapaguitos: Salvando a los Animales en Peligro*", created by USAID and UNODC, with the aim of educating children aged 9 to 11 about the dangers of species trafficking in the Galapagos. This story, featuring local children and a friendly alien named Intella, conveys the message of wildlife conservation through a narrative where children collaborate with local authorities to stop traffickers. The initiative includes printed books, a pedagogical guide for teachers, and a puppet show adaptation to reach wider audiences. The launch event took place on July 4, 2024, in Santa Cruz, Galapagos, with the presence of key local stakeholders, including the Ministry of Environment, the Galapagos National Park, and the Ministry of Education.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: Approximately 1,500 students from 5th to 7th grade across the 23 schools in the Galapagos Islands received the "*Guardianes Galapaguitos*" book and actively participated in the educational campaign aimed at raising awareness about wildlife crime prevention and conservation. In support of this initiative, a pedagogical guide was developed and distributed to teachers, allowing them to integrate the story's conservation message into their curricula, thereby enhancing environmental education efforts. Furthermore, the initiative successfully engaged over

50 children through validation workshops in Santa Cruz and San Cristóbal, refining the content to ensure greater educational impact. The project also strengthened institutional partnerships with the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Education, and other local bodies, fostering long-term collaboration in efforts to protect wildlife in the Galapagos.

Indicators:

Participants that received the "Guardianes Galapaguitos" book		
Female ¹	Male	Total
752	748	1.500



Name of the Activity: Unveiling of the Billboard with Rules for Protected Areas at the Galapagos Ecological Airport

Objective of the Activity:

To raise awareness among visitors to the Galapagos Islands about the environmental rules and the importance of protecting the islands' biodiversity, while promoting responsible tourism and preventing environmental crimes.

Brief Description of the Activity:

¹ Based on the proportions of boys and girls in the student population of the Galapagos from Mineduc 2024.

On July 3, 2024, a new billboard featuring the 17 rules for protected areas in the Galapagos Islands was unveiled at the Galapagos Ecological Airport (ECOGAL). This initiative, part of the ECOS project supported by USAID and UNODC, is part of the "Animals in Danger in Galapagos" campaign and aims to educate visitors upon their arrival. The billboard highlights the critical rules necessary to safeguard the Galapagos environment, including three newly added rules introduced in 2024. It serves as a key preventive measure against environmental crimes, such as species trafficking, by encouraging compliance with these guidelines.

Describe the Results Achieved with this Activity:

The installation of the billboard has contributed to raising awareness about environmental protection in the Galapagos, reaching over 200k yearly of visitors immediately upon their arrival. It emphasizes key rules, such as using eco-friendly sun protection and respecting visitor schedules, to reduce human impact on the islands' delicate ecosystems. This initiative has fostered positive attitudes among visitors, local authorities, and tour operators, reinforcing efforts to prevent environmental crimes and promoting responsible tourism. The campaign has also strengthened collaboration between local institutions, including the Galapagos National Park, the Ministry of Environment, and ECOGAL.

While this indicator is geared toward specialized trainings or mentorship, the billboard initiative represents an adaptation of these principles by addressing a critical gap in public environmental awareness, as identified in the 2022 self-assessment on environmental crimes in Galapagos.



Name of the activity: I Training Course on Analysis and Investigation of Financial Operations in Illegal Mining.

Objective of the activity: Provide Ecuadorian law enforcement officials with practical tools and knowledge to strengthen investigations and financial analysis related to Transnational Organized Crime (TOC), with a focus on illegal mining. The training course aims to equip participants with skills in data analysis, the use of advanced technologies, and financial investigation techniques, enhancing their ability to detect and dismantle illicit networks.

Brief description of the activity: In cooperation with Brazil's Federal Police, this activity was held from July 8-12, 2024, and this comprehensive training designed to improve law enforcement responses to environmental crimes linked to illegal mining, and related financial crimes.

Participants received hands-on training through simulations of financial investigations, including telematic data analysis and the use of cryptocurrency tracking tools. The course includes theoretical foundations as well as practical case studies, delivered by experienced instructors from the Brazilian Federal Police.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: This training course is expected to significantly enhance the capabilities of Ecuadorian law enforcement and judicial officials in investigating and prosecuting financial crimes related to illegal mining and environmental crimes, improving the proficiency in the usage of economic analysis tools and telematic data for tracking illicit financial flows, the reinforcement coordination between Ecuadorian law enforcement agencies and their regional counterparts in Brazil and the improvement of the skills of local authorities in identifying and prosecuting crimes related to illegal mining.

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance 32

Personnel trained on the <i>I Course on Analysis and Investigation of Financial Operations in Illegal Mining</i>		
Female	Male	Total
9	23	32



Name of the activity: Sixth FiTI Report Validation Meeting

Objective of the activity: The main objective was to carry out the final review of the Ecuador 2022-2023 Annual Report on FiTI Fisheries Transparency

Brief description of the activity:

More than 25 members of the National Multi-stakeholder Group, belonging to the fishing sector, participated in the review of the content and recommendations included in the final version of the report, validating its relevance and applicability. The 12 indicators of the report were analyzed, which cover current regulations, vessel authorizations, state of fishing resources, socioeconomic information, data on imports and exports, labor regulations, subsidies, development projects in the country and the final beneficiaries of the sector.

The delegate of the Vice Ministry of Fisheries, Patricia Castillo, ratified Ecuador's commitment to maintaining the FiTI Standard, highlighting that Ecuador will be the first country in the region to present the 2022-2023 report. He emphasized that "fighting illegal fishing promotes development and affects employment and economic growth, which is why strengthening transparency is essential for national and international trade."

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Ecuador, through the ECOS project, a joint effort with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), has supported the Vice Ministry of Aquaculture and Fisheries in updating this report from 2023.

The purpose is that by improving transparency and access to information in the fishing sector, it is expected to strengthen sustainability and the capacity of authorities to make appropriate decisions in the management of the entire value chain. In addition, it is intended to facilitate the detection of crimes in the sector, such as corruption, fraud, document falsification and money laundering.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: The report that includes the recommendations for the 12 indicators was approved and will be delivered to the authorities once the correction and final layout design is carried out.

Indicators: Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established 30

Participants:

Female	Male	Total
9	21	30



Name of the activity: Training Course on the Rights of Nature or Pachamama with the Council of the Judicial System and Hemisferios University

Objective of the activity: The activity aims to reinforce judges, prosecutors and judicial staff with criminal jurisdiction with the knowledge and skills to effectively adjudicate cases related to environmental crimes, ensuring the protection of the Rights of Nature or Pachamama, the preservation of biodiversity and the protection of natural resources.

Brief description of the activity: The training course on Crimes Against the Environment and Nature or Pachamama was designed and implemented to equip approximately national criminal and multi-competent judges and judicial staff with knowledge of environmental and criminal law, focusing on the rights of nature and the judicial role in handling environmental crimes. The design of the course was developed with the pedagogical and technical assistance of Hemisferios University, consolidating several topics regarding environmental protection, such as Foundations of Environmental Criminal Law, Rights of Nature, Penalties for Environmental Crimes, Procedural Aspects, and Role of Judges in Environmental Cases.es. The total content of the course spans approximately 100 hours of material regarding the topic.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: In the training course, judicial staff participated in both phases of the course (asynchronous and synchronous), enhancing their knowledge of Environmental Criminal Law and the Rights of Nature and a comprehensive training to improve their adjudication of environmental crime case The course has been recorded in the Council of the Judicial System database with the prospect of being a Moodle course for further trainings.

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance 79

Participants on the Training course on Crimes Against the Environment and Nature or Pachamama		
Female	Male	Total
23	56	79



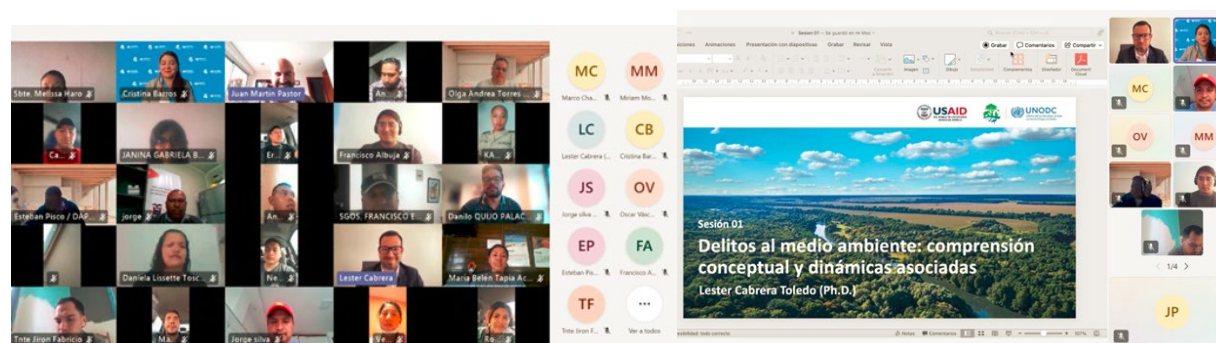
August 2024

Name of the activity: Virtual training on environmental crimes for specialized police, officials of the Ministry of Environment and the Internal Revenue Service.

Objective of the activity: Establish analytical and methodological tools for the prioritization of environmental crimes, which allow generating competencies for the construction of planning under the context of environmental crimes

Brief description of the activity: The virtual workshops were held from August 20 to September 24 with a duration of one and a half hours (total 10 sessions) through technological communication tools, in order to propose synchronous schemes, but which, at the same time, allow people who have not been able to have access at the time, not to deprive themselves of the contents analyzed and discussed within each of the sessions. Around 100 people from different State institutions at the national level participated

in the workshops. The activities proposed in each session were complemented with bibliographic and video material to reinforce the contents of each class, at the end of the course a final test was taken to evaluate knowledge.



Describe the results achieved with this activity: 100 officials from the national police, Ministry of Environment and Internal Revenue Service were trained on modus operandi and environmental crimes through the TEAMS platform, the training lasted two months divided into 10 sessions with a duration of one and a half hours each session.

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance, 100 officials from the Ministry of Environment, National Police and Internal Revenue Service were trained (36 women, 64 men)

Name of the activity: Launch of the Puppet Show Galápagos Guardians

Objective of the activity:

To present and socialize the puppet show “Animales en peligro Galápagos” for children aged 9-11 years, utilizing existing puppet infrastructure in Galápagos developed by the Acción Nativa Project.

Brief description of the activity:

With the support of the Fundación ECOS and as part of the Acción Nativa initiative, a puppet show adaptation of a story featuring popular characters from the educational circuit of the islands was developed. This didactic and pedagogical element aims to reinforce the narrative and its message regarding wildlife trafficking. A school tour was organized across Santa Cruz and San Cristóbal, allowing targeted students to observe the puppet show and learn about the issue of species trafficking. The tour involved visits to multiple schools and culminated in public performances for the community.

Describe the results achieved with this activity:

The activity successfully reached approximately 1,092 spectators across various presentations. In Santa Cruz, the tour lasted 5 days (July 8-12), visiting 9 schools with a total of 712 students and 72 adults participating. In San Cristóbal, the tour spanned 2 days (August 14-15), engaging 392 students and 43 adults from 5 schools. Additionally, two public performances were held on each island, attracting 200 children and 50 adults in Santa Cruz and 60 children and 40 adults in San Cristóbal. The presentations provided valuable information on species trafficking and encouraged community involvement in supporting local conservation efforts.

Indicators: See results achieved.

SANTA CRUZ		
FASE	NIÑOS	ADULTOS
Estreno	196	30
Gira Escolar	712	72
Comunidad	200	50
TOTAL	1108	152

SAN CRISTÓBAL		
FASE	NIÑOS	ADULTOS
Gira Escolar	392	43
Comunidad	150	50
TOTAL	542	93



September 2024

Name of the activity: Second cycle of introductory and intermediate-level training session on spatial analysis tools focused on illegal mining includes security corps

Objective of the activity:

- Conduct an introductory and intermediate-level training session on spatial analysis tools focused on illegal mining and its extrapolation to crimes that affect the environment, especially those linked to transnational organized crime, using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) tools.
- Provide technical assistance and build capacity, fostering inter-institutional and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Brief description of the activity:

Describe the results achieved with this activity: 20 officials most of the of military force and police, They received introductory level training that improves the analysis of illegal mining and its connection with related crimes.

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance 20

Name of the activity: High-level event delivery of the FiTI Ecuador Report

Objective of the activity: Officially deliver to the Minister of Production, Vice Minister of Fisheries, USAID and FiTI the report validated by the multi-stakeholder group

Brief description of the activity:

Ecuador has presented and published its first FiTI Report, marking an important step towards transparency and sustainability in the management of its fisheries resources. This report was prepared by the National Multi-Stakeholder Group (GNM) of FiTI Ecuador with the technical support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

The document covers the relevant information of the fisheries sector corresponding to 2022 and 2023, in accordance with the FiTI Standard that establishes 12 requirements for information on fisheries management.

The presentation of the report was attended by the Minister of Production, Foreign Trade, Investment and Fisheries, Sonsoles García, Patricia Castillo, Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy and the Ambassador of the United States to Ecuador, Arthur Brown. Representatives of UNODC, FiTI, and PADF were also present at the event, who highlighted the importance of this effort to strengthen fisheries governance in the region.

"Ecuador's first FiTI Report represents a commitment to transparency and sustainability in the management of our fisheries resources. With this report, we are laying the groundwork for better decision-making that benefits both marine resources and the communities that depend on them

Describe the results achieved with this activity:

Ecuador's first FiTI Report highlights important advances in fisheries transparency, such as actions implemented to combat illegal fishing and significant efforts to assess the status of populations of various species. It also identifies opportunities for further improvement, such as the need to update and publish vessel and catch information, both on the mainland and in the Galapagos Islands.

Indicators: Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established 1



3.1.8 ANTICIPATED RESULTS FOR NEXT YEAR

Name of the activity: "Workshop on the needs of regulators in illegal mining" (October 18)

Expected results for next year: an executive document on the main regulations that require modifications or revisions. During the following year, it is planned to provide regulatory advice to the competent institutions, prioritizing secondary legislation.

Name of the activity: "Theoretical and practical workshop on first responder protocol in Cuenca" (October 22-25)

Expected results for next year: 38 officials from various institutions and with jurisdiction in the territory have the knowledge and tools to carry out adequate chain of custody management for wildlife. The following year, under the leadership of the National Forensic Service, a schedule will be carried out at the national level and UNODC will support with the practical module of trainer of trainers.

Name of the activity: “1 International Course on Environmental Intelligence” (November 25-29)

Expected results for next year: 30 officials from the Environmental Police Unit reinforce their knowledge on issues of interdiction, investigation and destruction of heavy machinery and pollution and environmental damage due to illegal mining

Name of the activity: Workshop custody chain in airport in Galapagos

Expected results for next year: As a result of coordination with the TRAFFIC organization, the environmental team will hold a workshop to share with airport personnel and Santa Cruz institutions the procedure for handling evidence in wildlife cases. The participation of 30 officials from the airport, Galapagos National Park, biosafety agency, and air force is expected.

Next year, it is planned to include the flowchart in the chain of custody teaching manual that will be delivered to personnel in the territory.

3.1.9 SUMMARY OF RESULTS IN THE YEAR

Exhibit 3. Summary of Objective 1 tasks

TASKS	RESULTS THIS YEAR	PLAN FOR NEXT YEAR
(Example: Training on AAA to law enforcement agencies)	(Example: 65 police officers trained)	(Example: Online course delivered by the National Police)

Add lines as needed

3.1.10 GUYANA YEAR # 3 RESULTS

Name of the activity: Participation in regional activities

Objective of the activity: Guyana’s delegated were invited to participate in the environmental intelligence training conducted in Brazil.

Brief description of the activity: To train employees from institutions involved in the oversight of harmful environmental activities on the basics of intelligence and counterintelligence, as well as techniques to be used in intelligence operations, aiming to develop skills in knowledge production to support the fight against environmental crimes. Additionally, to enhance the investigative capabilities of police and

environmental institutions in South American countries, as well as information exchange between them, enabling effective combat against transnational crimes in the region.

Describe the results achieved with this activity: Participants were trained in intelligence and counterintelligence fundamentals, as well as techniques for intelligence operations, to develop skills in knowledge production to support the fight against environmental crimes.

Indicator: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance: 2 delegates from Guyana

3.1.11 ANTICIPATED RESULTS FOR NEXT YEAR

Name of the activity: Technical Workshop on Environmental Crime Challenges in Guyana

Expected results for next year: The activity will initiate with an identification of key stakeholders and identification of the main focal point for the project. Following this, a technical survey will be conducted to gather first insights from these stakeholders on the challenges faced in combating environmental crimes. Subsequently, a brainstorming workshop will be planned to facilitate exchanges among participants, which led to the identification of strategic priorities for improving enforcement strategies and institutional capabilities. Finally, the findings were documented in a post-activity report, and a roadmap was developed to outline the next steps to support Suriname in addressing environmental crimes.

3.1.12 SUMMARY OF RESULTS IN THE YEAR

Enter text here.

Exhibit 4. Summary of Objective 1 tasks

TASKS	RESULTS THIS YEAR	PLAN FOR NEXT YEAR
Inception phase Guyana	Contact information gathered	Identification of focal point of the activity
Technical workshop	N/A	Technical workshop delivered and report with priorities elaborated

3.1.13 PERU YEAR # 3 RESULTS

Name of the activity: Regional UIF Work Exchanges: Transnational Environmental Crimes and Related Crimes.



Objective of the Activity: Strengthen regional coordination and efficiently carry out joint information exchange processes by identifying priority cases and trends that enhance UIF agents' understanding of environmental crimes and the convergence of other serious crimes.

Brief Description of the Activity:

- From October 2 to 6, the first mission took place among the Superior Environmental Audit Entities of Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru focusing on environmental and related crimes. The aim was to acquire new skills in the use of investigative tools and best practices from each country.
- A mission was conducted between the UIF of Peru and UIAF of Ecuador from March 19 to 21, aimed at promoting technical collaboration in information exchange processes and practices, through the consolidation of technical knowledge, legal procedures, and mutual support. In addition to sharing knowledge, solutions, and innovative approaches to equip UIF staff with techniques for collecting and analyzing data. The prioritized topics were illegal mining, illegal logging, and fishing (shark fins).
- A technical meeting was held with focal points to discuss technical documents and identify next steps for joint work, including the establishment of open databases.

Results of the Activity: Construction of technical documents: Open-Source Database Framework created in coordination with UAFE Ecuador.

Indicators:

- Number of people trained in sustainable natural resource management and/or biodiversity conservation as a result of USG assistance.
- Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established.

Name of the activity: Development of Complementary Documents to the "Analysis of the Relationships and Dynamics of Environmental Crimes and Coca Cultivation in Ucayali" (hereinafter referred to as the Ucayali Study) and Positioning



Objective of the Activity: To create management documents that detail and implement the findings and recommendations from the Ucayali Study.

Brief Description of the Activity:

- In October 2023, a workshop was held in Ucayali that brought together local authorities, with participation from 22 individuals (5 women and 17 men). Information was gathered to develop the roadmap for the Ucayali Study, which includes short-, medium-, and long-term activities prioritized by the authorities.
- Socialization in High-Level Spaces:
- CND Side Event: Environmental Crimes and Coca Activity in Ucayali, Peru (March 20).
- Launch of Coca Crop Monitoring: Mention of the Ucayali Study (June 2024).
- Development of proposals presented to USAID focusing on (i) Strengthening legislative instruments, (ii) diagnosing prioritized areas, (iii) preparing a roadmap to address weaknesses in information governance and management, (iv) designing and implementing comprehensive and sustainable training programs, and (v) generating spaces for inter-agency coordination for pre-operational and post-operational planning of interventions.

Results of the Activity: The proposal was accepted by USAID, and the activities will be incorporated into the extension of the ECOS project. The follow-up on the Ucayali Analysis will provide timely information for local actions aimed at addressing scenarios where there is a convergence of the coca and environmental crime issues.

Name of the activity: South American Wildlife Enforcement Network - SudWEN



Objective of the Activity: Position SudWEN in the region by strengthening Peru's presidency and technical coordination.

Description of the activity:

- On November 17, 2023, Peru assumed the presidency of the South American Wildlife Enforcement Network (SudWEN), marking a significant step in the fight against illegal wildlife trafficking. This leadership, coordinated by the Specialized Prosecutor's Office for Environmental Matters (FEMA), aims to strengthen law enforcement capacities in the region with support from UNODC, ICCWC, and USAID through the ECOS project.
- On March 1st, 2024, the 4th Meeting of National Focal Points was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where the new General Coordinator of the SudWEN Network was introduced by the Chair. During this meeting, the General Coordinator presented the upcoming actions and created a space to listen to the national focal points about their commitments and actions within SudWEN, as well as their regional vision on wildlife crimes.
- From March 15th to the first week of April 2024, 10 bilateral meetings were held with national focal points to redefine the matrix of needs and commitments at the national level. The authorities participating in these meetings included SERFOR, OSINFOR, SERNANP, Ministry of Production, Ministry of Environment, Customs, Financial Intelligence Unit, National Police of Peru, and the Directorate of Port Captainty and Coast Guard.
- On July 5th, the SudWEN Chair members communicated to UNODC the approval of the Action Plan and expressed their interest in planning the 1st Regional Annual Meeting of SudWEN, scheduled for the last week of September 2024.
- From October 2nd to 4th, 2024, the 1st Annual Meeting of SudWEN National Focal Points took place. This meeting served to coordinate joint actions and outline the 2024-2025 Action Plan, reinforcing regional cooperation to combat wildlife trafficking and protect biodiversity. Discussions focused on enhancing cross-border coordination, aligning national enforcement efforts, and improving intelligence sharing across the network. The event also featured case studies and best practices on tackling wildlife crimes, strengthening the collective response of member countries.

Results of the Activity:

- Informal and efficient communication channels were established between SudWEN focal points, enhancing coordination and collaboration among countries.
- Strengthened regional cooperation in the fight against wildlife trafficking through bilateral and multilateral meetings.
- Consolidation of commitments and action plans among national authorities to align efforts in combating wildlife crimes.
- Approval of the 2024-2025 Action Plan and the successful organization of the 1st Regional Annual Meeting, which further advanced cross-border cooperation and intelligence sharing.

Indicators: Number of law enforcement meetings held by SudWEN. National meeting: 8, International meetings: 3.

Name of the activity: Identify the risks and vulnerabilities of the risks to crimes and mapping of the fisheries value chain.



Objective of the Activity: Develop a value chain mapping and train the stakeholders involved.

Description of the activity:

- Flowcharts were developed to map out the value chain, including its stages and key moments.
- Potential crimes and risks associated with each stage of the value chain were identified.
- Interviews and interinstitutional workshops were conducted with key actors from the Ministry of Production, Regional Governments, and the Public Prosecutor’s Office.

Results of the Activity:

- An Interinstitutional Workshop on Mapping the Fisheries Sector Value Chain and Risks was held, with 22 participants, including 14 from DIREPROs, 2 from PRODUCE, 3 from the Public Prosecutor’s Office, 2 from NGOs, and 1 specialist.
- Mapped three value and/or supply chains in the fisheries sector: Human Consumption (CH), Indirect Human Consumption (CHI), and Residual Meal (HR), in general terms.
- Strengthening national capacities to address crimes related to the fisheries sector: A workshop discussing cases related to shark fin trafficking, modus operandi, and taxonomic identification.

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation as a result of USG assistance (10 people).

Name of the activity: Collaborative Work with the Judiciary to Support the Strengthening of Judges' Capacities



Objective of the Activity: Promote discussion spaces and experience exchange among judges to reinforce current communication channels and/or create new ones.

Brief Description of the Activity: Two processes were supported technically: (i) a practical field activity as a complement to the course on “Wildlife Crime and its link with Transnational Organized Crime” held in October 2023, and (ii) the VI International Congress on Environmental Justice, held in September 2024.

(i) *Field Activity - Wildlife Crime and its link with Transnational Organized Crime:* This specialized field visit was part of the course “Wildlife Crime and its Link with TOCs.” From October 13 to 17, 2023, the top 15 students participated in an immersive experience in Iquitos, aimed at enhancing their capacities as justice system operators in protecting natural heritage. The program included visits to the Amazon Rescue Center (CREA), a sanctuary for wildlife victims of illegal trafficking, and the Rainforest Awareness Rescue Education Center (RAREC), which rehabilitates threatened species for reintroduction into their natural habitats. The course engaged 30 judges from the Superior Courts of Peru across regions including Loreto, Huanuco, Lambayeque, Huaura, and Arequipa, along with police officers from Ecuador and judges from Colombia.

(ii) *The VI International Congress on Environmental Justice, held in Piura, Peru, from September 10-12,* was organized with technical assistance from ECOS project. The event focused on strengthening judicial capacities to address environmental crimes such as illegal logging, wildlife trafficking, fishing-related offenses, and mining.

- Judges from ECOS countries, including Brazil and Colombia, participated alongside Peruvian counterparts. The congress featured presentations and the resolution of practical cases, unifying criteria across countries, leading to conclusions for future implementation. Additionally, field visits to a wildlife rescue center and customs operations complemented the event, aiming to enhance understanding of environmental challenges in the region.

- Next steps include applying these conclusions throughout the year, with results to be reported in the next congress.

Results of the Activity:

- The activity fostered stronger ties among judges, police, and judicial authorities across Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia, enhancing regional cooperation in addressing wildlife crimes.
- Judges engaged in meaningful exchanges of knowledge and best practices, which facilitated the sharing of data and strategies to combat wildlife trafficking effectively.
- The immersive field activities and participation in the VI International Congress sensitized magistrates to the realities faced by wildlife victims of trafficking, deepening their understanding of the critical issues surrounding environmental crimes.
- By bridging theoretical knowledge with practical experience, participants strengthened their skills and capabilities as justice system operators, enabling them to address environmental crimes more effectively in their respective jurisdictions.
- The activity resulted in the creation of networking spaces and the exchange of experiences among judges from Peru, Brazil, Ecuador and Colombia. These exchanges facilitated the sharing of data, strategies, and best practices, fostering informal and efficient communication channels between the participating judges. This collaborative environment helped to align judicial approaches across ECOS countries, strengthening regional cooperation in addressing environmental crimes.

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance.

- (i) Field Activity - Wildlife Crime and its link with Transnational Organized Crime (24 people)
- (ii) The VI International Congress on Environmental Justice (23 people)

Name of the activity: Work coordinated with the Public Prosecutor's Office to support capacity building for prosecutorial work

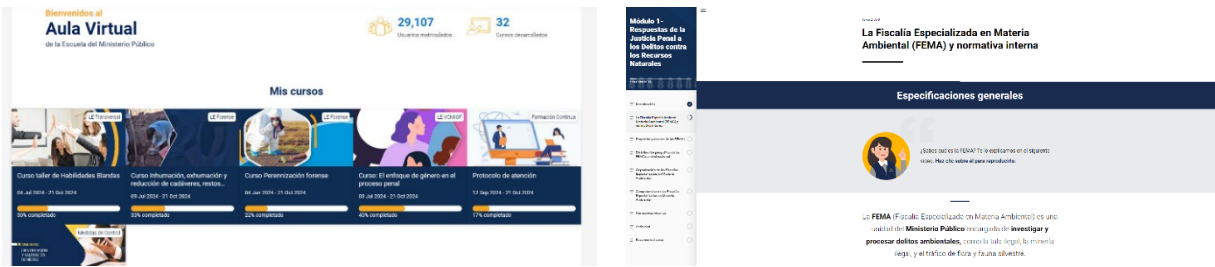


Objective of the Activity: Strengthening the capacities of the Specialized Environmental Prosecutor's Offices through the joint development of training, workshops, virtual courses and others.

Brief Description of the Activity: Two processes have been supported in 2024: (i) Technical Working Meetings between Environmental Prosecutors of Colombia and Peru, (ii) Capacity building with the Public Prosecutor's School: pilot course on Criminal Justice Responses to Crimes against Natural Resources and updating of its educational platform, and (iii) development of informative material for the positioning of OROCTI.

(i) Technical Working Meetings between Environmental Prosecutors from Colombia and Peru: In the framework of the Environmental Protection Network of the Ibero-American Association of Public Prosecutors, a meeting was held between prosecutors from Colombia and Peru in Bogota on November 30 and December 1, 2023, in coordination with Amazonía Mía, a USAID project. Prior to the in-person meeting, several virtual sessions were conducted to coordinate efforts. The meeting aimed to establish communication and cooperation channels for investigating environmental crimes in the Amazon, facilitating the exchange of information and the articulation of joint work plans.

(ii) Capacity building with the Public Prosecutor's Office School:



Pilot course on Criminal Justice Responses to Crimes against Natural Resources that process consist in: (a) updating of its educational platform and (b) Design, plan, and implement a virtual introductory course on wildlife management (including the curricular and methodological design of the technical course).

The fiscal and administrative staff of the Environmental Prosecutor’s Offices must be properly trained to follow institutional guidelines, whether through access to specialized asynchronous courses on the topic or via a modern, user-friendly platform that effectively presents all relevant content. In response to this need, it was deemed important to develop virtual tools that both strengthen the capacities of justice operators and are easily accessible and compatible with their busy schedules.

(iii) Development of informational material for OPROCTI - International Judicial Cooperation Office:



- In the past Q3, work has been done on the design and layout of an informative poster aimed at the prosecutor's offices in the field, with the objective of improving the visibility and positioning of OPROCTI's Office within the Prosecutor's Office and International Cooperation offices.
- Currently, the informational material is being distributed to offices within the tax jurisdiction and Official State Platform.
- A meeting was held between the Public Ministry’s Image team, OPROCTI, and the ECOS communications team to plan the dissemination campaign. Key steps included gathering information to assess the internal audience’s knowledge of OPROCTI's role and conducting a working group with partners to enhance collaboration with the judicial system.

Results of the Activity:

(i) *Technical Working Meetings between Environmental Prosecutors from Colombia and Peru:* the activity resulted in the creation of direct dialogue spaces between prosecutors, strengthening their capacity to address organized crime and transboundary environmental offenses. As a result, information exchanges have been conducted to address cross-border cases.

(ii) *Capacity building with the Public Prosecutor's Office School:* Development and digital implementation of the pilot course on Criminal Justice Responses to Crimes against Natural Resources for validation and subsequent publication.

(iii) *Development of informational material for OPROCTI - International Judicial Cooperation Office:* Delivery of dissemination material designed and printed. Currently in the process of distribution to all the fiscal districts of Peru, which are made up of the administrative team and the Presidency of the Board.

Indicators:

(i) *Technical Working Meetings between Environmental Prosecutors from Colombia and Peru:* T(ii) *Capacity building with the Public Prosecutor's Office School:* Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established.

(iii) *Development of informational material for OPROCTI - International Judicial Cooperation Office:* The course will be conducted in November 2024 and will contribute to the number of people trained by ECOS (number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation because of USG assistance).

(iii) *Development of informational material for OPROCTI - International Judicial Cooperation Office:* N/A

Name of the activity: Support for Regulatory Frameworks and 1st Regional Workshop on the Dissemination of Regional Environmental Frameworks: Recommendation No. 511 - Legal Framework to Combat Illegal Logging and Associated Trade in the Amazon Forests of the Andean Region.



Objective of the Activity: Support for environmental regulatory frameworks developed by the Andean Parliament on issues of illegal logging and wildlife.

Brief Description of the Activity:

- Bilaterales meetings, in person with the Peru team from the Andean Parliament, and a second with the regional coordination of the UNODC Environmental Team for feedback and final validation of the proposed regulatory frameworks.
- Deliberation and approval process of the legal framework to combat the illegal trafficking of wildlife in the Andean Region. Working meetings (January 2024).
- Regional Workshop on the Dissemination of Regulatory Frameworks in Environmental Matters: Recommendation No. 51 I. Regulatory framework for the fight against illegal logging and associated trade in the Amazon forests of the Andean region (August 8-9), aiming to include it in the prioritized agenda of the Member Countries of the Andean Parliament and to urge its incorporation into national legislation and subsequent coordinated implementation among the competent authorities.
- Technical assistance for the wildlife regulatory framework, which is still in a discussion stage.

Results of the Activity:

- Joint work on a roadmap for the implementation of Recommendation No. 511, based on the regional integration actions proposed by this instrument.
- The most important actions include conducting a normative-institutional diagnostic study in the Member States of the Andean Parliament, which includes a comparison of legislation to promote institutional improvements that allow for joint action among Andean countries. Additionally, strengthening regional information platforms and alerts on illegal logging activities and collectively enhancing the use of international cooperation initiatives, such as INTERPOL, UNODC, RED JAGUAR, EL PACCTO, among others.

Indicators:

- Number of laws, policies, or regulations that address biodiversity conservation or transnational conservation crimes officially proposed, adopted, or implemented (01)
- Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established. (01)

Name of the activity: Construction and updating of tools to support the identification of Peruvian timber species focused on control and research procedures: ' IDmaderas', Manual for the anatomical identification of the wood of Peruvian Amazonian forest species (hereinafter the manual).



Objective of the activity: The objective of this activity was to provide technical knowledge on wood identification through interactive tools that contribute to the correct identification of species in control and research processes.

Brief Description of the Activity:

In 2024, the IDmaderas and the timber manual were updated with the active participation of the relevant authorities and supported by technical information on the macroscopic identification of forest species. A total of five workshops were held in Lima and one in the regions, with the Center for Productive Innovation and Technological Transfer of Wood (CITEmadera) at the Technological Institute of Production (ITP) serving as the focal point for this initiative. This effort was coordinated with the National Forestry and Wildlife Service (SERFOR) and German Development Cooperation (GIZ).

<i>Upgrades</i>	
<i>IDmaderas</i>	<i>Wood manual</i>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDmaderas is an application and a complementary website, which also serves for updating information (e.g. adding new species, correcting data sheets). • Construction of a database that includes information on key macroscopic characteristics (pores, parenchyma, rays) and photographs with magnifications of 10x and 20x, as well as designs highlighting distinctive features. • Definition of IDmaderas species (40 species) based on recent data on the most commercially significant woods. • Diagramming of key features in the photographs, emphasizing the most relevant characteristics, along with "tips" to facilitate identification. • Restructuring the design of IDmaderas (application and web): this includes the organization and design of the application, data formatting, and the development of a functional prototype, all aimed at optimizing usability. • Contributions from various users: Missions for disseminating technical meetings with "CITES" in the Amazon region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review, organization, enhancement, and validation of the foundational data: technical information, photographs, bibliography, and a glossary for 64 species. • Examination of editable guide files, ensuring the accuracy of links between sections of the guide and corresponding images. • Incorporation of an index section by scientific name, along with a description of the relevant anatomical characteristic "Texture," as well as other complementary features (edited images). • Contributions from various users: Missions for disseminating technical meetings with "CITES" in the Amazon region (including meetings in Madre de Dios, Loreto, Pucallpa, and Lima).
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Complementary material was also developed for the dissemination of the tools (bookmarkers).



Results of the Activity: 2 tools with updated information, with the approval and socialization of the national counterparts (CITEforestal Network, Regional Government of Ucayali, CITEmadera, SERFOR, etc.).

- Wood ID: Beta version for application and website.
- Wood Manual: Digital version and core revision ready

Indicators: Number of technical multi-stakeholder coordination platforms established (01).

Name of the activity: Workshop “Capacity building in the identification of timber forest species for control and research purposes”





Objective of the activity: Strengthen the capacity of forest stakeholders to identify timber species and contribute to the legal origin of timber.

Brief Description of the Activity: Authorities with updated knowledge on the generalities of timber identification who are familiar with new tools to support their functions.

Results of the Activity: The training will be focused on key stakeholders (professionals responsible for forest monitoring), led by the ITP's Forestry CITE Network. Through a theoretical-practical approach that promoted active and participatory learning (male 21, female 3, total 24).

Indicators: Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance. (male 3, female 21, total 24).

Name of the activity: Development of Reference Guides (RRGs) and other technical tools for enhanced Investigations and prosecutions against TCCs.





Objective of the activity: Development of the Quick Reference Guide for the Investigation of Wildlife Crime (RRG Fauna)

Objective of the activity: Develop and provide clear guidelines and standardized procedures through a strategic and practical tool for the investigation of wildlife crime in Peru, in order to strengthen the capacity of the competent authorities in the identification, collection of evidence and prosecution of this type of crime.

Brief Description of the Activity: The Fauna RRG is being developed with the specialized support of a legal consultant approach, in constant validation with national counterparts (technical fauna group). The progress now is:

- Review of progress with the fauna technical group (in collaboration with a technical consultancy) in person and through requests for input from FEMAS.
- Contributions from the specialized environmental prosecutors' offices of Piura, San Martin, Madre de Dios, Puno, Tumbes, Lambayeque, Loreto, systematized and incorporated in the Fauna RRG. Through informative mailchimps, the advances of the fauna RRG were sent, where the data of the different modalities of use of forest resources and all the associated management information were highlighted.
- Index and structure validated by the fauna technical team (multi-stakeholder work meeting - March 7(Women 13, Men 19, Total 32).
- Elaboration of working documents with the support of the legal consultant, in preparation for the second workshop (material to discuss and validate with technical stakeholders) or bilateral meetings with counterparts.

Results of the Activity: Advancement of wildlife RRG based on a socialized index and structure that meets the needs of fiscal investigation functions.

Indicators: N/A in the future contributes a Number of people trained in sustainable natural resources management and/or biodiversity (<TCC>) conservation as a result of USG assistance.

Name of the activity: complementary processes)

(i) Annual International Conference on Integrity (CAII 2023)



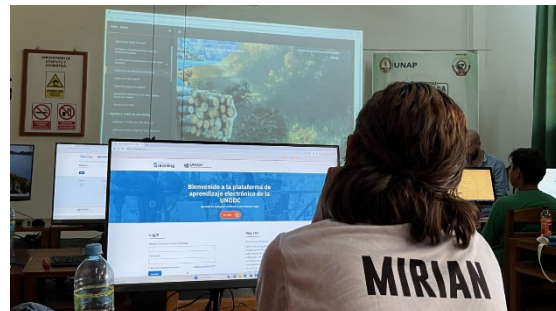
The ECOS project participated as speakers in a discussion panel alongside WCS, EIA, and Mongabay at the 2023 CAII. The event aimed to strengthen collaborative research strategies and sanction systems against corruption, promoting dialogue on innovative and increasingly effective mechanisms for detecting, preventing, and combating functional misconduct and corruption.

(ii) Support in the Gender Study and Wildlife Trafficking in LAC



The study aimed to enhance understanding of illegal wildlife trafficking trends, focusing on gender dynamics in South America, particularly the roles of women in facilitating and preventing wildlife crime. Activities included meetings with academic institutions, interviews with key stakeholders Rescue Centers and the Peruvian local institutions to gather insights on trafficking dynamics, and visits to markets to assess the sale of wildlife and related products. The team facilitated conversations, conducted surveys, and documented findings to support the research and promote awareness of wildlife trafficking issues. Some key findings were published in UNODC’s annual Wildlife Trafficking report, and the next steps involve publishing the results of the Gender Study and Wildlife Trafficking in LAC.

(iii) S23: Online Environmental Crimes Learning Modules



We are currently developing online learning modules for the National University of the Amazon (UNAP) and are awaiting the platform design for these modules. The content has already been validated by students and faculty in December 2023. The modules aim to equip final-year students in agronomy, biology, law, education, and forestry with essential knowledge on environmental crimes.

Additionally, coordination has begun to incorporate environmental crimes into various curricula, promoting a broad understanding among young professionals about the challenges they will face in managing environmental issues in the region and beyond.

3.1.14 ANTICIPATED RESULTS FOR NEXT YEAR

Name of the activity: South American Wildlife Enforcement Network - SUDWEN

Expected results for next year: The implementation of the 2024-2025 Action Plan with the support of the ECOS project, as well as the follow-up on 1st Annual Meeting report, dissemination with focal points and feedback. These efforts will focus on enhancing regional cooperation, improving legal frameworks, and strengthening enforcement capacities to combat wildlife trafficking.

Name of the activity: Collaborative Work with the Judiciary to Support the Strengthening of Judges' Capacities. - Judiciary Branch (10, 11 y 12 sep)- National Commission of Environmental Management - Technical assistance and planning of the VI International Congress of Environmental Justice

Expected results for next year: In collaboration with the Judiciary, the next Congress is planned to focus on environmental challenges related to mining. Additionally, communication efforts will focus on increasing visibility by sharing the outcomes of the VI Congress through professionally produced videos and targeted social media campaigns. This will help raise awareness and highlight the impact of the initiative on a broader audience.

Name of the Activity: Collaborative Work with the Public Prosecutor's Office - Office of the Attorney General in Support of Strengthening Prosecutorial Capacities.

Expected results for next year:

- For next year, it is expected to continue collaborative efforts with the Prosecutor's Office Academy to map out new courses based on the needs of both the fiscal and administrative staff of the Environmental Prosecutor's Offices.
- Regarding the current pilot course, we will analyze the satisfaction survey to identify areas for improvement in the training.
- OPROCTI; A survey will be conducted to assess the level of awareness and understanding of OPROCTI's role among the internal audience within the Public Ministry. Additionally, a working group will be organized with key partners to strengthen collaboration with the judicial system. The dissemination campaign, coordinated between the Public Ministry's Image team, OPROCTI, and the ECOS communications team, will focus on distributing the informational materials across all fiscal districts in Peru.

Name of the activity: Construction and updating of tools to support the identification of Peruvian timber species focused on control and research procedures: IDmaderas, Manual for the anatomical identification of the wood of Peruvian Amazonian forest species (hereinafter the manual).

Expected results for next year: Finalize tools for publication (wood ID in application stores and printing of the Wood Manual) for presentation at the "Tool Launch Event". Also, transfer of editable and technical documents (user manual and instructions) to the counterparts for subsequent editing and use according to the terms to be established.

Name of the activity: Development of the Quick Reference Guide for the Investigation of Wildlife Crime (RRG Fauna).

Expected results for next year: Conclude with the Fauna RRG (includes missions to present and socialize progress) and diagram the final version and socialize with technical counterparts.

3.1.15 SUMMARY OF RESULTS IN THE YEAR

Enter text here.

Exhibit 5. Summary of Objective 1 tasks

TASKS	RESULTS THIS YEAR	PLAN FOR NEXT YEAR
Regional UIF Work Exchanges: Transnational Environmental Crimes and Related Crimes.	Construction of technical documents: Open-Source Database Framework created in coordination with UAFE Ecuador.	n/a
Development of Complementary Documents to the "Analysis of the Relationships and Dynamics of Environmental Crimes and Coca Cultivation in Ucayali" (hereinafter referred to as the Ucayali Study) and Positioning	Proposal accepted by USAID (part of the extension of the ECOS project).	Planning of the activities to be carried out (as reflected in the approved concept note). The follow-up of the Ucayali Analysis will contribute with timely information for local actions in addressing scenarios where there is concurrence of the coca-environmental crime problem.
South American Wildlife Enforcement Network - SudWEN	Enhancing coordination and collaboration among SudWEN countries. Strengthened regional cooperation in the fight against wildlife trafficking through bilateral and multilateral meetings.	The implementation of the 2024-2025 Action Plan with the support of the ECOS project.
Identify the risks and vulnerabilities of the risks to crimes and mapping of the fisheries value chain.	Mapped three value and/or supply chains in the fisheries sector: Human Consumption (CH), Indirect Human Consumption (CHI), and Residual Meal (HR), in general terms.	n/a

<p>Collaborative Work with the Judiciary to Support the Strengthening of Judges' Capacities.</p>	<p>(Congress) Creation of networking spaces and the exchange of experiences among judges from Peru, Brazil, Ecuador and Colombia.</p>	<p>(Congress) Next Congress is planned to focus on environmental challenges related to mining. Additionally, communication efforts will focus on increasing visibility by sharing the outcomes of the VI Congress through professionally produced videos and targeted social media campaigns.</p>
	<p>(Capacity building) Update of the virtual educational platform of the Prosecutor's Office . Design, plan, and implement a virtual introductory course on wildlife management (including the curricular and methodological design of the technical course).</p>	<p>(Capacity building) Regarding the current pilot course. Analyze the satisfaction survey to identify the improvements in the lecture.</p>
	<p>(OPROCTI) Design and layout of an informative poster aimed at the prosecutor's offices in the field. Official delivery to the Oprocti offices of the information brochure.</p>	<p>(OPROCTI) The dissemination campaign, coordinated between the Public Ministry's Image team, OPROCTI, and the ECOS communications team, will focus on distributing the informational materials across all fiscal districts in Peru.</p>

<p>Support for Regulatory Frameworks and 1st Regional Workshop on the Dissemination of Regional Environmental Frameworks: Recommendation No. 511 - Legal Framework to Combat Illegal Logging and Associated Trade in the Amazon Forests of the Andean Region</p>	<p>Joint work on a roadmap for the implementation of Recommendation No. 511, based on the regional integration actions proposed by this instrument.</p>	<p>n/a</p>
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------

<p>Construction and updating of tools to support the identification of Peruvian timber species focused on control and research procedures: IDmaderas, Manual for the anatomical identification of the wood of Peruvian Amazonian forest species (hereinafter the manual).</p>	<p>2 tools with updated information, with the approval and socialization of the national counterparts (CITEforestal Network, Regional Government of Ucayali, CITEmadera, SERFOR, etc.).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wood ID: Beta version for application and website. • Wood Manual: Digital version and core revision ready. 	<p>Finalize tools for publication (wood ID in application stores and printing of the Wood Manual) for presentation at the "Tool Launch Event". Also, transfer of editable and technical documents (user manual and instructions) to the counterparts for subsequent editing and use according to the terms to be established.</p>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Workshop “Capacity building in the identification of timber forest species for control and research purposes”	24 authorities with updated knowledge on the generalities of timber identification who are familiar with new tools to support their functions.	n/a
Development of the Quick Reference Guide for the Investigation of Wildlife Crime (RRG Fauna)	Advancement of wildlife RRG based on a socialized index and structure that meets the needs of fiscal investigation functions.	Conclude with the RRG Fauna (includes missions to present and socialize progress) and desing the final version and socialize with technical counterparts.

3.1.16 SURINAME YEAR # 3 RESULTS

Name of the activity: Technical Workshop on Environmental Crime Challenges in Suriname

Objective of the activity: The objective of this activity was to obtain an overview of Suriname’s key challenges to address environmental crimes and identify the opportunities for UNODC to provide support.

Brief description of the activity:

The project was initiated with an identification of key stakeholders, realized with the support of Suriname's Directorate of National Security (DNV). Following this, a technical survey was conducted to gather first insights from these stakeholders on the challenges faced in combating environmental crimes. Subsequently, a brainstorming workshop facilitated exchanges among participants, which led to the identification of strategic priorities for improving enforcement strategies and institutional capabilities. Finally, the findings were documented in a post-activity report, and a roadmap was developed to outline the next steps to support Suriname in addressing environmental crimes.

Below are some pictures of the technical workshop:



Group Photo

Describe the results achieved with this activity:

30 participants attended the technical workshop. This workshop enabled a better understanding of the specific obstacles and operational constraints faced by each of the participating authorities. This allowed to further guide decision-making and to identify the complementary technical strengths of the country's different agencies. Furthermore, the workshop provided valuable insights into the dynamics between the country's agencies, helping to identify the strengths and weaknesses of their current collaborative efforts. Lastly, it offered participants the opportunity to explore potential links between environmental and financial crimes and underscored the benefits of integrating financial investigations into the country's environmental crime strategies.

Indicator:

Number of countries with established data baseline on TCCs through Toolkit and/or Indicator Framework: 1²

3.1.17 ANTICIPATED RESULTS FOR NEXT YEAR

Name of the activity: Conduct of a workshop on environmental crimes identification techniques

Expected results for next year: In line with the roadmap produced following the technical workshop conducted in July 2024, a workshop will be designed to reinforce Suriname's capacities to identify environmental crime activities. This capacity-building activity will allow the participants to better understand, detect and investigate environmental crimes, while also integrating the financial crime dimension.

3.1.18 SUMMARY OF RESULTS IN THE YEAR

Technical Workshop on Environmental Crime Challenges: the workshop allowed to identify key operational challenges and areas of strengthening, improving decision-making and collaboration. It also fostered crucial connections between UNODC and the participating agencies, laying the groundwork for future cooperation.

Exhibit 1. Summary of Objective 1 tasks

TASKS	RESULTS THIS YEAR	PLAN FOR NEXT YEAR
Technical Workshop on	30 participants attended the workshop.	Develop activities based on the roadmap produced

² The workshop served as a starting point for this particular indicator and other future initiatives.

4. CROSS-CUTTING THEMES RESULTS AND PROGRESS

4.1 GENDER AND VULNERABLE POPULATION

The concept of ‘crimes affecting the environment (CAE)’ is still evolving but ³³ can be generally seen as a collective term for illegal activities that harm the environment. The broad areas of offences which comprise CAE are captured in the four panel sessions addressed here, namely: (1) Wildlife crime and crimes in the fisheries sector, (2) Crimes in the mining sector, (3) Deforestation, pollution, and trafficking in waste and (4) Other crimes related to climate justice. A key aspect of all types of CAE, is that they may occur concurrently, and intertwine to various degrees with, transnational organised crime (TOC) and other serious crimes. This interconnection creates an “environmental crime continuum” in terms of TOC-CAE interpenetration, which may be characterised by less formal ‘alliances’ between local and TOC actors through to increasingly evolving stages of more closely linked operation (mutualism, convergence, transformation) and extending to situations in which organised crime may ‘dominate’ local-level CAE dynamics. Obviously, in addition to these CAE-TOC links, the potential gender-based aspects of organised crime, as noted above, also make its consideration in relation to the gender dimensions of CAE important.

³³ [1] This definition of CAE is based on UNODC, , p.3. We note that while UNODC uses the expression ‘crimes that affect the environment’ (CAE), EUROPOL, the EU and other UN institutions may use the term ‘environmental crime’ to capture the same concept. See for example, EUROPOL, “[Environmental Crime](#)” (2023) and the European Union, “[How the EU fights environmental crime](#)”, 2018.

[2] Transnational organised crime, as defined in [Article 2](#), paragraph (a) and (b), respectively, on page 5 of the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC) consists of internationally operating “organized criminal groups ...of three or more persons, existing for a period of time and acting in concert with the aim of committing one or more serious crimes or offences established in accordance with this Convention, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit”. “Serious crime” is seen as “conduct constituting an offence punishable by a maximum deprivation of liberty of at least four years or a more serious penalty”.

[3] For a more detailed discussion of the “environmental crime continuum” see Daan Van Uhm and Rick Nijman, , *European Journal of Criminology*, vol.19, No.4, (2022), pp.542-561

[4] The “ADIR” framework for considering the gender dimensions of CAE applied here was developed in relation to International Wildlife Trafficking (IWT) by Joni Seager, [Gender and illegal wildlife trade: Overlooked and underestimated](#) (2021), p. 84-85.

Gender can be understood fundamentally as the social attributes and opportunities associated with being male and female. As such, it may be seen as socially constructed, context specific and often linked to inequality dynamics, including in terms of natural resource access, use and management and CAE. Paving the way for gender analysis, a basic framework has been developed in relation to wildlife-related crime for thinking about what kinds of gender dynamics or specific ‘dimensions’ of gender are important to analyse in relation to CAE. These dimensions include looking at gender in relation to the: (1) the gender roles involved, or men and women’s different activities as Actors involved in CAE; (2) how gender affects the Drivers of CAE; (3) how gender relates to the (often unequal) Impacts of CAE; and finally (4) what role gender may play in shaping Responses to CAE, --- thus the so-called “ADIR” framework.

ECOS project is currently working with a knowledge-based approach on the first two dimensions of gender with the crime of illegal wildlife trafficking by conducting a study on the role of women in illegal wildlife trafficking in markets in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. This study will provide preliminary findings on the role of women in the value chain behind the illegal trade of species in local markets of the mentioned countries identify whether they are sellers, providers or both, how do this illegal trade operate, and which are the trends of this crime that are found in the areas of the study.

These finds will be shared in safe spaces for discussion as a raising awareness strategy of the need to empower women as potential actors for prevention of wildlife crimes as well as relevant actors within the value chain of the crime. Likewise, in these discussion events the development of strategies that address gender perspective and these findings will be fostered.

In addition, while the project is not specifically designed to overcome gender barriers, gender balanced in the activities is pursued. Therefore, the project promotes the equality in the participation of women and men.

This section will describe the gender approach of the project in two level, the first one will present the figures of gender balanced regarding women participation in the activities developed by each country. The second one will describe the main findings of the on-going gender study that UNODC conducted in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

GENDER BALANCE – BRAZIL

ECOS BRAZIL		
Activity	Women	Men
Regional Workshop to Advance Timber Identification Field Techniques	14	17
International Conference on Mercury Trafficking	14	25
ICCWC Indicators Framework Exercise	23	27

WIRE 2023	1	1
Virtual Workshop to Advance Timber ID Field Techniques	11	12
Field Mission in the Jamari National Forest, Rondônia, Brazil	2	4
II Virtual Workshop to Advance Timber ID Field Techniques	19	25
Basic Environmental Enforcement Intelligence Course - International	17	38
Shark Fin Identification Program	7	13
Ist Expert Workshop for the Development of NDFs for <i>Handroanthus</i> , <i>Tabebuia</i> , <i>Dipteryx</i> , and <i>Cedrela</i>	34	55
Ist Modeling Meeting for the Fishery Origin Control System	4	13
Ist Workshop to Develop the National Action Plan for the Prevention and Combat of Wildlife Crimes	55	42
2nd Expert Workshop for the Development of the NDF for the Genera <i>Handroanthus</i> , <i>Tabebuia</i> , <i>Dipteryx</i> , and <i>Cedrela</i>	45	90
2nd Meeting for the Modeling of the Fisheries Origin Control System	4	8

GENDER BALANCE – COLOMBIA

ECOS COLOMBIA		
Activity	Women	Men
Training on environmental matters for regional comptrollers	186	176

ICCWC Indicators framework	48	50
----------------------------	----	----

GENDER BALANCE – ECUADOR

ECOS ECUADOR		
Activity	Women	Men
Workshop "From journalism to action: combating crimes that affect the environment through information" (19/10/2023)	9	6
Workshop "From journalism to action: combating crimes that affect the environment through information" (19/10/2023)	10	6
Workshop "From journalism to action: combating crimes that affect the environment through information" (19/10/2023)	4	5
Interagency workshop the chain of custody manual for wildlife evidence in Galapagos - (11/10/2023)	14	21
Inter-Institutional Workshop: The Chain of Custody Manual for Wildlife Evidence in Quito - (13/12/2023)	10	21
2nd Workshop on the Creation of Pedagogical Guides for Teachers	6	2
Galapagos Initiatives	5	1
Participants Regional Working Meeting between the Financial Analysis Units of Ecuador and Peru on Environmental Crimes and Related Crimes	5	11
Participants/ Technical meetings in the commission of the protocol for the management of evidence and/or evidence related to crimes against the environment	20	34
Meeting with CITES focal point - Shark and Ray fin trafficking (February 7, 2024)	7	3
Development of Reference Guides (RRGs) and other technical tools to improve investigations and prosecutions against TCCs] Meetings to Prepare Training on Spatial Analysis Tools on Illegal Mining	3	11
Gender study to understand the role of women in wildlife trafficking, addressing and preventing TCCs.	6	7

Meeting with the University of Loja (February 29, 2024)	10	18
Participants/ Technical workshop for value chain custody manual	14	21
Participants/ Technical Meetings FITI Report	10	7
Participants / Technical Training about Spatial Analysis Tools focused on Environmental Crimes	23	23
Launch of the University of Loja Xylotheque and III Technical Meeting Interagency Group on Forest Traceability and Wood Identification Ecuador (21-22 of May 2024)	48	77
Training of first responders to ensure the management of evidence related to wildlife crime in the northern region of the Amazon, Francisco de Orellana (Coca). (28/05/2024- 29/05/2024)	7	27
Training Course on Rights of Nature or Pachamama with the Council of the Judicial System (asynchronous phase)	218	482
Participants of technical meeting in Galapagos	6	9
Launch of "Guardianes Galapaguitos: Saving Animals in Danger"	752	748
I Training Course in Analysis and Investigation of Financial Operations in Illegal Mining.	20	25
Training Course on the Rights of Nature or Pachamama with the Council of the Judicial System and Hemisferios University	23	56
Virtual training on environmental crimes for specialized	36	64
Launch of the Puppet Show Galápagos Guardians	994	901
Total	2260	2586

GENDER BALANCE – PERU

ECOS PERU		
Activity	Women	Men
Regional UIF Work Exchanges: Transnational Environmental Crimes and Related Crimes.	5	18
South American Wildlife Enforcement Network - SudWEN	19	27

Collaborative Work with the Judiciary to Support the Strengthening of Judges' Capacities - Field Activity	10	17
Collaborative Work with the Judiciary to Support the Strengthening of Judges' Capacities - The VI International Congress	27	66
Support for Regulatory Frameworks and 1st Regional Workshop on the Dissemination of Regional Environmental Frameworks: Recommendation No. 511 - Legal Framework to Combat Illegal Logging and Associated Trade in the Amazon Forests of the Andean Region	14	35
Construction and updating of tools to support the identification of Peruvian timber species focused on control and research procedures: IDmaderas, Manual for the anatomical identification of the wood of Peruvian Amazonian forest species (hereinafter the manual).	3	4
Workshop "Capacity building in the identification of timber forest species for control and research purposes".	3	21
Development of the Quick Reference Guide for the Investigation of Wildlife Crime (RRG Fauna) - Workshop	13	19

GENDER BALANCE – SURINAME

ECOS SURINAME		
Activity	Women	Men
Technical Workshop on Environmental Crime Challenges	12	18

MAIN FINDINGS GENDER STUDY

Currently, the ECOS project is introducing the gender approach in its work through the elaboration of a study on the role of women in both facilitating and preventing the crime of illegal wildlife trafficking in the markets of Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. This study arose from the identification of the need to promote knowledge on how the traditional gender roles affect the execution of "crimes affecting the environment (CAE)".

The most important preliminary findings are associated with an analysis of the sexual division of labor in the context of illegal wildlife trafficking. The role of men as the main extractors of wildlife products, especially for medicinal purposes, was evidenced. These findings reinforce a division of labor in which men are involved in more dangerous or physically demanding activities, such as poaching or collecting, while women are responsible for marketing and preparing products for sale. This pattern reflects a culturally ingrained association of men with public space and risky activities, and women with activities closer to home and markets. However, during the use of camera traps it was possible to identify that women occasionally join the poaching house mainly in dynamics of family participation.

Women play a preponderant role as vendors in both traditional medicinal and artisanal markets. In medicinal markets, they are almost exclusively in charge of preserving and transmitting traditional knowledge on the use of wildlife products for curative purposes, which evidences their role as caretakers and protectors of ancestral knowledge.

In the countries studied, illicit activities such as mining, logging, coca cultivation, prostitution and wildlife trade are interconnected considering that where one exists, other illicit activities often take place. Although it is perceived that only men participate in the illegal camps, women are also present, playing caretaking roles. They are primarily responsible for cooking, using illegally hunted bushmeat, but are also frequently coerced into offering sexual services.

One of the main findings of this study highlights how traditional gender roles assign women caregiving functions in the illegal wildlife trade chain. This pattern reinforces social expectations about care, extending domestic responsibilities to animal care, even in illegal contexts.

4.2 YOUTH

Recognizing the imperative to raise awareness, UNODC as part of ECOS project underscores the need for targeted awareness initiatives and communication campaigns about the significance of addressing crimes affecting the environment through educational and communicational approaches. Thus, within the ECOS framework, the ICCWC Indicator Framework was applied in Ecuador. The results revealed the importance of communication strategies to deter wildlife trafficking, emphasizing the need to sustain communication and awareness campaigns locally for the care and prevention of crimes against wildlife.

Concurrently, in 2022, UNODC introduced "Animals in Danger," a children's book addressing crimes against wildlife, climate change, and plastic pollution. This educational tool aims to enhance children's critical thinking and foster intergenerational dialogue and awareness regarding the urgent need for action against crimes against wildlife. In 2024, ECOS in Ecuador adapted 'Animals in Danger' for Galapagos, titled "Galapagos Guardians: Saving the Animals in Danger," targeting children aged 9 to 11. The initiative has reached over 1,500 children across all 23 educational institutions in Galapagos. The primary goal was to raise awareness about the impact of environmental crimes through educational tools within the framework of environmental education for children, aligning with the concept of Education for Sustainable Development, SDG 4.7, and the Curricular Contextualization with a Sustainability Approach for Galapagos (CCSG) of the Ministry of the Environment.

During this fiscal year, the storybook was finished and sent for printing, obtaining the following print runs:

- Spanish edition: 5,000 copies
- English edition: 1,000 copies

- Teacher Guides: 200 copies
- Essential Knowledge Compendiums: 300 copies

3,400 Spanish storybooks were delivered in Galapagos to cover the 1,500 children of this cycle and an additional 1,500 for continuous use in schools. 400 storybooks will be provided to the Galapagos National Park (PNG). 350 storybooks will be delivered during the COP16 meeting in Cali in a local school. The remaining 1,200 copies are designated for our partners (MAATE continent, USAID, LATAM, ECOGAL), with specific distribution figures still to be negotiated.

4.3 PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

Private Partners

As part of these initiatives, we have successfully engaged key stakeholders in the Galapagos Islands, particularly the private sector. Our collaborative efforts with private sector entities are significantly amplifying the impact of our activities. Currently, we are working with two key allies, with whom we plan to continue collaborating in our upcoming endeavors:

ECOGAL - Galapagos Ecological Airport:

ECOGAL, the main airport serving the Galapagos Islands, located on Baltra Island, plays a pivotal role in ensuring conservation efforts. All passengers pass through control points at the airport's entrance, where a four-meter by three-meter billboard displays the Galapagos National Park rules. The updated design for this display board, featuring enhanced visuals, was delivered on July 3rd, 2024, after a delay due to Ecuador's political crisis and a subsequent request from the National Park. Following the successful unveiling of the new design, we are now about to sign a Letter of Intent to formalize our continued partnership with ECOGAL. This collaboration will strengthen efforts to promote environmental awareness and address species trafficking through joint initiatives.

USFQ:

In September 2023, USFQ signed a Compromise Agreement with UNODC as part of efforts to strengthen the ECOS project. The agreement includes commitments to bolster environmental education, facilitate knowledge exchange, and collaborate in the fight against environmental crimes. USFQ has pledged to provide technical validation of educational content, offer feedback during implementation, and promote the dissemination of educational materials. Moreover, USFQ will partner with UNODC on environmental education initiatives aligned with their programmatic goals. The university's faculty and researchers will contribute as trainers in areas such as prevention, investigation, and communication of environmental crimes. UNODC, in turn, has involved USFQ in the development of the "Animals in Danger" environmental education tool and acknowledged their role in future training and knowledge exchange efforts. Both institutions underscore the need to maintain open channels for ongoing cooperation and future projects, emphasizing environmental education, research, and sustainable development.

4.4 LOCAL CAPACITY

This section will describe the strategies that the project has addressed and is developing to strengthen capabilities and foster sustainability of the activities

In Ecuador, the next strategies have been developed:

Formation of technical working groups: this allows continuity to the participants and have access to training, those civil servants who are career are mapped.

Theoretical and practical training: in the case of the construction of the chain of custody manual for Galapagos, joint training has been carried out with operational personnel of the Police and the Forensic Service, as well as national and international experts from UNODC. This allows the training to be applied to real situations, it has also been considered that the training has a case simulation component and, in the territory, simulating determined situation to test what has been learned.

In the invitations that are made, the required profile and the person who participated in the last training are placed as background to promote the continuity of the participants and the sustainability of the activity.

Participatory and integrated construction of institutions in the generation of practical tools: The environmental team carries out a preliminary internal exercise to identify, according to the regulations, the competencies attributed to each institution, and in this way, technical meetings are held for the construction of practical tools such as protocols, manuals, because the involvement of the institutions from the beginning of the process guarantees not only the sustainability, but also the application of the tools, since this participatory exercise encourages the institutionalization of the processes in internal regulations.

Work has been promoted with local organizations for the sustainability of the initiative, for example the ECOS Galapagos Foundation, which is the president of Agreement for Education Galapagos and has extensive experience in educational issue.

In Peru, the project has been updating tools (applications and manuals for the topic of timber), the work dynamics for this was made up of a facilitator (ECOS Team), a technical team (counterpart, ECOS Team), and a support provider (IT and design developer). This allows us to move forward organizationally, review progress promptly, and continuously incorporate contributions. This dynamic will be applied in developing new tools (RRG fauna and courses with the Public Prosecutor's Office).

Something important to keep in mind is that the ECOS team fulfilled the function of facilitating, leading, and organizing the work of building tools. It is important to encourage and follow up to connect the technical team and the support provider.

The activities under development in Brazil have the support of national institutions, which see UNODC as a strategic partner to combat environmental crime. There has been an important exchange between the institutions, which enables the development of meaningful and targeted activities, ranging from technical and scientific to operational scope, depending on the thematic.

4.5 BENEFICIARY FEEDBACK

“Home to nearly 40% of the world’s plant and animal species, South America’s natural habitats face a major threat from wildlife crime. Led by organized criminal groups and often transnational in nature, wildlife crime yields significant illicit profits which can fuel other criminal activities, including drug trafficking

and human trafficking. To break this destructive cycle, we must go after the organized criminal networks and the vast resources at their disposal. This requires greater cross-border cooperation, intelligence sharing, and tracking criminal proceedings. Wildlife enforcement networks such as SudWEN are valuable tools in our arsenal. Over the past two years, thanks to the generous support of the US Government, UNODC and the International Consortium have been supporting countries in the region to bolster their joint efforts through SudWEN. Now, under Peru's leadership, I have no doubt that SudWEN will grow even stronger with the support of its members. Together, we can end wildlife crime and preserve the region's biodiversity, ensuring a healthy and functional ecosystem for future generations." – Ghada Fathi Waly, Executive Director of UNODC, during the launch of South American Wildlife Enforcement Network (SUDWEN)'s new Chairmanship.

"After the WIRE meeting, we were able to comprehend the various types of trafficking and crimes related to wildlife. Additionally, we successfully disseminated the acquired knowledge within our law enforcement institution, covering both the operational and legal aspects. This facilitated a deeper understanding of the current issues we are facing. During the meeting we exchanged ideas and formulated plans for the prevention of environmental crimes. The international communication proved highly productive, allowing us to gain insights from diverse countries, while also sharing our own experiences." – Cpl. Manuel Flores, from Ecuador's National Unit of Police for Environmental Protection in regard to his experience in the 7th edition of the Wildlife Inter-Regional Enforcement (WIRE) meeting in Abu Dhabi from November 7 to 10, 2023.

"In these spaces, communication is facilitated, and technical feedback is received from all present personnel. This feedback will include considerations on various situations, allowing for more informed decision-making and, ultimately, the efficient and effective performance of functions." - Santiago Cobos, Coordinator of Methods and Service Protocols at the National Service of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences during the 3rd Meeting of the Technical Commission for the creation of the forensic standardization instrument for the handling of evidence related to environmental crimes held in Galápagos in November 2023.

"Having this manual with instructions for proper custody management as National Police will greatly strengthen our actions when delivering evidence to the judge in a criminal process. It provides clear instruments that are associative and evident, aiding in the judgment process and achieving the desired outcome, which is a sentence. It also indicates that, as police and regulatory entities for the environment, we are more professionally equipped with instruments and elements that can technically support a police procedure." - Captain Santiago Chávez, Head of the Environmental Protection Unit of the National Police in Galápagos during the 3rd Meeting of the Technical Commission for the creation of the forensic standardization instrument for the handling of evidence related to environmental crimes held in Galápagos in November 2023.

"Through these workshops, we gather experiences, best practices, and tools that allow us to perform our functions better and, if necessary, take the necessary strategies to execute them. Through these experiences, we can adopt the best practices and identify common problems, planning future control actions to solve day-to-day issues through coordinated efforts." - Carla Fiallos, Audit Supervisor of the National Directorate of Audit of Natural Resources of the General Comptroller's Office of Ecuador, during the 1st Multilateral Working Meeting of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) in Environmental Matters of Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru in Bogotá D.C., Colombia, in October 2023.

"The IF initiative was highly beneficial. I firmly believe that we should organize more events like this because they provide us with a broader perspective. When I leave my state, where I am focused on specific state competencies, and participate in a forum where I engage with other state-level institutions and also federal-level institutions, it offers a holistic view. Consequently, we can assess our strengths and identify areas for

improvement simultaneously." – Cleiton Douglas da Silva, Commander of Battalion at the Environmental Military Police of Mato Grosso do Sul during the ICCWC Indicator Framework exercise held in Brasilia in November 2023.

"It's ineffective for Brazil to possess excellent legislation if neighboring countries lack similar regulations. This creates a loophole where trafficked animals may transit through these countries to reach other destinations. Therefore, it's crucial to establish a coalition of countries with similar legislation, particularly for species with transnational habitats. Having an international organization oversee this matter is paramount for effective coordination and enforcement." – Roberto Cabral, Federal Environmental Agent at the Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (Ibama) during the ICCWC Indicator Framework exercise, which promoted a self-assessment of Brazil's response to wildlife crime.

"These workshops and tools help us visually and interactively highlight the various topics of interest for each institution. This knowledge is important for the staff of the institution as it strengthens their capabilities and encourages us to challenge ourselves with new tools to showcase our work." – Erika Villamarin, Analyst at the Ministry of the Interior from Ecuador during the workshop on Tools for Spatial Analysis of Environmental Crimes in march and mayo 2024.

"The coordinated work between national and international institutions, as well as academia, aims to strengthen the capacities for developing control activities to mitigate the illegal trafficking of timber species, ensuring the conservation of our protected areas, which represent over 19% of the national territory." – Gustavo Pilla, Manager of the National Forest and Wildlife Control System Project from Ecuador during the launch of Timber Xilothèque in may 2024.

"Cooperation has been valuable to us. We mention that we have had several years of cooperation, and in recent years, we have approached ECOS and achieved significant progress." – Diego Riaño, General Comptroller of Colombia during the ICCWC Indicator Framework exercise, which promoted a self-assessment of Colombia's response to wildlife crime in may 2024.

"Environmental crimes present us with new challenges. We need to consider the community and various social actors. Environmental authorities play a very important role, and therefore, dialogue is necessary to achieve the goals." - Helmer Valera, Attorney General's Office, Colombia during the ICCWC Indicator Framework exercise, which promoted a self-assessment of Colombia's response to wildlife crime in may 2024.

"This workshop has helped us better understand how to process a scene of a potential wildlife crime and strengthen our procedures. We've learned a lot and now have a broader perspective to carry out our fieldwork." – Lucía Luje, veterinarian from the Biodiversity Directorate of MAATE, during the workshop "Mastering Evidence Tracking: A Guide for Crime Scene Investigators and First Responders" in May 2024.

"Ecuador's first FiTI Report represents a commitment to transparency and sustainability in managing our fisheries resources. With this report, we are laying the groundwork for better decision-making that benefits both marine resources and the communities that depend on them." – Minister Sonsoles García, adding that from her Ministry, "the conviction is clear: to promote sustainable fishing that supports economic development, food security, and the well-being of future generations." During the delivery of the FiTI report in September 2024.

"We are sharing and socializing with our auditors the new environmental fiscal control tools we've developed. The first is the procedure for verifying the principles of sustainable development and the valuation of environmental costs, which provides them with tools to monitor environmental issues in a

more accessible way." – María Fernanda Rojas, Director of Sustainable Development and Environmental Cost Valuation, under the Environmental Delegation of Colombia, as part of the environmental fiscal control training workshops for territorial comptrollers in October 2024.

"Environmental education is prevention. An educated community that understands the risks and threats posed by these illicit acts is a community that prevents crime." – Rosa León, Director of Environmental Education and Communication at Galapagos National Park, during the launch of Guardianes Galapaguitos in July 2024.

5. MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

4.1 AWARD MODIFICATIONS

ECOS team presented proposals for extension of the project for Brazil, Ecuador, Peru and Colombia.

Regarding the proposal for Brazil, it consists of the creation of traceability system for fisheries in Brazil and the elaboration of the National Plan for Fauna. Both proposals are requested made by the Government to UNODC in the context of ECOS project. The proposal will be implemented in a 32-month period and has a budget of 3 million. This proposal is expected to be developed under a buy-in make by USAID national office in Brazil.

Regarding the proposal for Peru, it includes the implementation of the recommendations for the Ucayali Study, provide support for leading SudWEN during the first two years of implementation, providing technical support to Peruvian institutions for the implementation of Belem Declaration. The proposal has a 32-month period and a budget of 3 million. This proposal is expected to be developed under a buy-in make by USAID national office in Peru.

Regarding the proposal for Ecuador, there was no positive answer for an extension or a buy-in.

Regarding the proposal for Colombia, it consist on developing a analysis of the current situation of wildlife trafficking in Colombia, provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Environment for the implementation of a software and SOP that collects national and local information about environmental administrative offences, continue with the mentoring for investigating environmental crimes and provide technical assistance for the creation of the regional committees for combat wildlife trafficking. The proposal is expected to be implemented in a one-year period and has a budget approximately of 1 million dollars.

At a regional level, a proposal for a regional analysis of available information about routes and other information about environmental crimes was presented to AREP. This proposal is expected to be implemented in a one-year period and has a budget of \$300.000.

No formal documentation has been enacted yet regarding these extensions.

4.2 MEL PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

(Please review attach document)

4.3 MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS TASK STATUS

Exhibit 6. Summary of management and operation tasks

TASKS	PROGRESS THIS YEAR	PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR
Buy-in Brazil	Proposal approved	Formal documentation of the buy-in issued, development and implementation of the working plan for the proposal.

Buy-in Peru	Proposal approved	Formal documentation of the buy-in issued, development and implementation of the working plan for the proposal.
Buy-in AREP	Proposal approved	Formal documentation of the buy-in issued, development and implementation of the working plan for the proposal.
Buy-in Colombia	Proposal approved	Formal documentation of the buy-in issued, development and implementation of the working plan for the proposal.

6. LEARNING AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

This year the ECOS project along with USAID chose a different methodology for reviewing challenges and lessons learned which was applied in the pause and reflect conducted.

According to the USAID Learning Lab, the pause and reflection activity is a component of adaptive learning and management, it is the act of taking time to think critically about the activities that are in progress in order to analyze and plan them in the best way for the future (<https://usaidlearninglab.org/resources/pause-reflect-planning-tool>).

The pause and reflection exercise involves a broad group of activities that provide the structure and objectives for planning, designing, and implementing the project. In turn, it generates a learning and teaching process, more than an exercise of information exchange for an adequate decision-making process (<https://usaidlearninglab.org/resources/pause-reflect-planning-tool>).

For the pause and reflect of this year, the next activities were displayed:

- Presentation of the results of the FY2023: Each country coordinator made a short presentation on the main results achieved in the FY, this allow to highlight the success on the implementation of the project and also, share information about challenges or setbacks that needed to be addressed for the implementation of the project; some challenges include political changes that were informed appropriately to USAID in each quarter.
- Planning for the future – Round Robin brainstorming methodology: Considering that ECOS project will be extended thanks to the buy-in that will be made by USAID country missions, the Round Robin brainstorming methodology was used to present and analyze the proposal for the countries that will receive a buy-in. By the time of the pause and reflect only Peru and Brazil were going to receive a buy-in that is why Colombia was not included in the Round Robin activity.
- The Round Robin brainstorming is a technique to generate ideas from a participatory environment, through consecutive group brainstorming. This technique has 4 main moments:
 - Identifying challenges (For Q&A purposes, the challenge has been previously identified)
 - Ideas of/for the proposed solution
 - Challenges of the proposed solution
 - Suggested final proposal
- In several rounds, each activity proposed was analyzed and discussed in working groups and in a plenary session. Challenges and opportunities were shared and it was concluded that the proposal are viable but they will need some adaptation in time (like Brazil) to be completed and avoid political constraints.
- One issue that was raised that is still under analysis is the way in which countries of ECOS project that are not receiving a buy-in will continue its work; this is the case of Ecuador, Suriname and Guyana. For these countries it has been planned a redistribution of the remaining budget of ECOS regional project, likewise it is expected to have confirmation on whether these countries will need a non-cost extension or not.

7. ANNEXES

7.1. PERFORMANCE INDICATOR TRACKING TABLE

(Please review document attached)

7.2. SUCCESS STORIES

Peru takes the Leadership of SudWEN to Continue Tackling Wildlife Crime in South America

Peru played a pivotal role in the fight against wildlife crime as it assumed the Chairmanship of the South American Wildlife Enforcement Network (SudWEN) during its inauguration event. Representatives from 11 South American countries, the U.S., Peruvian government institutions, and international organizations gathered in Lima, Peru, and Vienna, Austria. Over the two-year term, Peru, under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the coordination of the Specialized Prosecutor's Office in Environmental Matters (FEMA), led SudWEN, focusing on enhancing cooperation among law enforcement agencies, strengthening capacity building, and fostering regional cooperation to address wildlife trafficking.

Supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), along with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the ECOS project, SudWEN works on bolstering its capacity to combat the illicit trafficking of wildlife. The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru, Ignacio Higuera Hare, emphasized the significance of this presidency, highlighting it as a testament to Peru's robust environmental foreign policy and substantial role in addressing environmental challenges.

In response to escalating wildlife trafficking threats in South America, the region, serving as a major source, transit, and destination for illegal wildlife products, faced severe challenges. Criminal organizations derived significant profits from this illicit trade, posing severe threats to biodiversity, ecosystem health, national security, and the livelihoods of millions dependent on natural resources. Ambassador Roberto Rodríguez Arnillas, General Director for Multilateral and Global Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru, emphasized that leading SudWEN reflected Peru's commitment to strengthening law enforcement capabilities, enhancing legal measures, and raising awareness about wildlife protection. As General Coordinator of the Network, Senior Prosecutor Dr. Karina Diana Vargas Quiñones of FEMA proposed a regional situational diagnosis as the first activity. This initiative aimed to identify species, routes, criminal modalities, procedures, and border control weaknesses, providing a solid foundation for effective strategies to combat illegal wildlife trafficking in the region.

Peru's Chairmanship in SudWEN signifies a crucial step in strengthening national and regional enforcement capacities, reinforcing legal measures, and promoting wildlife protection awareness, showcasing its leadership and commitment in addressing wildlife trafficking across the region. The Chargé d'Affaires of the United States Embassy in Peru, John McNamara, affirmed continued support for UNODC, ICWC, and South American countries in strengthening legislation, law enforcement capacity, and international cooperation to combat wildlife trafficking effectively.

Find out more: <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/environment-climate/webstories/sudwen-leadership.html>

Wildlife trafficking course for judges in Peru in collaboration with National Commission for Environmental Management of the Judiciary and the Academy of Judiciary of Peru

The UNODC's Environmental Team, in collaboration with the National Commission for Environmental Management of the Judiciary and the Academy of Judiciary of Peru, developed a virtual specialization course titled "Crimes against wildlife trafficking: Wildlife trafficking and its link with transnational organized crime." The course targeted Magistrates of the Superior Courts of Peru, aiming to consolidate their legal knowledge on wildlife trafficking and expand their understanding of extra-penal technical legislation. International and national specialists, including officials from the National Forestry and Wildlife Service (SERFOR) and the Organization of Supervision of Forest and Wildlife Resources (OSINFOR), contributed to the course's design and development.

The virtual course, held from September 13 to October 17, 2023, focused on providing a comprehensive vision of the investigation and punishment of crimes against wildlife, emphasizing the legal instruments and perspectives related to organized crime. Thirty magistrates from five departments of Peru participated, representing the Superior Courts of Loreto, Huánuco, Lambayeque,

Huaura, and Arequipa. The course comprised four learning units, covering the international and national regulatory frameworks, dogmatic aspects related to crimes against wildlife, and procedural aspects, including the national adversarial system and means of international cooperation for border cases.

To enhance the exchange of knowledge, identify challenges, and offer concrete insights into the criminal phenomenon of wildlife trafficking, the UNODC's Environmental Team is planning a field visit to Iquitos, Loreto, Peru, in December 2023. The visit aims to provide the top 15 participants with an opportunity to explore a rescue center and a wildlife breeding center, gaining a comprehensive understanding of the issue and engaging with relevant actors.

In a related experience, judges from the Superior Courts of Loreto, Huánuco, Lambayeque, Huaura, and Arequipa visited two wildlife rescue centers in Iquitos on December 7 and 8, 2023. This field trip was part of the efforts to sensitize and contribute to strengthening the capacities and training of justice system operators in the protection of natural heritage. The judges had previously participated in a virtual course on "Crimes against wildlife and their link with transnational organized crime," co-organized by the National Commission for Environmental Management of the Judiciary and the Academy of the Magistracy (AMAG) with the support of the ECOS project, a collaborative effort of the UNODC and USAID.

The top 15 participants from the virtual course had the opportunity to apply their theoretical knowledge during the field activities, contributing to their legal education to prevent impunity and deliver fair judgments in environmental crimes. The field visits included tours of the Amazon Rescue Center (CREA) and the Rainforest Awareness Rescue Education Center (RAREC), providing insights into the rescue, recovery, and subsequent release of wildlife species. The activities were conducted under the ECOS project, focusing on enhancing judicial responses to environmental crimes in Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, Brazil, Guyana, and Suriname.

Find out more: <https://www.unodc.org/peruandecuador/es/noticias/2021/2023-jueces-y-juezas-fortalecen-capacidades-para-el-tratamiento-de-casos-de-trafico-de-fauna-silvestre.html>

Brazil's National Assessment on Wildlife Crime: Evaluating Progress through the Indicator Framework

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in collaboration with the Brazilian Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, specifically through the National Secretariat for Biodiversity, Forests, and Animal Rights (SBio/MMA), organized a comprehensive self-assessment event in Brasilia-DF on November 21 and 22. This initiative, known as the Indicator Framework exercise, is a strategic tool developed by the International Consortium to Combat Wildlife Crime (ICWC), comprising UNODC, the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora - CITES, the International Criminal Police Organisation - INTERPOL, the World Bank, and the World Customs Organisation - WCO. The framework serves the purpose of conducting a diagnostic analysis, identifying priorities, and establishing a structured monitoring framework to gauge progress in addressing wildlife crimes.

As part of the UNODC Brazil's ECOS - Regional Cooperation to Combat Environmental Crimes project, the exercise received support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the National Programme for the Conservation of Endangered Species (Pro-Species).

The two-day event convened approximately 50 participants, including justice operators, state and federal law enforcement officials, public managers, and experts. Discussions centered around aspects of national legislation, law enforcement practices related to crimes against wildlife, and assessments of institutional capacities for specialized investigations. Topics covered also included the utilization of criminal intelligence information, inter-institutional cooperation, human resource training and availability, border control, information management, the extent of national legislation, and the capability to prosecute and convict in wildlife crime cases.

The Indicator Framework was evaluated by the participating national entities through a participatory and dialogued voting process. Representatives from various entities, including the MMA, the Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA), the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMbio), the Federal Police (PF), the Federal Revenue Service (RFB), the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP), the Brazilian Army, the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Judiciary, security and environmental secretariats from all five regions of the country, postal agencies, as well as civil society, international organizations, and academia, actively contributed to the assessment process.

Find out more: <https://www.unodc.org/lpo-brazil/en/frontpage/2023/11/unodc-and-ministry-of-environment-carry-out-participatory-diagnosis-on-response-to-wildlife-crime-in-brazil.html>

Ecuador Strengthens its Response Against Environmental Crimes with Advances in Forensic Standardization

The 3rd Meeting of the Technical Commission for the creation of the forensic standardization tool for handling evidence related to environmental crimes took place in Galápagos on November 28 and 29. This event, held as part of the ECOS project, a joint effort between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), was coordinated with the National Service of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences of the Ecuadorian state and supported by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS).

During the meeting, Santiago Cobos, Coordinator of Methods and Protocols at the National Service of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences, emphasized the importance of facilitating communication and receiving technical feedback. This feedback, derived from various scenarios, enables informed decision-making and enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of functions.

The main objective is to generate a legal instrument in line with current regulations and the Forensic Standardization Instrument Development Plan. This tool aims to strengthen the chain of custody in possession, control, handling, and transfer of physical evidence in wildlife crime cases. It ensures proper evidence management and preserves its integrity for use in investigations and judicial processes, contributing to the protection of wildlife and environmental conservation by bringing offenders to justice.

Lieutenant Colonel Javier Chango, National Deputy Director of Technical Scientific Investigation of the National Police of Ecuador, emphasized the importance of the chain of custody in ensuring the integrity and authenticity of evidence, crucial for successful prosecution.

To continue the achieved work and address institutional needs, a demonstration activity was conducted in Quito on December 13 within the Technical Commission. The workshop showcased progress in the guidelines of the National Service of Forensic Sciences and Legal Medicine, featuring presentations by the Environmental Police Unit and the National Directorate of Technical Scientific Police on procedures for addressing environmental offenses and preserving evidence integrity in investigations and judicial processes.

UAFE of Ecuador and UIF of Peru Join Forces in the Fight Against Environmental Crimes through Regional Collaboration in Financial Intelligence

In Lima, Peru, a series of crucial work meetings were held between the Financial and Economic Analysis Unit of Ecuador (UAFE) and the Financial Intelligence Unit of Peru (UIF). These meetings marked a milestone in international cooperation, highlighting the determination of both nations to address the global issue of environmental and related crimes and their impact on the region.

Since 2019, UAFE and UIF, in close collaboration with justice operators and administrative authorities, supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), have led efforts to strengthen inter-institutional cooperation and develop effective strategies against environmental crimes. These specialized meetings aimed to exchange case information, share experiences, and develop tools for detecting, investigating, and prosecuting these crimes, as well as their connections to organized crime activities.

As part of the ECOS project, Regional Cooperation to Address Environmental Crimes, a joint effort between UNODC and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), UAFE and UIF have reinforced efforts to strengthen cooperation in the investigation of transnational cases of illicit financial flows linked to environmental crimes, such as wildlife trafficking, illegal logging, and timber trafficking, as well as crimes related to the mining and fishing sectors.

The results of the meetings were encouraging, showing a substantial improvement in binational cooperation between UAFE and UIF. Good practices and technical mechanisms were identified that will be very useful in future investigations, reaffirming the continuous commitment of both nations to combat environmental crimes and their determination to protect the environment for future generations.

With the support of UNODC, UAFE and UIF will continue to work together on binational cases related to environmental issues and exchange tools and technological instruments to facilitate and optimize their work and investigations.

Find out more: <https://www.unodc.org/peruandecuador/es/noticias/2021/2024-uafe-de-ecuador-y-uif-de-peru-unen-fuerzas-en-la-lucha-contra-deltos-ambientales-a-traves-de-la-colaboracion-regional-en-inteligencia-financiera.html>

Amazon Control Post Officials Trained in Timber Identification

On May 2 and 3, the Capacity Building Workshop on the Identification of Timber Forest Species was held at CITEforestal Pucallpa, thanks to the support of German Cooperation implemented by GIZ, the CITEforestal wood network of the Production Technological Institute, and the ECOS project, a joint effort of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Environmental Team of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

In the national context, wood extraction is carried out through forest management practices. However, to ensure responsible use, it is essential to have a deep knowledge of timber forest species and the available tools for their identification to perform effective control. This not only facilitates proper forest management but also combats illegal timber trafficking, one of the main threats to our natural resources.

The workshop represented an important milestone in strengthening knowledge and skills in identifying timber species, contributing to forest control and surveillance, as well as promoting sustainable practices in the use of our natural resources.

Crucial topics for forest control were addressed, including species identification, the use of digital tools to support this process, and discussions on tools, needs, and challenges in species identification for control and research purposes.

The theoretical-practical approach of the workshop allowed for active and participatory learning, with dynamic activities using various tools and wood samples for the analysis of anatomical and sensory characteristics. Participants had the opportunity to share experiences and knowledge, strengthening their capacities in this important field.

The event included the participation of forest specialists from various Amazon departments, as well as professionals linked to the forest sector and the CITEforestal wood network of ITP, who will apply the acquired knowledge in their respective areas of work, from control posts to ATFFS and Forest and Wildlife Management Offices.

Prior to the workshop aimed at forest control officials, the CITE network specialists who conducted the training met to exchange experiences and discuss training methodology, tools, controversial or difficult-to-identify species, as well as training needs and state requirements for wood identification.

The spaces for exchange and training for the CITE network are fundamental to keeping members updated, strengthening their capacities, facilitating coordination and cooperation, solving common problems, and strengthening the network as a whole. These events improve the quality of services offered and promote greater efficiency in activities related to the identification of timber forest species.

The Capacity Building Workshop on the Identification of Timber Forest Species has been a significant step in promoting sustainable practices and combating organized crime in the country.

Find out more: https://www.unodc.org/peruandecuador/es/noticias/2021/2024_funcionarios-de-los-puestos-de-control-de-la-amazona-se-capacitan-en-identificacin-de-maderas.html

UNODC and TRACE Host Wildlife Crime Scene and First Responder Workshop

Quito, June 21, 2024 - The Wildlife Rescue and Custody Center CocaZoo hosted the workshop "Mastering Evidence Tracking: Guide for Crime Scene Investigators and First Responders" in May 2024. This initiative, organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), was part of the ECOS project and was supported by TRACE Wildlife Forensics Network and the Colombian National Police.

The workshop aimed to provide practical tools for crime scene management and evidence handling in wildlife crime cases. Based on an assessment by TRACE Wildlife Forensics Network at the end of 2023, and with the support of international experts, "the goal was to deliver general knowledge on how to approach a crime scene, document, record evidence, and handle it properly," explained Pablo Dufflocq, TRACE's Project Coordinator for Latin America.

The event brought together over 30 representatives from the National Service of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences (SNMLF), the Attorney General's Office (FGE), the Ecuadorian National Police (PN), the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition (MAATE), and park rangers from the northern and central Amazon region. Best practices in crime scene management were highlighted, emphasizing the importance of standardized investigation approaches.

"This workshop has helped us better understand how to process a potential wildlife crime scene and strengthen procedures. We have learned a lot and now have a broader perspective for fieldwork," said Lucía Lujé, a veterinary doctor from MAATE's Biodiversity Directorate.

Activities included demonstrations on crime scene practices such as approaching and securing the scene, searching and documenting, and collecting and handling evidence in environmental crime cases. The importance of ongoing capacity-building for first responders to ensure proper chain-of-custody management was also emphasized.

"When a crime occurs, forensic personnel are expected to process the scene. However, there are situations where we cannot attend due to lack of personnel, mobility challenges, or distance," explained Lieutenant Colonel Xavier Chango, Deputy Director of the National Directorate of Scientific and Technical Investigation of the Ecuadorian National Police. He emphasized the role of first responders, who "arrive first at the scene, must secure it, report the crime, and if forensic personnel cannot arrive, collect, secure, and package the evidence to deliver it to the forensics."

This collaboration between UNODC, as part of ECOS, and TRACE represents a significant step towards strengthening Ecuador's capacity to combat environmental crimes.

Find out more: <https://www.unodc.org/rocol/es/noticias/ecuador/unodc-y-trace-desarrollan-taller-de-escena-del-crimen-y-primeros-respondientes-para-delitos-contra-la-vida-silvestre.html>

UNODC Organizes Spatial Analysis Workshops to Combat Illegal Mining in Ecuador

Illegal mining and the trafficking of metals and minerals have devastating consequences for the environment and ecosystems. This activity harms human and animal health, negatively impacts communities, compromises public health, affects the economy, and undermines the integrity of the legal system. The methods used in illegal mining, including the use of dangerous equipment and chemicals such as mercury, cause significant environmental damage. In Ecuador, a 2020 report revealed that 90% of the mercury imported is used in informal and illegal gold mining, contributing to Amazonian pollution.

From May 15 to 23, introductory and intermediate-level training sessions on spatial analysis tools focused on illegal mining and other environmental crimes were held in Quito. These workshops, organized by UNODC through its Environmental Team and USAID, were part of the ECOS project.

"These workshops are crucial as they help us georeference organized crime and guide public policy towards prevention. They will also allow us to calculate the impact of these crimes in Ecuador," commented Mónica Sosa, an official from the Ministry of the Interior.

The workshops brought together 30 technical officials from the Special Commission for Illegal Mining Control (CECMI), led by the Ministry of the Interior. The sessions focused on using spatial analysis tools to combat illegal mining and other environmental crimes linked to transnational organized crime.

The main objectives of these training sessions were to develop capacities and strengthen the technical skills of the participants in using spatial analysis tools, fostering inter-institutional and interdisciplinary cooperation for a more integrated and effective response to illegal mining and its environmental impacts.

The training promoted knowledge and experience exchange among the various involved institutions. This collaborative approach is essential for developing sustainable and effective strategies for environmental protection.

Participants also learned about the Illegal Gold Mining Impact Calculator, a web tool developed by the Conservation Strategy Fund with USAID support, which estimates the social and environmental damage caused by illegal gold mining. This tool has enabled the establishment of fines and sanctions that accurately reflect the illicit activity's impact, contributing to the effective application of justice.

"This workshop and tools help us visualize interactively and attractively the different topics of interest for each institution. This knowledge is important for institutional staff as it strengthens their capacities and challenges us with new tools to showcase our work," mentioned Erika Villamarin, an analyst at the Ministry of the Interior.

Through the ECOS project, the urgency of addressing illegal mining and its impacts continues to be recognized, and initiatives like these training sessions aim to further strengthen local actors' capacity to face these challenges efficiently and sustainably.

Find out more: <https://www.unodc.org/rocol/es/noticias/ecuador/unodc-organiza-talleres-de-analisis-especial-para-combatir-minera-ilegal-en-ecuador.html>

Colombia Evaluates and Strengthens Its Fight Against Environmental Crimes with the Indicator Framework

Colombia is one of the 17 most biodiverse countries in the world and is under a latent threat: wildlife and forest crimes. On May 8 and 9, a meeting in Bogotá aimed to evaluate the justice response to wildlife and forest crimes.

This national self-assessment exercise of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) Indicator Framework is led by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development with technical support from the ECOS project: a joint effort of UNODC and USAID.

The Indicator Framework is designed for representatives of national institutions and offers 50 performance indicators distributed across eight key results for effective law enforcement.

Its application aims to provide information to identify improvement opportunities in both regulations and the actions of law enforcement agents. These changes can translate into legislative improvements, investigative methodologies, and tools for a more effective response to wildlife and forest crimes. Additionally, this tool allows the evaluation of national law enforcement capacity and the effectiveness of actions adopted by States to combat these environmental crimes.

During the inauguration, Luz Stella Pulido, Acting Director of the Directorate of Forests, Biodiversity, and Ecosystem Services of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, highlighted the actions carried out by the State in preparation for COP16 but also emphasized the need to improve and strengthen the national response. Jessica Rossen, Director of the Office of Economic Development and Sustainable Ecosystems of USAID Colombia, highlighted the commitment to strengthen the care of the Amazon Basin and coordination with the State, underscoring the importance of this event and the initiatives promoting transnational cooperation to combat environmental crimes.

Olivier Inizan, Deputy Regional Representative of UNODC for the Andean Region and Southern Cone, emphasized the importance of this event in the context of various international cooperation initiatives in the fight against environmental crimes.

With participation from all Colombian regions: Atlantic, Pacific, Andean, Amazon, Orinoco, and Insular, the exercise brought together 43 state entities and over 98 officials from Regional Autonomous Corporations, the Attorney General's Office, National Police (DICAR, SIPOL, SJJIN, DIJIN), Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Judiciary, General Command of the Armed Forces, National Natural Parks, Research Institutes, International Cooperation, among others.

Find out more: <https://www.unodc.org/rocol/es/noticias/colombia-evalua-y-fortalece-su-lucha-contra-los-delitos-ambientales-con-el-marco-de-indicadores.html>

Innovation in Forest Identification: Launch of XilotecaEC by UNL and UNODC

After six years of research, the National University of Loja presented XilotecaEC in the framework of Tree and Biodiversity Day. This virtual wood sample collection stores

84 ECOS – Quarterly Progress Report – Year 3 Quarter III [usaid.gov](https://www.usaid.gov)

relevant information about the country's species. The event was part of the ECOS project, a collaboration between UNODC and USAID, with support from the U.S. Forest Service.

"The Xiloteca will be a key research tool, providing the country with a virtual platform offering researchers, authorities, and citizens a macro and microscopic wood sample collection, facilitating tree identification and improving judicial processes in law enforcement against forest crimes," explained Nikolay Aguirre, Rector of the National University of Loja.

The launch was attended by over 80 representatives from academia, the National Police, the Attorney General's Office, the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition (MAATE), and the National Biodiversity Institute, among other institutions.

The presented tool is crucial for wood identification and investigation and will contribute to preserving the natural heritage, forest control, combating illegal wood trafficking, environmental education, sustainable management, and scientific tourism. The

specialized collection helps address logging and illegal trafficking, problems exacerbated by the lack of a general registry for controlling and identifying the 8,000 tree species in Ecuador, especially the 400 commercial varieties.

"The articulated work between national and international institutions and academia aims to strengthen capacities for control activities to mitigate illegal timber trafficking, ensuring the conservation of our protected areas, representing over 19% of the national territory," commented Gustavo Pilla, Manager of the National Forest Control and Wildlife System Project at MAATE.

Additionally, this tool stores unique genetic and anatomical wood data, useful for multidisciplinary research in botany, anatomy, technology, and forensics. Of the 400 timber species in Ecuador, UNL has already investigated 110 varieties in the southern region, achieving 25%

Find out more: https://www.unodc.org/rocol/es/noticias/ecuador/innovacin-en-identificacin-forestal_-lanzamiento-de-la-xilotecaec-por-la-unl-y-unodc.html

Ecuador Launches First FiTI Report, Advancing Fisheries Transparency in Latin America

Ecuador has unveiled its first FiTI (Fisheries Transparency Initiative) Report, marking a significant step toward transparency and sustainability in fisheries management. The report, developed by Ecuador's Multi-Stakeholder Group (GNM) with support from USAID, UNODC under the ECOS project, and PADF, covers key fisheries data from 2022 and 2023, following FiTI's 12 transparency requirements.

The event featured key figures including Minister of Production, Sonsoles García, U.S. Ambassador Arthur Brown, and representatives from UNODC, FiTI, and PADF. Minister García emphasized the report as a foundation for better decision-making benefiting both marine resources and local communities, reinforcing the government's commitment to sustainable fishing.

The report offers a comprehensive evaluation of Ecuador's fisheries transparency, addressing regulations, fisheries status, and both industrial and artisanal fishing, while recommending improvements in public data access and management.

U.S. Ambassador Brown highlighted the importance of regional cooperation through initiatives like ECOS to promote sustainable resource use and awareness of biodiversity threats. Nicolás Rovegno, FiTI Regional Coordinator for Latin America, praised Ecuador for being the first country in the Americas to publish such a report.

The report identifies successes in combating illegal fishing and evaluating species populations, while also noting areas for improvement, such as better vessel and catch data transparency.

Leopoldo Fernández Herce, UNODC's Program Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean, stressed the importance of transparency in fisheries to ensure legal trade and environmental sustainability, contributing to both Ecuador's security and its economic future.

Ecuador's FiTI Report sets the stage for continued data collection and timely publication, reaffirming the country's commitment to sustainable development and marine resource preservation for future generations.

Find out more: <https://www.unodc.org/rocol/es/noticias/ecuador/ecuador-lanza-su-primer-reporte-fiti-iniciativa-de-transparencia-pesquera--un-avance-significativo-hacia-la-transparencia-pesquera-en-amrica-latina.html>

Guardianes Galapaguitos: An Educational Adventure to Combat Wildlife Trafficking in the Galápagos

"Guardianes Galapaguitos" is set to play a key role in raising awareness about wildlife trafficking in the Galápagos Islands. Martina, Tomás, Mateo, Sara, and an alien named Intella are the main characters of this new educational story created in Galápagos, aimed at teaching children the importance of protecting local wildlife and preventing species trafficking.

This initiative, part of the storybook "*Guardianes Galapaguitos: Saving Endangered Animals*," was developed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). It was officially presented on July 4 in Santa Cruz, Galápagos, to representatives of the Ministry of Environment, Water, and Ecological Transition, the Ministry of Education, and the Galápagos National Park.

"Guardianes Galapaguitos" targets children aged 9 to 11, fostering a sense of environmental stewardship and a proactive approach to protecting the islands' unique biodiversity. The project is part of the broader ECOS initiative in Ecuador, addressing the need

for both local and national educational campaigns about species consumed and trafficked in the Galápagos, as highlighted in a 2022 environmental crime assessment.

The story follows the young characters and their alien friend as they communicate with native animals, learning about the dangers of species trafficking. After overcoming several obstacles and with the help of local authorities, they manage to bring the criminals to justice. This story will be distributed to approximately 1,500 students in grades 5 through 7 across all Galápagos schools.

The book was developed collaboratively with key institutions such as the Galápagos National Park, the Ministry of Education, the Charles Darwin Foundation, and local Galápagos authorities. Over 50 children from Santa Cruz and San Cristóbal participated in validation workshops, providing feedback on the storyline.

The book is also accompanied by a *Pedagogical Guide* offering interactive tools for teachers to incorporate wildlife trafficking awareness into their curriculum, ensuring that students receive relevant and engaging environmental education.

Additionally, through the support of the ECOS Foundation and as part of the Native Action initiative, the story has been adapted into a puppet show featuring popular educational characters from the islands, providing another engaging way to reinforce the story's message.

The *Animals in Danger* initiative also includes a *Compendium of Essential Content on Wildlife Trafficking*, which will be distributed in August 2024 in San Cristóbal. This resource will help educators further develop classroom activities on wildlife crime prevention.

Ultimately, "Guardianes Galapaguitos" is more than just a story—it's a comprehensive educational tool designed to promote environmental conservation, prevent wildlife crimes, and build a sustainable future for the Galápagos. By raising awareness and changing attitudes from a young age, this initiative plays a crucial role in protecting the islands' natural heritage and reducing environmental crimes.

Find out more: https://www.unodc.org/rocol/es/noticias/ecuador/guardianes-galapaguitos_una-aventura-educativa-para-combatir-el-trfico-de-especies-en-galpagos.html

Ministry of Environment and UNODC Train Colombia's Regional Environmental Authorities on CITES Implementation

In August 2024, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in partnership with Colombia's Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, conducted an intensive training workshop on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) for personnel from Colombia's Regional Autonomous Corporations (CAR). Held on August 27 and 28 in Bogotá, the workshop aimed to strengthen the technical and scientific support needed by Colombia's CITES Administrative and Scientific Authorities for the effective implementation of the Convention.

The workshop focused on enhancing the capacity of regional environmental authorities by sharing knowledge and best practices related to CITES interpretation and enforcement. It also fostered collaboration among various stakeholders to improve the national implementation of the Convention.

Participants included representatives from Colombia's CITES Authorities, regional environmental officials, and forestry governance experts. They received training on CITES fundamentals, Colombian regulations, and specific topics such as species inclusion in CITES Appendices, legal acquisition, sustainable extraction procedures, and international trade protocols.

Key highlights included discussions on international wildlife trafficking and the presentation of the "Zero Protocol" and "Joint Circular," tools designed to ensure the legal and sustainable trade of wildlife in compliance with CITES.

This workshop is part of ongoing efforts by UNODC and the Colombian government to combat illegal wildlife trafficking by enhancing the capacities of regional authorities in CITES enforcement.

Find out more: <https://www.unodc.org/rocol/es/noticias/colombia/ministerio-de-ambiente-y-unodc-capacita-a-corporaciones-autnomas-regionales-de-colombia-en-la-implementacin-cites.html>

Galapagos Ecological Airport Unveils New Rules Billboard for Protected Areas with USAID and UNODC Support

On July 3, 2024, the Galapagos Ecological Airport (Ecogal) revealed a new billboard displaying the 17 rules for protected areas in the Galapagos Islands. This initiative, part of the ECOS project supported by USAID and UNODC, aligns with the "Animals in Danger in Galapagos" campaign and has the backing of the Galapagos National Park.

Strategically located in the airport, the billboard educates visitors about environmental protection regulations and the importance of preserving Galapagos' unique biodiversity. It responds to a 2022 environmental crime assessment that highlighted the need for both local and national educational campaigns to raise awareness about the islands' environmental challenges.

The billboard includes three new rules introduced in 2024, emphasizing the use of eco-friendly sunscreen, adherence to visiting hours, and using headphones for personal audio devices. This effort aims to promote responsible tourism and prevent environmental crimes such as wildlife trafficking by encouraging respectful behavior from the moment visitors arrive in the islands.

Find out more: <https://www.unodc.org/rocol/es/noticias/ecuador/aeropuerto-ecologico-de-galapagos-presenta-una-nueva-valla-de-reglas-para-reas-protegidas-con-el-apoyo-de-usaid-y-unodc.html>

Roly Sedano: A Jungle Heart and Environmental Defender

In the heart of the Peruvian jungle, Technical Third Sergeant Roly Sedano has dedicated over 16 years of his life to the National Police of Peru, marked by his commitment to combating organized crime and protecting the environment in one of the world's most biodiverse regions.

With nearly 60% of Peru covered by its vast Amazon rainforest, home to over 50 indigenous communities, the country faces serious threats from deforestation and illegal logging. Aware of the dangers to the Amazonian forests, Roly has specialized in identifying timber species through initiatives from the UNODC Environmental Team alongside the National Police of Peru to combat forest crimes.

Originally from Satipo but born in the highlands of Huancayo, Roly developed a deep connection to the jungle from a young age, inspired by his cousin's service in the police force. After graduating from the elite "Los Sinchis" unit in 2007, he has served in various regions of the Peruvian jungle, bravely adapting to each situation.

Roly's work in the Anti-Drug Canine Unit in Lima allowed him to form a strong bond with his canine companions, becoming skilled in drug detection and developing a profound love for animals. In 2020, he took on a new challenge by joining the Environmental Protection Unit in Madre de Dios, where his previous experience made him invaluable in the fight against environmental crimes.

He sees each day as an opportunity to defend the jungle he loves and to educate his community about the importance of environmental preservation. Roly's commitment to justice and sustainability is demonstrated through his participation in workshops organized by the UNODC Environmental Team, supported by USAID and GIZ, which strengthen the skills of law enforcement in identifying timber species and managing forest resources.

These initiatives foster closer inter-institutional collaboration and create a network of solidarity and shared knowledge across the jungle. With each training session, Roly and the police officers of the Environmental Directorate of the National Police of Peru are increasingly prepared to protect the natural treasure that is the Amazon, united in their commitment to conservation and sustainable resource management.

Find out more: <https://www.unodc.org/rocol/es/historias-de-vida/roly-sedano-corazn-selvtico-y-defensor-del-ambiente.html>

7.3. TEMPLATE FOR REPORTING PPR AND PMP INDICATORS

(Please review information attached)

Template # 1

Indicator data	
Code:	EG 10-2.5

Indicator:	Number of laws, policies, or regulations that address biodiversity conservation or transnational conservation crimes officially proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance-supports USG biodiversity indicator.					
Type:	ANNUAL					
Values:	Baseline date (MM/YYYY)	Baseline value	FY 2022 Target	FY 2022 Target	FY 2023 Target	FY 2024 Actual
	01/2021	0	Y2	Y2	Y3	Y4
Disaggregation:						
Activity's objective:						
Data of last DQA:						
Narrative						
How the indicator relates to the activity's expected objective?						
Analysis of the current and future performance of the indicator						
Justification						
Deviation						

7.4. DELIVERABLES AND MATERIALS PRODUCED

List of deliverables and materials produced

No	NAME	CATEGORY	DATE OF COMPLETION	APPROVED	DEC (ID DOCUMENT)	LOCATION
1	WIRE Report 2024 Abu Dabi	Conference Proceedings/Partner	12/06/2024	26/09/2024	f83b68d6-a818-4b4c-bb33-918da3662fe5	https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/GetDoc.axd?ctID=ODVhZjk4NWQ0M2YyMi00YiRmLTkxNjktZTcxMjM2NDYyMjUy&rID=NjMlODY5&pID=NTYw&attachmnt=True&uSesDM=False&rIdx=MzUwNzQl&rCFU=

No	NAME	CATEGORY	DATE OF COMPLETION	APPROVED	DEC (ID DOCUME NT)	LOCATION
2	Galapagos Guardians: Saving Animals in Danger (Ecuador)	Miscellaneous Document	04/07/2024	26/09/2024	c2fad688-bb50-4f0a-893f-9708c6a648cd	https://dec.usaid.gov/dec//GetDoc.axd?ctlID=ODVhZjk4NWQ0tM2YyMi00YjRmLTkxNjktZTcxMjM2NDBmY2Uy&rID=NjMlODgw&pID=NTYw&attchmnt=True&uSesDM=False&rIdx=MzUwNzU2&rCFU=
3	Compendium of Essential Content on Wildlife Trafficking	Miscellaneous Document	15/08/2024	26/09/2024	55a7af64-7ca5-45e3-8800-5eb07f93a ddd	https://dec.usaid.gov/dec//GetDoc.axd?ctlID=ODVhZjk4NWQ0tM2YyMi00YjRmLTkxNjktZTcxMjM2NDBmY2Uy&rID=NjMlODgw&pID=NTYw&attchmnt=True&uSesDM=False&rIdx=MzUwNzU3&rCFU=
4	Pedagogical Guide for the application of Galapagos Guardians: Saving Animals in Danger (Ecuador)	Miscellaneous Document	04/07/2024	26/09/2024	81919f28-27d0-4c39-8cbf-2ca1b4370c30	https://dec.usaid.gov/dec//GetDoc.axd?ctlID=ODVhZjk4NWQ0tM2YyMi00YjRmLTkxNjktZTcxMjM2NDBmY2Uy&rID=NjMlODgw0&pID=NTYw&attchmnt=True&uSesDM=False&rIdx=MzUwNzYw&rCFU=
5	FiTI Report 2022-2023 Ecuador	Handbook/Manual	20/09/2024	26/09/2024	3db0805d-bc96-413e-be54-6a4bf3934762	https://dec.usaid.gov/dec//GetDoc.axd?ctlID=ODVhZjk4NWQ0tM2YyMi00YjRmLTkxNjktZTcxMjM2NDBmY2Uy&rID=NjMlODc4&pID=NTYw&attchmnt=True&uSesDM=False&rIdx=MzUwNzU0&rCFU=
6	ICWCC Indicator Framework Brazil	Conference Proceedings/Paper	26/02/2024	26/09/2024	97b2548e-132e-4112-8b63-927f9368a eee	https://dec.usaid.gov/dec//GetDoc.axd?ctlID=ODVhZjk4NWQ0tM2YyMi00YjRmLTkxNjktZTcxMjM2NDBmY2Uy&rID=NjMlODY4&pID=NTYw&attchmnt=True&uSesDM=False&rIdx=MzUwNzQ0&rCFU=
7	Wildlife Crime Report 2024 (Gender study)	Conference Proceedings/Paper	14/05/2024	26/09/2024	55432b07-7774-	https://dec.usaid.gov/dec//GetDoc.axd?ctlID=OD

No	NAME	CATEGORY	DATE OF COMPLETION	APPROVED	DEC (ID DOCUMENT)	LOCATION
					4bb3-930b-80689ca5015c	VhZjk4NWOtM2YyMi00YjRmLTkxNjktZTcxMjM2NDBmY2Uy&rID=NjMlODcl&pID=NTYw&attchmnt=True&uSesDM=False&rIdx=MzUwNzUx&rCFU=

7.5. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION PLAN REPORT

N/A

7.6. LIST OF TRAINED PEOPLE

(Please shared with Francisco Albuja all the supporting docs and registration sheets of the training activities of this fiscal year)

ECOS BRAZIL

Activity Name	Women	Men
Regional Workshop to Advance Wood Identification Field Techniques (November 2023)	14	17
ICCWC Indicator Framework Exercise (November 2023)	23	27
International Conference on Illicit Traffic in Mercury (November 2023)	14	25
WIRE 2023	1	1
Virtual workshop to advance wood identification field techniques	11	12
Field mission in the Jamari National Forest, Rondônia, Brazil	2	4
II Virtual Workshop to Advance Field Techniques for Wood Identification: Results of the Field Mission (April 2024)	19	25
IV Basic Course on Ambient Intelligence (May 2024)	17	38
Shark Finn ID Training (June 2024)	7	13
1st Expert Workshop for the Construction of the NDF of Brazilian tree species: Cedrela, Dipteryx, Tabebuia and Handroanthus spp. (June 2024)	34	55

1st Meeting of Modelling of the Fishery Origin Control System	4	13
1st Workshop to Develop the National Plan of Action for the Prevention and Combat of Wildlife Crime	55	42
2nd Expert Workshop for the Development of the FDN for the genera Handroanthus, Tabebuia, Dipteryx and Cedrela	45	90
2nd Meeting for the Modeling of the Fishery Origin Control System	4	8
Total	250	369

ECOS COLOMBIA

Activity	Wome n	Men
The first Multilateral Working Meeting of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) on Environmental Affairs of Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru was held at the facilities of the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic	10	9
The Indicator Framework Planning Workshop was held, which met expectations and had the results	7	9
On October 5 and 6, 2023, the first bilateral session between Colombia and Peru was held at the UIAF facilities in Bogotá	5	5
The technical working meeting between prosecutors specialized in crimes against the environment of the Attorney General's Office of Colombia and the Attorney General's Office of Peru, within the framework of the coordination of the ECOS-UNODC programs of Colombia – Peru and Amazonia Mia USAID.	25	28
on December 13, 2023, a technical table was held in Bogotá-Colombia at the Ecuador-Colombia Prosecutor's Office, where 4 large	6	6

cases in the Amazon were addressed, which integrate different crimes, and affect biodiversity in both. Countries.		
Participants in the planning stage of the MDI Colombia.	15	12
UIAF meeting participants.	2	3
Participants in meetings of the FGN, Amazonía Mía, National Police (DIJIN-DICAR).	15	8
Participants of the ECOS Colombia-DICAR meeting	4	4
Participants in the ECOS-CGR meeting	10	5
Conduct a self-assessment of the effectiveness of criminal and administrative justice system responses to wildlife and forest crime	48	50
TRACE	47	21
On June 5, 2024, a coordination meeting between the UIAF and the SIJIN DICAR National Police was held at the facilities of the UIAF Bogotá, in which six cases that SIJIN is carrying out under the mentorship of the ECOS project team were addressed	5	6
el 26 de junio de 2024 en el Búnker de la Fiscalía General de la Nación, con la participación del Director de la Fiscalía Especializada en Medio Ambiente Owen Quiñones, la Oficina de Asuntos Internacionales de la Fiscalía, Oficial de Enlace de USAID, Amazonía.	5	6
on June 26, 2024, in the Bunker of the Attorney General's Office, with the participation of the Director of the Office of the Special Prosecutor for the Environment Owen Quiñones, the Office of International Affairs of the Attorney General's Office, USAID Liaison Officer, Amazon.	12	5
Training Workshop on General Aspects of CITES for Staff of the Regional Autonomous and Sustainable Development Corporations of Colombia	23	52
Training Workshop on General Aspects of CITES for Staff of the Regional Autonomous and Sustainable Development Corporations of Colombia	246	301
total	485	510

ECOS ECUADOR

Activity	Women	Men
Workshop "From journalism to action: combating crimes that affect the environment through information" (19/10/2023)	9	6
Workshop "From journalism to action: combating crimes that affect the environment through information" (19/10/2023)	10	6
Workshop "From journalism to action: combating crimes that affect the environment through information" (19/10/2023)	4	5
Interagency workshop the chain of custody manual for wildlife evidence in Galapagos - (11/10/2023)	14	21
Inter-Institutional Workshop: The Chain of Custody Manual for Wildlife Evidence in Quito - (13/12/2023)	10	21
2nd Workshop on the Creation of Pedagogical Guides for Teachers	6	2
Galapagos Initiatives	5	1
Participants Regional Working Meeting between the Financial Analysis Units of Ecuador and Peru on Environmental Crimes and Related Crimes	5	11
Participants/ Technical meetings in the commission of the protocol for the management of evidence and/or evidence related to crimes against the environment	20	34
Meeting with CITES focal point - Shark and Ray fin trafficking (February 7, 2024)	7	3
Development of Reference Guides (RRGs) and other technical tools to improve investigations and prosecutions against TCCs] Meetings to Prepare Training on Spatial Analysis Tools on Illegal Mining	3	11
Gender study to understand the role of women in wildlife trafficking, addressing and preventing TCCs.	6	7

Meeting with the University of Loja (February 29, 2024)	10	18
Participants/ Technical workshop for value chain custody manual	14	21
Participants/ Technical Meetings FITI Report	10	7
Participants / Technical Training about Spatial Analysis Tools focused on Environmental Crimes	23	23
Launch of the University of Loja Xylotheque and III Technical Meeting Interagency Group on Forest Traceability and Wood Identification Ecuador (21-22 of May 2024)	48	77
Training of first responders to ensure the management of evidence related to wildlife crime in the northern region of the Amazon, Francisco de Orellana (Coca). (28/05/2024-29/05/2024)	7	27
Training Course on Rights of Nature or Pachamama with the Council of the Judicial System (asynchronous phase)	218	482
Participants of technical meeting in Galapagos	6	9
Launch of "Guardianes Galapaguitos: Saving Animals in Danger"	752	748
I Training Course in Analysis and Investigation of Financial Operations in Illegal Mining.	20	25
Training Course on the Rights of Nature or Pachamama with the Council of the Judicial System and Hemisferios University	23	56
Virtual training on environmental crimes for specialized	36	64
Launch of the Puppet Show Galápagos Guardians	994	901
Total	2260	2586

ECOS PERÚ

Activity	Women	Men
Inter-institutional Workshop: Construction of the Roadmap for the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Study "Analysis of the	7	15

Relationships and Dynamics of Environmental Crimes and Coca Growing Activity in Ucayali"		
FIU Regional Work Exchanges: Transnational Environmental Crimes and Related Crimes.	5	18
South American Wildlife Law Enforcement Network - SudWEN	19	27
Collaborative work with the Judiciary to support the strengthening of judges' capacities - Field activity	10	17
Collaborative work with the Judiciary to support the strengthening of judges' capacities - VI International Congress	27	66
Support for Regulatory Frameworks and 1st Regional Workshop for the Dissemination of Regional Environmental Frameworks: Recommendation No. 511 - Legal Framework to Combat Illegal Exploitation and Associated Trade in the Amazon Forests of the Andean Region	14	35
Construction and updating of tools to support the identification of Peruvian timber species focused on control and research procedures: IDmaderas, Manual for the anatomical identification of wood from Peruvian Amazonian forest species (hereinafter the manual).	3	4
Workshop "Capacity Building in the Identification of Timber Forest Species for Control and Research Purposes".	3	21
Shark Fin Trafficking Training	4	6
Mapping the value chain and risks of the fishing sector	9	13
Presentation of the E-learning modules on environmental crime	11	12
Crimes against wild flora and fauna and their link with transnational organized crime, field visit	14	14

and exchange of experiences within the framework of the course.		
Development of the Quick Reference Guide for the Investigation of Wildlife Crime (RRG Fauna) - Workshop	13	19
Total	129	267

7.7. LIST OF CONSULTANCIES

Componente y CLIN	Nombre	Tarea	Estado
Component A: Coordination of transnational enforcement action	Daniele Kunze	Consultancy to obtain images of wood samples of selected Amazonian species in xylotheques of national and international recognition in Brazil	Hired on October 27, 2023 and ended on January 02, 2024
Component F: Regional Capacity Building Activities	TBD	Consultancy and technical support for capacity building processes	In the process of contracting for 2024
MEL	Aurora Genoveva Araujo Castañeda	Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant (MEL)	Regularization of her contract underway
Component F. Regional capacity building activities	Edith Magdalena Quintero Zalamea	Specialized services to support the construction and validation of the Animals in Danger initiative in Galapagos	Hired on October 24, 2023
Component F. Regional capacity building activities	Diego Guarderas Donoso	Specialized services for legal workshops on crimes that affect the environment	Hired on October 26, 2023
Component E. Evidence gathering of drivers of conservation crimes	Edison Sebastian Veloz Rubio	Specialized services for georeferencing workshops focused on environmental crimes	Hired on November 10, 2023
Component E. Evidence gathering of drivers of conservation crimes	Alfonso Leonardo Auz Jaramillo	Specialized services for the diagnosis of institutional needs for spatial analysis tools.	Hired on November 09, 2023

Component C: Fisheries Crimes	Zambrano Zambrano Dana Bethsabe	Legal consultancy for updating the FiTI report and recommendations document	In the process of contracting for 2024
Componente C: Fisheries Crimes	Valeria Palau González	Process consulting for FiIT report update and value chain report	In the process of contracting for 2024
Componente C: Fisheries Crimes	TBD	Biology consultancy for updating the FiTI report and recommendations document	In the process of contracting for 2024

Componente y CLIN	Nombre	Tarea	Estado
Component F: Regional Capacity Building Activities	TBD	Consultancy and technical support for capacity building processes	In the process of contracting for 2024
MEL	Aurora Genoveva Araujo Castañeda	Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant (MEL)	Contract until April 24
Component A: Coordination of transnational enforcement action	TBD	Consultancy to expand the database to support the improvement of the two field techniques (ECOS Brazil)	In the process of contracting for Q4
Component A: Coordination of transnational enforcement action	TBD	Consultancy to moderate the workshops and support the development of the NDF study (ECOS Brazil)	In the process of contracting for Q4
Component C: Fisheries Crimes	TBD	Consultancy to deliver the modeling of the Fish Origin Document System (SisDOP, from the acronym in Portuguese) (ECOS Brazil)	In the process of contracting for Q4
Component E: Evidence gathering of drivers of conservation crimes	TBD	Consultancy to moderate the workshops and support the development of the National Plan to Combat Wildlife Trafficking (ECOS Brazil)	In the process of contracting for Q4
Component E. Evidence gathering of drivers of conservation crimes	Edison Sebastian Veloz Rubio	Specialized services for georeferencing workshops focused on environmental crimes	Contract until May 24
Component E. Evidence gathering of drivers of conservation crimes	Alfonso Leonardo Auz Jaramillo	Specialized services for the diagnosis of institutional needs for spatial analysis tools.	Contract until May 24

Componente C: Fisheries Crimes	Valeria Palau González	Process consulting for FiIT report update and value chain report	Contract until June 24
Componente C: Fisheries Crimes	David Mero	Biology consultancy for updating the FiIT report and recommendations document	Contract until June 24
Componente C: Fisheries Crimes	Cesar Toala	Legal consulting for FiIT report update and value chain report	Contract until July 24

Componente y CLIN	Nombre	Tarea	Estado
Component A: Coordination of transnational enforcement action	Daniele Kunze	Consultancy to obtain images of wood samples of selected Amazonian species in xylotekes of national and international recognition in Brazil	Hired on October 27, 2023 and ended on January 02, 2024
Component A: Coordination of transnational enforcement action	TBD	Consultancy to expand the database initially obtained to include other Amazonian species impacted by logging	In the process of contracting for 2024
Component A: Coordination of transnational enforcement action	Alexandre Anders Brasil	Consultancy for the moderation and technical report regarding the workshops as well as preparatory work for the elaboration of the Non-Detriment Findings (NDF) of Brazilian tree species listed in Cites (Handronthus, Tabebuia, Dipteryx and Cedrela)	Hired on 22 July 2024
Component F: Regional Capacity Building Activities	TBD	Consultancy and technical support for capacity building processes	In the process of contracting for 2024
MEL	Aurora Genoveva Araujo Castañeda	Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant (MEL)	Regularization of your contract underway
Component F. Regional capacity building activities	Edith Magdalena Quintero Zalamea	Specialized services to support the construction and validation of the Animals in Danger initiative in Galapagos	Hired on October 24, 2023
Component F. Regional capacity building activities	Diego Guarderas Donoso	Specialized services for legal workshops on crimes that affect the environment	Hired on October 26, 2023
Component E. Evidence gathering of drivers of conservation crimes	Larissa Schmidt	Consultancy to moderate the meetings hosted by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MMA) and	Hired on 22 July 2024

		support the elaboration of the National Plan	
Component E. Evidence gathering of drivers of conservation crimes	Edison Sebastian Veloz Rubio	Specialized services for georeferencing workshops focused on environmental crimes	Hired on November 10, 2023
Component E. Evidence gathering of drivers of conservation crimes	Alfonso Leonardo Auz Jaramillo	Specialized services for the diagnosis of institutional needs for spatial analysis tools.	Hired on November 09, 2023
Component C: Fisheries Crimes	Cesar Stalin Delgado Toala	Legal consultancy for updating the FiTI report and recommendations document	Hired on March 05, 2024
Componente C: Fisheries Crimes	Valeria Palau González	Process consulting for FiTI report update and value chain report	Hired on February 21, 2024
Componente C: Fisheries Crimes	David Jesod Mero Del Valle	Biology consultancy for updating the FiTI report and recommendations document	Hired on February 26, 2024
Componente C: Fisheries Crimes	Carlos Bughi	Consultancy to carry out a requirements analysis and modeling of the National Fish Origin Control System (acronym in Portuguese SisDOP)	Hired on 08 July 2024

7.8. BASELINE REPORTS

Insert annex here or attach it as separate file.

7.9. OTHERS

Communications Report: Year 3 Overview

The Communications Team has played an essential role in supporting and advancing the objectives of the ECOS project during its third year, covering the period from September 2023 to September 2024. This report outlines our contributions and key achievements.

Event Support:

Throughout this year, the Communications Team provided vital support for a total of 136 events held across Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil, and Suriname. These events, which included conferences and workshops, focused on addressing transnational environmental crimes both locally and regionally. They were instrumental in driving the project’s goals forward and fostering critical engagement with various stakeholders.

Our team’s involvement in these events extended beyond logistical support. We developed comprehensive communication strategies aimed at raising awareness and promoting these gatherings. Tailored communication plans ensured that key messages reached not only the intended audience but also the wider audience. In collaboration with partners, government agencies, and NGOs, we enhanced stakeholder engagement, fostering collaboration and facilitating the exchange of knowledge. Key activities

included creating event materials such as agendas and speaker profiles, as well as actively managing information dissemination through various channels. Digital platforms, particularly social media, were leveraged to provide live updates and ensure wide visibility and engagement. Following the events, we produced post-event documentation, which captured valuable insights, key takeaways, and participant feedback, aiding in further analysis and reporting.

COVERAGE



Communication Channels:

Our strategic use of diverse communication channels was pivotal in ensuring the success of the events and promoting the project's broader objectives. By combining both digital and traditional communication methods, the team was able to maximize outreach and participation, while effectively disseminating information to a diverse and engaged audience. These channels were critical in connecting the project's mission to its stakeholders, ensuring that essential information resonated and reached its intended targets. Our communication strategy encompassed promotion, stakeholder engagement, dissemination of project information, and post-event reporting.

Social Media Engagement:

Over the course of the year, we maintained an active presence on social media, with a total of 147 posts across multiple platforms. This marked an 85% increase compared to Year 2. These posts, averaging nearly 12 per month, achieved over 400 impressions per post, serving as a primary means of communication with our target audience. The content covered a wide range of topics, including wildlife crime, the importance of regional cooperation, and the need for effective environmental legislation. Each post was carefully crafted to align with our audience's interests, ensuring engagement and interaction. In addition to event updates and milestone highlights, our social media efforts helped foster a sense of community and shared purpose among stakeholders.

Newsletters:

Throughout the year, we produced and distributed 26 newsletters to project stakeholders. These newsletters served as a key communication tool, providing comprehensive updates on the project's progress. They went beyond simple status reports, offering insights into upcoming events, success stories, and detailed analyses of the project's impact. These newsletters were designed to keep stakeholders informed, engaged, and aligned with the project's developments, presenting a holistic view of the project's achievements and milestones.

Web Stories:

During Year 3, the team published 31 web stories, marking a 48% increase from the previous year. These stories provided in-depth, detailed summaries of the project's various initiatives, workshops, and activities, offering stakeholders a comprehensive view of the project's progress and impact. Each web story delved into key aspects of the project, outlining both short-term outcomes and long-term effects, while also highlighting the broader implications of these efforts for the region.

The focus of these narratives extended beyond mere reporting of events. They aimed to underscore the significance of regional collaboration in the fight against environmental crimes, illustrating how coordinated efforts are essential in addressing transnational issues. By featuring success stories and best practices, the web stories not only informed stakeholders but also inspired further engagement and partnership within the community.

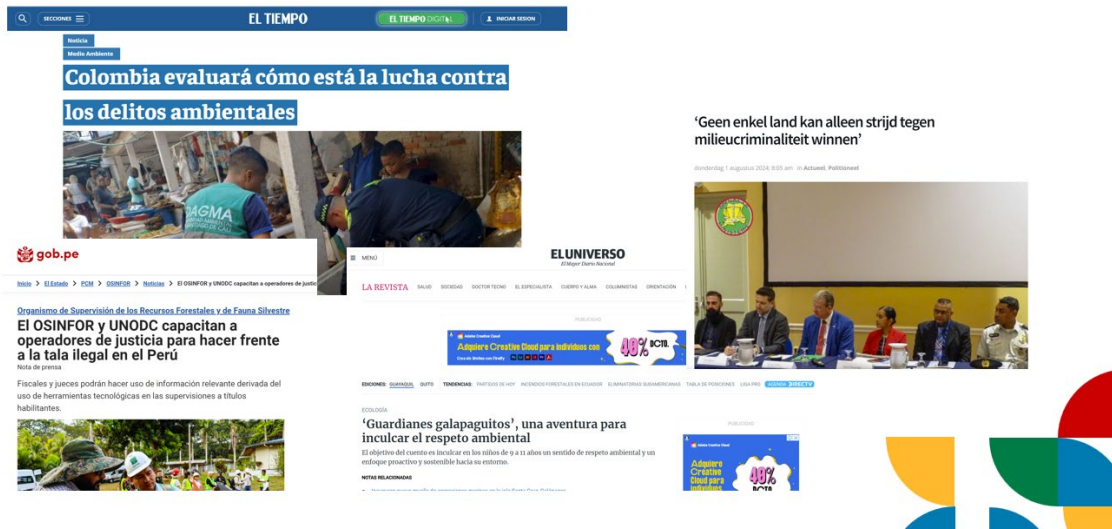
In Year 3, we also placed a stronger emphasis on humanizing these stories. By showcasing personal experiences, testimonies, and individual contributions, we brought a more relatable and emotional element to the narratives. This approach enhanced the stories' appeal and connection with the audience, making them more impactful. As a result, the web stories became not just a tool for information dissemination, but also a platform for fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of the project's transformative work across the region. This personal touch, combined with the focus on actionable outcomes, further elevated the overall quality and resonance of our communications products.

Media and Stakeholder Coverage:

Throughout Year 3, the project achieved 35 external mentions, marking an 84% increase compared to Year 2. These mentions appeared across various stakeholder platforms and media outlets, including coverage by local, national, and regional media. This surge in media exposure played a critical role in amplifying the project's visibility and broadening its reach to new audiences.

The increased media attention was instrumental in raising awareness about the project's core objectives, particularly the fight against transnational environmental crimes. Coverage in widely recognized platforms not only helped in disseminating information to a broader and more diverse audience but also positioned the project as a leading initiative within the field of environmental crime prevention. Additionally, the mentions on stakeholder platforms contributed to reinforcing credibility among key partners and decision-makers, encouraging further collaboration and engagement from governmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, and other regional stakeholders.

MEDIA COVERAGE



Other key achievements during Year 3 include:

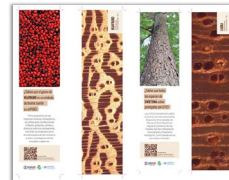
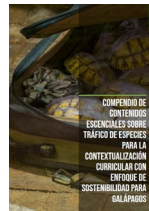
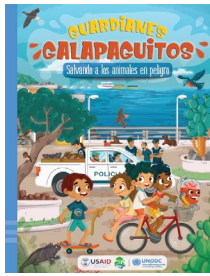
Enhanced collaboration with USAID communications teams. This strengthened partnership ensured better alignment of messaging, coordination of efforts, and more cohesive outreach strategies. The improved communication framework between the two teams facilitated smoother information exchange, allowing for more unified and effective promotion of the project’s objectives across various channels.

Additionally, the team supported the development of all seven printed publications for the ECOS countries. This involved extensive work on content creation, design, and overall coordination to ensure each publication accurately represented the project’s progress and achievements. These publications played a pivotal role in documenting and communicating the project's efforts, providing stakeholders with tangible resources to understand its scope and impact.

In keeping with Year 2 goals, the Communications Team further expanded its focus on audiovisual content in Year 3, producing 17 videos that captured key project activities, milestones, and testimonials from participants. These videos were instrumental in conveying the project's success stories in a dynamic and engaging format, enhancing the audience's connection to the work being done and creating a more impactful narrative around environmental crime prevention.

The team provided ongoing support for external platforms such as the ID Timber App, an e-learning platform for Peru’s Public Ministry, and the environmental crimes microsite. This involvement ensured that these platforms remained effective tools for educating stakeholders and the public, offering resources that are essential in the fight against environmental crimes across the region.

PUBLICACIONES



Our plan for 2025:

- **Enhanced audiovisual production.** We will focus on improving the quality and impact of our audiovisual content to better communicate key project messages and engage a wider audience.
- **Development of internal and external communication capacities.** Strengthening both internal communication flows and external outreach will be a priority to ensure cohesive messaging and greater project visibility.
- **Person- and community-centered narratives.** We aim to develop stories that focus on individual and community experiences, creating more relatable and impactful narratives.
- **Strengthening relationships with the media.** Building and nurturing media partnerships will be key to amplifying our project's visibility and increasing public awareness.
- **Targeted material and content for specific audiences.** We will produce differentiated content tailored to the needs and interests of various target audiences, ensuring greater engagement and relevance.
- **Focus on digital communication and innovation.** Emphasizing digital platforms and exploring new communication tools will be central to keeping our approach innovative and effective.