



Photo: Evaluation Team / Ucayali, Madre de Dios

EVALUATION OF THE AMAZONIA VERDE PROJECT KEY RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Between 2017 and 2023, USAID/Peru implemented the Amazonia Verde Project to conserve biodiversity and ecosystem services in key areas of four Peruvian Amazon regions (Loreto, San Martín, Ucayali, and Madre de Dios), thus contributing to Peru’s international commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

This document presents a summary of the most relevant results and lessons from the project’s final evaluation. Its content is based on the analysis of Amazonia Verde’s relevance, processes, and its contribution to capacity building for forest governance.



PERIOD: 2017-2023



COVERAGE: 4 REGIONS (Loreto, San Martín, Ucayali, and Madre de Dios)



ACTIVITIES:

- FOREST - United States Forest Service
- Pro-Bosques - Tetra Tech ARD
- PREVENT - Development Alternatives, Inc (DAI)
- Amazon Business Alliance - Conservation International Foundation
- Forest Alliance - Asociación para la Investigación y el Desarrollo Integral (AIDER)
- Sustainable Management of Forest Concessions - Green Gold Forestry Peru

KEY RESULTS

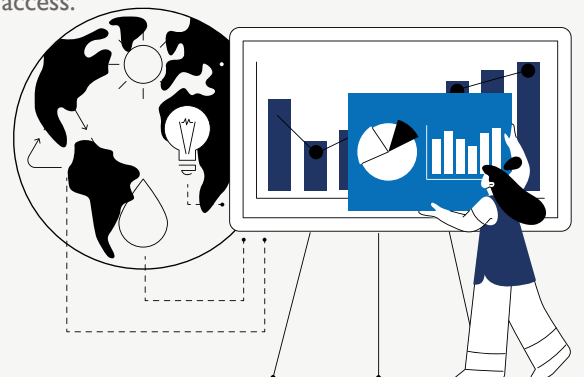


STRENGTHENING FOREST GOVERNANCE

- Improved management capacities of public institutions (SERFOR, OSINFOR, FEMA), and regional governments.
- Development of data systematization tools for decision-making, such as the Control Module of the National Forest and Wildlife Information System.
- Strengthened prosecution mechanisms for environmental crimes through legal changes.
- New guidelines for the public procurement of legally sourced timber.
- Enhanced technical capacities to obtain public funds for ordinary forestry-related costs.
- Improvement of OSINFOR’s Forest Backpack, a training and communication tool for forest managers.
- Organization of the Prosecutors’ Training School database of environmental cases.

PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

- Created of market mechanisms through public procurement, adding 16 timber products to the Peru Compras online catalog.
- Supported the development of guidelines for public procurement of timber products for school furniture.
- Improvement of CITE Network (Centers for Productive Innovation and Technology Transfer) services to enhance competitiveness in production, capacity development, and market access.



KEY RESULTS

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES SUPPORT

- Contribution to the economic empowerment of Indigenous women through access to credit and technical assistance.
- Advancements in management and decision-making by women in their communal areas.
- Support in the preparation of life plans for Indigenous communities, a key management tool for community development.
- Creation of SERFOR's Community Forestry Management Unit to promote indigenous communities' participation in forestry institutions.

ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME PREVENTION

- Amendment of articles in the Criminal Code to strengthen the prosecution of crimes against natural resources.
- Creation of the High-Level Commission for the Prevention and Reduction of Environmental Crimes (CANDAM).
- Establishment of the Environmental Crimes Unit (UNIDA) by MINAM.

CHALLENGES



Political instability and high turnover of officials.



COVID-19 health crisis affecting field operations.



Increase in illegal activities in the Amazon during the pandemic due to reduced presence of authorities.

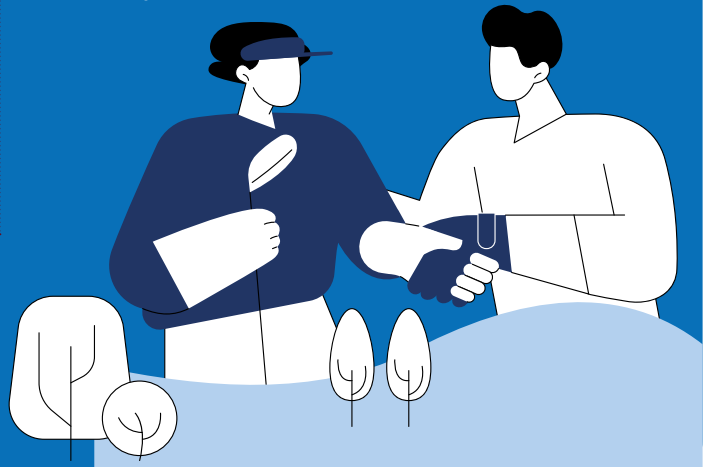
RECOMMENDATIONS

For USAID

- Implement coordination mechanisms at local, regional, and national levels aligned with formal "coordination spaces" accepted by communities and regional authorities.
- Include coordination and shared information as a priority in future Activity work plans.
- Continue building an enabling environment to strengthen national and regional forest authorities.
- Support the review of the Peruvian forestry model involving SERFOR.
- Emphasize the gender inclusion in the design and implementation of activities.

For the Government

- Improve the transparency of forest information systems, open data, and make them publicly available.
- Continue supporting the necessary mechanisms and instruments for the development of the carbon market and ecosystem services.



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