



**BIOAMAZON
PROJECT**

Conservation of species threatened
by unsustainable trade



ACTO

Amazon Cooperation
Treaty Organization

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**Indigenous Peoples and
Health module of the Amazon
Regional Observatory**

**Dialogue on value
chains of Amazonian
biodiversity**

This is the Bioamazon Project Newsletter, of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO). It is published every two months to disseminate the actions and results of the Project and its partners.



Bolivia



Brazil



Colombia



Ecuador



Guyana



Peru



Suriname



Venezuela

Dear readers,

This first edition of the Bioamazon Newsletter of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization portrays that year 2022 will be a year of intense work. This is the closing year of the Bioamazon Project and, in addition to the visits to the Amazonian Countries to conduct monitoring and evaluation activities, several technical reports will be produced.

Within the framework of the project Contingency Plan for the Protection of Health in Highly Vulnerable Indigenous Peoples and in Initial Contact (ACTO/PAHO/IDB), the development of the Indigenous Peoples and Health Module for the Amazonian Regional Observatory began in January, and during a virtual meeting, the results of the Health Situation Analysis report in the Napo – Curaray – Río Tigre Region were introduced to the leadership of the Sapara Nation of Ecuador (NASE).

In February, a new alliance was signed between ACTO and the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF). Through the Cooperation Framework Agreement, joint actions in the Amazon Region will be coordinated. The first joint actions will be devoted to the strengthening and expansion of the Amazonian Regional Observatory (ARO) developing the Climate Change Module, built on technical and official information from the Member Countries; in addition to the strengthening of the Biodiversity and Forests modules.

Finally, in March, which is a special month due to the celebration of World Wildlife Day (3), the International Day of Forests (21) and World Water Day (22), ACTO will participate in the previous meetings to the COP15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and at the World Water Forum. On these occasions, ACTO's commitment to the biodiversity and water resources agenda in the Amazon will be highlighted.

Good reading!

Alexandra Moreira

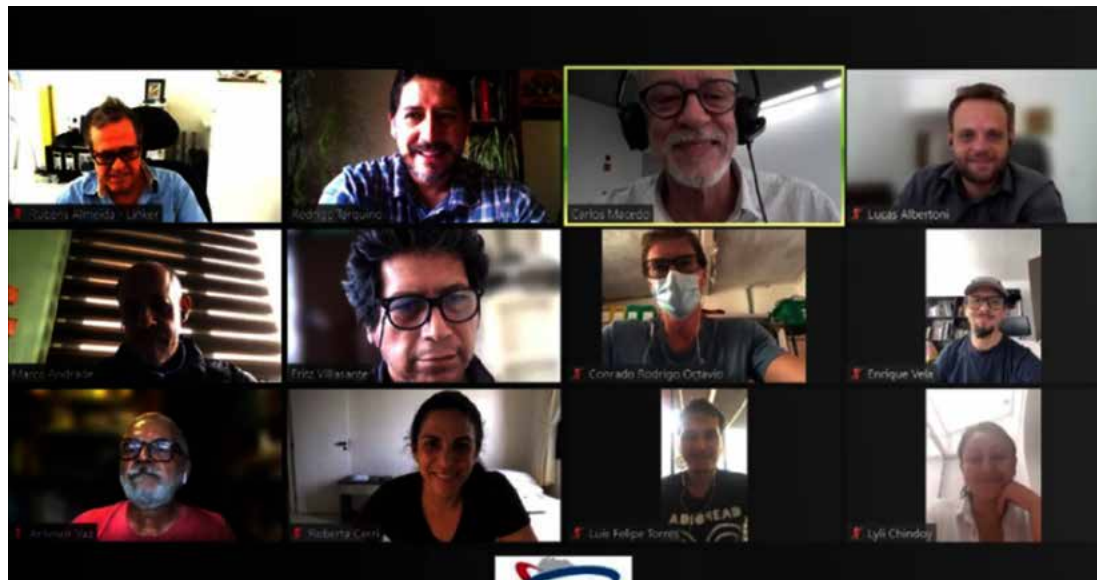
Secretary General

Permanent Secretariat / Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization

The development of the Indigenous Peoples and Health module of the Amazon Regional Observatory has started

To follow up on the implementation of the Amazonian Regional Observatory (ARO) modules, a meeting was held on February 24 with representatives of the LINKER company that was contracted to develop the Indigenous Peoples and Health module. The module is part of the project Contingency Plan for Health Protection of Highly Vulnerable Indigenous Peoples and in Initial Contact (ACTO/PAHO/IADB).

The diversity of the territories in border regions, and their specific characteristics considering the particularities of the Indigenous Peoples involved in Situational Health Studies will be part of the design of this module. These detailed aspects expand its operability in the sense of locating the information contained in the documents emanating from the consultancies within the scope of the Contingency Plans project.



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Meeting with representatives of the LINKER company

The territories under study are located in border regions, identified by the red dots in the map:

- Napo/Curaray/Tigre (Peru-Ecuador),
- Loreto/Vale do Javari (Brazil-Peru),
- Border region (Brazil-Guyana-Suriname),
- Madre de Dios/Acre (Peru-Brazil),
- Putumayo/Iça (Peru-Colombia-Brazil),
- Madidi-Bahujá Sonene Parks (Bolivia-Peru).



This module will be linked to the other modules of the Amazonian Regional Observatory (ARO): CITIES, Forests, Water Resources, Biodiversity. Additionally, the development of another module about Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change is planned, which will be financed by Euroclima.

Dialogue on value chains of Amazonian biodiversity

The meeting with technicians from the Amazonian countries provided inputs for the development of the Platform for MSMEs of Amazonian products within the Amazonian Regional Observatory (ARO).



The Amazon contains a magnificent biodiversity that is not yet known or studied in its full potential. Amazonian biodiversity products, specifically Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs), are essential for the economy of the communities that extract them, and for the local populations where, generally, the marketing chain for these products begins. This can be evidenced through the micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in the region whose role is relevant in the dynamics of their local economies, as well as in the conservation of biodiversity linked to production systems under sustainability parameters.

The Amazonian Regional Observatory (ARO) is defined as a reference center for information and a permanent virtual forum which promotes the flow and exchange of information among the institutions, governmental authorities, scientific community, academia, and civil society of the Member Countries- <https://oraotca.org/>.

Implemented by ACTO in three phases, the first two phases related to the development of integrating and thematic modules have already been completed. In the third phase of implementation, the development of a computer module is planned to become an Information Window for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises with sustainable production of wild fauna and flora species within the framework of the Convention on Trade International of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

The “Dialogue on Amazonian biodiversity products that make up the production chains of MSMEs” was held on February 10 and 11, in order to gather technical elements as a basis for the conceptual design of a Regional Information Window MSMEs of Amazonian products, which will be reflected in a computer platform linked to the Amazonian Regional Observatory (ARO); and to contribute to the development of the “I Virtual Forum on the potential of non-timber forest products for a bioeconomy in Latin America and the Caribbean (BioForestALC)”, with inputs in the context of ACTO Member Countries:

This virtual event, organized by the Bioamazon Project with the support of the Beraca Institute, -which works with more than 25 products of Brazilian socio-biodiversity-, was attended by experts and technicians from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, and Venezuela, who work in the research or management of products of species of fauna and flora of wildlife, including non-timber forest products (NTFPs) of the Amazon Region.

The information collected will contribute to preparing the topics to be addressed at BioForestALC, to be held, virtually, between May 23 and 26, 2022.

Among the most relevant results of the “Dialogue on Amazonian biodiversity products that make up the production chains of MSMEs”, ACTO’s Bioamazon Project has a catalog of Amazonian biodiversity products of flora and fauna species, which are currently part of the production chains of MSMEs, and which participate in the development of the local bioeconomy. In addition, the specialists identified the priority investment needs in technology and training to strengthen production chains.

The issues about the potential of non-timber Amazonian products and about the realization of the BioForestALC are being discussed and worked on by the Brazilian Forest Service (SFB). These issues are articulated with the commitments of researchers from more than 25 countries in Latin America during the XXV World Congress of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), in 2019.

According to the coordinator of the Bioamazon project and coordinator of the Amazonian Regional Observatory, Mauro Ruffino, the development of the Information Window for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises with sustainable production of species of wild fauna and flora, involving all the Amazonian countries, stands out as the result of the articulation promoted by ACTO with the Member Countries. “Above all, it will be a step towards strengthening the production chains of MSMEs, the sustainable use of biodiversity, and boost up the bioeconomy in these countries, and also it will be an important contribution to the implementation of CITES,” said Ruffino.



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ACTO gathers scientists and experts to discuss information gaps about the state of biodiversity in the Amazon Region

To identify information gaps on the state of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the Amazon Region, and to dialogue with different researchers, the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) held the Amazon Scientific Workshop.

This technical meeting, which took place on January 24, brought together more than 100 researchers, including authors, coordinators and representatives from the IPBES Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for the Americas; from the national evaluations for Colombia and Brazil; from the report of the Scientific Panel for the Amazon; and the co-chairs, coordinators, authors, and members of the ACTO Scientific Committee for the Rapid Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in the Amazon Region.

During the event, the representatives of the different assessments together with the coordinators shared the main results, as well as the experiences and gaps identified in the context of these initiatives.

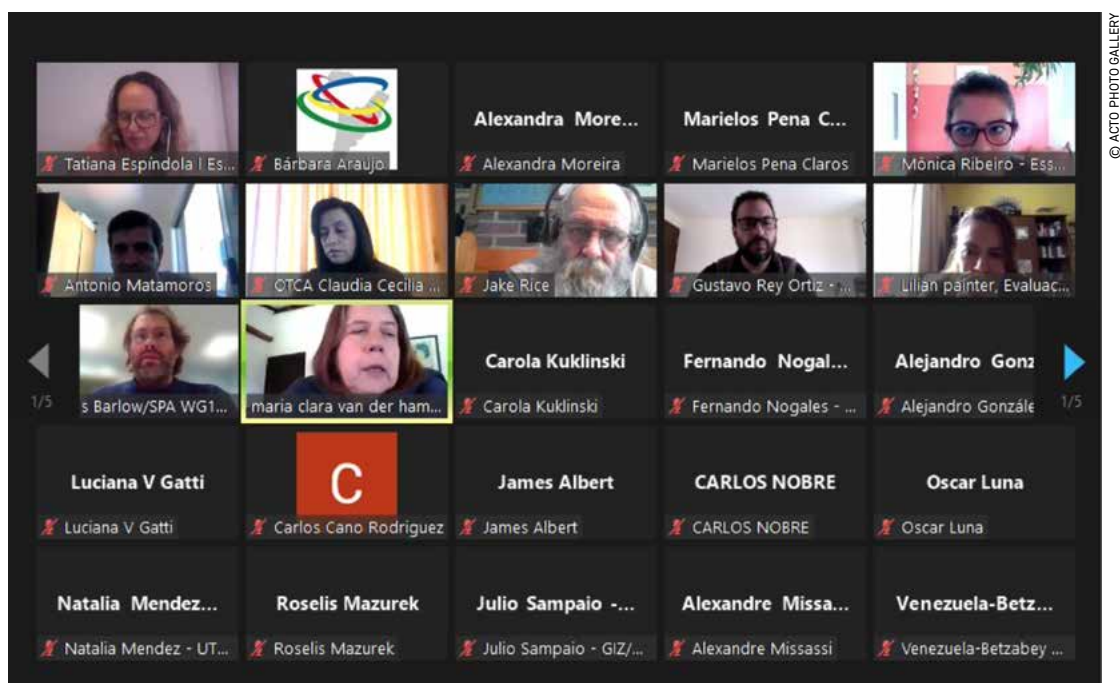
This information will serve as input for the Rapid Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in the Amazon Region that is being developed under the ACTO Amazon Region Biodiversity Program.

The initiative is supported by the ACTO Biomaz cooperation project and under the Humboldt Institute of Colombia's guidance.

The following outcomes stand out: the main information gaps in the Amazonian context were identified, and information on bioprospecting in the region was organized; the added value of the Rapid Assessment being developed by the ACTO was acknowledged; and information exchange mechanisms were identified to enable interaction and information sharing among the authors of the ACTO assessment and the initiatives already implemented.

These conclusions will contribute to the development of the Rapid Assessment on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in the Amazon and will also support the work of the authors to avoid duplication of efforts and achieve additional value from this initiative.

Currently, ACTO coordinates this Rapid Assessment developed, independently and in a personal capacity, by a team of experts from different disciplines in the region under the conceptual and methodological framework of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).



ACTO and CAF sign an agreement to improve the living conditions of the population in the Amazon Region

The Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) and the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) signed a Cooperation Framework Agreement to coordinate joint actions in the Amazon Region.



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ACTO's General Secretary, Alexandra Moreira, and the CAF's Executive President, Sergio Díaz-Granados.

Both the entities announced this Tuesday, Feb 01, assuring that this alliance aims at improving the living conditions of the Amazonian population of the eight ACTO Member Countries.

On that occasion, they announced that first joint actions to be conducted is the strengthening and expansion of the Amazonian Regional Observatory (ARO)



developing the Climate Change Module built on technical and official information from the Member Countries; in addition to the strengthening of the Biodiversity and Forests modules. This initiative will have a financial facility as a climate financing instrument in the Region and a strategy for its implementation.

This Cooperation Framework Agreement was signed by the Secretary General of ACTO, Alexandra Moreira, and by the Executive President of CAF, Sergio Díaz-Granados, in a ceremony held at ACTO headquarters in Brasília, Brazil.

"The immediate implementation of this agreement that we signed today is part of one of the axes that should be structural in the public policies of our countries, such as Climate Change", stated the Secretary General of ACTO, Alexandra Moreira.

"This agreement will ensure the development of several initiatives for the preservation of biodiversity, and the mitigation and adaptation to Climate Change. Our alliance with ACTO joins CAF's efforts towards being the green bank in Latin America and the Caribbean", assured Sergio Díaz-Granados, Executive President of CAF.

Likewise, among the planned joint activities, the following stand out: the generation, strengthening and transfer of knowledge and technology; financial technical assistance to develop regional cooperation programs and projects for the comprehensive management of fire, and for the integrated management of water resources in the Basin.

Also, the agreement signed today will promote bioeconomy, biotrade and sustainable and inclusive economy of biological diversity, and sustainable use of natural resources; support to projects on health and on the empowerment of women and Indigenous Peoples; actions to be conducted in the field of infrastructure and sustainable tourism, among others.

The results of the Health Situation Analysis report in the Napo – Curaray – Río Tigre Region are presented at a meeting



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The results of the report on the Analysis of the Health Situation of the Napo – Curaray – Río Tigre Region, within the framework of the project Contingency Plan for the Protection of the Health of Highly Vulnerable Indigenous Peoples in Initial Contact (ACTO/PAHO/IDB) were presented to the leadership of the Sapara Nation of Ecuador (NASE), in a virtual meeting on January 27, 2022.

This event was attended by a team of consultants from the region composed of Enrique Vela and Marco Andrade, with technical support from Mateo Ponce and Juan Sebastián Medina. On behalf of the Sapara Nation, Nemo Grefa (President), Andrés Ruiz (Vice-President), Cesar Santi (Director of Health) and Irene Toqueton (Director of Gender and Family) participated, in addition to the ACTO technical team.

This meeting was held with the objective of presenting the health analysis report with the sociocultural characterization of the Napo – Curaray – Río Tigre region, which has connections at different levels, highlighting the geographic, environmental, sanitary, ethnic, among others, with the presence of several indigenous peoples, including the Sapara nationality of Ecuador (Pastaza province).



The presentation of the report also made it possible to discuss and collect the different situations and problems of this nationality, highlighting the complex health situation and the pressures on natural resources on the border between Ecuador and Peru (Conambo/Tigre River).

In relation to health, the need for strengthening and articulation of the Ministry of Public Health was exposed, which allows regular and emergency care to communities of the Sapara Nationality, in addition to the status of the situation regarding covid-19 in the territory.

Finally, the Project Coordinator, Carlos Macedo, also highlighted the valuable contribution of the participants of the event, and the need to strengthen health in a collaborative way, as well as the importance of vaccination for covid-19, according to WHO guidelines.

Plan de Contingencia para la Protección de la Salud en Pueblos Indígenas Altamente Vulnerables y en Contacto Inicial

(BID-OTCA Cooperación Técnica ATN/OC-1834 RG-T3767)

Datos de COVID-19 e inmunizaciones

COMUNIDAD	Total de habitantes de 6 años en adelante	Vacunados de 6 a 11 años	Vacunados de 12 a 18 años	Vacunados de 19 años y mas	Total vacunados 1ra y 2da dosis	Porcentaje vacunado de acuerdo a la población
Tiwino Wacraní	235	51	34	122	207	88.08%
Itataboro	108	15	25	57	97	89.81%
Sameno	98	14	13	56	83	84.69%
Beasano	6	0	0	6	6	100%
Omacaweno	12	0	0	9	9	75%
Cononaco Ch.	8	0	0	5	5	62.5%
Omore	16	1	2	8	11	68.75%
Gumeneweno	12	0	0	12	12	100%
Isumo	17	0	0	11	11	64.70%
Nempigapare	40	4	0	15	19	47.50%

ACTO organizes a meeting to prepare guidelines and recommendations to include in a contingency plan for the health of Indigenous peoples in the border region of Brazil, Guyana, and Suriname

To discuss the situation of COVID-19 and the health of Indigenous peoples living in the border region of Brazil, Guyana and Suriname, a meeting was held from January 17 to 19, in Santarém do Pará, Brazil, led by the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO).



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Institutions such as the Salud y Alegría Project, Instituto Iepê, Universidad Federal del Oeste del Pará (UFOPA), and Indigenous leaders representing AIKATUK, FEPIPA and COIAB participated in the event. Likewise, logistical terms were supported by the Salud y Alegría Project and the UFOPA, contributing with the COVID-19 tests for the participants.

The results of this meeting serve as input for the guidelines to be developed and the recommendations for a contingency plan, including strategies to mitigate the effects of infectious diseases, with basic health care for those peoples who inhabit this cross-border area in northern Pará, Roraima and Amapá (Brazil), including Guyana and Suriname, inhabited by several Peoples, such as Tiriós, Wai and Zoé.

In addition, the cultural components are considered in the contingency plan with the full participation of Indigenous peoples for the empowerment of the proposals submitted.

During the three days of the meeting, the representatives of Civil Society, indigenous representatives, and health specialists exposed about their experiences in the fight against COVID-19, including the case of the Zoé people that was reported by the doctor Erik Simões (SESAI). This case has been a benchmark in confronting the pandemic threat, complying with protocols with Indigenous participation.

ACTO was represented by the project coordinator Carlos Macedo, by the consultant Antenor Vaz, by the doctor Fabio Tozzi and the expert Roberta Cerri (doctoranda/



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Fiocruz), who presented the project Contingency Plan for Health Protection of Indigenous Peoples highly vulnerable and in initial contact (ACTO/ PAHO/IDB).

According to Macedo, one of the fundamental phases of the contingency plan is the study of the health situation with a territorial base. "To obtain this information, we have worked with government stakeholders, civil society and Indigenous communities and, in the coming months, we will speak with their leaders, and we will present the guidelines emanating from this meeting," he explained.

The interventions were directed towards the articulation of a contingency plan for the border region. The discussion was nourished by relevant inputs from the Namofó Indigenous leaders Leo Kaxuyana Tiriyo and Luana Kumaruara with information and data from the communities. This information will serve as a basis to promote a series of agreements and inter-institutional actions.

The UFOPA representative, Dr. Heloisa de Nascimento, who participated by teleconference, presented a detailed overview of the mercury situation and its impacts on the health of Indigenous and traditional communities in the Tapajós River region and the Brazil/Guyana/Suriname border.

Finally, COIAB technical consultant, Fabrício Amorim, proposed establishing different goals to prepare draft guidelines and recommendations promoting measures and public policies with fundamental intercultural criteria for the protection of the Health of Indigenous Peoples.

The Iepê, represented by Denise Fajardo, confirmed participation in the ACTO team of consultants and collaborators to follow-up on the activities and organize an upcoming coordination meeting among the main local actors to support the initiative to protect the health of Indigenous Peoples highly vulnerable and in initial contact.

Framework Agreement between ACTO and CIC-Plata will allow strategic actions for the management of water resources in the Plata and Amazon Basins



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In ceremony, the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) and the Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee of the Plata Basin Countries (CIC-Plata) signed today a Framework Cooperation Agreement that will enable the exchange of experiences and knowledge on the development and implementation of programs of strategic actions for the management of the water resources of these two basins of global importance: the Plata Basin and the Amazon Basin.

ACTO's Secretary-General, Alexandra Moreira, said that with the signing of this agreement we are uniting most of the countries of South America to work for one of the fundamental resources for life, that is the water resource which houses these two basins.



© ACTO PHOTO GALLERY

"An integrated management of water resources with a vision that helps us with water security is an effective measure to sustain a balance in our basins, and both organizations are seeking to raise the importance of the sector in our countries", said Moreira during her speech.

For his part, the Secretary-General of the CIC-Plata, Juan Carlos Alurralde, said that this is a historic moment. "The Plata and Amazon basins come together to demonstrate our vocation for integration. We have responsibility for these important basins, not only for our countries, but for the whole world", he argued.

In addition, the Director of the South America Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil, Minister João Marcelo Galvão de Queiroz, in his capacity as President of the Coordination Commission of the Amazon Cooperation Council (CCOOR), he affirmed that the action plan of this Framework Agreement will allow the adoption of concrete actions in favor of the sustainable development of the two basins.

The CIC-Plata has the responsibility of promoting, coordinating and monitoring the progress of multinational actions aimed at the integral development of the Plata Basin, and was consolidated as the permanent body of the Basin through the Treaty of the Plata Basin. ACTO, through its Permanent Secretariat, coordinates procedures under the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT).

The territory of the Plata Basin covers 3 million and 100 thousand km² in the territory of five countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. The Amazon Basin extends for about 7 million km² and through the eight countries that are part of ACTO: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela. The Plata Basin and the Amazon Basin are the largest watersheds in the world and are interdependent in hydroclimatic terms.

Cooperation in areas of mutual interest will be carried out through seminars, events and working meetings, and an action plan for the implementation of the Agreement will be developed, which will be valid for five years.

Fortaleciendo la interfaz ciencia – toma de decisión.mp4

2021 Amazon Assessment Report

Key Takeaways – Part I

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ACTO promotes a meeting with scientists and delegations of its Member Countries to discuss the science interface and decision-making

The Amazon Assessment Report, organized by the Science Panel for the Amazon (PCA) and presented during COP 26 on Climate Change, was the central theme of the virtual workshop held by the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization with representatives of the Member Countries. The High-Level Workshop: Strengthening the science – decision-making interface, held on December 17, aimed at presenting results and recommendations of the aforementioned report, which will benefit the management of biodiversity in the Amazon Region.

Alexandra Moreira, Secretary General of ACTO, welcomed the delegations of ACTO Member Countries and scientists attending the event. Moreira stressed that the environmental change scenarios for the Amazon, which had been planned for after 2050, must be finalized before this year. "This decade is essential to carry out actions in a global context, but also in a regional context, for a much more sustainable management of our natural resources," she said.

The Secretary General recalled the need to generate, in the Amazon Region, more accurate data to help the States make decisions, but also to generate more accessible official information that is closer to Amazonian realities. She completed her intervention by mentioning, among others, the evaluation of the Americas, in the context of IPBES, and the national evaluations of Brazil and Colombia. “We have just published the first Atlas of Hydroclimatic Vulnerability of the Amazon, and we are in the process of preparing the first rapid assessment of biological diversity and ecosystem services with the IPEBS methodology”, she said.

For her part, researcher Emma Torres spoke on behalf of the Science Panel for the Amazon (PCA) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UNSDSN). The Science Panel has the active participation of more than 200 scientists of recognized experience at the regional and international level, who conducted research works and findings of scientific information. “This [the Amazon] is an ecosystem that must be managed and discovered regionally. I am convinced of the importance of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty. I especially want to highlight the importance of science, technology, and innovation for our region and the need to build a research and development agenda that will promote the conservation of the region”, said Torres.

The report was immediately presented by scientists Pedro Val, from the University of Ouro Preto, in Brazil; Simone Athayde, from Florida International University, United States; Carmen Josse, from Ecociencia Ecuador; Erika Berenguer, from the University of Oxford, UK. The recommendations of the Report were presented by Mariela Peña-Claros, from the University of Waninguen, the Netherlands; and Joice Ferreira, a researcher at Embrapa Amazonia Oriental, Brazil, who presented the conclusions of the bioeconomy chapter.

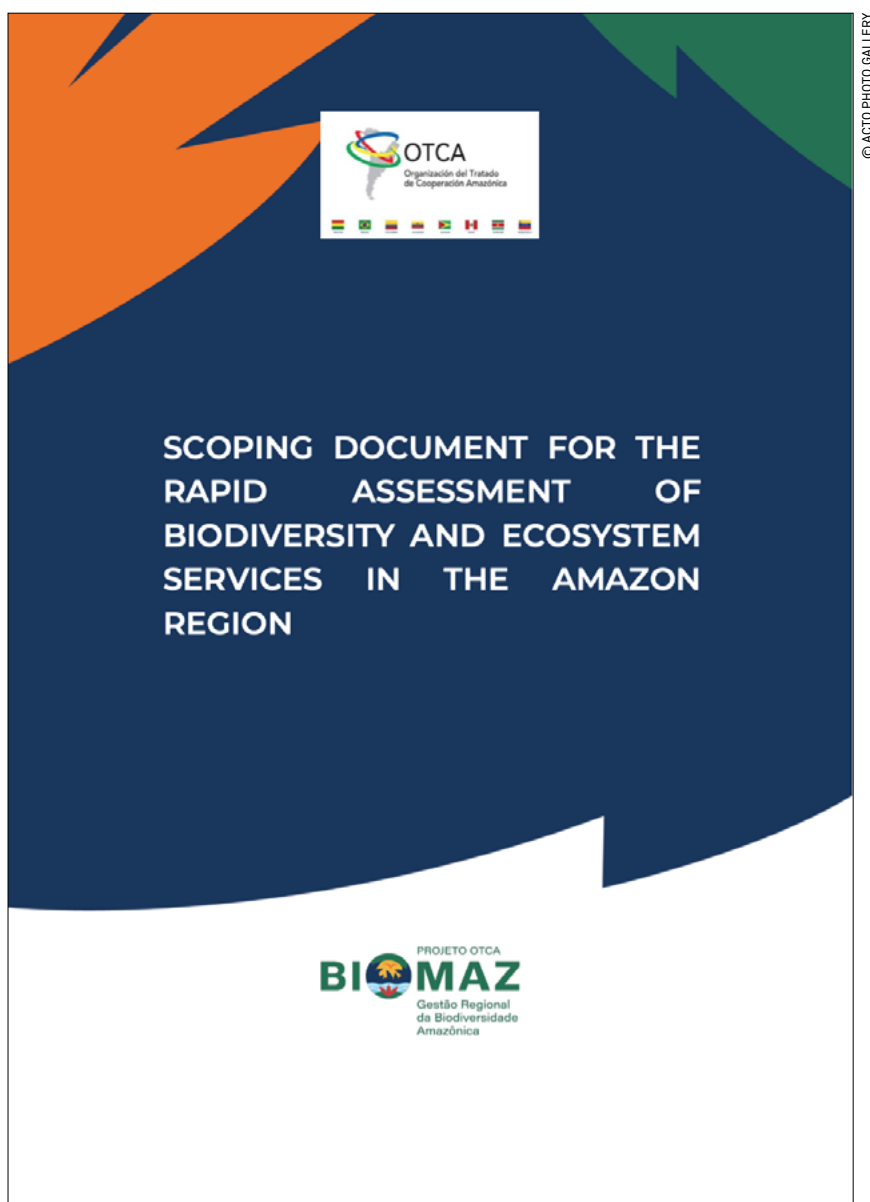


ACTO presents the final version of the Scoping Document for the Rapid Assessment of the Biological Diversity and Ecosystem Services of the Amazon Region

The final version of the Scoping Document for the Rapid Assessment of the Biological Diversity and Ecosystem Services of the Amazon Region/Basin is now available to the public. This document is the first product of the joint work of the Permanent Secretariat of ACTO, Member Countries, including a group of experts formed by the Scientific Committee, Authors and Chapter Coordinators of the Rapid Assessment, as well as external reviewers who worked, according to schedule:

1. Development and approval of the first draft by the ACTO Member Countries;
2. Contributions/comments received by the authors of the Assessment and members of the Assessment's Scientific Committee;
3. Comments received from external experts; and
4. Review of the external comments and approval of the Scoping Document by the authors and members of the Scientific Committee of the Assessment.

With the conclusion of these review steps, the Scoping Document will guide the work of the authors and coordinators of the Rapid Assessment, providing the focus for the approach to the experts in the region. The schedule of the Rapid Assessment indicate its published by the end of 2022.



Final version of the Scoping Document for the Rapid Assessment of the Biological Diversity and Ecosystem Services of the Amazon Region/Basin, click here

http://otca.org/en/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/EN_Scooping- ACTOs_Rapid_Assessment.pdf

Know more about the Electronic Identification Key for wood



Learn about the interactive identification key for wood commercialized in Brazil. This tool is useful in the identification of tropical timber species, and provides essential information for control and inspection agents in the fight against illegal deforestation; and was built on the basis of general and macroscopic anatomical characters whereby, with just a pocketknife, it is possible to produce the cut, and with a 10x magnifying glass to observe the features.

The key has 275 species among the most commercialized and the most threatened, including all the Brazilian timber species included in the CITES appendices.

Data related to the species listed in this key were obtained from analyzes of material from the LPF xylotheque and the original key data published in 2010.

The key was developed by the Forest Products Laboratory (LPF) of the Brazilian Forest Service (SFB) in collaboration with the Brazilian Federal Police and with the support of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization, through the Bioamazon Project.

To access the electronic key, follow this link https://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v4/madeiras_comerciais_do_brasil/index_pt.html



Cyathea sp.

Condolence note

It is with great sadness that the Permanent Secretariat of the ACTO Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization and Bioamazon Project became aware of the death of the researcher, biologist and botanist Dairon Cárdenas López, who was Coordinator of the Ecosystems and Natural Resources Program, Director of the Amazon Herbarium Colombian (COAH) of the SINCHI Institute – Colombia and National Technical Focal Point of the ACTO Bioamazon Project.

The ACTO Permanent Secretary expresses her deepest condolences for the irreparable loss to the family of Mr. Dairon Cárdenas and expresses her most sincere solidarity with her colleagues at the Sinchi Institute. We regret the departure of a dedicated professional whose work contributed to the knowledge of the Colombian Amazon.

SERFOR: Guide for users on export, import and re-export procedures of CITES species



Podocnemis expansa.

The National Forestry and Wild Fauna Service (SERFOR) prepared the “Guide for obtaining the Export, Import or Re-export Certificate of specimens, products, and by-products of wild flora and fauna, with priority to species included in the CITES appendices”.

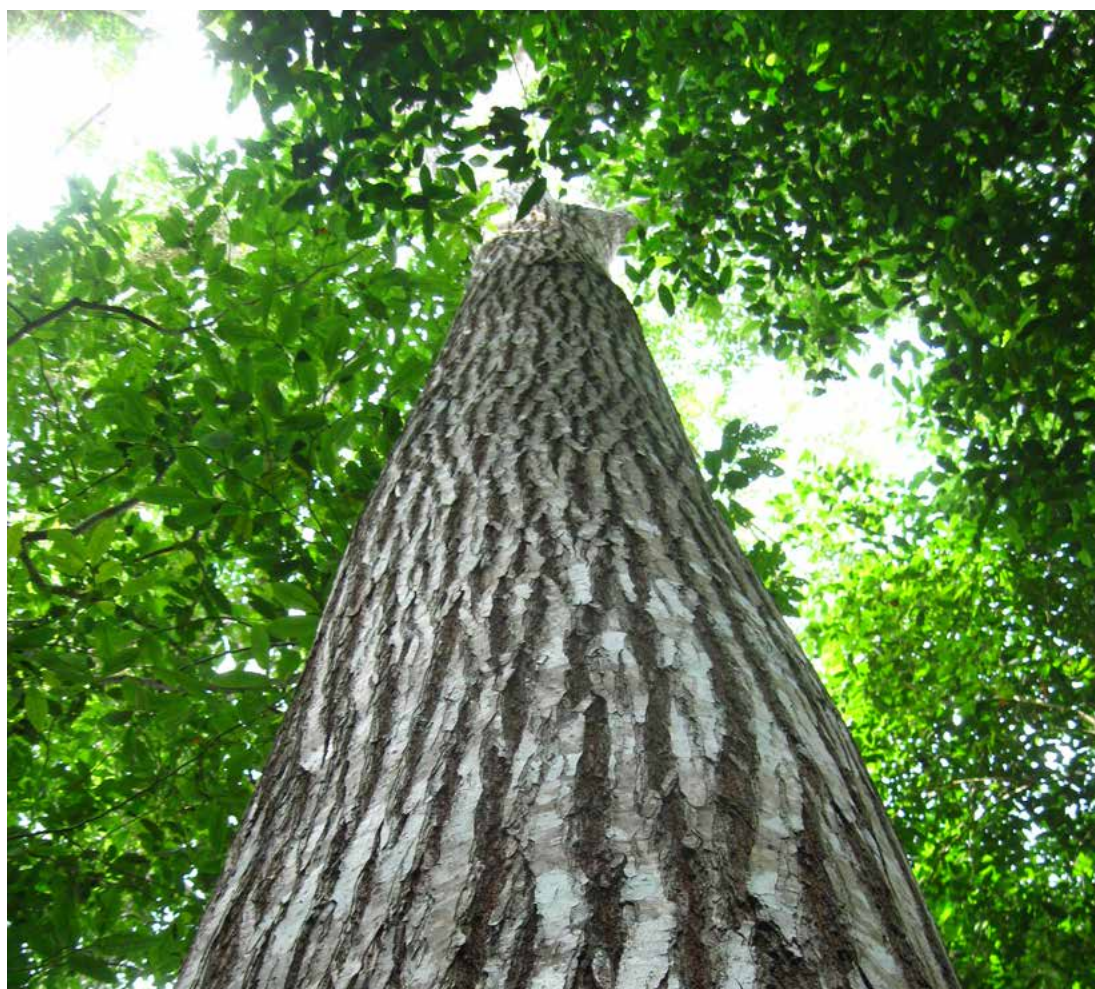
The Guide has a clear, simple, and easy-to-read language for users and the general public who wish to obtain information about export, import, and re-export procedures related to CITES – Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

This work, supported by the Bioamazon Project, is carried out within the framework of Component 2 – Regional strengthening and harmonization of national mechanisms/systems/processes for issuing electronic permits.

This document intends to help those users, who carry out export, import and re-export procedures in SERFOR, to obtain information about requirements in the use of the Single Window for Foreign Trade (VUCE).

The Guide is divided into three sections. The first one refers to CITES and its Appendices, so it is possible to know if a species is listed in the Appendices, and if it is presented within the general framework of the Convention; In addition to having species search engines enabling to know if the species require the application of CITES export, import or re-export procedures. The second section introduces the National Regulations on the issuance of CITES permits or certificates, as well as the procedures for the export, import and re-export of flora and fauna. The access and management of the Foreign Trade Single Window System (VUCE) is presented in the third section, since all export, import or re-export procedures are carried out jointly with 17 other entities of the Peruvian state through said system.

Finally, the document offers a section of frequently asked questions with the answers from SERFOR, which is the CITES Management Authority in the country. SERFOR is the National Forestry and Wildlife Authority, and its main function is to promote the sustainable management of Peru's wild flora and fauna.



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Cedrela (cedar)



The Ambassador of Suriname in Brazil, Angeladebie Ramkisoen, and the Executive Director of ACTO, Ambassador Carlos Lazary, in a meeting on the ARO.

ACTO and Suriname strengthen relations in work meetings

In a courtesy call paid to the ACTO headquarters, the Ambassador of Suriname visited the facilities of the Amazon Regional Observatory and learned about the ARO's work methodology.

The Ambassador of Suriname in Brazil, Mrs. Angeladebie Ramkisoen, visited, on February 25, the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) headquarters to participate in a working meeting. The ACTO Executive Director, Ambassador Carlos Lazary, was the organizer of the meeting.

It was an opportunity for the official representative of Suriname to learn about the global work of ACTO, visit the facilities of ACTO and the Amazon Regional Observa-

tory (ARO), as well as to meet the representatives of various projects implemented by the Organization.

Among the main joint actions of ACTO and Suriname related to the Regional Project for the management, monitoring, and control of wild fauna and flora species threatened by trade (Bioamazon), are, particularly, to support the improvement of the technical capacity in the management of CITES species in Suriname, to consolidate a national information system on biodiversity with the acquisition of equipment, to conduct consultancies, and the establishment of an electronic emission system for CITES species connected to the Single Window for Foreign Trade (VUCE) to facilitate exports.

To support the sustainable management of flora and fauna species within the framework of the CITES Convention, the Bioamazon Project contributed the amount of US\$ 319,226 for the acquisition of 60 items, including goods and assets, such as portable computing equipment, printers, computer material, laboratory equipment, digital cameras, projectors, TV sets, uniforms, GPS, servers, electrical generators, a boat, tools, motors, a 4X4 vehicle, as well as the construction of a work office, among other items. In 2021, eight technical consultancies were also hired for a total amount of US\$ 322,420.

Amazon Regional Observatory

The Ambassador of Suriname also visited the facilities of the Amazonian Regional Observatory and learned about the ARO's work methodology. The ARO's creation was approved during the XII Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization, in which the ministers decided to "establish the Amazonian Regional Observatory (ARO) as the permanent forum that brings together institutions and authorities linked to the study of the Amazon, as a reference center for regional information on biodiversity, natural resources and social diversity of the Amazon Region". In November 2021, the PS/OTCA inaugurated the Observatory, which is in continuous development with data contributions by the Member Countries and the development of new modules.



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Construction of a biodiversity study center in Suriname, with support from the Bioamazon Project.

MINEC developed second workshop on cites electronic procedures in Venezuela

In the continuation of the activities programmed in the scope of the Bioamazon Project carried out by the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) with the Ministry of Popular Power for Ecosocialism (MINEC), in this Tuesday the second workshop “Application for CITES electronic licenses / certificates in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela” was held.



© MINEC

Meeting on CITES at the Minec headquarters, Venezuela.

By inducing the procedures of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), participants learned about the procedures for such requirements.

During the course, which was held in the conference room of the General Directorate of Biological Diversity, at Minec's headquarters, located in downtown Caracas, knowledge and experiences were exchanged on strengthening and harmonizing



Aerial view, tropical forest in Venezuela.

mechanisms, systems and processes for the electronic issuance of licenses in the Venezuela.

In addition, efforts are being made to standardize Minec's internal processes for applying for CITES electronic licenses and certificates.

This second course was aimed at people from the departments involved in the institution's electronic authorization system.

Information in Spanish: <http://www.minec.gob.ve/minec-desarrollo-segundo-taller-sobre-tramites-electronicos-cites-en-venezuela/>

Source: Ecosocialism Press (Minec)

Marzo

21 March
International Day of Forests



22 March
World Water Day



Videos

Flying Rivers of the Amazon. No forests no water!

The Spanish version of the video Flying Rivers of the Amazon, produced by the BMZ – Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany, is available.

The production of the Spanish version had the support of the Bioamazon Project and the Bioamaz Project, both implemented by ACTO.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6lXvy-gcJVc>



Publications

The Brazilian institution Embrapa Florestas has made available the five volumes of the books

“Brazilian Tree Species”

of the researcher Paulo Ernani Ramalho Carvalho.

The five volumes bring 340 species of trees native to Brazil, with detailed information such as taxonomy, description, reproduction, occurrence, ecological aspects, climate, soils, seeds, seedling production, forestry characteristics, genetic improvement and conservation, growth and production, wood, main products and uses, pests and diseases and related species; supplemented with maps, tables and photographs.

To download the books, access this link:

<https://www.embrapa.br/florestas/publicacoes/especies-arboreas-brasileiras>





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About the Bioamazon Project

Bioamazon is a **regional project in the ACTO's framework** that contributes to the **conservation of Amazon Biodiversity**, especially the species included in the CITES Convention.

To this end, it seeks to **increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the management, monitoring and control of species of wild fauna and flora threatened by trade** in ACTO member countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela.

It is part of a Cooperation Agreement between the Federal Government of Germany and ACTO with implementation through the KfW.

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Bolivia



Brazil



Colombia



Ecuador



Guyana



Peru



Suriname



Venezuela