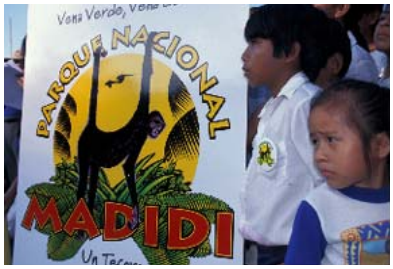
CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND

Tropical Andes Hotspot: Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor Peru and Bolivia Briefing Book



Prepared for: Improving Linkages Between CEPF and World Bank Operations, Latin America Forum, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil—January 24 –25, 2005

VILCABAMBA-AMBORÓ FOREST ECOSYSTEM OF THE TROPICAL ANDES HOTSPOT

Table of Contents

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND

Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor

Tropical Andes Biodiversity Hotspot

CEPF INVESTMENT PLANNED IN REGION
$6.15 million

QUICK FACTS

The Tropical Andes leads virtually all other hotspots in terms of species diversity and the number of unique species.

The hotspot is home to an estimated 45,000-50,000 species of vascular plants, about 15 percent of the world total and twice as many as in any other hotspot.

The Tropical Andes has 1,666 species of birds, the highest of any hotspot. Of these, 41 percent are found nowhere else.

There are 479 species of reptiles in the hotspot, 46 percent of which are unique to this hotspot.

Through multiple efforts, the area of secure and well-managed national parks and reserves in the corridor is expected to rise from the original 3.4 million hectares to 19.4 million hectares—nearly a six-fold increase.

Sometimes called the "global epicenter of biodiversity," the Tropical Andes is the biologically richest and most diverse of Earth's biodiversity hotspots—areas with the richest and most threatened concentrations of life. The hotspot covers 1,258 square kilometers and includes parts of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Argentina.

The Tropical Andes is home to 20,000 plants found nowhere else and at least 1,500 unique terrestrial vertebrates, including a spectacular array of birds and amphibians.

THREATS

The greatest threat to biodiversity in this hotspot is human activity and population growth. Direct threats include inadequate management of protected areas, hydrocarbon development, gold mining, uncontrolled logging, road and dam construction, insufficient information on the biological and socio-economic characteristics of the region and limited collaboration and information sharing.

CEPF STRATEGY

Within the hotspot, the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) focuses on the Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor—a 30-million-hectare expanse of rich biodiversity stretching from the Vilcabamba mountain range in southern Peru to Amboró National Park in central Bolivia.

CEPF focuses on the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor within the Tropical Andes biodiversity hotspot

The CEPF strategy is based largely on the results of two binational workshops that brought government officials, nongovernmental organizations and technical experts together to determine the highest priorities for conservation. As part of the overall strategy, three distinct protected area complexes will be connected. When stitched together, this region could equal one of the biologically richest tapestries of life on Earth.

The CEPF investment strategy, called an ecosystem profile, will be funded over five years, beginning in 2001.

STRATEGIC FUNDING DIRECTIONS

The CEPF strategy for the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor ensures funding is directed where it is needed most and where it can do the most good.

CEPF investments in the region are guided by six strategic directions. Each project must be linked to one of these to be approved for funding:

1. establish effective mechanisms for transboundary coordination, collaboration and catalytic action
2. strengthen binational coordination of protected areas systems
3. encourage community-based biodiversity conservation and natural resource management
4. strengthen public awareness and environmental education
5. strengthen environmental and legal policy frameworks
6. establish an electronic information exchange and coordinated information and data gathering mechanism

©André Bärtschi

ABOUT US

CEPF is a joint initiative of Conservation International, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and the World Bank.

The partnership aims to dramatically advance conservation of Earth's biodiversity hotspots—the biologically richest and most threatened areas. A fundamental goal is to ensure that civil society, such as community groups, nongovernmental organizations and private sector partners, is engaged in biodiversity conservation.

CEPF acts as a catalyst to create strategic working alliances among diverse groups, combining unique capacities and eliminating duplication of efforts for a comprehensive, coordinated approach to conservation challenges.

HOW TO LEARN MORE

For more information about CEPF and how to apply for grants, please visit www.cepf.net.

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND

Ecosystem Profile

VILCABAMBA-AMBORÓ FOREST ECOSYSTEM
Of the
TROPICAL ANDES BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

PERU AND BOLIVIA

Final version
december 14, 2000

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) is designed to better safeguard the world's threatened biological hotspots in developing countries. It is a joint initiative of Conservation International (CI), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Government of Japan, the MacArthur Foundation and the World Bank. CEPF provides financing to projects located in biodiversity hotspots highly threatened regions representing only 1.4 percent of the planet's land surface, where some 60 percent of all terrestrial species diversity is found.

CEPF has been designed to build on the World Bank's commitment to biodiversity conservation and sustainable management, primarily implemented through the GEF and channeled to governments. CEPF will complement the efforts of the World Bank and the GEF to conserve biodiversity conservation by providing a streamlined funding mechanism to a broad range of civil society partners, including NGOs, community groups and private sector partners.

CEPF will further the overall goals of the Bank at the country level by offering an opportunity to engage local communities and other stakeholders in biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management. CEPF will also provide an important learning experience through an innovative online grant system at www.cepf.net and by focusing on on-the-ground results and experience. The site is designed to serve as a central node, disseminating lessons learned and facilitating cross-regional information exchange on conservation successes. It will also promote replication of successful projects by providing access to a wide range of resources designed to aid project implementers in the biodiversity hotspots.

CEPF will strive to use lessons from other programs, particularly the GEF's medium grants procedure, to ensure that funds are provided expeditiously and with appropriate, cost-effective levels of accountability. CEPF will also use the GEF national focal points to ensure client country endorsement of the strategic direction of CEPF. CEPF is intended to complement, rather than duplicate or overlap with, regular GEF activities.

CEPF will support strategic working alliances among community groups, NGOs, government, academia and the private sector, combining unique capacities and eliminating duplication of efforts for a more comprehensive approach to conservation challenges. CEPF is unique among other funding mechanisms in that it focuses specifically on biological areas rather than political boundaries and will look at conservation threats on a corridor-wide basis for maximum return on investment. It will also focus on transboundary cooperation when areas rich in biological value straddle national borders or in areas where a regional approach will be more effective than a national approach. CEPF aims to disburse funds to civil society in a more agile manner, complementing current funding available to government agencies.

In the Vilcabamba-Amboró Forest Ecosystem, CEPF will serve a unique niche because the emphasis of the funding is on catalyzing transboundary coordination between Peru and Bolivia and on coordinating the activities of participants in the region to achieve a common vision of the corridor. Similarly, CEPF will aim to coordinate donor investment in the region, ensuring that diverse stakeholders agree on the top priorities to achieve the greatest impact in conserving biodiversity in the corridor.

CEPF will support strategic initiatives that complement existing and proposed investments in conservation and thereby take advantage of the relatively strong presence of conservation NGOs in the region. While current trends in conservation investment are encouraging, most maintain a

tight site focus, although there are important national-scale initiatives such as the World Bank/GEF support for strengthening Bolivia's National System of Protected Areas. The corridor concept will bring efforts of both narrow and broad geographic focus into synergy in an area of the highest biological importance within the Tropical Andes Hotspot. CEPF funding should be used to create a framework of activities, ranging from biodiversity audits and threat assessment to strengthen existing protected areas and create new ones. This framework will sharpen the focus of government agencies, NGOs, and indigenous communities already at work in the corridor, establish a consensus for action among these groups, and strengthen alliances.

Funds will be used to provide small grants to conservation projects managed by private, NGO and civil society groups working in the critical ecosystems. Funding from CEPF directed at the project level will leverage additional financial and in-kind contributions. By funding conservation efforts in production landscapes, such as agricultural areas, CEPF has the potential to build broader-than-usual support for conservation measures within the agricultural community, specifically encouraging agroforestry initiatives that maintain connectivity in corridor landscapes.

In summary, CEPF offers an opportunity to promote the conservation of some of the most important ecosystems in the world — places of high biodiversity and great beauty. In addition, the importance of meeting conservation goals is enhanced by the growing recognition of the values provided by healthy, diverse ecosystems in areas such as agriculture, forestry, water supply and fisheries. These issues are critical to the Bank's efforts to alleviate poverty. CEPF will deliver assistance in an agile manner and it will allow the engagement of a wide range of local community groups, civil society organizations, NGOs and private companies in addressing conservation needs.

BACKGROUND: VILCABAMBA-AMBORO FOREST ECOSYSTEM

In February 1999, as part of the initial design of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund, Conservation International convened a binational workshop, with participation from government officials, NGOs and scientists from both Bolivia and Peru, to discuss threats and articulate a common vision for a binational biological corridor for Tambopata-Madidi. The participants, who represented the Wildlife Conservation Society, the United States Agency for International Development, the National Service of Protected Areas (SERNAP), Fundacion ProNaturaleza and the National Institute of Natural Resources (INRENA), among others, achieved consensus on a vision for the corridor and agreed on both short- and long-term recommendations to achieve this vision in one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world. The panel recommended that CEPF:

1. ensure that laws in the region are compatible with the overarching vision;
2. recognize the importance of binational coordination;
3. include political leaders in the process;
4. develop programs that provide economic benefit to the local populations;
5. promote a conservation awareness and constituency;
6. ensure legally protected status for the proposed and existing natural areas; and
7. increase scientific knowledge in the region.

The workshop participants agreed that the Manu-Tambopata-Madidi areas form the nucleus of this extended corridor effort. Results from the initial workshop include the first conceptual outline of a biodiversity corridor and joint work plans.

In July 2000, Conservation International reconvened a group of binational technical participants to reevaluate the corridor concept, which then was expanded to include the entire Vilcabamba-Amboró Forest Ecosystem. This workshop resulted in the creation of a revised

strategy for the region that builds upon the initial platform established in the first workshop. Together, these two processes form the baseline of consensus-driven priorities that have been translated into a CEPF Ecosystem Profile for the Vilcabamba-Amboró Forest Ecosystem.

The Vilcabamba-Amboró Ecosystem Profile outlines the biological importance of the Tropical Andes Hotspot as a whole and particularly the importance of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Forest Ecosystem. It also contains a review of known threats to biodiversity and the current level of investment that has been mobilized by donors, NGOs and government agencies to combat the threats. The results of this analysis determined the strategic niche that CEPF investment can fill to complement existing efforts in the region. This niche is summarized in an investment strategy aimed at delivering six main outputs:
1. effective mechanisms for transboundary coordination, collaboration and catalytic action;
2. strengthened binational coordination of protected areas systems;
3. community-based biodiversity conservation and natural resource management;
4. expanded public awareness and environmental education;
5. strengthened environmental policy and legal frameworks to mitigate the impacts of extractive industries, transportation and infrastructure projects, and large-scale tourism; and
6. an integrated corridor information and monitoring system in sensitive corridors.

The purpose of the investment strategy is to facilitate effective participation by nongovernmental and other private-sector organizations in the conservation of biodiversity in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Forest Ecosystem.

To be eligible for funding under this ecosystem profile, a project must not only contribute to one or more of the strategic funding outputs, but must also meet the following general criteria:
1. Project execution must be within World Bank client countries that have ratified or otherwise acceded to the Convention on Biological Diversity. (In the Vilcabamba-Amboró Forest Ecosystem, projects executed within Peru and Bolivia would meet these criteria.)
2. Project funding may by no means result in the physical relocation of people, be used for the purchase of land, be directed toward a government entity, or be used for the capitalization of trust funds or similar financial instruments.

BIOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE VILCABAMBA-AMBORO FOREST ECOSYSTEM

This section in the ecosystem profile provides a brief overview of the biological importance of the entire Hotspot region. However, CEPF's initial strategic focus will be to support projects that will affect the Vilcabamba-Amboró Forest Ecosystem within the countries of Peru and Bolivia. The lowlands and montane forests of the Andean region countries — Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia — contain some of the most diverse and threatened biological complexes in the world. Two biodiversity hotspots (Tropical Andes, Chocó-Darién/Western Ecuador) and a major tropical wilderness area (Amazonia) fall wholly or partly within the five countries that make up this region. The Chocó-Darién/Western Ecuador Hotspot, which features some of the wettest tropical forests on Earth, is a major feature of this region but is not represented in the biodiversity corridor that is the focus of this profile. In the Amazon basin, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, and Venezuela share the Amazonian wilderness area with the Guianas and Brazil, and this series of lowland tropical forest ecosystems intersects with the corridor to some degree.

The Tropical Andes Hotspot has been referred to as the "global epicenter of biodiversity" by Dr. Norman Myers, who introduced the hotspot concept in the late 1980s, and this distinction

was reiterated in an analysis of the world's most biologically diverse, unique and threatened ecoregions conducted by Conservation International in the late 1990s. The hotspot covers 1,258,000 square kilometers in the countries of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Argentina. The centerpiece of the hotspot is the tropical portion of the Andes mountain chain that runs north to south in Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador, splitting into three major mountain ranges in Colombia and extends further to the northeast into the northwestern corner of Venezuela. The western border of the hotspot is marked by the eastern edge of the Chocó-Darién/Western Ecuador Hotspot at the 1,000-meter elevation. On the eastern slopes of the Andes in Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia, the 500-meter elevation marks the hotspot's border with the Amazonian lowlands.

The Andes mountain range, its constituent ranges, and the vast array of slopes, peaks and isolated valleys provide a multiplicity of micro-habitats that have led to the evolution of an incredible number of plant and animal species, even surpassing that of the much more extensive Amazon plain stretching to the east across South America.

Some experts divide the Tropical Andes into northern and southern zones, marked by an arid, east-west valley that coincides roughly with the Ecuador-Peru border in the far north of Peru extending north into neighboring Ecuador. At this nexus, called the Marañon Gap or Huancabamba Depression, elevations drop to around 500 meters, creating one of the most important barriers to faunal and floral migration in the Andes. The southern Andes below the Marañon Gap are older and narrower than the northern Andes and there are significant differences in the biodiversity of these two regions.

The southern Andes fuse into a single, broad cordillera that in Peru and Bolivia is bounded by the Peruvian/Chilean Atacama Desert to the west and the Amazon Basin to the east. Rivers of the southern Andes drain toward the Atlantic Ocean in two widely diverging watersheds, one north towards the Equator, which joins the central Amazon headwaters, and the other toward the south joining the Madeira River, the main southwestern tributary of the Amazon. The southern Andes are characterized by high, snow-capped peaks, such as those of the Cordillera Reál, and by deep canyons like the Cañón del Colca near Cabanaconde, the deepest gorge in the world, plunging to twice the depth of Arizona's Grand Canyon. A complex maze of smaller cordilleras and isolated massifs dots the interface between the Andes and the Amazon Basin, including the Peruvian Cordillera Azul and the Cordillera de Vilcabamba.

The Andes Cordillera in Bolivia can be characterized by two major watershed systems. From Lake Titicaca to Amboró lie the many rivers that drain towards the Amazon Basin. South of Amboró, numerous effluents of the large Rio de la Plata Basin drain towards Argentina. Biologically, it is possible to distinguish two different regions in the Bolivian portion of this hotspot. The northern section from Lake Titicaca to Amboró has higher mountain ranges that run from east to west and from altitudes of 500-6,500 meters. Between the peaks are inter-Andean valleys that reach higher altitudes than peaks elsewhere in the region and exhibit high levels of terrestrial vertebrate endemism, especially for birds. To the south of Amboró, the mountain ranges are smaller and run parallel to one another in a north-south direction.

The vegetation of the Tropical Andes Hotspot follows a gradient from lowlands to highlands, with tropical wet and moist forests occurring at 500-1,500 meters, cloud forest formations of several kinds (variously referred to as yungas, ceja de selva or ceja de montaña) which occur at altitudes from 800-3,500 meters, and grassland and scrub land systems, which are referred to as punas in the southern Andes. The latter begin at about 3,000-3,800 m and extend up to 4,200-

4,800 meters, usually ending at the snow line. The sub-Andean forests of the eastern slopes, which begin at about 500 meters, are similar to those of the hot Amazonian lowlands to the east, but have fewer palm species, lianas and buttresses.

The *yungas* is a montane cloud forest ecosystem that includes the Marañon Gap and extends south along the slopes of the Andes to cover an area of approximately 250,000 square kilometers in Peru and an equal or greater area in Bolivia. These Andean slope forests are among the richest on Earth in terms of diversity and endemism. The number of distinct plant and animal communities in this relatively narrow strip is enormous and there is a far greater packing of biodiversity per unit area than virtually anywhere else, especially in terms of vascular plants, birds, amphibians, butterflies and several other groups.

The *puna* is a distinct vegetation type that is found predominantly in Andean Peru, but also extends into adjacent areas of Bolivia. A high-altitude, alpine-like grassland vegetation found below the snow line, it covers most of the Peruvian departments of Huancavelica, Ayacucho, Apurmac and Puno, plus smaller portions of several other departments. The dominant vegetation in this cold, relatively dry habitat is bunchgrass surrounded by a variety of herbs, grasses, sedges, lichens, mosses and ferns. While animal diversity in the *puna* is low, endemism is high. At least 30 bird species are restricted to this zone, including the puna rhea (*Pterocnemia tarapacensis*) and the ornate tinamou (*Nothoprocta ornata*). The *puna* is also home to the world-renowned vicuna (*Vicugna vicugna*), the smallest of the South American camelids and one of the region's most important flagship species for conservation.

Along the dry Andean slopes of Peru in particular, usually at altitudes of 2,000-3,000 meters, are *Polylepis* forests, another vegetation type unique to the Andes. This tree genus is restricted to the montane area of western South America and can be a particularly conspicuous element of some high-elevation tropical habitats because it is often the only kind of tree growing in areas dominated by low grasses, herbs, and shrubs.

The Tropical Andes leads virtually all other hotspots in terms of species diversity and endemism. Perhaps the most impressive figures are those of vascular plants, with an estimated 45,000-50,000 species, or about 15% of the world total and twice as many as in any other hotspot. Levels of plant endemism are equally impressive, with some 20,000 species found nowhere else on Earth.

The Tropical Andes also has the highest bird diversity (1,666 species) of any hotspot, and the highest level of endemism (677 species, or 41%). Based on a recent analysis by BirdLife International, Peru and Colombia rank among the top three countries in the world for restricted-range species, and the bulk of these species are found in the Andean portions of these countries. BirdLife International also recognizes 19 Endemic Bird Areas (EBAs) that lie either entirely or partly within the Tropical Andes Hotspot and that cover almost its entire area. Those of specific concern to this hotspot profile include the Peruvian High Andes with 29 restricted-range species, 20 of which are confined to the EBA and three of which are critically endangered, the Peruvian East Andean Foothills with 14 restricted-range species, six of which are confined to the EBA, the Bolivian and Peruvian Lower Yungas with 15 restricted-range species, seven of which are confined to the EBA, and the Bolivian and Peruvian Upper Yungas with 20 restricted-range species, 15 of which are confined to the EBA.

Species diversity and endemism among amphibians and reptiles in the Tropical Andes exceeds figures for plants and birds. Amphibians total 830 species, including 604 endemics (73%), and

both figures rank first among the hotspots. There are 479 species of reptiles in the Tropical Andes Hotspot, of which 218 (46%) are found nowhere else on Earth, figures that rank fourth and fifth among the hotspots, respectively. Mammal diversity and endemism is also noteworthy. Of a total of 414 species of mammals (third among the hotspots), 68 (16%) are endemic (ninth among the hotspots).

When all terrestrial vertebrates are considered, figures for the Tropical Andes Hotspot top the charts. It has 3,389 vertebrate species, not counting fish -surpassing the next-ranking hotspot by 530 species (18%); with 1,567 endemics (46.2%), it surpasses the next-ranking hotspot by 408 endemics (35%). Both figures, in fact, are also higher than those for any country on Earth.

Prioritization of Corridors within the Tropical Andes Hotspot

The entire Tropical Andes Hotspot represents a global conservation priority. However, its vast size presents a logistical and management challenge that demands a phased approach to achieve the greatest conservation impact. To this end, Conservation International and other groups have identified and prioritized landscape-scale corridors within the hotspot. The design and implementation of conservation initiatives within these corridors represent the first step toward preservation of species and ecosystem diversity of the greater hotspot. Factors important to the identification and selection of target corridors included:

- levels of biodiversity and endemism;
- the extent of remaining wilderness areas and intact ecosystems;
- the feasibility of carrying out successful conservation projects (e.g., government support for conservation, political stability in the region, a significant presence of local and international conservation groups, reasonable access, etc.);
- the potential for biodiversity conservation on indigenous land; and
- the potential for connectivity between adjacent protected areas.

Based on an analysis of these factors, CEPF determined that a strategic focus on one of the following corridors, presented in order of highest priority, is a logical first step for a phased approach to CEPF involvement within the Andean region:

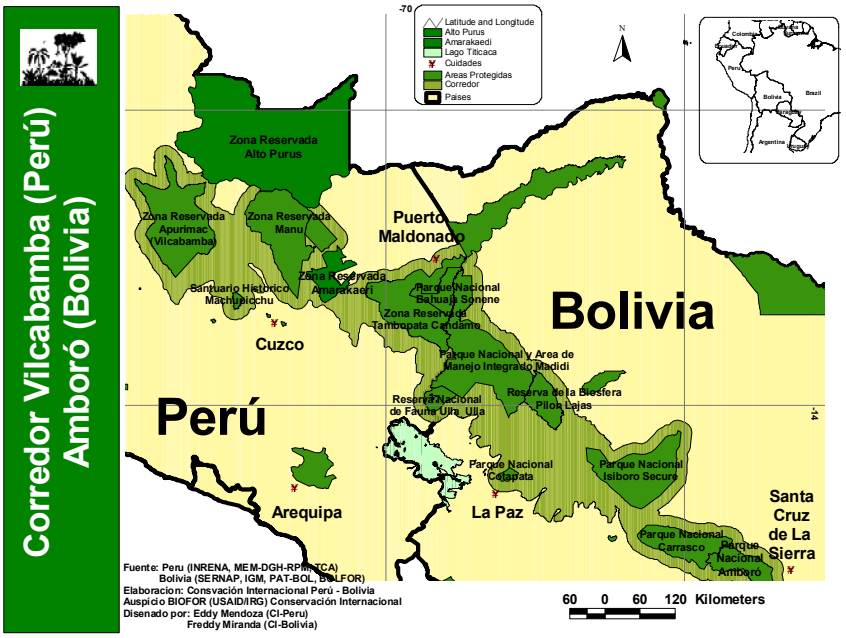
- Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor (Tropical Andes Hotspot)
- Condor Corridor (Tropical Andes Hotspot)
- Southern Chocó Corridor (Chocó-Darién/Western Ecuador Hotspot)

The Vilcabamba-Amboró Forest Ecosystem Corridor and its Biological Importance

The Vilcabamba-Amboró Forest Ecosystem is situated in the southern half of the Tropical Andes Hotspot, stretching from the Vilcabamba mountain range in south-central Peru southeast to Amboró National Park in central Bolivia. Three distinct protected area complexes composed of national parks, reserved zones, multiple-use areas, and indigenous reserves provide the fundamental structure of the corridor:

- Vilcabamba-Manu complex: Apurimac Reserved Zone (17,000 square kilometers), Ashaninka and Machiguenga communal reserves, Amarakaeri Reserved Zone (4,191 square kilometers), Alto Purús Reserved Zone (50,000 square kilometers), Machupichu Historical Sanctuary (330 square kilometers), Manu National Park (15,330 square kilometers), Manu Reserved Zone.
- Tambopata-Pilón Lajas complex: *In Peru:* Tambopata-Candamo Reserved Zone (4,886 square kilometers), Bahuaja-Sonene National Park (10,914 square kilometers). *In Bolivia:* Madidi National Park (18,960 square kilometers) and Integrated Management Area (4,745 square

kilometers), Pilón Lajas Biosphere Reserve (4,000 square kilometers) and Indigenous Territory.
• Cotopata-Amboró complex: Cotopata National Park (583 square kilometers) and Integrated Natural Management Area, Isiboro-Sécure National Park (12,000 square kilometers) and Indigenous Territory, Carrasco National Park (6,226 square kilometers), Amboró National Park (6,376 square kilometers) and Integrated Natural Management Area.



Together, the three protected-area complexes within this forest ecosystem form a biodiversity corridor that supports remarkable biological and cultural diversity. In between these complexes lie private and public lands in various stages of development, ranging from untouched to those completely devastated by destructive gold mining practices. Notwithstanding these problems, when stitched together into a single chain of 30 million hectares, the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor takes on a biological and cultural richness perhaps unparalleled anywhere else in the world.

THREAT ASSESSMENT

As in most of South America, the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor is threatened by human activity and population growth. Direct threats include vulnerable and inadequately managed protected areas, hydrocarbon development, gold mining, uncontrolled logging, road construction and associated colonization, dam construction, insufficient information on the biological and socio-economic characteristics of the region, and limited collaboration and information sharing among stakeholders in the corridor. These threats are discussed below, many in context of associated developments and opportunities to improve biodiversity conservation practices within the proposed corridor.

Vulnerable and inadequately managed protected areas

Although a large portion of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor is presently represented in protected areas, many of these parks and reserves are inadequately managed and ineffectively protected for the purposes of biodiversity conservation. In some cases, these factors have led to the encroachment and invasion of protected areas by human settlements and corporate entities. For example, within Madidi National Park, the Tambopata Reserve Zone, Pilón Lajas Biosphere Reserve, and Carrasco National Park, there are concessions for the extraction of hydrocarbons,

wood, and other resources.

At the northwestern end of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor in Peru, the Apurimac Reserved Zone has been in a transitional legal status for more than 12 years. The national government has no management structure specifically located in or devoted to the Apurimac Reserved Zone, and the area faces the threats of increasing hydrocarbon development in Camisea and elsewhere.

In the Tambopata Reserve Zone and the adjacent Bahuaja-Sonene National Park, there are at least six functioning guard posts, although they are not consistently occupied.

Despite the declarations of new protected areas and the expansions of other areas, the National Institute of Natural Resources-Peru (INRENA) is still lacking nationally provided resources and is not as effective as it could be.

Because the Vilcabamba-Amboró corridor spans two countries, the national protected area legal frameworks are different, and this adds to the challenge of developing an integrated conservation-planning approach. In Peru, natural resource exploitation is not permitted in national parks, which has necessitated the status of "reserved zone" for areas in which natural resources are extracted. This status is also used to provide temporary protection, a transition toward permanent protected status. In Bolivia, "integrated natural management area" and "reserved zone" designations are used to provide access to natural resources, but with some level of protection for the larger area. National parks, however, are not immune from natural resource extraction. In fact, in Madidi National Park, there are oil concessions inside the park, as well as plans for a large hydroelectric project that would flood much of the protected area.

The World Bank has identified habitat destruction as the main threat to many of Bolivia's protected areas. The principal causes are deforestation (approximately 400,000 hectares/year nationwide over the last 10 years) and mining. The main causes of deforestation have been the advance of the agricultural frontier (including coca cultivation), over-exploitation, and uncontrolled fires. Mining is allowed inside certain protected areas with more flexible zoning regimes, such as multiple use-protected areas, provided that it does not conflict with the objectives for which the protected area was created. Illegal mining also occurs in some protected areas.

The underlying driving forces of deforestation and the consequent losses of biodiversity are numerous and complex. The most important driving forces in protected areas are policy conflicts that promote investment in extractive activities, particularly mining, agriculture and logging, weak and politicized institutions at both national and local levels, poorly-defined protected area boundaries, spontaneous settlement, strong markets for coca leaves, and rural poverty. This situation is not only threatening biodiversity, but it is also putting the growth of a potentially lucrative ecotourism industry at risk. While the government of Bolivia is making a determined attempt to address the issues that threaten its biodiversity, the task is formidable.

Hydrocarbon exploitation

Oil and natural gas extraction is increasing in the Andean region and is viewed by international companies as new and promising territory. As of mid-2000, oil and natural gas concessions have been granted in several areas within the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor, including within the Vilcabamba region, Madidi National Park, Isiboro-Sécure National Park, Carrasco National Park and Amboró National Park. These concessions are being granted to a wide range of national and international oil companies, some with poor environmental records. However, many companies

are increasingly aware of the need to establish and maintain good environmental practices, and this awareness creates opportunities to work with these companies to minimize the direct and indirect effects of their operations. There are also promising developments on the regulatory side of the equation. For example, the World Bank is developing a project with the Government of Bolivia to strengthen the environmental management capacity of the hydrocarbon sector.

The largest-known deposit of natural gas in South America is located in Camisea, on the fringes of the Apurimac Reserved Zone along the Urubamba River in the northern reaches of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor. Camisea is located directly between the Apurimac Reserved Zone and Manu National Park. After initial work and subsequent abandonment of the block by the Shell/Mobil consortium, the Peruvian government has awarded the block to a consortium headed by Pluspetrol. The Pluspetrol consortium will carry out the second phase of exploration and possible development of a gas pipeline, a section of which will cut across the southern tip of the protected area complex. This gas development could lead to unplanned and negative environmental and social consequences in Vilcabamba if land-use and conservation planning activities are not implemented.

In the 1990s, the Peruvian government established several large hydrocarbon exploration blocks in the Tambopata region. One very large concession, Block 78, ran from Peru's border with Bolivia to the edge of Manu National Park. It passed through the center of the Tambopata Reserved Zone and included many areas that conservationists believed should have been included in Bahuaja-Sonene National Park when the park was declared, and the hydrocarbon block, were established in 1996. Exploration and test drilling were carried out between 1996 and 1999, concentrating in the Candamo basin in the foothills of southern part of the Reserved Zone. In August 2000, Block 78 was returned in full to the Peruvian government. The area within Tambopata that was originally supposed to be Bahuaja-Sonene National Park, and that had become Block 78 from 1996 to 1999, is now included within the national park. In fact, the park is now slightly larger than originally proposed.

In the Madidi region there is a single oil concession the Tuichi Block, which is in the early stages of exploration and is operated by a consortium made up of Repsol Exploration Sécure, S.A. and Perez Compania, S.A. This same consortium has concessions in the Pilón Lajas area. The development threat appears minor at the moment.

Much more worrisome are concessions in and around the national parks of Isiboro-Sécure, Carrasco, and Amboró. This area, and the Chaco further to the south and east, is the traditional oil and gas exploitation area in Bolivia. The gas fields are so large that a pipeline financed by the World Bank, IDB and CAF was built beginning in February 1999 and gas exports to Brazil began in July of the same year. That pipeline is outside the corridor, but discoveries of significant amounts of gas inside the corridor could prompt the development of a branch to extract the gas and send it to Brazil. In the last five years, oil companies have stepped up their activities in Cochabamba and Beni near Isiboro-Sécure National Park, and there are reports of significant finds in Carrasco and Amboró.

Mining

Mining, especially for gold, is taking a serious toll on habitats within the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor. Many of the mining concessions are small or informal, unlike hydrocarbon concessions, so their regulation is much more difficult. Mining in the region between Manu National Park and the Bahuaja-Sonene National Park has produced massive local damage, in some cases completely eliminating native vegetation and filling rivers with sediment and

pollutants. Mercury, used to separate gold from accompanying sediments, is especially problematic because it is so persistent in the environment. Elevated levels of mercury have been detected in fishermen and others in Puerto Maldonado, where people consume large numbers of catfish, a bottom feeder. There are significant mining operations in Puno, in the higher elevations to the south of Tambopata, and around Macchupichu. In Bolivia, there are mining operations near Apolobamba, and in the tributaries and upper reaches of the Beni River, that have produced local environmental damage, watershed contamination, and contributed to elevated levels of mercury in fishermen in the Rurenabaque area. Although the Apolobamba and Madidi protected areas have been established for several years, permits for mining concessions continue to be granted.

The new Cotapata — Santa Barbara road has encouraged an increase in gold mining activity, with associated high impacts due to low technology hydraulic mining technologies. Since the mid-1990s, mining of gravel for road construction has also increased in the Amboró region.

Logging and sustainable forest management

Many large timber concessions have been granted over the last several years to industrial-scale operations in Madre de Dios, Peru. These concessions are particularly concentrated in the Rio Las Piedras watershed, to the north of the Bahuaja-Sonene National Park. Some of these concessions overlap with productive Brazil nut zones and most of the concessions are operated with little oversight. INRENA put a hold on further harvesting in these concessions in early 2000 while it investigates their legality. This action has thrown a number of loggers out of work, heightening tensions in a region still very dependent on wood and wood products. Furthermore, a clandestine 100-kilometer logging road was recently discovered in this zone, near Tahuamanu, off the road that runs from Iñapari to Iberia. Fortunately, authorities shut down the road, but its presence could still be discerned on Landsat images.

Timber extraction in Madidi National Park continues to be a threat, although less so than in the early 1990s, partly because much of the commercial mahogany stock has been exhausted. Furthermore, park guards have begun to exercise their authority to deter timber extraction within the park. Finally, in 1999, Conservation International successfully spearheaded negotiations with a logging company, FATIMA, to "buy out" the company's 45,000-hectare concession within the park. As a major unexpected side benefit, the government of Bolivia converted 300,000 hectares within Madidi from multiple use to strictly protected status. Much of Madidi now enjoys the strict protection of a national park.

There are also forestry concessions in the Tacana Indigenous Community Territory to the northeast of Madidi, and along the road from San Buenaventura to Ixiamas and its extension to Puerto Heath. There are concessions within Pilón Lajas, in the area connecting Pilón Lajas with Isiboro-Sécure National Park, and on the northern border of Isiboro-Sécure.

The timber industry in Bolivia is in crisis due in large part to conflicting changes in logging policies. As a result, several concessionaires have shut down their operations and the industry is effectively in "free-fall." Nevertheless, there is still an effort to maintain the industry. BOLFOR, a project of USAID, seeks to replace forestry systems that harvested 1-2 cubic meters per hectare of mahogany and cedar on a selective basis with much more intensive and better-planned forestry operations that will harvest at least 12 species at volumes approaching 10-12 cubic meters per hectare. Under these intensive systems, production costs can be cut by 40-50%. BOLFOR argues that placing land under sustainable forest management slows deforestation and conserves diversity. While tropical forests managed for timber production may not conserve all

of their original diversity, they conserve more than the alternative land use, agriculture.

Road Construction

Road building and maintenance continues to be a major element of the portfolios of bilateral and multilateral lending institutions. The Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF), for example, is funding the paving of the Cotapata-Santa Barbara section of the Beni-La Paz-Peruvian border road corridor. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and World Bank also have major road projects in their portfolios, which may necessitate efforts to mitigate their environmental impact.

Several road projects now underway in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor, legal and illegal, demand attention. In the Vilcabamba region, a logging company is constructing a road from Puerto Ocopa, a community only three hours by road from the major commercial town of Satipo, to the Tambo River, which flanks the Apurimac Reserved Zone to the north. Loggers hunt game for meat and deplete local wildlife populations. This road has also triggered significant colonization with associated deforestation, erosion, and other problems.

On the eastern border of Manu National Park there is a highway project that would connect Shintuya to Choque. The local population is blocking the project, however, fearing that its completion would constitute a serious threat to their natural resources, especially wood and land. The proposed highway link would also bisect the newly declared Amarakaeri Reserved Zone.

In the Tambopata region, there are several proposed road projects that have the potential to induce colonization. Two roads in the Puerto Maldonado area, currently only passable during the dry season, are slated for improvement, which would ease passage year round. One road connects Puerto Maldonado to Iñapari, on the Peruvian border with Brazil. Another road connects Mazuko, on the road to Cuzco, with Puerto Maldonado. Both roads represent links in one of several much-discussed inter-oceanic transportation routes. There is already considerable colonization along both of these road segments, and their improvement would ease transportation from beyond Cuzco, serving to encourage further development of the area. Such transportation would also encourage the migration of farmers from the crowded highlands around Lake Titicaca. A third is under construction in the southern border area of the Bahuaja-Sonene National Park, in the Alto Tambopata region of the Puno department. With support from the municipal government in Putinia Punco, road builders wish to reach the settlement of Azata, on the Tambopata River. There is an increase in colonization associated with this road, and much of the area is prime coffee production zone.

In Madidi National Park, the most serious conservation threat is pressure to expand and improve roads in and around the park. Bridges are currently under construction over the twelve streams that the San Buenaventura-Ixiamas road must cross. Road expansion, driven by private timber concessionaires, also continues along the flanks of the Serranía del Tigre, approaching the upper Madidi. Construction of a road from Tumupasa to San José has reportedly expanded several kilometers into the park without the required environmental impact assessments and mitigation. This road is being promoted by the La Paz Prefecture and by local municipal officials, who are also seeking funding for the construction of a road between Apolo and Ixiamas, which would bisect Madidi. Proposals have also been floated periodically to international lenders to construct a road from Ixiamas to Puerto Maldonado, via Puerto Heath. This road, and an extension to Cobija on the Brazilian border, stands a good chance of being built as part of a broader Ixiamas development strategy. In fact, the construction of this road and many others in Bolivia are likely, so the issue is not one of stopping construction but of finding

ways to mitigate impacts, especially colonization. There are already problems with human settlements in Ixiamas, population movements near the Peruvian border, and slash-and-burn farming near Apolo.

The road system from La Paz to Yungas through the Cotapata - Santa Barbara main road has an impact on the Cotapata protected area. This road will be completed in the near future with funding from Corporación Andino de Fomento (CAF). Although road use will be high, it is feasible to limit the impact on Cotapata with appropriate monitoring and enforcement. This road corridor also passes between the Pilón Lajas Biosphere Reserve and Isiboro-Sécure National Park, effectively bisecting and possibly creating a gap in the corridor. It will be important to monitor this gap closely and pursue the means to maintain connectivity between these two protected areas.

It will also be important to assess and monitor the road that runs from Trinidad through the eastern end of Isiboro-Sécure National Park. Another road also crosses part of Carrasco National Park and continues into the Chapare region, a major coca production zone where there are numerous efforts to replace coca with other crops. Roads are considered an essential element of these "alternative development" programs.

Community Development Incompatible with Biodiversity Conservation

Roads built to allow the extraction of timber, hydrocarbons and gold almost invariably bring new populations to rural areas. The subsistence and commercial agriculture and cattle ranching practiced by these settlers, in many cases subsidized by the central government or multilateral institutions, leads to dramatic alterations of the landscape. There is often little control over settlement patterns when new roads are opened, and many roads have been developed in very environmentally sensitive areas. Local governments promote roads to increase their political clout but sometimes have little awareness of, or interest in, tools for economic planning and environmental impact assessment. Furthermore, once established, colonies may demand land rights and development infrastructure (credit, utilities, education, public health), and often want limits on the size of, and restrictions placed on, protected areas (e.g., August 2000 protests in Madre de Dios).

As discussed elsewhere in this threat assessment, in Peru there are major increases in colonization on the roads from Cuzco to Puerto Maldonado and from Puerto Maldonado to Iñapari on the Brazilian border. In Bolivia, there is colonization pressure along the park and reserve borders of Madidi, Pilón Lajas, Isiboro-Sécure, Carrasco and Amboró. Though the details will vary, colonization takes on a similar pattern from place to place:

rapid conversion of forest along roads, first to subsistence agriculture and then, in many cases, to cattle ranches supporting no more than a head or two per hectare;
lack of markets for anything but a few agricultural commodities, providing little incentive for people to diversify their agricultural holdings;
low productivity of agricultural and ranching systems, forcing many people to seek new land after a few years, continuing the deforestation trend;
the depletion of wildlife and fish stocks; and
conflict between colonists and the indigenous people who have worked, hunted, and fished the region for generations with little long-term impact on natural resources and biodiversity.

In addition to the illicit agricultural and ranching activities that take place on the agricultural frontier, both Peru and Bolivia face continuing threats from illegal coca cultivation in *yungas*

regions. Within the corridor, significant coca cultivation continues in the Rio Apurimac/Ene area of Peru and in the Chapare region of Bolivia.

Dam Construction

In Bolivia, a major potential threat is the recently resuscitated proposal for a Bala Narrows dam, an idea first proposed in 1955 and again in 1973. The proposed 205-meter structure would dam the Rio Beni 15 kilometers south of Rurrenabaque. The dam would affect Beni tributaries, inundating a large area (estimates range widely, by a factor of 10) of forest, eliminating riparian habitat and interrupting migrations of several fish species that spawn in the upper Beni. In the Madidi National Park, the resulting lake would likely submerge the Chalalán ecolodge run by the community of San José in collaboration with Conservation International and the Caquiahuara macaw licks, as well as a lodge built nearby by EcoBolivia. With the election of a new director of the La Paz prefecture in 2000, local political support for the dam dropped considerably. However, a feasibility study is still underway, so the project has not been abandoned entirely.

There are several small hydroelectric projects under discussion in the Cotapata area, very close to the Inca trails and ruins. They are being proposed by ELECTROPAZ S.A., an energy company serving La Paz. The SERNAP and the company are still in discussions regarding this project.

Limited Coordination and Information-Sharing Among Institutions; Insufficient Information on Cultural and Natural Resources

The lack of coordination and information sharing among institutions, and the associated lack of information on cultural and natural resources, is a problem throughout the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor. During a CEPF-sponsored strategic planning workshop for the Corridor held in Cuzco in July 2000, this issue emerged repeatedly. Better information on the biophysical, socio-economic, and cultural realities of the corridor, as well as on the threats facing the corridor, will lead to better decision-making. The collection, analysis and distribution of this information can also serve as a springboard for better coordination and planning among the institutions responsible for making the Corridor an integrated and functioning entity that spans two countries.

ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT INVESTMENT

Despite the threats facing the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor, there are many opportunities to make this a world-class conservation effort. The Corridor proposal has been enthusiastically received by many governmental agencies in Peru and Bolivia, high-level representatives from these agencies have participated in planning meetings, and Conservation International and other NGOs have received numerous endorsements of the concept. There is also a wide range of donors interested in developing strategic alliances with local and international NGOs for the purpose of leveraging funds in support of conservation in the Corridor. Support for the corridor is not limited to bilateral and multilateral donors. Indigenous peoples in the region, for the most part, also support conservation and control increasingly large areas of the corridor, making them natural allies in this effort. The following section describes who is currently investing and participating in biodiversity conservation in the region.

Donor Organizations

Multilateral Donors

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) (Bolivia): In 1994, the MIF approved a US$1,250,000 grant to Conservation International-Bolivia to carry out a project entitled "Sustainable Development and Ecotourism in San José de Uchupiamonas

and the Buffer Zone of the proposed Madidi National Park in Bolivia." CI contributed US$200,000, bringing the project total to US$1,450,000. This project will be completed in December 2000. The IDB is contemplating a third phase of this successful project, with an expanded scope of work.

World Bank (including GEF): The World Bank has several major projects in process or under development that directly or indirectly affect the corridor. In Peru, the World Bank is supporting the development of INRENA's protected area management capacity through a GEF-funded project to support the establishment of a National Trust for Protected Areas (PROFONANPE). Approved in 1995, the goal of this project is to build Peru's capacity to finance the recurrent costs of protected area management by supplementing scarce government funds. A midterm evaluation of PROFONANPE concluded that, despite the initial challenges inherent with an effort of this magnitude, PROFONANPE has succeeded in raising additional funds and is becoming an important source of recurrent cost financing. Current capitalization of the trust stands at about US$20 million. The WB/GEF is preparing a second project for financing.

GEF is supporting Conservation International, CEDIA, and ACPC with a US$727,000 medium-sized grant for improved protected area management at Vilcabamba. INRENA's support for conservation in the Apurimac-Manu protected area complex region is clearly demonstrated by the July 2000 establishment of the Alto Purús and Amarakaeri Reserved Zones.

The government of Peru also seeks to promote greater involvement of local communities, particularly indigenous peoples, in the direct management of protected areas. The World Bank, with strong GEF financing, is supporting this effort through a project to manage globally important forest and freshwater ecosystems in the Peruvian Amazon, focused on the establishment of protected areas to be co-managed by indigenous people. This US$24 million project will not directly affect the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor, as pilot areas are in other parts of the Amazon; however, the institutional experience gained through these co-management arrangements should be very valuable for INRENA and should help improve management practices in the corridor over the medium and long term.

In coordination with the project to involve indigenous peoples in the management of protected areas, the World Bank is also preparing to implement a project designed to strengthen indigenous and Afro-Peruvian communities and organizations to design and implement community development sub-projects, better articulate their proposals, and effectively utilize services offered by the State and other sectors within civil society. This project will be implemented in five pilot zones and will involve indigenous and Afro-Peruvian women's organizations. The Technical Secretariat for Indigenous Affairs (SETAI) and the Multisectoral Commission for Indigenous Affairs (CAI) will act as the major Peruvian government implementers.

In Bolivia, the World Bank is developing a 15-year project designed to conserve biodiversity by strengthening the national system of protected areas by:
1. developing a consensus-based long-term state vision of the national system of protected areas, including its management philosophy vis-à-vis decentralization and private sector participation;
2. developing mechanisms to achieve long-term social, financial, and ecological sustainability of this system;
3. establishing and capitalizing a private trust fund;
4. improving the management of protected areas in the short and medium term; and
5. enhancing understanding of biological trends within protected areas.

The first six-year phase of this project, to be financed at the level of US$46.7 million (with US$15.3 million in GEF funding), is going to the World Bank's board of directors for approval in November 2000 and will establish the basis for the longer-term program. Although this project requires considerable financial support, the sheer scope of bolstering Bolivia's emerging protected areas system is such that, even if this effort is very successful, SERNAP and FUNDESNAP will only be able to provide minimal levels of support for the existing protected areas. Furthermore, GEF funding will focus on only ten protected areas that are in particular need, only two of which — the Apolobamba Integrated Management Area (abutting Madidi National Park) and the Pilón Lajas Biosphere Reserve — fall within the Vilcabamba-Amboró corridor. Other donors, such as the German and Dutch governments, will provide funding for other protected areas in the corridor as part of the World Bank-led project.

Other significant projects in the environmental sector under development include:
• Indigenous and Afro-Peruvian Peoples Development Project;
• PROFONANPE II;
• Center for Biodiversity; and
• participation of civil society and the private sector in the conservation of biodiversity and protected areas.

Medium-sized World Bank/GEF projects in the Bolivian portion of the Corridor include a project to "Strengthen the Conservation of Madidi National Park through Applied Research, Monitoring and Management Capacity Building." Project objectives include developing scientific knowledge of the park, training professional personnel for scientific research, identifying and analyzing regional conservation threats, incorporating participation of local communities and other institutions in the process of addressing threats, and establishing interactive networks of research, training, and tourism with nearby protected areas in Peru and Bolivia. This project is still under development and will be implemented by Conservation International-Bolivia.

The **International Tropical Timber Organization** (ITTO): ITTO is in the process of reviewing a two-year grant of about US$1 million that would support the collection of environmental and socioeconomic data for Tambopata and Madidi and the development of a geographic information system to manage these data. The grant would also support participatory planning for the corridor and the identification and development of environmentally sound economic alternatives. CI and the governments of Peru and Bolivia will administer the project and provide counterpart funds worth about US$340,000, bringing the project total to about US$1.3 million over two years. This project will strongly complement the CEPF investment strategy discussed below.

United Nations Development Program (UNDP): UNDP/GEF is supporting a project on the Peruvian side of the Corridor entitled "Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Biodiversity of the Amarakaeri Indigenous Lands," which is still in its preparatory stages. UNDP has also supported the development of a national biodiversity strategy in Peru and has provided financing for the development of regional tourism strategies in Tambopata and the "Region Inka." In Bolivia, the government is also preparing a national biodiversity strategy with UNDP support. The participation of SERNAP and National System of Protected Areas (SNAP) within this process is being supported by the German Government's Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ). Bolivia's National Biodiversity Strategy highly recommends strengthening of the national system of protected areas.

GEF/UNEP has funded a network of Conservation Data Centers managed by The Nature Conservancy. The Conservation Data Centers were established to provide updated biological information and scientific data that will aid in the identification of globally important priority sites and assist governments in the development and implementation of conservation strategies. There are two CDCs that support the Vilcabamba-Amboró region, one located in Bolivia and managed by the Bolivian NGO called TROPICO and the other is in Peru, located in the Forestry Department of La Molina University.

The **GEF Small Grants Programme** (GEF/SGP) was launched in 1992 by UNDP. The GEF/SGP provides grants of up to US$50,000 and other support to community-based organizations and NGOs for activities that address local problems related to the GEF areas of concern. Since its inception, the GEF/SGP has funded over 1500 projects in Africa, North America and the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean. Today, the programme is operational in 50 countries, including Peru and Bolivia. In Peru, the program is housed within PROFONANPE. The GEF/SGP is collaborating with CARE in Bolivia and PRAIA to develop activities that will support Madidi National Park. Likewise, the GEF/SGP is supporting an indigenous organization called CIPTA in Tacana, near Madidi National Park.

The GEF/SGP recognizes the essential role that households and communities, applying locally appropriate solutions, can play in conserving biodiversity, reducing the likelihood of adverse climate change, and protecting international waters. The programme operates on the premise that people will be empowered to protect their environment when they are organized to take action, have a measure of control over access to the natural resource base, have the necessary information and knowledge, and believe that their social and economic well-being is dependent on sound long-term resource management. However, the GEF/SGP is more than simply a fund that provides small grants to improve the local environment. By raising public awareness, building partnerships, and promoting policy dialogue, the GEF/SGP seeks to help create a more supportive environment within countries for achieving sustainable development and addressing global environment issues.

The decentralized structure of the Small Grants Programme encourages maximum country- and community-level ownership and initiative.

Bilateral Donors

Finland: The Finnish embassy supports Programa Macchupichu and associated strategic planning efforts, as well as proposals to increase the size of Macchupichu.

Germany-GTZ and KfW: The German government, through its technical assistance (GTZ) and development loan (KfW) agencies, is a significant contributor to biodiversity conservation efforts in Peru. Germany also contributes to the protected areas system in Bolivia, as mentioned above, through SERNAP and other entities. GTZ and KfW are expected to provide US$9.4 million in parallel financing for the World Bank/GEF project to strengthen SERNAP and its network of protected areas. German support targets four such areas: Sajama National Park, Tariquia National Reserve, Cotapata National Park, and Madidi National Park the latter two being part of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor. The objective of this financing is to consolidate these protected areas and to strengthen the national management capacity. German financing supports:

1. development and implementation of protected area management plans, including investment,

consolidation, protection, zoning, and tourism development;
2. legal establishment of the selected protected areas;
3. infrastructure development and the acquisition of equipment;
4. training; and
5. the establishment of a fund to finance tourism development and other economic activities identified during implementation.
It is estimated that US$3.7 million will be allocated for investments, US$1.5 million for consulting services, and US$1.1 million for implementation of related activities. Recurrent costs are estimated at US$3.1 million over a four-year period, for a total of US$9.4 million.

The Netherlands: The Dutch government supports the Programa de Desarrollo Basado en la Conservacion en Tambopata (PRODESCOT) project. Conservation International-Peru manages the portion of this project related to buffer zones and natural resources management in and around the Tambopata-Candamo Reserve Zone (now Bahuaja-Sonene National Park). INRENA manages the portion related to the strengthening of the administrative functioning of Tambopata-Candamo. Funding for the second phase of PRODESCOT will end in the third quarter of 2000.

In Bolivia, the Dutch government financed the staffing of Madidi National Park and has supported protection efforts since 1997. Since 1999, and in conjunction with the World Bank/GEF, the Dutch government has funded the Project in Support of the Bolivian National Protected Areas System (PASNAPH, for *Proyecto de Apoyo al Sistema Nacional de Areas Protegidas Holanda*). PASNAPH promotes protection of eight lowlands parks including the Isiboro-Sécure Indigenous Territory and National Park, Carrasco National Park, Madidi National Park, Noel Kempff Mercado National Park, Amboró National Park, Manuripi Heath Amazonian National Reserve, Cotapata National Park, and the Beni Biosphere Reserve, five of which are located within the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor. PASNAPH will contribute US$1 million per year to the protected areas system over six years (2000-2005 inclusive) via a sinking fund, for a total of US$6 million.

It is important to note here that the Dutch government recently appointed a new Minister of Foreign Affairs who has initiated a review of all foreign assistance policies. As a result, Dutch funding may not be forthcoming for a third phase of PRODESCOT, and there is no guarantee that it will be available in either the medium or long term for environmental-sector projects in Peru. However, Bolivia remains on the list of countries that the Dutch are prepared to assist.

United States Agency for International Development (USAID): USAID, through its Global Bureau, recently awarded World Wildlife Fund significant three-year funding to expand its activities on the Bolivian side of the Corridor and to step up its efforts in Manu, Peru. World Wildlife Fund's project for the Madidi-Amboró corridor includes the following elements: initiation of a collaborative structure for defining and managing the corridor, gathering information to enhance the database of available knowledge, conducting analysis and planning to inform conservation decisions, establishing a monitoring system, and identifying and undertaking strategic actions that support a corridor conservation plan.

In Peru, USAID supports several activities under BIOFOR in Madre de Dios, including a comprehensive training program for local institutions that intend to implement biodiversity and forest management activities. USAID has also awarded four grants (total value of approximately US$425,000) for the improvement of agricultural practices, management of fish resources, and the efficient harvesting of forest wood products. USAID also helped the Peruvian Amazon Research Institute complete Ecological Economic Zoning for Madre de Dios.

USAID/Peru also supports the Alternative Development (AD) Program, a joint U.S.-Peru counter-narcotics strategy that combines effective interdiction, law enforcement and coca eradication to drive down the farm-gate price of coca leaf with economic development to sustain coca reduction. The AD Program is supporting this strategy by:
1. building schools, health posts, potable water systems and strengthening community participation;
2. identifying and supporting certain economic activities;
3. rehabilitating critical roads and bridges;
4. strengthening environmental awareness and natural resources conservation; and
5. increasing awareness of the problems caused by drug abuse.
Within the corridor, this program is active in the Rio Apurimac/Ene area.

In Bolivia, USAID provides significant support for the Biodiversity in Regional Development (BiRD) project in Madidi. Conservation International-Bolivia is a lead implementer in this project, together with the Wildlife Conservation Society, CARE, the World Wildlife Fund, EcoBolivia, the Institute of Ecology, Missouri Botanical Garden, and Noel Kempff Natural History Museum, among others. This project entered its third and final year in October 2000. Its objectives are to increase scientific understanding of Madidi National Park's biodiversity, inform policy makers regarding the economics of conserving protected areas, and improve regional, national, and international awareness of the importance of Madidi National Park and the surrounding region to biodiversity conservation in the Tropical Andes.

USAID also supports the BOLFOR project, which helped pass legislation to establish a legal and institutional framework for the sustainable management of Bolivia's natural forests. With USAID funding through BIOFOR, Conservation International-Bolivia has collaborated with Conservation International-Peru to develop the concept of the Vilcabamba-Amboró corridor as an integrated conservation-planning unit.

In the Chapare region, at the southern end of the corridor between Isiboro-Sécure and Carrasco, USAID/Bolivia supports an Alternative Development program similar to that being carried out in Peru.

Peru/Canada Counterpart Fund: The Peru-Canada Fund (*Contravalor Perú-Canadá*) supports Conservation International-Peru's PRODESCOT project through a combination of grants and loans for the purpose of improving Brazil nut management and harvest in and around the Tambopata-Candamo Reserved Zone. The US$296,000 in funding began in September 1998 and should continue until August 2001.

Other Donors

W. Alton Jones Foundation: The W. Alton Jones Foundation provided support within Madidi National Park by assisting in the purchase of land under a logging concession and also has begun extensive conservation work in Los Amigos Watershed in Peru.

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation (Peru): The second phase of Conservation International-Peru's PRODESCOT project also receives funding from the MacArthur Foundation through a multiyear US$130,000 grant approved in June 1997, which was recently approved at the level of US$190,289 for a new three-year cycle. Funding under this proposal began in July 2000 and will support the characterization of wildlife and fisheries resources, implementation of management plans for wildlife, fisheries and agro-ecosystems in the buffer zone, and

dissemination of project results.

Government

Peru

COPESCO: COPESCO is a special project of CTAR-CUSCO and the regional government of Cuzco. CTAR-CUSCO, an agency within the Ministry of the President, was established to promote the integrated development of the greater Cuzco region. In the government's view, the greater Cuzco region includes Vilcabamba, Manu, and Tambopata, as well as Macchupichu and other important highland archaeological sites such as Choqekiraw and Saqsaywaman. In light of the tremendous environmental, cultural, and archaeological resources of this region, COPESCO was established to provide strategic support to the tourism sector. COPESCO projects include:
1. excavation and restoration of colonial and pre-Colombian sites and structures;
2. restoration of important works of art;
3. development of basic transportation infrastructure needed to access important sites;
4. strengthening of local towns and villages for the purpose of absorbing and accommodating tourists;
5. establishment of basic tourism infrastructure, such as hotels and restaurants in key towns and destinations; and
6. support for strategic tourism planning in the greater Cuzco region.

Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales (INRENA): Due to economic and political turmoil in the late 1980s and early 1990s, many protected areas in the corridor saw little evidence of any official presence. During that time, ProNaturaleza and other NGOs assumed park administration functions. INRENA's Protected Areas and Wildlife Directorate is now reasserting itself and taking the lead role in the planning and management of the region's protected areas, though management practices in Tambopata, Bahuaja-Sonene, and Vilcabamba remain inadequate. Nevertheless, INRENA appears to be committed to expanding its reach; the recent declarations of the Alto Purús and Amarakaeri Reserved Zones, and the expansion of Bahuaja-Sonene National Park, are all signs of this. PROFONANPE will help in managing these vast new areas, but institutional strengthening and consolidation of INRENA's operations in existing areas are definitely needed.

The good working relationships among INRENA, The Nature Conservancy, ProNaturaleza and Conservation International have resulted in draft master plan and zoning recommendations for the Tambopata-Candamo Reserve Zone and Bahuaja-Sonene National Park, which were prepared in late 1999.

National Environment Council (CONAM): CONAM is the Peruvian government's leading agency for environmental policy making in which it plays a high-level cross-sectoral role. USAID, among other donors, is supporting CONAM through its Sustainable Environmental and Natural Resource Management program, the first major activity under USAID's current ENR strategy in Peru. CONAM is also responsible for negotiating international accords related to biodiversity and is the focal point for the development of a national biodiversity conservation strategy.

National Trust for Protected Areas (PROFONANPE): As mentioned earlier, the World Bank approved a GEF-funded project in 1995 to support the establishment of PROFONANPE. This support will continue in a second phase.

A seven-member board of directors, including three from the Peruvian Government, three from

Peruvian conservation NGOs, and one from the GTZ, manages PROFONANPE. PROFONANPE has set a target of US$40 million for the trust fund principal. PROFONANPE provides a reliable window for debt donations for environmental and development purposes, an option Peru did not have before the GEF endorsed the fund.

Technical Secretariat for Indigenous Affairs (SETAI): SETAI is a permanent part of the new organizational structure of the Ministry of Women and Human Development (PROMUDEH). Created in 1996, PROMUDEH seeks to establish and implement strategies for the inclusion of vulnerable groups in the development process. SETAI has been granted considerable authority to orient, coordinate, and articulate policies and multisectoral actions for the human development of indigenous and Afro-Peruvian populations. In addition, SETAI has proved to be an innovative technical secretariat charged with promoting participatory development. PROMUDEH also recently created a multi-sectoral Commission for Indigenous Affairs (CAI) composed of representatives from the public sector and indigenous organizations. CAI seeks to provide the Peruvian government with a unit that will allow different ministries and agencies to coordinate development efforts for the indigenous peoples of Peru. CAI and SETAI are collaborating to help develop and strengthen the organizational capacity of Peru's indigenous and Afro-Peruvian peoples with the ultimate goal of allowing these populations to take development into their own hands.

Bolivia

Ministry of Sustainable Development (MDS): The Ministry of Sustainable Development is the arm of the Bolivian government with the greatest direct interest in the Corridor. In 1998, the Ministry was reorganized and the SERNAP was created. The Dirección General de la Biodiversidad, also within the MDS and which had been in charge of protected area planning and management, still exists as well. The Vice Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Forestry Development (VMMARNDF) is part of this ministry.

Dirección General de la Biodiversidad (DGB): The DGB was responsible for protected area planning and the passage of the Supreme Decree that created Madidi NP-IMA in 1995, among other protected areas. Mario Baudoin, the founder of the Instituto de Ecólogia in Bolivia, which is considered the national science institute, directs the DGB. The DGB is now a department within the VMMARNDF, along with SERNAP. At the federal and site levels, DGB and SERNAP have close relationships with Conservation International-Bolivia, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), and other local and international NGOs.

National Protected Areas Service (SERNAP): Bolivia is making good progress in its establishment of a national system of protected areas. At present, 22 protected areas preserving 17% of the country have been created. These national parks, reserves and management areas cover 35 of the 50 major ecosystems or biogeographic provinces found in the country. Nevertheless, most protected areas in Bolivia need improvement in terms of management and enforcement, and the protected area system as a whole is in a process of overhaul and change.

The Ministry of Sustainable Development was reorganized in 1998 to create the SERNAP. This is now an autonomous institution whose responsibilities were formerly under the National Biodiversity Directorate (DGB). Gabriel Barracatt, a former NGO leader and staunch conservationist, directs SERNAP. Nearly 17% of Bolivia's land area has been designated as protected (18 protected areas), but only a small number of areas are considered well-managed. The World Bank/GEF is developing a major project to address protected area management issues.

Foundation for the Development of the National Protected Areas System (FUNDESNAP): In response to the administrative problems and loss of credibility of FONAMA, the Bolivian government has decided to close this Fund and to replace it with a series of private or private/public Trust Funds to support specific environmental sectors. In the case of the protected area system, and as a result of the preparation of this Corridor project, the government has agreed to establish a new, private Trust Fund, FUNDESNAP, with the specific objective of financing the recurrent costs of the protected area system. This trust fund will have a governance structure dominated by civil society, and its operating principles will be based on the key lessons learned through the GEF Evaluation of Trust Funds Study.

The Vice Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Forestry Development (VMMARNDF): There are several directorates within this Vice Ministry that have an influence on the corridor, including the Dirección General de Biodiversidad (DGB); Dirección de Calidad Ambiental; Dirección Forestal; Dirección de Ordanamiento Teritorial; and Dirección de Cuencas. In general terms, the Vice Ministry sets broad environmental policies while the directorates focus on regulatory functions. SERNAP and the National Agrarian Reform Institute (*Instituto Nacional de Reforma Agraria*) also reside within this ministry, but they report directly to the minister and thus have greater autonomy than the departments. The World Bank notes that these agencies have initiated consultation processes, in the past but have limited capacity to intervene in the field and less capacity to organize wide-ranging consultation processes with stakeholders. It is crucial to strengthen their capacity, ensure that they become sustainable and efficient in order to ensure that they are able to conduct these types of processes in the future.

Vice Ministry of Indigenous Affairs and First Peoples (VAIPO, for *Vice Ministro de Asuntos Indigenas y Pueblos Originarios*): This Vice Ministry resides within the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Planning. VAIPO's mission is to formulate, promote, apply and supervise the objectives, policies, strategies, and programs of the Bolivian state regarding indigenous peoples, and to do so with respect for the cultural, economic, organizational, political, and social values of those peoples. Half the population of Bolivia, about 4.2 million people, belongs to one of 37 different indigenous groups. Half of these people reside in indigenous reserves, several of which either border or overlap with protected areas in the corridor. Given VAIPO's goal of improving the quality of life, advancing the socioeconomic status, and affirming the cultural identity of Bolivia's indigenous peoples and the large presence of TCOs in the corridor, this agency will be a major partner in the establishment and promotion of conservation initiatives.

NGOs and Civil Society

Peru

Cutivireni Patrimony Conservation Association (ACPC): ACPC, together with CEDIA, is active in the Vilcabamba region and has long been an advocate for improving the livelihoods and land tenure security of indigenous groups in the region. ACPC and CEDIA are partners of Conservation International-Peru in the World Bank/GEF-sponsored medium-sized project in Vilcabamba.

Amazon Conservation Association (ACA): The Amazon Conservation Association has proposed a plan that would conserve the entire 1,000,000-hectare Los Amigos watershed to the north of the Madre de Dios River. This watershed would provide a direct link between the Bahuaja-Sonene National Park and Manu National Park. Conservation International, through its newly created Tropical Wilderness Protection Fund, is providing technical assistance (so far

limited to economic analysis of conservation options in the watershed, including the leasing of conservation concessions) and funding for infrastructure development and other project expenses. ACA also receives support from the W. Alton Jones Foundation. Coordination between ACA and Conservation International-Peru is strong. Thus, it may be possible to expand the scope of the ACA plan to include the Las Piedras watershed, further to the north, an area that is inhabited by an isolated indigenous group that has great potential for ecotourism and is an important Brazil nut zone. The indigenous population is actively resisting the penetration of mining and timber concerns in this area and, along with FENAMAD, the organization that represents them, are natural allies of Conservation International and other conservation groups.

Southern Jungle Conservation Association (ACSS, for *Asociación para la Conservación de la Selva Sur*): The ACSS originated as the "Friends of Manu," and has worked in the national park of that name. The organization conducts ecotourism operations and now works in the Lago Sandoval area near Puerto Maldonado.

Peruvian Conservation Association (APECO, for *Asociación Peruana para la Conservación*): APECO's focus is on environmental education. The association has a formal agreement with Peru's Ministry of Education to develop a training course for teachers to integrate environmental education into their curricula. APECO is also active in Manu National Park.

CARE: CARE's Multi-Sectoral Population Project improves the quality and availability of family planning information and services for 300,000 families living in high-need areas. CARE provides material and technical assistance to the National Reproductive Health Services Program. The project builds on existing projects by using community organizations as sources of volunteers, working in more than 1,400 rural and peri-urban communities in Piura, Cajamarca, La Libertad, Loreto, Ancash, Puno and Ayacucho.

Amazonian Indigenous Development Center (CEDIA, for *Centro de Desarrollo Indigena Amazonica*): CEDIA, together with ACPC, is active in the Vilcabamba region and has long been an advocate for improving the livelihoods and land tenure security of indigenous groups in the region. CEDIA and ACPC are partners with Conservation International-Peru in the medium-sized World Bank/GEF project underway in Vilcabamba.

Centro Eori: This group's focus is on strengthening local communities and their capacity for development and conservation of resources. Centro Eori has worked to assist native communities in gaining recognition for their territorial rights, has conducted related research in the Ese'eja communities, and has assisted other organizations such as FENAMAD and FADEMAD (see below).

CESVI: An Italian NGO, this group has aims similar to those of FENAMAD (see below), which include aid to Ese'Eja communities for needs such as Brazil nut dryers, wells, and small animal husbandry.

Comercio Alternative para el Desarrollo de Productos no Tradicionales para Latinoamerica (CANDELA): Candela's work centers on marketing alternative forest products. Its Puerto Maldonado operation has focused on Brazil nut marketing strategies to increase benefits to nut collectors. Support for Candela has come from the European donors and through Conservation International-Peru.

Conservation International-Peru: Conservation International-Peru was an early advocate for creation of the Bahuaja-Sonene National Park, having conducted a Rapid Assessment Program (RAP) expedition in the area that provided supporting evidence for the park's importance. Currently Conservation International-Peru is involved in a variety of activities including work on sustainable agriculture along the Cuzco road, work to increase efficiency of Brazil nut collection in the lower Madre de Dios basin, promotion of shade coffee in the Puno portion of the area, fauna and fisheries management, and management of non-timber forest products. These activities comprise the PRODESCOT (Tambopata Program for Conservation-based Development) initiative, which will complete its second and final phase in late 2000. In addition, Conservation International-Peru helped monitor the biological impacts of Mobil Oil Corporation's operations in the Tambopata Reserved Zone (prior to its inclusion in the Bahuaja-Sonene National Park), with funding from the company's foundation, and is active in the Vilcabamba region, with support from a World Bank/GEF medium-sized grant. The latter project focuses on increasing the capacity of government and indigenous groups to manage the Apurimac Reserved Zone and surrounding indigenous territories for conservation purposes.

Federación Agraria Departamental de Madre de Dios (FADEMAD): FADEMAD represents 5,000 farming families who live along the principal roads and rivers of Puerto Maldonado. FADEMAD's objective is to increase the sustainability of colonist agriculture and it has collaborated with Conservation International-Peru in natural resource management projects in the buffer zone of the Bahuaja-Sonene National Park.

Federación de Nativos de Madre de Dios (FENAMAD): FENAMAD represents 40 indigenous groups in the province of Madre de Dios, four of them in the Tambopata area. Within the Tambopata Reserved Zone it assists the native communities with Brazil nut management and the use of river turtles, among other projects.

Fundación Peruana para la Conservación de la Naturaleza (ProNaturaleza): With a staff of more than 150, Pro Naturaleza is one of the largest environmental organizations in Latin America. ProNaturaleza played a lead role in the management of the Pampas del Heath National Sanctuary (now the Bahuaja-Sonene National Park) from 1990 to 1996. The group did not have a presence in the Madidi region in the mid 1990s, but has reestablished its Puerto Maldonado base and will now focus on conservation of Bahuaja-Sonene National Park and the northern portion of the Tambopata Reserved Zone (now incorporated into the Bahuaja-Sonene National Park. ProNaturaleza receives funding from the Dutch Embassy in Lima, as part of the PRODESCOT project, to support INRENA in the management of the park. This funding will end in late 2000. The group has also worked in the Amarakaeri region between Tambopata and Manu since the mid-1990s, though there is speculation that it will leave that area. The Nature Conservancy and ProNaturaleza are major partners.

PREVIT: This NGO has supported projects in Aymara and Quechua communities in the Puno portion of the Tambopata-Candamo Reserved Zone.

Tambopata Research Society (TREES): TREES supports small-scale conservation activities, particularly in biological research. TREES has carried out wildlife monitoring work both in the northern and southern portions of the region and has investigated the impact of human activities on local fauna.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC): Within the corridor, TNC is most active in Bahuaja-Sonene National Park as a major supporter of ProNaturaleza.

Wanamey: This organization promotes education on environmental themes in Puerto Maldonado.

World Wildlife Fund (WWF): The World Wildlife Fund was instrumental in the successful establishment of Peru's Manu National Park. WWF continues to support the park and has expanded its efforts to include the Amarakaeri area to the southeast of the park. As part of its Southwestern Amazon Ecoregion program, WWF will support efforts for an "upgrade" of the institutional status of the Manu Reserved Zone to the definitive protected area category of National Reserve. Manu Reserved Zone comprises 257,000 hectares on the border of Manu National Park. Final categorization of the Manu Reserved Zone and subsequent activities related to this will strengthen the Manu Biosphere Reserve and directly contribute to the establishment of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor. WWF's projects in Peru complement its projects in Bolivia.

Bolivia

CARE: CARE has established an integrated conservation and development project serving 120 families in six communities located in the Madidi buffer zone. The project helps indigenous and new migrant communities build rural water and sanitation systems, protect watershed areas and promote sustainable forms of land use. CARE is now expanding that project to a projected 35 communities, providing assistance to the government in management of the park and developing the park's management plan together with the Institute of Ecology, Wildlife Conservation Society, and Conservation International. At the southeastern end of the corridor, the Amboró Conservation and Development Project seeks to conserve the natural resources of the Amboró National Park in Santa Cruz Department while promoting sustainable economic development among 2,000 impoverished families who live nearby. Project activities include strengthening the capacity of local authorities and NGOs to effectively manage the protected area and protect its natural resources, promoting farmers' direct involvement in the research and development of high-impact agroforestry practices and promoting sustainable forest resource management.

Cultural Defense Center (CEDEC, for *Centro de la Defensa de la Cultura*): CEDEC is a local NGO that has been implementing health programs based on malaria eradication and emergency response in and around the Madidi National Park since 1996. The group is also developing a crafts center in Tumupasa and intends to expand its activities to include sanitation linked to productive activities.

Conservation International-Bolivia: Conservation International-Bolivia was an early advocate for creation of the Madidi National Park and Integrated Management Area, following documentation of the area's biodiversity in a 1990 RAP expedition. Since 1994, Conservation International-Bolivia has worked on nursery production, agroforestry research and implementation of a community ecotourism project within the integrated management zone, with support from the IDB's Multilateral Investment Fund. The project has social/health development, enterprise and scientific research components. Since 1995, Conservation International-Bolivia has monitored impacts and threats posed by logging, hunting, roads and oil/gas development, and in 1997, launched an outreach campaign that focuses on endangered primates and the impacts of illegal hunting on species and nature-based tourism, and conducted a second RAP expedition to Madidi. In 1998, Conservation International-Bolivia began the second phase of its IDB project, which is scheduled to end in December 2000, while discussions for Phase 3 are already underway. Also in 1998, Conservation International-Bolivia initiated activities under USAID's Biodiversity in Regional Development (BiRD) project. The BiRD

project will enter its third and final year in October 2000.

Environmental Defense League (LIDEMA, for *Liga de Defensa del Medio Ambiente*): LIDEMA, a high-profile network of NGOs established in 1985, is one of Bolivia's leading environmental organizations. Its mission is to contribute to environmental protection and sustainable development through programs in environmental management, conservation planning and education, basic and applied research, support for the management of protected areas, and promotion of ecotourism and appropriate technologies. LIDEMA receives funding from USAID, UNDP, the Dutch Embassy, WWF, and the MacArthur Foundation, among others. Among its many projects, in 1998 LIDEMA organized a workshop on "The Enforcement of Environmental Laws in the Framework of Judicial Reform in Bolivia." Other current projects include a UNDP-funded small grants program, a national program on training for institutional development and strengthening, and the "Campaign for Quality of Life."

Friends of Nature Foundation (FAN, for Fundación Amigos de Naturaleza): FAN is a partner of The Nature Conservancy and has a significant presence in Amboró National Park and Integrated Management Area. The collaboration includes the hiring and training of park staff, development of positive relationships with local communities, purchase and installation of communications and transportation equipment, and the construction of control posts and visitor facilities.

Institute of Ecology, University of San Andres: The Institute of Ecology is a major conservation research institution in Bolivia. The Institute is part of the Faculty of Pure and Natural Sciences, itself a division of the University of San Andres' Postgraduate and Social Interaction Research unit. The Institute has a broad range of activities, including basic and applied research, consulting, and environmental assessments. It maintains strong links with the DGB and with international organizations such as Ramsar. Within the corridor, the Institute is involved in several projects, including the USAID-funded BiRD project in Madidi, development of the management plan for Apolobamba, analysis of the environmental impacts of the roads near Cotapata, and evaluation of the environmental impacts of the San Borja-Trinidad road.

Noel Kempff Natural History Museum: The Museo Noel Kempff in Santa Cruz is one of the most prestigious conservation research institutions in Bolivia. Staff has ongoing research in all of the protected areas in the Department of Santa Cruz, including Amboró National Park. The Museum has a strong collaborative relationship with the Bolivian government and national and international NGOs. The Department of Communications and Environmental Education is dedicated to increasing public awareness of the importance of biodiversity conservation and improving natural resource management. The Museum was part of the team that prepared the management plan for Amboró and has extensive collections of its flora and fauna. Botanists have installed four permanent vegetation plots there and have conducted research on the population biology of tree ferns and economic botany.

Vertebrate data for Amboró is also extensive, including a detailed study of the spectacled bear. The invertebrate collection is particularly large, and staff recently published a guide to the butterflies of Amboró. The Museum has a wildlife management and monitoring program in Amboró and Pilón Lajas, as well as a botanical monitoring project in Amboró and the surrounding Natural Integrated Management Area.

The Museum has a sophisticated Remote Sensing/GIS lab that is producing a georectified satellite image mosaic of the Vilcabamba-Amboró corridor. The lab has digital elevation models

for Amboró, Carrasco, and Madidi (in part) and vegetation maps for all Bolivian protected areas in the corridor (and elsewhere in the lowlands), as well as other digital archives of the corridor area. The RS/GIS lab has experience in detecting changes in land use and land cover, and in modeling future land use.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC): TNC is active in Noel Kempff National Park in the Department of Santa Cruz and in the Tariquia Flora and Fauna National Reserve in southern Bolivia. In the corridor, TNC supports the work of the FAN in Amboró National Park.

The Smithsonian Institution: The Smithsonian Institution developed an assessment completed in 1997 entitled "Biodiversity Assessment and Long-Term Monitoring: Lower Urubamba Region." This provided a detailed assessment of the region and was made available in Spanish and English.

Union of Workers and Social Action Institutions (UNITAS, for *La Union de Instituciones de Trabajo y Acción Social*): UNITAS is an umbrella organization of 23 NGOs dedicated to the creation of a democratic, equitable, and just Bolivian society through the establishment of development alternatives. UNITAS works closely with grassroots social development organizations and provides them with coordination support, technical assistance, and other forms of institutional strengthening. UNITAS supports the efforts of grassroots organizations to increase their involvement in local and regional development decision-making and backs the development of a national decentralized system of private development assistance organizations. Given the importance of developing strong networks of communities, indigenous groups, NGOs, and other civil society bodies for the purpose of conservation in the corridor, UNITAS would be a key partner in the corridor support alliance.

Veterinarians Without Borders (VSF, for *Veterinarios Sin Fronteras*): VSF has co-managed the Pilón Lajas Biosphere Reserve, where it has worked with colonists and the indigenous Chimáne people.

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS): WCS is active in Madidi National Park, the Apolobamba Integrated Management Area, the Pilón Lajas Biosphere Reserve, and a proposed Tacana Indigenous Territory near Madidi. Their program focuses on research and management of five wildlife species with landscape-scale requirements: the tapir (*Tapirus terrestris)*, the white-lipped peccary (*Tayassu pecari*), the spectacled bear (*Tremarctos ornatus*), the Andean deer (*Hippocamelus antisensis*), and the jaguar (*Panthera onca*). The landscape conservation approach will ensure that significant tracts of natural and semi-natural habitat will retain a high conservation value while providing the local population with incentives to adopt a sustainable management practices.

WCS is also involved in strengthening the National Directorate for Biodiversity (*Dirección General de Biodiversidad*) and the Institute of Ecology, and providing technical and legal assistance to the Tacana Indigenous Organization in support of their request for an indigenous territory bordering Madidi National Park.

World Wildlife Fund (WWF): WWF has developed a major project that focuses on protection efforts within a string of national parks and indigenous reserves along the eastern foothills of the Andes, beginning with the Amboró National Park at the southern limit and extending northwesterly to Madidi National Park and into Peru. With support from USAID, WWF is working in both countries to develop sound management of these areas, forming an ecological

corridor that will link with Tambopata-Candamo, Bahuaja-Sonene, and Manú protected areas in Peru.

As part of this initiative, WWF works with SERNAP to:
1. properly zone the corridor;
2. propose a participatory process for improving control measures;
3. develop a monitoring system as an analytical tool; and
4. focus on policy development and interactions with multinational organizations, such as the hydrocarbon and mining industry.

CEPF NICHE FOR INVESTMENT IN THE REGION

In developing this profile, root causes considered included: demographic increase in the highlands of Peru and Bolivia; economic and social marginalization in the highlands; and national-level policies that encourage resource extraction and infrastructure development that directly or indirectly threaten biodiversity. More proximate threats include local community activities that are incompatible with biodiversity conservation; small-scale/informal mining; and lack of local awareness of conservation issues and biodiversity values. Given the relatively small amount of money available through CEPF for this corridor, project designers had to make some choices regarding resource allocation. This project is fundamentally regional and transboundary in its approach. As such, it proposes to tackle some national-level root causes directly, such as policies regarding natural resource extraction and infrastructure development. In other cases, it addresses more proximate-cause issues, such as problems at the level of communities and municipalities. The communications component seeks to build a constituency ranging from ministers and the general public in capital cities to the most local of polities and communities. Recognizing that its resources are limited, CEPF has always proposed to play a strategic coordination role and in so doing leverage considerably more resources in support of conservation than it could possibly bring to the table itself. In this spirit, CEPF proposes to invest significantly in activities that will focus the many disparate efforts at work in this vast corridor while ensuring that the best and most objective information is available to shape decision-making by a broad range of actors. In this way, CEPF expects to influence the root causes of biodiversity loss, albeit indirectly in some cases.

It has been determined that the most strategically compelling niche for CEPF is to focus on filling the gaps between existing efforts and investments. For this reason, defining the mechanisms to ensure the proper coordination among existing efforts is a major component of each of the profiles.

It must also be understood that the set of CEPF objectives is not meant to resolve all of the threats described in the profile. CEPF is one small element of much larger strategies in each ecosystem. Given the current levels of investment, the programs and strategies already in place and those anticipated, CEPF strives to fill a particular niche that has yet to be addressed at the level required for positive impact. This niche, and the main objective of CEPF, is to provide civil society, organizations, and individuals with the capacity to manage biodiversity conservation more effectively. CEPF focuses on this group based on the hypothesis that sustainable biodiversity conservation will only be realized if civil society groups existing within the critical ecosystems drive the process. To extend the logic, if these groups become the actors and voices for biodiversity conservation, then decision-makers will begin to incorporate these issues into national and transboundary policies, legislation and action. Only if this impact is achieved will resources from CEPF be able to realize sustainable biodiversity conservation.

CEPF INVESTMENT STRATEGY AND PROGRAM FOCUS

Overview

The assessment of current investment in the corridor demonstrates that the international donor community is keenly interested in the conservation of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor and that there is a strong national and international NGO presence in the region. Grassroots organizations and indigenous group representation are also well established.

Despite significant threats to the corridor, the presence of so many groups with an interest in conservation provides tremendous opportunities to find lasting solutions to the Corridor's problems. The problem of vulnerable and inadequately managed protected areas can be addressed by the major infusions of resources planned by the international donor community, if done in close collaboration with national government, local and international NGOs, indigenous people, local communities, and local governments.

Establishing a uniform information system for the corridor that will contain data on biodiversity, threats, and socioeconomic conditions can address the problem of limited coordination and information sharing. Data for this information system can be gathered through a coordinated assessment that capitalizes on the considerable knowledge of the many institutions in the region.

A monitoring system that builds on this assessment, and that uses the corridor information system to manage the data, can provide timely and accurate information to policy-makers and assist their decision-making regarding infrastructure and agricultural development projects, as well as the siting of mineral, timber, and hydrocarbon concessions.

A concerted program to raise awareness regarding the environmental importance of the corridor can indirectly influence public officials, and other groups, and can contribute towards building a conservation constituency for the corridor. The problem of rural development that is incompatible with biodiversity conservation can be addressed by presenting alternative development options to strategic communities.

CEPF will support strategic initiatives that complement existing and proposed investments in conservation and thereby take advantage of the relatively strong presence of conservation NGOs in the region. While current trends in conservation investment are encouraging, most maintain a tight site focus, although there are important national-scale initiatives such as the World Bank/GEF support for strengthening Bolivia's National System of Protected Areas. The corridor concept will bring efforts of both narrow and broad geographic focus into synergy in an area of the highest biological importance within the Tropical Andes Hotspot. CEPF funding should be used to create a framework of activities, ranging from biodiversity audits and threat assessment to strengthen existing protected areas and create new ones. This framework will sharpen the focus of government agencies, NGOs, and indigenous communities already at work in the corridor, establish a consensus for action among these groups, and strengthen alliances.

Conservation objectives

As a result of CEPF intervention, the protected areas and natural habitats of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor should be functionally associated. To achieve this, key stakeholders must improve their awareness of environmental issues and translate that improved awareness into respect for protected areas and adoption of conservation-compatible land uses throughout the corridor.

The major elements necessary to establish a corridor support framework and to contribute to the achievement of the conservation goals are described below.

1. Establish Effective Mechanisms for Transboundary Coordination, Collaboration and Catalytic Action within the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor

For the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor to serve as an effective conservation-planning unit, it is essential to establish effective mechanisms for transboundary coordination, collaboration and catalytic action. Such mechanisms might take the form of a formalized coordination unit established by one or more collaborating organizations. In addition, processes for stakeholder involvement and buy-in will be included amongst the various mechanisms to be supported by CEPF. Finally, a core binational working group of NGOs and government agencies should be supported for the purpose of achieving effective coordination and collaboration. This should be coupled with a small-grants or action fund mechanism to be managed within the region and aimed at supporting grassroots initiatives, community outreach, time-sensitive research and other similar small-scale projects. Thus, to achieve its strategic focus, CEPF should facilitate the development and support of projects that seek to:

- coordinate the establishment of strategic alliances and initiate a collaborative structure for defining and managing the corridor;
- provide an interface between CEPF and grant recipients;
- provide a repository and clearinghouse for information about the corridor;
- conduct analysis and planning to inform conservation decisions;
- develop a monitoring framework;
- identify and undertake strategic actions that support a corridor conservation plan;
- act as a neutral forum and host for meetings and workshops; and
- manage a conservation action fund for the corridor.

2. Strengthen Binational Coordination of Protected Areas Systems

Three major protected area complexes, one of which is binational, characterize the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor. As discussed in the review of threats, these complexes are, as a rule, large, recently declared, under-funded, and poorly managed. There are also shortcomings in the policy frameworks that underpin the management of these areas. To address these issues, there are major national-level projects underway in Peru and Bolivia to strengthen protected areas by formulating strategic plans; building financial and administrative capabilities; establishing joint management arrangements among NGOs, indigenous groups, and communities; and ensuring long-term monitoring and management systems in protected areas throughout the corridor. However, it is also necessary to coordinate the planning and implementation of protected areas in the broader binational corridor. CEPF should support projects with this objective.

Ideally, Peru and Bolivia will establish a set of complementary protected area management strategies, share information across their borders, and encourage exchanges of protected area managers. CEPF should ensure such coordination through the mechanisms outlined above. Also, because a good deal of the funding available for protected areas management will be provided from bilateral and multilateral donors to the governments of Peru and Bolivia, CEPF should adopt a strategic focus of providing support to NGOs, indigenous groups, and local communities so they can participate fully in the planning and management process. This support might be provided for protected area planning workshops that include these groups, or possibly for national and binational exchanges of protected area managers and the eventual inclusion of local participants in the actual management of protected areas. Finally, though there are significant funds earmarked for protected areas from the large lending agencies, the sheer

size and number of protected areas in the corridor means that these funds, while crucial, will probably only cover the most basic needs. CEPF, through careful coordination with donor agencies and other groups, will focus on identifying and supporting strategically important, yet unmet, management needs within the protected areas covered by the corridor.

3. Encourage Community-based Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resource Management

There are hundreds of indigenous, mixed-race, and colonist communities in and around the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor. While some of these communities currently pose a threat to conservation efforts within the Corridor, they should be viewed as crucial partners in the long-term. To this end, CEPF should catalyze a series of initiatives to strengthen the social underpinnings necessary for community-based biodiversity conservation and natural resource management. These initiatives should focus not only on the problems of development, e.g., lack of education and health services and limited economic alternatives to environmentally damaging practices, but also on building community environmental awareness and capacity for resource management and conservation. As a precursor, CEPF anticipates the need for ethnographic analyses to be carried out on traditional knowledge, attitudes and environmental practices among rural populations. Support will also be available for a series of participatory workshops involving local communities and indigenous unions in defining action plans and establishing alliances.

It is evident that many donors, government agencies, and NGOs are interested in finding development alternatives for communities in environmentally fragile areas. These areas often overlap with coca production areas, so considerable resources are available to explore and implement alternatives. However, even with these resources, it is not possible to reach all the communities that pose a threat to biodiversity conservation. Therefore, CEPF should identify, based on the analyses and workshops mentioned above, project opportunities with communities that stand the best chance of being models for other communities. These projects should develop approaches that can be replicated elsewhere without a high level of intervention on the part of project implementers. The leveraging opportunity provided by such an approach is presently very significant within the Vilcabamba-Amboró corridor.

4. Strengthen Public Awareness and Environmental Education

Poor understanding of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor's environmental importance among a broad range of "publics" is one of the chief problems facing this conservation initiative. CEPF will seek to identify projects that will build a constituency to support corridor implementation at many levels, ranging from donors and governmental decision-makers to local communities. A focused communications strategy and media campaign might include environmental radio shows/television spots, training of local media, video documentaries, teacher training and the development of environmental curricula.

5. Strengthen Environmental Policy and Legal Frameworks to Mitigate the Impacts of Extraction Industries, Transportation and Infrastructure Projects, and Large-scale Tourism

Mining, logging, road building, agricultural expansion, dam construction, hydrocarbon development and unregulated tourism pose some of the most significant threats to the integrity of the Vilcabamba-Amboró ecosystem. These activities are often driven by broader macroeconomic policies that often suffer from a lack of consideration of their environmental impacts and costs. Projects that seek to influence donors, policy makers, concessionaires, and others for the purpose of mitigating the effects of infrastructure and agricultural development

projects, extractive industries, and large-scale tourism provide a major strategic opportunity for CEPF. A diverse set of projects would include detailed threat assessments (including reviews of macroeconomic drivers and development), development of policies and legal recommendations, and stakeholder and other participatory processes.

The CEPF effort will draw on and complement the increasing interest of the international donor community in mitigating the impacts of extractive industries, especially oil and gas producers. The project being developed by the World Bank to boost the environmental management capacity of the hydrocarbon sector in Bolivia is a case in point.

6. Establish an Electronic Information Exchange and Coordinated Information and Data Gathering Mechanism

A moderate amount of information is available regarding the biological, economic, social and cultural characteristics of the Vilcabamba-Amboró ecosystem, as well as the threats posed by extractive industries, infrastructure projects and other forces. Nevertheless, there is a great need to refine this information and adapt it to the needs of organizations that play an active role the corridor framework. There is also a need to significantly increase the amount of information required for sound planning and management practices inside the corridor. Effective landscape-based planning requires ongoing monitoring and swift information exchange among decision-makers, communities, protected area managers, and other actors. Ongoing monitoring and information exchange is presently taking place only in the most rudimentary form. CEPF can fill a major and strategically important niche by supporting the development of monitoring frameworks and catalyzing the establishment of an integrated information system that provides links between the major "building blocks" (protected areas, indigenous reserves, etc.) of the corridor. To achieve this strategic focus, CEPF should support projects that seek to:

• conduct regional biological assessments to create comprehensive lists of vertebrate species, standardized vegetation types, associated plant species, and highest priority areas for biodiversity conservation;
• conduct multi-temporal analyses of changes in land use and land cover, much of which can be done with remotely sensed data (Landsat images, aerial photos, etc.);
• coordinate field research to obtain detailed information in areas of rapid change and in established field projects;
• establish new field research opportunities, particularly regarding the impacts of human activity on biodiversity;
• develop a unified database — organized by hotspot, corridor, project, and site — accessible by all CEPF participants and other targeted groups; and
• establish an electronic information exchange mechanism for CEPF participants and others within the ecosystem.

SUSTAINABILITY

The CEPF investment strategy will be funded over a period of three years and represents the beginning of a larger process to bring about sustainable biodiversity conservation within the region. It is therefore important to highlight the sustainability of the CEPF strategy beyond the initial three-year funding period. There are three key elements to the sustainability of these objectives; the first, already noted, is a tremendous current level of investment within the region by several multilateral and bilateral organizations, government agencies, and international and local NGOs. In order to build on this, CEPF plans to encourage sustainability by building local capacities, the second key element of sustainability. Much of the implementation of biodiversity conservation efforts is currently done by outside organizations and the focus of CEPF is to build

local capacities to take over much of this role and for these civil society groups to take the lead on conservation efforts. Capacity alone, however, may not be sufficient. Financial resources for biodiversity conservation will remain a critical issue for sustainability. For this, through cultivation of partnerships and alliances, CEPF hopes to leverage new funding for biodiversity conservation. This is the third element of sustainability. It is expected that quality results from CEPF projects will generate increased interest and confidence in the donor community leading to increased investment. The combination of local capacity and increased overall funding, together with current levels of investment in the region, should lead to greater biodiversity conservation impacts that can be sustained for a long time to come.

While the overall sustainability hypothesis is logical and sound, there will be much to learn from each individual CEPF grant project. Accordingly, all project proposals will include a section in which external risk factors and long-term sustainability issues will be addressed. Projects will be required to highlight key external factors that might reduce the benefits of their activities and discuss plans to mitigate these. Applicants will also explain how they see the objectives of their specific projects carrying forward after the initial CEPF funding period. All of this will be shared on the CEPF web site, allowing other project teams to learn from successful risk mitigation strategies and sustainability measures put in place by various projects. To continue this process after the initial project design phase, grantees will revisit these issues in each of their quarterly project performance reports. The purpose is not only to highlight risk and sustainability at the outset, but also to track these critical issues throughout the life of each project.

CONCLUSION

The Vilcabamba-Amboró corridor encompasses perhaps the most biologically diverse terrestrial habitat in the world. This corridor is also incredibly rich culturally, in some cases sheltering indigenous people who choose not to come into contact with modern society. The corridor is recognized as a rich environment by a wide range of constituents, donors, NGOs, and others, and considerable funding is starting to flow into this remarkable area to support large, landscape-scale conservation efforts. In large part this corridor is intact, has numerous large protected areas, and remains relatively sparsely populated compared to other parts of the Tropical Andes and Amazonia. These conditions are changing, however, as migrants from the over-populated and resource-depleted highlands of Bolivia and Peru move into the region. The extraction of oil, gold and timber, combined with colonization and deforestation for agriculture, is affecting much of the area. Conflicts in land tenure, with timber concessions and indigenous territories overlapping protected areas, also complicate conservation efforts.

Notwithstanding these threats, there is a window of opportunity to protect this corridor as a whole and to guarantee its future, both as a biological and cultural treasure house and as a source of livelihood for tens of thousands of people. The Vilcabamba-Amboró corridor does not yet exist formally: it only exists in an abstract form as a series of increasingly sophisticated maps, and thus needs to be established. The activities proposed herein — including biodiversity and threat assessments, and measures to strengthen protected areas — provide the fundamental framework to establish this corridor as a formally protected entity. By refining the focus of the groups working — and living — the corridor, by establishing a consensus for action among these groups, and by forging a series of strategic alliances, this framework will increase the impact of scarce conservation resources and help prevent duplication of efforts.

APPENDIX 1
Constituents in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor

Sector	Peru	Bolivia
Government	• INRENA • PROFONAMPE • PROMPERU • Districts • IIAP • Municipalities • Sectoral Ministries • Agriculture • CTAR (Dep. Level.) • Secretariats • Sectoral Directorates • Plan COPESCO • SETAI	• SERNAP • FUNDESNAP • Municipalities • Sectoral Ministries • Sustainable Development • Vice ministries • Sectoral Directorates
Binational Donors	• Finland • Canada • Holland - regional • Germany • USAID • England • Spain • Switzerland	• Holland –regional level • Canada • Germany • USAID –Corridor level • England • Spain • Switzerland
Multilateral donors	• WB - regional • IDB • CAF • GEF • UNDP • ITTO – regional Tambopata/Madidi	• World Bank • IDB • CAF • GEF • ITTO - regional
Private Sector	• Chambers of Tourism • Chambers of Commerce • Forestry companies • Mining companies • Oil and Gas companies • Beer companies • Tourism companies • IRG/BIOFOR	• Chambers of Tourism • Chambers of Commerce • Forestry companies • Mining companies • Oil and Gas companies • Tourism companies
Academic Sector	• Universidad del Altiplano • Universidad de Madre de Dios • UNSNAC • ISP – Maldonado • IST – Maldonado	• Universidad de San Andres • Universidad NUR • Coleccíon Boliviana de fauna • Museum of Natural

Sector	Peru	Bolivia
	• Museum of National History	History • Herbario Nac. de Bolivia • Universidad San Simon • Universidad de Gabriel Rene Moreno
National NGOs	• ProNaturaleza • Asociación Agricultura Ecologica – Madre de Dios • EORI – Madre de Dios • CESVI • ACPC - Apurimac • CEDIA - Apurimac • APECO – Manu • Racimos de Ungurahui	• LIDEMA • AOPEB: Asociacíon de Productores Ecologicos de Bolivia • CEDEC • Agriculture Cooperatives • Indigenous Unions (CIDOB) • FAN • CIIDEBENI
International NGOs	• WWF • TNC • CARE • WCS • Greenforce • TREES • Smithsonian Institution • Chicago Field Museum	• WWF • TNC • CARE • VSF • WCS • Smithsonian Institution • Chicago Field Museum
Civil Society	• Defensoría del Pueblo • FENAMAD • FADEMAD • COMARU • SECONAMA • EASHANINKA • ASECAM - Castañeros • APA • AEF – Asoc. de Extractores Forestales • CECOVASA –Coffee	• CIPTA • CIMTA • Chiman Council • Community Civic Committees • Colonists Associations • Campesinos Union

APPENDIX 2
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

BR	Biosphere Reserve
CAF	Corporación Andina de Fomento
CAS	Country Assistance Strategy
CI	Conservation International
CONAM	National Environmental Council (Peru) (*Consejo Nacional del Medio Ambiente*)
GOB	Government of Bolivia
GOP	Government of Peru
DGB	Dirección General de Biodiversidad (Bolivia)
FONCODES	Fund for Social Compensation (Peru)
FUNDESNAP	Protected Areas Trust Fund (Bolivia) (*Fundación para el Desarrollo del Sistema Nacional de Areas Protegidas)*
GTZ	Agency for Technical Cooperation (Germany) (*Gesellschafft fuer Teschniche Zusammenarbei)*
HS	Historical Sanctuary
INMA	Integrated Natural Management Area
INRENA	National Institute of Natural Resources (Peru) (*Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales)*
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization
LCSES	Latin America and the Caribbean Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development Group (World Bank)
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
PASNAPH	Dutch Project to Support the Bolivian National System of Protected Areas (*Proyecto de Apoyo al Sistema Nacional de Areas Protegidas Holanda*)
PROFONANPE	National Trust for Protected Areas (Peru)
PROMUDEH	Ministry of Women and Human Development (Peru) (*Ministerio de Promoción de la Mujer y del Desarrollo Humano*)
RZ	Reserved Zone
SNAP	National System of Protected Areas (Bolivia) (*Sistema Nacional de Areas Protegidas*)
SERNAP	National Service of Protected Areas (Bolivia) (*Servicio Nacional de Areas Protegidas)*
SETAI	Technical Secretariat for Indigenous Affairs (Peru) (*Secretario Técnico de Asuntos Indigenas)*
SINANPE	National Protected Areas System (Peru) *(Sistema Nacional de Areas Naturales Protegidas)*
TCO	Indigenous Territory (*Territorio Communitario de Origen*)
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
UNITAS	Union of Workers' and Social Action Institutions (Bolivia) (*La Union de Instituciones de Trabajo y Acción Social*)
VAIPO	Vice Ministry of Indigenous Affairs and Autochthonous Peoples (Bolivia) (*Vice Ministro de Asuntos Indigenas y Pueblos Originarios*)
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society

WWF	World Wildlife Fund

An Overview of CEPF's Vilcabamba-Amboró Forest Ecosystem of the Tropical Andes Hotspot

The Vilcabamba-Amboró Forest Ecosystem is situated in the southern half of the Tropical Andes Hotspot, stretching from the Vilcabamba mountain range in south-central Peru southeast to Amboró National Park in central Bolivia. Three large and distinct protected area complexes, composed of national parks, reserves, multiple-use areas, and indigenous reserves were identified in the Ecosystem Profile as the primary focal points in this region. They provide the basic structure of the CEPF portfolio in this top priority Hotspot region.

Together, the three protected-area complexes within this forest ecosystem form a biodiversity corridor that supports remarkable biological and cultural diversity. Between these complexes lie private and public lands in various stages of development, ranging from untouched to completely devastated. When stitched together into a single chain of 30 million hectares, the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor takes on a biological and cultural richness probably unparalleled anywhere else in the world. The primary focus of CEPF in this region has been supporting efforts to stitch these three complexes into a functioning biological corridor and to increase the protected area of status of the land within them.

As in most of South America, the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor is threatened by human activity and rapid population growth. Direct threats include vulnerable and inadequately managed protected areas, hydrocarbon development, gold mining, uncontrolled logging, road construction and associated colonization, dam construction, insufficient information on the biological and socio-economic characteristics of the region, and limited collaboration and information sharing among stakeholders in the corridor.

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) began funding for this hotspot in early 2001 with a $6.15 million initial investment strategy to be implemented over 5 years. The heavy focus of this strategy has been to develop coordination among many actors across a large bi-national area, shifting the conservation scale from site-based interventions to a corridor approach. In order to do this, CEPF has directed its investments toward a trans-boundary coordination mechanism, strong emphasis on the protected areas within the three complexes and the policies that support them, and support for varied efforts to increase public awareness of the corridor. Combining the CEPF strategy with other major conservation efforts in the region is intended to produce a consolidated protected area network and improved management of critical habitats.

The niche identified for CEPF in Vilcabamba-Amboro is to build the capacity of civil society to manage biodiversity conservation more effectively within the corridor. By supporting a network of complementary conservation activities, our goal is to encourage conservation actors, government agencies, and indigenous communities to move away from familiar site-based and fragmented projects and to develop a consensus at all levels around the large-scale corridor concept. The specific strategic directions designed to achieve these outcomes include:

1. *Establish effective mechanisms for transboundary coordination, collaboration and catalytic action.*
   The importance of establishing effective mechanisms for trans-boundary coordination as part of the shift to thinking on such a large geographic scale was clear from the outset. The idea laid out in the strategy was to establish a core bi-national working group of NGOs and government agencies to coordinate the efforts of many and ensure a sense of collaboration around a common goal. With effective coordination, the sum of the participants' actions should result in impacts far greater than the separate results of numerous small and unconnected projects.

2. *Strengthen bi-national coordination of protected areas systems.*
   The corridor contains a multitude of protected areas across the three complexes, some created prior to CEPF investments. These protected areas had varying degrees of planning and management, as well as varied local capacity to implement plans in existence. The focus of this strategic direction has been to support efforts to strengthen protected areas by formulating strategic plans, building financial and administrative capabilities, establishing joint management arrangements among NGOs, indigenous groups, and communities, and ensuring that long-term monitoring and management systems are present in protected areas throughout the corridor.

3. *Encourage community-based biodiversity conservation and natural resource management.*
   Confronted by hundreds of diverse and often conflicting indigenous, mixed-race, and colonist communities in and around the Corridor's protected areas, CEPF has supported a series of initiatives to strengthen community-based biodiversity conservation and natural resource management. These initiatives include local environmental education programs, the introduction of new techniques and economic alternatives, and support for developing community natural resource management plans. Because CEPF's investment cannot cover all of these needs across such a large corridor, emphasis was placed on creating a series of successful models that could be replicated among the region's highly varied local communities.

4. *Strengthen public awareness and environmental education.*
   Due to the shift from site-based conservation actions to a corridor approach, building awareness of the conservation agenda among key actors is an essential element of the corridor strategy. CEPF has focused its efforts on reaching a wide array of participants, including local and regional decision-makers, donors, local communities, NGO actors and private sector stakeholders, to inform them and involve them in the conservation debate. The intention is to shape policy decisions and investments in support of a shared, locally-owned conservation and regional development agenda.

5. *Strengthen environmental and legal policy frameworks.*
   Because mining, logging, road building, agricultural expansion, dam construction, hydrocarbon development and unregulated tourism pose such significant threats

to the conservation agenda in the corridor, CEPF places a priority on supporting projects that seek to influence donors, policy makers, concessionaires, and others for the purpose of mitigating the effects of infrastructure and agricultural development projects, extractive industries, and large-scale tourism. A diverse set of projects was anticipated from the beginning to include detailed threat assessments (including reviews of macroeconomic drivers and development), the development of policies and legal recommendations, and stakeholder and other participatory processes.

6. *Establish an electronic information exchange and coordinated information and data gathering mechanism.*
   In such a large bi-national area, a necessary element of the strategy is to spend time and resources supporting the development of monitoring frameworks and catalyzing the establishment of an integrated information system that provides meaningful links among the major "building blocks" (protected areas, indigenous reserves, etc.) of the corridor.

Coordinating CEPF Grantmaking on the Ground

The coordination mechanism for the Vilcabamba-Amboró corridor was established to serve as local corridor-wide conservation planning unit, and to provide an effective mechanism for trans-boundary coordination, collaboration and catalytic action. The CEPF Coordination Mechanism was intended to meet the objectives identified by strategic direction #1, the core element of CEPF's objectives in this corridor. Thus, establishing a coordination mechanism within the region was the first priority when grant funding became available and the development and implementation of an extensive communications program for the corridor soon followed. The coordination mechanism was designed with a set of specific functions that included:

- Build strategic alliances and partnerships to ensure delivery of conservation outcomes.
- Increase capacity of local institutions to ensure that the conservation outcomes are being achieved.
- Support the increase in the number and size of protected areas and their effective management, and to protect endangered and endemic species in the defined conservation outcomes.
- Increase the flow of financial resources to support the conservation outcomes.
- Coordinate with key partners to further the corridor vision and promote greater integration between diverse and often isolated interventions.
- Actively solicit proposals from potential partners that strategically contribute to the strategy.
- Take an active role in the review and development of partner proposals.
- Participate in the monitoring of external grantee implementation.

The communications strategy developed to complement the coordination mechanism was designed to:

- Inform key audiences in the public and private sectors (national and regional government, media, community leaders, partners, indigenous groups and NGOs) about the conservation corridor concept, and explain the benefits of the Vilcabamba-Amboró corridor.
- Create an image and identity for the corridor that communicates its importance and benefits.
- Build alliances and catalyze commitment among partners by using a participatory approach to create and implement the communications strategy.
- Generate political will in support of the Vilcabamba-Amboró conservation corridor.
- Inspire a favorable attitude and support among key audiences (media, private sector, communities and partners) toward corridor implementation.
- Integrate communications initiatives among the projects being implemented throughout the corridor to ensure consistency and coherence.

Corridor and Outcomes Approach to Grantmaking

The concept of outcomes was under development during the CEPF ecosystem profile preparation phase for the Vilcabamba-Amboró corridor, and CEPF was challenged to explore how it could measure and monitor the success of the corridor initiative that was the underpinning of the ecosystem profile. CEPF catalysed this process by supporting CI-Bolivia and CI-Peru to create a map illustrating the current state of the corridor (2001) and 5- and 10-year vision maps. These three maps have enabled corridor partners and managers to visualize how each CEPF-supported project, other projects and proposed activities relate to the shared goal of corridor conservation, particularly in terms of areas protected and corridors created (maps are included following the overview).

In this initial stage of outcome definition, CI-Peru and CI-Bolivia identified five measures to capture the expected results of their actions. These were:

- protected areas consolidated;
- new protected areas established;
- connectivity created between core zones;
- changes in people's use of natural resources; and
- control of major threats.

These measures enhanced the strategic funding directions set out in the CEPF ecosystem profile by identifying priority protected areas and areas for connectivity. This approach in Vilcabamba-Amboró proved to be of such value that that CEPF has subsequently invested significant resources for defining and incorporating science-based conservation outcomes into the profiling process for each hotspot authorized for CEPF investment.

CEPF began implementation in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor in 2001 and to date has committed $4,542,179 in support of 27 projects (Chart 1, all charts are included following the overview). Charts 2 and 3 illustrate the overall status of the portfolio and the timeline of grant commitments.

Fundamental to this portfolio of projects has been the support to the trans-boundary coordination mechanism that has successfully raised awareness of the need for large-scale conservation actions in the region. In addition, CEPF has helped support a large Debt-for-Nature Swap through a grant to the World Wildlife Fund, leveraging significant resources toward the creation and effective management of protected areas in Peru.

Corridor Highlights: New Protected Areas Established or Consolidated

The 2003 publication *Estrategia Basica de Implementacion del Corredor de Conservacion Vilcabamba-Amboró (Peru – Bolivia)* or Basic Implementation Strategy for the Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor, documents the history and results of separate workshops in Bolivia and Peru and one binational workshop to develop the strategy and expresses a consensus among government and civil society participants.

A meeting of the directors of Madidi National Park, Bahuaja-Sonene National Park and Tambopata National Reserve resulted in a landmark transnational agreement for joint coordination and implementation of their management efforts. These three protected areas share common borders and are priority sites for conservation in the corridor strategy.

Consolidation of 450,000 hectares in the Pilón Lajas Biosphere Reserve was secured through financing of a compensation package for a private company to give up its logging concession – a move that secured the immediate protection of 83,000 hectares of primary forest.

CI's transboundary project also fostered close working relationships between the Bolivian government and local NGOs to create a new 600,000-hectare municipal park, Altamachi-Cotacajes, that links Madidi National Park, Pilón Lajas Biological Reserve and Isiboro Secure National Park with Carrasco National Park.

The project "Prevention of Human-Induced Forest Fires in Madidi and Apolobamba National Parks" (8/02-12/03) implemented by CARE-Bolivia directly impacted the core area of this complex. Specifically, CARE worked with local communities and farmers to reduce uncontrolled burning that poses serious ecological and economic threats to the region. Through this project, local farmers learned and are incorporating new techniques into their farming practices in the communities of Apolo, San Buenaventura, Ixiamas and Reyes. Some of these communities developed a set of communal norms that include fire prevention activities. The local governments are also incorporating burning control into their Municipal Annual Operations Plans for the coming year. In addition, both the Madidi and Apolobamba protected area administrations included fire control plans into their

programs, with park guards in Pilón Lajas and Madidi national parks and the Biological Station of Beni conducting their own workshops in fire prevention.

Another example of a project aimed at changing community behavior toward more biodiversity-friendly management of their natural resources is the work of the Wildllife Conservation Society in Madidi National Park. Its project, "Organizational Strengthening of the Council of Tacana Indigenous Peoples for Natural Resource Management and Conservation" helped to develop natural resource management regulations in Altamarani, Carmen del Emero, San Antonio de Tequeje and Esperanza de Enapurera. More than 20 communities developed their own regulations for natural resource use as part of the project. These same communities also developed eight local projects to improve natural resource management, including tourism, handicrafts, medicinal plant gardens and native fish farms. In addition, the Tacana indigenous communities successfully demarcated their critical resource zones and developed demonstration sites that are being used to replicate successes in other communities in the Madidi area. These efforts are a direct benefit to the sustainable management of Madidi and the consolidation of the core area of this complex.

A final example of a project aimed at providing communities with sustainable use models to reduce their impacts on Madidi National Park is "Reducing Deforestation in the Buffer Zone of Bolivia's Madidi National Park: Promoting the Cultivation, Manufacture and Use of Bamboo Products" (5/02-6/04) implemented by the Centro de Pueblos Indigenas de La Paz (CPILAP). CPILAP introduced new techniques and marketing skills for local producers of bamboo products, influenced the development of community management plans and provided a replicable model for other communities within the corridor.

In the Cotapata-Amboró complex, Probioma is implementing a project directly linked to improving the protection of Amboró National Park and the Area Natural de Manejo Integrado Amboró (ANMIA) by influencing the way local communities use their natural resources. The project, "Biodiversity Conservation and Participative Sustainable Management of the Natural Resources of Amboró National Park and ANMIA" (4/02-6/04), included the introduction of new agricultural techniques to control crop diseases and pests in 16 communities across four provinces surrounding the park. In addition, Probioma established six demonstration plots where farmers are seeing the results of the new techniques and are taking these back to their own plots. Probioma trained a group of extension workers to go into the communities, investigate problems and teach methods to resolve them. In addition to working with farmers, Probioma is also developing ecotourism training materials and is actively training local guides. A final piece of this local organization's contribution to helping secure the Amboró area is its work in demarcating parts of the Amboró National Park boundary.

Important awareness projects have been implemented throughout the corridor including those of the Instituto Machu Picchu, aimed at improving the management of the Machu Picchu Sanctuary; the Instituto para la Conservacion y la Investigacion de la Biodiversidad (ICIB) developing networks and partnerships among schools throughout Pilon Lajas, Madidi and Apolobamba; and the International Center for Journalists, which has been supported to build the capacity of journalists in both countries to cover issues related to the conservation of biodiversity and to promote the corridor concept.

Outcome Highlights: New Protected Areas Established or Consolidated (See table at end of summary for a more comprehensive list of protected areas established or consolidated)

Alto Purus Restricted Zone (2.7 million hectares) declared in January 2002.

Amarakaeri Communal Reserve (402,336 hectares) declared in May 2002.

Manu National Park expanded by 12 percent (from 1.533 million to 1.716 million hectares) in July 2002.

Ashaninka and Matsiguenga Communal Reserves and the Otishi National Park created in January 2003, providing a new level of protection to the former Apurimac Restricted Zone with a size of 709,400 hectares.

An important effort toward improving the legal framework for the environment has been the CEPF-supported work of the Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental (SPDA), which has published a very complete manual advising private landowners on the process of establishing private conservation areas on their property. The final product of this project has received highly positive reviews and this legal concept may be adopted in Bolivia. In addition to the SPDA project, other CEPF-funded efforts have been implemented in evaluating threats and developing new policies and frameworks based on these threat assessments.

CEPF has provided resources to a series of partner organizations across both countries to help establish a Corridor-wide information network. The program, called "The Vilcabamba-Amboro Corridor Biodiversity Information Management System," includes five partner organizations coordinated by Amigos del Museo de Historia Natural Noel Kempff Mercado in Bolivia, which is also receiving CEPF funds to monitor conservation outcomes in the corridor.

Outcome Highlights: Changes in people's management of natural resources

The CEPF funded project "Developing Natural Resource Management Program in Four Communities of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor project" included work directly with 20 communities along the road from Puerto Maldonado to Cusco to introduce improved natural resource management techniques. CI also worked directly with eight coffee cooperatives in Alto Tambopata to introduce environmentally friendly farming techniques to more than 1,000 growers. This helped create a work plan for organic, shade-grown coffee and provided the opportunity to leverage funds for continued work on assisting organic coffee producers in the export of their product. While these are local level impacts, there is a strong potential for scaling up.

The Instituto Machu Picchu (IMAPI) project "Enhancing Public Awareness for Improved Management of the Machu Picchu Sanctuary and its Surrounding Environment" sought to influence the behavior of a variety of actors involved in and around Machu Picchu. IMAPI staff conducted campaigns targeted to these groups, produced and disseminated a video documentary that was broadcast on at six networks, conducted a multitude of radio interviews and produced numerous articles for local newspapers and its own bulletin.

Selva Reps implemented a novel ecotourism project to help ensure that local communities and organizations involved in ecotourism use this activity most effectively to conserve biodiversity and manage their natural resources. The project, "Learning Host-to-Host: Ecotourism Exchange in the Tropical Andes" brought together ecotourism practitioners from some of the most remote regions of the Tropical Andes—members of the native territories of the Achuar in Ecuador, the Quechua-Tacana of Bolivia and the Ese'eja and riberenhos of Peru—to share their experiences, knowledge, ideas and concerns with each other and with others who are striving to make ecotourism an effective tool for conservation and development.

To increase the attention that biodiversity conservation issues receive in the press, and thus enhance the public understanding of the value of the corridor, CEPF is supporting the International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) project "Building Awareness of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor in Peru and Bolivia." ICFJ has worked with journalists from radio, television and print media to reach both rural and indigenous populations as well as the urban populations. These journalists, from both countries, have received training about biodiversity conservation and techniques for reporting on sustainable development issues affecting their readers.

CEPF Portfolio Review for the Vilcabamba-Amboro Forest Ecosystem

CEPF focuses monitoring on project development and implementation, at a portfolio level and on tracking progress at the initiative level. At CEPF's midpoint in project lifespan, we increased and enhanced monitoring at the ecosystem portfolio level by beginning the implementation of portfolio reviews. The Vilcabamba-Amboro region was assessed in August 2003. A full version of the Review for the V-A corridor can be found on the CD ROM provided by the CEPF team.

The review included an assessment of each regional grant portfolio around the midpoint of its 5-year funding cycle, which we believe, is an opportune time to review performance and assess progress toward objectives. This assessment allows CEPF to address gaps and respond to changing circumstances within a given region as well as to share lessons learned with partners in the region, other regions and the broader conservation community.

The portfolio review included all approved projects in the V-A portfolio. These projects were reviewed first as a desk study, including examining original approved project designs, technical and financial reports received and any other deliverables submitted to date. A questionnaire was sent to all grantees to inform them about the review and to solicit their assistance on questions related to program implementation, their relationship with CEPF, and awareness and understanding of the CEPF strategy.

The monitoring and evaluation team, which included CEPF staff and an independent evaluator to enrich the review and resulting analysis, meet with the relevant CEPF grant director and other key people. The monitoring team then traveled to the region to interview project staff and visit select project sites.

The preparation phase for the Vilcabamba-Amboró portfolio review took place in July 2003. The review team included CEPF staff members and Alberto Yanosky, a World Bank consultant specialist in biodiversity conservation who conducted an independent review of CEPF operations in the hotspot.

The review team traveled to Bolivia and Peru August 4-16, 2003, meeting grantees and visiting selected project sites. It met with 16 of the 19 project teams receiving CEPF support at the time of the visit. The Vilcabamba-Amboro Portfolio Review document includes findings from the preparation and site visit as well as statistics updated through May 2004.

Specific objectives of the portfolio review include:

- Understand any change in on-the-ground conservation dynamics and the role CEPF plays in them;
- Assess the contribution of CEPF-supported projects toward expected impacts and corridor conservation goals as articulated in the ecosystem profile;
- Assess the efficiency and effectiveness of CEPF in processing and monitoring grants;
- Identify gaps and critical needs for achieving strategic objectives;
- Derive key lessons learned and determine recommendations for improvements; and
- Refine the portfolio review methodology.

Conclusion – Next Steps

CEPF is nearly the end of its 5-year cycle in this corridor and is targeting a few strategic efforts with the remaining funding available. The idea is to multiply the remaining funds to the degree possible, while supporting programs and initiatives that will live well beyond the initial CEPF funding period. Included in this package of planned programs is a partnership with the Fundacion Puma in Bolivia in which both CEPF and Puma will match dollar for dollar on projects that contribute to the corridor strategy. With CEPF's planned contribution of $500,000 to this partnership, we would ensure that a minimum of $1 million dollars will target projects in line with the CEPF ecosystem profile. Because the Fundacion Puma will continue well beyond the CEPF funding period, it is a strategic partnership that would see the Fundacion continuing to support projects well into the future that are in line with the corridor concept.

On the Peruvian side of the corridor, a similar type of partnership is being developed with the Fondo de las Americas (Fondam) in which CEPF would provide $400,000 matching funds to corridor-specific projects, leveraging an additional $400,000 from Fondam an opportunity to sustain CEPF's impact in the corridor.

In addition to these matching arrangements, CEPF is close to agreement on providing support to the newly established small grants program for critically endangered species run by the Asociacion Peruana para la Conservacion de la Naturaleza (APECO). This program has received initial support from the Center for Biodiversity Conservation, and CEPF is planning to match that funding for two years while APECO develops a component to the program for longer-term fundraising so this important program can be maintained long into the future.

Through support, these programs CEPF has the opportunity to leverage additional funds in order to see the objectives of the initial CEPF strategy continuing to be supported far beyond the CEPF 5-year cycle.

- January 2005

Charts: Tropical Andes Hotspot: Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor

Chart 1. Approved Grants by Strategic Direction

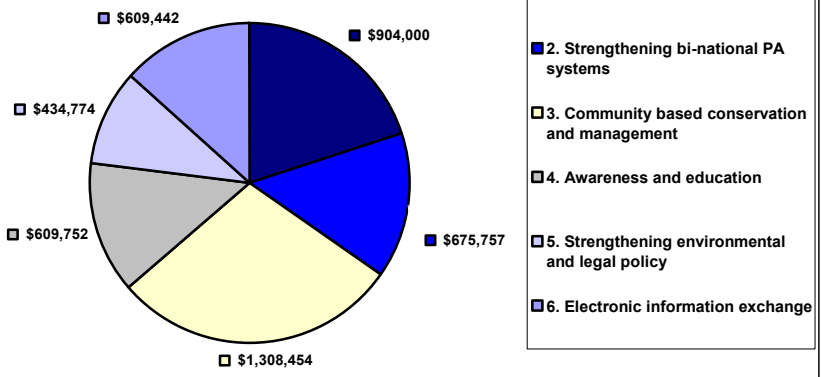


Chart 2. Portfolio Status by Strategic Direction

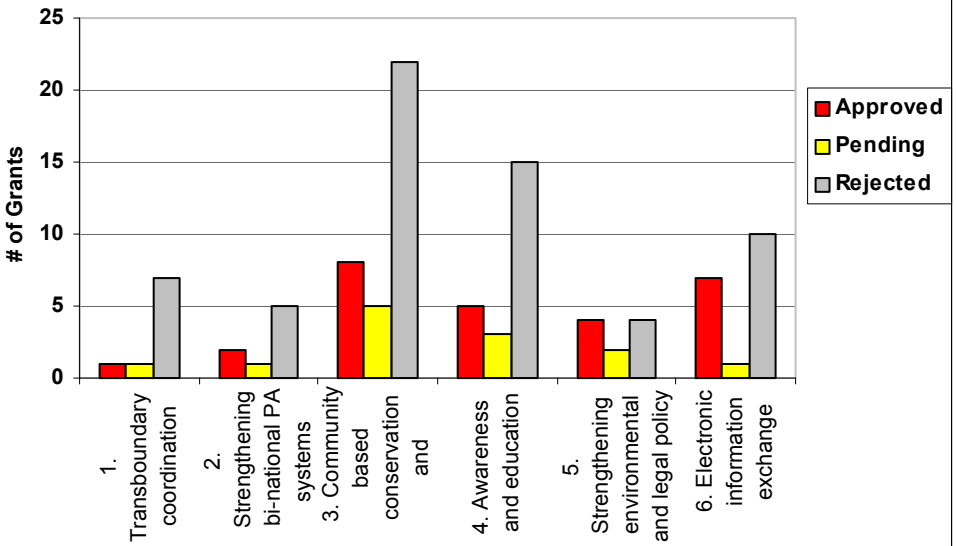
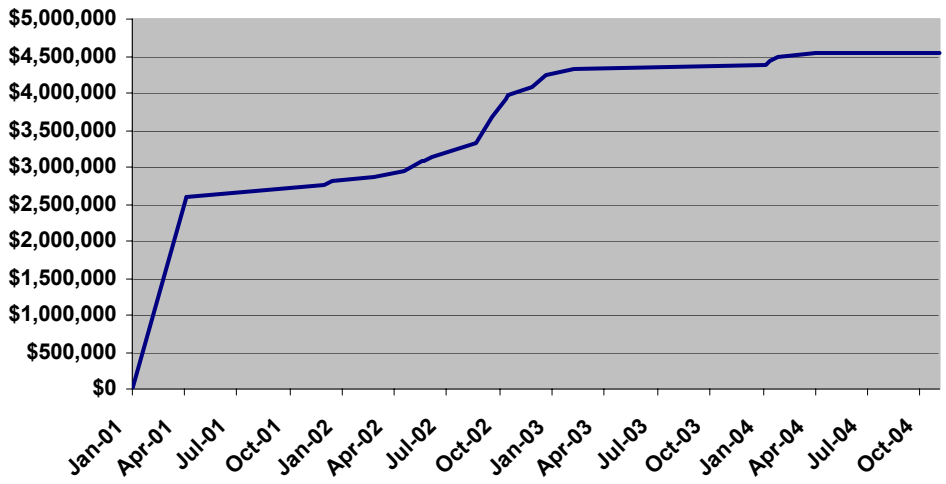


Chart 3. Combined Value of Grants Awarded



Protected Areas in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor

Surface Area (1999 vs 2003), Degree of Consolidation (2003 vs 2006 objective) & Comments (current as of 5/2004)

Protected Area	*Surface Area - 1999* (km^2)	Surface Area - 2003 (km^2)	Degree of Protection (Current)	Degree of Protection (2006)	Headquarters	Management Committee (current)	Management Plan (current)	Comments
Amarakaeri Communal Reserve		4.023		Management Plan			NO	Upgraded to Indigenous Reserve
Amboró National Park & ANMI	6.376	6.376	Management Plan	Management Plan		Y	YES	National Park and ANMI joined (1995)
Apolobamba ANMI	1.500	4.837	Management Plan	Management Plan		Y	YES	
Apurimac Restricted Zone	7.093	(7.094)		Management Plan			NO	
▪ **Matsiguenga Communal Reserve**		2.189		Management Plan			*	Declared - 1/2003 Master Plan drafted but not valid due to lack of Headquarters and Management Committee
▪ **Ashaninka Communal Reserve**		1.845		Management Plan			*	Declared - 1/2003 Master Plan drafted but not valid due to lack of Headquarters and Management Committee
▪ **Otishi National Park**		3.060		Management Plan				Declared - 1/2003 Master Plan drafted but not valid due to lack of Headquarters and Management Committee
Bahuaja Sonene National Park	10.914	10.914		Management Plan	Y	Y	*	Master Plan approved - R.J. 141-2003-INRENA
Carrasco National Park	6.226	6.226				*	NO	Management Unit being established
Cotapata National Park & ANMI	.400	.400				Y	*	Management Plan being developed
Isiboro Sécure National Park & Indigenous Territory	12.363	12.363		Management Plan		*	*	Management Plan & Unit being developed
Machu Picchu Historic Sanctuary	.326	.326	Master Plan	Master Plan	Y	Y	*	The Management Plan appears to be inadequate due to lack of participation, little link w/ regional planning and lack of detailed land use, and monitoring
Madidi National Park & ANMI	18.957	18.957		Management Plan*		Y	NO	Management plan being developed
Manu National Park	15.328	17.163	Management Plan	Management Plan	Y	Y*	YES	Management Unit was formed under previous law and it is being updated to comply with current legislation Management Plan approved R.D. 087-1990-DGFF
Pilón Lajas Indigenous Reserve	4.000	4.000	Management Plan *	Management Plan		*	NO	Management Unit being established
Tambopata Candamo Restricted Zone	2.747				Y	Y	*	Management Plan being updated
▪ **Tambopata Nature Reserve**		2.747		Management Plan			NO	Master Plan approved - R.J. 141-2003-INRENA
Alto Purús Restricted Zone		27.243		Management Plan	Y		*	Management Plan being developed
Los Amigos Concession		1.376		Management Plan			NO	Management Plan being developed
Altamachi Departmental Park		5.600					NO	
Total	**86.230**	**129.645**						

Sources: Servicio Nacional de Areas Protegidas, SERNAP (2001)
Centro de Datos para la Conservación, CDC-Bolivia (Ergueta, 1997)
Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales, INRENA, www.inrena.gob.pe/dganp_cat.html
Protection/management status from CI PA Consolidated Report to CEPF

* Management Plan being developed/revised or Management Unit being established

While CEPF cannot achieve all of the outcomes identified for a region on its own, the partnership is trying to ensure that its conservation investments are working toward preventing biodiversity loss and that its success can be monitored and measured. Therefore, the targets (hereafter 'outcomes'), are the scientific underpinning for CEPF's geographic and thematic focus for investment in any given region.

Biodiversity is not measured in any single unit, but rather is distributed across a hierarchical continuum of ecological scales. This continuum can be condensed into three levels: **species, sites, and landscapes**. These three scales are admittedly arbitrary, and interlock geographically through the presence of species in sites and of sites in landscapes, but are nonetheless identifiable and discrete. Given threats to biodiversity at each of these three levels, we can now set quantitative, justifiable, and repeatable targets for conservation: "Extinctions Avoided", "Areas Protected" and "Corridors Created".

Conservation outcomes can be defined at three scales – species, site, and landscape – reflecting a simplification of a complex hierarchical continuum of ecological scales. The three scales interlock geographically through the presence of species in sites and of sites in landscapes. They are also logically connected. If species are to be conserved, the sites on which they live must be protected and the landscapes or seascapes must continue to sustain the ecological services on which the sites and the species depend. As conservation in the field succeeds in achieving these targets, they become demonstrable results or outcomes: 'Extinctions Avoided' (species-level), 'Areas Protected' (site-level), and 'Corridors Consolidated' (landscape-level).

The definition of "**Extinctions Avoided**" outcomes requires knowledge of the conservation status of individual species. Fortunately, this knowledge has been accumulating over the last 40 years in the Red Lists produced by IUCN and partners. Further, for the last decade, the Red Lists have been based on quantitative criteria under which the probability of extinction is estimated for each species (all species on the Red List have "a high probability of extinction in the medium-term future"). All birds have now been assessed under these criteria (by BirdLife International), and mammals and amphibians are currently undergoing similar comprehensive assessment. Other higher taxa have yet to be fully assessed, although many other species are listed. All of these data are freely, publically and electronically available on www.redlist.org. In the longer term, endemic ("restricted-range") species should also be added to the "Extinctions Avoided" outcomes: species with small ranges have higher probabilities of extinction.

Once these targets for "Extinctions Avoided" outcomes have been set, much of the focus of conservation attention can be shifted from the species to the site scale: most threatened species are best conserved through the protection of physically and/or socio-economically discrete areas of land. Identification of these sites - and hence definition of "**Areas Protected**" conservation outcomes - requires point data on the distribution of threatened (and endemic) species. For birds, such data have been compiled on a massive scale in BirdLife's Red Data Books, and subsequently synthesized in many regions (especially in

Africa and Europe) to identify key sites for protection as "Important Bird Areas". For mammals and amphibians, again, this process is ongoing; much work remains for other taxonomic groups. An important clarification here is that the type of "protection" for any given one of these "Important Biodiversity Sites" varies with the socio-economic context: it could take the form of a national park, a private reserve, an indigenous territory, or many other types of land tenure.

The definition of "**Corridors Created**" outcomes is the most complicated of the three. Clearly, the conservation of landscapes necessary to allow the persistence of biodiversity must be anchored on core protected areas, embedded in a matrix of other natural habitat and of anthropogenic land uses. The delineation of conservation corridors will require consideration of migration and minimum-area requirements of wide-ranging species, of ecological and evolutionary gradients, of biogeographic pattern, and of resilience to climate change and anthropogenic development scenarios. While strict criteria have yet to be developed to encapsulate these characteristics, numerous conservation corridors and landscapes have already been defined qualitatively, and provide an effective starting point for the definition of "Corridors Created" outcomes.

A number of scientific and technical capabilities are required to allow the definition of conservation outcomes at these three scales. The bulk of the work will necessarily be founded on **solid biological research**, largely through literature review but supplemented by targeted fieldwork where knowledge gaps are present. To ensure data standards and accessibility, the data compiled from such exercises must then be entered into a **database**, operating from a distributed platform and integrating spatial data, and hence requiring knowledge management support. The definition of conservation outcomes also requires significant GIS capacity, to enable mapping of species distributions, existing and potential protected areas, and the configuration of conservation corridors ("**outcome maps**").

Defining conservation outcomes is a bottom-up process with a definition of species level targets first, from which the definition of site-level targets is based. The process requires detailed knowledge of the conservation status of individual species. Although this information has been accumulating in global Red Lists produced by the IUCN and partners for over 40 years, knowledge of the population status of most threatened species is still very deficient.

For the past 10 years, the Red Lists have been based on quantitative criteria under which the probability of extinction is estimated for each species. Species classified as "threatened" on the Red List have a high probability of extinction in the medium term future. These include the three IUCN categories Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN) and Vulnerable (VU). Defining outcomes is a fluid process and, as data become available, species-level outcomes will be expanded to include other taxonomic groups that previously had not been assessed, as well as restricted-range species. Avoiding extinctions means conserving globally threatened species to make sure that their Red List status improves or at least stabilizes.

Vilcabamba - Amboro Conservation Megacorridor — Current Status
Tropical Andes Hotspot

Vilcabamba - Amboro Conservation Megacorridor
Current Status
Tropical Andes Hotspot
—
Conservation International

- National Park
- Natural Monument (Sanctuary)
- Integrated Management Area
- Reserved Zone
- Communal Indigenous Area or Indigenous Reserve (TCO)
- Other indigenous areas
- Vilcabamba - Amboro Corridor
- 30 kilometer corridor buffer
- 90 kilometer corridor buffer
- Mining Concessions
- Forestry Concessions
- Oil and Gas Concessions
- National Boundaries
- Shoreline
- Roads
- Rivers
- Major Cities and Towns
- Geographic Graticule
- Open Water
- Other Countries

20 0 20 40 60 80 100
Kilometers Scale 1:2,200,000

Projection Mercator
Data:
Information System of Amazonian Protected Areas. "Sub Network of Amazonian Protected Areas (SURAPA)". CD-ROM. FAO, Conservation International (CI), and SURAPA
Bolivia - BOLFOR, SERGEOMIN, SERNAP
Peru - INRENA, MEM-DGH-RPM, TCA
Digital Chart of the World (DCW)
Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR) from Global Land Cover Facility (UMD GLCF) Online. University of Maryland. November 2000
data acquired in 1992-93
Available:
http://glcf.umiacs.umd.edu/documents/treecover.html.

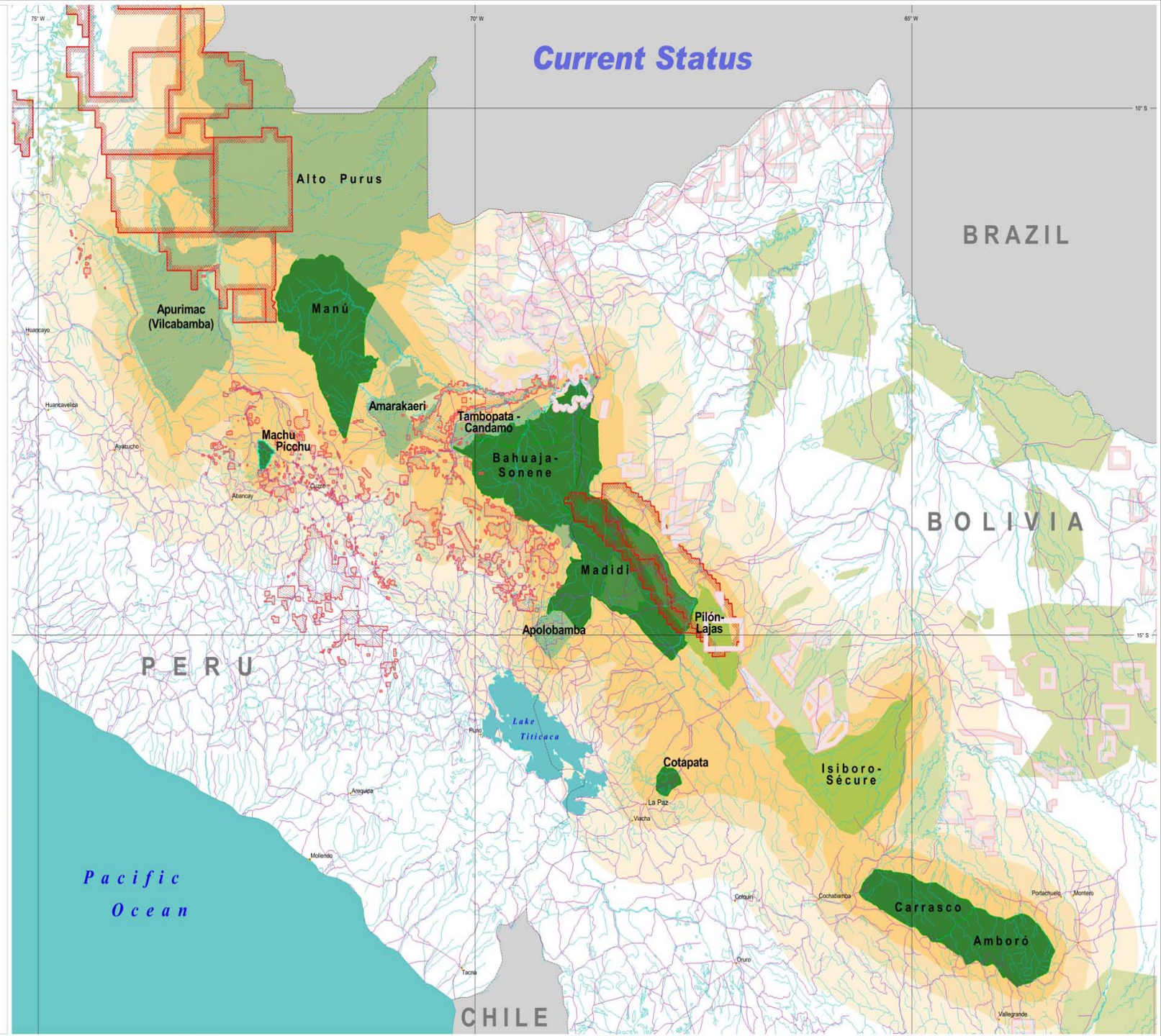
Location of the Vilcabamba - Amboro Corridor
Scale- 1:63,000,000

Location of Peru and Bolivia
Scale- 1:203,000,000

CENTER FOR APPLIED BIODIVERSITY SCIENCE at Conservation International

GIS & Mapping LABORATORY

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL



Vilcabamba - Amboro Conservation Megacorridor — 5 Year Outcomes Tropical Andes Hotspot

Vilcabamba - Amboro Conservation Megacorridor
5 Year Outcomes
Tropical Andes Hotspot
—
Conservation International

- National Park
- Consolidated Areas
- Natural Monument (Sanctuary)
- Integrated Management Area
- Reserved Zone
- Conservation Concession
- Communal Indigenous Area or Indigenous Reserve (TCO)
- Other indigenous areas

- Vilcabamba - Amboro Corridor
- 30 kilometer corridor buffer
- 90 kilometer corridor buffer

- Mining Concessions
- Forestry Concessions
- Oil and Gas Concessions

- National Boundaries
- Shoreline
- Roads
- Rivers
- Major Cities and Towns
- Geographic Graticule
- Open Water
- Other Countries

20 0 20 40 60 80 100
Kilometers Scale 1:2,200,000

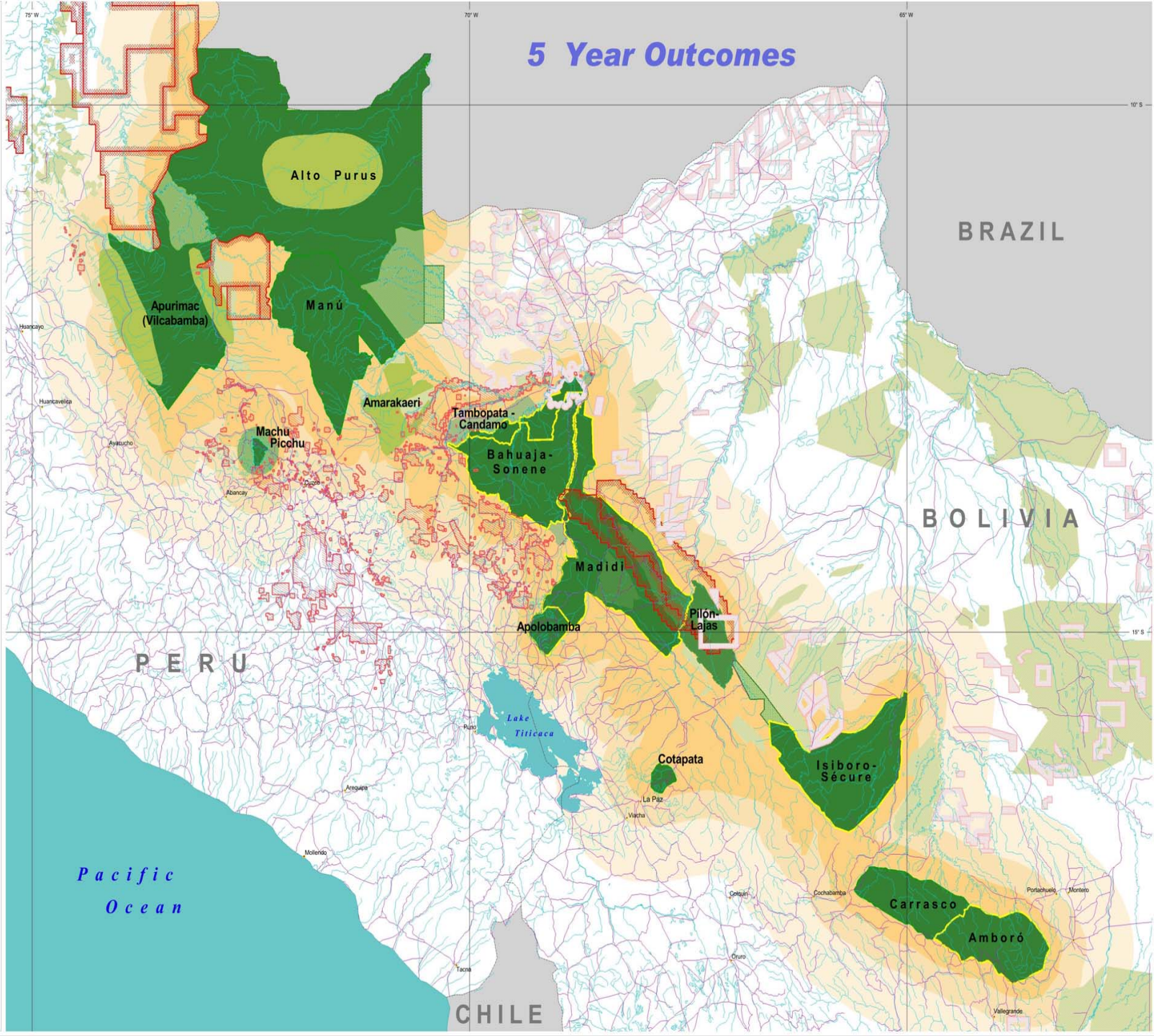
Projection Mercator
Data:
Information System of Amazonian Protected Areas. "Sub Network of Amazonian Protected Areas (SURAPA)". CD-ROM. FAO, Conservation International (CI), and SURAPA
Bolivia - BOLFOR, SERGEOMIN, SERNAP
Peru - INRENA, MEM-DGH-RPM, TCA
Digital Chart of the World (DCW).
Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR) from Global Land Cover Facility (UMD GLCF) Online. University of Maryland. November 2000 data acquired in 1992-93
Available:
http://glcf.umiacs.umd.edu/documents/treecover.html

Location of the Vilcabamba - Amboro Corridor
Scale- 1:83,000,000

Location of Peru and Bolivia
Scale- 1:203,000,000

CENTER FOR APPLIED BIODIVERSITY SCIENCE
GIS & Mapping LABORATORY

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL



Vilcabamba - Amboro Conservation Megacorridor — 10 Year Outcomes Tropical Andes Hotspot

Vilcabamba - Amboro Conservation Megacorridor
10 Year Outcomes
Tropical Andes Hotspot
—
Conservation International

- National Park
- Consolidated Areas
- Natural Monument (Sanctuary)
- Integrated Management Area
- Reserved Zone
- Conservation Concession
- Communal Indigenous Area or Indigenous Reserve (TCO)
- Other indigenous areas

- Vilcabamba - Amboro Corridor
- 30 kilometer corridor buffer
- 90 kilometer corridor buffer

- Regulated Mining Concessions
- Mining Concessions
- Forestry Concessions
- Oil and Gas Concessions

- National Boundaries
- Shoreline
- Roads
- Rivers
- Major Cities and Towns
- Geographic Graticule
- Open Water
- Other Countries

20 0 20 40 60 80 100
Kilometers Scale 1:2,200,000

Projection Mercator
Data:
Information System of Amazonian Protected Areas. "Sub Network of Amazonian Protected Areas (SURAPA)". CD-ROM. FAO, Conservation International (CI), and SURAPA
Bolivia - BOLFOR, SERGEOMIN, SERNAP
Peru - INRENA, MEM-DGH-RPM, TCA
Digital Chart of the World (DCW)
Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR) from Global Land Cover Facility (UMD GLCF) Online. University of Maryland. November 2000
data acquired in 1992-93
Available:
http://glcf.umiacs.umd.edu/documents/treecover.html.

Location of the Vilcabamba - Amboro Corridor
Scale- 1:63,000,000

Location of Peru and Bolivia
Scale- 1:203,000,000

CENTER FOR APPLIED BIODIVERSITY SCIENCE
AT CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

GIS & Mapping LABORATORY

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

10 Year Outcomes

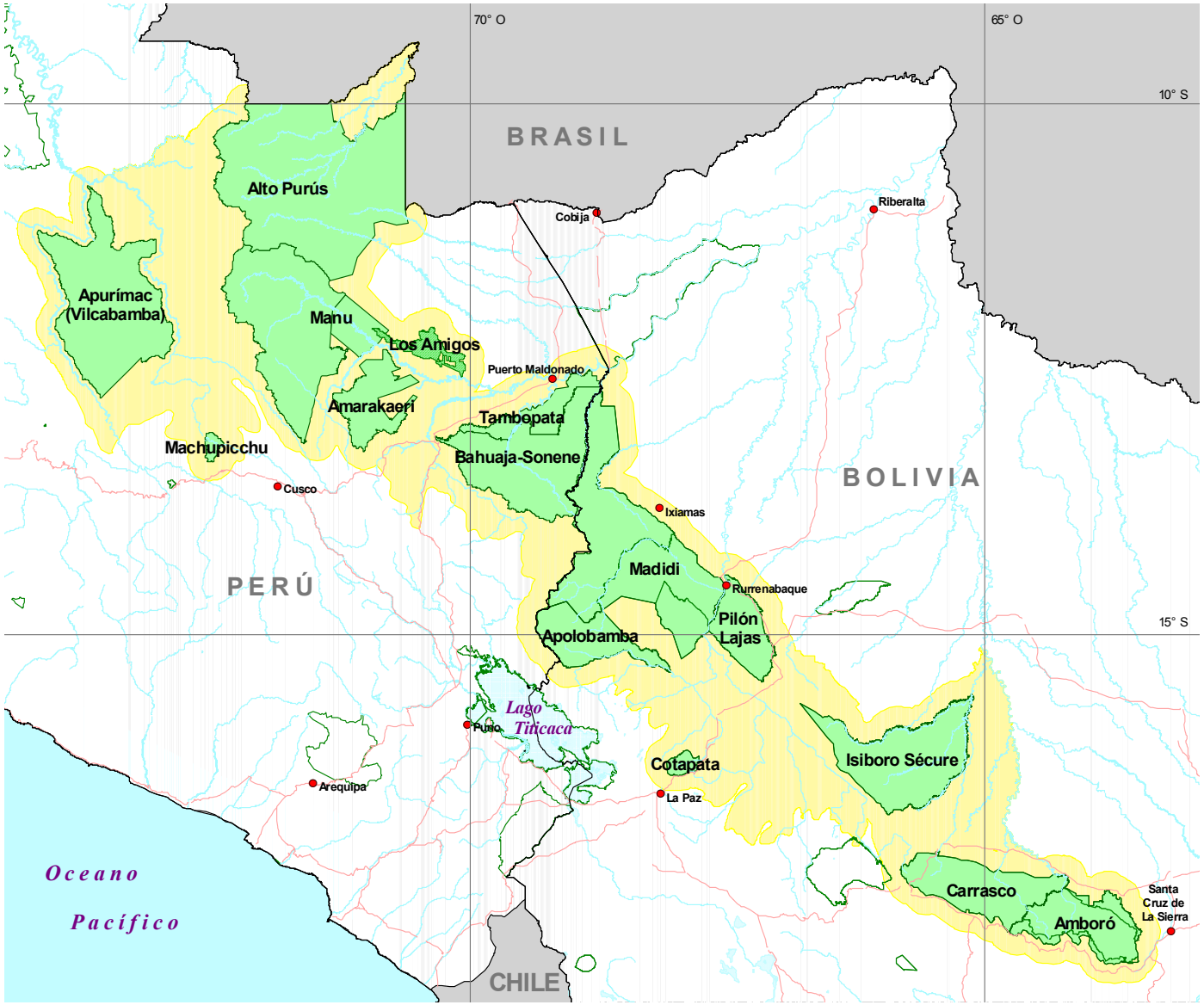
75° W 70° W 65° W
10° S 15° S

BRAZIL
BOLIVIA
PERU
CHILE
Pacific Ocean

Alto Purus
Apurimac (Vilcabamba)
Manú
Manuripi - Heath
Amarakaeri
Tambopata - Candamo
Machu Picchu
Bahuaja-Sonene
Madidi
Apolobamba
Pilón-Lajas
Isiboro-Sécure
Cotapata
Carrasco
Amboró

Lake Titicaca

Huancayo
Huancavelica
Ayacucho
Abancay
Cuzco
Puno
Arequipa
Mollendo
La Paz
Viacha
Cochabamba
Cotcuni
Portachuelo
Montero
Oruro
Tacna
Vallegrande



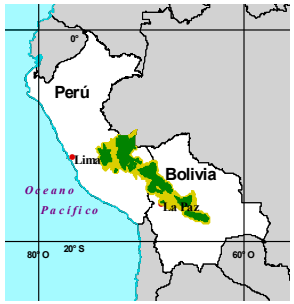
Corredor de Conservación Vilcabamba (Perú) - Amboró (Bolivia)

Áreas Naturales Protegidas
- Dentro del Corredor
- Fuera del Corredor

- Corredor Vilcabamba - Amboró
- Concesión de Conservación

- Ciudades
- Límites internacionales
- Caminos
- Ríos
- Lagos

40 0 40 80 120 160
Kilómetros Escala 1:6'000,000



Ubicación del Corredor Vilcabamba - Amboró
Escala.- 1:70'000,000

Proyección Mercator
Elipsoide WGS84

Febrero 2002
Elaborado por:
SIG - CI Perú
SIG - CI Bolivia

Tropical Andes Hotspot: Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor

Strategic Direction 1: Establish Effective Mechanisms for Transboundary Coordination, Collaboration and Catalytic Action within the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor

Transboundary Coordination Mechanism for the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor
Conservation International

- Develop corridor conservation strategy and seek agreement by stakeholders, formalize transboundary coordinating body, and develop and implement strategy to raise long-term funds for corridor conservation.
- Multiple
- $904,000.00
- Grant Term: 1/01-6/03

Tropical Andes Hotspot: Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor

Strategic Direction 2: Strengthen Binational Coordination of Protected Areas Systems

Creation and Effective Management of Forest Protected Areas in Peru
World Wildlife Fund, Inc.

- Through a debt-for-nature swap between the U.S. and Peruvian governments to guarantee long-term funding for protected areas, contribute funding for protection of three parks (Manu National Park, Amarakaeri Communal Reserve and Alto Purus Reserved Zone) in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor. This grant is expected to leverage $3.5 million in local currency over the next 12 years for grants to local Peruvian organizations to carry out activities related to the effective management of these protected areas.
- Peru
- $236,000.00
- Grant Term: 7/02-10/04

Improving Management and Consolidation of Selected Protected Areas Within the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor
Conservation International

- Consolidate Bahauja-Sonene, Madidi, Tambopata, Pilon Lajas and Apolobamba protected areas by finalizing their management plans and initiating management plan implementation.
- Multiple
- $439,757.00
- Grant Term: 1/01-6/03

Tropical Andes Hotspot: Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor

Strategic Direction 3: Encourage Community-based Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resource Management

Formalizing Forest Access and Implementing Sustainable Brazil Nut Management in Madre de Dios, Peru
Amazon Conservation Association

- Develop and implement a forest management model that conserves the Brazil nut forests in the Vilcabamba-Amboró corridor in Madre de Dios, Peru by protecting the forests' size and integrity, while improving the standard of living of Madre de Dios Brazil nut producers.
- Peru
- $163,963.00
- Grant Term: 11/02-11/04

Organizational Strengthening of the Council of Tacana Indigenous Peoples for Natural Resource Management and Conservation
Wildlife Conservation Society

- Help achieve the objectives of the Sustainable Development Plan for the Tierras Comunitarias de Origen Tacana by increasing awareness and education on such issues as sustainable development of lands and promotion of ecologically sound economic alternatives. Build capacity within communities to organize and ensure complementary conservation efforts.
- Bolivia
- $48,215.00
- Grant Term: 9/02-6/04

Prevention of Human-Induced Forest Fires in Madidi and Apolobamba National Parks
CARE Bolivia

- Establish partnerships with community-based organizations and cattle ranchers' association to promote the importance of controlling burning and involve these organizations in the development of sustainable natural resource practices. Conduct workshops, lectures and other activities and strengthen the capacities of local institutions to establish effective control of burning.
- Bolivia
- $193,743.00
- Grant Term: 8/02-12/03

Project Polylepis
American Bird Conservancy

- Help protect key polylepis forest areas, reforest high altitude watersheds with polylepis and develop community-based conservation programs to support these efforts.
- Bolivia
- $9,500.00
- Grant Term: 5/02-5/03

Reducing Deforestation in the Buffer Zone of Bolivia's Madidi National Park: Promoting the Cultivation, Manufacture and Use of Bamboo Products
Central de Pueblos Indigenas de La Paz

- Establish capacity-building centers to guide local communities in the sustainable cultivation of bamboo, as well as the manufacture and marketing of bamboo products at the local, regional and national levels.
- Bolivia
- $51,300.00
- Grant Term: 5/02-9/04

Biodiversity Conservation and Participative Sustainable Management of the Natural Resources of Amboró National Park and ANMIA
Probioma

- Undertake a participatory process in local communities to address conservation needs and sustainable practices in critical habitats.
- Bolivia
- $120,700.00
- Grant Term: 4/02-6/04

Learning Host to Host: Ecotourism Exchanges in the Tropical Andes
Selva Reps S.A.C.

- Bring together leaders of three ecotourism lodges with four communities in Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia to share lessons learned on ecotourism and ultimately compile best practices to share with other communities and private companies.
- Multiple
- $157,451.00
- Grant Term: 11/01-9/03

Developing Natural Resources Management Programs in Four Communities Within The Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor
Conservation International

- Through a participatory process, train communities and interested families in natural resource management by developing and initiating projects in select localities.
- Multiple
- $563,582.00
- Grant Term: 1/01-6/03

Tropical Andes Hotspot: Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor

Strategic Direction 4: Strengthen Public Awareness and Environmental Education

Conservation from the Schools: Networking and Partnerships in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor. Phase One: Pilon Lajas, Madidi and Apolobamba
Instituto para la Conservación y la Investigación de la Biodiversidad
- Strengthen the role of educational units in conservation through the training of teachers, the development of school-based environmental programs that mobilize entire communities and the establishment of a network of cooperation and information exchange among educational units and teachers.
- Bolivia
- $78,980.00
- Grant Term: 1/03-12/04

Healthy Ecosystems, Healthy People: Linkages Between Biodiversity, Ecosystem Health and Human Health
University of Western Ontario
- Cover travel and full participation costs for individuals from the Atlantic Forest, Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador, Guinean Forests of West Africa, Madagascar, Philippines and Tropical Andes hotspots to attend the Healthy Ecosystems, Healthy People conference.
- Multiple
- $5,550.00
- Grant Term: 5/02-7/02

This is a multiregional project covering six hotspots; the total grant amount is $27,200.

Enhancing Public Awareness for Improved Management of the Machu Picchu Sanctuary and its Surrounding Environment
Instituto Machu Picchu
- Conduct a comprehensive public awareness campaign about the sanctuary, including creation of a documentary film and development and distribution of press releases and media kits, a newsletter and radio and television spots.
- Peru
- $56,298.00
- Grant Term: 2/02-4/03

Building Awareness of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor in Peru and Bolivia
International Center for Journalists
- Stimulate and support good environmental reporting on the rich biodiversity of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor in Peru and Bolivia and efforts to conserve it. Activities include workshops for print, radio and television journalists, development of a mechanism for information exchange and distribution of awards for conservation reporting.
- Multiple
- $48,449.00
- Grant Term: 11/01-12/04

Developing and Implementing a Communication Strategy to Raise Awareness Among Key Audiences of the Importance of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor
Conservation International
- Develop and implement a communication strategy to strengthen awareness of the conservation corridor and its importance and ultimately create a broad constituency for its conservation.
- Multiple
- $420,475.00
- Grant Term: 1/01-12/03

Tropical Andes Hotspot: Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor

Strategic Direction 5: Strengthen Environmental Policy and Legal Frameworks to Mitigate the Impacts of Extraction Industries, Transportation and Infrastructure Projects, and Large-scale Tourism

Updating and Republication of Manual of Legal Tools for Private Conservation in Perú
Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental

- Revise and publish an additional 1,000 copies of the Manual of Legal Tools for Private Conservation in Peru produced through a previous CEPF-supported project to disseminate and implement legal tools for conservation in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Biodiversity Conservation Corridor.
- Peru
- $3,800.00
- Grant Term: 10/04-3/05

Disseminating and Implementing Legal Tools for Conservation in the Private Sector in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor
Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental

- Promote the use of conservation instruments such as conservation concessions, private reserve establishment and concessions for environmental services for land protection on the Peruvian side of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor as a complement to current government-sponsored conservation initiatives. Activities include an outreach campaign to the nongovernmental sector on Peru's new legislation that underpins such instruments, training for government officials on processing applications and publication of a guide on applying for conservation instruments.
- Bolivia
- $69,384.00
- Grant Term: 11/02-9/03

Restoration and Sustainable Management of Forest Resources in the Mining Zone of Tipuani, Bolivia
TRÓPICO

- Work with a local mining cooperative and municipality to develop a pilot project in ecological restoration following the closure of small-scale gold mines in the buffer zone of Apolobamba National Park.
- Bolivia
- $96,350.00
- Grant Term: 4/02-3/05

Evaluating Threats in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor
Conservation International

- Together with relevant actors, undertake a corridor-wide assessment to identify human-induced threats to biodiversity and develop and propose strategies to eliminate or mitigate their impact.
- Multiple
- $265,240.00
- Grant Term: 1/01-6/03

Tropical Andes Hotspot: Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor

Strategic Direction 6: Establish an Electronic Information Exchange and Coordinated Information and Data Gathering Mechanism

Implementing Basic Infrastructure for Local Area Networks (LAN), Internal Telephone Communications and a WAN Network Between the National Herbarium of Bolivia and the Bolivian Fauna Collection
Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Ecología

- Install a computer and telephone network connecting the National Herbarium of Bolivia and the Bolivian Fauna Collection as part of the first phase in a larger effort to interconnect all of the branches of the Instituto de Ecología.
- Bolivia
- $9,831.00
- Grant Term: 6/04-12/04

The Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor Biodiversity Information Management System: A Collaborative Internet Resource for Scientists, Educators and Conservation Managers
Asociación Peruana para la Conservación de la Naturaleza ($50,059.00) and
Fundación Amigos de la Naturaleza ($47,350.00) and
Fundación para el Desarrollo Agrario ($49,670.00) and
Fundación San Marcos para el Desarrollo de la Ciencia y la Cultura ($50,000.00)

- Create a mechanism for information sharing across the Vilcabamba-Amboró corridor, making relevant information available on projects, activities and monitoring indicators for biodiversity conservation. The project will also help build capacity of the organizations involved and help build alliances among all those working in the corridor.
- Multiple
- Grant Term: 1/04-12/06

Using the Eco-Index to Allow Organizations Working in Neotropical Hotspots to Share Experiences and Glean Lessons from Colleagues
Rainforest Alliance

- Facilitate the exchange of information about experiences, challenges and best practices developed through various conservation projects throughout Central and South America, including CEPF-funded projects in the Atlantic Forest, Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador, Mesoamerica and Tropical Andes hotspots. Project goals, experiences and information will be disseminated through the Eco-Index in English, Spanish, and where relevant, Portuguese.
- Multiple
- $47,335.53
- Grant Term: 10/02-3/04

This is a multiregional project covering four hotspots; the total grant amount is $189,727.

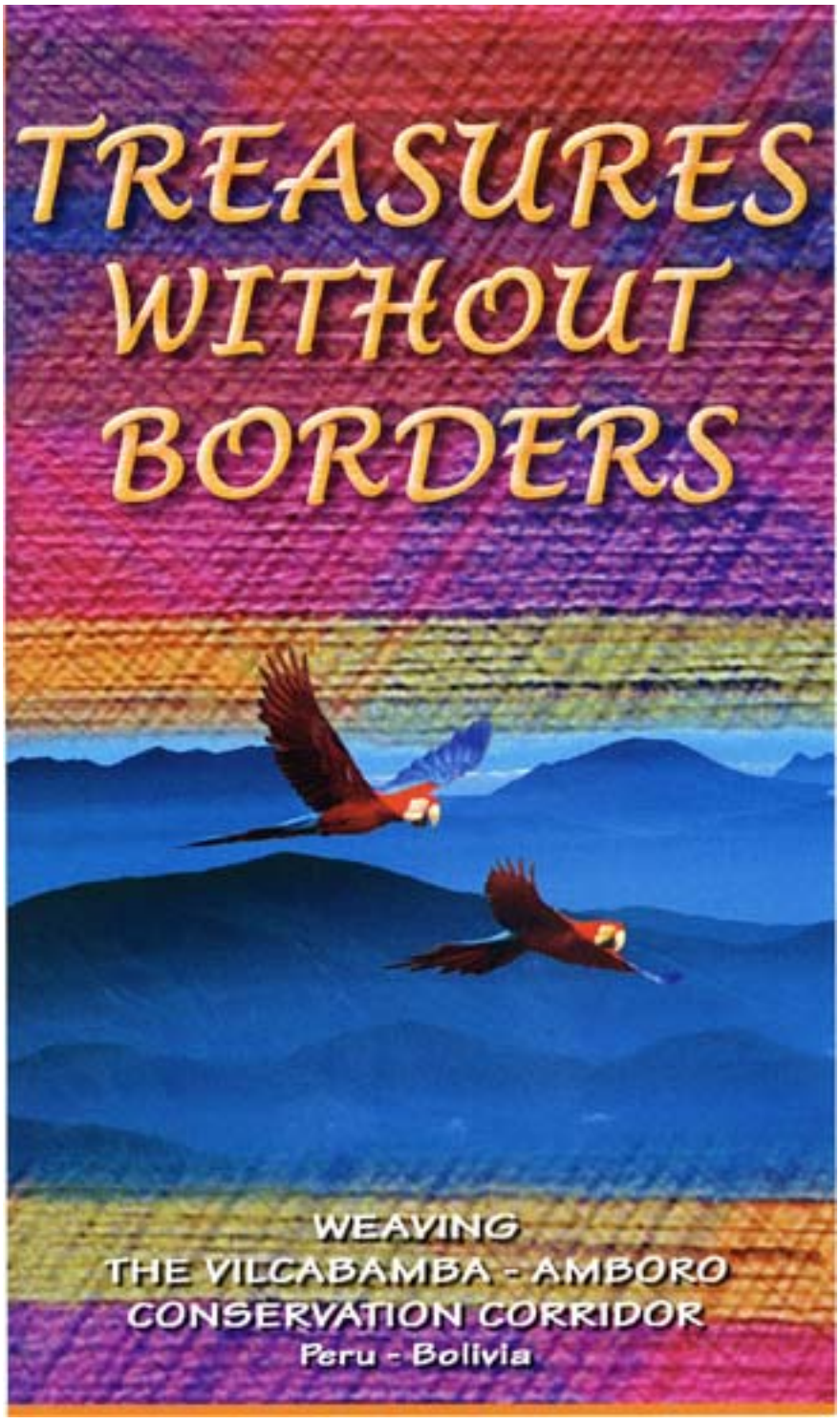
Monitoring Conservation Outcomes in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor
Amigos del Museo de Historia Natural Noel Kempff Mercado

- Organize and generate data to develop predictive models that show the spatial distribution of major habitat types in the region and indicate how future development will impact biodiversity. Using these tools, identify critical habitats as priorities, develop monitoring frameworks and assist conservation managers to effectively mitigate the impacts of negative impacts of future development on biodiversity.
- Multiple
- $355,196.00
- Grant Term: 9/02-12/05

TESOROS SIN FRONTERAS

TEJIENDO
EL CORREDOR DE CONSERVACIÓN
VILCABAMBA-AMBORÓ
PERÚ - BOLIVIA

www.conservation.org.pe


TREASURES
WITHOUT
BORDERS
WEAVING
THE VILCABAMBA - AMBORO
CONSERVATION CORRIDOR
Peru - Bolivia

CONSERVATION CORRIDOR

SERNAP
www.sernap.gov.bo

INRENA
www.inrena.gob.pe

With the support of:

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND
www.cepf.net

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL
www.conservation.org

VILCABAMBA AMBORO

PERU

BOLIVIA

CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL

Tesoros Sin Fronteras
(Treasures Without Borders)

A CI Documentary about the Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor

The Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor Communications Strategy, funded by CEPF, reached its peak in the months of January and April 2004, when the documentary *Tesoros Sin Fronteras* (Treasures Without Borders) was launched at gala events in Peru and Bolivia, and broadcast to nearly 3.8 millions of viewers, representing 10.2 % of the combined population of both countries.

The initiative was designed by CI-Peru, CI-Bolivia and CI's International Communications Department (InterCom) to promote the concept of conservation corridors – particularly the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor – among decision-makers and the general public. The campaign was launched in 2002 with a strategic alliance between Peru's Natural Resource Institute (INRENA) and Bolivia's National Protected Area Service (SERNAP). The initiative included an array of activities aimed at different audiences, including some geared toward journalists in both nations, such as training seminars, site visits and the Biodiversity Reporting Award for print and radio journalists. It also featured key partnerships with the private sector, the ecotourism industry and – most significantly – with the International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) and the International Federation of Environmental Journalists (IFEJ).

Tesoros Sin Fronteras was the centerpiece of the last phase of the campaign. The 26-minute documentary highlights unique sites and the communities found throughout the corridor, from snow-capped mountains and high plateaus to the rich tropical forests of Bolivia and Peru. Its travelogue structure, use of striking images and lucid script were aimed at clearly and concisely explaining the concept of conservation corridors in an entertaining fashion. The result is an easily accessible documentary that appeals to a broad public and conveys the sense of national pride and ownership that are key to the corridor's success.

Peru

On January 22, 2004 more than 550 people gathered at the Marriott Hotel in Lima, Peru, for the premiere of *Tesoros Sin Fronteras*. A national television celebrity hosted the event and the Minister of Agriculture was the keynote speaker, attracting a wide array of government officials, diplomats and other key decision-makers. The event was followed by regional launches in three main cities of the Corridor: Cusco, Satipo and Puerto Maldonado. Each of the regional events attracted hundreds of additional stakeholders and community members. The documentary was also shown to the members of the Infierno village, one of the remote filming sites in the heart of

the corridor. The community members were clearly pleased to have been invited to its regional *premiere*. According to a survey distributed at all the events, the vast majority of the participants were impressed with the quality of documentary and the clarity of its message.

Twelve days prior to the national broadcast on one of Peru's leading commercial networks *Frequencia Latina,* the station began heavily promoting the documentary by broadcasting two 45-second spots. Ultimately, the spots were broadcast 190 times, totaling 140 minutes – five times longer than the actual documentary. The spots, which included CI's name and logo, helped reinforce our institutional presence and credibility in the country. Considering that a 30-second spot costs an average of $275 and that *Frecuencia Latina* gave CI a total of 8,550 free seconds, the total value of the promotion reached $78,375.

On January 24, 2004, *Tesoros* was broadcast nationally on *Frecuencia Latina* and the promotion, combined with a primetime slot – Saturday at 10:00 PM – brought *Tesoros* to millions of viewers. On the following Saturday, *Frecuencia Latina* broadcast CI's documentary *Return to Tambopata* – which was launched in Peru in 1996 – during the same primetime slot, reinforcing the message on the Vilcabamba-Amboró initiative.

Both documentaries received very high ratings (12.9 and 12.8, respectively) ranking second in their time slot and beating out other high-rated programs. During its first showing, the documentary reached 947,100 viewers in Lima alone, according to the national organization that ranks broadcasts, IBOPE. The documentary also reached 587,000 viewers in other cities. Additionally, the network calculated that the "non-measurable" audience (those who receive *Frecuencia Latina* on cable and in cities not measured by IBOPE) is equivalent to 50% of the Lima audience, or 473,600 viewers. The rating for the second transmission of *Tesoros* on February 7, 2004 at 5:30 PM, was 3.3 points in Lima. Therefore, the documentary reached an additional 513,800 people all over the country. In total, we can estimate that over 2.5 million people have already seen *Tesoros Sin Fronteras* in Peru.

This was the first time that *Frecuencia Latina* aired a nature documentary and top managers were extremely pleased with the results, opening the possibility for future documentaries of the same genre.

The launching events and the national broadcast received considerable attention and *Tesoros* had been covered 64 times in the media, including a five-page article in *Caretas*, Peru's leading weekly magazine, and two full-page stories in *El Comercio*, the leading daily newspaper.

Bolivia

On April 14, 2004, *Tesoros* was launched at the Radisson Hotel in La Paz. The Minister of Sustainable Development Gustavo Pedraza was the keynote speaker at the event that drew some 700 decision makers, politicians, journalists, conservationists, and diplomats.

The event was followed by a regional launch in Santa Cruz on April 16, 2004, that gathered a crowd of 450 people. Minister Pedraza, who is a *cruceño*, was so impressed with the event in La Paz that he has also decided to participate in the event in his hometown. In addition, *Tesoros* was shown in the heart of the Bolivian corridor, Rurrenabaque, at a gathering that attracted 380 people. An event in Cochabamba drew 250 people.

Two television channels – *ATB Red Nacional* at 11:30 PM on April 19, 2004 and *TVN Televisión Nacional* on April 25 at 7:30 PM – broadcast the documentary. Both airings were followed by half-hour panel discussions with CI and SERNAP staff that reinforced the message. SERNAP's Director Jhonn Gomez, CI-Peru's Executive Director Antonio Telesca, CI-Bolivia's Eduardo Forno, CI-Bolivia's Manager Candido Pastor and VP for International Communications Haroldo Castro participated in the panels.

As in Peru, the networks have also launched a promotional campaign, running 30- and 55-second spots. The total value of the 107 television spots aired in both stations was estimated in $15,250. Both television networks also promoted the airing of *Tesoros* by publishing seven half-pages and two full pages advertisements in major national newspapers. The colorful ads in print media were worth $8,930, making a total of $24,180 in-kind donation in Bolivia. Adding the amount of promotional space from Peru, CI has received $102,555 of print and airing space in both countries.

Although Bolivia does not have a reliable system in place to measure television viewers, network executives estimated that 1.275 million Bolivians saw the program aired by both TV stations, indicating that 14.8% of the total of 8.6 million Bolivians have seen the documentary. In Peru, *Tesoros* was seen by 2.52 million viewers, 8.8% of the total population of 28.5 million.

Bolivia's media gave the project tremendous support, and strategic meetings with directors of major newspapers in La Paz and Santa Cruz helped generate a cascade of articles. By the end of May 2004, *Tesoros* had been covered 156 times in the media. In print media alone, 56 articles were published featuring 134 photographs and totaling 44 full pages. Radio stations aired four hours and 11 minutes worth of *Tesoros* coverage and total TV time dedicated to *Tesoros* was more nine hours and 32 minutes.

After the Launchings

Surveys were conducted at the launching events in both countries. In Peru, 208 individuals were polled during January 2004 at sites in Lima, Cuzco, Puerto Maldonado and Satipo. In April 2004, 466 questionnaires were completed in Bolivia. Sites included La Paz, Santa Cruz, Rurrenabaque and Cochabamba. The surveys determined what changes in awareness, knowledge, and attitude occurred within target audiences regarding the Vilcabamba-Amboró conservation corridor. A brief analysis of the results follows.

Since its broadcast in Peru and Bolivia, *Tesoros* has taken on a life of its own. An environmental group in northern Argentina recently presented the documentary in Jujuy and requests for the video have poured in from universities, tour operators and NGOs as far away as Spain, Costa Rica and the U.S.

In July 2004, Brazilian environmental journalist Liana John published "Tesouros Sem Fronteiras" in Brazil's monthly magazine *Terra da Gente,* focusing eleven pages and 19 photos on the Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor.

Most importantly, both CI-Peru and CI-Bolivia have benefited from the increased visibility and the documentary has been key to building solid government relationships and opening new sources of financing for the corridor. The documentary increased motivation to participate in Corridor actions and was also directly responsible for CI-Peru reaching a conservation agreement with the regional government in Cusco.

Diana Tamashiro, General Manager of National Tourism for the Commission for the Promotion of Peru (PromPeru), has promoted the documentary and the corridor through their events, tourist fairs and workshops.

During three weeks in May, all major airports in Bolivia screened the documentary an average of ten times daily at their boarding gates. To celebrate the World Environmental Day on June 5, TNV, the state-owned network, broadcasted a series of videos, including *Tesoros Sin Fronteras*, followed by panel discussions at 8 p.m. on Sundays for five weeks, starting on June 8. Ten promotional spots aired throughout the week to support the 30-minute programs. The series was announced throughout the national press and radio stations.

The Bolivian Ecological Society (Sociedad Boliviana de Ecología) has disseminated the video within its facilities, and requested the video for its *Conservando Nuestro Planeta* series, aired by Channel 13, the University TV. Centro Integral Boliviano Alemán (CIBA), which operates a small mobile unit, has broadcasted the video throughout communities in Madidi National Park. Madidi National Park management has copied and distributed the documentary in its stores and fairs, while CI-Bolivia will offer the video to bus companies to screen the program on-board their vehicles. A presentation was also made to Carrasco National Park park guards, an important step in multiplying messages to the general public.

CI-Bolivia has also participated in three fairs, organized in conjunction with the Municipality of La Paz and El Alto. The fairs aired the video and provided an informative booth about CI's projects and protected areas. In Peru, the documentary was presented at the International Book Fair, organized by the Cámara Peruana del Libro, an organizational body representing editorial firms and book distributors. This six-day event (from July 27 to August 1) was held in the fair's Exhibition Hall in Lima, with an average estimated daily attendance between 100 and 150 people. On August 15, the IX Book Fair showed the video in La Paz, Bolivia. Promotion included flyers distributed throughout the fair. The small room, originally set up for 30 people,

needed to receive additional chairs to host more than 75 attendees. Following the screening, many visited CI's booth to purchase their personal copy of the VHS or DVD.

In October, six months after the launch, broadcasts continue on local channels in Rurrenabaque and Villa Tunari, where *Tesoros* was aired before an evening "telenovela" at 8pm. It is also being screened in Villa Tunari an average of ten times daily during meals in a local restaurant.

Video screenings, along with presentations regarding the Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor, were conducted throughout national universities in both Peru and Bolivia. On September 7, 2004 *Tesoros Sin Fronteras* was aired at Bolivia's Universidad Mayor San Andrés to an audience of more than 100 students of the Geology Department.

During the last few months CI-Bolivia contacted the people that make pirated copies of videos and DVDs in La Paz, persuading them to sell copies of *Tesoros*. Our staff confirmed that local vendors are selling "pirated copies" for $5 for VHS and $7 for DVDs.

Acknowledgements

The entire International Communications team was involved in the initiative, including documentary director and presenter Haroldo Castro, producer and editor Flavia Castro, production coordinator John Martin, designer Fernando Urrea, and media manager Jim Wyss. In Peru, Executive Director Antonio Telesca, Vice President Carlos Ponce, communicator Nina Pardo, Tambopata Director Ernesto Raez, and Technical Director Luis Espinel, among others, were instrumental in making the launching a huge success. In Bolivia, CI communicator Mery Ruth Mariaca did an exemplary job of working with the media, along with her colleague Fatima Molina. CI-Bolivia Executive Director Eduardo Forno and his staff also put in immense amount of effort to guarantee the project's success.

Based upon the combined number of media hits and advertisement placements, the *Tesoros* campaign was undoubtedly one of CI's most successful international media initiatives in the organization's history. Media hits numbered 226 articles and broadcasts, and free advertising placements reached 362, totaling 588 hits.

The documentary has also been recognized in the international film festival circuit. The International Wildlife Film Festival in Missoula, Montana, has granted *Tesoros Sin Fronteras* two awards: the Conservation Message Merit Award and the Script Merit Award. Recently, TeleNatura Festival, organized by Navarra University of Pamplona, Spain, has granted the "Conservation Values Award" to CI's program.

Haroldo Castro
Vice President for Global Awareness

Tesoros Sin Fronteras
(Treasures Without Borders)

Survey in Peru and Bolivia

Surveys were conducted at the launching events in Peru and Bolivia to determine what changes in awareness, knowledge, and attitude occurred within target audiences toward the Vilcabamba-Amboró conservation corridor. In both countries, the surveys yielded positive results.

The documentary successfully conveyed "corridor" and "biodiversity" concepts to the target audiences. People acknowledged the importance of knowing, loving, and taking action in favor of conservation. Survey results in both countries demonstrated that the video effectively presented new ideas regarding Bolivia and Peru's similarities, as well as new information about the neighboring country.

The documentary also helped viewers discover the need for ongoing conservation education, positive experiences in local communities and ways to improve their living conditions without damaging the environment. A considerable majority recognized the video as a stimulus to build awareness. The video transformed their perspective, helping encourage individuals to assume responsibility, take action and become multipliers in favor of conservation biodiversity.

Results by Poll Location

A full report on the survey research is available, and some of the findings are summarized below. Of those respondents who had seen the video:

Peru: Poll taken in January 2004, number of questionnaires: 208

- 99% of the respondents correctly described the content of the documentary, an indicator that the main messages of the documentary were clear and salient. They described the video as covering conservation corridors, biodiversity, the natural richness of both countries, threats to conservation, ecotourism, economic alternatives, and the importance of indigenous communities to conservation.
- 93% of respondents described the videos as "educational" and interesting" (selecting either Agree or Strongly Agree).
- Nearly all respondents outside the capital said they learned something new from the video (100% in Satipo, 97% in Cuzco, 95% in Puerto Maldonado but only 20% in Lima).
- In an open-ended question, more than a third of respondents in all regions correctly defined a conservation corridor. This is a high number given the difficulty of correctly defining a new concept, based upon an initial introduction to an idea.

Bolivia: Poll taken in April 2004, number of questionnaires: 466

- 60% of the respondents heard of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor before watching the video. Most of them heard about it through TV, other media sources and friends. This is positive evidence of the effectiveness of the media campaign beforehand.
- 94% of respondents correctly described the location of the corridor.
- 66% of people were able to choose the correct definition of a conservation corridor.
- 86% of the survey participants who answered this question had heard of CI prior to receiving the invitation to the launching event. This evidence illustrates CI's visibility prior to the campaign.
- 94% answered that they learned something from the documentary, and no one qualified it as "boring" or "poor".
- 90% remembered hearing the word "biodiversity" during the video, and 67% of these respondents could correctly define the term.
- 98% would recommend the documentary to other people.
- In an open question where people were asked to write about what they considered to be of the utmost importance regarding the video the following responses were noted:
    - The documentary should be shown in all the cities and regions of the country.
    - It should be used as an educational tool in schools and universities.
    - Its messages should be disseminated to all social stratus.
    - It is valuable as an informative mechanism to distant/remote communities.
    - The video should be shown in all rural and urban schools.

Uribe pide ayuda a la ON… y países vecinos [a12]

francés Zidane ausentes en el debut [dt6-7]

para reclamar indemnizaciones por accidentes [a9]

HOY RECL… Comida C…

LIMA, MARTES 28 DE MAYO DEL 2002 DIRECTOR GENERAL: ALEJANDRO MIRÓ QUESADA G. DIRECTOR: ALEJANDRO MIRÓ QUESADA C. AÑO 163 Nº 84.225 • PRECIO EN LIMA S/.

INDEPENDENCIA Y VERACIDAD

El Comercio

AL SERVICIO DEL PAÍS DESDE 1839

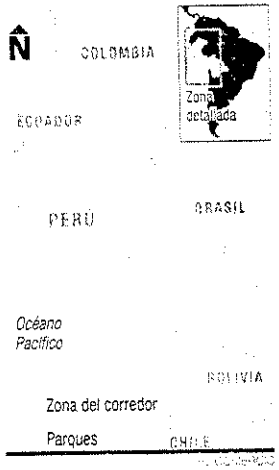
www.elcomercioperu.com.pe

INTEGRACIÓN BINACIONAL DE RECURSOS NATURALES

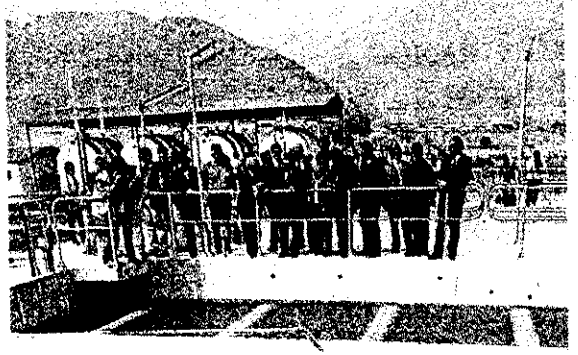
Crean corredor ecológico entre Perú y Bolivia

Treinta millones de hectáreas serán conservadas

En un ejemplar esfuerzo binacional por preservar una de las zonas más ricas en biodiversidad del planeta se creó por primera vez un corredor de conservación que integra ocho áreas naturales protegidas del Perú y siete de Bolivia. Se trata del corredor Vilcabamba-Amboró, que comprende un territorio de 30 millones de hectáreas. Este vital ecosistema, que se encuentra dentro de una de las 25 zonas de protección mundial ('hotspot' de los Andes), posee el doble de plantas vasculares que cualquier otra área del mundo. **Tiene los mayores niveles de endemismo en el mundo. [b14]**



DANTE PIAGGIO



AGUA BENDITA. El líquido es captado del subsuelo y del río Chillón para ser posteriormente tratado.

TEMA DEL DÍA.

Hay más agua para cono norte desde aye

No podía ser de otra ma… brindis que propuso el pre… Alejandro Toledo tras la i… ración de la segunda planta… tamiento más grande d… después de La Atarjea fue… vaso de agua.

Luego de dos años d… trucción, la obra que cal… sed de los pobladores de s… tritos del cono norte fue pr… da ayer por el consorcio i… ruano Agua Azul, el cual t… su cargo la administración… mado Proyecto de Apr… miento Óptimo de las Ag… perficiales del Río Chillón… te 25 años.

Al cabo de ellos, la co… ción, en la que se invirtió… llones dolares, será entre… Estado. El líquido debid… tratado será vendido únic… a Sedapal. **Beneficiará a … personas. [a2-3]**

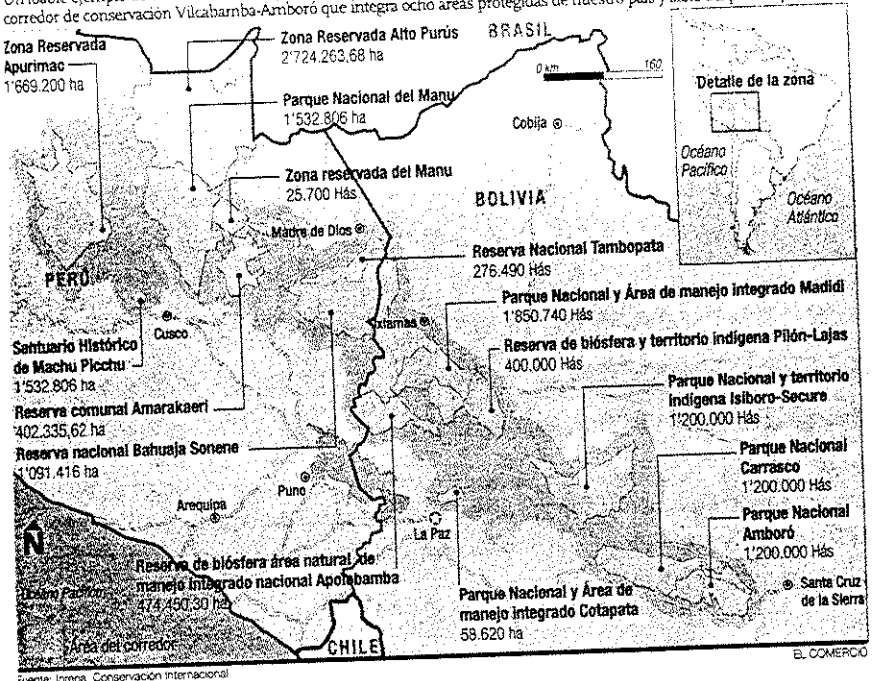
RESERVAN LA VI

Ecológico esfuerzo binacional

Crean corredor de conservación entre el Perú y Bolivia que comprende 30 millones de hectáreas e integra ocho zonas peruanas protegidas y siete bolivianas

Un corredor de vida

Un loable ejemplo de unión, esta vez en pro de la conservación de la naturaleza, llevan a cabo Perú y Bolivia al crear el corredor de conservación Vilcabamba-Amboró que integra ocho áreas protegidas de nuestro país y siete del país altiplánico.



Fuente: Inrena, Conservación Internacional

CARLOS NECOCHEA FLORES

Fue una gran noticia como celebración del Día Mundial de la Biodiversidad. Por primera vez en nuestro país y también en Bolivia se reveló durante un importante taller internacional realizado en Lima por especialistas de ambos países. En la reunión se llegó a importantes acuerdos para diseñar las estrategias de comunicación que se deben seguir entre el Perú y Bolivia se reveló durante un importante taller internacional realizado en Lima por especialistas de ambos países. En la reunión se llegó a importantes acuerdos para diseñar las estrategias de comunicación que se deben seguir procesos de fragmentación y aislamiento y brinda mayores oportunidades para el mantenimiento y la reproducción de las especies de flora y fauna.

Gustavo Suárez de Freitas, director general de Áreas Naturales

WALTER WUST/CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

VITAL Y HERMOSA. La selva de Madre de Dios es una de las más ricas en biodiversidad. Largos acantilados de arcilla a orillas del río Manu sirven de refugio a la inmensa flora y fauna.

Hay 50 mil especies vasculares

El 'hotspot' Andes Tropicales, lugar donde se encuentra el corredor de conservación Vilcabamba-Amboró (Perú-Bolivia), ha sido denominado el "centro mundial de la biodiversidad" por el doctor Norman Myers, quien introdujo el concepto de 'hotspot' en los años 80.

Comprende las zonas andinas de Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Perú, Bolivia y Argentina con un territorio de más de 75 millones de kilómetros cuadrados. Las zonas más importantes y ricas, sin embargo, están situadas entre Perú, Bolivia y Ecuador.

Según investigadores biólogos y ecólogos de Conservación Internacional, esta cadena montañosa, aparte de tener variados territorios y microclimas que conforman ricos y únicos ecosistemas, ostenta cifras impresionantes en biodiversidad.

Así, en el de plantas vasculares (plantas superiores que poseen vasos para transportar sus nutrientes), posee aproximadamente entre 45 mil y 50 mil especies, o aproximadamente el 15% del total del mundo y el do-

servación para preservar [illegible] de las zonas más ricas y [illegible] jas en formas de vida en todo el mundo, gran parte de las cuales se encuentra en serio peligro de extinción.

Se trata del corredor de conservación Vilcabamba-Amboró, que comprende 30 millones de hectáreas extendidas desde la zona reservada de Apurímac (Vilcabamba) en el Perú hasta el parque nacional Amboró en Bolivia.

Las áreas naturales protegidas del Perú que se integran a este corredor son de Apurímac, Alto Purús, Manu (zona reservada y parque nacional), Machu Picchu, Amarakaeri, Bahuaja Sonene, Tambopata. De Bolivia son Madidi, Cotapata, Apolobamba, Pilón-Lajas, Isiboro Secure, Carrasco, Amboró.

Este singular y vital esfuerzo [illegible] lucrar a diferentes actores en el desarrollo de este singular gran espacio de protección, considerado una de las mayores y vitales zonas de biodiversidad mundial.

En el encuentro organizado por el Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales (Inrena) y Conservación Internacional, profesionales y ecólogos del Perú y Bolivia resaltaron la importancia de este corredor porque está ubicado en el 'hotspot' (ecorregiones terrestres prioritarias) Andes Tropicales, una de las regiones más ricas del mundo, donde además se encuentra la más vasta diversidad cultural, con aproximadamente 25 millones de personas de 165 grupos étnicos.

Vilcabamba-Amboró destaca además porque es un mosaico de suelos que interconecta diversos hábitat cercanos (en diferentes estados de conservación), elimina [illegible] la creación de este corredor es un esfuerzo de conservación entre el Perú y Bolivia. Además, estrecha sus relaciones y logra acuerdos relativos a enfoques y estrategias que permitan lograr las metas trazadas para la creación de este corredor.

El concepto de corredor es originalmente una propuesta generada por investigadores en el campo de la biología de la conservación. En su visión inicial, un corredor de biodiversidad es un terreno lineal ubicado entre dos áreas protegidas y cumple la función de conectarlas entre sí para promover el intercambio reproductivo entre poblaciones aisladas de organismos biológicos. En este sentido, el mapa del corredor procura delinearse aprovechando pasillos naturales de conexión entre parques y reservas naturales, sobre los cuales se enfocan los esfuerzos de conservación. ■

EL DATO

Las amenazas y las ventajas

■ Los peligros se ciernen sobre el corredor de conservación Vilcabamba-Amboró. Según Conservación Internacional (CI), en la actualidad hay un manejo insuficiente de las áreas naturales protegidas, deforestación, se explota hidrocarburos, crecen las actividades mineras, la extracción de madera no se controla y cada vez se construye más caminos y represas.

■ La pobreza rural tampoco contribuye con los objetivos de conservación, pues los pobladores locales pueden ser agentes de depredación al tener como prioridad la satisfacción inmediata de sus necesidades básicas, en lugar de emplear los recursos en forma sostenible.

■ Se considera también una amenaza el poco intercambio de información acerca de las características biológicas, socioeconómicas y culturales de la región, y la falta de coordinación entre los diversos individuos e instituciones vinculados al corredor.

■ CI, principal impulsor de la formación del corredor de conservación Vilcabamba-Amboró, espera que a través de este esfuerzo en diez años se hayan asociado funcionalmente las áreas naturales protegidas y los hábitat naturales.

[illegible] prioritaria.

Los niveles de endemismo de la flora son impresionantes, con 20 mil especies que no se encuentran en ninguna otra región del mundo.

También alberga la mayor diversidad de aves (1.666 especies). De estas, 677 son endémicas.

Lo vital de esta zona (Andes Tropicales) está reflejado además en la diversidad y endemismo de especies anfibias y de reptiles, que supera las cifras para plantas y aves. Los anfibios suman 830 especies y los reptiles 479.

También de un total de 414 especies de mamíferos (el tercer lugar entre todos los 'hotspots' del mundo), 68 son endémicas.

Press Releases April 14, 2004

Bolivia and Peru Working to Protect a Species-Rich Area the Size of Nevada

New documentary airing in Bolivia highlights the Vilcabamba-Amboro Corridor

LA PAZ, BOLIVIA - Bolivia and Peru - two of the most biologically rich and diverse nations in the western hemisphere - are working together to help conserve an area the size of Nevada called the Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor.

The Corridor, which stretches from Amboró National Park near Santa Cruz, Bolivia to the Vilcabamba mountain range in central Peru, covers an area of 300,000 square kilometers and links 19 core protected areas, including historical sanctuaries and indigenous reserves. It also helps link an additional eight protected areas with the communities that surround them, involving local populations in the conservation effort.

As part of an initiative to raise local and international awareness about the Corridor, a new documentary called "Tesoros Sin Fronteras" or "Treasures Without Borders," is being aired today in La Paz. The video is a 26-minute journey through the Corridor produced by Conservation International (CI), in collaboration with Bolivia's National Service for Protected Areas (SERNAP) and Peru's National Institute for Natural Resources (INRENA).

From the very first scene shot in the middle of Heath River, which delimits the boundary between Bolivia and Peru, the documentary celebrates the region's richness and the bilateral cooperation that makes the Corridor possible.

"This documentary is an invitation to reflect on the fact that we are an integral part of an extraordinary landscape and that our actions have an impact on the future of our biodiversity," said Eduardo Forno, CI-Bolivia's executive director. "Tesoros is a testament to the pioneering effort of the governments and people of Bolivia and Peru to promote conservation and sustainable development in the region."

The documentary was first shown in Peru in January, where it was one of the top-rated shows in its time-slot and reached some 2.5 million viewers. The launching and national broadcast received considerable media attention and more than 30 media outlets featured the corridor story.

Directed and hosted by Haroldo Castro, a prize-winning cinematographer who has produced more than 30 nature documentaries, Tesoros was the result of four trips to the region and

almost 40 hours of footage.

"The documentary explores the Corridor's biological treasures, from the Andes' snow-covered peaks, to the mineral rich clay-licks deep in the Amazon that attract thousands of macaws and parrots," said Haroldo Castro, who is also CI's vice president for International Communications. "Throughout the film, the production carries a message of hope - that conservation and development are compatible. Bolivians and Peruvians should be proud to be the guardians of these natural and cultural treasures."

Although the Corridor is renowned in Latin America, it is also important on an international scale. It is key to protecting a significant portion of the Tropical Andes Hotspot, which is considered the single-most biodiversity-rich region in the world as it is home to more than 10 percent of the world's bird species and more than 15 percent of the globe's vegetation.

"Bolivia encompasses an immense amount of biodiversity, which is truly a strategic resource for our nation if we can properly protect it, guarantee its conservation and make sure that it is used in a sustainable fashion for the benefit of the people," said the director of Bolivia's SERNAP Jhonn Gomez. "That is a challenge that we are facing head-on with neighboring Peru by creating the Vilcabamba-Amboro Corridor."

"Tesoros Sin Fronteras" is the culmination of a two-year communication strategy aimed at raising local and international awareness about the Corridor. The effort was made possible with the support of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF). The musician Govi, of Real Music, and the band Barefoot, of Global Pacific Records, provided the music for Tesoros. It was narrated by Mario Martínez.

###

Photographs, video clips and interviews available on request.

CONTACT
Jim Wyss
jwyss@conservation.org
(202) 912-1388

Conservation International (CI) applies innovations in science, economics, policy and community participation to protect the Earth's richest regions of plant and animal diversity in the biodiversity hotspots, high-biodiversity wilderness areas and key marine ecosystems. With headquarters in Washington, D.C., CI works in more than 40 countries on four continents. For more information about CI, visit www.conservation.org.

Press Releases

January 21, 2004

Corredor Vilcabamba-Amboró, Un Esfuerzo Binacional

Perú y Bolivia promueven estrategia de conservación en el Corredor Vilcabamba-Amboró

LIMA, PERÚ- Como parte de un esfuerzo binacional para resaltar la importancia del Corredor de Conservación Vilcabamba-Amboró, Conservación Internacional, fundación comprometida con la conservación de la diversidad biológica del planeta, conjuntamente con el Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales (INRENA) del Perú y el Servicio Nacional de Areas Protegidas (SERNAP) de Bolivia, vienen desarrollando una serie de acciones a nivel internacional y nacional.

El Corredor, una iniciativa binacional que ayuda a conservar una de las regiones biológicamente más ricas en el mundo, tiene un área de aproximadamente 30 millones de hectáreas - seis veces más grande que Costa Rica. Se extiende desde la cordillera de Vilcabamba, en el centro de Perú, hasta el Parque Nacional Amboró, en Bolivia, y forma un gran paisaje de espacios de tierras que tienen distintos usos, incluyendo áreas protegidas, tierras indígenas, terrenos agrícolas, poblados y ciudades. Su propósito es evitar la extinción de las especies, promoviendo que las actividades humanas en la zona se realicen de manera sostenible, beneficiando a las poblaciones locales y a las naciones.

"Conocemos que las áreas protegidas aisladas físicamente y que además no permiten una participación ciudadana en sus acciones de conservación, simplemente no son viables", dice Antonio Telesca, Director Ejecutivo de CI-Perú. "El Corredor de Conservación comparte una visión integral que permite conciliar la protección de la biodiversidad con las necesidades del desarrollo sostenible".

Aunque la conservación de esta región ha sido una prioridad por años, la estrategia de desarrollar un Corredor trans-fronterizo empezó en el año 1999 y se ha convertido en un modelo a escala internacional.

"El diseño de un Corredor de Conservación entre dos países hermanos como Perú y Bolivia es una iniciativa alentadora para la protección de las áreas naturales y el uso de los recursos naturales para fomentar el desarrollo sostenible", dice Dr. Cesar álvarez Falcón, Director del INRENA.

Desde el año 2002, CI y docenas de otras instituciones de la sociedad civil, y los gobiernos de Perú y Bolivia, han trabajado para informar al público sobre la importancia del Corredor y de los tesoros

naturales que éste contiene. Uno de los ejes principales de este esfuerzo es el trabajo de comunicación para aumentar la información que llega al público sobre la biodiversidad.

(CONT.)

La campaña de comunicación del Corredor de Conservación Vilcabamba-Amboró se consolida este mes con el lanzamiento de "Tesoros Sin Fronteras". El documental es un viaje de 26 minutos a través del corredor que resalta algunas de sus bellezas: desde los picos nevados andinos y el altiplano - territorio de la vicuña, que fue cazada hasta el borde de la extinción en los setentas - hasta los densos bosques tropicales donde barrancos de arcilla, o collpas, atraen a miles de loros, guacamayos y otras especies.

Dirigido y presentado por Haroldo Castro, "Tesoros Sin Fronteras" es el resultado de cuatro viajes a la región y casi 40 horas de tomas.

"Los peruanos y bolivianos deben estar muy orgullosos de ser los guardianes de tantos tesoros naturales y culturales. El documental trae un mensaje de esperanza que afirma que la protección y el desarrollo pueden ser compatibles", dice Castro, quien es también vicepresidente de Comunicación Internacional de CI. "El programa no solo celebra la cooperación binacional que ha hecho del Corredor un éxito, pero también es una forma de reconocer el rol que tienen las comunidades que viven en estas áreas tan ricas y sus esfuerzos de conservación".

El Corredor es reconocido internacionalmente por albergar una importante parte de la zona conocida como el Hotspot de los Andes Tropicales - la cual contiene más del 15 por ciento de toda la vida vegetal del planeta y cientos de especies en peligro de extinción. Entre las especies únicas de este hotspot, se destacan el oso de anteojos (Tremarctos ornatus), el mono choro de cola amarilla (Lagothrix flavicauda) y el picaflor gigante (Patagona gigas peruviana).

Pero más allá de su importancia biológica y para la conservación de especies, el Corredor ayuda conservar algunas de los sitios históricos y culturales más importantes del hemisferio, entre ellos el Santuario Histórico Machu Picchu. Declarado Patrimonio de la Humanidad por la UNESCO en 1983, Machu Picchu es una de las joyas culturales más importantes del mundo y es el principal atractivo turístico de América del Sur. El Corredor también es el hogar para más de 40 grupos étnicos, que representan el patrimonio cultural de la región.

###

Fotografías, video clip y entrevistas disponibles

Para más información sobre CI, favor visitar a: www.conservation.org

CONTACT
Jim Wyss
jwyss@conservation.org
(202) 912-1327

Conservation International (CI) applies innovations in science, economics, policy and community participation to protect the Earth's richest regions of plant and animal diversity in the biodiversity hotspots, high-biodiversity wilderness areas and key marine ecosystems. With headquarters in Washington, D.C., CI works in more than 40 countries on four continents. For more information about CI, visit www.conservation.org.


Email this page

ABOUT CEPF

OUR STRATEGY

CEPF NEWS

Press Releases

E-News Top Stories

In Focus Features

WHERE WE WORK

RECENT GRANTS

APPLY FOR GRANTS

Print this page

Rainforest Alliance Launches Expanded Eco-Index

November 2003

English / Español

Now it is easier than ever to find detailed information about conservation projects in Latin America through the Eco-Index, an Internet resource managed by the Rainforest Alliance. The Alliance launched a redesigned and expanded Eco-Index site earlier this month to help busy conservationists more speedily discover what their colleagues are doing in the region.

The Eco-Index now has information about more than 550 projects of 400 nongovernmental organizations and government ministries throughout the Neotropics, including all four biodiversity hotspots where CEPF supports projects. The site is in English and Spanish, while profiles of Brazil-based projects are also available in Portuguese. The database is searchable by keyword, country, organization, funders and/or by 70 different categories.

Each project profile holds a wealth of well-organized information, such as objectives, accomplishments, budget, donors and lessons learned. Details about available reports or studies are included, with many available in PDF format for immediate downloading. Reports are downloaded from the site some 6,000 times each month, so if you want to ensure that your studies are reaching the people who can truly learn from them, the Eco-Index is the best choice for low-cost distribution.

The Eco-Index's "What's New?" page is an online environmental magazine, updated each month. Read interviews with foundation officers and researchers in the field, highlights of exceptional new projects, a newsletter featuring articles about Neotropical conservation projects and more.

According to Diane Jukofsky, director of Neotropics Communications at the Rainforest Alliance, there are more than 20 CEPF-funded projects already in the Eco-Index database, with more added each month.

"We've chosen some of the most innovative CEPF-funded projects to receive our special monthly awards," she said. "For example, 'Creation and Effective Management of

DID YOU KN

Press release: Alliance Launch Online Encyclop Conservation P Neotropics (PDF

From the news Rainforest Allia Expand Virtual Resource in Ne

It's easy to add to the Eco-Inde Click here to co short questionn e-mail your requ questionnaire d index@ra.org

Learn more abo

Forest Protected Areas in Peru' was recently recognized for its use of a particularly helpful monitoring and evaluation methodology."

Project directors submit information on the Eco-Index via a template questionnaire, available on-site or upon request by sending an e-mail to eco-index.org. To ensure the quality of information, Eco-Index staff members, based in New York and Costa Rica, carefully edit, fact check and translate each questionnaire.

Jukofsky noted that the popularity of the Eco-Index continues to grow, with more than 16,000 visitors each month. "Through the Eco-Index the conservation community is establishing a permanent record of innovative efforts to safeguard biodiversity in the Neotropics," she said. She urged directors of the many conservation projects supported by CEPF in the region to submit their completed questionnaires and share their knowledge and experiences.

La Alianza para Bosques Lanza su Eco-Index expandido

Ahora, a través del Eco-Index, un recurso en Internet manejado por la Alianza para Bosques, es más fácil que nunca encontrar información detallada sobre proyectos de conservación en América Latina. A principios de mes, la Alianza lanzó su sitio Eco-Index rediseñado y expandido para ayudar a los conservacionistas ocupados a descubrir velozmente lo que están haciendo sus colegas en la región.

El Eco-Index presenta más de 550 proyectos de 400 organizaciones no gubernamentales, y ministerios de gobierno de todo el Neotrópico, incluyendo los cuatro sitios de biodiversidad en los que el CEPF apoya proyectos. El sitio es totalmente bilingüe, español e inglás, y los perfiles de los proyectos originarios de Brasil son traducidos al portuguás. La base de datos que puede ser investigada por país, por palabra clave, por organización, por patrocinador o por 73 categorías.

Cada perfil de proyecto cuenta con una valiosa cantidad de información convenientemente organizada, como por ejemplo objetivos, logros, presupuesto, donantes y lecciones aprendidas. Se incluyen detalles sobre los informes o estudios disponibles, muchos de los cuales se encuentran en formato PDF, que permite descargarlos de inmediato. Los informes son bajados del sitio alrededor de 6.000 veces por mes, de manera que si le interesa que sus estudios lleguen a la gente que realmente puede aprender de ellos, el Eco-Index es la mejor elección para una distribución de bajo costo.

La sección “¿Qué hay de Nuevo?” es una una revista ambiental en línea, que se actualiza cada mes; presenta entrevistas con representantes de las fundaciones y con investigadores de campo; se destacan algunos de los proyectos nuevos más relevantes que fueron agregados al Eco-Index y un noticiero bimensual con artículos sobre proyectos de conservación en el Neotropical.

Según Diane Jukofsky, directora de Comunicaciones para el Neotrópico de la Alianza para Bosques, en la base de datos ya hay más de 20 proyectos financiados por CEPF, y cada mes se agregan otros.

Ella dijo: "Hemos elegido algunos de los proyectos financiados por CEPF por ser los más innovadores para recibir el reconocimiento especial del mes.

"Por ejemplo, "Creation and Effective Management of Forest Protected Areas in Peru" recientemente recibió un reconocimiento por usar una metodología de monitoreo y evaluación particularmente valiosa" (vea la historia al respecto en: Control Posts to Help Combat Illegal Logging)

La información existente en el Eco-Index es enviada por los directores de los proyectos, utilizando un cuestionario modelo, disponible en el Eco-Index o que pueden solicitar por correo electrónico a eco-index.org. Para asegurar la calidad de la información, el personal del Eco-Index, en las oficinas de Nueva York y en Costa Rica, editan cuidadosamente, revisan y traducen cada uno de los cuestionarios.

Jukofsky ha notado que la popularidad del Eco-Index continúa creciendo, llegando a más de 16.000 visitantes por mes y señala: "A través del Eco-Index, la comunidad de conservacionistas, está estableciendo un registro permanente de esfuerzos innovadores para salvaguardar la biodiversidad en el Neotrópico".

Ella urge a los directores de los muchos proyectos conservacionistas patrocinados por CEPF, en la regiín, a enviar sus cuestionarios completos y a compartir sus conocimientos y experiencias.

Subscribe to the Newsletter or View more E-News top stories

E-mail this page

ABOUT CEPF

OUR STRATEGY

CEPF NEWS

Press Releases

E-News Top Stories

In Focus Features

WHERE WE WORK

RECENT GRANTS

APPLY FOR GRANTS

Print this page

Saving Polylepis Forests in Peru

In Focus, September 2003

by Abigail Rome

The Andean condor, often referred to as the bird with the largest wingspan in the world, usually takes the credit as the flagship species for the mountain range that runs the length of South America. However, several lesser-known Andean species can make similarly impressive claims to fame.

One of these is polylepis, a group of tree species in the rose family, which wins the prize for being the highest altitude woody plant in the world. In many ways polylepis is a retiring tree, growing slowly and quietly in sheltered valleys close to the high Andean grasslands called *paramo* or *puna*. In a vista that features large open expanses punctuated by towering snow-capped volcanoes, polylepis can easily be overlooked.

However, as a result of a reduction in polylepis throughout its range, it is now receiving significant attention in the Cusco Department of southern Peru. One of the reasons is that the forests in this region contain three of South America's endangered birds. Lucky observers can see royal cinclodes, ash-breasted tit-tyrants and white-browed tit-spinetails flitting among polylepis branches or scratching for worms in the mossy soils below.

Polylepis forests, sometimes called "enchanted forests" because of their low canopy, twisted growth pattern and striking red peely bark, are relicts from pre-Colombian times. Before cattle and sheep were introduced to the Andean highlands, polylepis covered vast areas extending from Venezuela to Argentina, perpetuating productive microhabitats in otherwise exposed and harsh highland conditions. Among other ecological benefits, polylepis protects fragile soils from erosion, replenishes watersheds and harbors plants used by local peoples.

Outside the ancient city of Cusco, where the descendents of the Incas live at altitudes of 4,000 meters and more, polylepis is a mainstay for existence. The trees provide fuelwood, construction materials and medicinal plants to Quechua-speaking peoples who maintain much of their centuries-old lifestyle and tradition. Nevertheless, current consumption patterns, along with burning of surrounding grasslands to create pasture for cattle and sheep, are threatening the resource. While community members are

© Constantino Aucc
A woman holding a p
prepares to take par
effort in southern Pe

© Constantino Aucc
Polylepis tree in sou

DID YOU KN

The Polylepis P
five-year initiati
receiving suppo
Alton Jones Fou
the Disney Wild
Conservation F

Click here to vie
report in PDF fo
CEPF-supporte
project.

Visit the special
section of ABC'
more informatio
a rare video of a
cinclodes or bri
a white-browed

well aware that their survival depends on maintaining these forests, they have had few options until recently.

Building A Partnership Approach

That's where the American Bird Conservancy (ABC) and the Peruvian Association for the Conservation of Andean Ecosystems (ECOAN) come in. The two organizations have teamed up with support from the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) to work together with three local villages to protect the forests and develop alternatives for fuelwood and timber.

Their Polylepis Project fits perfectly into CEPF's strategic approach in the Tropical Andes to encourage community-based biodiversity conservation and natural resource management to offset threats and ensure durable change.

The key to successful conservation of these endangered birds and their habitats is solving the problem of unsustainable wood consumption. The Polylepis Project aims to develop a local nongovernmental organization (NGO) presence in the communities, provide data on and monitor biodiversity, include indigenous people in conservation, engage villagers and policymakers in biodiversity conservation, raise community awareness of conservation, make rural development more compatible with biodiversity conservation and build a constituency for conservation.

"We had a meeting of the minds with ECOAN," says Michael Parr, vice president for program development of ABC, a US-based NGO conserving wild birds and their habitats throughout the Americas. "We agree on the objectives and strategies for conservation and development of these communities.

"ECOAN, as a local organization with a long history of conducting biodiversity research, conservation and community development activities in the high Andes, is an ideal partner to work with because it values communication with communities but emphasizes action over discussion."

Planting for the Future

As part of the CEPF-supported part of the project, in the village of Abra Malanga, 86 community members, together with 13 young British volunteers and members of ECOAN, expanded polylepis forest by replanting 5,000 saplings. At an altitude of 4,200 meters above sea level, it was no easy task.

In nearby Cancha Cancha, where 3,000 polylepis saplings were planted, residents had to trek more than 11 kilometers uphill with an elevation gain of 1,000 meters to reach their planting site. For several days a parade of brightly-clad Inca people and tree-laden llamas and horses could be seen marching up the mountainside: the men wearing their handwoven red ponchos and bowler hats and the women in their black skirts and red shawls, stuffed with babies and saplings side by side.

In another of the communities, Huacahuasi, the closest

polylepis forest is more than 12 kilometers away from the village. ECOAN has determined that if the 170 families continue their annual pilgrimage to harvest trees for firewood and construction, the entire resource will be gone within 30 years. Other sources of fuel are needed. Through the Polylepis Project residents have planted 10,000 eucalyptus trees on degraded lands far from native forests and close to the community.

"Using eucalyptus in place of native species has often been looked upon as an emergency measure, but gradually the people's eyes are being opened to see that these alternatives are necessary," says Constantino Aucca Chutas, president of ECOAN and local ornithologist.

In fact, one of the major positive outcomes of the project is that the villagers are becoming aware of the need to manage their lands in order to ensure its productivity into the future. Previously, some simply cut whatever they could find, without heed to where the polylepis were coming from or the long-term impacts.

ECOAN is also working to help these communities gain title to their traditional lands, an important move to provide incentive for sustainable management.

One of the steps in the process is the development of conservation action plans. Through a series of meetings, ECOAN and community members will discuss and put down on paper the steps they will take to protect existing polylepis forests and to supplement their needs for wood. Some of these include limited harvesting, reforestation and fencing replanted forests to protect them from grazing animals. And, they've found that a source of cash might also be helpful.

That brings us back to the birds and their conservation. Birdwatchers will travel far to see such endangered species as the royal cinclodes or the tit-spinetail. If these birds are provided with the necessary habitat and active measures are taken to ensure their survival, villagers may eventually be able to host visitors, taking them to see the fruits of their conservation labors and gaining some income at the same time.

In the meantime, a survey and monitoring program for polylepis forest species is underway. It has already paid off with unexpected and happy news. Recently ECOAN discovered a 6.5-hectare polylepis forest fragment with eight pairs of previously unrecorded royal cinclodes.

View more In Focus features

E-mail this page

ABOUT CEPF

OUR STRATEGY

CEPF NEWS

Press Releases

E-News Top Stories

In Focus Features

WHERE WE WORK

RECENT GRANTS

APPLY FOR GRANTS

Print this page

Ecotourism Exchange in the Amazon Advances Community-Based Ecotourism

In Focus, July 2003

by Abigail Rome

In the midst of the Amazon a unique ecotourism exchange program is giving community-based ecotourism stakeholders the boost they need to better conserve local cultures and environments, improve local economies and potentially reach tourist markets around the world.

At a series of workshops held earlier this year, members of indigenous communities, private industry and conservation organizations gathered as representatives of three of the world's pioneering community-based ecotourism lodges. The purpose: to examine the benefits and challenges of the ecotourism partnerships they are engaged in.

The meetings took place in each of the three participating lodges, located deep in the rain forests of their respective countries: Posada Amazonas in Peru, Chalalan Ecolodge in Bolivia and Kapawi Ecolodge in Ecuador. Members of the Ese'eja, Quechua-Tacana and Achuar indigenous groups, representatives from Conservation International and two tourism businesses—Rainforest Expeditions from Peru and Canodros from Ecuador—assembled to see for themselves how others are developing their lodges, discuss their experiences and share lessons learned for successful ecotourism partnerships.

"The workshops will help us improve our own lodge while allowing us to learn how people in other communities manage ecotourism," says Silverio Duri, a delegate from the Ese'eja indigenous community of Infierno and a guide at Posada Amazonas in Peru.

Amanda Stronza, an assistant professor at Texas A & M University, developed the exchange program with Eduardo Nycander, founder of Rainforest Expeditions and a pioneer in private sector-community partnerships. They came up with the idea because they noticed that while each of three lodges had generated an enormous amount of attention from conservationists, ecotourism specialists and researchers, the lodges had yet to be assessed in any systematic and comparable way, and certainly not by the

© Amanda Stronza
Lodges at Kapawi E
in the midst of the 7,
reserve in southeast

© Amanda Stronza
Silverio Duri, a delec
Ese'eja indigenous c
Infierno and a guide
Amazonas in Peru, p
workshop results.

DID YOU KN

Chalalan Ecolo
is owned and m
the Quechua-Ta
community of S
Uchupiamonas,
and training fro
Conservation In
and the Inter-Ar
Development B

Kapawi Ecolodg
operates as a c
until 2011. Can
the land and pa
$2,000/month t
indigenous fede
bring tourists to
territory. The fe
represents 58 c

Posado Amazo
a joint business

local communities involved.

The exchange, called Learning Host to Host, was funded by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund as part of its strategic approach to encourage community-based conservation and natural resource management in the Vilcabamba-Amboró conservation corridor of the Tropical Andes biodiversity hotspot. The exchange stretched over three months for a total of 20 days. The same people, selected by their communities, participated in each of the three workshops.

"Having the same people participate in all three workshops was really important because as people came to know each other better, the level of trust grew and the conversations became so much more candid," says Stronza, who now directs the project on behalf of Rainforest Expeditions.

"Community members from each site came to realize that there are other people very similar to themselves, with similar cultural backgrounds and similar environmental backdrops facing similar challenges but in a whole different part of the Amazon," Stronza says. "It was incredible to see how quickly they formed bonds with each other."

Integrating Conservation and Development

While rural communities around the world have taken up ecotourism to support habitat conservation and community development, many of their initiatives are developed on a very small budget and with on-the-job "training." Their success—in terms of quality of service, economics and conservation effectiveness—is often questionable.

A new model is now being tested: one which brings together indigenous communities with tourism businesses and/or nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to provide capital and technical support. The idea is that each has unique capabilities which, when combined, allow ecotourism to exemplify sustainable development.

In the three lodges represented at the exchange, private sector or NGO partners provide financing, training and marketing assistance while indigenous communities supply land, labor and an intimate knowledge of the forest. After working together for a pre-determined time period, there is a gradual and planned transfer of skills, rights and responsibilities from the private partner to the community.

The premise is that once the timeframe is realized, the partner will have regained its investment and the community will have sufficient capacity to take over the business. The end result is an ecotourism lodge where tourists can safely and comfortably experience life in the rainforest while their indigenous hosts maintain largely traditional lifestyles in a globalizing world.

"It seems that anytime ecotourism is mentioned, the words 'community participation' and 'local benefits' are emphasized," says Stronza, explaining the importance of bringing together the 35 participants, some of whom traveled for three days to reach the remote settings of the ecolodges. "We have some sense that increased local participation in ecotourism leads to better outcomes for

between the Es
community of Ir
Rainforest Expe
Profits and man
be shared until

conservation, but we don't really understand why or how that works. What are the most effective ways for generating local benefits from ecotourism? And how do those choices translate to conservation?"

The rain forest setting provided a comfortable atmosphere for all involved. Occasional sightings and cries of rare birds, monkeys or three-toed sloths allowed for entertaining and educational interruptions to the many topics discussed, which ranged from cultural impacts of running a tourism business to effective wastewater treatment to distribution of business profits within the communities.

While the participants were surprised at the differences between their cultures, the types of their business partners and the terms of their agreements, they found that they share many concerns and challenges. One of these is building local capacities. How much preparation and time are needed to train community members so that they can independently operate, manage and market their ecotourism business? And, how do you maintain ongoing training to allow new community members to rotate into the ecotourism operation?

Another subject eliciting much discussion was cultural change. What is the best way to facilitate the transition from a subsistence livelihood to one of running a business? How much cultural change is acceptable or desirable?

Sharing Challenges and Lessons

The role of ecotourism in natural resource management and biodiversity conservation was reserved for discussion at the third workshop, held at the Kapawi Ecolodge in the midst of the 7,000 km² Achuar reserve in southeastern Ecuador. Participants evaluated the natural assets of their communities and territories, threats to conservation and the variety of techniques used for protecting natural resources. They agreed that education and raising awareness are the first steps for successful resource management.

Developing land-use plans to designate distinct zones for ecotourism, farming, hunting and other activities is a second important step. The process of evaluating each area and determining acceptable activities raises environmental consciousnesses and helps clarify management objectives. In addition, it provides a framework for generating information on cultural and natural assets that can be shared with visitors. Among the remaining challenges is how to use traditional forms of local governance to establish and implement regulations and incentives that support resource conservation.

By generating as many questions as answers, the ecotourism exchange provided a much-needed opportunity for key players in community-based ecotourism partnerships to evaluate their programs and improve upon them accordingly. However, the benefits will not remain only with the three participating lodges.

"We hope this exchange of lessons learned will help other communities, tour operators and environmental organizations - not by providing a recipe of what to do, but rather by giving an honest assessment of what's worked and

what hasn't worked in different places," Stronza says.

Conclusions and recommendations from the exchange will be published later this year. There will be a book on the workshops' findings and recommended best practices for community-based ecotourism, a guide for tour operators and communities and a series of articles for the general public. All products are expected to be available in English and Spanish and on a Learning Host to Host Web site to be developed.

In the meantime, the diverse group of ecotourism exchange participants is already benefiting from the new alliances they have established. With a clearer understanding of the roles of ecotourism in their lives, the three communities will soon begin joint marketing their businesses.

Learn more:

- The Meeting of Two Worlds in the Bolivian Amazon - a closer look at the indigenous community of San Jose de Uchupiamonas
- Host to Host: Lessons Learned

View more In Focus features

ABOUT CEPF

OUR STRATEGY

CEPF NEWS

Press Releases

E-News Top Stories

In Focus Features

WHERE WE WORK

RECENT GRANTS

APPLY FOR GRANTS

Print this page

The Meeting of Two Worlds in the Bolivian Amazon

by Abigail Rome

A visit to the indigenous community of San Jose de Uchupiamonas in lowland Bolivia reveals an incongruity of times and cultures.

Most travelers arrive by boat after an 8-hour ride up the Tuichi River and a 1-mile walk through the forest. They are in the heart of Madidi National Park, a 1,895,750-hectare reserve that is one of the world's top conservation priorities. And, they are about to witness how Joseanos, as the residents are called, are adjusting to life now that their ecotourism business, Chalalan Ecolodge, is generating profits.

Other than the trail underfoot, the first signs of the Tacana-Quechua people are three ancient wooden crosses, erected by their ancestors as a sign to visitors that they are entering a peaceful community. Now the crosses list to one side or another and peanut shells and perhaps a dried flower lie underneath.

Upon entering the village of bamboo-sided houses with thatch roofs, newcomers find themselves in front of several tall antennas and a satellite dish. San Jose now has radio and telephone communication to the rest of the world. The community school, recently enlarged to include 7th and 8th grades, sports a solar panel and a computer. The church, however, has a dirt floor and is open to the elements, save for the tin roof resting precariously overhead.

"Ten years ago people were leaving San Jose because there were few ways to make a living or get an education," says Guido Mamani, when asked about the effects of ecotourism on the community. "Now, people are returning to our village. We used to call San Jose a place to suffer; now we call it a place of opportunity."

Mamani, general manager of Chalalan, is proud of the changes he has seen in his community since it approached Conservation International (CI) with a dream of building the ecolodge on Chalalan Lake and then entered into a partnership with CI and the Inter-American Development Bank to make it a reality in 1995. In 2001, CI transferred all shares of the successful project to the community, giving it full control and ownership. The lodge became the first

© Amanda Stronza
Community member is general manager Ecolodge.

© Abigail Rome
Chalalan Ecolodge

DID YOU KN

The Quechua-T community of S Uchupiamonas manages Chala with support an from Conservat International an American Deve Bank.

community-owned ecotourism enterprise in Bolivia.

"Since many of us have received training to work in tourism, everyone sees the value of education," Mamani said. "The community now expects a good education for all its youngsters. This helps us develop other sustainable businesses and improve our living standards." Some of the Joseanos are even thinking of taking up consulting. "Since we were the pioneers in community-based ecotourism, other communities in the region are coming to us, asking for assistance."

Mamani was one of 35 people who shared experiences and recommendations on operating a community-based ecotourism business as part of three workshops that recently took place between community representatives from three ecolodges in the Amazon: Chalalan in Bolivia, Posada Amazonas in Peru and Kapawi Ecolodge in Ecuador. The exchange was part of the Learning Host to Host program supported by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund to encourage community-based biodiversity conservation and natural resource management in the Tropical Andes hotspot.

The participants agreed that their respective ecotourism enterprises are providing important economic and social benefits. Education and health services are improved and villagers have a wider range of economic opportunities. Many are engaged in organic agriculture, small animal production and handicrafts, all of which help ensure income flow when tourism is down. They also discovered similar challenges and discussed lessons learned.

In San Jose, visitors and their local guides walk along grassy paths on their way to visit Pascual Valdez, one of the artisans who carve wooden animal figurines for sale to tourists. He displays a toothy caiman, a fish-eating hawk and a jaguar with prey on his bare living room table, and credits the economic well-being of his family to Chalalan.

Aside from the income he generates by selling handicrafts, his family and each of the others who contributed sweat equity to Chalalan, receive $80 per year. In addition, 50 percent of Chalalan's profits go into a fund for the health and education of the entire community, which is home to about 70 families.

Zenon Limaco, one of the founders of Chalalan, tells tourists how the ecotourism business has helped the community rally together to safeguard its forest. "Chalalan is one of the best tools we have in San Jose to help protect Madidi (National Park) while also guaranteeing a future for our children," Limaco says.

Threats include conflicts over land rights, unsustainable agriculture and hunting, poor management of rare natural resources—such as the salt licks where parrots, macaws and other wildlife congregate—and even poorly managed tourism. Now, with environmental education, management planning and increased interest in enforcing regulations, biodiversity seems to be prospering.

It is their forest identity and the values inherent in maintaining their Tacana-Quechua heritage that the

Joseanos want to share with tourists. Each year the Joseanos scatter peanut shells and flowers at the bases of the ancient crosses as a gift to *Pachamama*, Mother Earth, to ensure a good harvest. If they succeed in their business ventures and continue to share lessons learned and their expertise with other communities developing ecotourism projects, a large portion of the Amazon just might reap the harvests of those peanut shells.

- July 2003

Learn more:

- Ecotourism Exchange in the Amazon Advances Community-based Ecotourism
- Host to Host: Lessons Learned

View more In Focus features

Photo credits for banner images: (Frog) © CI, Haroldo Castro; (Chameleon) © CI, Russell A. Mittermeier

ABOUT CEPF

OUR STRATEGY

CEPF NEWS

Press Releases

E-News Top Stories

In Focus Features

WHERE WE WORK

RECENT GRANTS

APPLY FOR GRANTS

Print this page

Host to Host: Lessons Learned

At a series of workshops held earlier this year, members of indigenous communities, private industry and conservation organizations gathered as representatives of three pioneering community-based ecotourism lodges in the Tropical Andes.

The exchange was part of the Learning Host to Host program supported by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) to encourage community-based biodiversity conservation and natural resource management in the region.

Conclusions and recommendations from the exchange will be published later this year. Here, we share preliminary lessons learned from a CEPF interview with Amanda Stronza, who directs the program on behalf of the private company Rainforest Expeditions and is an assistant professor at Texas A & M University.

1. A partnership of communities, nongovernmental organization (NGO) and private enterprise is the model.

The model for partnership is not necessarily just autonomous community management or between communities and companies or between communities and NGOs like all three participating communities have now, Stronza says about the participants' findings.

The best model would involve communities, an NGO and the private sector—all three—because these actors each bring different kinds of capital to community-based ecotourism:

- Communities have traditional knowledge about resources, and they have the land and natural resources important for tourists and conservationists.
- NGOs bring an important element to this new type of partnership because they can provide training for communities; have the expertise to do research and monitor impacts; and can be a perfect nexus between communities and private companies.
- Private companies bring expertise about the marketplace and efficient financial management.

"If any key theme came out of the workshops, it's here is the new model: If you want to set up a community-based ecotourism project, the best way to do it would be to link a

© Amanda Stronza
Group work in Chala
Learning Host to Hos

DID YOU KN

Chalalan Ecolo
is owned and m
Quechua-Tacar
community, San
Uchupiamonas,
and training fro
Conservation In
and Inter-Ameri
Development B

Kapawi Ecolodg
operates as a c
until 2011. The
company Canoe
land and pays $
to the FINAE in
federation to bri
Achuar territory
federation repre
communities.

Posado Amazo
a joint business
between the Es
indigenous com
Infierno and the
company Rainfo
Expeditions. Pr
management w
until 2016.

private company with a community but somehow also bring in the cooperation of an NGO," Stronza says. "It seems like a simple finding, almost intuitive, but it just came up again and again that if we were to create the ideal community-based ecotourism model, we would bring in all three actors."

2. An enduring alliance, rather than autonomous management by communities, may be best.

"Right away from the get-go there was resistance to the idea of transfer," Stronza says. "They said, 'Maybe that's not the best model. Maybe we should not talk about transferring everything to the local communities anymore but how to share responsibilities. Let's talk about strategic alliances and the different kinds of actors so that communities are capitalizing on what they do best, NGOs are doing what they do best and private companies are doing what they do best. We all continue to cooperate and collaborate in the long run but maybe the goal isn't that the communities will ultimately run their ecotourism operations single-handedly.'

"I think this was the most revolutionary finding of the three workshops. This is what you read in all the literature and what you hear in all the meetings but they said, 'Who says we have to transfer everything to local communities? We can still focus on bringing benefits to communities and making that translate to conservation but it doesn't necessarily mean you have to get private companies out of the picture - they can continue to bring resources to the partnership that are important for the company and the same with NGOs.' "

3. Ecotourism is not a panacea.

Even if ecotourism benefits all community members, satellite or complementary projects are important. Ecotourism may be the mainstay but other projects and initiatives are important in case tourist numbers decline or the community simply has greater needs.

"This is not rocket science but it was interesting that this theme came up again and again," Stronza says. "They said, 'We are still in the process of learning how to make ecotourism effective for conservation but these are the things we know for sure: that ecotourism is not a panacea for development or conservation in the long run and we have to be thinking about complementary activities.'

It was about the importance of needing to think creatively about other options beyond ecotourism, and again this is where the role of NGOs are important because they have the knowledge and contacts for these sorts of alternative projects."

- July 2003

Related articles:

- Ecotourism Exchange in the Amazon Advances Community-Based Ecotourism
- The Meeting of Two Worlds in the Bolivian Amazon

View more In Focus features

Photo credits for banner images: (Frog) © CI, Haroldo Castro; (Chameleon) © CI, Russell A. Mittermeier

ABOUT CEPF

OUR STRATEGY

CEPF NEWS

Press Releases

E-News Top Stories

In Focus Features

WHERE WE WORK

RECENT GRANTS

APPLY FOR GRANTS

Print this page

TROPICO Ecological Restoration Project

© Conservation Inter
by Haroldo Castro
Gold mining, Tambo

DID YOU KN

Get an update o
project in the Ja
issue of Eco-Ex
publication of th
Alliance.

Eco-Index proje
English / Españ

In Focus, May 2003

Destructive gold mining is taking a serious toll on habitats across the Tropical Andes hotspot, eliminating native vegetation and filling rivers with sediment and pollutants. This month, a local organization will launch a community project to begin reversing the damage in Bolivia's Rio Tipuani Valley and, ultimately, create a model for other communities.

The CEPF-funded project is the first of its kind to address restoration following small-scale mining in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor, which spans the Peru-Bolivia border.

"It is a first small but very important step to address a major threat to biodiversity in the corridor," says Michele Zador, CEPF grant director for Latin America.

Small-scale mining has long been the most important source of income for many communities in Bolivia and Peru.

In the Rio Tipuani Valley, which is surrounded by lower montane rain forests and adjacent to Apolobamba Biosphere Reserve, community members are organized into gold-mining cooperatives ranging from 50-500 people.

The cooperatives are extracting gold from underground and open mines. The construction and maintenance of pitches for underground mines requires a constant supply of wood, causing serious deforestation. Open mining affects smaller areas but causes extensive degradation.

The project, undertaken by the Bolivian Conservation Association (known as TROPICO), will focus on ecological restoration and reforestation in one select community. It will develop a model of how best to implement Bolivia's existing but largely ignored laws that require ecological restoration as part of closing mines. Reforestation with native species will rebuild natural habitats and protect against erosion and flooding, leading to improved management in Apolobamba Reserve's buffer zone.

The sustainable use of reforested areas, mainly for future mining, will help alleviate pressure from remaining pristine

forests and also provide an important long-term benefit for both the community and the reserve.

View more In Focus features

Photo credits for banner images: (Frog) © CI, Haroldo Castro; (Chameleon) © CI, Russell A. Mittermeier

Eco-Exchange

December 2002 - January 2003

Reforestation Underway in Bolivia's Tipuani River Valley, Where Gold Mining Has Robbed Regions' Natural Resources Wealth

The Tipuani River valley, one of the richest areas in biodiversity and endemic species in the northeastern mountain range of Bolivia, is also the country's major gold mining region. Underground and open pit mines have caused significant environmental damage, including degraded lands, soil erosion, and rampant deforestation, as lumber is used to build and maintain mine shafts.

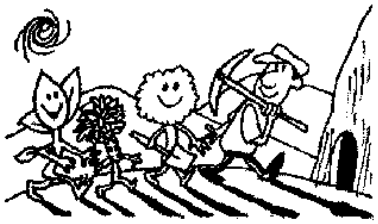


Illustration by Allan Núñez ("Nano")

"Mining is usually considered a serious problem because of mercury use, but mercury is hardly ever used in this region," says Robert Müller of the Bolivian Conservation Association. "Deforestation is the critical issue."

Müller directs a project that aims to recover eroded soils, reforest the region with native tree species, and offer residents training in agro-forestry, so they have options other than working in the mines. Launched eight months ago, project staff are now working in the mining community of San Juanito-Rinconada. The Bolivian Conservation Association, known as TROPICO, plans to extend the initiative to the entire Tipuani valley as well as to other mining areas.

"We do not intend to stop mining," Müller emphasizes. "Our goal is to encourage residents to extract lumber from tree farms and work sustainably, over the long-term. This is not an easy task, because miners are used to spending their wages quickly."

Most of the neighboring towns sprung from mining camps, and resources were once plentiful. Residents must now confront the fact that gold is becoming harder to extract, while landslides and floods -- caused by deforestation and resulting erosion -- are increasingly common.

As part of their information campaign, TROPICO sponsors environmental education

programs for the miners and their children. The nonprofit group has held workshops for families and painting and puppet contests for students, who used conservation themes in their art and craftwork. TROPICO posters warn against the tradition of purposely setting fires to till the soil.

"This project has been an eye-opener, and we are very thankful for this," says René Machaca, president of La Rinconada community. "In the long run, reforestation will benefit mining, and it also brings us back to farming." Machaca says he and his neighbors now understand why it's important to till soils without setting fires and to work with the future in mind. With help from TROPICO staff, they established a tree nursery with 30,000 seedlings, which will be used to reforest nearly 40 acres in badly eroded pastures, providing a future source of wood and fruits.

While he acknowledges that the community is facing a difficult economic situation, Machaca points out, "Mining is like playing the lottery, but growing crops such as citrus fruits, bananas, rice, yucca and plantain will have a positive effect."

Müller notes that the project is near the Apolobamba nature reserve and the Biological Corridor of Vilcabamba-Amboró, a forested expanse that begins in the Vilcabamba mountains in Peru and stretches to Amboró National Park in Bolivia. The corridor forms part of the Tropical Andes, one of the Earth's 25 areas with the greatest number of endemic species of flora and fauna, according to Conservation International. The Andes region, which extends to Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia, encompasses 185 million acres and holds 45% of the world's biodiversity.

The three-year TROPICO program is funded by the Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund, which is a joint initiative of Conservation International, the Global Environment Facility, the MacArthur Foundation, the World Bank, and the government of Japan.

Contact:

Robert Müller
Asociación Boliviana para la Conservación
Casilla 11250
La Paz, Bolivia
tel +591-2/243-5905
fax +591-2/243-5027
tropico@acelerate.com o robemule@yahoo.com

Read more about this project in the Eco-Index:
www.eco-index.org/search/results.cfm?ProjectID=384.

En Español | Back to Table of Contents

ABOUT CEPF

OUR STRATEGY

CEPF NEWS

Press Releases

E-News Top Stories

In Focus Features

WHERE WE WORK

RECENT GRANTS

APPLY FOR GRANTS

Print this page

Rainforest Alliance to Expand Virtual Conservation Resource in Neotropics

November 2002

Eco-Index, a Web-based, bilingual almanac of nearly 400 conservation projects in Mesoamerica, will be dramatically expanded over the next year. The expansion will include adding more projects in the region and projects in the Atlantic Forest, Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador and Tropical Andes hotspots as part of a CEPF grant approved in late October.

The project is an innovative approach to better conservation through communication: It will facilitate information exchange in the conservation community about experiences, challenges and best practices. Ultimately, it will help CEPF grantees and many other organizations to build on one another's successes and to avoid mistakes and duplication of effort.

The Eco-Index includes scores of detailed project descriptions in its database, with more added every week. It also features:

- A monthly update of new projects added to the site
- Stories from the field: sharing conservation achievements and experiences
- Best lessons learned: select, valuable advice from colleagues
- In Print & On-line: links to online reports worth downloading

Launched by the Rainforest Alliance in 2001, the Eco-Index is managed by the Alliance's Neotropics Communications Office based in San José, Costa Rica.

As part of the one-year expansion project, the Alliance will redesign and expand the site to include all CEPF-funded projects and more than 65 others in the four hotspots and will add project information in Portuguese along with the current English and Spanish. In addition, the Eco-Index team will work directly with the CEPF to share news and links between the Eco-Index and www.cepf.net, a redesigned and expanded version of which is expected to launch in December.

© Kim Awbry
Project training, Trop

DID YOU KN

November 200
Rainforest Allia
Expanded Eco-

It's easy to add
to the Eco-Inde
Click here to co
short questionn
e-mail your requ
questionnaire d
index@ra.org

Learn more abc

Stay posted for more news about Eco-Index and the CEPF Web site expansion and how you can contribute and benefit. Meanwhile, explore the easily searchable Eco-Index database, which includes detailed information about projects like this one: Integrity of the Guaymí Territory in Alto Laguna de Osa, Costa Rica.

Other Eco-Index supporters include CR-USA Foundation; Spray Foundation; Overbrook Foundation; Mexican Fund for Nature Conservation; Global Environment Facility - Small Grants Program of Costa Rica/United Nations Development Program; Trust for Conservation in Guatemala; and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Subscribe to the Newsletter or View more E-News top stories

Photo credits for banner images: (Frog) © CI, Haroldo Castro; (Chameleon) © CI, Russell A. Mittermeier

Press Releases

October 22, 2002

Six International Journalists Honored at US Environmental Conference

Award Winners Shed Light on Environmental Reporting Abroad

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The work of six environmental journalists from South America and Africa was recognized and honored at the annual meeting of the Society of Environmental Journalists (SEJ) in Baltimore, Maryland earlier this month. The journalists are all winners of the fourth-annual Biodiversity Reporting Award, sponsored by Conservation International (CI), the International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) and the International Federation of Environmental Journalists (IFEJ), which recognizes and rewards excellence in biodiversity coverage.

Honored at the event were Juan Carlos Rivero from El Deber in Bolivia, Liana John from Brazil's Agencia Estado in Brazil, Juan Carlos Gutiérrez from Vanguardia Liberal in Colombia, Joachim Ayitey from the League of Environmental Journalists in Ghana, Andrew Richards of Guyana's Kaieteur News and Walter Wust from EcoNews in Peru.

During the three-day event, the journalists met with Congressmen, the Governor of Maryland and some of the country's top environmental researchers and reporters. Some of the winners also led a panel about the growing importance of environmental journalism abroad. More than 1,000 journalists and researchers from across the country attended the annual SEJ meeting, making it the largest and most important gathering of its kind in the US.

"It was incredibly beneficial for us – as US and Canadian reporters – to have international environmental journalists share their stories," said SEJ President James Bruggers. "I think we now have a better understanding of some of the complex issues foreign environmental reporters are facing."

This year's Biodiversity Reporting Award was held in six countries and saw record-level participation, as 115 journalists, representing 68 media outlets, submitted 219 articles. The Award is made possible by financing from the Virginia W. Cabot Foundation, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the JRS Dryfoos Charitable Trust and the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF).

###

CONTACT
Jim Wyss

j.wyss@conservation.org
(202) 912-1388

Conservation International (CI) applies innovations in science, economics, policy and community participation to protect the Earth's richest regions of plant and animal diversity in the biodiversity hotspots, high-biodiversity wilderness areas and key marine ecosystems. With headquarters in Washington, D.C., CI works in more than 40 countries on four continents. For more information about CI, visit www.conservation.org.

ABOUT CEPF

OUR STRATEGY

CEPF NEWS

Press Releases

E-News Top Stories

In Focus Features

WHERE WE WORK

RECENT GRANTS

APPLY FOR GRANTS

Print this page

Peruvian Government Extends Manu National Park

August 2002

The Government of Peru issued a supreme decree in July extending Manu National Park by 215,538 hectares, bringing the park's total area to 1,716,295 hectares.

The action is another dramatic advance for turning the Vilcabamba-Amboró conservation corridor, a 30-million-hectare expanse of high biodiversity straddling the Bolivia-Peru border, into a reality.

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) strategically focuses on the corridor in the Tropical Andes biodiversity hotspot.

As part of the overall CEPF investment strategy for the corridor, three distinct protected area complexes will be connected. Today, however, private and public lands separate the complexes. These lands range from pristine to devastated by destructive gold mining, but when stitched together could equal one of the biologically richest tapestries of life on Earth.

Subscribe to the Newsletter or View more E-News top stories

E-mail this page

© André Bärtschi
Blue and yellow mac

DID YOU KN

More news and
available from t
Click here.

ABOUT CEPF

OUR STRATEGY

CEPF NEWS

Press Releases

E-News Top Stories

In Focus Features

WHERE WE WORK

RECENT GRANTS

APPLY FOR GRANTS

Print this page

Developing a Communications Strategy for the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor

In Focus, June 2002

Creating a broad, local constituency for biodiversity conservation goals is a major challenge but vital to ensure the success and sustainability of efforts. One major piece of a CEPF-funded project to meet the challenge in the Tropical Andes is a collaborative communications strategy development process that has proven successful in numerous countries.

The three-year Conservation International (CI) project focuses on developing and implementing a binational communications campaign to build awareness of the importance of the Vilcabamba Amboró conservation corridor, an area of high biodiversity straddling the Bolivia-Peru border.

The project centerpiece is the 4-P Creative Workshop, a participatory event to create a communications strategy to raise awareness about a particular issue, region or protected area. CI has conducted the workshop more than 20 times in multiple languages in countries such as Brazil, Ghana, Madagascar and Indonesia.

Its name originates from the workshop's main sections: Problems, Publics, Products and Plan. Participants identify and analyze these components and create an action plan that CI, its partners and local stakeholders can implement.

As part of the project, CI's International Communications department facilitated a national 4-P workshop in Bolivia in April and another in Peru in late May. The results were informed by baseline quantitative studies already conducted in both countries to determine existing knowledge of the corridor and attitudes of key audiences.

CI will soon hold a meeting to consolidate the national plans into a corridor-wide strategy to be implemented as part of a new CEPF-funded communications program.

"Our challenge is to work at the corridor scale, across geopolitical boundaries," says CI Planning and Strategy Manager Robin Abadia. "But the footprint of communications is national, so while the two national plans need to be

© Conservation Inter
by Haroldo Castro
Bolivian girl celebrat

DID YOU KN

Madidi Week, a
celebration in B
of the creation
National Park, v
designed in a 4
Workshop.

Related news
- Press release,
2004: New Doc
Uncovers the N
Treasures of th
Conservation C
English / Españ

complementary, we make sure they target the right audience. The communications approach must be cross-seeded and cohesive, but appropriate to each particular country."

The national workshops attracted dozens of participants from both countries, including protected area officials, local conservation organizations, journalists, educators and others.

View more In Focus features

ABOUT CEPF

OUR STRATEGY

CEPF NEWS

Press Releases

E-News Top Stories

In Focus Features

WHERE WE WORK

RECENT GRANTS

APPLY FOR GRANTS

Print this page

Dramatic Actions Advance Vision for Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor

May 2002

Directors of three protected areas in the Tropical Andes biodiversity hotspot signed a landmark transnational agreement in April to jointly coordinate and implement management efforts. In Peru, the government also officially designated two new protected areas in Manu Province, totaling more than 1.2 million hectares.

The actions dramatically advance turning the vision for the Vilcabamba-Amboró conservation corridor, a 30-million-hectare expanse of high biodiversity straddling the Bolivia-Peru border, into a reality.

A special Conservation International coordination team funded by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) facilitated the new transnational agreement for joint management of three areas in Bolivia and Peru. The three areas—Madidi National Park in Bolivia and Bahuaja-Sonene National Park and Tambopata National Reserve in Peru—share common borders and are priority sites for conservation in the corridor.

The agreement includes joint patrol efforts on the borders of the three areas, development of a master plan for Bahuaja-Sonene and Madidi national parks, a training course on monitoring for park rangers and exchange of information on biodiversity threats. It also includes joint actions to directly benefit communities, such as an evaluation of ecotourism in Bahuaja-Sonene and Tambopata and socioeconomic research on the catch of *paiche*, a commercially valuable fish species.

Shortly after signing the transnational agreement, the Peruvian government issued a decree officially declaring a new protected area and upgrading the classification of another in the corridor.

The April 19 decree changed the classification of the 402,000-hectare Amarakaeri reserve zone to a communal reserve, providing it official legal status and enabling community management. In addition, the decree created an 830,000-hectare reserve to protect the cultures and land of uncontacted indigenous communities—groups that wish to

© Conservation Inter
Tropical Andes hotsp
Vilcabamba-Amboró
in green.

DID YOU KN

The Tropical Ar
to the spectacle
only bear speci
America.

remain isolated from the encroachment of modern civilization.

The decree is a result of joint efforts by the First Lady's Office; Federación de Nativos de Madre de Dios (FENAMAD), a federation of local indigenous groups; and WWF.

In March, the Peruvian government, with the help of the coordination team, created and distributed approximately 4,000 promotional packets about the corridor to U.S. State Department officials, local organizations and the general public during a visit by U.S. President George W. Bush to Peru. The packet included an interactive CD with information about the corridor, which is the focus of the CEPF investment strategy in the Tropical Andes.

Subscribe to the Newsletter or View more E-News top stories

E-mail this page

Other Stories from CEPF E-News

May 2004: Andes Documentary Premieres Reach 3.7 Million Viewers

Tesoros Sin Fronteras, an award-winning documentary produced by Conservation International (CI) in collaboration with Bolivia's National Service for Protected Areas and Peru's National Institute for Natural Resources, recently premiered in the Bolivian cities of La Paz and Santa Cruz and resulted in extensive media coverage.

The 26-minute documentary, titled Treasures Without Borders in English, also won a Merit Award for Script and a Merit Award for Conservation Message from the International Wildlife Film Festival in April. CI Vice President for International Communications Haroldo Castro directed and presented the documentary, which culminated a two-year communications strategy supported by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund to raise awareness about the Vilcabamba-Amboró biodiversity conservation corridor.

The premiere on April 14 in Bolivia's capital of La Paz drew 700 guests, including keynote speaker Gustavo Pedraza, Bolivia's minister of sustainable development.

The documentary received extensive news coverage in Bolivia, with 134 media stories. The campaign occupied 46 full pages of newspapers and magazines, which were illustrated with 140 photos. The documentary aired during prime time on ATB, a commercial network, as well as TVN, the national state-owned channel.

Both channels promoted the airing with television spots as well as advertisements in three newspapers. In addition, a 30-minute panel discussion followed both broadcastings. In total, the Bolivian premieres received more than six hours of airtime on television and nearly four hours on radio.

"Bolivia encompasses an immense amount of biodiversity, which is truly a strategic resource for our nation if we can properly protect it, guarantee its conservation and make sure that it is used in a sustainable fashion for the benefit of the people," said Jhonn Gomez, director of Bolivia's National Service for Protected Areas. "That is a challenge that we are facing head-on with neighboring Peru by creating the Vilcabamba-Amboró corridor."

The corridor stretches from Amboró National Park near Santa Cruz, Bolivia to the Vilcabamba mountain range in central Peru, covering an area of 300,000 square kilometers and linking some 20 core protected areas, including historical sanctuaries and indigenous reserves. The corridor helps to connect these protected areas with the communities that surround them, involving local populations in the conservation effort.

The documentary was first shown in Peru in January, where it was one of the top-rated shows in its time-slot reaching some 2.5 million viewers. The Peruvian launch and

national broadcast received considerable media attention with more than 60 stories about the corridor.

Although the corridor featured in the documentary is renowned in South America, it is also important on an international scale. It is key to protecting a significant portion of the Tropical Andes biodiversity hotspot, which is considered the biologically richest region in the world.

February 2004: Developing Legal Tools for Conservation

A new guide to private conservation tools is now available as part of a project by Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental (the Peruvian Society of Environmental Law) to advance conservation of the Vilcabamba-Amboró conservation corridor in the Tropical Andes hotspot.

The manual, showcased at a special round table in January hosted by the National Institute of Natural Resources (INRENA), outlines private conservation tools available in Peru and the application steps. The manual and lessons learned from this experience in Peru could also prove valuable in Bolivia and other countries.

Principally the tools consist of:

- concessions for ecotourism, management of wildlife or non-timber products
- concessions for non-profit activities such as forestation and reforestation
- declaration of private conservation areas
- private management of natural protected areas
- ecological easements
- Private conservation areas are aimed at landowners who want to limit the use of their land in order to support conservation for the future or who want to maintain the quality of the products they expect to obtain from the sustainable use of their property. The landowner agrees to self-imposed restrictions on the use of the land, but benefits from the positive public perception associated with this kind of conservation activity.

Private management is for NGOs in partnership with the government whereby the NGO acts as administrator of the protected area plan. The ecological easement is appropriate for those who wish to legally protect the land from other uses.

Recognizing the need for a wider understanding of private conservation tools to make the most of the legislation available, SPDA has worked closely with INRENA as part of this CEPF-supported project. INRENA is part of the Ministry of Agriculture, which oversees the management of Peru's protected areas and biodiversity.

“We need to encourage private landowners to use these tools to show that conservation use of the forests is a real alternative so we can discourage the other uses that cause deforestation and loss of biodiversity,” says Pedro Solano of SPDA.

Until recently the authorities have not actively promoted the concessions. One of the major results of a series of SPDA workshops attended by representatives of INRENA, private landowners, campesinos (agricultural workers), indigenous communities, local authorities, NGOs and tourism operators is that INRENA staff now have a greater understanding of the private conservation tools and can advise on and promote them.

Following the workshops, INRENA received more than 25 requests for accessing Concessions for Ecotourism and 13 for Concessions for Conservation.

Available in Spanish, the free manual can be obtained from SPDA at postmast@spda.org.pe.

November 2003: Control Posts to Help Combat Illegal Logging in Peru

Illegal loggers in Peru's Alto Purus Reserved Zone will find their activities much harder with the arrival of three new control posts.

Asociación para la Conservacion del Patrimonio de Cutivireni (ACPC), a Peruvian nongovernmental organization, is establishing the control posts alongside the Reserved Zone as part of a debt-for-nature swap between the U.S. and the Peruvian governments to guarantee long-term funding for forested protected areas in Peru.

"The forest control posts represent an important step towards achieving the protection of the forest resources and biodiversity richness of the zone," ACPC Director Ivan Brehaut says. "The pursuit of sustainable forest management together with the control of illegal activities is indispensable for the development of the Amazon region."

As part of the debt-for-nature swap, CEPF is supporting a two-year WWF project to improve protection of Manu National Park, Amarakaeri Communal Reserve and Alto Purus Reserved Zone. All three areas are inside the Vilcabamba-Amboró biodiversity conservation corridor—CEPF's geographic focus in the Tropical Andes hotspot.

In total, the funding is expected to leverage $3.5 million in local currency over the next 12 years for Peruvian organizations such as ACPC to carry out activities related to effective management of these protected areas, providing the long-term support needed to ensure sustainability.

The ACPC project—one of the first to be supported by WWF with the new funds—includes establishing two control posts along the Inuya and Sepahua rivers and a mobile control post that will patrol the rivers and serve as a rapid response unit. Trained guards and police will staff each of the posts.

"The largest threat to the Alto Purus Reserved Zone stems from the search for the highly valuable broad or big leaf mahogany, Swietenia macrophylla, an activity that drives illegal loggers deeper and deeper into the area," says Linda Norgrove of WWF Peru. "The advance of the cutting frontier of illegal logging goes hand in hand with environmental degradation and negative social impacts.

"While mahogany populations are threatened with commercial extinction, local communities are being exploited and the health implications for indigenous communities living in voluntary isolation are often severe. The Reserved Zone is presently poorly equipped with only one office, located in the town of Puerto Esperanza, a one to two day boat trip from the boundary of the area."

The locations of these new control posts on the key river junctions outside the Reserved Zone means that post staff will be able to control two of the primary access routes for illegal loggers as well as the transport routes for their illegally harvested timber.

Additionally, they will enable monitoring of the logging activities of forest concessions and the impact on indigenous communities located within the zone.

The Alto Purus Reserved Zone is an area of high biodiversity in the Peruvian Amazon covering some 2.7 million hectares. Peru is home to more species of bird and butterflies than any other country. Scientists are continually finding plant species with significant medicinal properties.

However, it has been estimated that approximately 12.5 percent of the original Amazonian forest cover found in southeastern Peru, or 500,000 square km, has been deforested or burned.

Logging companies along with miners in search of gold and other valuable metals and agricultural occupation are the main culprits. Although the destruction rates have decreased lately, it still continues at a worrying pace.

The wood the loggers send down the river goes into the hands of a broker who in turn sells it to industrial timber companies who are able to sell the logs on the international market.

Conservationists estimate that for a single foot of mahogany extracted from the Amazon, a logger may get paid just $1.2. That same timber on the international market can reap nearly 1,000 times that amount. With such a lucrative market place, it’s not hard to see why illegal logging is posing such a huge threat.

The impact of the ACPC control posts on illegal logging will be at their highest over the next six months as the river waters rise and illegal loggers attempt to transport mahogany timber downriver.

INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE RECURSOS NATURALES
INTENDENCIA DE ÁREAS NATURALES PROTEGIDAS

Taller Nacional en el Proceso de Elaboración de la Estrategia del Corredor de Conservación Vilcabamba - Amboró (Perú – Bolivia)

MEMORIA DEL TALLER

Lima-Perú, 26 al 27 de Mayo del 2003

con el apoyo de
CONSERVACIÓN INTERNACIONAL

I. Elementos de la Visión

1. GESTIÓN Y COORDINACIÓN BINACIONAL OPERATIVA

- Existen mecanismos operativos y administrativos de cooperación binacional.
- Las instancias de gestión binacional y macroregionales orientan la restauración, conservación y uso del CCVA.
- El CCVA es un enclave de aplicación de los tratados ambientales internacionales.

2. CONCEPTO DE CORREDOR EXITOSO Y VALIDADO

- Corredor es un modelo replicado en otros ámbitos.
- La experiencia del corredor ha sido recreada en otros espacios de la subregión.
- La gestión del CCVA es un modelo reconocido a nivel mundial.
- El concepto de corredor ha sido asumido por instancias internacionales como estrategia de conservación.

3. PARTICIPACIÓN LOCAL Y ACTIVA CONSOLIDADA

- La población local participa activamente y se beneficia de la ejecución de los planes.
- La estrategia del CCVA fue definida con la participación de las organizaciones.
- Comunidades fortalecidas y participan en gestión.
- Todos los actores y niveles de gestión incorporaron en sus planes de trabajo la visión del Corredor de Conservación Vilcabamba-Amboró.
- La población local sostiene el concepto de CC como una estrategia de desarrollo.
- Alianza estratégica entre actores sociales.
- Se han mantenido y rescatado las tradiciones y prácticas sostenibles.
- La diversidad cultural se mantiene viva a través de la identidad de las comunidades.

4. DESARROLLO ECONÓMICO SOSTENIBLE BASADO EN EL APROVECHAMIENTO DE LOS RECURSOS NATURALES

- Corredor genera una utilidad neta.
- Valorización económica de los productores de la biodiversidad.
- Identificación de los productos derivados de la biodiversidad.

- Industrias del CCVA articuladas.
- Planes de inversión implementados para el uso sostenible de diversidad biológica.
- Ecoturismo alternativa económica.
- Los corredores económicos están articulados coherentemente con el CCVA.
- Los planes estratégicos del CCVA incorporaran estrategias para lograr incentivos económicos para la conservación.
- Las comunidades y gobiernos locales están realizando actividades de desarrollo sostenible en el CCVA.
- La implementación de las estrategia del CCVA ha permitido articular acciones de desarrollo con las necesidades de la conservación.
- Población aplica practicas sostenibles del uso de recursos.
- Los productores locales del ámbito del CCVA se benefician de la actividad turística en el marco de los estándares sociales del ecoturismo aprobado.
- El CCVA aporta más PBI que ahora y queda más PBI.
- En las ANP's del CCVA los turistas consumen productos locales con calidad certificada y orgánica.

5. GESTIÓN EFECTIVA DE LAS ANP'S

- Se cuenta con mecanismos para la sostenibilidad financiera de las ANP's del CCVA.
- Todas las ANPES con plan maestro en ejecución y articulado.

6. SOSTENIBILIDAD INSTITUCIONAL ASEGURADA

- En el ámbito del CCVA se cuenta con planes estratégicos concertados que incluyen, el enfoque de conservación.
- La perspectiva de C. Conservación es parte de los enfoques de gestión y políticas regionales y nacionales.
- Lineamientos políticos consolidan la efectividad de la conservación.
- Gobiernos regionales están comprometidos con el CCVA.
- Los gobiernos locales y regionales adyacentes al CCVA implementan políticas afines con la propuesta del CC:
- Autoridades elegidas con propuestas ambientalistas.

7. INVESTIGACIÓN Y MONITOREO INTEGRADAS A LA PLANIFICACIÓN

- Todas las actividades económicas productivas cuentan con ejes e implementan medidas de adecuación y mitigación.
- La investigación y el monitoreo orientan la gestión del CCVA.
- Se ha verificado migración de especies de fauna dentro del CCVA.
- Se cuenta con información detallada sobre la diversidad biológica del CCVA.
- Existe un sistema de estaciones biológicas del CCVA.

8. ORDENAMIENTO TERRITORIAL APLICADO

- Comunidades nativas haciendo uso sostenible de sus recursos naturales con base al ordenamiento territorial.
- El ordenamiento territorial completamente aplicado.
- El ordenamiento territorial del CCVA es observado.
- CCVA reduce conflictos de uso de tierras y recursos.
- El saneamiento de tierras ha concluido.

9. EDUCACIÓN AMBIENTAL INCORPORADA A LA EDUCACIÓN FORMAL

- Servicio rural obligatorio para carreras ambientales.
- CC es un concepto que es parte de la educación básica de los sistemas educativos peruano bolivianos.
- Curso de conservación ambiental en currícula escolar.

10. DIVERSIDAD BIOLÓGICA PROTEGIDA

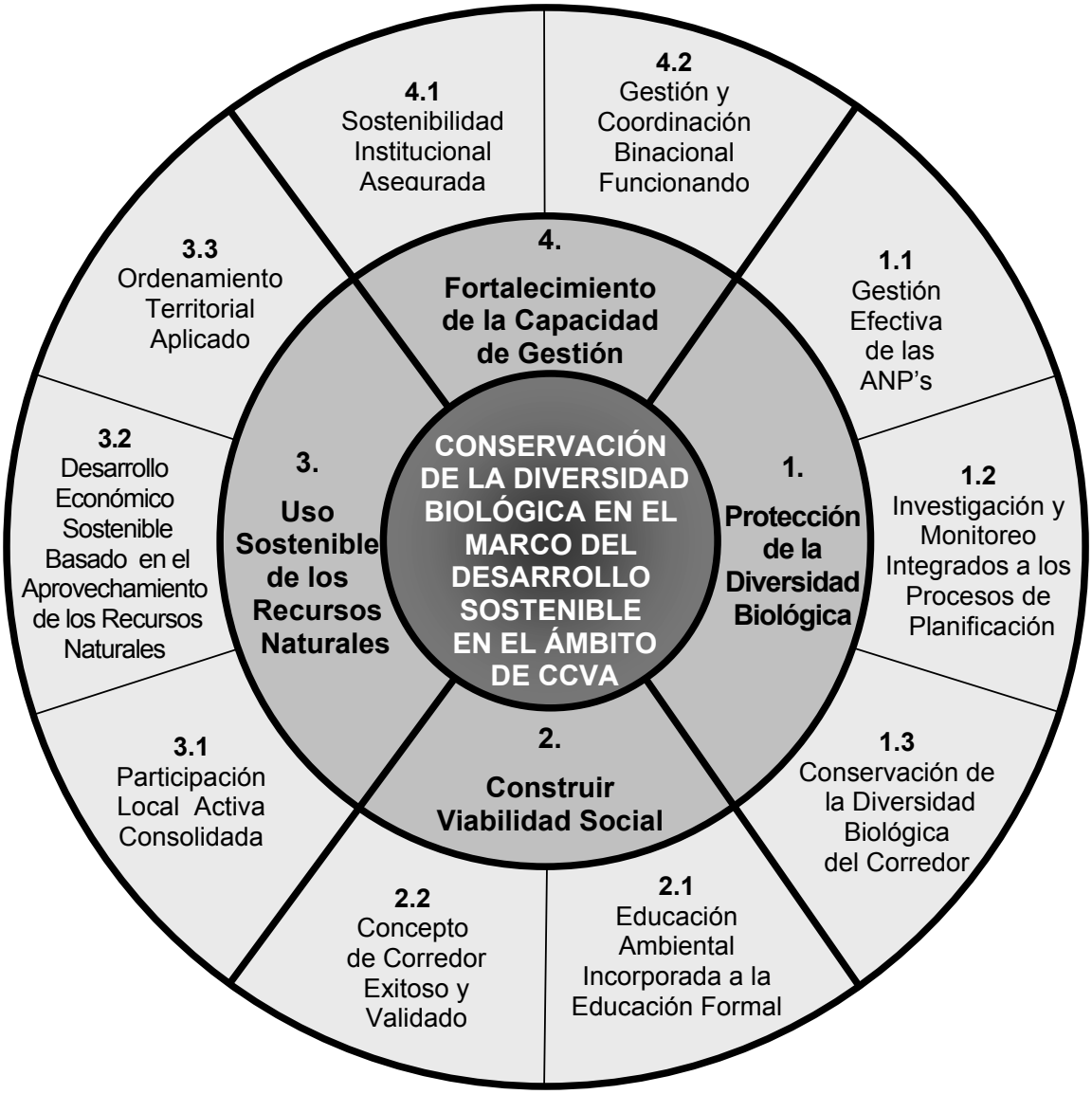
- Especies en vías de extinción identificadas y protegidas.
- La diversidad biológica está protegida.
- El CCVA mantiene la diversidad biológica.
- El CCVA gana un premio por mayor cantidad de especies protegidas.
- La tasa de deforestación ha disminuido por el uso adecuado de los recursos.

11. REDES DE COMUNICACIÓN ESTABLECIDA Y FUNCIONANDO EFICIENTEMENTE

- Existe un intercambio fluido de información entre las instituciones involucradas en la gestión del CCVA.
- Intercambio de información efectivo.

Visión Estratégica

Corredor de Conservación Vilcabamba – Amboró 2015



II. Bases y Lineamientos para la Estrategia del Corredor

Objetivo Estratégico 1: PROTECCIÓN DE LA DIVERSIDAD BIOLÓGICA

RESULTADO 1.1. : CONSERVACIÓN DE LA DIVERSIDAD BIOLÓGICA EN EL CORREDOR VILCABAMBA-AMBORÓ

Conceptualización:

- El mantenimiento de los procesos naturales mediante acciones de protección, uso sostenible, mejora y restauración de los ecosistemas, especies y variabilidad genética en el Corredor Vilcabamba Amboró.

Oportunidades:

- Sistema Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas consolidado en ambos países.
- Existe coordinación a nivel operativo entre Áreas Protegidas fronterizas.
- Existencia de programas y proyectos de los gobiernos y la sociedad civil que apoyan la conservación en el CCVA.
- Existe interés y voluntad de la cooperación internacional en el desarrollo sostenible del corredor.
- Existe mayor capacidad local e interés en la conservación de su entorno.
- Área de alto ende mismo de importancia global.
- Existen gran diversidad de culturas y etnias interesadas e involucradas en la gestión del área
- Existe conectividad natural y cultural en el CCVA

Actores:

- INRENA (Intendencias de Áreas Naturales Protegidas, Forestal y de Aguas)
- Ministerio de Energía y Minas (Dir. de Asuntos Amb.)
- GCTI (Grupo Técnico de Coordinación Interinstitucional)
- Ministerio de Transportes y comunicaciones (Dir. de Caminos Rurales)
- CONAM

- Gobierno Regional de Cuzco
- Gobierno Regional de Junín
- Gobierno Regional de Puno
- Gobierno Regional de Ayacucho
- Gobierno Regional de Madre de Dios
- Gobierno Regional de Ucayali
- Municipios (gobiernos locales)
- Universidades
- Organizaciones indígenas (AIDESEP, CONAP, COMARU, OIRA, FECONAM, FENAMAP, CONAU, CART)
- Federación de Cocaleros
- Conservación Internacional
- WWF
- CARE
- AGRA
- ACCA
- ANIA
- TREES
- APECO
- PRONATURALEZA
- CESVI
- SERJALI
- RACIMOS DE UNGURAHUI
- CENTRO EORI
- Red de Educadores Ambientales de la Reserva de Biosfera del Manu
- Operadores turísticos
- SERNAP, Bolivia

Indicadores:

- XX áreas protegidas (Nacionales, regionales, locales y privadas) creadas, consolidadas y fortalecidas
- XX comunidades con planes de manejo de sus recursos naturales renovables
- Corredores biológicos y ecológicos prioritarios identificados y establecidos en el CC VA
- Existe estrategia de comunicación sobre la importancia del corredor establecida y funcionando.
- XX asociaciones locales ambientalistas influyendo en el mejoramiento del medio ambiente y rescate de la diversidad biológica.
- El conjunto de especies amenazadas (UICN) en el corredor han pasado a categoría de menor amenaza.
- Los gobiernos regionales y locales aplican instrumentos de planificación considerando criterios para la conservación de la biodiversidad

Acciones:

- Profundizar y sistematizar el conocimiento sobre los especies y ecosistemas del corredor.
- Elaboración de un mapa de ecosistemas Peruano-Boliviano del Corredor
- Mapas de distribución de las especies amenazadas en el Corredor.
- Establecer campañas para especies y ecosistemas prioritarios del corredor
- Integrar los diferentes sistemas de información relevantes al Corredor.
- Establecer, mejorar y difundir los criterios técnicos y administrativos para la elaboración de planes de manejo comunitarios de recursos naturales renovables
- Determinar los lineamientos para la articulación de los diferentes usos de la tierra en el corredor en función a las metas (objetivos, objetos)de conservación del corredor.

RESULTADO 1.2. : GESTIÓN EFECTIVA DE ANP'S

Conceptualización:

- Aquella que logra los objetivos de conservación específicos de cada área protegida, entendida como la protección de ecosistemas, de especies y uso sostenible de recursos de acuerdo a categoría y plan de manejo del área.

Oportunidades:

- SINANPE consolidado e institucionalizado
- Existen mecanismos de financiamiento que aseguran la sostenibilidad financiera de algunas áreas del CCVA (PROFONANPE, PIMA, Tesoro Publico)
- Existe gestión de los recursos humanos (seguimiento, capacitación y evaluación) en la mayoría de las áreas protegidas.
- Existe una propuesta para la creación del Instituto de Áreas Naturales Protegidas, así como un clima institucional favorable
- Marco legal relevante a las áreas protegidas completo, concordado y actualizado.
- Se cuenta con un plan director de Áreas Protegidas
- Existen espacios de participación ciudadana en la gestión de las ANPs (Comités de Gestión, Coordinadoras Interstitucionales, otros)

Actores:

- INRENA (Intendencias de Áreas Naturales Protegidas)
- CONAM
- Gobierno Regional de Cuzco

- Gobierno Regional de Junín
- Gobierno Regional de Puno
- Gobierno Regional de Ayacucho
- Gobierno Regional de Madre de Dios
- Gobierno Regional de Ucayali
- Municipios (gobiernos locales)
- Organizaciones indígenas (AIDESEP, CONAP, COMARU, OIRA, FECONAM, FENAMAD, CONAU, CART)
- Conservación Internacional
- WWF
- ACCA
- TREES
- APECO
- PRONATURALEZA
- SERJALI
- RACIMOS DE UNGURAHUI
- Red de Educadores Ambientales de la Reserva de Biosfera del Manu
- Operadores turísticos
- SERNAP, Bolivia

Indicadores:

- Todas las ANPs tienen planes maestros vigentes y en ejercicio.
- El Estado garantiza el financiamiento de las ANPs.
- Planteles profesionales y técnicos adecuadamente capacitados en todas las ANPs.
- Comités de gestión establecidos y en ejercicio en todas las ANPs del corredor
- Evaluación y monitoreo de la eficiencia y eficacia de la gestión de las ANPs del corredor
- Existe mayor control y vigilancia en las categorías de uso indirecto o de protección estricta.
- Existen programas de monitoreo de la diversidad biológica en todas las ANPs del corredor.
- Se cuenta con un sistema de monitoreo social unificado.

Acciones:

- Actualizar, completar e implementar los planes maestros de las ANPs.
- Completar el registro de inscripción publica de las ANPs.
- Elaborar una estrategia de comunicación sobre la importancia de las áreas protegidas para el desarrollo sostenible.
- Implementación del programa permanente de capacitación del personal de las ANPs.

- Establecer un programa de capacitación continua para los integrantes de los comités de gestión de las ANPs.
- Integrar las ANPs en los procesos de Zonificación Ecológica Económica

RESULTADO 1.3.: INVESTIGACIÓN Y MONITOREO INTEGRADOS A LOS PROCESOS DE PLANIFICACIÓN EN EL CORREDOR

Conceptualización:

- La planificación tiene una base científica, cultural y de conocimientos tradicionales.

Oportunidades:

- Existe un conjunto de información social, biológica y económica en manos de diferentes actores
- Se ha iniciado un proceso de regionalización y descentralización en el Perú que podría facilitar acciones de conservación in situ
- Existe una iniciativa liderada por el INRENA para el monitoreo de la diversidad biológica y social en el corredor
- Existen propuestas para el financiamiento de actividades de investigación y monitoreo desde la empresa privada.

Actores:

- INRENA (Intendencias de Áreas Naturales Protegidas, Forestal y de Aguas)
- Ministerio de Energía y Minas (Dir. de Asuntos Amb.)
- Ministerio de Pesquerías
- IMARPE
- GCTI (Grupo Técnico de Coordinación Interinstitucional)
- Ministerio de Transportes y comunicaciones (Dir. de Caminos Rurales)
- CONAM
- Gobierno Regional de Cuzco
- Gobierno Regional de Junín
- Gobierno Regional de Puno
- Gobierno Regional de Ayacucho
- Gobierno Regional de Madre de Dios
- Gobierno Regional de Ucayali
- Municipios (gobiernos locales)
- Universidades

- Organizaciones indígenas (AIDESEP, CONAP, COMARU, OIRA, FECONAM, FENAMAP, CONAU, CART)
- Conservación Internacional
- WWF
- CARE
- AGRA
- ACCA
- ANIA
- TREES
- APECO
- PRONATURALEZA
- CESVI
- SERJALI
- RACIMOS DE UNGURAHUI
- CENTRO EORI
- Red de Educadores Ambientales de la Reserva de Biosfera del Manu
- Operadores turísticos
- SERNAP, Bolivia

Indicadores:

- XX universidades y ONGs desarrollan investigación relevante para el corredor.
- Existen protocolos de intercambio de información entre las instituciones en el corredor.
- Gerencias de recursos naturales de las regiones utilizan la información generada para la toma de decisiones y sus procesos de ordenamiento territorial.
- XX actores utilizan la información científica para elaborar planes de manejo de recursos.
- Universidades formando profesionales idóneos de acuerdo a un perfil de demanda elaborado por la comunidad comprometida con el desarrollo sostenible.
- Existe el servicio obligatorio rural.

Acciones:

- Actualizar, aprobar e implementar la estrategia de investigación del SINANPE.
- Crear una estrategia binacional de investigación y monitoreo biológica y social.
- Desarrollar protocolos de intercambio de información.
- Capacitar a cuadros científicos y comunales para el monitoreo.
- Desarrollar una estrategia de comunicación para la difusión de los resultados de investigación y monitoreo a los actores locales.
- Sistemas de información para la toma de decisiones.

Objetivo Estratégico 2:
CONSTRUIR VIABILIDAD SOCIAL

RESULTADO 2.1.: CONCEPTO DE CORREDOR EXITOSO Y VALIDADO

Conceptualización:

- Que la planificación e implementación de actividades de gobiernos regionales, locales y de las organizaciones de la sociedad civil se han hecho en el marco de la propuesta de conservación del Corredor Vilcabamba-Amboró, y ha generado desarrollo económico y social local.

Oportunidades y (Actores):

- La regionalización en el lado peruano da oportunidades de gestión a niveles locales *(gobiernos regionales y locales con la sociedad civil).*
- El Convenio de Diversidad Biológica, Estrategia Regional de Biodiversidad para los Países del Trópico Andino, y las Estrategias de Biodiversidad Nacional dan marco y soporte para el desarrollo de actividades conjuntas sobre conservación de diversidad biológica *(Cancillerías, Dirección de Desarrollo Fronterizo, ONG's, INRENA, SERNAP, CONAM).*
- Existe un Acuerdo Perú-Bolivia entre el Ministerio de Agricultura y el Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible que enmarca acciones para producción, y en el tema de recursos naturales da autoridad a INRENA y SERNAP *(INRENA, SERNAP).*
- En el Perú, la Comisión CONAPAAA da espacio de concertación a entidades que apoyan a la conservación y el desarrollo sostenible *(CONAPA, organizaciones de base, Gobiernos Regionales).*
- La nueva Ley Orgánica de municipalidades.
- La Coordinadora Internacional de la Cuenca Amazónica.
- Proyecto PTRT 2 (convenio INRENA-PETT): proyecto peruano que titula predios agrícolas en zonas de amortiguamiento de ANPES *(INRENA, PETT, y sociedad civil).*
- Las leyes forestales del Perú y Bolivia dan oportunidades para acceso comunal a los bosques y reglamenten el aprovechamiento de los mismos. *(INRENA, SERNAP, sociedad civil, gobiernos locales).*
- Una propuesta de ley peruano de aguas que constituiría un Instituto que dependería de la Presidencia del Consejo de Ministros *(el estado, sociedad civil)*
- Una propuesta de ley peruano que crearía un Instituto de Áreas Nacionales Protegidas dependiente de la Presidencia del Consejo de Ministros *(el estado, sociedad civil).*
- Los Comités de Gestión de los ANPES dan oportunidad de la participación de la sociedad civil en la gestión del área *(sociedad civil, administración de las áreas protegidas).*
- Propuesta a nivel del Congreso de Creación de Estrategias de Participación Ciudadana *(el estado, sociedad civil).*

- Presencia en el área de organizaciones no-gubernamentales que están comprometidas con la conservación *(ONG's).*
- Flujo creciente del turismo que se da al área del CCVA *(ANPES, operadores, mercados turísticos, Gobiernos Regionales, ONG's).*
- Reconocimiento del Valor de las Estrategias de Comunicación *(actores en general).*

Indicadores para el Año 2015:

- Áreas Naturales Protegidas (todas en el Corredor) cuentan con Comités de Gestión que funcionan con planes operativos anuales.
- Que los planes operativos municipales en el ámbito de las áreas naturales protegidas y regionales (todas) incorporan el enfoque de conservación y medio ambiente.
- Que todas las municipalidades cuentan con Comisiones Permanentes de Medio Ambiente/Recursos Naturales.
- Que existen Estándares Sociales y Ambientales para Ecoturismo dentro de las Áreas Protegidas.
- Que el registro de uso ilegal de RRNN al interior del CCVA se ha reducido en 50%.
- Que los gobiernos del Perú y Bolivia utilizan el corredor de conservación Vilcabamba-Amboró como herramienta para un acuerdo financiero internacional, que beneficie a la conservación y las poblaciones en el ámbito del Corredor.
- Que sea establecido y celebrado el Aniversario del Corredor de Conservación Vilcabamba-Amboró, con la presencia de personalidades mundiales.

Acciones:

- Fortalecimiento en gestión ambiental (capacitación, financiamiento) de los Comités de Gestión, CCNN, TCO, municipalidades.
- Promoción del ordenamiento territorial a favor del medio ambiente y del desarrollo sostenible.
- Fortalecer los mecanismos de participación ciudadana.
- Identificación de posibilidades productivas amigables al medio ambiente, a nivel local, regional y global.
- Fortalecimiento de Estrategias de Comunicación sobre CCVA, conservación y medio ambiente.

RESULTADO 2.2.: EDUCACIÓN AMBIENTAL INCORPORADA A LA EDUCACIÓN FORMAL

Conceptualización:

- La educación formal actúa como una herramienta que permite que los jóvenes se perciban como parte de la naturaleza, y como agentes de su conservación.

Oportunidades (y Actores):

- Diversificación curricular permite incorporar aspectos locales en la educación (P. Ej. conocimientos tradicionales sobre el bosque) (lado peruano) *(Direcciones Regionales de Educación, profesores, Programa de Capacitación Permanente).*
- Existen equivalencias curriculares entre Perú y Bolivia (*es una ventaja*).
- La existencia de colegios alternativos en el ámbito del corredor (*Potsiwa, Pukklasunchis, Apafas de los Colegios Alternativos*).
- Planes de Uso Público de los Planes Maestros dan oportunidades para el desarrollo de programas de educación ambiental *(Administración de las Áreas, Comités de Gestión, ONG's, colegios, escuelas).*
- Convenio entre el Ministerio de Educación e INRENA existe para la incorporación de temas ambientales en el currículum *(Ministerio de Educación, INRENA, ONG's, Administración de las Áreas Protegidas).*
- IBBY.
- Centros de Interpretación en las ANPES *(colegios, Administración de ANPES).*

Indicadores al 2015:

- Los profesores (100%) de los colegios dan por lo menos el mínimo número de horas requeridas al tema de Ciencias y Ambiente.
- Realización de 1 taller de capacitación anual en temas ambientales en cada Unidad de Gestión Educativa (lado peruano---equivalente lado boliviano).
- Que 80% los alumnos conocen al menos de nombre las ANPES en su entorno
- Que el tema de medio ambiente sea incorporado de manera transversal al currículum (Perú y Bolivia).
- Que los estudiantes de todos los colegios de la región están involucradas en campañas ambientales y en la conservación de la diversidad biológica.

Acciones:

- Intercambio de experiencias entre Perú y Bolivia en temas de educación ambiental.
- Promoción de los cursos de capacitación a los profesores en temas ambientales.
- Promover visitas de los colegios a los centros de interpretación de los ANPES.
- Apoyo a los colegios alternativos en el ámbito del corredor.
- Crear alianzas entre los ANPES, ONG's y los UGE (nivel regional).

Objetivo Estratégico 3:
USO SOSTENIBLE DE LOS RECURSOS NATURALES

RESULTADO 3.1.: DESARROLLO ECONÓMICO SOSTENIBLE BASADO EN EL APROVECHAMIENTO DE LOS RECURSOS NATURALES

Conceptualización:

- Mejorar la calidad de vida y bienestar, seguridad alimentaria, PBI local, mejora de servicios
- Identificación y manejo de recursos económicamente importantes
- Distribución equitativa
- Reinversión y gastos en las regiones
- Sostenibilidad del uso de los recursos

Oportunidades:

- Alta diversidad de recursos
- Conocimiento local (know how local)
- Mercado de Comercio Justo y orgánico
- Instituciones, ONGs que promuevan el uso sostenible de los recursos
- Negocios sostenible (turismo, café orgánico, medicinas, castaña, madera con valor agregado)
- Zonas de uso turístico disponibles
- Gas de Camisea
- Estrategia Regional de Biodiversidad para los países del trópico andino
- Proceso de concesiones forestales en ambos países en marcha
- BOLFOR 2 , CEDEFOR y FONDEBOSQUES

Actores:

- Comunidades locales (municipios, CCNN, ONGs)
- Gobierno regionales
- INRENA y IIAP
- ONGs
- Sector privado
- Universidades

Indicadores:

- Incremento del ingreso per capita
- % PEA ocupada

- X Planes de manejo de recursos aprobados y en ejecución
- X recursos identificados como potencialmente económicos
- X Empresas basadas en el uso sostenible de los recursos, funcionando con baja tasa de morosidad
- Xx divisas generadas por la exportación de productos
- Xx productos certificados

Acciones:

- Fortalecimiento de la legislación que promueven el uso sostenible de los recursos naturales
- Capacitación en coordinación con comunidades locales (en manejo de recursos)
- Formalización de acuerdos binacionales
- Búsqueda de recursos financieros
- Búsqueda de clientes claves
- Planes de negocio (estudios de mercados, diversidad de productos)
- Diagnostico sobre los recursos naturales del corredor
- Estudios sobre sostenibilidad de recursos naturales
- Planes de negocio binacional (castaña, productos con valor agregado)
- Asegurar que los proyectos de desarrollo incorporen criterios ambientales (estudios de impacto ambiental)

RESULTADO 3.2.: ORDENAMIENTO TERRITORIAL EN APLICACIÓN

Conceptualización:

- Planificación del uso de la tierra en el ámbito del CCVA en base al potencial de los recursos y las estrategias aprobadas.

Oportunidades:

- ANP establecidas, categorizadas y consolidadas.
- BPP definidos.
- Proceso de titulación en CCNN por terminar.
- Procesos extractivistas en la zona.
- Existen organizaciones de base representativas.
- Existen estudios de ZEE
- Regionalización y descentralización

Actores:

- Gobiernos Regionales
- Gobiernos Locales
- Organizaciones de base
- INRENA
- MEM
- CONAM
- PETT
- IIAP
- INRA

Indicadores:

- Xx Planes de ordenamiento territorial en aplicación.
- Proceso de Demarcación, catastro y saneamiento de propiedades completo.
- Disminución de denuncias de transgresiones de propiedad.
- Concesiones forestales otorgadas y planes de manejo en ejecución.
- Disminución de conflictos de uso de la tierra.

Acciones:

- Mejorar la cartografía base.
- Respaldo al cumplimiento de leyes y normas (propiedad).
- Protección efectiva para el ordenamiento territorial.
- Concertación de los actores involucrados en el saneamiento territorial.

RESULTADO 3.3.: PARTICIPACIÓN LOCAL ACTIVA CONSOLIDADA

Conceptualización:

- Proceso gradual de involucramiento y compromiso en la gestión del CCVA.
- Mecanismos de consulta.
- Difusión de información.

Oportunidades:

- Existencia de comités de gestión, Comisión Ambiental Regional (CAR), medios de comunicación, municipalidades, gobiernos regionales y organismos de base.
- Asambleas comunales.
- Medios de comunicación.

Actores:

- Gobiernos Regionales
- Gobiernos Locales
- Organizaciones de base
- INRENA
- MEM
- CONAM
- PETT
- IIAP
- INRA

Indicadores:

- Todos los comités de gestión operando.
- El 75% de la población conoce el CCVA.
- El 50% piensa que el CCVA ha tenido un impacto positivo.
- Los planes de desarrollo tienen integrados los planes operativos de las ANP
- XX empresas comunales operando con criterios ambientalistas.
- XX directores locales en ONGs, sector publico y sector privado.
- Xx comunidades participando en la gestión del corredor
- Xx Gobiernos locales y regionales con planes de manejo ambientales
- Planes estratégico locales y regionales que incorporan el concepto de corredor

Acciones:

- Consolidar la capacidad financiera y técnica de los comités de gestión.
- Promover intercambios y sinergias en comités de gestión.
- Seleccionar el medio de información y consulta más efectivo por población (asamblea comunal, municipalidad, Internet, etc.).
- Implementar un programa de comunicación sobre el CCVA.
- Aplicar las acciones de desarrollo económico para crear empresas comunales.

Objetivo Estratégico 4:
FORTALECIMIENTO DE LA CAPACIDAD DE GESTIÓN

Se refiere a las instituciones con planes operativos en desarrollo y capacidad técnica y financiera asegurada.

RESULTADO 4.1.: SOSTENIBILIDAD INSTITUCIONAL ASEGURADA

Conceptualización:

- Instituciones estables, flexibles, adaptables, capacidad de respuesta a cambios coyunturales, políticos, del entorno.
- Intervención significativa. Eficaz.

Oportunidades:

- ONGs con experiencia en el campo; ámbito de acción descentralizado, y con presencia en la zona.
- Proceso de descentralización.
- Reestructuración de instituciones públicas.
- Organizaciones indígenas trabajando/presentes en la zona, sensibles a la necesidad de conservar.
- Existen procesos de trabajo interinstitucionales (ejemplo: MAP).
- Existe capacidad de captar y viabilizar fondos orientados al fortalecimiento institucional.

Actores:

- INRENA / Intendencia de ANPs / Intendencia Forestal - SERNAP.
- Superintendencias (Forestal, INRA, otros).
- Gobiernos locales (municipios).
- Gobiernos regionales (direcciones regionales, prefecturas, subprefecturas).
- Organizaciones de base (FENAMAD, FADEMAD, CONAP, ASCART, comunidades indígenas, federaciones de campesinos y colonos, CIPTA, CIDOB, CEPILAB, CRCHM, otros).
- ONGs (CI, ACCA, WWF, PRONATURALEZA, ANIA, WCS, TNC, FAN, ICIB, ACPC, IMAPI, CBC, otras).
- Organizaciones públicas (IIAP, instituciones académicas, universidades).
- Organizaciones financieras (PROFONANPE, FUNDESNAP, FONDEBOSQUE, FONAM, PUMA, Agencia Peruana de Cooperación Internacional, otros).

- Agencias de cooperación (AECI, GTZ, KfW, Moore Foundation, Mac Arthur, Sociedad Zoológica de Frankfurt, Zoológico de Nueva York, Museo de Chicago, Missouri Botanical Garden, Darwin Initiative, Fondo Francés para la Cooperación, SNV, CIDA, HIVOS, Holanda, CI, TNC, WWF, Smithsonian, USAID, BM, PNUD, otros).
- Medios de comunicación masivos.

Indicadores:

- Equipos técnicos (profesionales) capacitados y formados.
- Capacidad de autofinanciamiento incrementada.
- Coherencia entre las acciones/actividades planificadas/ejecutadas (resultados) y los objetivos institucionales (claridad).
- Instituciones cuentan con planes estratégicos.
- Cumplimiento del rol institucional.

Acciones:

- Identificación de instituciones.
- Talleres de capacitación en temas de planificación u otros.
- Acompañamiento (seguimiento y monitoreo).
- Facilitar articulación y coordinación permanente (proyectos, procesos, programas).
- Generar espacios de planificación conjunta.
- Crear y consolidar redes de comunicación.

RESULTADO 4.2.: GESTIÓN Y COORDINACIÓN BINACIONAL FUNCIONANDO

Conceptualización:

- Capacidad de desarrollar y ejecutar políticas, planes y estrategias de conservación, coordinados entre los dos países.
- Capacidad de desarrollar y ejecutar políticas, planes y estrategias de conservación, coordinados entre los dos países.

Oportunidades:

- Existen procesos de coordinación binacional en distintos ámbitos (económico, social, político y ambiental).
- Existen espacios de intercambio (información, experiencias, productos, otros).
- Matrices culturales comunes.

- Existen organizaciones, potencialidades y limitaciones similares.
- Organizaciones de apoyo que trabajan en ambos países.
- Existen convenios, acuerdos, tratados, otros.
- Existe un convenio de cooperación para actividades de protección y vigilancia entre las áreas protegidas colindantes (Bahuaja Sonene – Madidi).
- Existen experiencias de capacitación conjunta a guarda parques de ambos países (Bahuaja – Sonene, Madidi, Manuripi).

Actores:

- IDEM + Cancillerías + resguardos fronterizos (FF.AA, PNP, PNB).

Indicadores:

- Existen instancias de coordinación a diferentes niveles.
- Existen criterios y políticas armonizados.
- Se han consolidado e incrementado espacios de intercambio.
- Número de programas y/o proyectos conjuntos.

Acciones:

- Realizar intercambio de experiencias de gestión de áreas protegidas, de organizaciones de base, de instituciones privadas, públicas y gobiernos locales.
- Crear un sistema de intercambio de información binacional.
- Definir convenios bilaterales específicos por sector (turismo, agricultura, conservación).
- Crear y consolidar redes de comunicación.

Vilcabamba-Amboró Forest Ecosystem of the Tropical Andes Hotspot Table of Leveraged Funds

Organization	Project Title	CEPF Grant	Co-Financing	Project/Regional Leveraging	Total Leveraged Funds
Global Conservation Fund	Consolidation of the New Projected Area Complex in the Cordillera of Vilcabamba: Otishi National park and Machiguenga and Ashaninka Communal reserves			$190,000	$190,000
Global Conservation Fund	Compensacion forestal para la conservacion del la RTCO PL - Berna y Sucesores			$170,000	$170,000
International Tropical Timber Organization	Conservacion y desarrollo en el ambito del complejo de Areas Portegidas Tambopata (Peru) y Madidi (Bolivia)			$1,793,456	$1,793,456
USAID	Support for Local Actors Participation in the Management of Protected Areas Altamachi, Apolobamba, Carrasco, and Pilon Lajas			$1,800,000	$1,800,000
CEPF: Amazon Conservation Association **Project/Regional Leveraging:** FONDAM	Formalizing Forest Access and Implementing Sustainable Brazil Nut Management in Madre de Dios, Peru			$100,000	$100,000
CEPF: American Bird Conservancy **Cofinancing:** **Project/Regional Leveraging:** Moore	Project Polylepis	$9,500.00	$20,500.00	2,500,000	$2,520,500
CEPF: Asociación Peruana para la Conservación de la Naturaleza **Project/Regional Leveraging:** CBC	The Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor Biodiversity Information Management System: A Collaborative Internet Resource for Scientists, Educators and Conservation Managers			100,000	$100,000
CEPF: CARE Bolivia	Prevention of Human-Induced Forest Fires in Madidi and Apolobamba National Parks	$193,743.00	$20,989.00		$20,989
CEPF: Central de Pueblos Indigenas de La Paz	Reducing Deforestation in the Buffer Zone of Bolivia's Madidi National Park: Promoting the Cultivation, Manufacture and Use of Bamboo Products	$51,300.00	$71,700.00		$71,700
CEPF: Conservation International-Andes Program	Improving Management and Consolidation of Selected Protected Areas Within the	$439,757.00	$12,243.00		$12,243
CEPF: Conservation International-Andes Program	Evaluating Threats in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor	$265,240.00	$17,260.00		$17,260

Vilcabamba-Amboró Forest Ecosystem of the Tropical Andes Hotspot Table of Leveraged Funds

Organization	Project Title	CEPF Grant	Co-Financing	Project/Regional Leveraging	Total Leveraged Funds
CEPF: Conservation International-Andes Program	Developing Natural Resources Management Programs in Four Communities Within The Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor	$563,582.00	$1,418.00		$1,418
CEPF: Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Ecología	Implementing Basic Infrastructure for Local Area Networks (LAN), Internal Telephone Communications and a WAN Network Between the National Herbarium of Bolivia and the Bolivian Fauna Collection	$9,831.00	$2,000.00		$2,000
CEPF: Fundación San Marcos para el Desarrollo de la Ciencia y la Cultura	The Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor Biodiversity Information Management System: A Collaborative Internet Resource for Scientists, Educators and Conservation Managers	$50,000.00	$100,000.00		$100,000
CEPF: Instituto Machu Picchu	Enhancing Public Awareness for Improved Management of the Machu Picchu Sanctuary and its Surrounding Environment	$56,298.00	$49,283.00		$49,283
CEPF: Instituto para la Conservación y la Investigación de la Biodiversidad	Conservation from the Schools: Networking and Partnerships in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor. Phase One: Pilon Lajas, Madidi and Apolobamba	$78,980.00	$21,020.00		$21,020
CEPF: Selva Reps S.A.C.	Learning Host to Host: Ecotourism Exchanges in the Tropical Andes	$157,451.00	$28,844.00		$28,844
CEPF: TRÓPICO	Restoration and Sustainable Management of Forest Resources in the Mining Zone of Tipuani, Bolivia	$96,350.00	$33,980.00		$33,980
CEPF: Wildlife Conservation Society	Organizational Strengthening of the Council of Tacana Indigenous Peoples for Natural Resource Management and Conservation	$48,215.00	$125,998.00		$125,998
CEPF: World Wildlife Fund, Inc. **Project/Regional Leveraging:** Conservation International	Creation and Effective Management of Forest Protected Areas in Peru	$236,000.00	$131,667.00	$10,600,000	$10,731,667
		Totals	**$636,902.00**	**$17,253,456.00**	**$17,890,358**

American Bird Conservancy Awarded Grant by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

American Bird Conservancy (ABC) has been awarded a $2.37 million grant by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation under their Andes-Amazon Initiative.

The grant will support ABC's *Conserving Biodiversity in the Tropical Andes Program*, enhancing the protection of a series of large protected areas in Peru and Ecuador via the implementation of management programs at strategically-located, privately-owned reserves. The grant will also support strengthening the quality of science and conservation of cloud forest habitats in the southern Andes of Peru and northern Bolivia. The grant will be implemented in collaboration with ABC's established partners in the region including Fundación Jocotoco and Asociación Ecosistemas Andinos.

"The tropical Andes present some of the most intriguing challenges and opportunities in modern biodiversity conservation: incredible species diversity and endemism coupled with a high threat level. Despite constant pressure from land clearance, the Andes-Amazon region still contains some of the world's most pristine montane and tropical lowland rainforest wilderness areas. We are delighted to partner with the Moore Foundation and local conservation groups to tackle some of the highest conservation priorities for birds and biodiversity in the world" said ABC President, Dr. George H. Fenwick.

ABC is a U.S.-based 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization dedicated to conserving wild birds and their habitats throughout the Americas. ABC is headquartered in Virginia, with offices in ten states. ABC has more than 300 partner organizations throughout the Americas primarily through its leadership roles in the North American Bird Conservation Initiative, Partners in Flight, the Bird Conservation Alliance, the National Pesticide Coalition, and the Alliance for Zero Extinction. ABC was recently rated one of the best-managed small charities in the U.S. by the independent group "Charity Navigator," and given their highest rating for fiscal management. For more information see: www.abcbirds.org or contact Mike Parr on 202-452-1535 ext. 204.

The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation was established in November 2000, by Intel co-founder Gordon Moore and his wife Betty. The Foundation funds outcome-based projects that will measurably improve the quality of life by creating positive outcomes for future generations. Grant making is concentrated in initiatives that support the Foundation's principal areas of concern: environmental conservation, science, higher education, and the San Francisco Bay Area.

For more information contact Mike Parr, Vice President for Program Development, American Bird Conservancy, Tel: 202-452-1535 ext. 204
E-mail: mparr@abcbirds.org