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AMAZON

Sustainable Landscapes Program

Bolivia | Brazil | Colombia
Ecuador | Guyana | Peru | Suriname

Progress Report 2021
Executive summary

SUPPORTED BY



The Amazon Sustainable Landscapes (ASL) Program is an Impact Program funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The ASL brings together seven countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, and Suriname with the objective to improve integrated landscape management and conservation of ecosystems in targeted areas in the Amazon region. The ASL national projects are led by the countries' Ministries of Environment and are being executed collaboratively between public and private entities. The World Bank as lead agency, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) act as GEF Agencies providing support and supervision. A regional coordination project, implemented by the World Bank, provides technical assistance and knowledge management opportunities to the participant countries.



Objective: To improve integrated landscape management and conservation of ecosystems in targeted areas in the Amazon region.

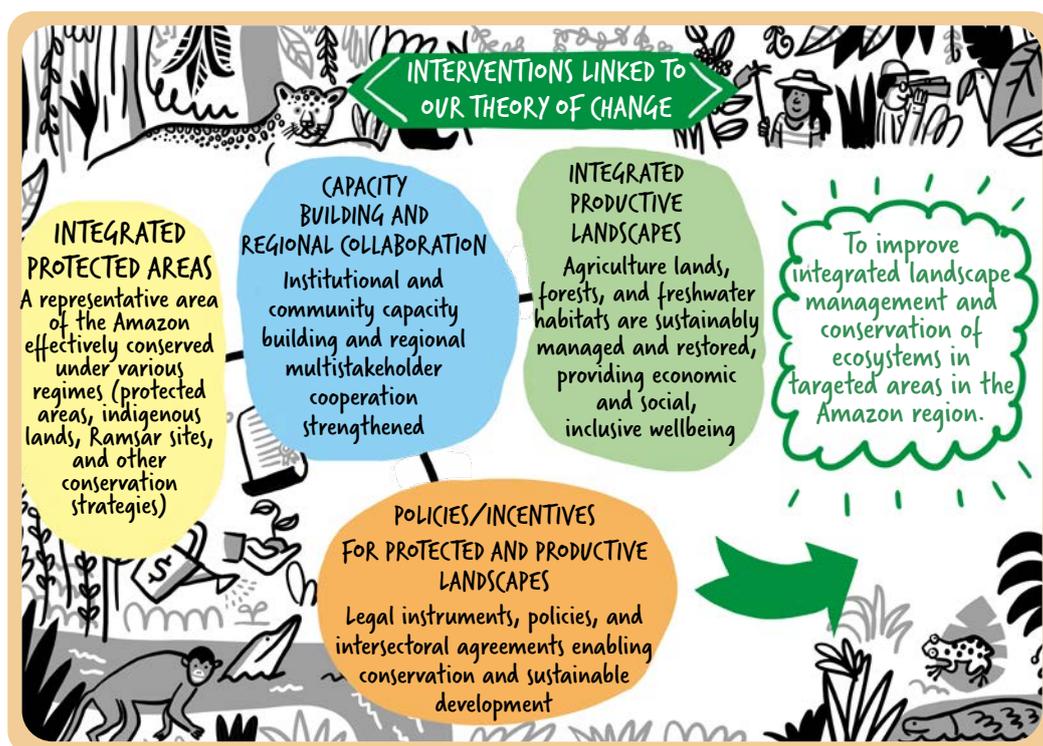
The ASL includes two phases. The first phase (ASL1) comprises five national projects led by the countries' Ministries of Environment and executed in Brazil, Colombia, and Peru. The second phase (ASL2) comprises four new countries, Bolivia, Ecuador, Guyana, and Suriname with one national project each, one new project in Peru, and the scale-up of two of the ongoing national projects in Brazil and Colombia.

The ASL is possible thanks to a network of institutions from Amazon countries working towards a common goal that aligns with national and regional priorities. It is expected that in 2022 all national projects within ASL2 will have initiated implementation.

ASL Approach

The ASL promotes a collaborative approach based on the four pillars in Figure 1 that include the national and regional level activities.

Figure 1: ASL Pillars and Objectives

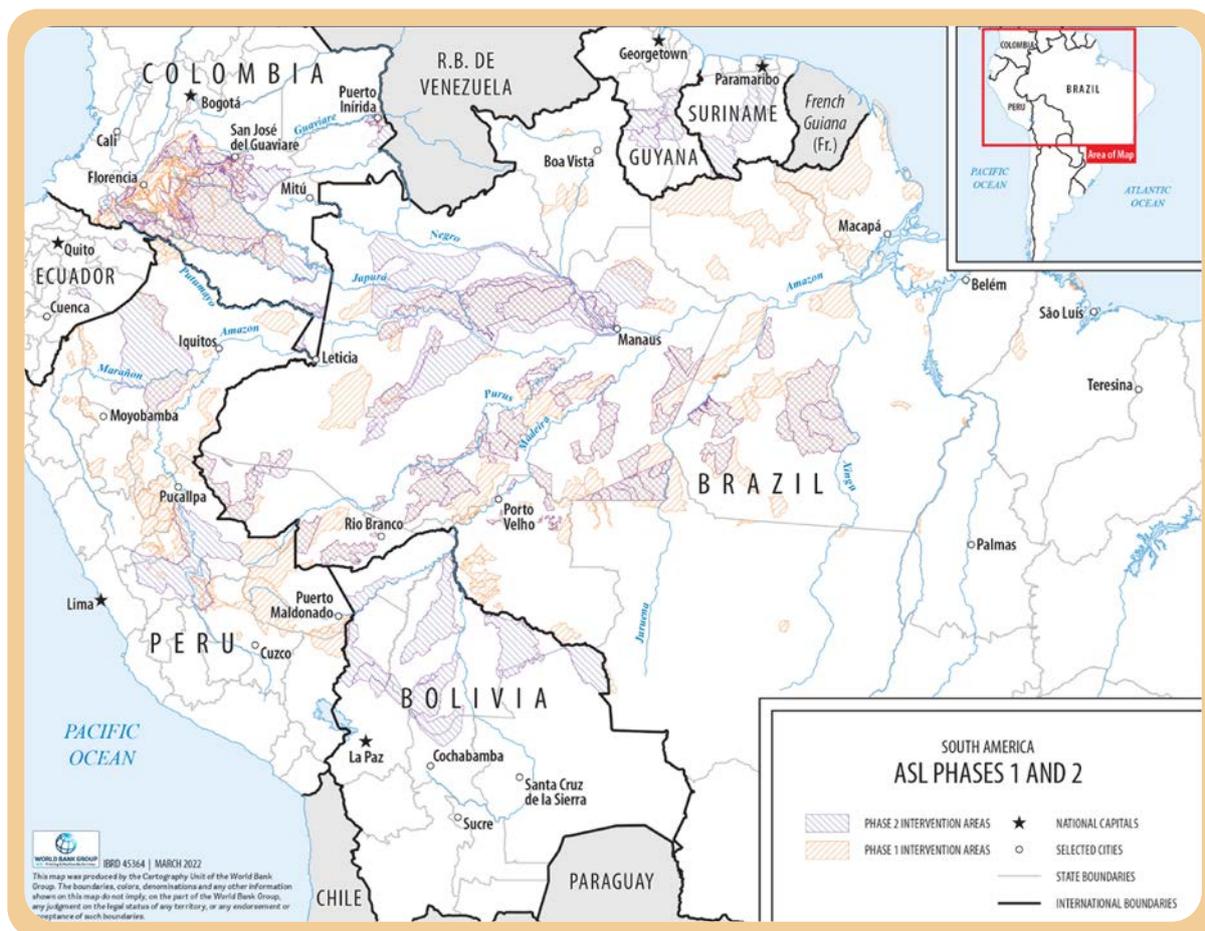


The ASL's programmatic approach ensures that national projects can achieve larger impacts than if they were implemented in isolation. By working together under one program, and with support from the regional project, national project teams learn from one another, attract partners to work nationally and regionally, become part of a network of agencies and people that coordinates and collaborates to achieve a common goal, voice concerns, share ideas and best practices, and align efforts to safeguard the connectivity of the Amazon landscapes.

ASL areas of intervention

The national projects are implementing and will implement activities at different geographic levels and jurisdictions. Project activities involving the design or strengthening of policies, financial mechanisms, incentive structures, and knowledge exchanges have the potential to provide at national and subnational scales. In addition, on-the-ground investments have been focused on specific and priority areas in each country. Map 1 illustrates the areas of direct on-the-ground intervention for both phases of the ASL. Note that there is an overlap of some areas from each phase.

Map 1: ASL 1 and 2 Intervention Areas



Within the areas of intervention, ASL activities from both its two phases will benefit a total of **241 protected areas (PAs) (more than 111 million hectares)**, including national and subnational areas.

ASL1 National Projects – Progress in 2021

During 2021, the ASL1 national projects achieved important results, shown in Figure 2, adapting their action plans and showing strength and resilience in response to the challenges generated by the COVID-19 pandemic:

Figure 2: ASL1 national projects accomplishments

Track improvements in management effectiveness in **42.9 million hectares** of protected areas

 Brazil (Br-ASL) 37.4

 Colombia (CA) 5

 Peru (PdP Amazonía) 0.5

2021 42.9

ASLI Target 65.4

Restore over

4,337 hectares of forests¹

 Brazil (Br-ASL) 1,301²

 Colombia (CA) 1,074

 Colombia (APP) 462

 Peru (PPS) 1,500

2021 4,337

ASLI Target 35,000

Implement sustainable practices in over

209 thousand hectares

 Brazil (Br-ASL) 77,500

 Colombia (CA) 24,526

 Colombia (APP) 107,751

2021 209,777

ASLI Target 1,664,397

Directly benefit over

27,600 people

 Brazil (Br-ASL) 3,950

 Colombia (APP) 1,402

 Colombia (CA) 12,593

 Peru (PdP Amazonía) 37

 Peru (PPS) 9,700

2021 27,682

ASLI Target 23,000

1. The activities involving technical assistance in the field (i.e activities related to planting or restoration) have been the most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, but important socialization processes were achieved. Wildfires also reduced some of the areas previously restored.

2. Area has decreased due to fire and deforestation pressures. In this context, the project is reviewing its restoration strategy.

ASL1 Project-level accomplishments

Brazil: Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Project (Br-ASL)



Objective: To expand the area under legal protection and improve management of protected areas and increase the area under restoration and sustainable management in the Brazilian Amazon.

The Brazil ASL project builds on decades of government policies that successfully reduced deforestation and expanded protected areas (PA) by improving PA management, strengthening local community participation, and engaging with state governments.

GEF Implementing Agency: World Bank Group (WBG)

Executing Partners: Ministry of Environment (MMA), Brazilian Biodiversity Fund (Funbio), Conservation International (CI-Brazil), Instituto Chico Mendes de Conservação da Biodiversidade (ICMBio).

Project Sites: Protected and productive landscapes in the nine Brazilian Amazon States (Acre, Amapá, Amazonas, Maranhão, Mato Grosso, Pará, Rondônia, Roraima, and Tocantins).

GEF Grant: \$60 million **Co-financing:** \$374 million

More information about the projects: Website [Projeto Paisagens Sustentáveis da Amazonia](#) (in Portuguese).

Main accomplishments through 2021

Protected Landscapes

ARPA Transition Fund: Current value of the ARPA Transition Fund has reached \$230 million. The Transition Fund currently supports the consolidation of 120 PAs and the coordination, management, monitoring, and communication of ARPA as a whole. Of these, 79 have high management effectiveness as per defined criteria.

COVID Response Strategy: An ARPA COVID-19 response strategy to ensure food security for affected families and the safety of PA staff and collaborators was prepared. Support has been extended to 32 PAs, providing personal protective equipment for 276 collaborators, disseminating information, assisting communities to access federal COVID-19 aid.

Creation of new PAs: Technical studies are continuing for the creation of 14 new state-level areas, with an estimated total area of 4.3 million hectares.

Integrated Productive Landscapes

Management plans: Progress in review of management plans for environmental protection area (APA) Lago do Amapá; launching the recruitment process for elaboration of management plans for APA of Triunfo do Xingu; State Forest (FLOTA) of Iriri, Extractive Reserve (RESEX) Alto Juruá, and APA Tapajós; and launching recruitment for restoration in RESEX Alto Juruá, RESEX Chico Mendes and National Forest Bom Futuro.

Strengthening value chains: Project acquired equipment and carried out services to structure, complement, and organize the storage, processing, and transport of NTFP products, such as cooling chambers, pulpers, feeders, packaging machines, tools, vessels and quadricycles, and supported physical installations (e.g., flour house), water (e.g., artesian well) and electrical systems in several ICMBio conservation units.

Other activities include: (I) Participatory preparation of fisheries accords in Rio Negro were continued, with a fifth fisheries agreement signed in 2021 in the surroundings of Canutama State Forest; and (II) community training for seedling production, and provision of laboratory equipment for research inventories (biodiversity, socio-economic and ethnological) in the State Forestry Complex of Rio Gregorio; as well as renovations and acquisition of equipment for the forest nursery in Acre to support the recovery of properties with environmental liabilities.

Policies/Incentives for Protected and Productive Landscapes

Public forest concessions: Competitive processes being launched for two public forest concessions covering a total area of 1.14 million hectares, Additionally, areas totaling more than 800,000 hectares have bidding processes under preparation.

Addition technical studies related to the forest concession process have been launched including for infrastructure and logistics as input to determining minimum prices for timber.

Rural Environmental Registry: Activities in support of the environmental regularization process of the Rural Environmental Registry continue.

Capacity Building and Regional Collaboration

Monitoring system: Progress was achieved in the standardization of monitoring and reporting systems.

Safeguards capacity building: Training and discussion sessions held with the implementation teams and the adoption of the assessment and monitoring forms in KoboToolbox have facilitated the understanding of the project teams on the application of safeguards to project activities and improved the periodic reporting on safeguards compliance.

Virtual workshops: The project developed a workshop cycle with six sessions, 16 speakers, and 232 participants in a series of online meetings between partners with themes related to the activities of the project.

Communications activities: The project continued its communications activities and was able to deliver 12 issues of its newsletter.

COLOMBIA: CONNECTIVITY AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN THE COLOMBIAN AMAZON

The Connectivity and Biodiversity Conservation project in Colombia includes two complementary interventions led by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development with different GEF Agencies with distinct implementation, monitoring, and reporting processes:

- **Forest Conservation and Sustainability in the Heart of the Colombian Amazon** with the World Bank as GEF Agency.
- **Connectivity and Biodiversity Conservation in the Colombian Amazon—Sustainable Amazon for Peace** with UNDP as GEF Agency.

Colombia: Forest Conservation and Sustainability in the Heart of the Colombian Amazon



Objective: To improve governance and promote sustainable land-use activities to reduce deforestation and conserve biodiversity in the project area.

The project, better known as Heart of the Amazon (Corazón de la Amazonía), continues making a strategic contribution, under the guidance of the country's Ministry of Environment (MINAMBIENTE), towards the implementation of the government policies within its Vision Amazonia strategy. The Colombian government considers this project highly strategic with important investment and policy related contributions to comply with the country's biodiversity and climate change goals.

GEF Implementing Agency: World Bank Group (WBG)

Executing Partners: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MINAMBIENTE); Patrimonio Natural Fund; Amazonic Institute of Scientific Research (SINCHI); National Natural Parks of Colombia; Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies (IDEAM); Corporation for the Sustainable Development of the Southern Amazon (Corpoamazonia); and the Corporation for the Sustainable Development of the northern and western Amazon (CDA).

Project Sites: Serranía de Chiribiquete National Park (NP); Alto Fragua Indi Wasi NP; Paya NP; Serranía de Churumbelos Auka Wasi NP; Medicinal Plants Orito Ingi-Ande Flora Sanctuary; Corridor Páramos Miraflores/Picachos Regional Park, Bajo Caguan and Serranía La Lindosa, Capricho, Cerritos and Mirolindo; 22 indigenous reserves.

GEF Grant: \$12 million **Co-financing:** \$60 million

More information about the project: Website [Corazon de la Amazonia](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#) (in Spanish).

Main accomplishments through 2021

Protected Landscapes

Increase in PA management effectiveness: Over 5 million hectares of protected areas have demonstrated improved management effectiveness, including 2 regional PAs. Activities to promote sustainable tourism in the regional PAs developed, focusing on capacity building of local communities. Strategy for prevention, surveillance and control continues being implemented in these PAs, combined with technical assistance to build community monitoring capacity. Given travel restrictions, activities relied on air surveillance and use of satellite images registered in the government's SicoSmart platform. Progress continues in the development, validation, and implementation of work plans with local communities and Indigenous authorities in alignment with PA management plans.

Areas of environmental significance under legal protection increased: Progress towards the declaration of the regional PA at the Bajo Guayabero Conservation District included the definition of a polygon with improved spatial and legal information, validation of the conservation goals ensuring its role as part of an ecological corridor, socialization with local communities, and biodiversity characterization from a scientific expedition.

Colombia Heritage Program (HECO): Financial management arrangements and the operation manual designed. Also, ecological restoration and REDD+ strategies designed to support PA financial sustainability. The project is strengthening the capacity of Patrimonio Natural's information management system to serve as one of HECO's transition fund administrators.

Integrated Productive Landscapes

Conservation, restoration, and non-deforestation agreements: New conservation agreements signed with farmers, and existing agreements ratified, totaling 24,526 hectares under sustainable practices. A community-based forestry pilot's action plan was agreed with communities and sound progress was made towards the design of sustainable value chains with the development of a study of timber species' potential and a forest inventory.

The area under active restoration increased with 873 hectares. Active and passive restoration activities totaled 1,073.7 hectares.

RAMSAR sites management plans: Sustainable tourism strategies for the two project-supported Ramsar sites (Estrella Fluvial de Inirida (EFI) and Tarapoto) have been designed and validated with local communities. 955,418 hectares sustainably managed, including the above-mentioned areas and the special protection area of Alto Mirití where management agreements are in place between PAs and the indigenous territories.

Ecological Connectivity Corridors. 8 corridors prioritized and characterized on environmental, social, demographic, and institutional grounds. The corresponding interactive [infographics](#) were published.

Policies/Incentives for Protected and Productive Landscapes

Sectorial agreements for sustainable landscape management: Two additional agreements reached for a total of 12 sectorial agreements under implementation, ensuring the inclusion of environmental considerations within agriculture, transport, and energy sectorial plans. Key accomplishments include applying the methodology to incorporate environmental criteria in the department and municipal road infrastructure plans and projects in the Amazon and its upscaling nationwide. Ministry of Transport is banning new infrastructure projects in Forest Reserve Zones. In turn, the National Planning Department is using the environmental information developed by the project for the Amazon as a decision criterion for national investment budget allocations under the PNVR. The [Guidelines for Green Road Infrastructure](#) developed by the project were launched by the Ministry of Transport and are being applied comprehensively to the investment cycle of government road projects.

Agricultural frontier zoning pilot: The pilot executed by SINCHI has allowed for the characterization of limits within the agricultural frontier for over 300 farms. In coordination with the National Land Agency (ANT), the project supported a third of these farms in the fulfillment and submission of requirements to be granted tenure or natural resource use rights, with proof of their agreements to comply with conservation and restoration commitments. A step-by-step operation manual to replicate the process with ANT is ready for implementation with potential beneficiaries.

Amazon Pact for the Life. The project supported the process by which five subnational environmental authorities subscribed to the *Pact for the promotion of sustainable development and governance in the zones most affected by deforestation in the Amazon and the Orinoquian Biomes*.

Capacity Building and Regional Collaboration

Local Journalists Training Course: Joint effort with the Sustainable Amazon for Peace project (also part of the ASL) and ProForests (GIZ-funded project).

Youth Research Guide: Project partners designed guide to develop environmental research capacities and awareness among the Amazon's youth.

FICAMAZONIA Strategic Alliance: The project was included and promoted on the Maloka Digital education platform open to the public to raise awareness about the Amazon biome.

ExpoForests: Project supported development of this fair led by ProForests (GIZ), which launched a digital platform to share experiences with forest protection in the Colombian Amazon.

Community leaders in communications. Project communications team enhanced by recruitment and training of community liaisons to improve local outreach.

Colombia: **Connectivity and Biodiversity Conservation in the Colombian Amazon – Sustainable Amazon for Peace**



Objective: To improve connectivity and conserve biodiversity through the strengthening of institutions and local organizations to ensure integral low-carbon emission management and peace building.

The project continues building local capacities, strengthening rural governance community mechanisms, providing technical assistance to the subnational environmental authorities and Climate Change and Forests directorates in the Ministry of Environment, and promoting actions for the implementation of Landscape Management Tools including forest inventories. Project implementation has been possible due to the alliance with public and private partner organizations in charge of on-the-ground activities. Finally, the project has not only collaborated with the other ASL projects, but also with the REDD Early Movers and GEF Small Grants programs, resulting for instance in the support to women's indigenous organizations.

GEF Implementing Agency: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Executing Partners: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development

Project Sites: Climate Change Management Strategy and Integrated Climate Change Plans developed for the Amazon region; two focalized areas for landscape design: Sabanas del Yarí (Caquetá – Meta) and La Perla Amazónica Campesino Reserve Zone (Putumayo); two focalized areas for strengthening conservation and sustainable, inclusive value chains: Piamonte (Cauca) and La Uribe (Meta).

GEF Grant: \$9 million **Co-financing:** \$46 million

More information about the project: Website [Amazonia Sostenible para la Paz](#) (in Spanish).

Main accomplishments through 2021

Integrated Productive Landscapes

Sustainable production in contribution to the peace process: Working with 12 community organizations supporting sustainable production activities benefiting 775 people, most of whom are victims of the conflict or currently in the process of reincorporation.

Sustainable production activities: 240 families belonging to community organizations implementing sustainable production activities.

Landscape Management Tools: Implemented in a total of 461.8 hectares via restoration, food security, and sustainable production activities.

Strengthening the intercultural education program with Indigenous Peoples of the Amazon: In 2021, a grant was formalized with the National Organization of Indigenous Peoples of the Colombian Amazon. The grant's is to strengthen Indigenous Peoples' territorial and environmental governance including via knowledge sharing and recovery of ancestral practices.

Policies/Incentives for Protected and Productive Landscapes

Climate Change Management Plans and Strategies Adoption of 2 Comprehensive Territorial Climate Change Management Plans (PIGCCT) in the departments of Caquetá and Putumayo; preparation of 3 PIGCCT for Amazonas, Guaviare, and Vaupés; and update of the Guainía's PIGCCT. Progress has been made in the preparation of the "Regional Strategy on Climate Change for the Amazon." The strategy will allow implementation support for the Comprehensive Territorial Climate Change Management Plans for the Colombian Amazon.

Effective incorporation of climate change management: The project provides technical assistance to the Regional Climate Change Node for the Amazon Region and the six Departmental Climate Change Subnodes, aiming to strengthen the incorporation of climate change considerations into sectoral planning.

Standardization of geographic information: The project supported the institutional strengthening of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, and the environmental authorities with jurisdiction on the Amazon region, focusing on geographic information management in accordance with the guidelines of the Colombian Environmental System.

Capacity Building and Regional Collaboration

Capacity building on climate change and sustainable forest management: By 2021, training processes were carried out for 560 people (140 people from public institutions, 100 people from private institutions, 320 people from community organizations).

Improved skills for managing low-carbon rural development: Representatives of 39 public and private institutions and community organizations have participated in training virtually and in-person on themes related to technical, organizational and management training, and goods and supplies.

At the community level, actions by farmers and indigenous organizations have focused on strengthening environmental governance for the management of sustainable productive.

FICAMAZONÍA 2021: Together with Corazón de la Amazonía, Amazonía Sostenible para la Paz was one of the institutional partners of the third [FICAMAZONÍA festival in 2021](#). The project also presented the panel: Value chain in Sustainable Production Landscapes on November 12.

Peru: Sustainable Productive Landscapes in the Peruvian Amazon (PPS)



Objective: To generate multiple global environmental benefits through the application of an integrated approach to the management of Amazonian landscapes.

The project intervenes in Huanuco and Ucayali, regions with great potential to contribute to green, low-carbon growth based on their natural and human capital measured by high biodiversity levels and rich cultural legacy. Project activities have been completed in coordination with regional and local authorities ensuring capacity building and ownership.

GEF Implementing Agency: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Executing Partners: Ministry of Environment (MINAM)

Project Sites: The project will benefit protected areas in 11 districts located in the regions of Ucayali and Huánuco.

GEF Grant: \$18 million **Co-financing:** \$129 million

More information about the project: Website [Paisajes Productivos Sostenibles](#) (in Spanish)

Main accomplishments through 2021

Landscapes Under Sustainable Production

Improvement of control, surveillance and enforcement: Initiated capacity building activities in 2021 for the Forestry and Wildlife Management Units of Padre Abad and Puerto Inca and the Regional Control and Surveillance Platforms of Huánuco and Ucayali to improve surveillance, control, and enforcement capacity to achieve the implementation of transparent processes when approving land use changes.

Landscape planning processes: Contributing to the landscape planning processes of 1.46 million hectares (in the districts of Curimana, Neshuya, Irazola, in the Ucayali region and Codo del Pozuzo, and Yuyapichis in Huánuco region) through updating development plans, and the design and implementation of life plans for indigenous communities at the community level.

Sustainable cattle ranching in the Amazon: With the technical support of the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center, 12 cattle organizations in the Amazonian regions of Huánuco and Ucayali began the process of receiving technical assistance from the project, aiming to improve livestock production in a sustainable manner. The assistance will include promotion of silvopastoral systems leading to improved productivity and natural resource management. This support will also result in the preparation of sustainable livestock production guidelines focusing on the Amazon context to inform key decision making.

Ucayali Competitiveness and Productivity Plan Began design of the “Competitiveness and Productivity Plan 2021–2030” in 2021 to promote more competitive productive sector that contemplates the sustainable use of its resources for the development of value-added products.

Policies/Incentives for Conservation and Sustainable Development

Permanent Multi-Stakeholder Coffee Commission: Created in February 2021 as the leading forum in charge of monitoring the implementation of the National Coffee Action Plan. Progress in the plan’s implementation has been collected and systematized, providing baseline information to identify gaps, validate priorities, and articulate investments. Supported the development of 7 regional coffee agendas.

Agreement on Cocoa, Forests and Diversity: “Agreement on Cocoa, Forests and Diversity” launched in May 2021 as a public, private, and civil society effort to position and reinforce Peru as an exporter of deforestation-free, high-quality cocoa with verified attributes of origin. This support contributes to the objectives included in the Plan for the Sustainable Development of the Cocoa and Chocolate Value Chain.

Technical facilitation of the Palm Oil Working Group: In May 2021, with Ministerial Resolution No. 0120-2021-MIDAGRI, the Multisectoral Working Group was created to prepare, with a participatory approach, the “Management Instrument for the Sustainable Development of Palm Oil in Peru, 2021 - 2031”, with the project team as the group’s technical facilitator.

Capacity Building and Regional Collaboration

Training Program: The Training Program “[Agents of Change and Communications for a Sustainable Management of the Territory](#)” was developed in alliance with Peruvian *Pontificia Universidad Católica*. The online training benefited officials from regional and local governments, technicians and professionals from decentralized State agencies, indigenous federations, and members representing producer cooperatives. Building on the training program, the project is supporting the design of a communications strategy to be implemented as part of the Ucayali Regional Conservation System and specific communications plans for the Regional Conservation Areas of Ucayali and Huánuco.

PPS e-bulletin: PPS has continued reporting and disseminating information about the project on its e-bulletin “[El Amazónico](#),” which also includes testimonials and insights of implementing partners on collaborative efforts and progress.

Objective: To promote long-term financial sustainability for the effective management of the National System of Natural Protected Areas of Peru (SINANPE) for the protection of globally important biodiversity and ecosystem services in the Amazon Biome.

Despite challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic that delayed on-the-ground activities and limited SERNANP's ability to increase revenues from tourism, the project continues making progress in implementing the financial sustainability strategy, Patrimonio del Peru (PdP), for the effective management of SINANPE. Activities, led by SERNANP and the Peruvian Trust Fund for National Parks and Protected Areas (PROFONANPE), have continued to identify financing mechanisms to help close the system's funding gap for its effective management, build institutional capacity for long-term strategic planning, promote agreements among key government stakeholders and coordination with donor institutions, while developing a shared vision for the protected area landscapes.

GEF Implementing Agency: World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

Executing Partners: National Service of Natural Areas Protected by the State (SERNANP), Peruvian Trust Fund for National Parks and Protected Areas (Profonanpe)

Project Sites: The project will benefit the protected areas system that includes 38 protected areas in the Amazon forest. On-the-ground interventions will be supported in four prioritized protected areas (Río Abiseo National Park, Tingo María National Park, Tabaconas Namballe National Sanctuary and the Machiguenga Communal Reserve).

GEF Grant: \$9 million **Co-financing:** \$55 million

More information about the project: Website [Patrimonio Natural del Peru](#) (in Spanish)

Main accomplishments through 2021

Protected Landscapes

Environmental Compensation Proposal: Developed a methodology in 2021 to estimate compensation rates within a scheme for national-level conservation measures. The methodology included a list of potential areas that could benefit and a portfolio of ecosystems and ecosystem services to be considered and valued.

Mechanism of compensation for water ecosystem services: The project has prepared a diagnosis of the PAs in the Amazon biome with the greatest potential to implement a Hydric Mechanism of Compensation for Ecosystem Services (MERESE Hídrico), including variables such as water supply/demand, and governance, among others. This financial mechanism is proposed to be developed at the local level and would aim to generate and invest in actions toward the conservation, recovery, and sustainable use of ecosystems through voluntary agreements between contributors. In addition, the project prepared a diagnosis of the ecosystem services (with emphasis on carbon) provided by the NPAs that could lead to mechanisms.

Economic valuation study of the water supply service: Economic valuation study of the water provision ecosystem service for selected sites within SINANPE prepared. The study will inform the proposal for a law to allocate resources directly collected by the National Water Authority (ANA) to SERNANP to finance activities towards restoration and conservation of selected headwaters.

Law proposal for fines, infractions, and reparations: Proposal to amend Legislative Decree No.1013 approved by SERNANP and sent to MINAM for review and processing.

Incentives system with the private sector: SERNANP and PROFONANPE have identified a shortlist of 10 products and/or services to bring monetary and non-monetary resources from the private sector to the financing of PAs.

Environmental and Social Management Framework of Patrimonio Natural del Perú Initiative: Approved in October 2021. Identified the socio-environmental impacts, risks, and mitigation measures associated with the implementation of the PdP initiative appropriate to its safeguard policies.

Capacity Building and Regional Collaboration

Publication: In July 2021, the book “[Patrimonio Natural del Perú: Nature for all, nature forever](#)” was published, presenting the lessons learned from the Patrimonio Natural del Perú initiative design phase and progress towards its implementation.

PdP communications pieces: Communications pieces published on social networks, conveying the value of PAs and the importance of conserving the Amazon biome, highlighting the work of PA managers and rangers, and explaining to broad audiences the role of the PdP initiative for watershed and landscape conservation.

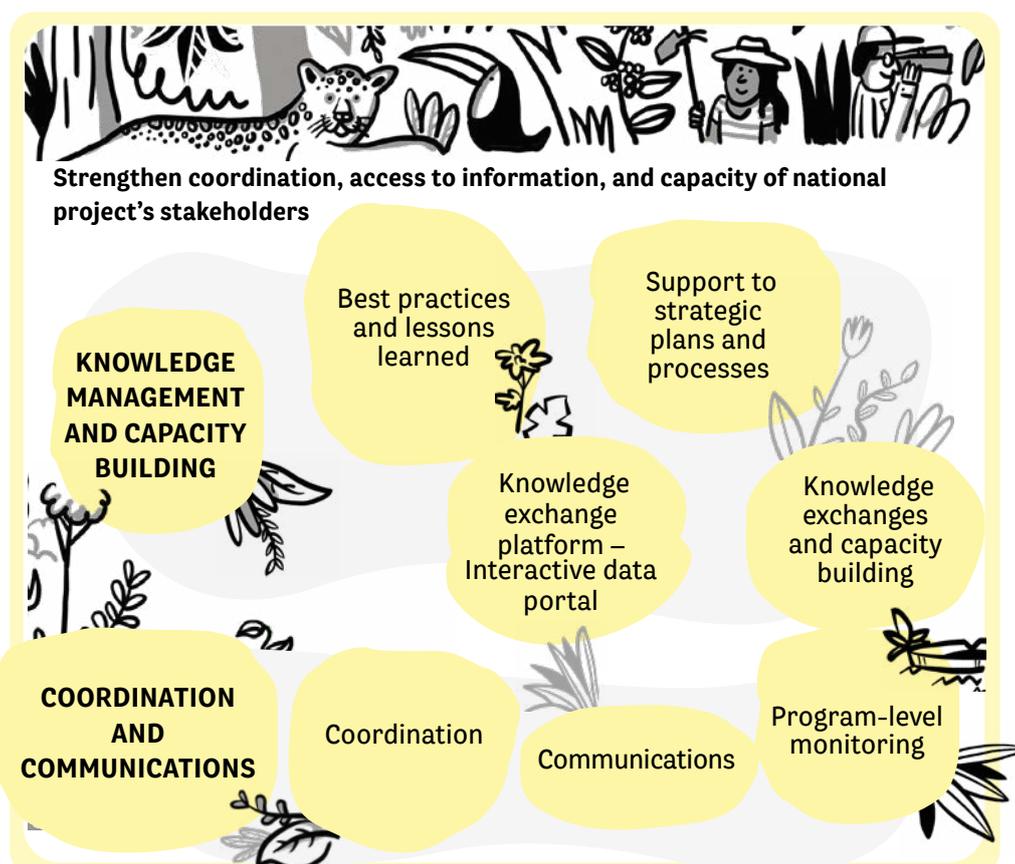
Capacity building on gender and cultural diversity: Several capacity-building activities were supported on gender and culture mainstreaming and to benefit key executing partners and the project team.

Financial Sustainability of Protected Areas in Peru Course: In February 2021, SERNANP, MINAM, WWF, and PdP, in partnership with the Conservation Strategy Fund, designed and facilitated a 15-week course “Financial Sustainability of Protected Areas in Peru,” on financing protected areas in the Amazon region. The course was attended by 30 SERNANP representatives, including specialists from different institutional areas such as planning, budgeting, and administration, as well as SERNANP’s legal and technical teams.

ASL1 Coordination Technical Assistance Project – Progress in 2021

The regional project brings the national teams from Brazil, Colombia and Peru national projects together to build capacity and scale up innovative approaches by offering knowledge exchange events, enhancing coordination with key partners, and building a community of practice. Opportunities for regional collaboration and governance processes are also promoted with a wider community of project teams, government institutions, donor agencies, and civil society organizations working in the Amazon.

Figure 3: ASL regional coordination project components



The selection of the specific activities and themes to share knowledge about and build capacity on, responds to the needs and requests from the national project stakeholders and Program partners. Prioritization exercises to select topics are conducted at specific workshops, during the steering committee (PSC) meetings or during the Annual conference.

In addition, the coordination team receives proposals from partners or specific demands from the countries that are then analyzed and presented to the PSC.

PROGRESS IN 2021

Activities delivered by the ASL regional coordination project developed and explored new themes in 2021 as well as following up with activities or themes initiated in previous years. Topics in 2021 included sustainable community-based tourism, addressing impacts from mercury contamination, and other effective conservation measures (OECM), while the activities involving sustainable financing mechanisms for the PA systems and gender sensitive strategies, continued. Engagement through webinars, study tours, side events, and newsletters continued, and new activities also included customized trainings within the ASL group.

The project continued establishing partnerships and engagement with multiple institutions, aiming to secure complementarity and collaboration. This was done with national level civil society and private organizations as well as with international organizations including ASL's key partner Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation.

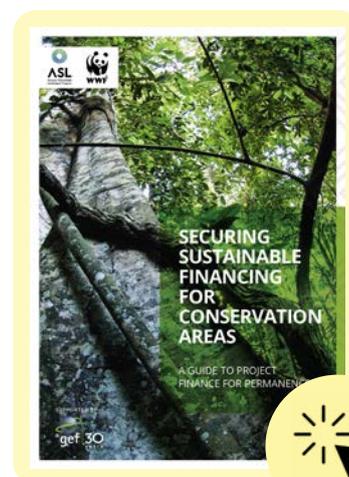
The coordination project continued promoting virtual knowledge exchange events and including relevant resources in the Collaboration for Development – C4D platform. While restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic continued to delay or impede in-person events, when safety conditions could be met and with the support of the national projects, several in-person meetings were held in 2021.

Component 1: Knowledge management and capacity building

Best practices and lessons learned

a) Exchange of experiences in PA's financial sustainability

The objective of this ongoing activity is to promote knowledge sharing, learning, and strengthened capacity to meet financial sustainability objectives of PA systems supported by the ASL national projects. A focus has been applying the Project Finance for Permanence (PFP) approach adopted by all three ASL1 participating countries (Brazil, Colombia, and Peru) and disseminating lessons learned on the design and development of PFP initiatives to a broader audience. In December 2021, ASL and WWF presented one of the key products of this activity: the publication [**Securing Sustainable Financing for Conservation Areas: A guide to project finance for permanence.**](#)



b) Sustainable Community Tourism Study Tour: “Amazon Exchange”

In November 2021, twenty-two participants gathered at the Sustainable Development Reserve Rio Negro in the state of Amazonas, Brazil for a study tour on community-based sustainable tourism (CBST). During the study tour the participants identified and proposed solutions for the challenges of CBST and shared cases and experiences from each country.



c) Women’s solutions for conservation and sustainable development

The ASL commissioned a knowledge management activity to design a strategy to improve gender-sensitive conservation and sustainable development interventions in the Amazon region. Led by the [Center for International Forestry Research \(CIFOR\)](#) with the guidance of the ASL regional coordination and national teams, and the academic support of the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru and the Pontifical Javeriana University of Colombia, the study derives lessons from six successful cases from Brazil, Colombia, and Peru. The final stage of the study, publication, and dissemination of communications products is expected in the first half of 2022.



Knowledge exchanges and capacity building

a) Strengthen capacity of ASL governments and communities to analyze wildlife data from camera traps

The objective of this activity developed by CI, WCS, and WWF is to implement an analytical and forecasting tool to gather, organize, visualize, and analyze information recorded with camera traps. The tool, within the Wildlife Insights platform, will enable expert and non-expert decision makers to evaluate biodiversity outcomes, assess the impact of different scenarios, and help improve the planning and development of conservation actions. During 2021, four sites were identified within the ASL intervention areas: Chiribiquete National Park (Colombia), Tabaconas Namballe National Sanctuary (Peru), Sustainable Development Reserve Rio Negro (Brazil) and Orito Ingi – Ande Medicinal Plants Sanctuary (Colombia). Two training workshops were held in August and September 2021 and a third planned for 2022.



b) Exchange on Conservation Agreements (2 virtual sessions – 114 participants)

Conservation agreements are voluntary mechanisms of mutual benefit, aimed at strengthening the effective management of natural resources, improving ecosystem connectivity, biodiversity conservation, and the development of sustainable livelihoods. The ASL coordination team designed a series of knowledge exchange events on the topic of conservation agreements for partners to share their knowledge, good practices, lessons learned, and challenges related to the establishment and management of these mechanisms. Download [the presentations](#) (in Spanish) for the first session and [the presentations](#) (in Portuguese) for the second session.



c) Application of criteria for the identification of other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) (2 sessions – 66 participants)

As a result of the webinar held on October 7, 2021, **“OECM for the Amazon Biome: Integrating Diverse Sectors and Stakeholders,”** organized by the ASL, FAO, and IAPA, two sessions of a regional workshop on the application of criteria for the identification of OECMs were held on November 26 and December 3.



d) Training series on human-wildlife conflicts

Benefiting from the partnership with the World Bank-led Global Wildlife Program (GWP), stakeholders from the three ASL1 countries participated in a two-session training series on human-wildlife conflict (HWC) on May 19 and November 4.



e) Webinars

To allow a broader diverse group of participants to hear about a specific topic of interest and to cope with limitations from the COVID-19, the ASL coordination team organized various webinars, providing as-needed simultaneous translation between Spanish, Portuguese, and English.

I. Securing sustainable financing for conservation areas: A guide to project finance for permanence (183 participants)	Dec 7, 2021	Learn more Download the report Watch the recording
II. Science Panel for the Amazon - The Amazon We Want (148 participants)	Nov 20, 2021	Download SPA scientific assessment
III. Other effective area-based conservation measures (OECM) for the Amazon Biome: Integrating diverse sectors and stakeholders (66 participants)	Oct 7, 2021)	Learn more Watch the recording (in Spanish)
IV. Calculating the economic impact of illegal mining (140 participants)	Oct 5, 2021	Learn more Download the presentation
V. Could a future pandemic come from the Amazon? (128 participants)	May 11, 2021	Learn more Download the presentation Watch the recording
VI. Free flowing river in the Amazon (128 participants)	Feb 16, 2021	Learn more Download the presentation Watch the recording

f) Side events at international conferences

I. Global Landscape Forum GLF Amazonia – Facilitating spaces for gender responsive conservation: Women’s solutions from the Amazon (400 participants Sep 22, 2021)

Watch the GLF Amazonia event [here](#) (with English interpretation)



II. IUCN Conference – Collaboration for protecting the Amazon people and nature: The case of the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program Sep 6, 2021

[Learn more](#)



III. RedLAC Congress 2021 – Conservation Trust Funds (CTF) experiences in implementing the PFP model – challenges and successes (200 participants Sep 30, 2021)

[Watch the recording](#)



IV. Amazon rainforest, connectivity, and indigenous territories: Challenges for the new post-2020 global biodiversity framework – North Amazon Alliance July 6, 2021

[Watch the recording](#) | [See report of the complete event](#)



V. International conference: Forest management under a Sustainable Landscape Approach – MINAM Jul 2, 2021

[Watch the recording](#)

Support to strategic plans and processes

a) Strengthen regional collaboration towards addressing impacts from mercury contamination in the Amazon

As a new type of activity to strengthen regional collaboration, the ASL commissioned an initiative to strengthen regional governance and collaboration and expand knowledge of the territorial dynamics associated with artisanal small-scale gold mining and its impacts. During 2021, three virtual events were held with participants from multiple Amazon countries:

- Strategies for the defense of Amazonian indigenous territories against the impacts generated by mining activities (November 16–17) – Watch the [video and download the presentations in Spanish](#). (30 participants)
- Impacts of mercury on the environment and human health (October 27–29) – [Watch the video and download the presentations in Spanish](#). (77 participants)
- Calculator of the impacts of illegal gold mining in Brazil (August 5) – [Watch the video and download the presentation in Spanish](#). (54 participants)

A regional face-to-face event, Amazon regional meeting on the impacts of mining activities in Brazil, Colombia, and Peru, took place in Leticia, Colombia, December 7–9, 2021. This event promoted an exchange of experiences focused on the social, environmental, health and law enforcement aspects of the impacts of mercury pollution and illegal mining in the three countries of the Amazon region and established a road map for activities for 2022. (53 participants)

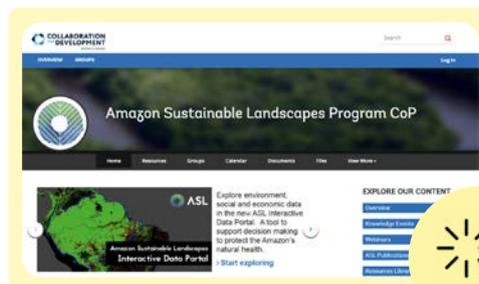


Knowledge exchange platform

During 2021 the team initiated an improvement phase of the platform, updating its content to include information from the new countries and projects involved in ASL2 and translating it to Spanish and Portuguese.

Interactive data portal

The [ASL interactive data portal](#) is a collaborative initiative to provide ASL countries, donors, implementing agencies, partners, NGOs, and academia with a one-stop-shop for geospatial data and datasets that can help transform information into action. The portal allows users to easily navigate, access, and visualize a plethora of online tools to make decisions on reducing threats and improving capacities to protect the Amazon's natural wealth.



Component 2: Coordination and Communications

Coordination

Activities within this component aim to strengthen the collaboration and coordination among ASL GEF Agencies, national governments, the international donor community, and other stakeholders active in the Amazon.

a) National Project Coordination – Program Steering Committee

The ASL Program Steering Committee (PSC) is the program's main coordination forum. It is chaired by the ASL coordination team and includes the participation of the country government representatives through their Ministry of Environment, national executing agencies, the GEF Secretariat, and the GEF Agencies. The PSC is a key advisory mechanism to promote synergies between the national projects' activities and facilitate coordination with other key partners at the regional level. The PSC met formally three times during 2021, in February, May, and September. During 2021, the coordination team proposed adjustments in the composition and operation of the PSC considering the upcoming new projects and partners from the ASL2. These were presented to all key stakeholders and approved. This new format will start in 2022.

b) Fourth Annual Conference 2021

The ASL annual conference brings together the larger ASL community, national project teams and other key stakeholders to exchange knowledge, learning, and engage in selected topics of interest.

The ASL hosted its fourth annual conference, the second held virtually. The Conference Report is available in [English](#), [Spanish](#), and [Portuguese](#).



c) Donor Coordination

In March 2021 and with inputs from 49 donors, the [International Funding for the Amazon Conservation and Sustainable Management Analysis](#) was published. The study included an [e-book](#), an [interactive dashboard](#), and executive summaries.

Following this, the ASL team initiated an analysis of lessons learned for effective donor collaboration. The analysis of a series of case studies (PdP, SMByC, Expansión Chiribiquete PA, Integrated Legacy of the Amazon Region, Amazon Geo-Referenced Socio-Environmental Information Network and MapBiomias) to be completed in 2022, will allow the identification of lessons learned for effective coordination among international cooperation agencies.

[Download the study \(English\)](#) | [Read the E-Book](#) | Read the Executive Summary [Spanish](#) - [Portuguese](#) | [Explore the interactive Dashboard](#)



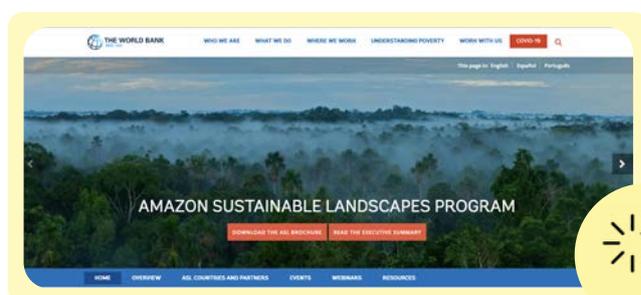
Communications

The ASL communications strategy aims to raise awareness on the importance of the Amazon region, providing key local, national and global environmental benefits as well as essential services needed for sustainable inclusive development. The strategy also aims to showcase the ASL's added value to build and foster a regional vision for the Amazon. This includes showcasing the activities taking place across the national projects, the knowledge resources that the ASL curates, produces, and exchanges, and promoting our partners' complementary work.

a) ASL Website

Since its launch in 2019, the ASL website, hosted by the World Bank, has become a platform where the ASL's broad audience can find information about national projects and partners, news about the ASL's regional and national events, and key resources on the Amazon region.

In 2021, the reach of the ASL website increased by 1,214 more views over the previous year.



b) Newsletters

In 2021, two ASL newsletters were produced and shared ([May](#) and [December](#)) in English, Portuguese, and Spanish. The newsletters are a collaborative effort between the regional coordination and the national project teams, and highlight events, publications, and program accomplishments.



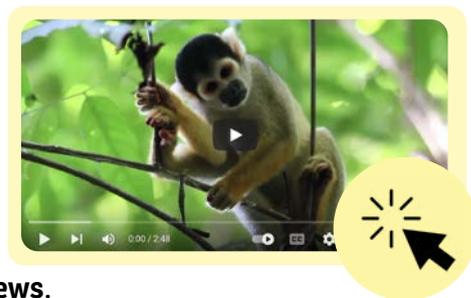
c) Blogs and Feature stories

The ASL regional coordination team highlighted specific program accomplishments or themes of interest via blogs and feature stories hosted on the ASL website:



d) ASL Videos

Promoting sustainable land and water use in the Amazon: In April 2021, an updated video of the ASL was published to highlight the expansion of the program in a second phase (ASL2) including the seven Amazon countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, and Suriname. The video is available in [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [Portuguese](#). Together, the videos have **almost 500 views**.



Connecting people and institutions to connect landscapes: This video was prepared with the participation of the Regional Coordinator and ASL1 National projects' coordinators. This video shares the objectives of each project and the regional coordination. The video is available in [Spanish](#), and the translation to English and Portuguese is under preparation.

e) Communications working group

The communications working group is currently comprised of six communications specialists from the ASL national projects and the regional team. The group held meetings every two weeks from February to December to coordinate, discuss, and plan joint campaigns and communications products. Capacity building and strengthening of skills among the members of the group was achieved via a storytelling workshop with 3-hour sessions each on January 28, and February 11 and 24. On November 2, the ASL national projects' coordinators participated in a capacity building workshop on project pitch and presentations, facilitated by the ASL Regional Coordination, and presented by BUHO Media.



f) Social media

The ASL program was showcased on the World Bank's social media channels on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter. Posts were promoted to celebrate World Wildlife Day, International Day of Forests, International Women's Day, and the International Day for Biological Diversity, among others.



Program-level monitoring

M&E activities continued throughout 2021 to track progress for key project and program-level targets. Data and quantitative information from ASL projects were collected, analyzed, and aggregated through different M&E instruments, including national project reports, supervision mission reports, updated indicator status, and qualitative analysis presented at PSC meetings, satisfaction surveys, georeferenced information from the projects, etc. Attending and participating in national projects' midterm reviews was a particular highlight for 2021.



ASL's New Phase: New countries, New and Scaled Up Projects

The GEF, under its 7th replenishment period, approved the second phase of the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program (ASL2) as an impact program, under the continued leadership of the World Bank. ASL2 will strengthen and expand initiatives launched under ASL1 in the original three countries and start projects in four new countries.

In 2021, seven new national projects were prepared under the leadership of each country's environmental agency and moved forward in their process to start their implementation in 2022. To date, six out of seven projects have been endorsed. ASL2 was formally launched during the ASL's Annual Conference held virtually in November 2021.

Bolivia: Amazon Sustainable Landscape approach in the National System of Protected Areas and Strategic Ecosystems of Bolivia



Project Objective: Strengthening the management effectiveness and financial sustainability of SNAP and strategic ecosystems, based on social participation and on the sustainable production of natural resources, focusing on the Bolivian Amazon.

GEF Grant: \$11 million

Project Sites Madidi Integrated Management Natural Area and National Park, Noel Kempff Mercado National Park, Beni Biological Station Biosphere Reserve, Manuripi Amazon National Wildlife Reserve, Isiboro Sécure Indigenous Territory and National Park, Pilón Lajas Biosphere Reserve and Communal Lands, subnational protected area Bruno Racua Wildlife Reserve, Río Yata Ramsar site, Río Matos Ramsar site, Río Blanco Ramsar site, and the Center of Indigenous Peoples of the Pando Amazon (CIPOAP) territories.

Brazil: Amazon Sustainable Landscapes: Phase 2



Project Objective: To expand the area under legal protection and improve management of PAs and increase the area under restoration and sustainable management in the Brazilian Amazon.

GEF Grant: ASL2 \$21 million

Br-ASL2 Project Sites Protected areas, rural properties, and public lands in four Brazilian Amazon States (Acre, Amazonas, Pará, Rondônia), including the Central Amazon Biosphere Reserve, Baixo Rio Negro Mosaic of Conservation Units, Rio Negro Natural Heritage Site, Rio Negro, and the Rio Juruá Ramsar Sites.

Colombia: Forest Conservation and Sustainability in the Heart of the Colombian Amazon



Project Objective: To improve governance and promote sustainable land use activities in order to reduce deforestation and conserve biodiversity in the project area.

GEF Grant: ASL2 \$20 million

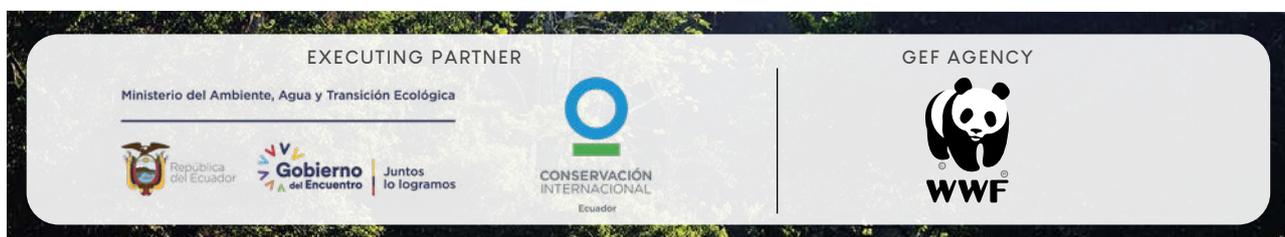
Project Sites | Protected areas (14): PNN Serranía del Chiribiquete (PNNSCH), PNN La Paya, PNN Serranía de los Churumbelos - Auka Wasi (PNNSCHAW), PNN Alto Fragua Indiwasi (PNNAFIW), Medicinal Plants Orito Ingi-Ande Flora Sanctuary, PNN Sierra de la Macarena, PNN Tinigua, PNN Picachos, National Natural Reserve Nukak (RNN Nukak), National Protected Forest Reserve (RFPN) Serranía de la Lindosa, RFPN Alto Mocoa Basin and overlapping indigenous reserves, RFPN Alto San Juan Basin and Páramo Miraflores – Picachos, and the Bajo Guayabero Land Conservation District.

Ramsar sites: Lagos de Tarapoto and Estrella Fluvial de Inírida (EFI)

Indigenous reserves (29): Those adjacent to and overlapping with PNNSCH, PNN La Paya, and the resguardos that are part of the Ramsar sites.

Forest management and development areas: Guaviare Forest area (in Guaviare), Yari-Caguán Forest area (Caquetá), Mecaya-Sencella Forest area of (Putumayo), and Tarapacá Forest area (Amazonas).

Ecuador: Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of two priority landscapes in the Ecuadorian Amazon Region

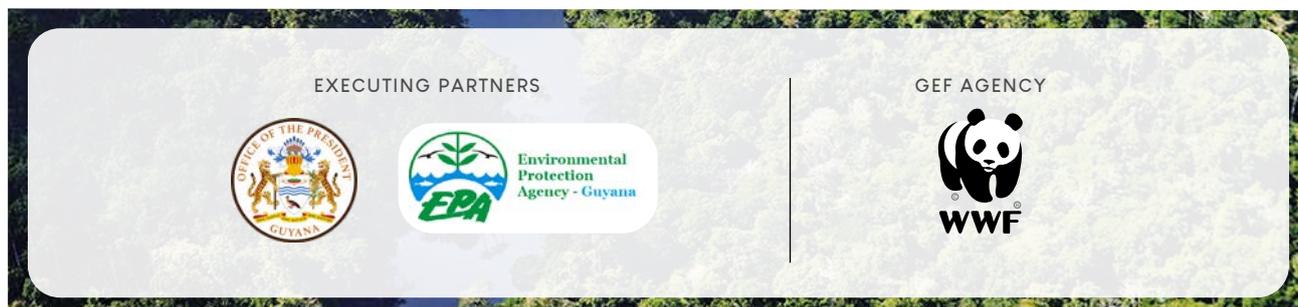


Project Objective: To improve the ecological connectivity of two priority landscapes, the Putumayo-Aguarico and the Palora-Pastaza, in the Ecuadorian Amazon, through the establishment of two connectivity corridors and associated management mechanisms, to ensure the long-term biodiversity conservation of its ecosystems.

GEF Grant: ASL2 \$7 million

Project Sites Putumayo-Aguarico (Sucumbíos and Orellana provinces) and Palora-Pastaza (Pastaza and Morona Santiago provinces).

Guyana: Securing a living Amazon through Landscape Connectivity in Southern Guyana



Project Objective: To strengthen landscape connectivity through improved management of the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area and North Rupununi Wetlands in southern Guyana.

Other involved partners: Protected Areas Commission and Guyana Forestry Commission

GEF Grant: ASL2 \$5.6 million

Project Sites

North Rupununi Wetlands (NRW) and the adjacent Kanuku Mountains Protected Area (KMPA).

Peru: Building human well-being and resilience in Amazonian forests by enhancing the value of biodiversity for food security and bio-businesses



Project Objective: To advance the conservation of healthy and functional forests and wetlands resilient to climate change, maintaining carbon stocks, preventing greenhouse gas emissions, and generating sustainable and resilient local livelihoods.

GEF Grant: ASL2 \$17 million

Project Sites

Tigre-Marañón Landscape (province and department of Loreto) and Alto Ucayali-Inuya Landscape (province of Atalaya-Ucayali and province of Satipo-Junín).

Suriname: Strengthening management of protected and productive landscapes in the Surinamese Amazon



Project Objective: Securing equitable management of Suriname’s protected and productive landscapes through integrated approaches that deliver mutually supportive conservation and sustainable livelihood benefits

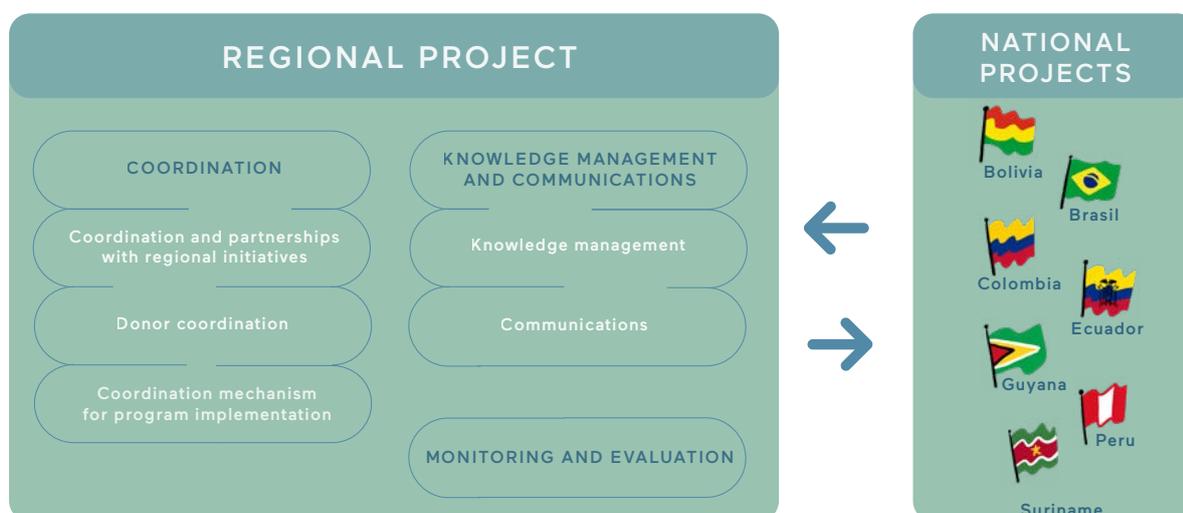
GEF Grant: ASL2 \$5.2 million

Project Sites Saamaka/Matawai region: Brownsberg Nature Park, Brinckheuvel Nature Reserve, and Central Suriname Nature Reserve. Coeroeni/Paroe region: Sipaliwini Nature Reserve.

ASL2 Amazon Regional Technical Assistance

The ASL Amazon Regional Technical Assistance project aims to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experiences between the national ASL projects and with other key stakeholders.

The Regional TA brings together the ASL2 national projects and other regional initiatives. It serves the purpose of having national projects work together, creating cohesiveness, and exchanging knowledge amongst child project participants to build a common vision of a sustainable Amazon and work towards that goal collectively. By promoting strategic knowledge exchanges and innovations, and increasing partnerships with other regional actors, the Regional TA will accelerate the stakeholders’ learning, resulting in improved implementation and desired transformational changes. Promoting coordination in key strategic actions, the Regional TA will generate outcomes with greater impact than if countries were working in isolation.



Project Objective: Strengthen coordination, access to information, and capacity of national projects stakeholders under the GEF-7 Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program.

GEF Agency: World Bank **GEF Grant:** ASL2 \$8.3 million

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: ASL-INFO@WORLD BANK.ORG