UNITED TO PROTECT BIODIVERSITY AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE LAND AND WATER USE IN THE AMAZON

AMAZON SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES PROGRAM

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“The Amazon plays a critical role in global climate regulation as well as in the region’s environmental and economic prosperity and is the single largest repository of biodiversity on the planet. For the first time, the concerned countries and partner agencies have come together to design an integrated, coordinated approach to the sustainable management of a significant portion of the Amazon ecosystem.”

Naoko Ishii, GEF CEO.

The Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program (ASL) is an initiative funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to protect globally significant biodiversity and implement policies to foster sustainable land use and restoration of native vegetation cover.

Three countries participate in the program—Brazil, Colombia and Peru—together covering more than 75% of the Amazon territory. The program was approved by the GEF Council in October 2015 as an Integrated Approach Pilot with incentives for an integrated regional approach under the Sustainable Forest Management Strategy.

It is funded through a commitment of $113 million in GEF resources drawn from each country’s allocation, a programmatic financial incentive, as well as an expected $683 million leveraged in additional financing from countries’ budgets, NGOs, the private sector, and donors.
The ASL includes national projects executed by Brazil, Colombia, Peru and a regional coordination project. Three agencies support the program: the World Bank Group (WBG) as lead agency, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The program is founded on the collective experience from more than a decade of work in the Amazon. The interventions, following an integrated approach, aim to strengthen biodiversity conservation, reduce deforestation, improve living conditions of local communities, and maintain the integrity of the local, regional, and global ecosystem services that the region provides, including biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and a well-regulated hydrological cycle.
WORLD’S #1 TROPICAL WILDERNESS DUE TO ITS SIZE

670 MILLION HECTARES OF FOREST

40% OF THE PLANET’S REMAINING RAINFOREST

WORLD’S LARGEST FRESHWATER SYSTEM (6,600 KM)

SHARED BY 8 COUNTRIES
(BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, COLOMBIA, ECUADOR, GUYANA, PERU, SURINAME, VENEZUELA)
AND THE OVERSEAS TERRITORY OF FRENCH GUYANA

CONTAINS 90-140 BILLION METRIC TONS OF CARBON
**610** PROTECTED AREAS AS NATIONAL PARKS, RESERVES, AND OTHER CONSERVATION REGIMES, COVERING 210 MILLION HECTARES

**2,344** INDIGENOUS TERRITORIES THAT COVER 45% OF THE BASIN

ESTIMATED POPULATION OF **34 MILLION** PEOPLE INCLUDING OVER **350** INDIGENOUS GROUPS

**ALMOST HALF** OF THE RAINFALL IN THE AMAZON BASIN COMES FROM MOISTURE GENERATED WITHIN THE BASIN, MOSTLY TRANSPIRED BY TREES. THE MOISTURE CREATED IN THE AMAZON ENDS UP FALLING AS RAIN AS FAR AWAY AS MIDWEST USA

HOSTS AT LEAST **10%** OF THE WORLD’S KNOWN BIODIVERSITY, INCLUDING ENDEMIC AND ENDANGERED SPECIES
THE MAIN DRIVERS OF THESE THREATS ARE:

Unplanned land use/unsustainable land/water use practices
(livestock, agriculture, logging, fishing, extractives)

Illegal activities
(land grabbing, timber, gold, illicit crops, wildlife trafficking)

Infrastructure
(roads, dams and hydropower)

Climate change
(drought, fires)
THE ASL ADDRESSES THE REGION’S THREATS WITH THE PREMISE THAT IF:

• An adequate area of the Amazon is conserved under various regimes (protected areas, communal territories, and indigenous lands);
• Agriculture, degraded, and forest lands are managed sustainably and restored, with zero illegal deforestation tolerance;
• National policies and strategies support sustainable development that minimizes deforestation and loss of ecosystem services;
• And the capacity of and regional cooperation between key players is improved;

Then: The protection of significant biodiversity and the integrity and resilience of the Amazon ecosystems can be achieved.

OUR APPROACH

12

Integrated
landscape
management

Integrated
protected
areas

Policies for
protected &
productive
landscapes

Capacity building
and regional
cooperation

To establish and strengthen networks to strategically share ideas, lessons, and innovation (horizontally – across actors and institutions, and vertically – across system levels and scales).

To accelerate learning and mobilize/institutionalize knowledge at multiple scales.

To invite other agencies to join the collective efforts through partnerships.

To work on the ground to address issues of shared concern.

To have a stronger technical voice that reaches decision makers at all levels.

To strengthen regional governance.

To enhance donor coordination through building stronger and more effective interventions.

To generate outcomes with greater impact than by working in isolation.

The scale of the challenges requires large-scale interventions that will be better addressed through a harmonized, united approach being promoted with a regional knowledge and collaboration platform.

WORKING TOGETHER AS A PROGRAM
The ASL has four national projects implemented by the government agencies in partnership with local governments, research institutions, private organizations and civil society.

**COLOMBIA**

Connectivity and Biodiversity Conservation in the Colombian Amazon  
$12 million

$9 million

**PERU**

Sustainable Productive Landscapes in the Peruvian Amazon  
$18 million

Securing the future of Protected Areas in Peru  
$9 million

**BRAZIL**

Amazon Sustainable Landscapes  
$60 million
With different contexts and priorities, but contributing to program-level goals, the national and regional coordination projects include activities to:

- **Expand** area and **improve** the effectiveness and financial sustainability of protected areas.
- **Promote** restoration and sustainable use and management of productive landscapes.
- **Strengthen** the policy and regulatory environment in favor of sustainable sectoral development.
- **Promote** knowledge exchange and capacity building among stakeholders within and across countries.

### ASL Components and Activities at the Project Level

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<td>• Value chains and green business</td>
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**$40.61 MILLION**

**$39.52 MILLION**

**$16.15 MILLION**

**$13.97 MILLION**

*Amounts do not include projects management costs*
The ASL supports activities that will generate impacts in 210 protected areas (PAs) (over 96 million hectares—an area larger than Venezuela), divided among the three countries:

Of these PAs, the ASL aims to strengthen management effectiveness in more than 66 million hectares (a bit larger than France’s land area).

In addition, the ASL will facilitate the creation of 4.3 million hectares of new areas (equivalent to 6 million football/soccer fields).
**ASL INTERVENTIONS IN PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPES**

**THE ASL ALSO AIMS TO:**

- Promote sustainable practices in almost **11 million hectares** of productive landscapes.
- Restore **35,000 hectares** of forests.

**ASL CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS LOW EMISSIONS AND RESILIENCE**

- Support actions in protected and productive landscapes that help mitigate emissions by **164 million metric tons** of carbon dioxide equivalent.

**COORDINATION AND KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM REGIONAL PROJECT**

The **ASL coordination project** promotes collaboration and learning among neighboring countries to tackle common threats, improve local, national, and regional level implementation, and upscale innovative approaches and best practices.
OVERVIEW OF NATIONAL PROJECTS

BRAZIL

AMAZON SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES PROJECT

Brazil achieved a significant reduction in deforestation by expanding the protected area system, improving protected area management, strengthening local community participation, and engaging with state governments. However, deforestation and degradation are again on the rise threatening the region. The project will address deforestation by supporting changes in the policy and legislative framework, helping to maintain and further expand efforts to protect and restore the Amazon, and promoting the adoption of sustainable production systems.

Objective: The project aims to expand the area under legal protection, improve management of protected areas, and increase the area under restoration and sustainable management in the Brazilian Amazon.

Executing Partners: Brazilian Biodiversity Fund (FUNBIO) and Conservation International-Brazil (CI-Brazil).

GEF Implementing Agency: The World Bank Group

Project Sites: Protected and productive landscapes in the 9 Brazilian Amazon States (Acre, Amapá, Amazonas, Maranhão, Mato Grosso, Pará, Rondônia, Roraima and Tocantins).
The Colombian Amazon forest represents 6.5% of the biome’s rainforest and 42% of the country’s landmass. Deforestation (at an annual rate of 82,883 hectares/year) is threatening the region’s biodiversity and its capacity to act as a store of biomass and organic carbon, helping mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and providing environmental services for the 1.2 million people living in this region. It has been estimated that, if current rates of deforestation continue, ecosystem connectivity between the Andes and the Amazon forests will be lost by 2030. The ASL intervention in Colombia consists of two different complementary projects implemented by the WBG and UNDP.

**FOREST CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY IN THE HEART OF THE COLOMBIAN AMAZON**

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

**Executing Partners:** Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and Patrimonio Natural Fund

**GEF Implementing Agency:** The World Bank Group

**Project Sites:** National Parks: Serranía de Chiribiquete, Alto Fragua Indi Wasi, La Paya and Serranía de Churumbelos Auka Wasi. Sanctuary: Medicinal Plants Orito Ingi-Ande Flora. Corridors: Corredor Complejo de Paramos Miraflores/Picachos, Bajo Caguan and Serrania La Lindosa, Capricho, Cerritos and Mirolindo and 22 indigenous reserves.
COLOMBIA

CONNECTIVITY AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN THE COLOMBIAN AMAZON
- SUSTAINABLE AMAZON FOR PEACE

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

Executing Partner: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development

GEF Implementing Agency: UNDP

Project Sites: Climate Change Management Strategy and Integrated Climate Change Plans developed for the Amazon region; 2 focalized areas for landscape design: Sabanas del Yarí (Caquetá -Meta) and La Perla Amazonica Campesino Reserve Zone (Putumayo); 2 focalized areas for strengthening conservation and sustainable, inclusive value chains: Piamonte (Cauca) and La Uribe (Meta).
SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPES IN THE PERUVIAN AMAZON

The project supports the implementation of Peru’s National Strategy for Forests and Climate Change, contributing to the reduction of deforestation and the recovery of forests in targeted production landscapes. The goal will be achieved by supporting natural resource management and production systems that incorporate environmental sustainability considerations, and through an integrated landscape management approach that recognizes the complexity of local livelihoods and the drivers of landscape-wide deforestation.

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

**Executing Partners:** Ministry of Environment (MINAM)

**GEF Implementing Agency:** UNDP

**Project Sites:** Eleven districts located in the regions of Ucayali and Huánuco.
A key strategy of the Peruvian government to safeguard its portion of the Amazon biome has been the expansion of the national protected area system and improvement of its management. However, the system still faces significant challenges to guarantee long-term conservation and effective management of the protected areas.

This project was designed to develop and implement a financial sustainability strategy. The strategy will not only help close the funding gap for its improved management, but also build institutional capacity, promote agreements among key governmental stakeholders, catalyze long-term strategic planning, coordinate different funding institutions, and develop a vision for the landscape where the protected areas are keystones for sustainability.

Objective: The project aims to promote long-term financial sustainability for the effective management of the National System of Protected Natural Areas of Peru for the protection of globally important biodiversity and ecosystem services in the Amazon Biome.

Executing Partners: National Service of Natural Protected Areas (SERNANP) and the Peruvian Trust Fund for National Parks and Protected Areas (PROCONANPE).

GEF Implementing Agency: WWF

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 4 prioritized protected areas (Rio Abiseo National Park, Tingo Maria National Park, Tabaconas Namballe National Sanctuary and the Machiguenga Communal Reserve).
IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES:

WORLD BANK GROUP

WWF

UNDP

COUNTRY EXECUTING AGENCIES:

BRAZIL

FUNBIO

CONSERVAÇÃO
INTERNACIONAL

ICMBio

MINISTÉRIO DO MEIO AMBIENTE

PÁTRIA AMADA BRASIL

GOVERNO FEDERAL

COLOMBIA

El ambiente es de todos

Minambiente

IDEAM

COLOMBIANOS NOS

NATURALEZA

Patrimonio Natural

PERU

Ministerio del Ambiente

SERNANP

profonanpe

recursos para la naturaleza

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