



# **Indigenous Landscapes**

## **Quarterly Report**

### **FY 2015 - QR4**

#### **1 PROJECT COVER SHEET**

##### **1.1 NAME OF THE PROJECT:**

Indigenous Landscapes

##### **1.2. DATES (START/FINISH):**

AGREEMENT/ CONTRACT

Fri, 30/09/2011 - 00:00 to Thu, 29/09/2016 - 00:00

REPORT PERIOD

Mon, 01/07/2013 - 00:00 to Mon, 30/09/2013 - 00:00

##### **1.3. PRIME PARTNER:**

The Nature Conservancy

##### **1.4. NAME OF PROGRAM MANAGER:**

Name Program Manager

Marcelo Guevara

E-mail Program Manager

[mguevara@tnc.org](mailto:mguevara@tnc.org)

Phone number Program Manager

+593 2 3341701 ext. 111

**1.5. NAME OF AGREEMENT OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE OR CONTRACT OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE:**

Monica Suquilanda

**1.6. NAME OF ALTERNATE AOR OR COR:**

Annie Wallace

**1.7. MECHANISM NUMBER:**

AID-OAA-A-11-00019

**1.8. OVERALL PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:**

The ICAA II landscape-level program Indigenous Landscapes' (IL) is implemented by the following six organizations: The Nature Conservancy (TNC, prime); Instituto del Bien Común, Peru (IBC), Fundación para la Sobrevivencia del Pueblo Cofán, Ecuador (FSC), Federación Indígena de la Nacionalidad Cofán del Ecuador (FEINCE), Coordinadora de las Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica (COICA), and Conservation Strategy Fund (CSF). We are working on landscape-level issues in tandem with focused efforts at core sites. To ensure long term conservation and sustainable use of the landscape's natural resources, our landscape-level conservation program prioritizes areas for conservation, restoration, and natural resource use. This three-pronged approach will ensure species conservation while protecting important headwaters and mitigating climate change. We follow the causal chain from healthy ecosystems, to ecosystem services, to human well-being. The core sites of our landscapes are the indigenous territories we work on. The core beneficiaries are the indigenous populations we work with.

Our Vision is that by 2020, our indigenous partner organizations in Peru and Ecuador will have the capacity to influence decisions about investments that affect their lands and surrounding areas, to support natural resource management in their communities, and to address threats that affect their livelihoods, thus contributing significantly to biodiversity conservation, livelihood diversity, and sustainable development in the landscapes. We are working in Peru in the North Central Selva and in Ecuador in Sucumbíos. Our Overall Objective is to conserve critical biodiversity found on indigenous lands and in surrounding areas that are also vital to ensure ecosystem functioning and continuity, as well as the sustainability of indigenous livelihoods. Gender is considered crosscutting to all our activities. Our Three Specific Objectives are: 1. Strengthen Andean Amazon indigenous organizations in areas which they themselves have identified as strategically vital for territorial management. 2. Reduce priority threats to indigenous lands and important biodiversity areas in at least two landscapes in Peru and Ecuador by ensuring the organizations' capacity to effectively manage their lands and by engaging other stakeholders to contribute to this management. 3. Establish sustainability mechanisms, including improved livelihood measures, to give continuity to natural resource management and conservation actions in the landscapes over the long term.

Note : FEINCE has changed its name to "Nacionalidad Originaria A'I Kofan del Ecuador" (NOA'IKE - A'I Kofan Indigenous Nationality of Ecuador) and will be referred to as such throughout this document. FSC ceased to be a member of the Consortium in 2013, but its objectives for the conservation of the Cofan territory continue to be addressed through NOA'IKE.

## **2. STRATEGY OVERVIEW**

### **2.1. INTERMEDIATE RESULTS**

#### **2.1.1 IR1 - Selected Landscapes Managed Sustainably:**

The Indigenous Landscapes Consortium has entered the final stretch of the ICAA II project. Therefore, the activities carried out in FY 2015 and planned for FY 2016 are aimed at completing work on the project's core tasks: a) strengthening the indigenous organizations; b) reducing threats to conservation landscapes; and c) implementing sustainable productive activities to improve the indigenous peoples' quality of life. In this regard, the Consortium has also begun to prepare dissemination materials for project closure.

In Peru, IBC has continued its work in the central Peruvian jungle, especially on boundary marking and titling of native community lands, and the strengthening of indigenous institutions. IBC conducted a Socio-economic, Demographic and Territorial diagnosis of the proposed expansion of the native community of Puerto Azul, located in the District of Aguaytía. This involved holding meetings with the participation of the communal authorities of Puerto Azul, FENACOCA, the technical staff of the Regional Agricultural Directorate of Ucayali, representatives of the Ucayali Forest and Wildlife Directorate (DEFFS), and indigenous leaders. A Technical-Legal Diagnosis of Indigenous Territory was also carried out as requested for the titling of the Native Community of Unipacuyacu, located in the District of Codo del Pozuzo, with the participation of the Regional Agricultural Directorate of Huánuco, the Agrarian Agency of Puerto Inca, indigenous leaders, and the DEFFS in Ucayali and Huánuco. The representatives of the participating institutions made a tour of the perimeter of the lands proposed to be titled.

Regarding boundary marking, IBC placed concrete markers at vertices 1, 2 and 3 of the titled lands of the native community of Sinchi Roca 1, in the District of Irazola. The process ended with the acceptance and commitment of the surrounding communities to allow the institutions responsible for performing the work to go through the areas bordering the jurisdictions where the markers are located. IBC also carried out data collection and verification of the boundaries of the native community of Puerto Nuevo, located in the District of Codo del Pozuzo. This activity was coordinated with the Regional Agricultural Directorates of Ucayali and Huánuco, representatives of the native community, and the organization FENACOCA. IBC also carried out boundary marking and placed concrete markers at vertices A, B, C, D, F, G, H and I on the titled lands of the native community of Santa Rosa, marking a total boundary line of 44,515.41 km. In addition, IBC conducted boundary-marking operations in the native community of Tzirotzire (Paucarsito), placing markers at vertices 3, 4 and 5 of the native community, demarcating a total of 9,200 kilometers. Finally, IBC held a coordination meeting with the participation of the community of Golondrinas, the Puerto Sira Cooperative, FECONAPIA, and the Regional Agricultural Directorate of Huánuco, to report on the work plan to demarcate the boundaries of Golondrinas and place the corresponding markers. An agreement was signed to carry out field work for this purpose. This boundary-marking activity began with a meeting to determine the field work methodology, after which the technical team set off for the starting point.

During the past year, TNC Ecuador also continued to work with the Provincial Government of Sucumbíos and the municipal governments of Sucumbíos and Gonzalo Pizarro on updating the Development and Land-Use Plans (PDOTs). ICAA support consisted of providing the technical teams of the Decentralized Autonomous Governments (GADs) with training and technical assistance for the development of the land-use proposals. In these proposals, priority was given to conserving over 280,000 hectares and restoring more than 86,000 hectares throughout the province. The Development and Land-Use Plans have already been formally approved by the Planning Councils of each local government.

We also continued with the implementation of the La Bonita Cofanes-Chingual Management Plan, mainly focusing on training the Reserve's control and surveillance staff. Communication and dissemination materials were designed and printed to publicize the Reserve's attractions. In addition, community producers were given training for the implementation of sustainable production practices.

## INITIATIVE FOR CONSERVATION IN THE ANDEAN AMAZON

Over the past three months, several coordination meetings have been held with the Ministry of Environment to support the Municipality of Sucumbíos in meeting the requirements for the Reserve to be recognized as part of the National System of Protected Areas (SNAP), under the Subsystem of Decentralized Autonomous Governments. These activities include updating the Management Plan, disseminating information about the Reserve, and creating a land tenure map. In order to ensure a smooth transition and the sustainability of the activities supported by ICAA, we have made plans to work with the SNAP Support Program to prepare project profiles for the management of the Reserve that this program can implement in 2016.

NOA'IKE has continued to manage the Cofan territory, which is now largely financed by SocioBosque resources. As is already known, FSC failed to secure new donors for the Cofan park guard program before completing its work with the Indigenous Landscapes Consortium in 2013. Therefore, NOA'IKE has inherited the commitment to maintain the system. Three communities are fully participating in the SocioBosque scheme – Cofan Zábalo, Río Cofanes and Dureno – covering 77,000 hectares that are directly financed. This funding allows NOA'IKE to cover the salaries and logistical costs of 6 park guards. This money has also been used to purchase equipment (machetes, compasses, cameras, among others); to furnish some of the Cofan children with school supplies; to pay for campesino social security insurance for about 100 Cofan families, and the salaries of several Cofan leaders. In FY 2014 the necessary paperwork was resubmitted to incorporate Sinangue (with 13,000 hectares) and Cofan Bermejo (with 52,000 hectares) into the SocioBosque program, and a positive decision was received in April of that year. Therefore, we were expecting Sinangue and Cofan Bermejo be incorporated into the SocioBosque scheme in FY 2015. However, due to lack of funds in SocioBosque, the agreements have not been signed for these two Cofan territories to enter the program, despite their meeting the requirements. In fact, in FY 2015, no indigenous territory of any indigenous nationality has entered SocioBosque because of funding cuts to the program.

Despite this situation, TNC is currently supporting the updating of the Cofan Bermejo Reserve Management Plan and analyzing the possibility of finding potential productive activities to improve the income of the Cofan communities in the reserve: Chandía Nae, Avie, Alto Bermejo and Soquie.

Also, NOA'IKE has held dialogue workshops with the afro and mestizo communities bordering the Cofan territory in order to improve the conservation and use of natural resources. During the last quarter, two dialogue activities were carried out to establish a conviviality agreement between the Cofan community of Duvuno and 14 Kichwa communities. These dialogue activities were attended by more than 100 Cofan people and about fifty Kichwa leaders and resulted in a mutually beneficial agreement reached with the full concurrence of the parties. In addition, the Cofan and Kichwa communities each presented their internal regulations, sharing their knowledge on how to conserve their territories.

COICA continues to work to protect indigenous peoples from climate change impacts. The most notable development during this period has been the inclusion of the Igarapé Lourdes Indigenous Territory, in the Brazilian state of Rondônia, in an "Amazon Indigenous REDD" (RIA) program. The landscapes currently participating in COICA's RIA programs are: Colombia (Predio Putumayo, Eastern Vaupés, CMARI); Ecuador (the Kutukú Shaimi Protection Forest, though still at an initial stage); Peru (Amarakaeri Communal Reserve), Brazil (Igarapé Lourdes); and Bolivia (Itonama, Movima).

The inclusion of Igarapé Lourdes was made possible through the support of WWF Quito, which financed the trip to this Brazilian indigenous territory. In addition, a meeting was held with the president of COIAB to discuss the case of natural protected areas that overlap with indigenous territories, and agreement was reached to hold a workshop in Manaus with the participation of WWF, IUCN and its Amazon Vision project IAPA, TNC Brazil, COIAB, and COICA in the coming months.

## **2.1.2 IR2 - Key Elements of Natural Resources Governance Functioning in Critical Landscapes:**

In both countries, the Indigenous Landscape Consortium has worked on different levels, from the local to the national and from the technical to the institutional, with the goal of improving the governance of natural resources.

In Peru, throughout 2015 IBC continued to promote the articulation and strengthening of indigenous organizations. This quarter IBC held: 1) an extraordinary meeting of community leaders of the grassroots native communities of the Organization of Indigenous Peoples of the District of Masisea (ORDIM) to elect the new board of directors for the period 2015-2017, in the native community of Nuevo Paraíso; 2) a coordination meeting with the leaders of the 10 grassroots indigenous communities of the Native Federation of Cacataibo Communities (FENACOCA) prior to holding this indigenous federation's annual congress; the annual congress took place from August 22-23, 2015 and served to report on achievements in 2014 and 2015 related to organizational strengthening, funding, communications, territory, natural resources, protection of indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation (PIACI), the proposed Cacataibo territorial reserves (north and south), health, education, cultural identity, youth, and sports; 3) a coordination meeting with FECONAPIA's leaders and the leaders of its grassroots communities to prepare for their annual congress; this meeting took place at the federation's community offices in the province of Puerto Inca.

In addition, IBC carried out the validation of the information in the Life Plans of the native communities of Golondrinas, Santa Teresa, Clayton, and Santa Isabel, with the participation and coordination of representatives of the Federation of Native Communities of Puerto Inca and Tributaries (FECONAPIA). IBC coordinated with the boards of directors of each native community to hold a meeting with the community members, who contributed to improving the plan and made a number of adjustments after reviewing all of the documentation.

Finally, IBC also carried out prior consultation and information collection for the development of Plans for Good Living in the native communities of Sol Naciente, Nuevo Paraíso, Santa Rosa de Dinamarca, Santa Martha, Dos Unidos, and Flor de Ucayali. These activities were carried out in coordination with the Headquarters of the IMIRA Conservation Area. It should be noted that these six native communities were selected as part of an intervention strategy by ORDIM designed to strengthen the legitimacy of the native communities' ties to the organization.

For its part, TNC Peru has continued to implement the second stage of three pilot experiences in natural resources management and its use as a tool for forest conservation through support for the communities of Patria Nueva, Callería and Nuevo Saposoa. During this quarter, 432 fingerlings have been planted in three units, 144 fingerlings per unit and one unit per community. One month after planting, the volume of the fingerlings had increased by 2.8 times (from 133 grams to 372 grams). AIDER, the local implementing organization, is supporting this whole process. In addition, site visits were made to paiche farms in two areas of Ucayali, one a high-production farm located at km 34 of the Federico Basadre highway, half an hour away from Pucallpa, and the others located in the native communities participating in the project on the Callería River, in order to get a first-hand view of their experiences and the objectives they have achieved. The visits involved the participation of representatives of the provincial government of Sucumbiós in Ecuador (the Sub-prefect and the Director of CISAS), fish farm entrepreneurs from Ecuador, indigenous representatives of NOA'IKE (Ecuador), and members of producer committees from the native communities of Patria Nueva, Callería and Nuevo Saposoa.

TNC Peru has also continued its work in San Martín to protect the Cumbaza River basin. During last quarter, as part of the implementation of the Life Plans of the Cumbaza River communities, we have begun to take measures to improve the cacao production chain in the community of Alto Shamboyacu. In coordination with community leaders, and based on a number of technical criteria, 25 producer families with cacao production plots already in operation have been selected to participate in this activity. It is expected that in a year the participating families will improve their productivity through the use of best practices such as pruning and the application of fertilizer while conserving the forest. The consultancy, which began in July, also includes components related to association/collaboration, marketing and gender.

Also, as part of the strengthening of strategic alliances in the region of San Martín, and the expansion of the network of beneficiaries of our interventions, training on "Management of Socio-environmental Conflicts" was carried out for the National Forest Conservation Program in San Martín and members of the Regional Environmental Authority (ARA). This involved holding two workshops in July and August in the city of Moyobamba for the purpose of enhancing the group's communication skills, and in particular, of developing their capacity to position themselves as stakeholders and partners in dialogue processes, with an emphasis on critical situations and contexts.

Additionally, as part of efforts to strengthen the Regional Group for Monitoring Megaprojects in Ucayali (GRMMU), TNC Peru held in Lima the National Forum "Challenges for Sustainable Interconnection in the Ucayali Region," aimed at disseminating and socializing technical information on the road interconnection projects in the Ucayali Region among policy decision-makers and the general public. The forum was held in co-organization with our partner CSF.

Finally, TNC Peru held a workshop to present the proposed "Indigenous Land-Use Planning System" (SOTI in its Spanish acronym) to COICA and AIDSESP. Following this event, several workshops have been held with representatives of COICA and AIDSESP to fine-tune the proposal. The proposal has also been presented to officials from the Ministry of Culture (MINCUL) in order to involve them in its implementation.

In Ecuador, in the area of strengthening environmental management with local governments and other institutions in the province, TNC worked on two main tasks: i) support for the development of active and passive restoration proposals in accordance with the guidelines established by the Ministry of Environment; and ii) biodiversity monitoring using camera traps.

We worked with the following institutions on restoration proposals: Decentralized Autonomous Government of the Province of Sucumbíos, Municipal Government of Gonzalo Pizarro, Municipal Government of Sucumbíos, Parish Government of Lumbaqui, and NOA'IKE. Together, the five proposals prioritize the restoration of more than 3,300 hectares in the province. We are now waiting for a formal response from the Ministry of Environment so that agreements for the implementation of these projects can be signed.

Work has also been done with the following institutions on monitoring with camera traps: Decentralized Autonomous Government of the Province of Sucumbíos, Municipal Government of Gonzalo Pizarro, Municipal Government of Sucumbíos, NOA'IKE, and the Ministry of Environment in the province of Sucumbíos (Cofan Bermejo Ecological Reserve). As part of the process, the participating institutions have been provided with camera traps and other materials, as well as technical assistance and training on fauna monitoring.

During the past quarter, we also followed up on the process of recording the information collected by the camera traps in the field, and its systematization to prepare a publication which the Provincial Government of Sucumbíos has committed to publish in the coming months with the aim of raising public environmental awareness for biodiversity conservation.

Parallel to this work with local governments, we also concentrated last year on expanding productive activities in the communities of Dureno, Duvuno and Sinangue in the areas of fish farming and other activities prioritized by the Cofan communities, which have ranged from chicken rearing to cooking for tourists. The fish farming process has involved the construction or renovation of pools and the planting of more than 18,000 fingerlings of cachama (black pacu, a species native to the Amazon), which have benefitted over 400 residents of the three communities. In the community of Dureno, the cachamas have already been harvested to provide food for the families themselves as well as for sale and income generation. In the community of Duvuno, a women's association has been formed to manage the project, and over 30% of the fish have been sold, with the income generated being used to create a productive development fund for the community. Many of the beneficiaries have already made a second planting on their own using the income generated by the first one, demonstrating the sustainability of the process.

During the last quarter, TNC Ecuador has focused on planning for the sustainability of the fish farming project. The planned activities will consist of follow-up and technical assistance to feed the fish with products produced by the communities themselves, such as yucca and plantain, in order to reduce the dependence on balanced feed.

TNC and NOA'IKE have also begun to replicate the Peruvian paiche management experience by implementing a pilot project on Cofan community lands. This experience is now also being supported by the Provincial Government of Sucumbíos, which has shown a strong interest in implementing paiche fish farming as a local public policy initiative.

### **2.1.3 IR3 - Increased Capacity to Utilize Payment for Environmental Services (PES)-like and other Economic Incentive Programs:**

During this year, TNC Peru, as part of its support for the Cumbaza PHES Mechanism, and based on the existing Life Plans and Investment Plans, has supported the signing of four conservation agreements between the indigenous communities living in the upper Cumbaza River basin and the rice producers in the middle basin. The agreements establish the amount the communities will be paid in return for their conservation and monitoring actions according to the income generated per hectare per harvest by the Tarapoto Board of Irrigation Users. In addition, the four Kechwa communities and FEPIKRESAM have formally joined the Cumbaza Basin Management Committee.

In Ecuador, as stated earlier, NOA'IKE continues to manage the Cofan territory, largely supported by SocioBosque's economic incentive payments. However, the two Cofan territories that were expected to enter the program this year, Sinangoe and Cofan Bermejo, were not incorporated as planned because we have been informed (albeit unofficially) that the program is facing economic difficulties.

However, NOA'IKE continues to receive funds for its management of the Rio Cofanes territory, and the communities of Dureno and Zábalo receive SocioBosque payments for managing their own territories. Two more workshops were held this quarter, in June and September, to improve the use of these funds in Zábalo. These dialogue activities focused on the investment plans of community projects to implement environmentally friendly fish farming such as paiche farms. The activities were attended by more than fifty Cofan people from Zábalo, representatives of NOA'IKE, and the SocioBosque program coordinator from Río Cofanes. As a result, the residents of Zábalo learned about the experiences of other community projects and analyzed expenditures and the investment plans with the aim of improving the use of the funds SocioBosque provides in exchange for the conservation of Zábalo's forests.

Throughout 2015, COICA has worked on developing the concept for the "Living Amazon Indigenous Fund for Humanity" (FIAVH), which aims to raise donations and financial resources from the international community and the Green Fund. This conceptual work has been accompanied by the development of administrative and accounting approaches with all of the necessary safeguards to ensure the transparency and security of these funds. The purpose of the FIAVH is 1) to secure the resources needed to fund the development and implementation of the Life Plans and to improve the governance of territories and natural resources; 2) ensure the legal defense of the territories and their natural resources; 3) promote scholarships and organizational strengthening, among other more specific objectives. COICA's challenge is to conduct powerful international advocacy efforts to convince the States and the international community to become involved in the development and strengthening of the FIAVH.

## **2.1.4 IR4 - Greater Understanding and Solutions for Key Environmental Issues:**

As part of the project closure process, a series of publications have been identified to ensure the project's legacy and disseminate its main results, achievements, lessons learned, technical products, studies, etc. The plan is to publish a series of three complementary texts, each with a different focus, which together will comprise a single publication by the Indigenous Landscapes Consortium. The texts will have the same graphic design and will be structured as three volumes of the Consortium's major publication on its work. The publication will be divided into the following three volumes in order to make the texts more inviting to the reader:

1) Systematization of experiences of the ICAA Indigenous Landscapes Consortium project: This text will be the result of the systematization of the experiences the project's interventions have had in Ecuador and Peru. The organization Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano (FFLA) will be in charge of the systematization process. The contents of this publication will be based on interviews, focal groups, workshops and field visits. The participants in this process will include the ICAA-IL technical team, USAID, partners, allies, beneficiaries, etc. The purpose of the systematization is to extract the main results, lessons learned, interaction with partners, and the project's regional vision. This book will be targeted at a wide and varied audience (partners, authorities, academics, students, other organizations, etc.).

2) Indigenous Landscapes Consortium in Peru and Indigenous Landscapes Consortium in Ecuador (two volumes): Both volumes will have a technical focus, providing local intervention details from a technical point of view. The goal is to communicate the work that has been done in each country, including local reflections and showing the results achieved. These texts will also include information from the main studies and technical products generated by the project. They will be designed for a specialized and technical audience. The volumes on Ecuador and Peru will both cover the ICAA-IL project from a regional perspective rather than as isolated experiences.

Additionally, the last Meeting of ICAA – Indigenous Landscape Consortium Partners took place in Lima, Peru from September 14-18, 2015. The event was attended by IBC, NOA'IKE, CSF, COICA and TNC, as well as representatives from USAID and the Support Unit. The event had three main aims: (i) to review the results and products achieved by each of the partners to date, as well as the challenges faced; (ii) to define an institutional strategy for project closure; (iii) to hold the first workshop to systematize the experiences of the Indigenous Landscapes Consortium, led by a team from Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano (FFLA).

This year Conservation Strategy Fund (CSF) completed the analysis of the proposed road and railroad projects to connect Pucallpa and Cruzeiro do Sul, and concluded that although the social and environmental externalities are larger for the road than for the railroad, the analysis shows that neither alternative is economically viable. The results were published in March and since then have been presented at different events.

Also, TNC and NOA'IKE have worked together this year to record traditional knowledge, protect the Cofans' collective intellectual property, and select a couple of products that could have a denomination of origin and be marketed advantageously. Based on an agreement signed in 2014 between NOA'IKE and the Ecuadorian Institute of Intellectual Property (IEPI), and on the support of the Secretariat for Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (SENESCYT) and several workshops held at the beginning of the year to define the scope of this activity, work began in April 2015 to systematize information for this purpose. Informational and information-gathering workshops were held in each of the Cofan communities, followed by workshops with the Cofan leaders to validate the work and choose the products to be given denomination of origin status, resulting in the selection of kenene and yuku. Kenene is an anti-inflammatory and analgesic agent that is used to relieve stomach pain or discomfort, while yuku is a natural energizer. Application will be made for denomination of origin for both products as a means of protecting them and positioning them in the market. During FY 2016 we will support the recording of this information in the archives of the IEPI and SENESCYT and will plan for the production and marketing of kenene and yuku.

Regarding territorial governance, NOA'IKE organized a workshop in Dureno on territory, natural resources management, and the culture of the Cofan people of Ecuador and Colombia. The workshop was attended by 26 Cofan people, and the participants gained knowledge about the organizational process, the management of the resources in their territories, and the cultural and ancestral principles of the A'i Cofan nationality.

For its part, COICA continues to promote the development of Life Plans with a territorial vision, encompassing the indigenous communities and villages that lie within a single territory. The idea is for the Life Plans to provide the basis for the development of Territorial Governance Plans and Natural Resources Plans that can work and be effective even under extreme conditions of territorial fragmentation.

Also, COICA has made notable headway in this area since it has developed, improved and validated the concept of RIA as an effective tool to tackle climate change by mitigating its effects, planning for adaptation, and facilitating resilience to its impacts. RIA is currently being implemented in 5 of the 9 countries that make up the Amazon Basin with the support of allies such as the German government, through its Federal Ministry for Environment and Nuclear Safety (BMU), and consortia and NGOs including AIME, Forest Trends, WWF, etc.

## **2.1.5 Support Unit Services:**

TNC Peru participated in two meetings of USAID partners, one in Moyobamba and the other in Pucallpa. Both meetings were held to allow the partners to learn about other projects USAID has been financing in the same areas where they are working and, if necessary, to begin coordination on activities determined to be complementary in the same area. In addition, the TNC Peru team participated in a workshop organized by ORAU (the Ucayali Regional AIDSESEP Organization) to establish guidelines for the development of Life Plans in the indigenous communities.

In Ecuador, we assisted the Support Unit with one of its main activities to close out ICAA: documenting the success stories of each consortium. To do this, we coordinated and made a trip to the province of Sucumbíos to document the work of the Indigenous Landscapes Consortium in Ecuador. The trip included a visit to the La Bonita Cofanes-Chingual Reserve and the Cofan communities of Dureno and Duvuno. The purpose of the trip was to highlight the project's main achievements through videos, photos and interviews. A key aspect of the process was for each story to be told by the people involved, the beneficiaries. The visit with the Support Unit team took place from October 13-16, 2015.

Furthermore, it is important to mention TNC Peru's collaboration with the organizers of the Second Meeting of ICAA II Consortium Partners in Pucallpa from June 8-13, 2015. At this meeting, TNC, COICA, IBC, NOA'IKE and CSF presented several of the successes and challenges of the Indigenous Landscapes Consortium. TNC Peru also organized the logistics for one of the event's field trips.

Also, under the research agreement with the Support Unit, TNC Ecuador has continued to work with the Kechwa community of Payamino to gather information on different possible sources of income. This research is almost done. Preliminary results have been presented in webinar workshops, and the final reports will be submitted by the end of October.

Finally, we have to mention two activities carried out between COICA and the ICAA Support Unit: the development of the FIR project, and the workshop on Life Plans, held in Pachacamac (Department of Lima, Peru).

## **2.2 CROSS-CUTTING THEMES AND USAID KEY ISSUES**

### **2.2.1 Improve Policies and Policy Implementation**

In Peru, IBC, in coordination with IBC's Pro-Pachitea Program in Oxapamba and the Provincial Municipality of Puerto Inca, helped to reconfigure the Puerto Inca Environmental Commission in accordance with Law No. 28245 and its regulations on the National Environmental Management System. In addition, a workshop was held

to strengthen the implementation of the Local Environmental Management System, led by the Puerto Inca Municipal Environmental Commission.

For its part, TNC Peru continues to support MINAM's work on guidelines for environmental compensation. Also, the experience of the Pucallpa - Cruzeiro do Sul road project is being proposed as a model for future compensation schemes.

## **2.2.2 Increase Gender Awareness and Gender-related Program Outcomes**

In Peru, IBC is working with the indigenous federations FECONAPIA, FENACOCA, ORDIM and FECONAU to ensure that gender equity is addressed in: 1) the various georeferencing and boundary-marking activities; and 2) in processes of territorial conflict resolution. In both cases, women participate actively and their collaboration provides a broader view of territory and enhances the communities' agricultural practices.

Likewise, women's participation has been promoted in the activities TNC Peru has been supporting in the indigenous communities as part of the second stage of implementation of sustainable productive activities. As a result of these efforts, 40% of the members of the production committees in the three committees are women.

In Ecuador, TNC supported Cofan women with training in administration, accounting and cooking. These workshops have been held as part of the implementation of productive activities in the communities of Dureno and Dovuno.

Although COICA has a "Training Program for Amazon Indigenous Women Leaders" (PCLIA), whose activities are included in the 2015 AOP, it has been difficult to improve the formal participation of women in this indigenous organization's programs and activities. There are not enough new women leaders, in large part because: 1) family life is a hard balancing act to achieve, and normally women leaders who take their positions and responsibilities seriously and act accordingly end up with broken homes; and 2) indigenous politics is a predominantly male realm, both in its internal functioning and in the outside world. Against this backdrop, IBIS Denmark is supporting a project with indigenous women.

## **2.2.3 Strengthening of Selected Regional Organizations and Institutions**

In Peru, IBC held a coordination meeting with representatives of SERNANP – El Sira Communal Reserve, FECONAPIA, UNAY, and a representative from the native community of Nueva Austria del Sira to develop a strategy to solve the territorial conflicts affecting this community in the Puerto Inca area. At this meeting, it was reported that the native community of Nueva Austria del Sira has been invaded by settlers who maintain that the "comuneros" (indigenous landholders) do not live on their territory. Court proceedings have been initiated (case record number 036-213-24091-JX1C of the Mixed Jurisdiction Court of Puerto Inca, Judicial District of Ucayali) to annul the recognition of this indigenous community. As a strategy to resolve the conflict, it was proposed that FECONAPIA and the community's leaders prepare a statement with support from IBC's legal staff and SERNANP, to inform the different institutions involved in this issue about the invasions and threats posed by the settlers.

Also, TNC, as part of its support for the monitoring group GRMMU, has held two important events for the purpose of disseminating and socializing technical information on the road interconnection projects in the Ucayali Region among policy decision-makers and the general public, including one discussion forum in Pucallpa and another one in Lima. As a result of these activities, the group has significantly strengthened its institutional capacity to participate in regional and national discussions on issues related to the impact of road projects.

TNC Peru has also carried out training on "Management of Socio-environmental Conflicts" for the National Forest Conservation Program in San Martín and members of the Regional Environmental Authority (ARA) since

both are strategic partners in conservation activities in the Cumbaza River basin. This involved holding two workshops in July and August in the city of Moyobamba with the objective of enhancing the participants' communication skills, and in particular, of developing their capacity to position themselves as stakeholders and partners in dialogue processes, with an emphasis on critical situations and contexts.

In Ecuador, as part of the strengthening of the management of the La Bonita Cofanes-Chingual reserve and its administration by the municipality of Sucumbíos, TNC has developed a series of communications materials. The main objective was to create products to publicize the reserve's main attractions and provide tips for its conservation. Also, a logo was needed to create the reserve's visual identity. Therefore, a fold-out brochure was developed containing geographic data, descriptions of fauna and flora, information on paths available to tourists and visitors, and advice on how to conserve and care for the Reserve. The brochure also includes an illustrated map showing the main attractions and the Reserve's location in the province. The illustrated map was reproduced on posters and banners. In addition to the brochure, a logo was designed for the La Bonita Cofanes-Chingual reserve as well as a manual on the reserve's visual identity and its application. These products are expected to contribute to publicizing and strengthening the reserve.

Also, during the first semester of FY 2015 TNC completed the training cycle for NOA'IKE and COICA on labor legislation, administration, accounting, and project management. As noted in previous reports, these trainings seek to contribute to the new IL indicator focused on the strengthening of the partner organizations. During the second quarter, TNC followed up with the partners on the issues covered in the trainings.

It is also important to mention TNC's involvement in the partners' activities with other actors outside the IL Consortium. This includes TNC's participation in discussions about the Chachi-Cofan fund managed by the CI, among others; support for the protection of the collective intellectual property of the Cofan people, which we are working on with the Ecuadorian Institute of Intellectual Property (IEPI); and the development of the COICA and WWF project for pilot actions in RIA.

For its part, NOA'IKE organized a meeting with the Governing Council of the A'i Cofan Nationality, with the participation of 26 Cofan people. The community leaders were informed about the activities NOA'IKE is carrying out in this project and others, including its work on intellectual property rights.

Following the approval of the 2015 AOP, COICA has developed an important institutional capacity for advocacy, as evidenced by its successes in the international arena. The main results include COICA's participation in the SBSTA meetings in Germany, in the Annual GCF Meeting, with the First Nations of Canada, at the United Nations Forum on Indigenous Peoples, and above all its advocacy with the French government in the lead-up to the COP 21. In the last case, COICA, represented by its Vice-Coordinator Jocelyn Therese, held several meetings with Vincent Jechoux (Biodiversity Advisor to Segolene Royal, Minister of Environment), Sandrine Menard (N° 1 advisor to the COP 21), and Odile Blanchard (Advisor). COICA achieved a historic milestone in June 2015 when Edwin Vásquez (COICA) met with French Prime Minister Manuel Valls and President François Hollande.

## **2.2.4 Improve Region-wide Capacity for Conservation Through Training**

In Peru, IBC held the "Second Intercultural Radio Communications Workshop for Indigenous Communicators on the Prevention of Territorial Conflicts" in Pucallpa. It took place in the auditorium of the National Forestry Chamber and was attended by radio communicators belonging to the indigenous organizations FECONAU, ORDIM, FENACOCA, FECONAPIA, ORAU, CONAP, AIDSESEP and ACIAP, and by the technical staff of the Instituto del Bien Común (IBC). Its main objectives were to increase the radio communicators' understanding of communications legislation, promote the individual and collective rights of indigenous peoples as a strategic component of prevention of territorial conflicts, and inform the radio communicators about the problems in the native communities belonging to the organizations FECONAU, FENACOCA, ORDIM and FECONAPIA, raising awareness about preventive approaches to territorial conflicts.

## **2.2.5 Increase Indigenous Peoples' Participation**

In Peru, as a result of strengthening the GRMMU, and based primarily on the results of the road project studies, the group has significantly increased its participation in international, national and regional discussions of issues related to the impact of road projects.

FEPIKRESAM has been supporting its grassroots communities with their Life Plans and their inclusion in the Cumbaza PHES mechanism, both of which are implemented by the Regional Government of San Martín with technical support from TNC. As part of our efforts to institutionally strengthen FEPIKRESAM, an agreement was signed to also allow it to provide institutional and technical support for the implementation of activities related to sustainable cacao management in the community of Alto Shamboyacu.

All of COICA's activities contribute to improving the participation of indigenous peoples, because they involve training on key issues and coordination between grassroots organizations and national and international institutions. For example, the implementation of the RIA programs requires ongoing training on relevant issues as a cross-cutting component in order to facilitate the on-the ground, real-world application of very sophisticated concepts such as carbon storage, climate change, UN-REDD and others that are couched in the technical/scientific language of experts. In this context, training workshops are a natural way to reach the grassroots organizations. Workshops on climate change have been held for around 4,500 people throughout the basin, with Venezuela being the only country where it has been difficult to carry out these activities.

## **2.2.6 Climate Change - Adaptation**

In Peru, as part of our work to support adaptation and reduce the vulnerability of people, places and livelihoods to climate change through legal territorial security, the Instituto del Bien Común has signed inter-institutional agreements ("Letters of Understanding") with the Regional Agricultural Directorates of Ucayali and Huánuco in order to promote the physical and legal regularization of the native communities in the Ucayali and Huánuco regions and advance the work plans and schedule of activities in coordination with the actors involved in implementing the process of physical and legal regularization.

At the regional level, COICA, with the support of other organizations, has continued to work on disseminating the RIA proposal at several workshops in Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Brazil, and through the implementation of the proposal in Colombia and Peru. The latter two countries' experiences with, respectively, the "CMARI Model" and the RIA project in the Amarakaeri Communal Reserve, have provided us with models to put into practice specific recommended actions to influence the processes of adaptation and resilience to global climate change.

COICA is a recognized player at the regional level and plays an important role in the process of tackling global climate change. The Map of Forest Carbon Storage Density in Protected Natural Areas and Indigenous Territories, developed by RAISG, The Woods Hole Research Center, EDF and COICA, demonstrates beyond question the importance of indigenous territories as giant greenhouse gas sinks, far exceeding NPAs and greater than those of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Indonesia together.

## **2.2.7 Climate Change (REDD+, Sustainable Landscapes)**

In December 2014, we organized a tour for journalists to focus on our joint efforts to protect forests and watersheds in the Peruvian Amazon. This trip took place after the COP21 event. The main focus was to share success stories with reporters on climate change adaptation and mitigation tools, and the link between forests and water availability for people in San Martín. The group included six journalists representing key international and Peruvian media outlets: two newswires, AFP and EFE Verde; BBC Mundo (online edition of the BBC news portal), Diario La República (second largest newspaper in Peru; circ. 75K + 432K Facebook and 736K twitter followers); the most influential environmental portals in Peru, Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental (SPDA) and ActualidadAmbiental.pe (around 100K audience); and two influential investigative-reporting Peruvian portals, Cambia.pe and OjoPúblico.com. At least five feature stories have been published, with over 200 media

hits. Additional stories (print & video) were published by EFE Verde, SPDA/ActualidadAmbiental, Cambia.pe, Ojo Público and BBC Mundo. So far, reports have targeted audiences in Peru and the rest of Latin America, the United States (media in Spanish), Spain and other parts of the world, potentially reaching 2-3 million people. The coverage has been very positive, highlighting good cooperation between key actors/organizations to fight climate change and deforestation by promoting sustainable practices in food and water security. The journalists had a chance to meet with members of both rural and indigenous communities in the area and have expressed their interest in continuing to follow events and updates on this and similar programs in the Peruvian Amazon. This is a success in terms of outreach.

It is also important to mention the specific experiences COICA has had with climate change work. A summary of the programs and projects currently being implemented is presented below. In Colombia: 1) the project in the Middle and Upper Basin of the Inírida River – CMARI, known as the "CMARI Model," covers 2,260,937 hectares in the department of Guainía; a second phase is planned; 2) the Vaupés Indigenous Reserve, a new landscape to be managed, has an area of 3,473,517 hectares, located in the department of Vaupés; 3) the Predio Putumayo Indigenous Reserve, another new landscape to be managed, extends over 5,850,738 hectares in the department of Putumayo. In Peru, the Amarakaeri Communal Reserve covers an area of 402,336 hectares. In Brazil, the Igarapé Lourdes Indigenous Territory has an area of 185,534 hectares and is located in Rondônia. In addition, work has begun with the Gavião Ikolen people to plan the implementation of an RIA project, but focusing on the production phase and the sustainable management of coffee resources. This year, coordination efforts will be increased to implement an RIA project, and with the support of WWF a meeting will be organized between COICA-COIAB and the chiefs of Igarapé Lourdes. Lastly, in Ecuador, the Kutukú Shaimi Protection Forest area covers 311,500 hectares and is located in the province of Morona Santiago. This new landscape will be included in the RIA project to be implemented by WWF and COICA. It will be the first RIA project in Ecuador.

The best example of COICA's role in combating global climate change is the implementation of its RIA programs, which are being used to carry out sustainable landscape management in the Amarakaeri Communal Reserve in Peru; Predio Putumayo, Eastern Vaupés and CMARI in Colombia; Itonama and Movima in Bolivia; Kutukú Shaimi in Ecuador; and Igarapé Lourdes in Brazil.

### **3. NETWORKING AND SYNERGY**

#### **3.1. ANDEAN AMAZON LEVEL**

Probably the most noteworthy development has been the coordination between TNC Peru, COICA and AIDSESP to develop the Indigenous Land-Use Planning System (SOTI). The idea is to implement it as a pilot project in Peru, and later expand it to other countries in the Amazon Basin, where the national organizations affiliated with COICA would be involved as stakeholders.

#### **3.2. NATIONAL LEVEL**

#### **3.3. SUB NATIONAL LEVEL**

#### **3.4. LANDSCAPE LEVEL**

#### **3.5. OTHERS**

### **4. IMPACT OF LEVERAGED RESOURCES**

In Ecuador, NOAIKE has largely financed its work protecting the Cofan territory with funds from SocioBosque. For its part, COICA's advocacy work has been supported with funding from other cooperation agencies: the Ford Foundation, WWF, Forest Trends, ICCO, Climate Alliance, GIZ, and the Indigenous Fund, among other donors.

## **5. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Our PMP is the ICAA-wide shared PMP, and has now been updated to include an indicator of institutional strengthening. This shared PMP is the result of coordination and information exchange among all ICAA partners, facilitated by the ISU and USAID. The new indicator of institutional strengthening is the result of a consensual decision taken within the Consortium with the aim of monitoring progress on this component of our work.

We have also adjusted the PMP to make the parameters for reporting on the Consortium's dialogue events more flexible. It is not always possible to include six participants or have an advance letter of invitation. This is due to the nature of meetings, which are not necessarily formal. They often take place at unexpected times but produce positive results that are important to report as a PLAR.

Within this context, IL will go back to using the internet-based program for monitoring IL activities and indicators, ARPIA. This software was developed during ICAA I but abandoned during the first years of ICAA II. However, given the number of planned activities, we will reactivate this internet-based monitoring program.

## **6. Success Stories**

### **SUCCESS STORY 1**

In Peru, the experience of working with the native community of Nuevo Saposoa in Ucayali, Peru to promote paiche farming in floating cages has benefitted this community. The committee of producers from Nuevo Saposoa decided to invest the revenues from the sale of paiche in a "Micro Bank" fund to make loans to fishermen from the community at a 20% monthly interest rate. The sale of their fishing catch as live food for the paiches has enabled the fishermen to pay off 100% of their loans. The fund, which is now larger, has been invested in the installation of an additional breeding unit, including the purchase of paiche fingerlings and feed.

### **SUCCESS STORY 2**

COICA's work towards the COP 21 has placed Amazonian indigenous organizations at the heart of this event. For several months, COICA has been conducting advocacy with the French government, holding several meetings with Vincent Jechoux (Biodiversity Advisor to Segolene Royal, Minister of Environment), Sandrine Menard (N° 1 Advisor to the COP 21), Odile Blanchard (Advisor), Manuel Valls (Prime Minister), and François Hollande (President of France). These meetings served for Jocelyn Therese, Vice-Coordinator of COICA, to be named Co-chair of the COP 21, thus ensuring that visas will be provided to the indigenous delegates and probably also an Air France plane to fly the delegation to Paris.

## **7. Environmental Compliance**

## **8. SUMMARY**

### **8.1 Achievements:**

- The three experiences promoted by TNC Peru related to natural resources management and its use as a tool for forest conservation in three native communities – Patria Nueva, Callería and Nuevo Saposoa – have gained recognition from local stakeholders in Ucayali.

- In Ecuador, TNC and NOA'IKE have been actively working to protect the traditional knowledge of the Cofan people, and now have the necessary commitments in place to record their traditional knowledge with the IEPI. Plans are being made to, in the long run, produce and market kenene and yuku.

- For COICA, the inclusion of the basic principles of RIA in the Ministries of Environment of Peru and Ecuador

## **8.2 Challenges and Adjustments:**

- In Peru, work will continue on the process of developing and socializing the proposal for an indigenous land-use planning system, which will help to ensure AIDSESEP's and COICA's position in the national land-use planning process.
- Regarding the sustainability of fish farming, in Ecuador, TNC and NOAIKE must secure long-term buyers for paiche and cachama.
- It is critical to ensure the success of the Indigenous Pavilion and COICA's participation at the COP 21. The preparatory meetings prior to the COP 21 have become an efficient and effective tool towards this goal.