# FOREST 2018-2022

## Stronger Forest Management Agencies and Greater Conservation of the Amazon

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Prepared by U.S. Forest Service International Programs

December 2022

This document reports on the progress and achievements of the national and regional forest and wildlife authorities responsible for managing Peru's forest and wildlife resources that were carried out in collaboration with the USAID and U.S. Forest Service FOREST program from 2018 to 2022. FOREST contributed to the institutional strengthening of SERFOR, OSINFOR, and the forest and wildlife authorities of Loreto, Ucayali, and Madre de Dios, as well as helped increase the number of hectares of forests under sustainable management in Peru.

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# Our journey together

Technical cooperation for the sustainable management and conservation of the Amazon forest

**2009**
› **Start USAID/USFS phase I (PFSI)**
› Support for **Prior Consultation with Indigenous Peoples for the Forest and Wildlife Law** +2,000 Indigenous peoples representatives

**2011**
› **Forestry and Wildlife Law** approved (Law N° 29763)
› **Permanent Production Forests Inventory Loreto** 969,559 ha

**2012**
› **Creation of IDERs in Loreto, Ucayali, Amazonas, San Martín and Madre de Dios.**

**2013**
› **Permanent Production Forests (BPP) inventory Ucayali:** 985,340 ha Ι **San Martín:** 78,885 ha
› **Regional Environmental Authorities** created in Loreto, Ucayali, Amazonas and Madre de Dios
› **SERFOR begins its functions** with technical support in design, regulations and institutionality
› **Support to CITEmadera** in technical procedures in forest laboratories

**2015**
› **Regulations for the Forest and Wildlife Law** approved
› **National Forestry and Wildlife Inventory methodology** completed

**2017**
› Abbreviated procedure for new concessions approved
› Satellite Monitoring Unit - FEMA Loreto created
› **SERFOR Board of DirectorsAction Plan** created

**2018**
› **Start USAID/USFS phase II (FOREST)**
› Formation of the Technical Working Group on Forestry and Wildlife Information

**2019**
› **1st additional budget transferred** from the MEF to the Forest and Wildlife Authorities of Loreto, Ucayali and Madre de Dios: **S/ 9 million**
› **Abbreviated procedure** developed for new concessions (Loreto)
› **Forestry Directorates converted to Regional Bureaus** (Ucayali and Madre de Dios)
› **Statistics and transparency platforms** (Loreto) created
› **1st OSINFOR-GORE Agreement** signed

**2020**
› **Approved improvements to PP0130** "Competitiveness and Sustainable Use of Forest Resources and Wildlife - SERFOR
› **Abbreviated procedure** for allocation of new concessions developed
› **Creation of Strategic Monitoring Unit - OSINFOR**
› **Statistics and transparency platforms** (Ucayali and Madre de Dios) created
› **Creation of virtual classroom SERFOR Educa**
› Study presented: "Estimating and Improving the Legality of Timber". **First official rate of illegal logging in Peru: 37% illegal**
› **National Forestry and Wildlife Research Plan** published

**2021**
› **New National Strategy to Fight Illegal Logging** approved
› **Tahuamanu FFS Management Unit** created
  Web and mobile application of the FFS Concordada Law created
›
› **2nd additional budget transferred** from the MEF to the Forest and Wildlife Authorities of Loreto, Ucayali and Madre de Dios: **S/ 17 million**
› **Optimization of technology and supervision processes at OSINFOR**
› **Expanded Forest Backpack:** new themes, indigenous leaders and transfer of the methodology to other public institutions
› **OSINFOR SIGOsFc Version 3 Information System** developed
› **Roadmaps approved for joint actions between SERFOR, OSINFOR, MEF, GORE** (Loreto, Ucayali and Madre de Dios)

**2022**
› **7 Regional regulations approved for concessions** (Loreto, Ucayali and Madre de Dios)
› **National guidelines for extension of contracts** approved
› **SERFOR Liaison Functional Units** created in Loreto, Ucayali, Madre de Dios and San Martín
› **OSINFOR Virtual Classroom** created
  **2nd OSINFOR-GORE Agreement** signed

# Our technical cooperation

## Our **mission**

Stregthen peruvian forestry agencies to develop a forest sector that is legal, modern, competitive and sustainable.

## Our **strategies**

**REGULATIONS**
Implementation of the Legal Framework

**PUBLIC SECTOR STRENGTHENING**
Strengthening Institutions in the Forest Sector

**INFORMATION**
Transparency, Availability and Use of Information

**RESEARCH**
Strengthening Forestry Education and Research Public Universities

**CAPACITY BUILDING**
Building Capacities in the Forest Sector

## Results 2018-2022

**$ 20.35**
million investment mobilized

**6,504**
people trained

**144**
laws, polices or regulations

**334**
studies

# Our partners

## Partners

Ministerio de Desarrollo Agrario y Riego — PERÚ

SERFOR

Presidencia del Consejo de Ministros — PERÚ

OSINFOR

LORETO GOBIERNO REGIONAL

Ucayali

GERFFS

MADRE DE DIOS

Gerencia Regional

Ministerio del Ambiente — PERÚ

Oefa

LA MOLINA — UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AGRARIA

UNAP

## Implementing partners

SPDA

DAR — DERECHO AMBIENTE Y RECURSOS NATURALES

INSTITUTO DEL BIEN COMÚN

WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

Oregon State University

# Five years contributing to forest governance and conservation in the Amazon

Through the technical cooperation provided by the Forest Oversight and Resource Strengthening (FOREST) program from 2018 to 2022, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. Forest Service assisted the Government of Peru in improving management and conservation of the Amazon forest.

FOREST, as part of USAID's Forestry Program, focused on contributing to forest governance and working directly with Peruvian forest and wildlife authorities. Other USAID initiatives and projects provided direct cooperation to other relevant actors in the sector, such as indigenous communities and the private sector.

FOREST was developed on the premise that strengthening Peru's forest and wildlife authorities, especially with regards to management of concessions and communities, increases the amount of forest area under legal and sustainable management and that this, in turn, contributes to reducing illegal logging.

Timber forest concessions and native community permits are two of the forms of legal access to forest resources under current forestry regulations. Of the 68.5 million hectares of Amazonian forests, about 17% are on indigenous lands and 15% are categorized as "permanent production forests," where the Peruvian government offers timber forest concessions. Some 80% of the forest industry's total timber demand is met via these forms of legal access to forest resources.

FOREST identified Loreto and Ucayali as its initial area of action and later extended the program's scope to Madre de Dios. These three regions account for about 80% of Peru's timber production.

The program was organized around five main strategies: implementation of forest regulations; availability, use, and transparency of forest data; forest sector capacity-building; strengthening forest authority public management; and strengthening academia and forestry research.

Over these five years, technical cooperation provided through FOREST has strengthened eight institutions: National Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR), Forest and Wildlife Resources Oversight Agency (OSINFOR), Regional Government of Loreto, Regional Government of Ucayali, Regional Government of Madre de Dios, Environmental Assessment and Enforcement Agency (OEFA), National Agrarian University - La Molina (UNALM), and National University of the Peruvian Amazon (UNAP).

FOREST helped mobilize $20.35 million in investment for the forest sector. In addition, 6,504 people were trained, of whom 4,088 were men and 2,416 were women. Also, 196 of this group belong to native communities. Technical support was provided to produce 144 laws, policies, and regulations. Of these, 82 were approved and are being implemented, while the rest are proposed. A total of 334 studies were produced.

FOREST supported 12 students who pursued a Master's of Natural Resources at Oregon State University (OSU), six of them women. A total of 5,428 people were sensitized on a variety of important issues related to laws and enforcement capacity in the Amazon region of Peru, the front line of the illegal timber trade.

FOREST's implementing partners were the Peruvian Society for Environmental Law (SPDA), Law, Environment and Natural Resources (DAR), the Institute for the Common Good (IBC), Oregon State University (OSU), and World Resources Institute (WRI).

The following is a summary of outcomes and progress in the forest sector, achieved with technical support from USAID and the U.S. Forest Service through FOREST.

# Strengthened Authorities

## 1.1

### ORGANIZATIONAL IMPROVEMENT

Three forest and wildlife bureaus were established to give the sector greater importance in regional government decision-making, ensuring greater independence, and a larger budget for forest management.

In line with Peru's Policy for Modernization of the State, a new model was implemented to improve the operation of the three authorities, which consisted of three key components. The first was to **convert the forest and wildlife departments to bureaus** which gave them budget independence, greater autonomy, and the possibility of have public investment projects (PIPs) approved.

The second was to **improve their internal structure, with process-based management and clear functions.** To this end, a process map and a competency-based job description manual were developed for each bureau. Next,

a Forest and Wildlife Information Management Functional Unit and Community Forest Management Functional Unit were added to the organizational structure. With these units, each bureau focused its efforts on producing, managing, and using the data resulting from forestry activities, and assisting and supporting indigenous communities with the management of forest resources in their territories. This led to better timber forest concession and community forest management. Lastly, applying a territorial approach, the former deconcentrated offices (ODE) —now forest management units— were strengthened to facilitate the decentralization of the forest authorities' work within their geographically large regions, and to align their organizational structures with the provisions of the Forest and Wildlife Act (Law 29763).

The third component of the model involved securing a **larger permanent budget to enable them to perform their functions** across the vast Peruvian Amazon.

**S/23.9 million** in Public Investment Projects.

FOREST supported Loreto with receiving a PIP for **S/8.5 million for a forestry census to reactivate the forest sector.**

In Ucayali, FOREST supported the **S/15.4 million PIP for forest fire prevention.**

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1.  La creación de las gerencias bajo un mismo modelo incluyó aspectos de la Ley Orgánica del Poder Ejecutivo (norma que regula el funcionamiento de toda entidad pública) y la Ley Forestal y de Fauna Silvestre, Ley 29763.

## 1.2

## BUDGET TO EXPAND GOVERNMENT PRESENCE

The forest and wildlife bureaus of Loreto, Ucayali, and Madre de Dios received an additional S/42.2 million from 2018 to 2022 to improve the processes for allocating, managing, protecting, and monitoring forest resources. These additional funds resulted in 401 measurable impacts, the seizure of more than 3 million board feet of timber (about 72 containers), and a 50% staffing increase.
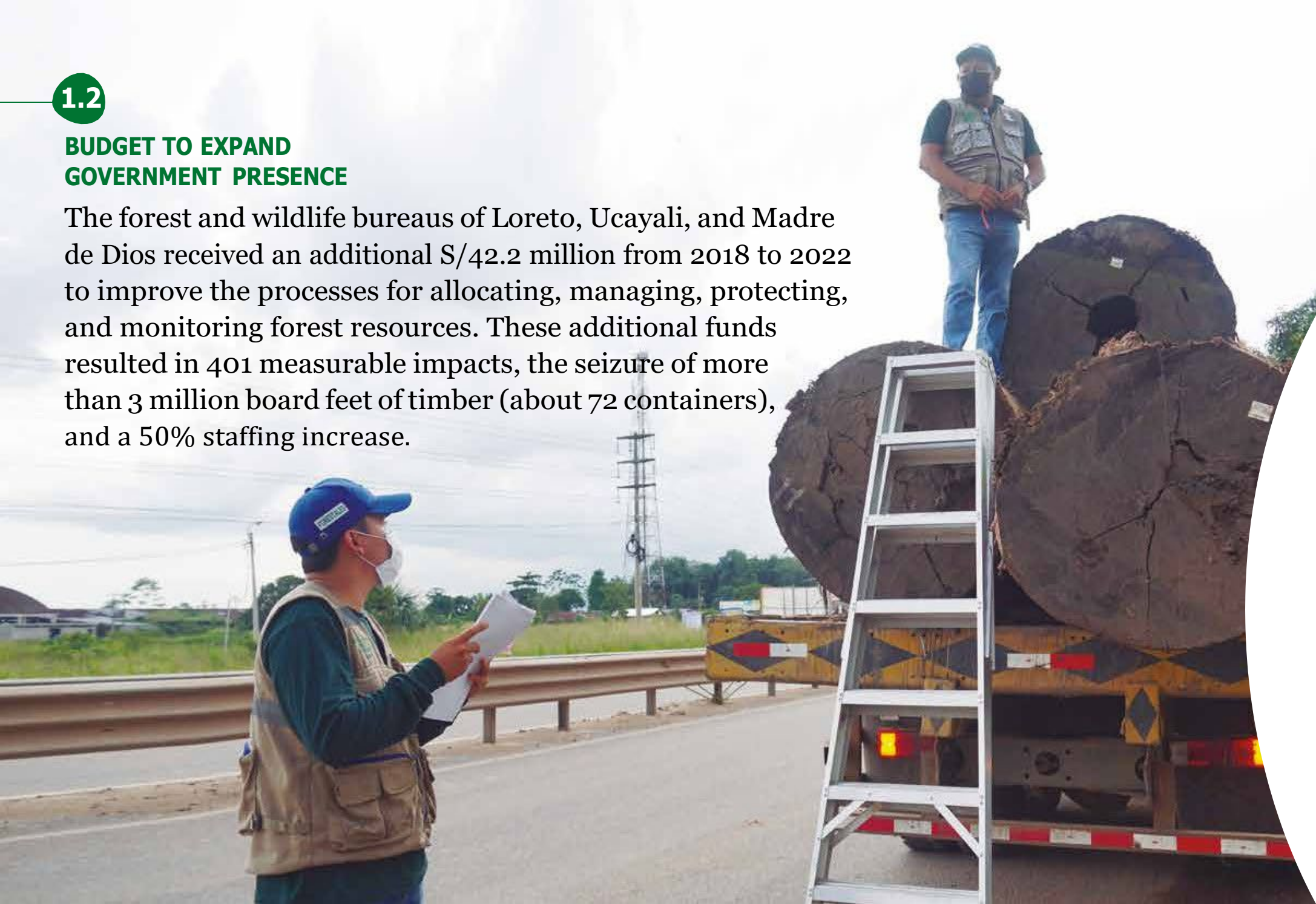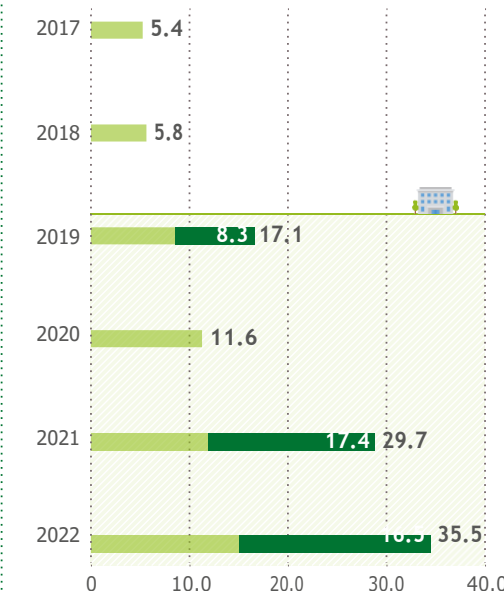
The three bureaus began by conducting a general activity-based costing exercise. As a result, for the first time, these authorities had a consistent, detailed, validated costing system, as well as measurable and verifiable goals and execution planning. The next step was to quantify the funding gap, by comparing the budget they received each year with what they would need to be able to fulfill their functions. **The gap was determined to be S/31,279,365 across the three bureaus.** The third step was to prepare the files to request additional funding for the three regions for 2019, 2020,[2] 2021, and 2022. In 2019, for the first time in Peru, the three regional forest authorities received a direct budget from the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) in the form of additional funding. Steps one and two were decisive in making this happen. From year to year, the

above efforts made it possible to prepare more evidence-based and better justified application files that highlighted the continuous progress on priority actions. The funding was used for the awarding of forest access rights; prevention, control and surveillance; forest data generation, management, analysis, and dissemination; and community forest management. Sound execution of the money obtained through the additional funding mechanism was key to achieving a major objective: obtaining a permanent budget for the regions.

**In 2023, for the first time, the forest and wildlife bureaus of Loreto, Ucayali, and Madre de Dios will receive a joint initial budget of S/41.3 million for forest management** —an 80% increase over previous annual budgets. USAID and the U.S. Forest Service, through FOREST, provided support for the technical budget proposal sent to the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF). Close coordination and work with the MEF's Executive Board for Forest Development also contributed to all of these outcomes.

**Regional Authorities Budget 2017-2022**
(millon of soles)

| Year | Initial budget | Additional funding | Total |
|------|------|------|------|
| 2017 | 5.4 | | |
| 2018 | 5.8 | | |
| 2019 | 8.3 | | 17.1 |
| 2020 | 11.6 | | |
| 2021 | 17.4 | | 29.7 |
| 2022 | | 16.3 | 35.5 |

**2019**
Creation of Regional Forest and Wildlife Management Bureau

- Initial budget
- Additional funding

2. The only year that the application was not approved was in 2020, owing to the pandemic and the change in President.

## 1.3

### INFORMATION AS A KEY ASSET FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT

Forest data platforms were developed in Loreto, Ucayali, and Madre de Dios, enabling the regional authorities to share information with national authorities and make informed decisions. More than 33,000 forest management documents have been scanned and made available online, facilitating transparency in the sector.

In a process that began in 2018, SERFOR formed the Technical Working Group on Forest and Wildlife Information, which brings together the forest authorities of Loreto and Ucayali and several SERFOR directorates. This group coordinated efforts to strengthen data generation processes and put forest information to use at the regional level. It also agreed on standards and protocols for information management and developed action plans. As part of this effort, SERFOR developed a pilot forest data platform that is now part of the National Forest and Wildlife Information System (SNIFFS) and has served as a model for the regions.

In the second phase, the regions prioritized, standardized, and developed rules for six information management and handling processes and, from 2019 to 2020, developed the forest data platforms with support from FOREST and its implementing partner, DAR. These platforms provide timely information on the forestry licenses and management plans registered and approved by the forest authorities in each region. After improvements were made at 14 deconcentrated offices (8 in Loreto, 4 in Ucayali, and 2 in Madre de Dios), where forest information is recorded, entered, analyzed, and prioritized, the platforms in the three regions now provide transparent data in eight thematic areas, including forestry licenses, management plans, roundwood, sawn wood, and industry records. The platforms currently contain 73,000 data records in these categories. The regional authorities use this information to prepare a monthly executive report analyzing the condition of forests where harvesting rights have been granted and then make decisions.

Platform implementation also meant digitizing all information on approved forest management plans. This greatly facilitated other subsequent processes, such as the one established by OSINFOR for the regions to use its digitized file system (SIADO). With this tool, the percentage of management plans submitted by the regional forest bureaus to OSINFOR within the deadline established by law has increased fivefold, which is extremely important for the timely design of OSINFOR's supervision plans.

By the close of the program, the three forest bureaus had technical forest information staff, operational information management units, and an inter-agency working group that enables them to learn from each other and establish synergies.

### Percentage of Forest Management Plans sent by GORE to OSINFOR within the established term (15 days)



| Year | Loreto | Ucayali | Madre de Dios |
|------|--------|---------|---------------|
| 2021 | 29% | 91% | 44% |
| 2020 | 18% | 78% | 23% |
| 2019 | 12% | 32% | 69% |
| 2018 | 8% | 11% | 9% |

http://gerfor.regionloreto.gob.pe/aplicaciones/estadistica/

https://gerffs.regionucayali.gob.pe/estadistica

http://estadisticaforestal.regionmadrededios.gob.pe/
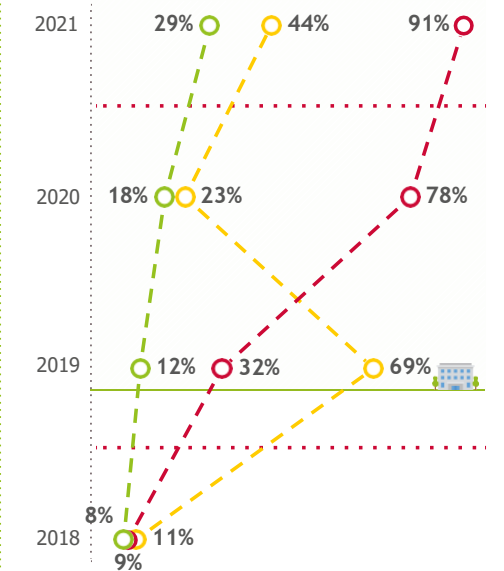
**2019**
Creation of Regional Forest and Wildlife Management Bureau

○ Loreto
○ Ucayali
○ Madre de Dios

## 1.4

### ADDRESSING HIGH STAFF TURNOVER IN THE REGIONS

SERFOR, as the national forest and wildlife authority, has a virtual training platform —SERFOR Educa— that offers 25 virtual courses for public servants and sector stakeholders. More than 1,500 public servants working in the forest sector and more than 8,000 people in all have received training via this platform.

One of FOREST's objectives was to help enhance the technical capabilities of public servants and sector stakeholders working in forest management, administration, and oversight.

The training courses and programs cover such topics as forest and wildlife legislation, the administrative sanctions procedure, the forest concession operations logbook (for timber traceability), and understanding carbon management. The modules and content, developed with support from FOREST, were offered in person as well. FOREST also assisted SERFOR in assessing the sector's training needs, designing the National Capacity Building Plan, implementing a capacity-building approach and methodology, and training trainers, while providing ongoing support for coordination with OSINFOR and the regional forest bureaus, where needed.

### Some of the supported courses

| TRAINING | ORGANIZATION IN CHARGE | TARGET AUDIENCE |
| --- | --- | --- |
| International Fire Management Course | SERNANP | Forest fire fighters and people related to fire management |
| Application of Technical Criteria and Identification of Timber Species and Use of Technologies in Supervision | OSINFOR | OSINFOR members and forest regents |
| Identification of timber species | OSINFOR | GOREL, GOREU, GOREMAD and forest regents |
| Timber Forest Census | CITEmadera Pucallpa GERFFS Ucayali Bureau | Forest Regents from Ucayali and their teams |
| Specialization in control of forest resources and wildlife | OSINFOR | Professionals from the forestry sector and the judiciary |
| Specialization Course in Forest and Wildlife Supervision | OSINFOR | Open from professionals related from the forestry sector |
| Forest Road Planning Under Reduced Impact Principles | CITEmadera Pucallpa GERFFS Ucayali Bureau | Forest regents from Loreto, Ucayali and Madre de Dios. |
| Operational and Economic Planning of Forest Use | CITEmadera Pucallpa GERFFS Ucayali Bureau | Forest regents from Loreto, Ucayali and Madre de Dios. |
| Community Forest Management | UNAP -FOREST program- IBC | GOREL and UNAP teams |
| Public Budget Management - PP0130 | SERFOR -GERFOR Loreto Bureau | SERFOR, GOREL, GOREU, GOREMA |
| Introduction to the new Regulation of Infringements and Penalties in Forestry and Wildlife | SERFOR-FOREST program and SPDA | Professionals related from the forestry sector |

(Find out the SERFOR Educa courses on the next page)

https://aulav.serfor.gob.pe/moodle/

## SERFOR

**Internal Management**

- SERFOR´s Strategic Plan
- Organization and Functions
- Regulation (ROF)
- Procedures manual (MAPRO)
- Creation of SERFOR Liaison Units in Loreto, Ucayali, Madre de Dios and San Martín. The units will now have greater function and role within the agency in order to provide better support to the regions.

### Leading Peru's Forest Sector

- Study: Evaluation of forest timber concessions model
- National Forestry and Wildlife Research Plan and Agenda
- National Plan for Strengthening Capacities
- New curriculum of the Specialization Program in Forest Regency
- Analysis of Dipteryx genus species (Shihuahuaco) for harvesting policy.
- Regulatory guidelines

### Tools and Services

- SNIFFS Statistics Component (prototype for regional statistics platforms)
- SNIFFS Regulatory Component (Ley Concordada)
- SNIFFS Capacity building Component (SERFOR Educa)

  - › Specialization in Forest Regency, for forest engineers who want to become regents. Prepared with UNAP, UNAMAD, UNU (in person and hybrid).
  - › Operation logbooks of titles holders, for authorities, regents, concessionaires and communities (in person).
  - › Automation of products, for forest regents (virtual).
  - › Training for trainers, for SERFOR, GOREL, GOREU, GOREMAD and CITE-ITP (in person, virtual and hybrid).
  - › Convergencia, methodology and validation, for OSINFOR, GOREL, GOREU, regents, concessionaires and academia (in person).
  - › Ethics in Forest and Wildlife Management, for GOREL, GOREU, GOREMAD and forest regents. (virtual).
  - › Soft Skills and leadership (virtual), for forest sector.
  - › Introduction to the new Regulation of Infringements and Sanctions in Forestry and Wildlife, aimed at all actors in the sector, prepared with SPDA (virtual)
  - › Forest legislation addressed to SERFOR, OSINFOR, GOREL, GOREU, GOREMAD, Police, Public Ministry, OEFA, etc. (in person and virtual).
  - › Sanctioning Administrative Procedure - Basic Module, 1, 2 and 3, aimed at PAS specialists from SERFOR, GOREL, GOREU and GOREMAD and other actors (in person and virtual).
  - › Community Forest Management, developed with IBC and addressed to GOREL and UNAP (virtual)

### Articulation with other authorities:

| Incorporation of the OSINFOR Forest Backpack as a training tool | Coordination of joint work in Operations Log books for Enabling Titles | SERFOR's participation in Regional Roadmaps with OSINFOR and MEF | Inter-institutional Group on Forestry and Wildlife Information to coordinate with the regions priorities in the registration of information | Promotion of relationship with forest regents |

## OSINFOR

### Strengthened public administration

- 2020-2024 OSINFOR Strategic Plan
- New ROF and MAPRO
- Developed a Delivery Unit, a strategic monitoring system to enable OSINFOR ensure completion of the priorities.
- Support for measures to achieve a culture of accountability, via regular coordination spaces and events for sharing work plans, new initiatives and accomplishments by OSINFOR.
- Leadership training for the agency's leaders and coaching for OSINFOR's leadership by a former USFS Associate Chief.

### Support for OSINFOR's Oversight Role

- Improved forest oversight and inspections with technology (remote monitoring program)
- Remote Piloted Aircraft (RPA) pilots
- Capacity building in optimized supervisions in Loreto, Ucayali and Madre de Dios.
- Course for forestry supervisors
- Forest and Wildlife Supervision Specialization
- Course for judges and judiciary staff
- Timber species identification course
- Transferred the methodology to measure illegal logging
- Methodology for calculating the amount of fines to be imposed by OSINFOR for violation of the Forestry and Wildlife Legislation
- Administrative resolutions to approve fine compensation for 31 native communities

### Tools and services

- SIGO sfc platform improved and with new services
- Forest backpack (methodological improvement, virtualization, new themes and transfer to other institutions and indigenous leaders)
- OSINFOR Virtual classroom
- iDArbol app

### Articulation with other authorities:

| Coordination of joint work in Operations Log books for Enabling Titles | OSINFOR agreements established and reestablished with the GORE Loreto, Ucayali and Madre de Dios. | Roadmap with Loreto, Ucayali and Madre de Dios (articulated with MEF and SERFOR) |

# 1.6 Future Leaders

FOREST built a comprehensive strategy to support universities and students in building capacity to contribute to the forest sector. FOREST supported 12 students to pursue their master's degrees at Oregon State University. FOREST collaborated with the National University of the Peruvian Amazon, National Agrarian University at La Molina, and with Oregon State University College of Forestry to develop new forestry curriculum. These building blocks will ensure that future civil servants are graduating with the best training available.

## FINAL RESEARCH

### Bruno Gonzalo Tuesta Cartagena
**National University for the Peruvian Amazon**
Identification of the ecosystem services of the green infrastructure in the monumental zone of the city Iquitos, Loreto - Peru.

### César Vásquez
**National University for the Peruvian Amazon**
Effect of organic fertilizers on survival, growth, chlorophyll content and NDVI of rosewood plants (*Aniba rosaeodora Ducke*)in northwestern Amazonia, Loreto, Peru.

### Elsa Adith Izaguirre Vilcarromero
**National University for the Peruvian Amazon**
To what extent do initiatives to formalize organizational practices for the commercial production of chambira for handicrafts empower indigenous women? A comparative analysis in communities with and without external intervention.

### José Luis Jibaja
**National University for the Peruvian Amazon**
How precisely do different climate models predict temperature and precipitation in the Amazon region, considering local biophysical conditions, and why?

### Juleisi Fernandez Nuñez
**National University for the Peruvian Amazon**
*Aguaje* ecosystem services and the role of women in the Peruvian Amazon: A comparative analysis in communities with and without external regulation.

### Tiffany Carly Rodriguez López
**National University for the Peruvian Amazon**
Mercury levels of sediments and fish in three communities that are home to the Allpahuayo Mishana National Reserve.

### Alejandro Chiroque Chiroque
**La Molina National Agrarian University**
How do certification systems affect the economic, productive, and social performance of cacao cooperatives? A case study in the Peruvian Amazon

### Paula López Vargas
**La Molina National Agrarian University**
How do formal and informal institutions coexist and interact in the context of community and small-scale timber enterprises?

### Paulo Francesco Díaz Sevillano
**La Molina National Agrarian University**
Deforestation and forest degradation in the almond farm, its direct drivers and its relationship with the local surface temperature.

### Raúl Pacsi Muñoz
**La Molina National Agrarian University**
To what extent do forest cover changes vary across protected areas, their buffer zones, and surrounding areas, and why? The case of the Manu National Park, in the Peruvian Amazon

### Yamile Sanchez
**La Molina National Agrarian University**
How do carbon prices trends and uncertainties impact the effectiveness and equity of REDD+ projects in the Peruvian Amazon? The case of the Tambopata-Bahuaja Sonene REDD+ project.

### Yury Llancari Valenzuela
**La Molina National Agrarian University**
How do the (morphological) characteristics of seedlings of fast-growing species influence their survival and growth, when they are installed in soils degraded by mining?

**1.7**

# RIO

## Innovation and Opportunity Network for Young People in the Forest Sector

With the objective of strengthening capacities in the forest sector, USAID/USFS FOREST decided to launched the Innovation and Opportunity Network for Young People in the Forest Sector (RIO). This initiative supported 45 young professionals in the forest sector. The young professionals were mentored by USFS experts, trained in soft skills, and worked together to develop innovative solutions to issues in the Amazon.

### Fire Management

- Cecilia López — BOLIVIA
- Oriana Lino — BOLIVIA
- Marysol Mendoza — PERÚ

**MENTORS**
**Isidoro Solis** — USFS Wildfire Specialist
**Nomi Mills** — USFS Wildfire Specialist

### Forestry, Monitoring and Sustainability

- Gladys Iglesias — ecuador
- Flor de Maria Huarca — PERÚ
- Paula Guerra — PERÚ
- Laura Tapias — COLOMBIA
- Dayana Escamilla — COLOMBIA
- Sandra Lancheros — COLOMBIA

**MENTOR**
**Dan Kipervaser** — USFS Shared AdministrationCoordinator

### Natural Forest Regeneration as a Human Experience for Management: Between Need and Affection

- Gabriela Casimiro — PERÚ
- Daniela Melo — COLOMBIA
- Karen Mora — COLOMBIA

**MENTOR**
**Humfredo Marcano** — USFS Research Biologist

### The Governance of Community Forest Management

- Daniela Mendoza — COLOMBIA
- Mónica Ospina — COLOMBIA
- Paola Monzón — PERÚ
- Daeyana Montenegro — PERÚ
- Gabriela Alencastro — ECUADOR
- Bárbara Roth — BOLIVIA

**MENTOR**
**Kathleen McGinley** — USFS Forest Governance Researcher

### Climate Change and Forest Management

- Eva Layme — PERÚ
- Maria Rubio — PERÚ
- Raquel Medina — PERÚ
- Brenda Rengifo — COLOMBIA
- Valeria Valencia — COLOMBIA
- Joselyn Pazmiño — ECUADOR

**MENTOR**
**Jose Iñiguez** — USFS Enviromental Researcher

# 2

# Forest Concessions

## 2.1

### EVALUATING THE CONCESSION MODEL

The first comprehensive evaluation of Peru's forest concession model was carried out in order to improve the regulatory framework and increase hectares under sustainable forest management.

Prior to the start of FOREST, Peru had not conducted any comprehensive evaluation of the timber forest concession model implemented in 2002.[3] At SERFOR's request, a study was conducted in 2019 to evaluate the model (from 2002 to 2018), from the standpoint of economic and ecological sustainability as well as regulatory changes. According to this study,[4] 827 timber

forest concessions were granted during this period, covering an area of 11.2 million hectares. Not counting concessions that reverted to the State and were re-awarded, there were a total of 731 concessions covering a total area of 9.7 million hectares. Of these, 479, or 58%, were in the 5,000-10,000 hectare range or smaller, and represented 25% of the total area. Only 6% were in the highest range (larger than 40,000 hectares), accounting for 28% of the total area. During this same period, five timber type groups accounted for 62% of the volume of roundwood harvested in timber concessions in the three regions: cumala (*Virola albidiflora,* 21%), followed by shihuahuaco (*Dipteryx odorata,* 15%), lupuna (*Chorisia integrifolia,* 10%), tornillo (*Cedrelinga cateniformis,* 10%), and Spanish cedar (4%).

In the area of ecological sustainability, the study found that the established minimum cutting diameters did not guarantee the sustainability of harvests, so it recommended revising these along with the cutting intensity, establishing cutting cycles longer than 30 years, implementing good management practices, and promoting payment for ecosystem services mechanisms in these concessions as part of the incentives that the forest authorities could offer.

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3. The timber forest concession model was proposed as a sustainable harvesting alternative to the logging contracts provided for in Decree Law 21147. When implemented, however, it ended up favoring access for small-scale loggers who lacked the necessary technical and/or financial capacity. This led to a relaxation of the rules initially established to keep them in the system.
4. It should be noted that at this time, the regional forest data platforms had not yet been developed, so the information was disorganized and in hard copy. The three regional forest authorities made their files available, and, as part of the study and with the support of FOREST, all the information concerning timber concessions was organized and digitized. Information from SERFOR and OSINFOR was also used for the study.

In the area of ecological sustainability, the study found evidence of good forest management practices in some concessions, especially those that obtained voluntary forest certification. However, it found that the established minimum cutting diameters[5] did not guarantee the sustainability of harvests, so it recommended revising these along with the cutting intensity, establishing cutting cycles longer than 30 years, implementing good management practices, and promoting payment for ecosystem services mechanisms in these concessions as part of the incentives that the forest authorities could offer. As regards economic sustainability, the study found that forest concessions should apply an integrated business model that includes primary processing (beyond just standing timber and roundwood) to ensure sustainability and economic efficiency and should operate at a scale of more than 30,000 hectares for a period of at least 40 years, to ensure two cutting cycles. In terms of profile, concession holders should be legal entities with proven technical and financial capacity that can invest in machine intensive harvesting technology for the production of sawn wood.

The study helped to provide evidence of the downward trend in the volume of timber extracted by timber forest concessions in Loreto and Ucayali, so that action can be taken. Additionally, although it recommended a concession size of at least 30,000 hectares managed by legal entities, in subsequent years the authorities encouraged awarding concessions to groups or consortiums, to obtain larger concessions, while other forms of legal forest access targeted exclusively to small producers were also implemented in the country, such as local forests or use contracts for agroforestry systems (known as CUSAFs).

5. Set out in resolution RJ 458-2002-INRENA and still in force at the time of the study.

The study found that forest concessions should apply an integrated business model that includes primary processing (beyond just standing timber and roundwood) to ensure sustainability and economic efficiency and should operate at a scale of more than 30,000 hectares for a period of at least 40 years, to ensure two cutting cycles.

## 2.2

### PERMANENT PRODUCTION FOREST MANAGEMENT IMPROVED

To better enforce the law and support the management of permanent production forests, the Madre de Dios regional government established the first Forest and Wildlife Management Unit in Tahuamanu.



**1,040,847 hectares**

Peruvian state lands
33,350 ha

**1** native community
53,379 ha

**33** forest timber concessions
649,147 ha

**1** conservation concession
12,772 ha

**3** ecotourism concessions
927 ha

**2,508** farms operating
90,882 ha

**257** non-timber products (mainly Brazil nut) concessions
200,390 ha

FOREST worked with the SPDA to carry out a needs assessment for the Madre de Dios regional government, to select Tahuamanu as a priority region and understand the needs that existed there. Once Tahuamanu was identified as the priority area in the Madre de Dios region, FOREST provided capacity building and legal support from SPDA to the regional government to implement this Unit.

As a result of this work, approximately one million hectares (roughly the size of the U.S. state of Delaware) are now under better management. Madre de Dios has expanded the unit's presence in the region, and timber concessions in the Tahuamanu area have a central location for interacting with regional government officials. This unit will work to incentivize best practices and provide training and capacity building to timber concessions, which make up 63% of the total area of Tahuamanu. The 33 timber concessions operating there, which account for 52% of Peru's certified forests, are the strongest, with value chains that include exports. There are also 257 non-timber concessions (mainly Brazil nut), one conservation concession, three ecotourism concessions, one native community, and 2,508 agricultural plots.

### Regulations related to forest concessions

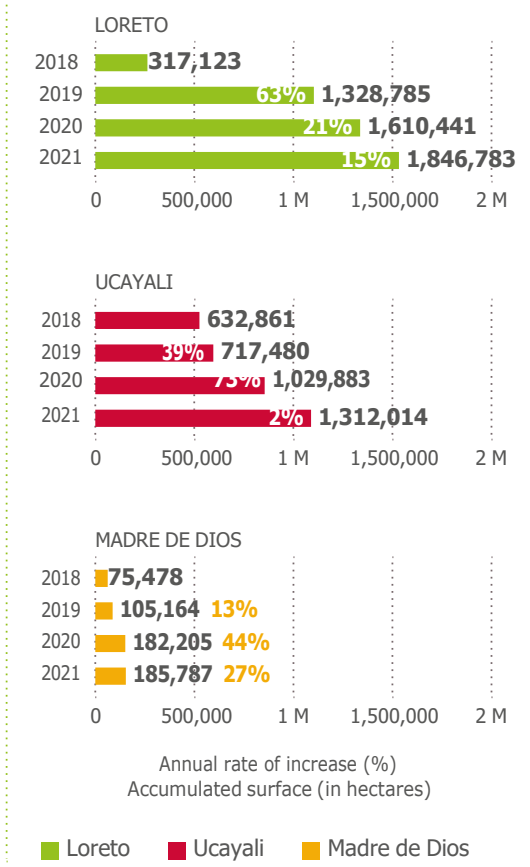| REGULATION | RESOLUTION | AUTHORITY |
|---|---|---|
| Guidelines for extending forest and wildlife concession contracts | Resolution D000175-2022-MIDAGRI-SERFOR-DE | SERFOR, 2022 |
| Proposed Guidelines for the formulation of the Permanent Production Forest Master Management Plan | D000181-2022-MIDAGRI-SERFOR-DE | SERFOR, 2022 |
| Directive for the scheduling of operational periods, establishment of deadlines for the presentation of operational plans and procedure for the gradual adaptation of operational plans of timber forest concessions | Resolution No. 563-2022-GOREMAD-GRFFS | Regional Government of Madre de Dios, 2022 |
| Directive for the payment of debts in installments for the forest use rights in timber forest concessions | Resolution No. 564-2022-GOREMAD-GRFFS | Regional Government of Madre de Dios, 2022 |
| Standard Timber Forest Concession Administrative Contract | Resolution 031-2022-GRL-GGR-GRDFFS | Regional Government of Ucayali, 2022 |
| Regulatory norm that establishes the effective period of operating plans, the deadline for their submission, and the harvesting fee payment period for the region's timber forest concessions | Resolution 060-2022-GRU-GGR-GERFFS | Regional Government of Ucayali, 2022 |
| Standardized Format of the Administrative Contract for Timber Forest Concessions | Resolution 031-2022-GRL-GGR-GRDFFS | Regional Government of Loreto, 2022 |
| Creation of the Tahuamanu Forestry and Wildlife Management Unit | Regional Ordinance 012-2021-RMDD/CR | Regional Government of Madre de Dios, 2021 |
| Norm that declares the strengthening of the system of responsible purchases or public contracting and acquisitions of legally sourced wood forest products by public sector entities of the department of Loreto as a public necessity and regional priority | OR 008-2020-GRL-CR | Regional Government of Loreto, 2020 |
| Directive for the Procedure for the Transfer of Timber Forest Products | RGR N°123-2022-GRL-GGR-GRDFFS | Regional Government of Loreto, 2021 |

## 2.3

### REACTIVATING
### TIMBER FOREST CONCESSIONS

In addition to parallel actions to strengthen

the national and regional authorities in charge
of granting, approving, inspecting, and supervising
timber concessions, several direct actions were
taken to revive and support forest concessions.

While the Convergence process began during the Peru Forest Sector Initiative phase,[6] it was consolidated in FOREST's first year. The development of the timber resource assessment protocol[7] —by means of which the forest authorities standardized the methodology for measuring trees in the field and estimating the volumes of timber coming out of forests under concession— was important for building trust with concession holders, establishing acceptable margins of error, and avoiding the imposition of sanctions due to discrepancies between different authorities' measurements.

Additionally, in 2019, 686,000 hectares of forest in Loreto and Ucayali neglected in inactive concessions for more than 15 years were put back under sustainable management via the Abbreviated Procedure mechanism. This legal mechanism, provided for in Peru's forest legislation, makes it possible to rescind existing forest timber concessions for breach of contract and turn them over to new concession holders. In the case of Ucayali, such forests had been invaded by land traffickers and illegal loggers. This effort made it possible to protect these forests and halt deforestation and the illegal extraction of forest resources.

### Increase in sustainably managed forests (2018-2021)

**LORETO**

| Year | Value | Rate |
|------|-------|------|
| 2018 | 317,123 | |
| 2019 | 1,328,785 | 63% |
| 2020 | 1,610,441 | 21% |
| 2021 | 1,846,783 | 15% |

**UCAYALI**

| Year | Value | Rate |
|------|-------|------|
| 2018 | 632,861 | |
| 2019 | 717,480 | 39% |
| 2020 | 1,029,883 | 73% |
| 2021 | 1,312,014 | 2% |

**MADRE DE DIOS**

| Year | Value | Rate |
|------|-------|------|
| 2018 | 75,478 | |
| 2019 | 105,164 | 13% |
| 2020 | 182,205 | 44% |
| 2021 | 185,787 | 27% |

Annual rate of increase (%)
Accumulated surface (in hectares)

■ Loreto  ■ Ucayali  ■ Madre de Dios

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6. The Peru Forest Sector Initiative was a program during the first phase of USAID-USFS cooperation. The Convergence Protocol, which was consolidated in 2018, hit its most important milestones in 2012, 2016, and 2017.
7. "Technical Criteria for Forest Timber Resource Assessment" Protocol.

### Management Plans (MP) with non existent trees

| Year | Nº MP supervised | % MP with non-existent trees |
|------|------|------|
| 2015 | 724 | 32% |
| 2016 | 694 | 21% |
| 2017 | 683 | 12% |
| 2018 | 770 | 6% |
| 2019 | 887 | 6% |
| 2021 | 445 | 7% |

0    200    400    600    800    1000

- Nº MP supervised
- % MP with non-existent trees

| Loreto **150 MP** | Madre de Dios **173 MP** | Ucayali **65 MP** |
|------|------|------|
| 17% | 3% | 2% |
| 83% | 97% | 98% |

- MP supervised with correct information
- MP with non-existent trees

Another important breakthrough for reactivating concessions in Loreto, and for Loreto's economy, was the approval and execution of the forest census public investment project (worth more than S/8 million). This project enabled a census to be conducted of 169 concessions in late 2020 and 2021. Field data were collected to ascertain the status of each concession, and the species found there, in an effort assess the forests' value and support concession holders in resuming operations following the COVID-19 lockdowns.

When FOREST began, forest regents[8] —a new position introduced under Law 29763—had not yet been recognized by forest authorities as key figures for effective concession management. Thanks to efforts in 2018 and 2019 to help SERFOR enhance and adapt the content of the forest regent specialization course to current needs, there is now an academic path specifically for forest engineers aspiring to be regents. Three of Peru's Amazonian universities with forestry majors—UNAP, UNU, and UNAMAD—have implemented the specialization course and have included it in their course offerings. FOREST has also helped to connect forest regents with national and regional forest authorities and empower them to engage in certain forums for coordination and dialogue. Lastly, forest regents have been included in classroom and virtual training courses that pertain to their work.

Forest regents are now recognized as important figures in forest management and as key players in preventing illegality in the first link of the value chain. Importantly, having forest regents has led to a significant decrease in inaccurate information in management plans. Per OSINFOR, the percentage of non-existent trees in management and operating plans dropped from 32% in 2015 to 7% in 2021.

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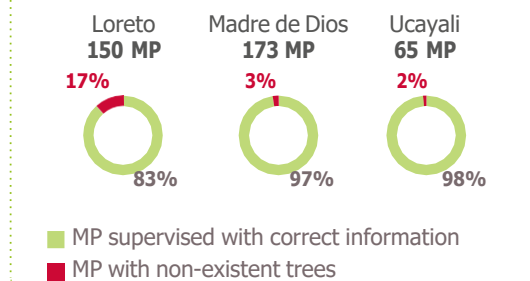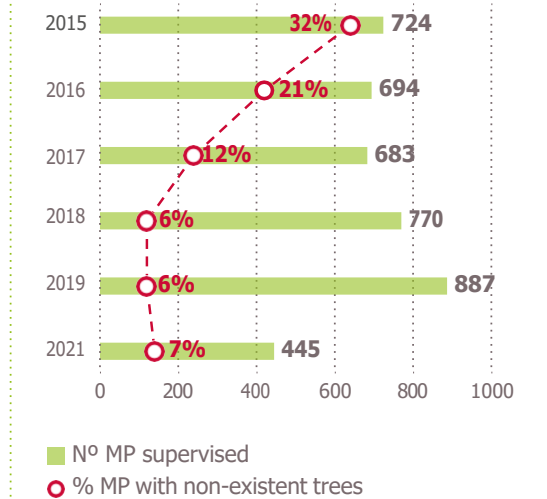
8.  Forest regents are professionals who develop, sign off on, and implement forest management plans in forestry concessions in order to ensure the sustainability of forest and wildlife resources. They, together with concession holders, are responsible for the accuracy of management plan content and the actions taken to implement these plans. Peru currently has 245 licensed regents: 219 forest regents, 25 wildlife regents, and one forest and wildlife regent.

3

# Communities

## 3.1

### ON THE PATH TOWARD A SOLUTION
### FOR COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE BEEN FINED

Thirty-nine indigenous communities have designated 41,000 hectares of forest in their territories as conservation areas and are returning to the legal timber market by availing themselves of the fine offset mechanism for conservation activities promoted by the Loreto regional government in coordination with OSINFOR and SERFOR.

In late 2019, FOREST found that approximately 390 communities —holding 559 forest permits— had been fined by OSINFOR, in amounts in excess of S/144 million, for legal violations. As logging is one of indigenous communities' five main economic activities, a solution to this problem, which affected all of the Amazonian regions, most especially Loreto (55%), had to be found.

To this end, FOREST assisted the Loreto Forest and Wildlife Development Bureau in developing and implementing a technical assistance and advisory plan for native communities in its region,[9] which consisted of implementation of one of the fine offset mechanisms created by SERFOR.[10] During phase one, and in partnership with the IBC, 17 communities were supported and 15 dossiers were prepared with the communities that decided to join. This phase drew attention to the operational and financial difficulties associated with implementation of the mechanism.

From the very beginning, the Forest and Wildlife Development Bureau believed it was important to put together an inhouse team of professionals devoted to tackling issues related to indigenous communities. With support from FOREST, the Community Forest Management Functional Unit was created as a specialized technical team. Based on the experience partnering with the IBC, this unit, with support from FOREST, made a case for the need for additional resources to encourage more communities to avail themselves of the mechanism and to build community capacity. A supplemental budget request resulted in an appropriation of S/877,000 for the proposed activities. This allowed for a second phase during which dossiers were prepared for 32 indigenous communities that had agreed to conserve 33,280 hectares of forest.

Coordination with national authorities SERFOR and OSINFOR was key to achieving the objectives set by Loreto's Forest and Wildlife Development Bureau. OSINFOR supported the process during phase two, stipulating community selection criteria and, subsequently, evaluating and approving the 39 dossiers. SERFOR, for its part, accepted the proposal prepared by the Loreto Forest and Wildlife Development Bureau and OSINFOR regarding improvements to make implementation of the fine offset mechanism more feasible. This was made official with the publication of the new fine offset guidelines.[11]

Although this initiative, implemented by the forest authorities with FOREST's support, has brought just 10% of the communities fined in Loreto back into good legal standing, it is undeniably important insofar as it has cleared the path for other communities to use this mechanism in the future, since the process set out in the regulatory guidelines has been modified to make implementation easier.

*The development of fine compensation proposals with communities, GERFOR Loreto, and OSINFOR resulted in operationalizing the program and making necessary improvements.*

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9.  Pursuant to Article 19 of the Forest and Wildlife Act (Law 29763).
10. According to SERFOR, there are six different fine offset mechanisms sanctioned parties can avail themselves of to carry out activities to offset outstanding debt. However, the regulations and operational guidelines exist only for the mechanisms pertaining to recovery of degraded areas and forest conservation.
11. Resolution RDE-000268-2022-DE

## 3.2

### PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT

OSINFOR's Mochila Forestal (Forest Backpack) tool offers 12 inclusive training modules for indigenous communities; 338 indigenous leaders have been trained to train their peers; more than 1,940 members of indigenous communities have received training; and the methodology has been shared with four other Peruvian government agencies that work with indigenous peoples.



Conditions in the communities that had been fined revealed the need to work harder to encourage community forest management, since an estimated 30% of the volume of illegally logged timber in Peru comes from permits granted to indigenous communities. To that end, in 2013, OSINFOR created the Forest Backpack —a portable, interactive training tool for indigenous communities. Since 2015, USAID and the U.S. Forest Service have been supporting OSINFOR's efforts to further develop and consolidate this tool, expand the topics it covers, and share the methodology with other institutions that work with indigenous peoples.

**WATCH THE VIDEO:**
https://www.facebook.com/229249101090865/videos/3296028294010524

**FOREST BACKPACK**

# The tool through time

**2013**

**2018**

**2020**

**2022**

**2021**

**Timber Scaling**
Teaches communities about the importance of valuing forest species that are part of forest harvesting. In addition, they learn to apply the formulas to determine the volume of standing trees, logs and sawn timber. This allows them to know the real value of each tree.

**Community Forest Management**
Promotes the organization and management of forest permits, while contributing to the involvement of communities in the use of their forest resources.

**Operations Log books for Enabling Titles**
Teaches the communities the use of the Operations Log books for Enabling Titles and the importance in the use of their forest resources, so that they can identify the entities in charge of compliance with the use of this tool.

**Single Administrative Procedure (PAU)**
Promotes the prevention of forest infractions in forest harvesting, teaching communities with an enabling title to recognize the initiation of an administrative procedure when there is a forest infraction.

**Incentive Management Plan**
Generates spaces for reflection and community agreements for conservation and reduction of deforestation.

→ **Transferred to the National Forest Conservation Program (PNCB)**

**Forest Business**
Seeks to strengthen the capacities of communities to develop forestry businesses, based on the timber and non-timber resources provided by the forests. This is to improve their income.

→ **Transferred to the National Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR)**

**Forest Fire Prevention**
Raises awareness among the population about the impact of forest fires, and strengthens their capacities to prevent these events.

→ **Transferred to the National Service for State Protected Areas (SERNANP)**

**Negotiation and Agreements with Third Parties for Forest Harvesting**
Contributes and promotes spaces for decision-making and community organization for negotiation with third parties with adaptable and easy tools for a fair and negotiation.

**Community Forest Surveillance and Control**
Promotes territorial governance and the participation of indigenous women and men in decision-making spaces and the conservation of their territories, empowering them in the territorial surveillance of native communities.

→ **Transferred to the National Service for State Protected Areas (SERNANP)**

4

# Combating Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

## 4.1

### FOR THE FIRST TIME, PERU KNOWS THE PERCENTAGE OF ILLEGAL TIMBER

A direct methodology was developed to measure illegal logging in Peru, revealing that in 2017, 37% of timber was being laundered using official paperwork. At the behest of the Office of the President of the Council of Ministers (PCM), OSINFOR is employing the methodology to measure illegal logging for 2018 and 2019.

Although the Peruvian government has been working for years to enact policies and regulations and to coordinate actions to reduce illegal logging, it had to rely on dated studies that estimated the illegal logging and trade of timber indirectly, which led to speculation and uncertainty among the sector's stakeholders. At the request of the PCM, FOREST assembled a work team with FAO FLEGT to calculate an index and the percentage of illegal logging and trade of timber by determining the timber supply and demand flows in the domestic market. The study "Estimating and Improving Timber Legality in Peru," conducted in 2018 and 2019, made estimates based on direct and practical methods that Peru will continue to use for future measurements. The study also examined other aspects of illegality throughout the timber value chain.

**53%** of the volume of legal timber in Peru comes from timber forest concessions.

**74% of market demand for timber** is met by domestic production.

3 companies export **43% of Peru's timber.**

**Illegality by different permit types**
Primary industry demand, does not include non-authorized extraction volumes (OSINFOR)

| Permit type | Round timber supply by harvest permit | Illegal logging and timber trade |
|---|---|---|
| Private land | 7% | 25% |
| Forest concessions (timber and non-harverstable | 46% | 27.9% |
| Permits in CNN and CCCC | 33% | 30.4% |
| Local forests and others non determined | 14% | 88.5% |

0  20  40  60  80  100

■ Round timber supply by harvest permit
■ Illegal logging and timber trade
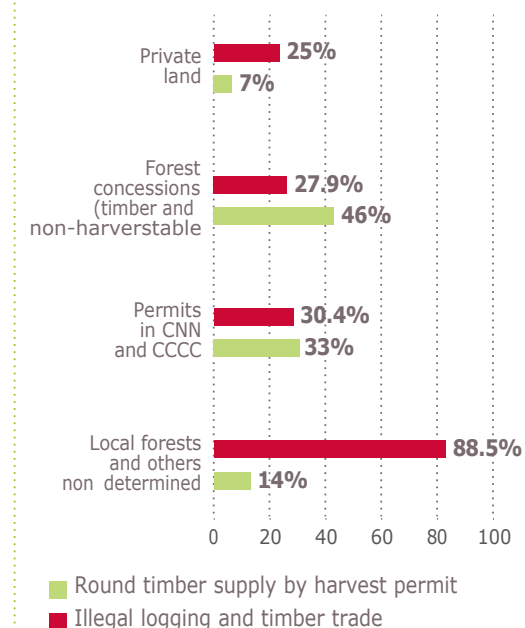
**TOTAL 37%**
all different permit types

## 4.2

### A NEW DIRECTION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL LOGGING

Peru is implementing a new National Strategy to Combat Illegal Logging (ENLCTI) for the 2021-2025 period. The strategy has been approved and involves 17 government agencies representing 10 sectors.
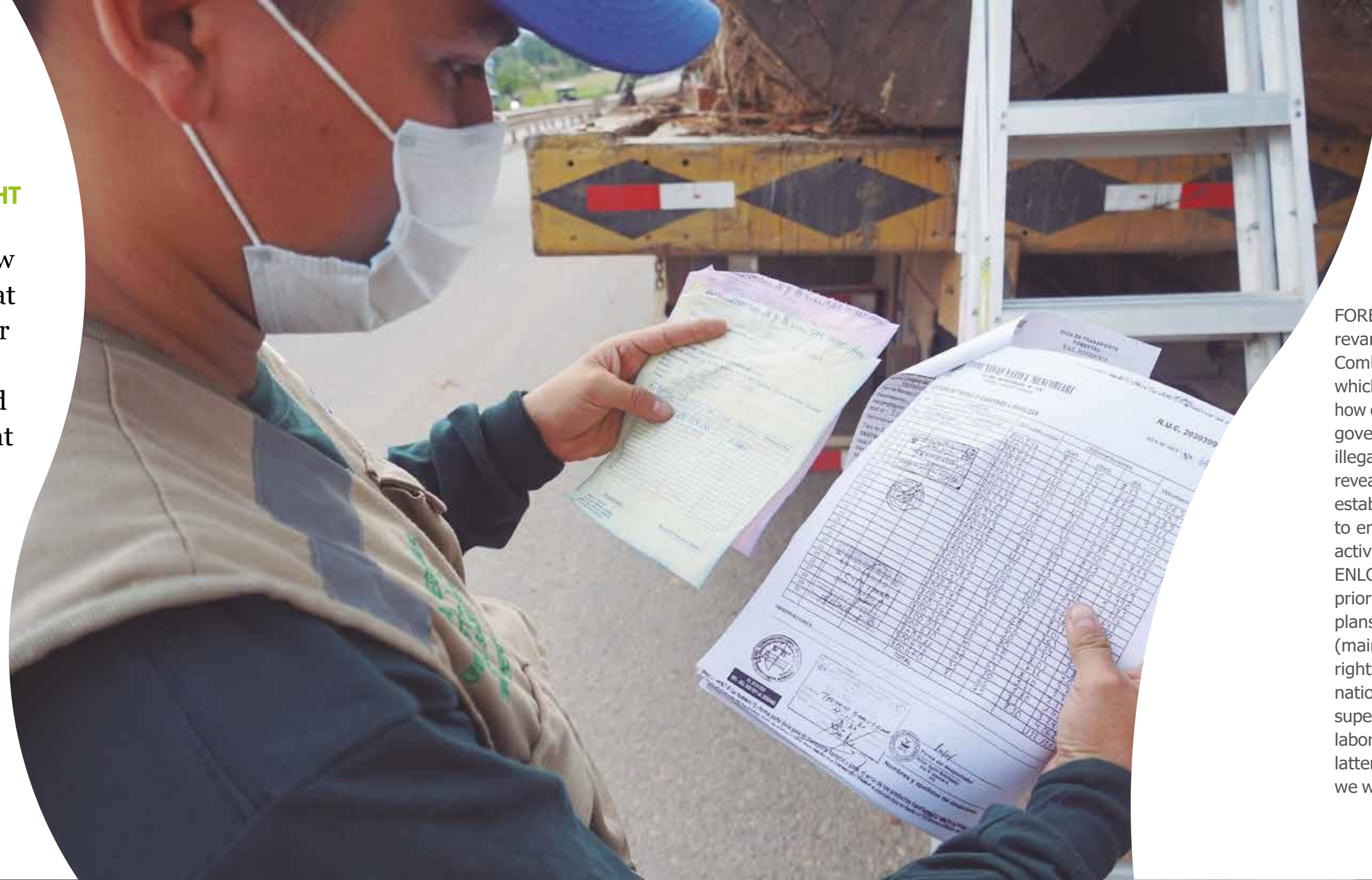
FOREST provided technical support to the revamped Multisector Standing Committee to Combat Illegal Logging to develop the ENLCTI, which is an extremely important tool for gauging how effective the actions deployed by the Peruvian government are when it comes to reducing illegal logging. The figure of 37% illegal logging revealed by the study is one of several indicators establishedinthestrategy forconstantmonitoring to enable measurement of the outcomes of the activities the agencies carry out together. The ENLCTI's forest monitoring and surveillance priorities include review of forest management plans, installation of a forest surveillance system (mainly in unclassified forests without assigned rights), implementation of strategic checkpoints nationwide, implementation of the optimized supervision program, and operation of a forensic laboratory for timber species identification. These latter two areas have also received support, as we will see below.

https://elperuano.pe/NormasElperuano/
2021/07/02/1968203-1/1968203-1.htm

## 4.3

### INCREASED SUPERVISION COVERAGE

Supervision coverage was increased and time and costs were reduced by optimizing processes and using geospatial technology and data both at the office and in the field.

In the framework of the ENLCTI, OSINFOR, with support from FOREST, launched the Optimized Supervision program. This program will use high-resolution satellite imagery, drone photography, algorithms, and cutting-edge tools to better prioritize areas so as to target site visits to where they are needed; reduce conventional supervision costs by up to 70% —for both OSINFOR and concession holders; reduce the number of days site visits last by up to 58%; and increase the forest area inspected by 35% annually, based on the results of the first phase of implementation.

The methodology has been employed in 20% of inspections in 2022, in a total of 30 concessions spanning 55,615 hectares. In these cases, each drone flyover has detected more than 30% more logged trees compared to the original sample. OSINFOR will share the results of its use of this methodology in early 2023. Optimized supervision is expected to aid in forest monitoring. Remote, timely detection of what is happening in concessions helps to combat illegal logging. The data collected during the inspections are being processed and published in SIGOsFc.

OSINFOR will be able to carry out inspections on up to 35% more area annually.

OSINFOR and private companies will reduce their operational costs for inspections by 70% as remote supervisions are rolled out more broadly.

## 4.4

### STREAMLINING
### THE GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE

SIGOSFC, a system that provides information from the supervision of more than 8,700 registered forestry licenses, between concessions and community permits, was enhanced to send real-time alerts when timber volumes are off.



Following an upgrade process that concluded in late 2021, OSINFOR's SIGOSFC now makes it possible to identify high-risk activities involving forest and wildlife resources. Through the OSINFOR Alerts service, the special environmental prosecutors (FEMAs) are informed in a timely manner about serious cases uncovered during supervision so they can protect forest resources and ultimately prevent illegal logging and trade. Improvements were also made to SIGOSFC to support prevention, such as the new Licensee Performance Report, which will identify concession and permit holders with good track records over time and award them compliance certificates. The impact of these improvements on the sector's competitiveness, forest stewardship, and the detection of potential forest-related crimes will become apparent in a few years' time. They are, however, already undeniably helping to streamline the forest authorities' decision-making and to generate valuable data to make the sector more transparent. So far, in 2022 alone, more than 60,000 queries have been made in this enhanced system.

SIGOSFC stores nearly
**50 times more digital records,** has faster processing speeds for more rapid responses to inquires.

https://sigosfc.osinfor.gob.pe/

### 4.5

## IDENTIFYING SPECIES IN BIODIVERSE FORESTS

FOREST supported initiatives to help key stakeholders improve the dendrological and anatomical identification of timber species. This support involved systematizing data, engaging recognized Peruvian dendrologists, and developing an OSINFOR species identification guide, as well as supporting trainings offered by the authorities with the participation of regional universities. FOREST also supported the development of a field catalogue for identifying timber species in Loreto, which was prepared by the Loreto Forest and Wildlife Development Bureau and CITEmadera Maynas.

In addition, as a result of a joint effort with the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Forest Service donated two forensic tools to Peru for species identification: a Xylotron and the DART-TOFMS [Direct Analysis in Real Time (Time of Flight) Mass Spectrometer]. The U.S. Forest Service also provided training to CITEmadera staff in both Peru and the United States on how to use these tools.

The Xylotron wood identification tool is a system created by the U.S. Forest Service that allows wood species to be identified automatically, in real time and in the field. The system consists of a portable device that takes a photographic image and compares it to reference images in a database, and software that makes it possible to identify the wood species. For its part, the DART-TOFMS equipment allows for the rapid procurement of the particular chemical profile, or mass spectrum, each species of wood has, from a single wood chip. CITEmadera is adding the data it has collected on species in the Peruvian Amazon to both tools' databases. It is also working out agreements with institutions involved in the forest sector and timber trade so these forensic tools can be used to provide evidence in cases related to illegal logging.

Peru's CITEmadera now has advanced timber identification technology and the skills to use it. This will help reduce illegality by strengthening the country's capacity to quickly and accurately identify the timber species on the market.

**Voices
from the Forest**

### Ivonne Echevarría
MEF Executive Board Leader

❝ FOREST has a 'get things done' mindset. They have a presence in the regions and has been a good partner, with shared objectives. Despite changes in administrations, FOREST has helped us keep important issues such as traceability and legality on the agenda. One tangible result is that Loreto started with a budget of S/300,000 and this year will receive S/7 million. This will help with improving management".

### Sixto Luna
Community Forestry Management
Functional Unit - Loreto

❝ FOREST helped us to carry out a study on the gaps in community forest management in Loreto. We found that more than 250 communities were fined for violations of the wildlife forestry legislation. FOREST's support allowed us to provide technical assistance to these communities. The starting point was the preparation of a dossier to request a budget from the MEF. This has allowed us to have communities that are already in the process of benefiting from the fine compensation mechanisms for the conservation of their forests and forest restoration. We estimate that more than 180 thousand hectares of forest would be re-entering the legal activity of timber harvesting. That is a goal to which I personally feel satisfied to have been able to contribute to. The three baselines we developed with FOREST showed us the reality that the mechanisms established to compensate fines needed to be improved. With FOREST's support, we worked with OSINFOR so that its directives would be adapted based on the studies carried out".

### Ana Limache
Ucayali Forest Regent

Beginning in 2018, USAID and U.S. Forest Service supported Peru's forest authorities and universities to modernize and develop a curriculum for the Forest Regency Specialization Program that is in line with real needs. U.S. Forest Service training specialists worked alongside their Peruvian counterparts to develop the new program. Ana, in her role as college professor, was part of the interinstitutional committee that made this happen.

❝ … Conservation does not mean leaving the forest intact; forest management does not necessarily mean adversely impacting the forest. With planning and technique, you can both conserve and harvest timber. My work is to make sure the forest remains a forest and that everything is done by the book. We regents prepare and implement forest management plans to ensure the forests endure. To that end, I examine trees, inspect seed trees, check to see if logging camps are spread out properly, (and) verify that data are recorded and traceable(…). The effort in this (forest regent certification) program with new content really helps the new generations of regents to be able to perform their jobs without the difficulties those of us in the first generation faced…"

Read more about Ana and our success story:
**Protecting the Amazon**
**How a forest regent in Peru ensures timber is harvested sustainably**
https://usaidpubs.exposure.co/protecting-the-amazon

### Martín Villafuerte
General Director of the Planning and Budget Office of SERFOR

The creation of the forestry and wildlife bureaus in Loreto, Ucayali and Madre de Dios has been a fundamental achievement. FOREST has helped in establishing inter-institutional articulation mechanisms with the regional forestry and wildlife authorities. With the support of USAID-USFS, we have supported capacity strengthening of the regional forestry and wildlife authorities by helping them to formulate their institutional strategic plan and contributing to multiannual budget programming and formulation".

### Lucetty Ullilen
Chief of OSINFOR

Among all the programs that I know that carry out work related to forestry, there are very few that work on governance, and that is a key strategic line. FOREST has helped us in key aspects such development of strategic roadmaps with the regions, management of forestry and wildlife information and capacity building for native communities. Another very important issue is the supervision of the use of forest resources that have been granted by the State. OSINFOR had already been carrying out important actions in supervision and had organized protocols, however, it still took a long time to cover a limited amount of territory, annually around 30%. The US Forest Service and USAID, through FOREST, helped us to use drone technology and algorithms to optimize supervision. Now we have protocols for the maintenance of drones, planning overflights, processing satellite images, and applying algorithms to give results. Through a six-month intensive course, staff was prepared, and capacities strengthened."

### Hank Kashdan
USFS Former Associate Chief

It has been an honor to contribute to OSINFOR's efforts to implement sustainable forest and wildlife management in Peru. At many points in my Forest Service career, I worked on initiatives that directly benefited USDA Forest Service strategic sustainability goals. OSINFOR has an excellent Strategic Plan and visionary leadership with ambitious initiatives. As a Forest Service detailer in Peru, I feel that I have benn able to offer insights about OSINFOR's initiatives that will contribute to successful accomplishment with excellent strategic alignment. It is humbling to be able to offer these insights based on lessons learned from similar initiatives in the United States."

### Trey Schillie
USFS Management Plan Team Leader

I had a tremendous opportunity to work closely with National Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR) of Peru, to address timber sustainability. As part of a small cadre from the US Forest Service, we collaborated with our Peruvian counterparts to develop a master plan framework, responding to a range of issues including certifying sustainable harvesting practices; curbing illegal logging activities; and improving health and safety conditions for timber concession workers. Master plan development will help strengthen institutions and ensure ecological and social sustainability in the upper Amazon basin by promoting and incentivizing responsible timber concessionaire operations.

## Isideo Ruiz
Apu, leader of the Huitoto community of Pucaurquillo

Since 2015, USAID and U.S.Forest Service have supported OSINFOR to improve the Forest Backpack tool. They also have promoted and supported the process by which OSINFOR is transferring this tool outside the agency. The first pilot project was conducted in 2019 in Loreto, as part of a strategy to improve community forest management (CFM).

"

The forest is our market, our hospital, our bank; through the forest we sustain our households and get what we need. In winter time, when the river rises, we live almost exclusively off of wood. That is why the Forest Backpack has been very beneficial for us. Now we are neither exploiters nor the exploited, now we know how to make a deal with people to buy our wood at a fair price and we have authorization for responsible logging that allows the forest to renew itself. There is no more illegal logging here. Thanks to OSINFOR, USAID, U.S Forest Service, IBC and GERFOR Loreto"

Read more about Pucaurquillo community and our success story:
**Knowledge in a Backpack**
**The "Forest Backpack" is helping Indigenous communities in Peru banish illegal logging from their lands and improve their living conditions**
https://medium.com/usaid-2030/knowledge-in-a-backpack-e3d0ae2ef0d6

## Olga Rios Cruz
Head of the Forestry Concessions Office of GERFFS Ucayali

"

FOREST supported us in making agreements with OSINFOR and SERFOR to send management plan information in a timely manner. FOREST supported us to digitize all the information generated and send it within the timeline established by law. Digitizing also made it easier to share data for other requests for information from other institutions such as the Public Ministry-FEMA. Also, with participation from SPDA, FOREST supported us in the elaboration of the regulation that establishes deadlines for the presentation of the management plans and execution of the operational plan".

## Henry Lagunas
Advisor to GERFOR Loreto

"

In the case of Loreto, USAID and the U.S. Forest Service (first through PFSI and then through FOREST) have helped us to grow from a program, to being part of a regional environmental authority with a forestry department, to becoming a Bureau, which has given us greater hierarchy and institutional strength in the forestry sector. FOREST helped us improve our internal organizational structure. It also helped us to participate in a very important space that has been operating since 2018- the Executive Board led by the MEF. This is a space for dialogue and consultation where processes are improved, alliances are made and concrete things are achieved, such as, the additional budget demand. With its successes and lessons learned, we have made a lot of progress in Loreto and this progress would not have been possible if cooperation through FOREST had not been present. The results obtained in our different functions prove it".

### Eliana Ames
Research and Innovation Coordinator
for Environmental Enforcement
(CINFA) - OEFA

"The contribution and support of the USFS has been very valuable for OEFA. When we began technical exchanges, we sought to have a neutral technical opinion from experts on our environmental assessment reports and scientific articles. The contributions of the USFS have been very good and our team ends up motivated and satisfied when USFS Detailers confirm that the work is on the right track. Staff know that when a scientific article is published, they will receive comments and observations, but can feel more confident in the work because it has already gone through a peer review from the US Forest Service".

### Kathleen McGinley
USFS Forest Governance Researcher

I want to congratulate the RIO members for their excellent ideas and projects! It has been a great pleasure to work with all of them on this important issue of women's participation in community forest governance in the Amazon region. I am confident that you will continue to have a positive and significant impact on this and many other pressing issues in your communities and countries. (...) Participating as a mentor in this USAID-USFS initiative has been gratifying"".

### Yury Llancari
Natural Resources Masters Fellow
at Oregon State University
Research focus: Reforestation in areas
degraded by mining

This process has strengthened my training as a forestry professional in the academic field. Being a student at Oregon State University allowed me to meet professionals from other countries and collaborate with other colleagues in the forest sector in Peru. Because of the knowledge and tools acquired during the Master's program, I have been able to give academic talks to forestry students from two research universities (UNALM and UNAP). I believe that when one teaches what one learns, that knowledge will last much longer and can be of greater use. This would not have been possible without the initiative of USAID and the U.S. Forest Service, the support of the OSU-FOREST team and the forestry faculties of UNALM and UNAP."

### Daniel Kipervaser
USFS Silviculturist and Shared
Stewardship Coordinator

Developing and disseminating a consistent approach to forest measurements is key to supporting a robust system of timber accountability which helps combat illegal logging. Predictable and reliable outcomes from a consistently applied accountability system fosters trust between the sanctioning government bodies, land managers, and the forest products industry. The Peruvian agencies have already made great strides towards regulating the structures that support stronger accountability practices. While I have been supporting those, I have also been fostering conversations about silviculture practices. To control the pressure of expanding primary forest harvests, silvicultural practices need to do more than increase short term timber yield. Instead, the need to focus on reliably regenerating harvestable species and ensuring that there are predictable and sustainable future harvests in lands that are currently under management.

### Shelly Witt
USFS National Continuing Education
Program Leader

" Sharing our agency experience —both failure and success— is important for Peru's Forest and Wildlife Service. The U.S. Forest Service integrated Knowledge, Skills and Abilities from European and other cultures' practices. Having adapted those KSAs to our North American environments over the decades, we are paying it forward to colleagues in other countries."

### Steve Gretzinger
Private Sector Consultant,
Former USFS Forest Manager

" The combination of the USFS' many years of managing public assets for a range of users is proving relevant in the remote Amazonian forests of Peru where simplistic solutions are inadequate for balancing legitimate competing interests.   Applying my private investor perspective to the balanced team of competent, analytical and open-minded Peruvian professionals working on this project has been a privilege; one that with continued diligence should lead to a profitable private forestry sector generating long-term socio-economic impacts from the sustainable management and production of quality timber and non-timber products in Madre de Dios.

### Jessica Morón
SERNANP Firefighter

In 2019, Jessica Morón became the first South American firefighter to become an instructor for the International Fire Management Course, offered in Peru for two consecutive years (2018 and 2019) by USAID, with instructors from the U.S. Forest Service.

" ... Before becoming an instructor, I received training in 2018 from U.S.Forest Service - USAID. With that first International Fire Management Course, we gained  additional knowledge, but above all, as a country, we were able to broaden our focus from fire suppression to a more comprehensive view that includes prevention and fire management. The next year, as an instructor, I was able to learn even more from the USFS and CONAFOR instructors, reinforce my development, and then return to my agency to share the approach and begin to work on fire prevention."

Read more about Jessica and our success story:
**Lady of Fires**
**A woman helps Peru fight forest fires to protect its biodiversity and combat climate change**
https://usaidpubs.exposure.co/the-lady-of-fires

# Annex 1
## OTHER RELEVANT ACTIONS

### Dialogue Events (2022)



The DIALOGA events were hybrid (in person and virtual participation) and the main players in the forestry sector participated, including regional and national authorities and officials, the private sector, and academia, mainly.

**DIALOGA 1**
**Forest Supervision, control and surveillance**



**265** attends

**Event video:**
https://web.facebook.com/forestperu/videos/414013550579293

**DIALOGA 2**
**Forestry information and transparency**



**196** attends

**Event video:**
https://web.facebook.com/forestperu/videos/399742942216404

**DIALOGA 3**
**Forest governance and FOREST program closure ceremony**



**285** attends

**Event video:**
https://web.facebook.com/forestperu/videos/377628084528002

### Featured publications (2022)



The APORTA documents were shared to a mailing list of 1,500 people related to the Peruvian forestry sector. It is worth mentioning that to expand the reading of the documents, the emailing proposal considered that the APORTA content could be fully read when the email was opened; and also have the option to download the document in pdf.



**PDF Download:**
Forest.pe/Publicaciones

### SERFOR "Latidos del Bosque" podcast (2021)



https://www.gob.pe/institucion/serfor/campañas/3357-podcast-del-serfor-latidos-del-bosque

### OSINFOR online program (2022)



**Episode 1:** https://fb.me/e/1KK7LkrrA
**Episode 2:** https://fb.me/e/2CAECcpiT
**Episode 3:** https://fb.me/e/54vCVJHGU

Motivational talk "Life Learning as a U.S.Forest Service forester" aimed to students of the forestry sciences program at UNAP, 2019.

Infrastructure for wildlife rescued from illegal trafficking, built by GERFFS Ucayali with the additional budget approved by the MEF, 2021.

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