

Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador: Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor Briefing Book













CHOCÓ-DARIÉN-WESTERN ECUADOR HOTSPOT: CHOCÓ-MANABÍ CONSERVATION CORRIDOR BRIEFING BOOK

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Chocó-Manabí Corridor

Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Biodiversity Hotspot

CEPF INVESTMENT PLANNED IN REGION \$5 million

QUICK FACTS

The Chocó-Manabí Corridor spans 60,000 square kilometers in Colombia and Ecuador.

In Colombia, the corridor encompasses a full range of Chocó and Andean ecosystems as it stretches from the peaks of Colombia's western Andean cordillera west to the Pacific Ocean.

The Chocó region supports an estimated 9,000 vascular plant species, 2,250 of which are found nowhere else. The region is also home to more palm species than any other part of the world.

The corridor is situated within the Chocó Endemic Bird Area designated by BirdLife International. The area has the highest number of bird species with restricted ranges in South America.

Civil unrest greatly impacts conservation efforts in Colombia and will be a key factor in the pace and progress of activities there.

The Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor is the most floristically diverse region in the neotropics and is important to the survival of tropical forests. It spans the southern end of the Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador biodiversity hotspot, one of the 25 richest and most threatened reservoirs of plant and animal life on Earth. These biodiversity hotspots cover only 1.4 percent of the planet yet contain 60 percent of all terrestrial species diversity.

The Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador hotspot reaches from the southeastern portion of Panama, along the western fringe of Colombia and Ecuador and to northwestern Peru. Within it, the Chocó region is globally recognized as one of the world's most biologically diverse, providing habitat to many unique plant and animal species.

THREATS

The Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor is under the greatest threat in coastal Ecuador, where only approximately 2 percent of the original forest cover remains. Direct threats include agricultural encroachment, deforestation, fishing and shrimp farming, illegal crops, population growth and social conflict.

CEPF STRATEGY

Based on stakeholder consultations, the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) strategically focuses on the Chocó-Manabí Corridor in Colombia and Ecuador. The CEPF investment strategy for the corridor seeks to facilitate the initial implementation phase of Vision 2010, a common vision and strategy for the corridor agreed to in 2001 by Colombia and Ecuador government



CEPF focuses on the Chocó-Manabí Corridor within the Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador hotspot. representatives, nongovernmental organizations and scientists. Vision 2010 is designed to maximize investments and strengthen alliances among national, regional and local stakeholders to protect biodiversity while improving the quality of life of communities within the corridor.

CEPF facilitates a coordinated approach that encourages distinct environmental programs and projects to work together to consolidate protected areas, ensure the survival of endangered and threatened species and channel benefits from conservation to historically underserved communities. Local, national and international partners are in a unique position to help CEPF achieve these goals.

The CEPF investment strategy, called an ecosystem profile, will be funded over five years, beginning in 2002.

STRATEGIC FUNDING DIRECTIONS

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

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

- 1. establish and strengthen local and regional mechanisms to foster corridor-level conservation.
- 2. bring selected protected areas and species under improved management.
- 3. identify and promote sustainable development practices in communities near selected protected areas.



ABOUT US

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

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

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

HOW TO LEARN MORE

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



ECOSYSTEM PROFILE

CHOCÓ-MANABÍ CONSERVATION CORRIDOR OF THE CHOCÓ-DARIÉN-WESTERN ECUADOR BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

COLOMBIA AND ECUADOR

FINAL VERSION
DECEMBER 11, 2001

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INTRODUCTION

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) is designed to safeguard the world's threatened biodiversity hotspots in developing countries. It is a joint initiative of Conservation International (CI), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Government of Japan, the MacArthur Foundation and the World Bank. The CEPF provides financing to projects in biodiversity hotspots, areas with more than 60 percent of the Earth's terrestrial species diversity in just 1.4 percent of its land surface. A fundamental purpose of the Fund is to ensure that civil society is engaged in efforts to conserve biodiversity in the hotspots. An additional purpose is to ensure that those efforts complement existing strategies and frameworks established by local, regional and national governments.

The CEPF will promote working alliances among community groups, NGOs, government, academic institutions, and the private sector, combining unique capacities and eliminating duplication of efforts for a more comprehensive approach to conservation. The CEPF is unique among funding mechanisms in that it focuses on biological areas rather than political boundaries, and will examine conservation threats on a corridor-wide basis for maximum return on investment. It will also focus on transboundary cooperation when areas rich in biological value straddle national borders, or in areas where a regional approach will be more effective than a national approach. The CEPF aims to provide civil society with an agile and flexible funding mechanism complementing funding currently available to government agencies.

In the Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot, the CEPF will support strategic initiatives that complement existing and proposed investments in conservation and thereby take advantage of the relatively strong presence of conservation NGOs in the region and government institutions and donors committed to the conservation and sustainable development of the corridor. The conservation corridor concept will lend synergy to efforts of narrow and broad geographic focus in an area of the highest biological importance. CEPF funding will be used to launch a comprehensive array of activities for implementation by civil society and to support some major existing initiatives. The CEPF's five-year, \$5 million investment will leverage or influence the direction of \$52 million in investments by donors. The CEPF will leverage \$7 million for conservation in Colombia from the Cauca Valley Regional Autonomous Corporation and ECOFONDO, and help to integrate biodiversity concerns into a \$45 million portfolio of environmental projects in Ecuador, supported through the GEF's Maquipucuna Project, the Carbon Trust's Jatun Sacha - CI Project, the IDB's Coastal Resources Management Project, and the country's Northern Border Development Project (UDENOR). To maximize the CEPF's conservation impact, priority conservation areas and activities in the Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor (a key region of the hotspot) will be targeted for grantmaking.

In summary, the CEPF offers an opportunity to promote the conservation of some of the most important ecosystems in the world — places of high biodiversity and great value. In the Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor, the CEPF will promote the engagement and synergy of a wide range of public and private institutions to address conservation needs through coordinated regional efforts.

The Ecosystem Profile

The purpose of the ecosystem profile is to provide an overview of the causes of biodiversity loss

in a particular region and to couple this assessment with an inventory of current conservation investments activities in order to identify the niche where CEPF investments can provide the greatest incremental value. The ecosystem profile is intended to recommend strategic funding directions that can be implemented by civil society to contribute to the conservation of biodiversity in the targeted region. Applicants propose specific projects consistent with these broad directions and criteria. The ecosystem profile does not define the specific activities that prospective implementers may propose in the region, but outlines the conservation strategy that will guide those activities. For this reason, it is not possible or appropriate for the ecosystem profile to be more specific about the site or scope of particular interventions or to identify appropriate benchmarks for those activities. Applicants will be required to prepare detailed proposals that specify performance indicators

The Corridor Approach to Conservation

The corridor approach to biodiversity conservation seeks to provide a practical and effective solution to the universal difficulty of maintaining extensive areas of pristine habitat. It is recognized that large habitat parcels are essential for maintaining biodiversity and large-scale ecological processes, and that every opportunity to protect large bodies of habitat in perpetuity should be taken. Nevertheless, few such opportunities exist. Existing protected areas are often too small and isolated to maintain viable ecosystems and evolutionary processes; indeed, in many hotspots, even the remaining unprotected habitat fragments are acutely threatened. In such circumstances, conservation efforts must focus on linking major sites across wide geographic areas in order to sustain these large-scale processes and ensure the maintenance of a high level of biodiversity. Such networks of protected areas and landscape management systems are conservation corridors.

The main function of the corridors is to connect biodiversity areas through a patchwork of sustainable land uses, increasing mobility and genetic exchange among individuals of fauna and flora even in the absence of large extensions of continuous natural habitat. Such corridors not only promote the immediate goals of regional-scale conservation based on individual protected areas, but also help maintain the ecosystem processes needed in order to sustain biodiversity into the future. In this context, small habitat fragments within corridors perform several related functions — connecting or reconnecting larger areas, maintaining heterogeneity in the habitat matrix, and providing refuge for species that require the unique environments present in these fragments.

Large-scale intervention through biodiversity corridors, ecoregional planning, and landscape conservation is therefore one of the highest conservation priorities at the regional level in many of the world's hotspots and wilderness areas. From an institutional perspective, the CEPF's adoption of the corridor approach aims to stimulate new levels of civil society empowerment and participation in practical and political processes as a way to underpin and to multiply the effect of government and corporate responses to conservation. The corridor approach relies on strategic partnerships with key stakeholders to build a support framework and to coordinate activities in the field. The active involvement of local stakeholders and the development of their planning and implementation skills are essential to the sustainability of the biodiversity corridor.

BACKGROUND

In the summer of 2001, shortly after the World Wide Fund for Nature in Colombia held a workshop designed to build consensus on a conservation vision for the region, CI convened a strategic planning workshop in Cali that was attended by 80 representatives of the governments of Colombia and Ecuador, NGOs, and scientists to discuss the threats to biodiversity in the region and to articulate a common vision and strategy for the Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor through 2010. The corridor would represent a regional planning framework within which to address urgent conservation issues to maintain the environmental, economic and social integrity of the region. The resulting 10-year strategy would catalyze interagency alliances to mobilize human and financial resources for an integrated effort to connect natural areas — e.g., by consolidating and upgrading existing protected areas, rehabilitating degraded areas, and promoting sustainable agriculture and other sources of livelihood which sustain biodiversity, such as shade-grown coffee and agroforestry.

Workshop participants included, from Colombia, representatives of the Ministries of Environment and Agriculture, the Valle del Cauca Autonomous Corporation, ECOFONDO, and the Fundación Natura; and from Ecuador, representatives of the Ministry of Environment, National Parks Programs, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Jatun Sacha, Fundación Maquipucuna, and EcoCiencia.

The participants agreed on a 10-year strategy designed to improve conservation actions by maximizing investments and strengthening existing alliances between national, regional, and local stakeholders to protect biodiversity, while also improving the livelihood and quality of life of communities in the Chocó-Manabí Corridor. Participants also agreed on a process for future decision-making and consensus-building. An action plan was prepared to address conservation, social, and economic priorities in the region; elements of the plan are reflected in commitments and targets for the five-year implementation phase of the Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor as laid out in this ecosystem profile.

BIOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE CHOCÓ-DARIÉN-WESTERN ECUADOR HOTSPOT

The conservation priorities of Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot, and the Chocó-Manabí Corridor within it, must be viewed from the perspectives of the region's biological, cultural, and social characteristics — in other words, from the region's potential to foster sustainable development. Its residents include more than 250 communities of African descendants and indigenous and mestizo groups.

The Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot reaches from the southeastern portion of Panamá, along the western portions of Colombia and Ecuador, as far as northwestern Perú. Within it, the Chocó biogeographic region ("the Chocó") is globally recognized as one of the world's most biologically and culturally diverse. The Chocó provides habitat to an extraordinary wealth of plant and animal species.

The variety of ecosystems within the Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot has given rise to high levels of diversity and endemism. Mountains trap humid air from the coast and contribute

to the survival of tropical humid and very humid premontane forests. The Chocó supports an estimated 9,000 vascular plant species, approximately 25% (2,250) of them endemic. Some scientists believe the Colombian Chocó to be the most floristically diverse site in the Neotropics. The Ecuadorian Chocó is estimated to support 25% of the nation's flora, or approximately 6,300 species of plants, 13% to 20% of which are endemic. The region is also home to more palm species than any other part of the world.

The montane forests of western Ecuador also support large numbers of species and high levels of endemism. Many of the endemics here have small ranges, rendering them especially vulnerable to extinction. For the endemic flora, forest fragmentation might actually have stimulated speciation and diversification. Many families, genera, and species seem to be naturally constrained to elevations below 2,300-2,500 meters, and many are extremely localized. The region exhibits a large number of vegetation types, such as thorny desert scrub in the dry and very dry parts of the coastal plains, to the coastal mountain ranges in which dry thorny scrub covers the lower zones, while a premontane vegetation takes over on the foothills and slopes. Humid and very humid vegetation covers the peaks. Such humid vegetation extends along the Colombia-Ecuador border. However, it is declining at elevations between 300-900 meters close to the Perú-Ecuador frontier. The Ecuadorian coastal zone in the northwest, however, constitutes an extension of the Colombian Chocó. It contains humid rainforests and correspondingly specialized flora.

Bird species, including migrants, number approximately 830, of which 85 (10.2%) are endemic. The southern portion of the hotspot is particularly important for birds, with more than 40 bird species and 140 subspecies endemic to the dry forest biome. BirdLife International recognizes four Endemic Bird Areas within the hotspot.

Mammal diversity and endemism are also high, with 235 species, 60 (25.5%) of which are endemic. The location of the hotspot at the transition zone between Central and South America results in the occurrence of some largely Central American mammal species not found elsewhere on the South American continent. The Ecuadorian Chocó alone is home to 142 mammal species, of which 15 (10.6%) are endemic to the region.

There are approximately 350 species of amphibians, including 210 endemics (60%), and 210 species of reptiles, 63 (30%) endemic. Several reptile and amphibian species are endangered or threatened. Within the Colombian portion of the Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot, endemic reptiles include four turtles in danger of extinction, and 11 species of amphibians are similarly threatened, nine of them vulnerable and one critically endangered.

Socio-Cultural Characteristics

The Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot is home to a diverse range of distinct ethnic groups, including African descendants and indigenous and mestizo communities. Overall, the African descendant communities in Colombia and Ecuador occupy the coastal and riparian lowlands, while indigenous peoples have retreated to the lower hill slopes, leaving the higher slopes to the mestizo colonists. Even so, in Colombia, indigenous groups (Wounaan, Embera, Awa, Chachis, and Eperara-Siapidara) live in the lowland plains, and Afro-American

communities live on the coast as well as in the sub-Andean hill complexes of Guarto, Santa Cecilia along the upper San Juan River.

Afro-Colombian and Afro-Ecuadorian Communities

Communities of African descendants in Colombia and Ecuador date back to the 16th century. They occupy diverse areas and ecoregions within the Chocó-Manabí Corridor, including the Pacific coast, low rainforest areas, terraces, hillsides, foothills, and sub-Andean slopes and páramos. Land use patterns of these communities include farming of crops (plantain, papaya, citrus, and sugarcane) on the banks of the rivers, and rice in the wetlands beyond. They also harvest timber, and hunt and fish in the rivers and along the coast. These practices are less ecologically invasive than the clearing of forest for pasture. Governments of both countries have adopted policies to improve the living conditions of their respective African descendant populations.

Colombia's new constitution (Law 21/91) and the new African Descendant Rights Law (Law 70/93) recognize the collective territorial land rights of Afro-Colombians to the public lands they occupy. These lands are administered through Community Councils (Consejos Comunitarios). The law provides instruments by which the Afro-Colombian communities can reclaim and control the resources and lands they have occupied for centuries. The Colombian Land Reform Institute (INCORA) began the process of titling Afro-Colombian community lands in 1996 with funding from the World Bank. Since then, 36 collective titles have been issued for approximately 1 million hectares, benefiting some 15,700 families and 14 municipalities.

In Ecuador, the Afro-Ecuadorian communities are concentrated in the Province of Esmeraldas, covering approximately 800,000 hectares, mostly along the region's rivers. Their history lies in the slave system, and often, economic and social discrimination still causes them to abandon their lands for the cities and towns, where many fall into a vicious cycle of poverty. Their poverty has been exacerbated as oil palm and forest extraction operations have resulted in their displacement. The national government is preparing legislation to recognize the collective land rights of the Afro-Ecuadorian communities, to provide them with autonomy to manage and control these territories and to determine their own development.

Indigenous Communities

In Colombia, indigenous rights to land, culture and languages have long been recognized in law (Law 160 and ILO 169). In Ecuador, legislation to acknowledge communal property rights has been recently drafted. Land use patterns of indigenous populations differ from those of the Afro-American communities — indigenous systems are less diverse, less dependent on fishing and coastal resources, and more reliant on hunting and gathering and on handicrafts for sale in regional towns and cities.

In Colombia, many groups of the Embera, the largest indigenous tribe along the Pacific, live within the corridor, which holds 72 declared *resguardos* (reserves for indigenous groups) allocating ancestral and formal titles to 736,892 hectares. Some Paez people have recently migrated into the region from the Andean department of Cauca.

In Ecuador, the Awá occupy approximately 3,500 square kilometers and, with the Chachis, are concentrated in the north along the Pacific coast in the municipalities of Carchi, San Lorenzo and Esmeraldas. The Awá are organized into 18 groups within an Awá Federation, and exert their communal property rights on the principle of communal ownership of "Ethnic Forest Reserves." They currently occupy around 76,000 hectares in the counties of San Lorenzo, Esmeraldas and Tulcan, Carchi.

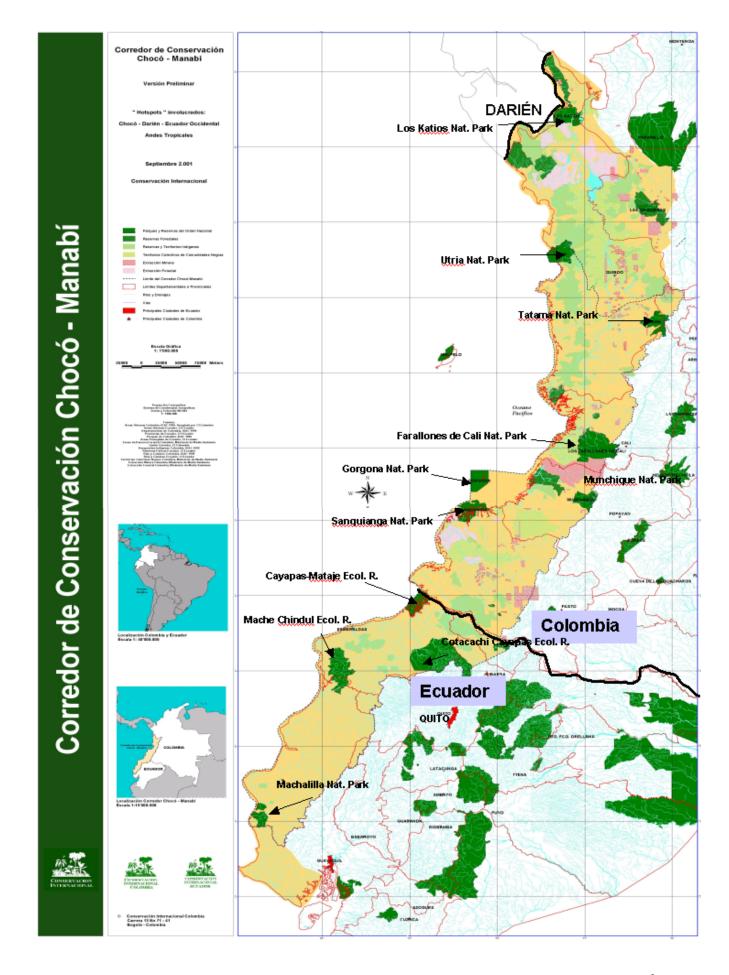
The Chachis and Cayapas live on the coast, while Afro-Ecuadorians occupy lands along the Santiago, Onzole and Canande rivers in Esmeraldas. In the 19th century, gold, rubber, and *tagua* and *pita* prospectors invaded their territories, as did banana plantations and loggers in the 20th century. Destruction of forests caused by the advancing agricultural frontier, colonists, and loggers has forced the Chachis from much of their ancestral land, which they have sold off to logging firms.

Mestizo Communities

Mestizo colonization is driven by poverty and lack of access to land. The rise of the *minifundio* (subsistence farming), in combination with population density in the highlands of both countries, has given rise to mestizo migration into relatively uninhabited forests and indigenous lands — causing, in turn, conflict between ethnic groups and mestizos over land and resources. Mestizos bring with them highland farming and cattle raising practices, many of which depend on clearing considerable tracts of forest. Roads built by municipalities and the national government have expanded access to once-pristine areas.

Unlike Afro communities and indigenous cultures, mestizo farming practices have historically had adverse environmental impact; and, for the same reason, it is more difficult to promote conservation principles in mestizo communities than among Afro-American and indigenous groups. Mestizos are also more dispersed, often without fixed land tenure, and lack government support for their needs and claims.

Currently, mestizos are more numerous in Ecuador than in Colombia. Clearing of forests by mestizos has caused serious loss of biodiversity and degradation of habitat and soils. In Colombia, colonization of the corridor is relatively recent and concentrated in the department of Alto San Juan, municipality of San José del Palmar, and the middle and upper watersheds of the Calima, Garrapatas, Sanquini, Naya, upper Micauy, Guiza, and Mira rivers.



Prioritization of Corridors within the Hotspot

Based on stakeholder consultations, the CEPF selected the Chocó-Manabi Conservation Corridor, spanning the southern end of the Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot, as the focal area for support. The Chocó region is globally recognized as one of the world's most important zones for the conservation of biological and cultural resources.

The Chocó-Manabí Corridor spans more than 60,000 square kilometres. Within Colombia, the corridor encompasses a full range of Chocó and Andean ecosystems as it stretches from peaks of Colombia's western Andean cordillera west to the Pacific Ocean. Crossing the border into Ecuador, the corridor traverses numerous life zones as it spans coastal and sierra ecosystems in the Cotacachi-Cayapas Ecological Reserve and Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve. Cotacachi-Cayapas is located in the western foothills of the Ecuadorian Andes and covers about 204,000 hectares of coastal and sierra zones, ranging in elevation from 100 to 4,400 meters.

The Chocó-Manabi Conservation Corridor has an extremely high degree of endemism — by some estimates, one of the highest in the world, possessing several important attributes from a conservation perspective:

- biogeographically important as a transitional area between two hotspots (Tropical Andes and Chocó);
- the most floristically diverse region in the Neotropics;
- habitat for 6,300 species of plants, 20% endemic;
- located in the Choco Endemic Bird Area designated by BirdLife International, with highest number of restricted-range species (62) in South America; and
- important to the survival of tropical humid forest and very humid premontane forest, as mountains trap humid air from the coast.

Based on a preliminary analysis of opportunities in the hotspot and threats to its ecoregions, the Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor was designed to address areas of priority for conservation. It includes areas that are severely degraded, and emphasizes improved management of these areas and closer cooperation among its local Colombian and Ecuadorian partners. With these considerations in mind, the corridor incorporates Katios National Park, Utría and Tatamá National Parks, and Ecuador's Machalilla National Park. The July 2001 workshop in Cali identified the following priority areas for conservation action:

Colombia

- Ancón de Mataje (Dept. Nariño), an area of mangroves and adjacent coastal forests of northern Ancón de Mataje or southern Sardinas, at the mouth of the Mataje River and the Ecuador-Colombia border. This is the site of the least damaged mangrove forests on the Pacific coast, with trees reaching heights of 40 meters. The area is biologically significant as a large and representative sample of the mangrove associations with the world's most humid tropical forest. The area borders on the Cayapas-Mataje Ecological Reserve in Ecuador.
- Southern expansion zone of the Sanquianga National Park, including the buffer zone (Dept. Nariño). This area is of great interest for its swamp forests, which differ from mangroves, as well as for its transitional zones between hillside forests and terraces.

- Munchique National Park, Páramos of Tambito and Argelia, Serranía de Pinche, Napi and Guapi Mountains, and upper valleys of the Micay and Guapi Rivers (Cauca and Nariño).
- A pilot study area under the jurisdiction of the national Integrated Coastal Zone Management Policy, including the Gorgona Island National Park, its surrounding marine park zone, and the estuaries of the Guapi and Iscuande Rivers (Dept. Nariño).
- The Farallones de Cali National Park complex, Munchique, and Cuchilla Naya (Valle and Cauca), representing Pacific watershed western Andean cordillera forests.
- Serranía de los Paraguas, Cerro Torrá, and the connection with Tatamá National Park (Valle and Chocó).
- Utría Bay and Gulf of Tribuga complex and the mangroves between Bajo Baudó and Cuevita Bay (Chocó).

Ecuador

Within the Corridor, Esmeraldas Province contains some of the oldest and yet most highly threatened humid forests and mangroves; only 18% of the lowland evergreen forests along the coast still intact. The Muisne River estuary has lost approximately 75% of its mangrove forests. Habitat in the Sanquianga, Cayapas, and Mataje River estuaries, currently sheltering around 15% of the country's remaining mangroves, is also heavily degraded. These areas remain under heavy pressure from shrimp farmers, and has led the Government of Ecuador to declare the Province of Esmeraldas as a "special attention region," as defined in the National Sustainable Development Strategy.

In order to extend and maintain the ecoregional unit encompassing the higher regions of the Cotacahi Cayapas and El Angel Ecological Reserves, the Provinces of Esmeraldas, Manabi, Carchi, and Imbabura have been identified as priority areas. Within these provinces, the following six areas are especially important for corridor conservation:

- Consolidation of three reserves (Mache Chindul Ecological Reserve in the Manabi-Esmeraldas region; Awa Indigenous Reserve in the Carchi-Imbabura-Esmeraldas region; and El Angel Ecological Reserve in Carchi Province) and extension of the Cotacachi-Cayapas and Cayapas-Mataje Ecological Reserves.
- The Mira River watershed and Golondrinas Protected Forest, with adjacent areas of paramo and montane forests of the western Andes slope. This region connects El Angel Reserve with Awa Reserve.
- Zones covering tropical and subtropical humid forest within the communities of Ventanas, Alto Tambo, Dureno, San Francisco, and el Dorado. This zone covers the Conservation Corridor of Awacachi, which connects Cotacachi-Cayapas and Awa Indigenous Reserves.
- Watersheds covering the Santiago, Cayapas, and Mataje rivers with wetlands and protected forests located within the basin. This tropical forest zone is located within an area of significant logging pressure, and connects the Cotacachi-Cayapas Reserve with the Mataje Mangrove Reserve.
- The coastal mountain range of Mache (which contains an important assemblage of subtropical and montane costal forest) is under pressure from aggressive logging and colonization. These forces combine to make this area one of the most critical and vulnerable priorities in the entire corridor. The Mache Chindul Ecological Reserve, which lacks a management plan to confront these threats, is located in this area.

• The watersheds of the Chone and Portoviejo rivers form part of the transition zone between tropical humid forest of the Choco to the north, with tropical dry forest to the south that crosses into Machalilla National Park and extends to Peru. This region lacks national reserves and has few protected forests.

Levels of Protection for Biodiversity

Overall, the present levels of protection in the Chocó-Manabí Corridor are poor, particularly in coastal Ecuador. Here, the ecosystem is under the gravest threat, with only approximately 2% of the original forest cover remaining. In other regions, such as the northern Chocó, the ecosystem is still largely intact. Nevertheless, biodiversity in the Colombian side of the corridor requires significant protection. Much of the current protection is in the form of national parks, private protected areas and forests, and communally managed conservation areas. Approximately 24% of the corridor's original habitat is intact, much of it in the Colombian Chocó and parts of the Darién.

Colombia

The Colombian section of the corridor contains six national parks administered by the special administrative unit of the National Parks System (UAESPNN), covering 429,400 hectares; three protected national reserves covering 11,267 hectares; and 11 Natural Private Reserves covering 4,724 hectares (see Table 1). Furthermore, four areas are currently under analysis as potential Ramsar sites: Tumarado-Perancho, El Trueno, Delta de San Juan River and the Delta of Baudó river.

Table 1: Selected Protected Areas in the Colombian Portion of the Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor

Choco-Manabi Conservation Corridor	
PROTECTED AREA	HECTARES
National Parks	
Parque Nacional Utría	43,440
Parque Nacional Tatamáz	25,950
Parque Nacional Gorgona	61,600
Parque Nacional Sanquianga	64,000
Parque Nacional Munchique	22,000
Parque Nacional Farallones de Cali	75,000
Parque Nacional Galeras	3,800
Protective Forest Reserves	
Area de Reserva Forestal Protectora La Planada	1,667
Area de Reserva Forestal Protectora Río Nembí	5,800
Area de Reserva Forestal Protectora Río Escalarete y San Cipriano	3,800
Natural Private Reserves	
Reserva Natural de la Sociedad Civil Río Nambí	1,000
Reserva N.S.C. Civil la Planada	3,200
Reserva N.S.C. El Canto del Viento	2
Reserva N.S.C. Casa de la Vida	9
Reserva N.S.C. El Refugio Torremolinos	18
Reserva N.S.C. El Ciprés	12
Reserva N.S.C. Himalaya	208
Reserva N.S.C. El Pilar de Ana María	257
Reserva N.S.C. Estación Septiembre	2
Reserva N.S.C. Kakirí	6
Reserva N.S.C, Juná	10

Ecuador

The Ecuadorian portion of the Chocó region is the most endangered. The humid tropical forests are the least protected life zones in the existing reserves, and they are the most fragmented and deforested areas in the region. The reserves in the province of Esmeraldas, for example, do not include the humid and very humid tropical forests below 300 meters. These forests are nevertheless noteworthy, harboring biodiversity and concentrations of threatened endemic species.

The last well-preserved fragments of coastal forests are in the northwestern buffer zone of the Awá Ethnic Reserve and in the upper watershed of the Onzole and Cayapas Rivers. Like the forests in northern Esmeraldas, those of the *cordillera* around Mache Chindul are the last reasonably extensive fragments of tropical humid pre-montane forests in western Ecuador. Collectively, these primary forests occupy no more than 189,000 hectares. The reserve itself has no management plan or corresponding conservation program.

The Ministry of Environment (MAE) of Ecuador has directed conservation activities to focus on this region. However, even current efforts fall well short of the resources required to effectively protect the coastal moist forests. Overall, the government manages approximately 1.7 million hectares of the Chocó region. Of this area, approximately 46% lies in protected forests, 28% in ecological reserves, and 22% in national forests. The rest is classified as national parks and as urban greenbelts around cities and other smaller communities (see Table 2). In addition, a number private and public protected forests exist.

Table 2: Selected Protected Areas in the Ecuadorian Portion of the Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor

	-
PROTECTED AREA	HECTARES
National Parks	
Parque Nacional Machalilla	70,164
Ethnic and Forest Reserves	
Reserva Étnica y Forestal Awá	101,000
Ecological Reserves	
Reserva Ecológica Cotacachi-Cayapas	204,420
Reserva Ecológica Cayapas-Mataje	51,300
Reserva Ecológica Mache-Chindul	119,172
Reserva Ecológica El Angel	15,715
Protected Forests	Not Available
Wetlands	
La Tembladera	Not Available
El Relicario	Not Available
La Segua	Not Available
La Laguna	Not Available
Laguna de Cube	Not Available
Calguna de la Cuidad	Not Available
Yalaré	Not Available
Ciénaga de Same	Not Available
Laguna del Mono	Not Available

10-Year Vision For the Chocó-Manabí Corridor

Vision 2010 for the Chocó-Manabí Corridor, adopted at the Cali workshop, declares: "In ten years, the Choco ecoregion is managed as a biodiversity conservation corridor that functionally reconnects natural habitat, consolidates areas under protection, and maintains cultural integrity from Choco to Manabi by fostering and establishing sustainable development practices among stakeholders." This goal will be achieved through a variety of projects that target the following objectives over the next 10 years:

- improve decision-making processes and coordination of stakeholders within the region to maximize on-the-ground conservation;
- improve local and regional sustainable management;
- develop effective zoning and land tenure frameworks within the region;
- ensure that agricultural production systems are compatible with biodiversity conservation;
- launch an effective communication campaign;
- establish a regional scientific assessment and monitoring system;
- consolidate cultural and territorial elements of the region; and
- ensure long-term financial stability for conservation in the corridor.

Over a five-year period, the CEPF investment strategy will facilitate the initial implementation of Vision 2010 by mobilizing the NGO community around the three strategic directions: (1) establish and strengthen local and regional mechanisms to foster corridor-level conservation; (2) bring selected protected areas and species under improved management; and (3) identify and promote sustainable development practices in communities near protected areas. These strategic directions will be pursued to achieve the longer-term purpose of attaining greater harmony between development and conservation through decentralized management of the hotspot's biological resources.

SYNOPSIS OF THREATS

Biodiversity in the Chocó-Manabí Corridor is threatened by a variety of human activities. The degree of threat varies considerably within the corridor, with some areas among the most threatened on the continent (coastal Ecuador) and others (northern Chocó) still largely intact. The northern Chocó region, for example, lacks major roads, ports and other infrastructure that would allow easy penetration of the forest. However, large-scale development is planned, with train routes, roads, a large canal, and hydroelectric dams being considered by the government and private interests. Direct threats include deforestation, regional integration projects, fishing and shrimp farming, mining, illegal crops, population growth, and social conflict. These threats are discussed below in the context of associated development projects, as well as the opportunities they offer to improve conservation practices in the corridor.

Deforestation

Deforestation is a principal threat to biodiversity in the region. The root cause of poor forest and timber management is disorderly settlement and expansion of the agricultural frontier driven by poverty, land scarcity, and population growth. The Ecuadorian portion of the corridor is most acutely threatened, with only 2% of the original lowland forest remaining.

In coastal Ecuador, logging is taking place on approximately 50,000 hectares, including some land within national parks and other protected areas. Some 225,000 hectares have been deforested in the past ten years. Over the past 30 years, the northwestern forests of Esmeraldas Province have been the most significantly altered. A 1989 study by Fundación Natura and EcoCiencia cites rapid conversion, fragmentation, and consequent isolation of the forest as the primary threat to plant and animal species along the coast. The study revealed that, of the 6,300 species of vascular plants estimated in the region, some 20% are in danger of extinction. Fundación Natura's 1992 forest inventory and assessment in Esmeraldas identified five critically threatened forests: San Lorenzo, Borbón, Quininde I, Mache-Cube-Muisne and the Guayallabamba River basin. The study concludes that intense pressure on the forests originates from local Afro-Ecuadorian and indigenous communities, which are often driven by economic need and the demands of large and small logging companies operating in the area. It also points to the presence of corrupt officials as exacerbating the problem.

In Colombia, coastal forests have experienced heavy logging for over 40 years, contributing 60% of the wood consumed in the country, with the Guandal and Sajal forests especially affected by logging.

The following activities are factors that contribute to deforestation:

Settlement

Mestizo groups convert forested land near settlements for farming, livestock, and speculation. In the Baudó River region of Colombia, spontaneous colonization is a serious problem, as some 80% of the forests are converted to other uses — such as slash-and-burn agriculture — and high-value timber species are harvested. In many cases, settlers invaded national park areas before the parks had been declared or established, clearing forests, mining, and exploiting wildlife to the point of extinction, especially within the Tatamá, Farallones de Cali and Munchique national parks.

Inappropriate timber extraction practices

Unsustainable extraction is particularly serious along the western Andean slopes and terraces in mixed forests, the mangrove forests, and the Guandal and Naidi palm forests of the lowlands. In both countries, Afro-descendant and indigenous communities are poor. Many of their traditional low-impact extraction and production practices become more invasive in their efforts to make a meager living from these resources. In Colombia, antiquated sawmills waste up to 60% of the raw logs, limiting the potential impact of timber management there. The southwestern regions (Tumaco, Satinga, and lower San Juan Rivers and the lower Calima River) are the most affected.

Illegal timber extraction

Unlicensed logging has caused market failures in the region. Illegal logging is stimulated by short-term logging permits, often issued for periods of only one year, and by the practice of permitting the regional autonomous corporations to selectively extract high-value timber species. The timber sector is prone to exploitation by middlemen, who profit from the industry at the expense of the poor. While the poor carry out the logging, mainly as tree-cutters and haulers (some 70% live off or engage in logging in the Colombian Chocó), the benefits and returns to them are minimal.

Cattle ranching

Ranching can involve large-scale conversion of forests into pasture, causing extensive ecosystem degradation and loss of habitat. In Colombia, cattle ranching takes place mainly in the Andean and sub-Andean highlands and in the cloud forests, as in Alto Calima, southern Nariño, Tumaco-Ricaurte, and Cali-Buenaventura. The sub-Andean highlands of Nariño are the most affected. In Ecuador, cattle ranching contributes to large-scale forest conversion and destruction of wetlands in areas around Guayaquil.

Intensive agriculture

Forests, river flats, wetlands, and hillsides are being displaced by non-sustainable production of banana, plantain, cocoa, coffee and African palm, among other crops. This trend has been a major cause of habitat and species destruction — particularly in coastal Ecuador, where agricultural activities have doubled from the late 1960s to the mid-1980s. These activities have attracted outside capital (foreign and domestic) and displaced Afro-American and indigenous populations from their traditional lands, forcing them to occupy national parks and protected areas. This has occurred in the Awá Ethnic Reserve and in the Mache Chindul Ecological Reserve in Ecuador. The results include overexploitation of land, ecosystem fragmentation, and displacement of indigenous communities from their traditional lands. While African palm plantations represent the largest monoculture in Esmeraldas, it is ninth in ecological impact (behind substitution of pasture, which has altered more Chocoan landscape than any other activity). Coffee and cocoa plantations, among others, are also significant causes of conversion. So far, in Colombia, African palm is mainly grown in the municipality of Tumaco.

Regional Integration Projects

Regional integration projects have promoted modernization in the Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor, particularly in the Department of Chocó (Colombia), and in the Provinces of Esmeraldas and Manabí in coastal Ecuador. Modernization has largely involved large-scale development projects (roads, canals, dams, ports, and other infrastructure) to connect the Pacific coast of Colombia and Ecuador with the interior. These projects have stimulated ecosystem degradation and thus threatened biodiversity.

Colombia's Plan Pacifico has generated considerable attention within the environmental and indigenous rights communities. The Plan, conceived in 1974, is an ambitious development program that aims to grow the Choco's economy through the construction of infrastructure and exploitation of the region's natural wealth. Infrastructure projects include roads, hydroelectric and energy plants, and telecommunications networks. This infrastructure is designed to boost forestry, fishing, agriculture, and mining. Environmentalists and indigenous rights groups are concerned about the impacts of such a large project on traditional social and economic structures and on the environment, expressing concern that the large-scale development will severely damage the region's biological diversity. Within these regional integration projects, five aspects are of particular concern from a conservation perspective:

Road construction

In Colombia, the most significant road projects include the road to the San Juan River estuary, the coastal road connecting Colombia and Ecuador's coastal zone, and the road connecting Pasto-Tumaco, Las Animas-Nuqui, Popayan-López de Micay, Bahía Solano-El Valle, Pereira-

Tado-Quibdo, and Aguila, Valle-Siqui. In Ecuador, the native forests of Esmeraldas were cleared by the second half of the 20th century when the first access roads from Quito and Guayaquil were built in the region. The rate of road construction increased between 1960 and 1980, as did the destruction of native forests, especially along the coasts of the Provinces of Guayas and Manabí

Canal construction

Canals affect Colombia and Ecuador as mangrove ecosystems have been altered and natural water flow redirected. Examples include the Hidrovía del Sur in Colombia, which has connected wetlands and natural channels between mangroves to shorten travel distances between Tumaco and Buenaventura. Around Guayaquil, large flood control works have resulted in the destruction of mangroves and other fragile habitat.

Hydroelectric dams

In Colombia, dam construction sites include the Alto San Juan River; Garrapatas-Sanquiní River; Calima III (from Cauca to Calima rivers); Arrieros del Micay; Mira and Telembí rivers; and Microcentral along the Micay River.

Port construction

Free trade policies have encouraged construction of ports in order to connect isolated regions with the rest of the world via the Pacific. These initiatives have attracted colonists who, in turn, have negative ecological and social impact on the region. For example, Tribugá Port has created problems in Utría National Park. The Free Trade Area in Buenaventura Port also has the potential to affect a large area.

Oil Pipeline construction

Major pipeline construction, ongoing and proposed, threatens several ecologically sensitive terrestrial and coastal areas. The imminent construction of the Trans-Ecuadorian pipeline will bisect the Chocó-Manabi Conservation Corridor. While the direct impact of the pipeline is likely to be minimal, the long-term impacts could be significant, particularly on ecotourism in such areas as Mindo. In fact, pollution along the pipeline is already occurring. In 2001, five pipeline ruptures released over 100,000 gallons of heavy crude oil, contaminating watersheds in the corridor.

Overfishing and Shrimp Farming

Overfishing and shrimp farming have been major factors behind the destruction of mangroves throughout Ecuador, causing very serious social and environmental impacts as shellfish, mollusks, and timber have become scarce and as local residents have been displaced off their traditional land. Water quality as a result of poor shrimp farming practices has plummeted. Many residents have been forced to resettle in other areas or move into towns and cities, contributing further to urban growth.

In Colombia, shrimp farming has caused serious changes in the trophic chain as mangroves have been removed and replaced with shrimp ponds. Such activities are concentrated in the departments of Nariño, in the wetlands of Agua Clara, and around Tumaco and Cape Manglares.

In Ecuador, the northern Guandal forests have been removed, and construction of dikes for shrimp ponds downstream has caused rivers to back up and alter their flows, with environmental impact yet to be fully assessed. From 1969 to 1995, approximately 54,000 hectares (27%) of mangroves disappeared in Ecuador, concentrating along the estuaries of the Chone, Muisne, Guayas, and Cojimies. Two of these estuaries are in Esmeraldas, between the Mataje, Santiago and Cayapas rivers, where settlers depend on the mangroves for fish and lumber. Along the coast in the corridor, shrimp ponds are concentrated in the Muisne estuary, where they cover approximately 490 hectares.

Mining

Mining was historically the mainstay of the regional economy. The presence of Afro-American communities is the result of importation of African labor mainly for mining. Destruction of riverbanks, siltation, and contamination of rivers and streams usually accompany mining.

In Colombia, mining for gold by means of dredges, drags, and backhoes in main channels and along banks has damaged rivers and displaced whole communities. This type of mining is especially concentrated along the San Juan, Tado, Ismina, Telembi, Barbacos, and Iscuande rivers, and along the banks of the Yurumangui, Cajambre, Raposo, and Mayorquin.

In Ecuador, the government has issued mining concessions in approximately 136,000 hectares for exploration and approximately 19,600 hectares for production. Gold concessions are concentrated in the Playa de Oro and along the Mira and Mataje rivers in Esmeraldas. Marble and other nonmetallic minerals are also extracted.

Illegal Crops

It is not known how extensively coca and opium poppy are grown in the Chocó-Manabí Corridor. When these crops are grown, forests are converted and habitat is lost. Moreover, policing these activities is dangerous and, with the near-withdrawal of most state services from certain regions (Darién and lower Atrato River in Colombia), enforcement is not even attempted. The cultivation of these crops displaces people out of the areas where they are grown, as in the departments of Nariño, the municipality of Olaya Herrera, and along the Chaguí River, and to lesser extent in the Andean forests.

Drug eradication and associated violence has displaces more than a million people in Colombia. The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) may indeed grow as Plan Colombia, the \$7.5 billion coca eradication and alternative development program, is implemented. Some IDP absorption programs may be situated in municipalities in the Chocó. If not properly planned, new infrastructure and facilities may open up new habitat to colonization.

Population Growth

Population density and growth in the Chocó-Manabí Corridor is greater in Ecuador than in Colombia. The population of Ecuador increased from 4.4 million in 1960 to 11.5 million in 1995. Human settlements in and around Guayaquil have destroyed large tracts of wetlands. Both in Colombia and Ecuador, population growth has forced mestizos to settle protected areas, resulting in loss of biodiversity and habitat.

Social Conflict

Threats to biodiversity posed by social conflict are more pronounced in Colombia than in Ecuador, and involve armed groups seeking to assume political power and usurp land and other resources—including the lands supporting or buffering ethnic communities. These factions are concentrated in the areas of Tumaco, the frontier roads between Colombia and Ecuador, upper San Juan River, the territories of Eperara Siapidara, and along the rivers Saija and Satinga.

These conflicts seriously affect biodiversity protection. Most state regulatory efforts are impeded, including enforcement efforts by guards and wardens, some of whom have been killed, prompting the national parks system to halt park protection services. Civilian visitors are barred from many Colombian reserves, including Katios, Paramillo, Tatamá, Farallones de Cali, and Munchique. Civil unrest has greatly affected work in the region and is a significant problem that will be a key factor in determing the pace and progress of conservation activities.

SYNOPSIS OF CURRENT INVESTMENTS

International donors in Colombia and Ecuador have provided a large portion of the resources directed toward conservation of the Chocó. This support has stimulated a positive response from the national governments in the form of counterpart funding and complementary actions. Certainly, without the financial and technical support of international organizations, the Governments of Colombia and Ecuador would not be in a position to address the broad range of urgent social development problems and environmental threats in the Chocó-Manabí Corridor.

In Colombia, there are more than 50 conservation and resource management projects financed by donors, government, NGOs and civil society. Some of these projects have a regional scope and some are locally oriented, emphasizing participatory management of river basins, mangroves, parks, ecotourism, indigenous communities, coastal wetlands, and forests. In Ecuador, the environment has also attracted significant funding from many donors, particularly from the multilaterals and bilaterals, as well as from official, private, and NGO sources. These initiatives are focusing on coastal zone management, protected areas, sustainable development, institutional strengthening, carbon offsets, community development, and forest management.

Multilateral and bilateral donors have funded a diverse range of conservation projects in the Chocó biogeographic region. Tables 3 and 4 present a selection of major multilateral and bilateral projects in the Chocó region of Colombia and Ecuador.

Type of Donor	Donor	Implementing Agency	Project	Investment
Multilateral	GEF/UNDP/ COSUDE	UNDP	Biopacífico Project	\$9M
	IDB		Plan Pacífico	\$71.4M IDB \$50M
	UNESCO (Program on Man and the Biosphere, MAB)	Fundación INGUEDE	Permanent Plots for Biodiversity Monitoring	123 \$3011
	World Bank	MMA	New Pacific Corridor Project (Cauca-Nariño) – Phase I: Shuame-Minchique-Pinchí; Phase II: Farallones de Calí, Monchoque-Alto Naya-Guapi-Iscuandé	
	World Bank / Government of the Netherlands	ММА	Natural Resources Management Program: strengthening the Pacific Regional Corporations in their environmental management functions plusindigenous and Afro-Colombian organizations (e.g., ACIA, OREWA, others).; production of ecological zoning maps and GIS databases	\$65.3M
	GEF	Fundacion Natura	Proyecto Utria Regional	
Bilateral	Canada (CIDA) / ECOFONDO	Centro de Estudios Regionales del Pacífico	Support to the Process of Territorial and Environmental Control of Communities in Alto San Juan River	C\$11.3M CIDA total
		Organización Indígena Embera- Waunana (OREWA)	Recovery and Conservation of the Productive Agricultural Component: supports indigenous knowledge and capacity-building for environmental management by community leaders	\$16.5M ECOFONDO over 9 years
		Reservas Naturales de la Sociedad Civil Regional del Valle del Cauca	Construction of a Regional Conservation and Rehabilitation Model for Alternative Production in Protected Areas	
		Fundación Pilar Verde	Management of the River Dagua Basin	-
		Consejo Comunitario Unión del Patía Viejo	Proposal to develop sustainable production systems among Afro-Colombian communities in Viejo Patía	
		Consejo Comunitario Río Patía Grande	Sustainable Rural Development in Bajo Patía, Pacific Coast, Dept. Nariño	
	Netherland (NAR)	Fundación INGUEDE	Production and Commercialization of Non-Wood Products in the Tropical Rain Forest	
	Netherlands / IUCN	Fundación INGUEDE	Conservation of Important Plant Species as Food Sources for Fauna in the Chocó-Darién	
	Netherlands	Ecofondo	Fundo Holanda – Ecofondo for the Choco	
	Netherlands	MMA/UAESPNN	Strengthening management of national parks in the Pacific (just approved and to start in January 2002)	
	DFID/WWF- UK	WWF Colombia, ASDES, Red de Reservas Privadas	Strengthening the role of civil society in the Andes and Choco; strengtheing environmental education; conservation on private lands	
	SIDA/WWF-	WWF Colombia and	Building local conservation processes toward an	
	Sweden and WWF-NL	partner organizations	ecoregional vision in the Choco of Colombia and Ecuador	

Table 4: Multilateral and Bilateral Donors in the Chocó Biogeographic Region, Ecuador

Type of Donor	Donor	Implementing Agency	Project	Investment
Multilateral	CAF/ Government of Ecuador/ UNDP	Agency	Plan Ambiental Ecuatoriano Biogeográfico del Chocó: Environmental and social assessment of road network; capacity-building on forestry and sustainable agriculture	\$42.7N
	European Union	CISP	Fisheries Technical Cooperation: supports enterprises, regulates small-scale fisheries, and evaluates fish resources and capture; Manejo Costero Ecosustentable y Fortalecimiento de la Zona Especial Sur de Manabí	€1.2N
	IDB		Coastal Resources Management Program: sustainable use of coastal resources (close to termination; new phase in preparation to consolidate initiatives underway along the Pacific coast)	\$16.5N IDB \$14.9N
	UNDP / UNEP / World Bank	MAE	Small Grants: sustainable natural resources management and conservation, sustainable shrimp larvae culture, diving and fishing, tourism, training, ecotourism, and microcredit Sustainable Development of Rainforest, Onzole River	\$3.3M
		CIDESA UNAGRO Corporación Amingay	Management of Nonrenewable Resources in Machalilla National Park and Influence Zone Production of Chusquiales Project	
		CISP, PMRC, Comité Zonal de Puerto López, GEF and Fundación Maquipucuna	Sustainable Management of the Special Coastal Zone in López Port	\$3.2N GEF \$1.0N Fndn. \$2.2N
	World Bank (GEF Projects)	MAE	Biodiversity Protection: restructuring/strengthening MAE & National Protected Areas System and biological corridors system	\$7.2M
		EcoCiencia	Wetlands conservation	\$750,000
		Min. Agriculture National Census Institute	Agricultural Census and Information System: improved database availability and use in the agricultural and livestock sector	
		CODENPE	Improving quality of life in indigenous and Afro- American populations	\$50M
		Fundación Maquipucuna	Andean Chocó Corridor Project: biodiversity of the Chocó, ensuring the functional connectivity of ecosystems	\$3.4M
		MAE	Biodiversity Conservation Project: Awá territory	

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Table 4 continued

Type of Donor	Donor	Implementing Agency	Project	Investment
Bilateral	Canada (Canada- Ecuador Development Fund)		 Torquilla Hay among Chongón-Colonche Communities Ecodevelopment in the Mache Chindul Mountain Range Ecodevelopment of Chanchis, Camandé River Social Conditions, eight Afro-American Communities, Santiago River 	\$40M nationwide
	Germany (GTZ)		Numerous projects including: Forestry and Resource Management; Community Forestry Management, Esmeraldas Province	\$4.6M
	Germany (KfW)	Fundación Natura	Reforestation and Conservation, Chongón Colonche	
	Netherlands	IUCN CIDESA EcoCiencia	 Community Management and Sustainable Development of Mangrove Environments, Esmeraldas Sustainable Management, Cayapas-Mataje Mangroves National Strategic Policy on Biodiversity 	
	SIDA/WWF- Sweden & WWF-NL	WWF Colombia, Fundacion Altropico & Awa Federation	Building local conservation processes toward an ecoregional vision in the Chocó of Colombia and Ecuador	
	Switzerland	Fundación Natura	Various initiatives in Manabí including livestock management in the Santa Elena Peninsula	
	Spain (AECI)		Integrated Development of the Cayapas River Basin	
	United States (USAID)	CARE Alianza Jatun Sacha-CDC EcoCiencia MAE	SUBIR Project: integrated conservation and development, three protected areas and their buffer zones: institutional development, policy, and legislation; improved land use; marketing; and biodiversity monitoring. Potential model of integrated resource management, community participation, and decentralized local project administration with national and international partners.	\$15M over 10 years
	USAID	WWF Colombia, Fundacion Altropico & Awa Federation	The Ecuadorian Awa Territory: Protecting Biodiversity Habitats	

Table 5: GEF Projects in the Chocó Biogeographic Region, Ecuador

Donor	Implementing Agency	Project	Investment
		GEF Projects in Execution	
GEF/World MAE Bank		Biodiversity Protection: restructuring/strengthening MAE & National Protected Areas System and biological corridors for three areas (Machalilla, Cotacachi Cayapas, and Cuyabeno), and establishment of fiduciary fund to cover recurrent costs	\$8.8M
	EcoCiencia	Wetlands conservation, inventory and classification of Ecuador's wetlands	\$.7M
	Escuela Politecnica del Litoral (ESPOL)	Promote the adoption of traditional knowledge to manage and conserve coastal biodiversity	\$.7M
	Fundación Maquipucuna	Andean Chocó Corridor Project: protection of biodiversity in the Chocó to ensure functional ecosystem connections	\$1.0M
GEF/UNDP	TNC	Identification of priority management areas five ecoregions of global importance in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, Paraguay, Peru	\$.7M
	GI	F Projects in Preparation and/or Negotiation	
GEF/UNDP	Fundación Natura	Conservation and sustainable use of resources in the Mache Chindul Reserve	\$.7M
GEF/UNDP	Network of Private Forests	Consolidate management of Ecuador's private forests	\$.8M
GEF/UNDP	South Pacific Permanent Commission	Strengthening implementation of the Protocol for the Conservation and Management of South-eastern Pacific Marine and Coastal Protected Areas	\$.8M
GEF/UNDP	Ecociencia	Biodiversity indicators for national-level decision-making	\$.8M
GEF/UNDP	TVE London	London Increase environmental awareness in the Latin American and the Caribbean region	
GEF/UNDP	MAE	Biodiversity protection in the Ecuadorian Chocó	\$1.0M
GEF/IUCN	IUCN	Ecosystem Approach Project in support of an ecosystem perspective under the CBD	\$.9M
GEF/OAS	OAS	Building the Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network to establish a standardized set of indicators and networks for conservation decision-making	\$6.0M
GEF/BAHC	BAHC	Vulnerability assessment and integrated management of regional water resources	NA

Government Agencies Colombia

The Government of Colombia funds some 48% of environmental investments in the country, often in partnership with national and international donors and NGOs, through a number of channels, including the National Resources and National Environmental Fund; Ministry of the Environment (MMA); Special Administrative Unit of the National Parks System (UAESPNN); Regional Autonomous Corporations of Cauca, Nariño, Risaralda, and Valle del Cauca; municipalities; Environmental Research Institute of the Pacific; and universities (Cauca, Chocó Technological, Nariño, Pereira Technological, and Valle).

At a national level, UAESPNN plays an important role in conservation as an agency of the MMA. Its mandate is to manage all areas protected under the national parks system (designated natural reserves, national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, flora sanctuaries, and unique natural areas). UAESPNN is responsible for coordinating environmental authorities and community organizations to develop strategies and programs that contribute to the sustainable management of resources in protected areas.

At a regional level, the regional autonomous corporations play a crucial role. They enforce laws and regulations and issue permits, concessions, authorizations, and environmental licenses. The Valle del Cauca Regional Autonomous Corporation and CI – Colombia signed a five-year agreement in March 2001 to implement a joint set of conservation actions. One promising innovative financing options supports coffee farmers who integrate conservation of protected areas and habitat along the slopes of the eastern cordillera in the departments of Chocó, Risaralda, Valle del Cauca, Cauca and Nariño from Tatamá National Park to the border with Ecuador.

At a local level, the mayors of municipalities represent the political and administrative authority to make environmental decisions affecting their jurisdictions. They promote and implement environmental and resource management policies. In addition, at local and regional levels, the Environmental Research Institute of the Pacific is an important actor in conservation in the Chocó. Linked to the MMA, the institute carries out scientific research and disseminates data on biological, social, and ecological conditions on the Pacific coast.

Table 6: Colombian Government Projects in the Chocó Biogeographic Region

AGENCY	Government Projects in the Chocó Biogeographic Region PROJECT
71021101	11100201
CODECHOCÓ	Implementation of Participatory Management Plans for Basins Supplying Municipal Wastewater Systems in the Department of Chocó: cartographic location and quantification of areas, establishment of tree nurseries, technical assistance and training
0005011006	
CODECHOCÓ	Control and Monitoring of Environmental and Renewable Natural Resources in the Department of Chocó: creating an institutional management framework to administer environmental and natural resources in Chocó
Municipalities of	Support to the Development of Ecotourism in Northern
Nuquí and Bahía	Communities of the Pacific Coast
Municipality of	Development of a "Plan de Vida" or Life Plan for the Awá
Barbacoas	Community
UAESPNN	Utría National Park: investment in management research in and around the bay
	Gorgona National Park: investment in the area
	Sanquianga National Park: investment in the area
	Farallones de Calí National Park: investment in the area
	Munchique National Park: investment in the area
	Tatamá National Park: investment in the area
	Utría, Tatamá, Farallones de Calí, Munchique, Gorgona and Sanquianga National Parks Program
	Characterization and Management of Páramos in the Department of Cauca (Páramos of Argelia and Pinchí)
Valle del Cauca Autonomous Corporation (CVC)	Coastal Zone Formulation and Execution of Integrated Management Plan; agreement between CVC and CI – Colombia to design and implement a conservation corridor Chocó-Andino

Ecuador

The Government of Ecuador funds environmental investment in the country through various organizations and institutions, including the MAE, Coastal Zone Management Program,

Development Unit of the Northern Border Initiative (UDENOR), and municipalities and provincial councils.

At the national level, the MAE is responsible for implementing environmental policies. In the last year, the MAE has gone through a major decentralization process involving the establishment of regional offices, which are organized by provinces, to play a key role in implementing regional activities. The MAE also recently prepared the Environmental and Biodiversity Strategy and, with World Bank support, implemented the Biodiversity Protection Project with resources directed to protected areas in the Chocó-Manabí Corridor.

The Coastal Zone Management Program operates at the national level with IDB funding and is coordinated by the central government. Its mission is to conserve, restore, and protect coastal resources and promote sustainable resource use through participatory processes. The program operates in six "special management zones" working through local committees and seven conservation and enforcement units coordinated through the port authorities.

The five-year, \$266 million UDENOR project focuses social development, environmental protection, and sanitary infrastructure. The province of Esmeraldas will receive \$93 million, while the province of Carchi will receive \$40 million. Of the investments slated for the Chocó-Manabí Corridor, an estimated \$10 million will be committed to protecting habitat.

Five other programs are considered as priorities by the Government of Ecuador on the coast:

Guayaquil Gulf Bioregion: Under the PATRA project in the Gilf of Guayaquil, the government promoted local control over environmental management in four sites in the provinces of Guayas, Los Rios, and El Oro.

Center for Marine Biodiversity: Also funded under the PATRA project, the Center supports a database on the Gulf of Guayaquil's marine biodiversity.

Institute of Urban and Regional Planning, Catholic University of Guayaquil: The institute supports the introduction of a local environmental management system in the province of Guayas and establishment of local environmental management units.

National Fisheries Institute: The Fisheries Institute conducts applied research and extension on all facets of shrimp aquaculture, including the education of fish farmers on the importance of sustainable shrimp farming and capture, assistance to government authorities on setting regulations and quotas for wild shrimp harvesting, and monitoring wild shrimp stocks.

Portoviejo Declaration on the Sustainable Development of Manabí: In response to concern about decling environmental quality and foreast degradation, the 22 counties of Manabí signed the Portoviejo Declaration on the Sustainable Development of Manabí. Most counties are currently implementing small projects in solid waste management, assessment and mitigation of environmental impacts from industrial activities, information systems and environmental education, and forest management.

In addition, the Government of Ecuador has secured GEF funds to implement its Biodiversity Strategy. Currently, a \$17.1 million portfolio in GEF project is either in implementation or in negotiation. Of this amount, \$3.1 million will be invested in the Chocó-Manabí corridor. These GEF investments provide an excellent opportunity for the CEPF to integrate such initiatives as dry forest conservation and Mache Chindul Forest Reserve project into the scope of this profile.

At regional and local levels, municipalities and provincial councils, which were created under the country's new decentralization policies, are assuming responsibility for environmental and natural resources management, including waste management, public education, regulation of environmental quality, and preparation of environmental agendas. This decentralization process has the potential to provide local NGOs with an unprecedented opportunity to become more meaningfully engaged in the local management of their environment and natural resources.

NGOs and Civil Society

National and international NGOs are implementing many environmental projects in the Chocó. Their role as future partners in conservation is essential. Members of civil society who own private reserves in the corridor or who belong to private NGOs are important stakeholders who have contributed to the success of environmental initiatives (e.g., the Network of Private Forest Reserves).

Colombia

More than 10 years of development and conservation effort is reflected in many small- and medium-scale projects supported by national and international NGOs. Some of the most active national NGOs and civil society organizations include ECOFONDO; FES; Fundación Inguede; Fundación Natura; Fundación Proselva; Fundación Yubarta; Asociación Nacional de Usuarios Campesinos; Federación de Organizaciones de Comunidades Negras; OREWA; Organización Regional Embera; Federación Nacional de Cafeteros. International NGOs include Conservation International, the Nature Conservancy, and the World Wide Fund for Nature.

Table 7 presents a selection of major projects carried out by NGOs.

Table 7: NGO Projects in the Chocó Biogeographic Region, Colombia

Type of Organization	NGO	Project
National NGO	ECOFONDO / Iniciativa de las Americas	Implementation of Management Guidelines for Threatened Flora and Fauna Species in Wounaan Indigenous Community
	FES	Protective Forestry Management Area La Planada
	Fundación Natura	Various projects in Utría National Park
International NGO	WWF CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL	Conservation and Sustainable Development in the Pacific Chocó Region Achieved by Strengthening Local Development Processes and Building Capacities to: promote the establishment, conservation, and protection of indigenous and Afro-Descendant territories and public and private ecological reserves; promote sustainable management of forest resources and agricultural systems in specific project areas; and strengthen the capacities of organizations and institutions in the areas of administration, planning and management. Since 1987, CI has conducted projects in three principal areas: Investigation, conservation and sustainable use of species and ecosystems; Natural resources policies and law
		Environmental education Agreement between CVC and CI Colombia to design and implement a Conservation Corridor Choco-Andino

Ecuador

Some of the most active national NGOs and civil society organizations include Alianza Jatun Sacha-CDC; Centro de Investigaciones de la Biodiversidad Tropical; Coordinadora Ecuatoriana de Agroecología; Corporación de Bosques Privados del Ecuador; Corporación Río Manduriaco; EcoCiencia; Fundación Altropico; Awa Federation; Fundación Golondrinas; Fundación Maquipucuna; Fundación Natura; Fondo Ecuatoriano Populorum Progressio; and the Instituto de Ecología Aplicada de la Universidad San Francisco de Quito. International NGOs include the Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Populi, Conservation International, the Nature Conservancy, World Conservation Union, BirdLife International, and the World Wide Fund for Nature.

Table 8 presents a selection of projects carried out by NGOs in Ecuador.

Table 8: NGO Projects in the Chocó Biogeographic Region, Ecuador

Type of NGO	NGO	ogeographic Region, Ecuador Project
National	Alianza Jatun Sacha-CDC	Buffer zone, Cotacachi Cayapas Reserve, Mache Chindul & Muisne Estuary: managing private reserves, ecotourism, community development, research, agroforestry, and environmental education
	CIBT	Imbabura & Esmeraldas: agriculture, permaculture, forest management, research, training, and consulting on private reserve management
	CEA	Partners: CEFODI, FEPP, AMINGAY, ULVT, FUNDARE, PROPUEBLO: training and technical assistance in agroecology, agroforestry, and participatory natural resource management
	CECIA CEDA	Key player in Mindo and Birdlife International's Ecuadorian partner Environmental law NGO that focusses on private land conservation and promotes the incorporation of the private sector in Choco conservation.
	Corporación Bosques Privados del Ecuador	Contributes to management of private forestry reserves, conservation processes, reforestation, and capacity building.
	Corporación Latinoamericana de Desarrollo (CLD)	Policy development with communities in the Choco
	Corporación Río Manduriaco	Provinces of Imbabura and Esmeraldas: developing a management strategy for the Río Manduriaco Reserve
	FEPP	Provinces of Esmeraldas and Manabí: legalizing communal lands, agriculture, forestry production, and natural resource management
	Fundación EcoCiencia	SUBIR Project: biological inventories, applied research for resource management, and monitoring the impact of logging on biodiversity
	Fundación Golondrinas	Golondrinas Reserve, Mira River Basin: Andean forest conservation
	Fundación Maquipucuna	Chocó Andino Conservation Corridor, connecting Guayllabamba River, Cotacachi Cayapas Reserve and northern Esmeraldas
	Fundación Natura	Mache Chindul & Chongón Colonche mountain ranges, Machalilla National Park: Reforestation, community resources, environmental monitoring, integrated conservation, ecotourism, capacity-building, and environmental education
	ECOLAP	Manabí environmental education, research, monitoring, and GIS
	Fundación Natura	Various projects in Utría National Park
International	CISP	Artesanal and coastal fishery, sustainable alternatives to fishing, coastal zone management, and support for the southern Manabí Special Management Zone, among others
	IUCN	Ecotourism related to bird watching in the wetlands of la Segua
	CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL	 The main activities of CI in the Chocó-Manabi Conservation Corridor have been: The Tagua Initiative, in collaboration with the local Ecuadorian NGO, CIDESA Support to the Comuna Rio Santiago-Cayapas by carrying out a population census and a social and environmental needs assessment, including an extension of the Tagua initiative
	TNC	With USAID and its own funds, supports NGOs, among others, Alianza Jatun Sacha-CDC, Fundación Natura, in developing conservation actions for Machalilla National Park, under the Parks in Peril Project. Sub-projects completed: Biodiversity Monitoring in Machalilla National Park Monitoring the Catch of Marine Turtles in Machalilla National Park Monitoring of Marine Turtles in the Beaches of Machalilla National Park
	WWF	Supporting conservation and sustainable development in the Pacific Chocó region by strengthening local development processes and building capacities to: promote the establishment, conservation, and protection of indigenous and Afrodescendant territories and public and private ecological reserves; promote sustainable management of forest resources and agricultural systems in specific project areas; strengthen institutional capacities in the areas of administration, planning and management; and promote a favorable policy and legal framework for conservation

CEPF NICHE FOR INVESTMENT IN THE REGION

Over a five-year period, the CEPF will facilitate the initial implementation phase of Vision 2010, supporting effective participation by NGOs and civil society organizations in the conservation of biodiversity within the Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot. The strategy will emphasize priority areas within the Chocó-Manabí Corridor, where many opportunities exist to develop local and regional mechanisms to foster corridor-level conservation efforts among stakeholders, improve management of protected areas, and promote sustainable development practices in communities located near protected areas.

In both countries, achievement of such conservation goals depends on a large number of stakeholders and institutional alliances that endorse a common vision for the corridor. Fortunately, several developments in recent years provide a promising setting for the CEPF to achieve meaningful results.

Many institutions have expressed strong interest in addressing the Chocó's environmental problems, including such regional actors as the Cauca Valley Regional Autonomous Corporation and ECOFONDO in Colombia, and the Fundación Maquipucuna, EcoCiencia, Jatun Sacha, and regional MAE offices in Esmeraldas, Manabí, Carchi-Imbabura in Ecuador. In addition, the results and priorities determined through WWF's Ecoregional Planning Process held in Colombia followed by results of the CI led Cali planning workshop provide a strong foundation for work in participatory ecoregional planning, conservation, and sustainable development in this region. Furthermore, the IUCN, the Nature Conservancy, Conservation International, and other international NGOs are contributors, as is support from such international organizations as the World Bank, GEF, Inter-American Development Bank, USAID and European bilateral agencies.

The CEPF will pay particular attention to several existing projects and will aim to influence their direction with a view toward leveraging new resources for conservation and forming partnerships with donors, governments, and the private sector to ensure that diverse programs work together in synergy. The CEPF has already identified \$52 million available over the short to medium term that provide promising opportunities to integrate biodiversity conservation efforts in the Chocó-Manabí Corridor. In Colombia, CI has secured commitments from the Cauca Valley Regional Autonomous Corporation and ECOFONDO to channel an additional \$7 million to conservation activities. In Ecuador, CEPF priorities can be integrated into a \$45 million portfolio of projects in the corridor: the Maquipucuna Project (\$3.1 million) supported by the GEF; the Carbon Trust's Jatun Sacha – CI Project (\$2 million); the IDB's Coastal Resources Management Project (\$30 million); and the Northern Border Development Project (\$10 million).

The opportunity to work closely with the IDB is particularly noteworthy. The forthcoming Coastal Resources Management Project will emphasize the integration of biodiversity conservation into national coastal resource management. The project, scheduled for approval in mid-2002, will contain five components: national policy, best practices for coastal management, municipal-level zoning, investment projects for coastal communities, and special studies and monitoring. The investment component presents a particularly interesting opportunity for the CEPF and its partners because several anticipated activities — including community management of mangroves, improved shrimp farming practices, and infrastructure development — could have considerable benefits for biodiversity if designed with conservation goals in mind.

In addition to these leveraging opportunities, several other developments bode well for promoting conservation in the Chocó-Manabí. For example, CI entered into a five-year agreement with the Ecuadorian Ministry of Environment in October 2001 to help implement the country's National Biodiversity Strategy, with a particular focus on strengthening its national parks system. To implement the agreement, CI will work with the Environment Ministry and its regional offices to strengthen the Mache Chindul Ecological Reserve, located in the Chocó-Manabí Corridor. The new partnership between CI and the MAE provides an auspicious step toward real conservation results in the corridor.

Efforts and experiences to date in the corridor have highlighted the need for self-directed, coordinated, and sustainable participation of local residents and organizations in scoping, planning, designing, implementing, managing, monitoring, and evaluating conservation programs. Lessons learned over the last ten years under USAID's SUBIR project in Ecuador point to the importance of ensuring that community-based organizations assume responsibility for implementing conservation and resource management projects for the sake of sustainability. Furthermore, gender considerations must be integrated into all aspects of conservation to achieve sustainability. Strengthening these institutions, alliances and processes represents a major investment opportunity and niche for inclusion in the CEPF investment strategy and program.

In Colombia, recently improved policies and regulatory frameworks, improved capacity of public institutions, and increased political strength of Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities provide a strong foundation for conserving biodiversity. Furthermore, local NGOs have strong technical capacity and a firm understanding of the negative impact of inappropriate resource use.

In Ecuador, the foundation for success in conservation is aided by recent improvement in environmental legislation and policy trends toward decentralization; increased acceptance of privately managed parks, community reserves and municipal protected areas; and a trend toward ecologically sound agriculture and alternatives to monoculture production systems. The recent Special Law for the Decentralization of the State and Public Participation transfers responsibility for management of natural resources from the central government to counties and municipalities, opening possibilities for participatory land use planning at the local level. This decentralization presents an unprecedented opportunity for the conservation community in Ecuador.

In 1996, Ecuador passed its first national environmental law and created the Ministry of Environment. The law presented new openings for local initiatives — especially those originating in the private sector. Promoting biodiversity-friendly enterprises, carbon sequestration and other climate change investments, and privately funded ecotrusts could provide opportunities for the CEPF, in partnership with other partners and private businesses. Finally, the National Biodiversity Policy and Strategy and the sustainable development policy and strategy allow conversion of public commitments into biodiversity-friendly endeavors such as ecotourism, sustainable agriculture and fisheries programs, and marketing of genetic resources and agricultural biodiversity.

CEPF INVESTMENT STRATEGY AND PROGRAM FOCUS

Over a five-year period, the CEPF investment strategy will facilitate the initial implementation phase of Vision 2010, supporting effective participation by NGOs and civil society in the conservation of biodiversity within the Chocó-Manabí Corridor. Three principles, identified during the consultation process, will guide CEPF grantmaking:

- The CEPF will seek opportunities to empower historically underserved Afro-Colombians, Afro-Ecuadorians, and indigenous communities (particularly the Awa, Chachis, and Chocoes) for conservation and sound natural resource management.
- The CEPF will target strategically located areas that maximize conservation impact, whether by improving management in existing protected areas that lack adequate capacity, or by pursuing greater connectivity between parks through the adoption of sustainable agriculture and environmentally sound resource management practices.
- The CEPF will pursue opportunities that leverage and influence other investments in the region in order to encourage a coordinated approach among partners and their programs.

The CEPF niche is directed toward influencing the direction of several major initiatives, leveraging new resources for conservation, and catalyzing the establishment of strategic alliances and partnerships within key stakeholder groups. The CEPF will facilitate a coordinated approach that encourages distinct environmental programs and projects to work together in synergy to consolidate protected areas, ensure the survival of endangered and threatened species, and channel benefits from conservation to historically underserved communities. Local, national, and international NGOs are in a unique position to help CEPF achieve these goals.

Table 9: CEPF Funding Strategy for the Chocó-Manabi Conservation Corridor

	CEPF Strategic Directions	CEPF Investment Priorities
1.	Establish/strengthen local and regional mechanisms to foster corridor-level conservation	Develop and operationalize existing and new frameworks and processes for information exchange, alliance building, and dialogue for coordination between stakeholders, governments, international donors and NGOs
	Conservation	In a civil society led effort prepare a financing strategy for conservation in the corridor, to examine trust funds, endowments, conservation concessions and ecotrusts
		Support environmental monitoring and evaluation systems for development and conservation initiatives and for selected species
		Through civil society efforts, incorporate corridor conservation priorities and plans into the Ecuadorian National Biodiversity Strategy, and into Ecuadorian local and regional development and decentralization plans; integrate coastal ecosystems into corridor priorities
		Increase awareness of, and support for, biodiversity conservation in the corridor among key stakeholder groups*
		Through targeted civil society initiatives, improve and consolidate legal framework for national systems of protected areas*
		Launch and complete transfrontier territory planning processes, including agro-ecological zoning of critical areas, to promote land use that is compatible with corridor priorities*
		Ensure that civil society efforts lead to the incorporation of biodiversity concerns into decision-making processes associated with major initiatives, such as Plan Colombia, Plan Pacifico and Trans-Ecuadorian Pipeline*
2.	Bring selected protected areas and species under improved management	Through civil society efforts prepare and implement management plans for selected protected areas, including Mache Chindul Reserve, Angel Ecological Reserve and Awa Forest Reserve
		2.2 Consolidate selected protected areas - through targeted civil society efforts - including Tatamas, Utria, San Quianga, Farallones de Cali, Munchiques, Galeras, Callapas Matage and Cotacachi Cayapas
		2.3 Improve protection and management of habitat for critical species
		Foster and support applied research on little known, threatened and endemic species and habitats*
		2.5 Strengthen the institutional capacity of municipalities, communities, NGOs and the private sector for protected areas management*
3.	Identify and promote sustainable development practices in communities near selected protected areas	3.1 Identify, demonstrate, and disseminate best practices in key sub-sectors: improved forest management, carbon sequestration projects, reforestation; agroforestry, NTFP, coffee, and cacao; sustainable shrimp farming; and ecotourism*
		3.2 Identify, demonstrate and disseminate traditional uses of natural resources*

^{*} Investment priorities to be supported in conjunction with funding partners through funds leveraged by CEPF support

Establish/strengthen local and regional mechanisms to foster corridor-level conservation

Coordination between major stakeholder groups and proponents of conservation in the Chocó-Manabí is essential given the number and variety of ongoing environmental efforts in the region. The CEPF will take a multi-pronged approach to create a variety of targeted mechanisms that support corridor-level conservation. Although several coordination frameworks already operate in the area, each framework functions at a different level of effectiveness and participation. Under this strategic direction, the CEPF will support NGOs in order to strengthen existing coordination frameworks and establish a broader coordination mechanism and strategic alliances to guide relations between the major stakeholders. The aim will be to encourage these stakeholders to work together synergistically toward achieving conservation at the corridor level. This investment priority will be carried out by NGOs with the required expertise in the region, identified by the depth and breadth of their current operational involvement and their capacity to convene stakeholders and create working alliances. In the spirit of creating collaborative relationships, investment priorities marked with an asterisk in Table 9 will rely on working in close partnership with other donors and their funds to achieved desired results.

The creation of effective alliances and coordinating mechanisms will depend on meaningful stakeholder participation. National and local consultations on the corridor objectives represent a step in this process, including the WWF-led priority-setting process and the CI-led stakeholder consultation workshop. To address additional needs for corridor-level coordination, the CEPF will provide resources to create a framework and process for information exchange and dialogue among stakeholders and between governments. Potential activities could include the establishment of an information clearinghouse to house a centralized database and a web site, and the production of outreach materials on corridor-level activities and data for public dissemination.

Since an effective conservation program must rely on public support and the creation of a constituency and advocacy group for biodiversity protection, the CEPF will collaborate with funding partners to support projects that inform and educate the public and selected stakeholder groups about the importance of adopting a corridor-level approach for biodiversity conservation, and of an environmentally and socially sustainable path to development.

Recognizing that conservation by civil society can only be effective if the national, regional, municipal, and local policies that regulate natural resources are effective, understood, and enforced, the CEPF will work with funding partners to support opportunities for greater participation in policy making that build on existing studies to promote more favorable political and legal frameworks for conservation.

In Ecuador, the CEPF will support decentralization activities by working with municipal and regional partners to ensure that conservation of the region's rich biological heritage is integrated into future development and decentralization plans. Similarly, the CEPF will work closely with the regional offices of the Ministry of the Environment to implement the National Biodiversity Strategy in the corridor. The CEPF will also work at the policy level to identify opportunities where NGOs can integrate biodiversity protection concerns into decision making for Plan Colombia, Plan Pacifico, the Northern Border Development Project in Ecuador, and Trans-

Ecuadorian pipeline. The CEPF will work with partners to advocate for measures that mitigate potentially negative impacts of these large programs. Due to the coastal ecosystem's rapid decline in the Chocó-Manabí, and particularly in Ecuador, the CEPF will collaborate with funding partners to ensure that the needs of coastal habitat and communities are integrated into corridor priorities. Mangroves and critical nesting sites will be a focal point of this investment priority. To promote a pattern of land use compatible with corridor priorities and policies, the CEPF will work with funding partners to initiate and support a transfrontier territory planning processes, to include agro-ecological zoning of critical areas such as mangrove forests.

To ensure long-term success in conserving the Chocó, the CEPF will support the development of a comprehensive strategy and action plan to finance future conservation initiatives. The purpose of the strategy will be to identify a plan in which all levels of stakeholder groups, starting at the local level with individual communities all the way through to national and regional level entities, can pursue opportunities for long-term financing of their programs. Potential mechanisms to be examined include trust funds, endowments, and conservation concessions. As part of the action plan, the CEPF may provide legal and technical assistance to NGOs interested in establishing long-term financial structures. Emerging private sector support for establishing Ecotrusts such as the proposed Trans-Ecuadorian Pipeline EcoTrust, funded by the oil industry, may provide long-term resources for conserving biodiversity in selected areas.

Equally important to the success of conservation efforts, the CEPF will work with regional authorities and relevant institutions in developing and implementing an environmental monitoring and evaluation system for development and conservation initiatives. The system will be designed to institutionalize an adaptive approach to project management.

Bring selected protected areas under improved management

In both Colombia and Ecuador, several protected areas lack basic management plans that identify and zone areas for compatible resource use and that lay out to strategy for achieving long-term conservation goals. The challenge ahead is to put in place an effective system of management that protects biodiversity while also helping local communities to share in the benefits of conservation. Plan Pacifico is providing considerable financing to government entities to consolidate existing protected areas and create long-term management plans. However, resources still need to be channeled to civil society in order to consolidate existing protected areas. Under this strategic direction, the CEPF will provide resources to prepare management and zoning plans for the Mache Chindul Reserve, Angel Ecological Reserve, and Awa Forest Reserve, and will fund activities to help consolidate the protected areas of Tatamá, Utria, San Quianga, Farallones de Cali, Munchique, Galeras, Callapas Matage and Cotacachi Cayapas.

The trend toward decentralized authority over resource management, particularly in Ecuador, creates exciting opportunities for the CEPF and its partners. Empowering local stakeholders to take advantage of such opportunities in managing their protected areas will be an important investment priority under this strategic direction. The CEPF and its funding partners will work with selected municipalities, communities, NGOs, and the private sector to increase their capacity to take advantage of the opportunities afforded by decentralization to create innovative structures and activities

At a species level, the CEPF will foster — and, when appropriate, support — applied research on a limited number of threatened or endangered species and habitats for which data is lacking for management decision-making. Research findings will be used to help protect and improve management of habitat sheltering these critical species.

Identify and promote sustainable development practices in communities near selected protected areas

A large area of the Chocó ecosystem, particularly in Ecuador, has been transformed by unsustainable production of banana, plantain, cocoa, coffee, shrimp, and African palm, among other products. Fortunately, the recent trend toward decentralization presents a significant opportunity for innovative community-based conservation initiatives. Under this strategic direction, the CEPF will collaborate with funding partners to take advantage of this new climate in governance by promoting community-based development projects that safeguard biodiversity by encouraging connectivity between protected areas, while also increasing incomes for some of the most impoverished communities in the region. The CEPF will endeavor to curb habitat loss and promote connectivity by investing in projects to increase forest cover through habitat restoration and foster environmentally compatible land use. The CEPF also will seek to improve community livelihoods through initiatives that diversify agricultural areas through appropriate agroforestry systems (particularly coffee and cacao), sustainable shrimp farming, and locally based ecotourism that relies on intact ecosystems. Opportunities will also be pursued in carbon sequestration and other climate change projects. The CEPF will support initiatives that demonstrate the long-term environmental and economic benefits of sustainable development (versus monoculture), and efforts to standardize best practice in ecotourism and resource management. Many indigenous, Afro-Colombian, Afro-Ecuadorian, and mestizo communities in and around the Chocó will be crucial partners under this strategic direction. In this regard, the program also will support the identification, demonstration, and dissemination of traditional uses of resources as a means of supporting local cultures and their heritage.

The project portfolio within this strategic funding direction will only be limited by CEPF outreach to these communities. Initial analysis, however, shows that projects promoting appropriate land and resource use, information dissemination, and buffer-zone management should all be CEPF priorities. To ensure that all prospective grantees in this strategic direction have an opportunity to apply for grants, the CEPF will support an aggressive outreach campaign.

SUSTAINABILITY

CEPF investments will be funded over a period of five years. They represent the first step toward the goal of harmonizing biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the Chocó-Manabí Corridor. It is therefore essential to look beyond the five-year funding horizon of the CEPF and to ensure sustainability of support for the corridor — a task aided by substantial investment in the region.

Four major opportunities exist to leverage and influence development projects for conservation in the Chocó-Manabi Corridor, two in Colombia by the Valle de Cauca Regional Autonomous Corporation and ECOFONDO, and the other two in Ecuador through the IDB's Coastal Resource Management Project and the Northern Development Border Project. The Valle de

Cauca Regional Autonomous Corporation has committed up to \$5 million in support of the strategic directions identified in this profile. The specific amount contributed by the Valle de Cauca Regional Autonomous Corporation will be determined once the actual CEPF investment in the region has been allocated by the Donor Council. ECOFONDO has committed \$2 million to support implementation of CEPF's strategic directions. In addition, official representatives of the IDB have expressed strong interest in investing additional resources within the same strategic funding directions articulated in this profile. The IDB's investment in improving coastal management is \$30 million; the deployment of a significant percentage of this amount for conservation would be a major benefit for biodiversity. In addition, UDENOR's major investment of \$266 million over five years along the northern border presents an exciting opportunity to influence its environmental protection component. An estimated \$133 million will be invested in the Ecuadorian half of the corridor.

In Colombia and Ecuador, the national environmental policy and regulatory frameworks increasingly reflect concern for short- and long-term environmental impact of unregulated development and indiscriminate exploitation of natural resources. In both countries, environmental management and decision making is being decentralized to municipal and community levels, and is increasingly open to the full democratic participation of politically and socially organized local populations. There is growing concern among traditional inhabitants of the Chocó regarding the sustainability of the natural resources on which they depend, especially in light of the potential impacts from large programs promoted under Plan Pacifico and Plan Colombia. Their eagerness to participate in decision-making concerning the use and conservation of these resources is extremely encouraging.

CEPF programs will need to strengthen emerging national, regional, and local conservation efforts to improve their functional capacities. USAID's SUBIR project in Ecuador has already shown the critical role that locally-based organizations must play to ensure the sustainability of activities financed by the international community. Other lessons from SUBIR will be identified and where appropriate incorporated into CEPF's operations. Sustainability of CEPF investments will ultimately depend on the degree to which these national, regional and local efforts become autonomous, self-directed, and self-sufficient. The measure of success will be the degree of local ownership over the concepts, methods, and technologies of biodiversity conservation. CEPF can promote these outcomes by leveraging additional and long-term funding for the corridor initiative.

The investment strategy presented here assumes a quasi-competitive model, in that sub-projects will be screened based on predetermined criteria. One such criterion is the capacity of prospective grantees to leverage CEPF funds, both financially and with in-kind services. Another criterion requires applicants to show strategic plans for longer-term funding from sources other than CEPF. (This will not be possible in all cases, but it is a goal.) Also, given some of the threats affecting the corridor, including issues of public order and security, applicants will need to present plans to mitigate these risks.

In the spirit of sharing with the wider global conservation community, projects within the Chocó-Manabí Corridor which develop or refine best practices will be added to the CEPF web site to be replicated in efforts to protect other critical ecosystems. The program will thus inform and

educate a wider community within and beyond the region.

CONCLUSION

The Chocó-Manabí Corridor encompasses some of the most biologically rich and diverse habitats in the world. Ranging from the Pacific coastal waters and mangrove forests to the peaks of the western *cordilleras* of the Andes, and from the wetlands of northwestern Colombia to the dry forests of southern Ecuador, the region is also home to a unique set of cultures. Each of these groups lives within, and makes different uses of, the habitats, natural resources, and geographic properties of its respective homeland. Each group has a different legal and corporate status under the national constitutions and laws. The Chocó-Manabí Corridor is a cross-section of this biological, cultural, ethnic and constitutional diversity. It is also in danger of irreparable environmental degradation as a result of extreme pressures exerted by internal and external economic, political, and demographic forces. Fortunately, many stakeholders have joined in partnerships to address these threats to biodiversity and to the livelihood and security of the corridor's traditional inhabitants.

In Colombia, while much of the northern sector of the corridor is still intact, the southern sector, close to the Ecuadorian border, has been significantly fragmented and altered. It contains several large protected areas. Recent legal recognition of local ownership of land and other natural resources (including fish, shrimp, mangroves, and community forests) in the region encourages creative and promising conservation practices and sustainable use among indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities, as well as in mestizo communities established more recently in and around the national parks. The CEPF can catalyze preparation of land use management plans while also identifying and promoting sustainable production systems on these lands.

Ecuador also features a rich mix of civil society development and conservation organizations, many with considerable experience in the region and with time-tested environmental management concepts, methods, and technologies to share with their local counterparts. Here, too, given steady improvement in policy and legal frameworks, partnerships between government and civil society are now more easily established, more viable, and more durable. These partnerships enable larger programs and increased financing to be introduced and administered effectively, and allow for expansion and replication projects and best practices. CEPF resources can strengthen and enrich them.

Pressures are mounting, however, on the region's resources, as small farmers are driven out of the central highlands by violence and the narcotics trade in Colombia and are forced into the inhospitable rainforests of the Pacific coast. Other interests — such as logging of high-value timber species, gold and other mineral extraction, fishing and shrimp farming, and the exploitation of other forest and mangrove resources — stand to undermine the conservation goals of the Chocó-Manabí Corridor initiative. Large tracts of coastal rainforest are still being cleared for oil palm plantations and for extensive, inefficient cattle ranching. In addition, regional development plans supported under Plan Pacifico still rely on expanded port and road facilities, oil and gas pipelines, hydroelectric dams and transmission corridors, banana plantations, and other projects responding to global market pressures and opportunities. The success of the corridor initiative will depend largely on CEPF's identification of comparative programming and funding advantages, as well as the commitment and creativity needed to forge

and maintain partnerships between sectors, between agencies, and between countries. Finally, the challenge of establishing and maintaining commitment to the Chocó-Manabí Corridor between the two nations cannot be underestimated, as political interests and other regional security and economic concerns may at any time supersede those of conservation and sustainable resource management.

This initiative is timely, addressing many specific opportunities for ecoregional investment and action within three strategic directions: development of local and regional mechanisms to foster corridor-level conservation among stakeholders, improved management of protected areas, and adoption of sustainable development practices in communities located in close proximity to protected areas. The investment strategy outlined in this profile will draw together many local, regional, national, and international partners in a collaborative effort to promote conservation and sustainable development in the Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AECI Spanish Agency for International Cooperation

AMED Darién Special Management Area
CAF Andean Development Corporation
CEA Ecuadorian Coordinator of Agroecology
CEPF Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

CI Conservation International

CI – Andes Conservation International Andean Regional Program

CIBT Center for Studies of Tropical Biodiversity
CIDA Canadian International Development Agency

CISP International Committee for the Development of Peoples

CVC Valle del Cauca Autonomous Corporation

ECOLAP Applied Ecology Institute, University of San Francisco de Quito

FEPP Fondo Ecuatoriano Populorum Progressio

Global Environment Facility GEF German Technical Cooperation GTZ Inter-American Development Bank IDB Colombian Land Reform Institute **INCORA IUCN** World Conservation Union Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau KfW MAE Ministry of Environment (Ecuador) MMA Ministry of the Environment (Colombia)

NAR National Advisory Council for Development and Cooperation (The Netherlands)

NGO nongovernmental organization

OREWA Indigenous Organization of the Embera Waunana Region

PMRC Coastal Zone Management Program, Ecuador

TNC the Nature Conservancy

UAESPNN Special Administrative Unit of the National Parks System

UNDP U.N. Development Program UNEP U.N. Environment Program

USAID U.S. Agency for International Development

WWF World Wide Fund for Nature

An Overview of CEPF's Portfolio in the Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot: Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor

The Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor falls within the Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot, an area that stretches from southeastern Panamá, along the Pacific coast of Colombia and Ecuador, as far as the northwestern corner of Perú. Within this hotspot, the Chocó-Manabí Corridor spans more than 60,000 square kilometers. In Colombia, the corridor encompasses a full range of Chocó and Andean ecosystems as it extends from the peaks of Colombia's western Andean cordillera down to the Pacific Ocean. In Ecuador, the corridor includes numerous life zones in the Cotacachi-Cayapas Ecological Reserve and Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve. Cotacachi-Cayapas, located in the western foothills of the Ecuadorian Andes, covers about 204,000 hectares of coastal and sierra zones, ranging in elevation from 100 to 4,400 meters.

This region is globally recognized as one of the world's most biologically and culturally diverse. It provides habitat to an extraordinary wealth of plant and animal species and has an extremely high degree of endemism — by some estimates, one of the highest in the world. In addition, it is home to a diverse range of more than 250 distinct ethnic groups, including African descendants, indigenous and mestizo communities. Because of this, much of the CEPF emphasis in this region is working with the various ethnic groups living in and around the protected areas of the Corridor to find ways of better protecting biodiversity while also helping to improve livelihoods.

The CEPF investment strategy is to support effective participation by civil society in the conservation of biodiversity within the Chocó-Manabí Corridor — seeking to empower historically marginalized Afro-Colombian, Afro-Ecuadorian, and indigenous communities regarding conservation and sound natural resource management in their home lands; to improve the management of existing protected areas; to create connectivity between protected areas; and to leverage other investments in the region through a more coordinated approach to development plans.

The ecosystem profile established three strategic directions for CEPF's grant making in this region:

- 1. Establish/strengthen local and regional mechanisms to foster corridor-level conservation.
 - This strategic direction focuses on civil society efforts to influence policy-makers to incorporate biodiversity conservation more fully into their development plans, investments, legislation and policies. It also allows for building both regional stakeholder networks and an elevated awareness of the connection between nature conservation and sustainable development at local, regional and national levels.
- Bring selected protected areas and species under improved management.
 Here CEPF seeks proposals specifically to stimulate improved planning and
 management of protected areas. This includes the development of formal
 management plans, biodiversity inventories and surveys, and building the
 capacity of individuals and institutions responsible for the management of
 protected areas.

3. Identify and develop sustainable development practices in communities near selected protected areas

Here CEPF specifically targets the distinct ethnic groups, including African descendants, indigenous and mestizo communities. The focus is on supporting projects that will help introduce new techniques for natural resource use among these communities. Projects targeting coffee, cacao, shrimp farming, ecotourism, carbon sequestration and a range of non-timber forest products are all possibilities under this strategic direction.

Coordinating CEPF Grantmaking on the Ground

The Coordination Unit for the Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor is composed of members of the Conservation International offices in both Colombia and Ecuador. Their iob is to provide close and continuous support to applicants and grantees. They review all proposals and contribute to project design and monitoring to ensure a network of strategically oriented, cohesive projects. Coordination Unit staff work at the country and bi-national scale to project the CEPF strategy, fostering partnerships among key stakeholders and establishing connections between NGOs and community groups to build greater grassroots capacity. This has been achieved principally through dialogues with municipal and national government authorities, as well as indigenous and African descendant community organizations, helping these decision-makers to include biodiversity conservation in their local development agendas. Regional meetings have also been convened to promote dissemination of information about management plans and conservation tools, particularly along the border between Colombia and Ecuador. The coordination Unit also seeks to secure complementary funds to CEPF investment in the Corridor to support a strong civil society base for biodiversity conservation that can thrive long after initial CEPF funds have been fully committed.

The CEPF Approach to Grant-making: Ventanas

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) began funding for this hotspot in early 2002 with a \$5 million initial investment strategy to be implemented over 5 years. The strategy emphasizes priority areas within the Chocó-Manabí Corridor where many opportunities exist to develop local and regional mechanisms to foster corridor-level conservation efforts among many stakeholders, improve the management of protected areas, and promote sustainable development practices in communities located near protected areas.

Given the expanse of the Chocó-Manabí Corridor, and the limited amount of funding available, CEPF conducted a further ranking of funding targets in order to give our grants an even sharper focus. This refinement of our investment niche was developed around four criteria:

- Biology: Areas within the corridor were selected based on location of natural vegetation remnants that could provide opportunities for increased connectivity, especially in areas identified as priority sites for species and habitat conservation.
- Protected Areas: Focus was given to the consolidation and protection of established Natural Parks, Ecological Reserves, Wildlife Refuges, as well as Civil Society Nature Reserves managed by indigenous and African descendent communities.

- Geography: An additional analysis of the watersheds within the Corridor was conducted to ensure that the impacts of drainage systems were included in the priority area definition process.
- Management: A census of public and private management initiatives in the corridor was conducted to assess in particular the capacity of the NGO sector in the Corridor to determine which areas had the greatest need.

The result of this process was the definition of four priority areas within the corridor, which we refer to as "Ventanas," or windows. These priority areas were defined as the Bocas de San Juan Ventana in Colombia, the Bi-National Ventana covering a large area along the border between Colombia and Ecuador, and the Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve and Machililla National Park Ventanas in Ecuador. These have been determined as the core building blocks through which to successfully support a corridor approach in this region.

To date CEPF has committed almost \$3.6 million in support of 28 projects that contribute to all three strategic directions in all four Ventanas (Charts 1 and 2, all charts are provided at the end of the overview). The full picture of the portfolio to date is presented in Chart 3 and the timeline of grant commitments is illustrated in Chart 4.

For each of these Ventanas, a set of 5 and 10-year conservation outcomes was developed which support and further refine the focus of the CEPF strategic directions and help guide CEPF in our project selection. The outcomes designated for the corridor provide additional guidance on priority areas for protection, consolidation, and connectivity within each of the Ventanas. The 5 and 10-year outcomes for Chocó-Manabí provide a tool for monitoring and measuring the impact of the CEPF investment, and are a framework for collaborative implementation with our partners on the ground. As part of this process, three maps were produced to help monitor and visualize the current and future state of the Corridor. These maps include the current state of the Corridor, and 5-year and 10-year vision maps provided at the end of this summary document.

Bocas de San Juan Ventana (Colombia)

The Bocas de San Juan Ventana consists of the northern-most portion of the Corridor, forming a triangle that includes Tatamá and Utría National Parks, their buffer zones, Serranía de los Paraguas and the watershed of the San Juan River. Within this window, there is great opportunity to create connectivity between Tatamá and Serranía de los Paraguas by creating a micro-corridor through the Valle del Cauca region.

The set of 5- and 10-year outcomes developed for the Bocas de San Juan Ventana is as follows:

5-year Outcomes: San Juan Ventana

Increase the size of the Natural Reserve of Cerro el Inglés

Strengthen the Network of Natural Reserves for Serranía de los Paraguas

Improved management and protection of species in the Southern Buffer Zone of Utría / Golfo de Tribugá National Park

Improved management and protection of species in the Northern Buffer Zone of Utría / El Valle National Park

Establish Connectivity between Tatamá National Park & Serranía de los Paraguas Private Reserve

Implementation of Management Plans for the Territorios Colectivos Negros in the improvement zone of the Network of Natural Reserves of Serranía de los Paraguas

10-year Outcomes: San Juan Ventana

Improved management of the Private Nature Reserves of Serranía de los Paraguas

Management plans implemented and species protected in the southern and northern portions of the Buffer Zone of Utría / Golfo de Tribugá National Park

Connectivity established between Tatamá National Park and Serranía de los Paraguas Private Reserve

Connectivity established in Territorios Colectivos Negros and Resguardos Indígenas in the Mid and Lower San Juan

Connectivity in this area is of increasing importance, as the landscape is rapidly becoming a mosaic of fragmented forest blocks where traditional shade-grown coffee producers are changing practices to cattle grazing. As a result, working with coffee farmers is one targeted approach in this region, and CEPF has invested a total of \$526,450 in a partnership that includes Conservation International, the Comité Departamental de Cafeteros del Valle del Cauca of the Colombian Coffee Federation and the Corporación Autónoma Regional del Valle del Cauca (CVC). This partnership is working to improve current coffee farming practices among more than 1,000 coffee farmers to help create better connectivity between Tatamá National Park and Serranía de los Paraguas Private Reserve, while also helping to ensure a steady demand for coffee cultivated through conservation practices.

Another key focus within the Bocas de San Juan Ventana is the provision of capacity to those managing the protected areas within this priority site. Corporación Serraniagua is currently implementing a grant to establish a network of private reserves in the Tatamá-Paraguas Conservation Corridor by preparing needs assessments and management plans for 12 private reserves. This project focuses on developing connectivity in the region as well as the improvement of overall management practices.

Bi-National Ventana (Colombia and Ecuador)

The Bi-National Ventana is the largest of the four CEPF priority areas, encompassing the frontier region between Colombia and Ecuador that falls within the Hotspot. In Colombia, the Ventana starts in the Sanquianga National Park in the north, including the Tumaco mangroves, the Mira River watershed, the Pangan and Ñambí Forest Reserves and the Awá Territories. In Ecuador, it includes the triangle between El Angel Ecological Reserve, the Ethnic Awá Forest Reserve, the Cotacachi Cayapas Ecological Reserve, and the Cayapas Mataje Mangroves Ecological Reserve.

This priority area is home to a diverse range of ethnic and Afro communities living in and around the Ventana's protected areas in both countries. CEPF's emphasis in this priority area is on providing new land management techniques and alternatives to the communities of the region and on enhancing their capacity to plan and manage the formally established protected areas. In many cases these protected areas are indigenous reserves where the local communities have a legal mandate to develop and implement such plans.

The set of 5- and 10-year outcomes developed for the Bi-National Ventana is as follows:

5-year Outcomes: Bi-National Ventana

Increase the size of the Pangan Reserve

Establish connectivity between the Barbacos Nariño Reserves

Establishment and management of Cuenca del Mira Mataje Reserve

Create connectivity between the Cotacachi Cayapas – Manglares Cayapas Mataje Ecologica Reserves with the Awa

Indigenous Reserves, Golondrinas Protective Forests and El Angel Ecological Reserve

Elaboration and implementation of management plans in the Awa Indigenous Reserves

Consolidation of the Awacachi Micro-Corridor

Create connectivity among the Chachi Indigenous Reserves

10-year Outcomes BI-NATIONAL VENTANA

Improved management of the Forest Reserves of Nariño and the indigenous territories of the Awa

Connectivity established between the Forest Reserves and the Private Barbacoas Nariño

Connectivity established between the El Angel Ecological Reserve, the Golondrinas Protective Forest, and the Ethnic Reserve of Awa

CEPF supports Fauna & Flora International to work with several communities in the establishment of the Awacachi Corridor, a project also supported by the Global Conservation Fund and the Darwin Initiative. This project area is adjacent to other CEPF investments designed to support improved management for the bi-national Awa Indigenous Reserve, as well as connecting it to the Golondrinas Protected Forest and the Gran Chachi Community Reserve. On the Colombian side of the Ventana, another grantee, the Unidad Indígena del Pueblo Awá, also works with the Awá indigenous community doing traditional natural resource use assessments as the basis for developing a land-use policy and zoning plan for the Awá territories.

Given the critical need to establish a common conservation vision that rises above political boundaries, CEPF has already invested in ten projects to seven organizations in this Ventana. These projects focus on establishing the political forums for bi-national dialogue regarding biodiversity conservation, making it an extremely diverse package of grants geared toward a shared vision among many stakeholders. CEPF is supporting efforts by Fundación Altropico in San Lorenzo, Ecuador to create and maintain an interinstitutional committee to lead the corridor strategy and ensure that the decision-makers, the conservation organizations and the local communities are all involved in the process. This work has generated several stakeholder meetings in Ecuador and an important binational meeting will take place early in 2005.

Specific priority area conservation outcomes are targeted in particular projects such as the Fundación ProAves project working to expand the Pangan Reserve, as well as a planned project with Fondo Ecuatoriano Populorum Progressio to help develop a management plan for the Cayapas Mataje Ecological Mangrove Reserve.

Mache Chindul Ecological Reserve Ventana (Ecuador)

This priority area is situated in the south-central portion of Esmeraldas Province and the northern portion of Manabí Province. It includes the entire Ecological Reserve, as well as a significant buffer zone that requires improved land use practices and poses several opportunities for increased connectivity.

The set of 5 and 10 year outcomes developed for the Mache Chindul Ecological Reserve Ventana is as follows:

5-year Outcomes: Mache Chindul Ecological Reserve Ventana

Develop a management plan for the Mache Chindul Ecological Reserve

Creation of a micro-corridor that connects Mache Chindul with the remnant forests of Punta Galeras, Mompiche and the Estuario de Cojimíes

10- year Outcomes Mache Chindul Ecological Reserve Ventana

Establishment of microcorridors from Mutiles to the north and the Protective Forest Pata de Pájaro to the south

In the Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve Ventana, CEPF is funding several projects related directly to the set of conservation outcomes defined for this region. Corporación para la Investigación, Capacitación y Apoyo Técnico para el Manejo Sustentable de los Ecosistemas Tropicales (EcoPar) and partners recently implemented a grant to develop a five-year management plan for the Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve, which was presented to Ecuador's Ministry of the Environment in December, 2004. Fundación Ecuatoriana para los Estudios Ecológicos (EcoCiencia) is testing several participatory approaches to conserving the humid forests of Punta Galeras including the establishment of a network of local nongovernmental organizations, private landowners and municipalities to support conservation efforts; development of a conservation action plan; placement of 1,000 hectares of forest under formal protection; and community-based development projects in buffer zones.

CEPF has also provided grants to a consortium of partners, led by Fundación Jatun Sacha, working to improve the management of the Laguna del Cube in the Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve. The thrust of this grant is to promote sustainable practices that halt the loss of habitat, increase the forest coverage and improve the livelihoods of communities. Additionally, a planned project with Fundación de Defensa Ecológica (FUNDECOL) will address the critical need to develop a community management plan for the mangroves of the Muisne River Estuary Wildlife Refuge.

Machalilla Nacional Park Ventana (Ecuador)

The smallest of the priority areas is the Machalilla Nacional Park Ventana. This Ventana connects the northern portion of the Park with the Chone and Portoviejo River watersheds, and in the southern portion with the Chongón Colonche Protected Forest. While only part of this area is under government established protection status, there are good opportunities for expanding protection within the region, as well as creating connectivity between areas. The intention here is to develop more of a conservation corridor rather than simply reinforcing protection of several isolated protected areas. Defined outcomes have been well integrated into the design process of these grants, maximizing their contribution to the achievement of the strategic needs of the Ventana.

The set of 5 and 10 year outcomes developed for the Machalilla Nacional Park Ventana is as follows:

5-year Outcomes: Machalilla National Park Ventana

Network of local actors established, with the participation of the Municipalities, to protect Machililla National Park

10 year Outcomes: Machalilla National Park Ventana

Creation of micro-corridors that connect the northern and southern portions of the Park and also with the Bosque Protector Chongón Colonche

Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP) is working to build the capacity of local actors to better manage both the Machililla National Park and the Chongón Colonche Protected Forest. They aim to increase local and provincial government capacity to conserve critical areas in Manabí through training, development of local conservation plans, improved coordination of government activities, and provision of basic equipment.

CEPF has also supported the Asociación Ecuatoriana de Ecoturismo (ASEC) to improve the management and biodiversity conservation of Machalilla National Park through a participatory process of elaboration and implementation of a system of minimum environmental, social and service quality standards for tourism providers in and around the Park.

Regional

In addition to the Ventana focus, it was apparent that a few grants with a corridor-wide impact were needed to fully achieve CEPF's investment goals. A key step to ensuring stakeholder buy-in to a bi-national strategy is the clear definition of terms and goals. To this end, CEPF has supported Conservation International to establish a forum to bring together key stakeholders to devise a bi-national communications strategy for the Corridor. Along the same lines, funding was granted to the Rainforest Alliance to facilitate communication about the projects being implemented within the corridor and beyond to other regions of Latin America. The objective of this grant was to ensure better dissemination of methodologies and projects to allow for reduced duplication of efforts and provide a forum to establish partnerships between organizations working towards the same objectives.

Project planning is currently being completed for a corridor-wide biodiversity-monitoring program to be led by World Wildlife Fund with Conservation International, FUNDECOL and EcoCiencia collaborating as partners. The project aims to provide decision-makers at the local, national and regional levels with increased access to and understanding of environmental trends in the Corridor.

Working with the World Bank

The CEPF strategy for the Choco-Manabi Corridor was derived in large part from several World Bank initiatives in the region, in particular, the Natural Resource Management Program - PMRN that helped establish the Colombian Forest Action Plan and led to investments in biodiversity across four components: political and development strategy; national parks; rehabilitation of watersheds; and education, capacity, research and administration. In addition, Bank support helped develop the zoning of the Pacific ecology, processes for titling areas belonging to indigenous and Afro communities, the formulation of management plans for various parks and the creation of new protected areas; with a total of more that \$19 million. This combination of efforts was, and continues to be, carefully considered in the design, definition and actual implementation of the strategic directions for the Corridor under CEPF. A principal aim is to consolidate the results of these earlier experiences with the investments made by CEPF and others, including the Environmental Action Fund (FAA), government partners, NGOs and community groups.

In addition, CEPF is making a concerted effort to build on the World Bank/GEF efforts in the area of models for providing payment for environmental services. This is true in the case of CIPAV in which CEPF is finalizing a grant agreement that builds on their experience from a World Bank/GEF project (grant TF053084) where CIPAV and the Asociación de Autoridades Indígenas del Occidentes del Cauca (Atizo) designed and tested models for providing payment for environmental services to private land owners in the corridor of Munchique National Park and Serrania de Pinche.

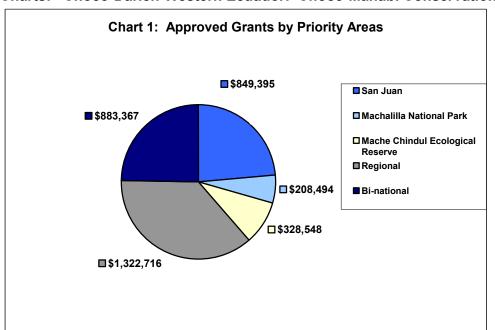
Conclusion – Next Steps

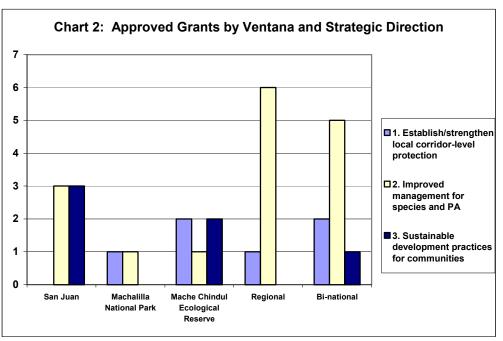
A large portion of the granting for this portfolio is already well underway, but we have some strategic funding opportunities still on the horizon. For example, a targeted, locally managed small grants program has not been developed. Areas being explored include targeting critically endangered species, as well as the need to more effectively support and build the capacity of local communities for improved design and implementation of their required natural resource management plans. The objective is to find the right set of partners to develop such a program that is not country specific, but rather a corridor-wide program that would attract other donors and create a sustained program well beyond the CEPF funding cycle.

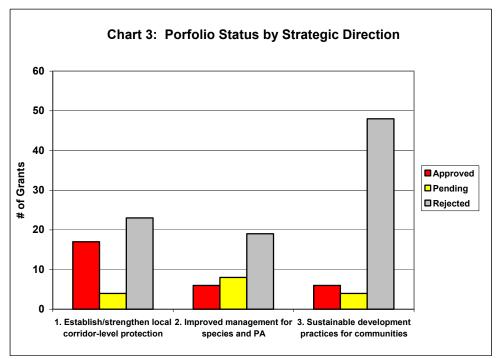
In addition to such a small grants program, CEPF will continue to look for interesting leveraging opportunities. Our greatest successes are those in which we match funds with other organizations toward a set of objectives in line with the CEPF strategy. This has already happened with the Colombian Environmental Action Fund that will match up to \$100,000 per external grant made. We will continue to seek similar arrangements in an attempt to multiply the resources of CEPF and to foster the sustainability of many of our partner organizations working to improve the status of biodiversity conservation in the Choco-Manabi Corridor.

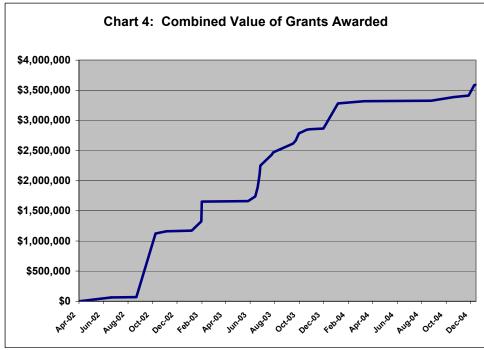
- January 2005

Charts: Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador: Chocó-Manabi Conservation Corridor









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

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

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

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

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

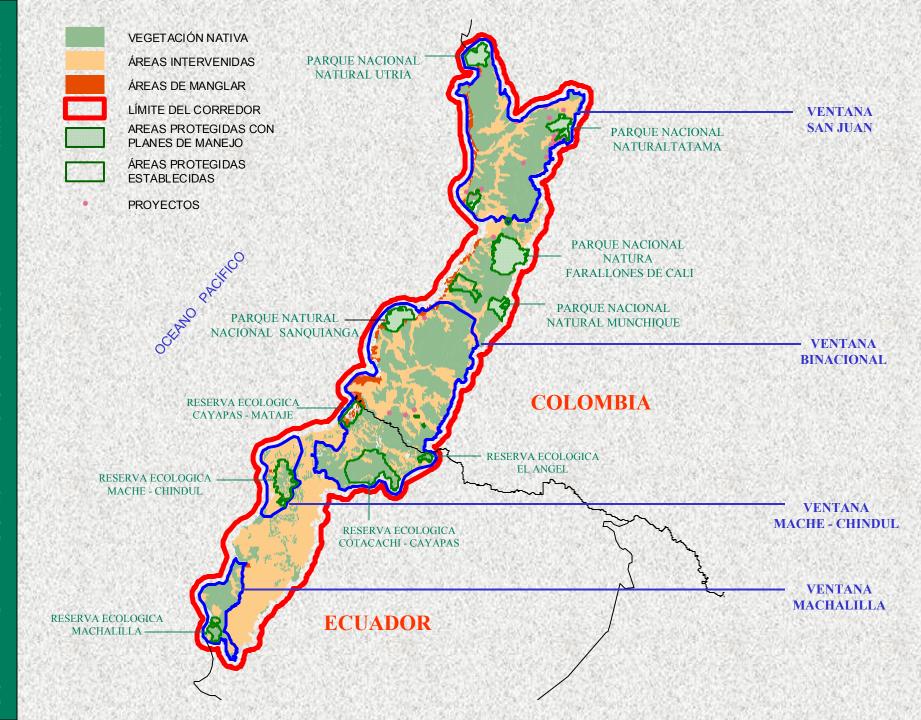
Africa and Europe) to identify key sites for protection as "Important Bird Areas". For mammals and amphibians, again, this process is ongoing; much work remains for other taxonomic groups. An important clarification here is that the type of "protection" for any given one of these "Important Biodiversity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

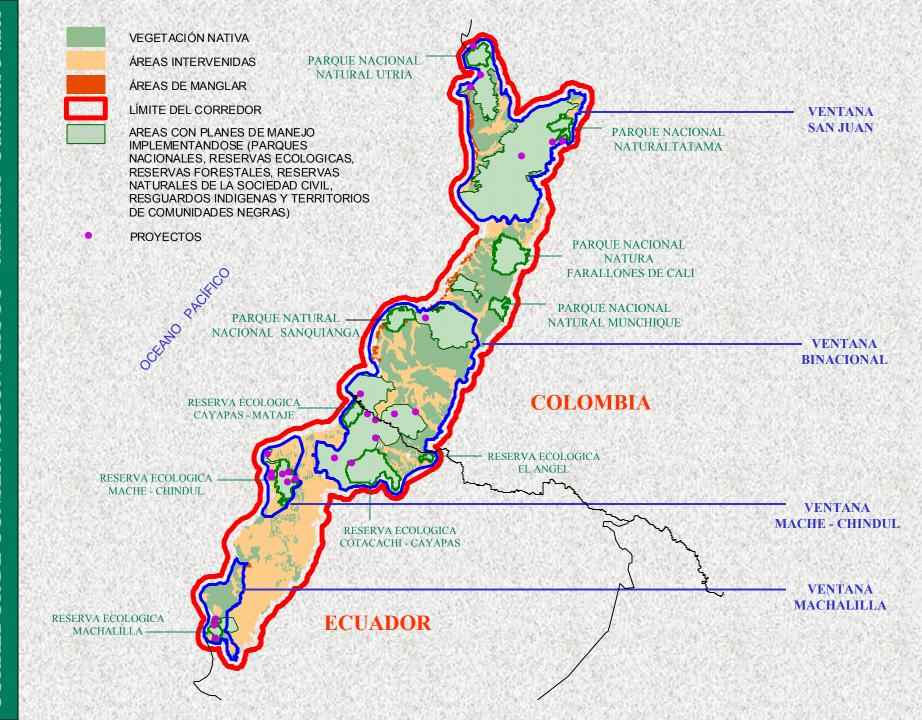
The definition of "Corridors Created" outcomes is the most complicated of the three. Clearly, the conservation of landscapes necessary to allow the persistence of biodiversity must be anchored on core protected areas, embedded in a matrix of other natural habitat and of anthropogenic land uses. The delineation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

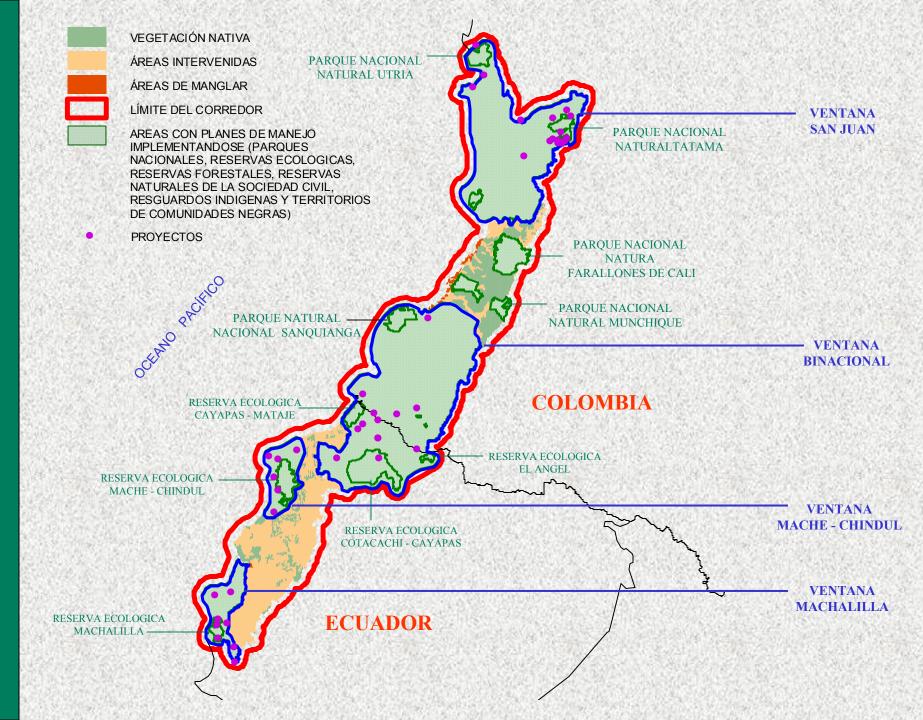
A number of scientific and technical capabilities are required to allow the definition of conservation outcomes at these three scales. The bulk of the work will necessarily be founded on **solid biological research**, largely through literature review but supplemented by targeted fieldwork where knowledge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

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

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







Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund Chocó - Manabí Portfolio



Bocas del San Juan Ventana

- 1. Fundación Ecotrópico
- Conservation International-Colombia and Federación Nacional de Cafeteros de Colombia, Comité Departamental de Cafeteros del Valle del Cauca (Conservation Coffee)
- 3. Corporación Serraniagua

Bi-national Ventana

- 1. Fundación Altrópico (BP Golondrinas Phase II)
- 2. Conservation International (Chachi Reserve Zone Planning)
- 3. Fundación Altropico (Ecological Summit Process)
- 4. RARE and Conservation International
- 5. Fundación Altropico (Regional Forum)
- 6. Fundación Altropico (BP Golondrinas Phase I)
- 7. Fundación para la Investigación y Conservación ProAves
- 8. Unidad Indígena del Pueblo Awá
- 9. Fauna & Flora International-Latin America

Mache-chindul Ecological Reserve Ventana (Ecociencia)

- 1. Fundación Ecuatoriana de Estudios Ecológicos
- 2. Fondo Ambiental Nacional
- Corporación para la Investigación, Capacitación y Apoyo Técnico para el Manejo Sustentable de los Ecosistemas Tropicales
- 4. Fundación Jatun Sacha
- 5. Fundación de Defensa Ecológica
- 6. Fundación Rainforest Rescue

Machalilla National Park Ventana

- Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli
- 2. Asociación Ecuatoriana de Ecoturismo



Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund Chocó - Manabí Portfolio



Bocas del san Juan Ventana

1. Fundación Ecotrópico

 Conservation International-Colombia and Federación Nacional de Cafeteros de Colombia, Comité Departamental de Cafeteros del Valle del Cauca (Conservation Coffee)

3. Corporación Serraniagua

Legend

Land Use

Agriculture

Conservation, and low impact Forestry

Hunting, Fishing, Mining and Gathering

Timber Harvesting and Agroforestry

No Information

Graphic scale 1:1'400.000





Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador: Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor

San Juan

Strategic Direction 1: Establish/strengthen local and regional mechanisms to foster corridor-level conservation

Effects of the Fragmentation of the Landscape and Indicators for the State of Biodiversity Conservation in the Chocó Ecoregional Complex

Fundación Ecotrópico Colombia

- Design and implement a socioeconomic biodiversity monitoring plan for the Choco-Manabi ecoregional
 complex to include data on forest fragmentation; key bird, small mammal, and reptile species; and
 priorities for decision-makers. Proposals for new protected areas will be part of the final products of this
 effort.
- \$170.000.00
- Grant Term: 11/04-12/06

Strategic Direction 3: Identify and promote sustainable development practices in communities near selected protected areas

Promoting Conservation Coffee Production Within the Coffee Growing Zone of the Micro-Corridor Paraguas-Tatamá

Conservation International-Colombia

- Develop the micro-corridor of Serranía de Los Paraguas Parque Nacional Tatamá Paraguas-Tatama
 through the implementation of a series of interventions with local coffee growers in the region. Maintain
 and improve practices of conservation coffee under the shade of the forest canopy in this region, which
 connects two key protected areas.
- \$316,450.00
- Grant Term: 10/03-9/06

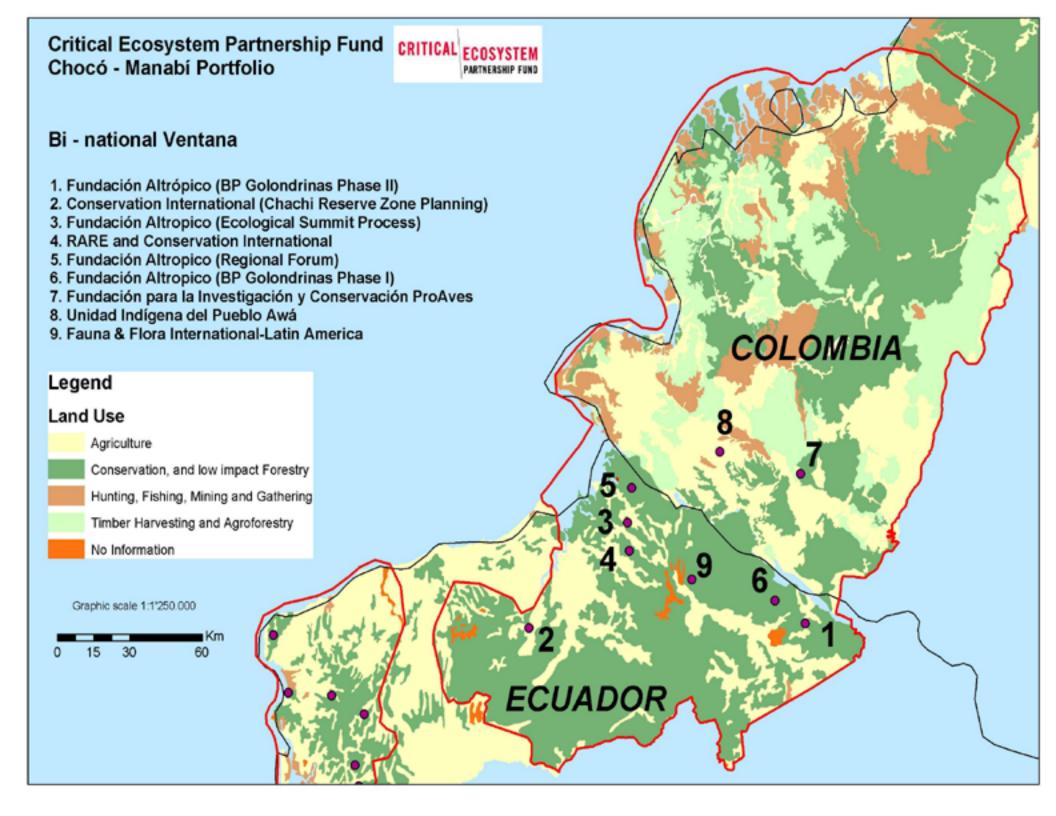
Development and Implementation of Private Nature Reserves in Serranía de los Paraguas Corporación Serraniagua

- Promote a network of private reserves in the Tatamá-Paraguas Conservation Corridor. Prepare needs
 assessments and management plans for 12 private reserves. The grant also supports small sustainable
 agriculture projects aimed at maintaining forest cover to promote connectivity between these private
 reserves and development of a marketing plan to promote green products produced by farmers involved
 with the project.
- \$152,945.00
- Grant Term: 6/03-12/05

Promoting and Evaluating Conservation Best Practices for the Coffee Growing Zone of the Micro-Corridor Paraguas-Tatamá

Federación Nacional de Cafeteros de Colombia, Comité Departamental de Cafeteros del Valle del Cauca

- Support to Colombia's premier coffee association to encourage coffee farmers located in the Tatamá-Paraguas Conservation Corridor to adapt best practices for conservation coffee. Activities include agricultural extension and training in conservation coffee, development and implementation of a marketing plan, an auditing system to monitor adoption of best practices and assistance to farmers to access credit.
- \$210,000.00
- Grant Term: 6/03-12/05



Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador: Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor

Bi-national

Strategic Direction 1: Establish/strengthen local and regional mechanisms to foster corridor-level conservation

Connectivity of the Golondrinas Protected Forest and the Awa Indigenous Territories of Northern Ecuador: Preparatory Phase

Fundación Altropico

- Coordinate the inter-institutional working group of the Bosque Protector Golondrinas, including building
 awareness, and planning and coordination of the process to put in place the management plan for the
 area together with the communities and local authorities.
- \$9.000.00
- Grant Term: 7/04-9/04

Chachi Reserve Zone Planning Grant

Conservation International

- Carry out a planning grant for the possible creation of a reserved zone on indigenous lands in the northern Ecuadorian Chocó.
- \$8,840.00
- Grant Term: 9/03-8/04

Preparation of a Land and Cultural Use Plan for Awá Indigenous Territory of Barbacoas and Tumaco, Colombia

Unidad Indígena del Pueblo Awá

- Prepare a land-use and management plan for the Awá indigenous territories of Barbacoas and Tumaco
 in southwest Colombia though a participatory process that integrates traditional uses of local resources.
 The project supports an assessment of the state of natural resources, identification of traditional uses of
 these resources, training of community leaders, development of a zoning plan and land-use policies and
 community outreach.
- \$178,588.00 Grant Term: 7/03-3/05

Pangan Project: An Initiative to Achieve Community Conservation in the Pangan Reserve Fundación para la Investigación y Conservación ProAves

- Promote a network of private reserves in southern Colombia near the Ecuador border through direct
 conservation action, ecological research, public education and construction of infrastructure for reserve
 management. As first steps, improve management of the 15,000-hectare Pangan Nature Reserve and
 promote sustainable development in communities on the park's borders.
- \$119,700.00 Grant Term: 6/03-6/05

Achieving Stakeholder Collaboration for the Sustainable Development of Northern Esmeraldas-Support for the Ecological Summit Process Fundación Altropico

- Support a process of dialogue and agreement among 120 organizations in order to develop and
 implement the Sustainable Development and Conservation Plan for Esmeraldas. The grant supports
 activities to implement municipal ordinances for conservation, development of local agreements for
 conservation among municipalities and nongovernmental organizations, establishment of biological
 corridors and development of a land-use plan for the entire region.
- \$40,000.00
- Grant Term: 6/03-12/04

Building a Global Constituency for Biodiversity Conservation RARE (\$104,925.38) and

Conservation International (\$48,448.08)

• Implement a series of targeted public awareness and education campaigns in nine hotspots in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Campaign leaders participate in an intensive training course at the UK's Kent University or Mexico's Guadalajara University, prepare detailed plans to implement campaigns, link with a local organization in their region and commit to a minimum two years with that organization.

• \$153.373.46

• Grant Term: 12/02-6/06

This is a multiregional project covering nine hotspots; the total grant amount is \$1,993,854.98 (Rare \$1,364,030 and Conservation International \$629,825).

Regional Forum Prior to the Summit for Ecology and Development in the Northern Region of Esmeraldas

Fundación Altropico

- Support a meeting of more than 400 representatives from local and national organizations, government and the private sector through the Inter-Institutional Coordination Committee of San Lorenzo to discuss and recommend a conservation and development strategy for the Northern region of Esmeraldas.
- \$9.900.00

• Grant Term: 10/02-7/03

Strategic Direction 2: Bring selected protected areas and species under improved management

Conservation and Integrated Management of Golondrinas Protected Forest Fundación Altropico

- Implementing the Management Plan for Golondrinas Protected Forest involving the local communities in the design and implementation process. Plan will include sustainable production alternatives, environmental education, research and ecotourism; all in an effort to reduce the communities' pressure on their natural resources.
- \$24,000.00

• Grant Term: 9/04-8/05

<u>Strategic Direction 3: Identify and promote sustainable development practices in communities near selected protected areas</u>

Awacachi Corridor Project - Sustainable Community Development and Capacity Building Fauna & Flora International-Latin America

- Enable the development of an integrated landscape conservation approach for the Chocó-Manabi corridor area, whilst strengthening the institutional capacity of Fundación NYTUA to conserve and manage the biodiversity and ecological integrity in the Awacachi corridor.
- \$330,066.00

• Grant Term: 1/03-12/05

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund Chocó - Manabí Portfolio



Mache - Chindul Ecological Reserve Ventana

- 1. Fundación Ecuatoriana de Estudios Ecológicos
- 2. Fondo Ambiental Nacional
- Corporación para la Investigación, Capacitación y Apoyo Técnico para el Manejo Sustentable de los Ecosistemas Tropicales
- 4. Fundación Jatun Sacha
- 5. Fundación de Defensa Ecológica
- 6. Fundación Rainforest Rescue







Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador: Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor

Mache Chindul Ecological Reserve

Strategic Direction 1: Establish/strengthen local and regional mechanisms to foster corridor-level conservation

Conserving Highly Threatened Coastal Rain Forest of Punta Galeras to Achieve Connectivity with Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve

Fundación Ecuatoriana de Estudios Ecológicos

- Support participatory approaches to conserve the biodiversity conservation corridor spanning Punta Galeras Mache Chindul reserve. Activities include the establishment of a network of local nongovernmental organizations, private landowners and municipalities to support conservation efforts; development of a conservation action plan; placement of 1,000 hectares of forest under formal protection; and community-based development projects in buffer zones.
- \$59.992.00
- Grant Term: 9/03-3/05

Strategic Direction 2: Bring selected protected areas and species under improved management

Forestry Workshop for the Chocó Bio-Region Fundación Rainforest Rescue

- Conduct a workshop, "Identification and Promotion of Sustainable Development Practices in Communities Surrounding Protected Areas" with the objective of demonstrating and applying "Forestería Análoga" as a best practice for reforestation.
- \$9,900.00

Grant Term: 11/03-11/03

Strengthening the Management Capacity of Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve Fondo Ambiental Nacional

- Strengthen Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve by providing funding for basic park management and
 community outreach activities. Grantee will develop working plans based on the needs identified by the
 Ministry of the Environment and by those activities identified in the management plan for this reserve to
 be developed under another CEPF project.
- \$77,000.00
- Grant Term: 6/03-12/06

Preparation of a Management Plan for the Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve Corporación para la Investigación, Capacitación y Apoyo Técnico para el Manejo Sustentable de los Ecosistemas Tropicales

- Prepare a management plan for Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve, which protects 119,172 hectares
 of rain forest in the southern fringe of the Chocó-Manabi Corridor but has come under threat through
 agricultural encroachment and illegal colonization. Development of the plan will involve establishment of
 a process of open dialogue, consultation and active participation of local and national stakeholders to
 come to agreement on key goals for the park over the next 10 years, as well as immediate actions to
 mitigate key threats.
- \$149,981.00
- Grant Term: 6/03-9/04

Strategic Direction 3: Identify and promote sustainable development practices in communities near selected protected areas

Conservation and Sustainable Development in Laguna de Cube Fundación Jatun Sacha

- Improve the management of biodiversity in Laguna de Cube Mache-Chindul Reserve, promoting sustainable practices that halt the loss of habitat, increase the forest coverage and improve the livelihoods of communities. The project will help reforest areas surrounding the lake, improve solid waste collection, improve agroforestry systems and develop ecotourism activities.
- \$35,000.00
- Grant Term: 3/04-2/05

- Restoration of Mangrove Forests in Muisne, Ecuador
 Fundación de Defensa Ecológica

 Restore and monitor 13 hectares of mangrove forests in the buffer zone of the Mache Chindul Ecological Reserve that have been degraded by shrimp farming.

 \$6,575.00

Grant Term: 5/03-5/04

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund Chocó - Manabí Portfolio



Machalilla National Park Ventana

- Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli
 Asociación Ecuatoriana de Ecoturismo







Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador: Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor

Machalilla National Park

Strategic Direction 1: Establish/strengthen local and regional mechanisms to foster corridor-level conservation

Strengthening Local Government Capacity for Conservation Planning and Implementation in the Machalilla National Park - Chongon Forest Reserve Subcorridor Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli

- Increase local and provincial government capacity to conserve critical areas in Manabi through training, development of local conservation plans, improved coordination of government activities, provision of basic equipment, community outreach, fundraising and monitoring. Project results will include declaration of new municipal parks, improved coordination with Machalilla National Park and community conservation projects in critical areas.
- \$146.828.00
- Grant Term: 9/03-2/05

Strategic Direction 2: Bring selected protected areas and species under improved management

Strengthening Sustainable Tourism in the Protected Areas of the Chocó-Manabi Machalilla National Park, Ecuador

Asociación Ecuatoriana de Ecoturismo

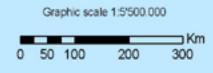
- Improving the management and biodiversity conservation of Machalilla National Park through a participatory process of elaboration and implementation of a system of minimum environmental, social and service quality standards for tourism providers in and around the Park.
- \$61.666.00
- Grant Term: 10/04-9/06

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund Chocó - Manabí Portfolio



Regional Projects

- 1. Grupo de Trabajo sobre Certificación Forestal Voluntaria en Ecuador
- 2. Conservation International (Communication Strategy)
- 3. Rainforest Alliance
- 4. Conservation International (Coordination Unit)
- 5. University of Western Ontario
- 6. Conservation International (Preparing NGOs)
- 7. Conservation International (Assessment of Deforestation)







Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador: Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor

Regional

Strategic Direction 1: Establish/strengthen local and regional mechanisms to foster corridor-level conservation

Southern Preparation Phase: Development of Latin American Proposals for the 2005 Forest Stewardship Council Assembly

Grupo de Trabajo sobre Certificación Forestal Voluntaria en Ecuador

- · Conduct the Forest Stewardship Council Assembly for Latin America to discuss problems and issues related to forest certification in Latin American countries. The aim is to arrive at agreement on how best to use this certification tool in the Latin American context. This is of specific interest to many of CEPF's community-based grantees.
- \$10.000.00
- Grant Term: 1/05-6/05

Communication Strategy for the Chocó-Manabi Conservation Corridor (Phase 1) **Conservation International**

- Carry out the first phase of a communication strategy for the Chocó-Manabi Conservation Corridor. This first phase will bring together key partners in the elaboration of a shared communications strategy and workplan for the full implementation of a communications strategy.
- \$101.846.00
- Grant Term: 10/03-12/04

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

Rainforest Alliance

- Facilitate the exchange of information about experiences, challenges and best practices developed through various conservation projects throughout Central and South America, including CEPF-funded projects in the Atlantic Forest, Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador, Mesoamerica and Tropical Andes hotspots. Project goals, experiences and information will be disseminated through the Eco-Index in English, Spanish, and where relevant, Portuguese.
- \$38,484.18
- Grant Term: 10/02-3/04

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

Building the Chocó-Manabi Conservation Corridor **Conservation International**

- As the Chocó-Manabí Coordination Unit for CEPF, coordinate and catalyze the development of projects that, through the biogeographic and thematic priorities identified in the CEPF ecosystem profile, will have positive impacts on the region's biodiversity. The unit will strengthen the capacity for environmental management of governmental and non-governmental actors.
- \$1,055,048.00
- Grant Term: 7/02-6/05

Healthy Ecosystems, Healthy People: Linkages Between Biodiversity, Ecosystem Health and Human Health

University of Western Ontario

- · Cover travel and full participation costs for individuals from the Atlantic Forest, Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador, Guinean Forests of West Africa, Madagascar, Philippines and Tropical Andes hotspots to attend the Healthy Ecosystems, Healthy People conference.
- \$5.550.00
- Grant Term: 5/02-7/02

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

Preparing NGOs in Colombia and Ecuador for the Application Process in the Chocó-Manabí **Conservation Corridor**

Conservation International

- Conduct a series of workshops in Colombia and Ecuador to provide guidance to nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) on the CEPF application process and investment strategy for the Chocó-Manabi corridor.
- \$62,427.00
- Grant Term: 3/02-6/02

Strategic Direction 2: Bring selected protected areas and species under improved management

Assessment of Deforestation, Threats and Management: Needs of Five Protected Areas in the Chocó-Manabi Corridor of Ecuador

Conservation International

- Provide detailed information about current forest extent and deforestation pressure and analyze five
 major protected areas—Cotacachi-Cayapas, Machalilla, Cayapas-Mataje, Mache Chindul and Awa
 Forest Reserve—with respect to threats and current management capacity and needs. The project will
 ultimately support partner efforts to improve protected areas management and to monitor the corridor.
- \$49,361.00
- Grant Term: 9/03-3/05



RARE Campaign – Work with school children to promote education about endangered species in their region through flagship species interaction. This project takes place in San Lorenzo, Ecuador – Bi-National window. Part of the CI-InterCom and RARE Pride Campaign global program with CEPF.



"Conservation Coffee in the Making" - tied to both the CI and FNC coffee projects in Colombia (San Juan Ventana).



"Leaving Coffee Behind; and the Forest" - this is what the landscape looks like when a coffee farmer gives up on coffee and switches to something else! Tied to both the CI and FNC coffee projects in Colombia (San Juan Ventana).



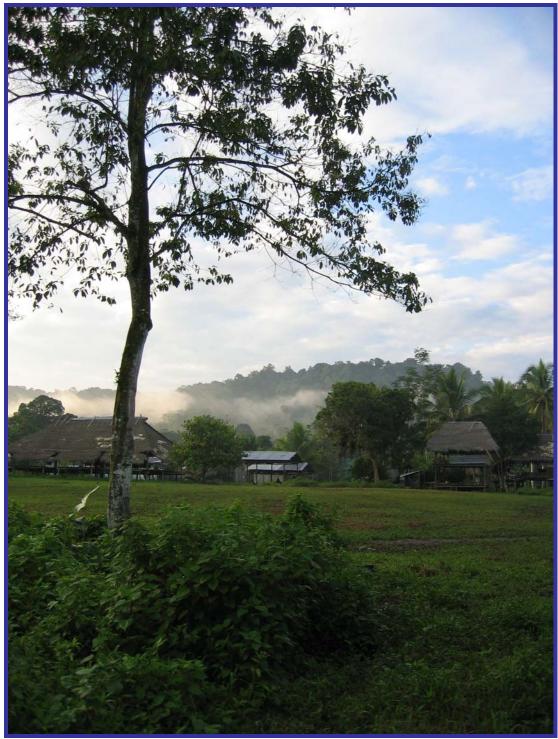
"Conservation Coffee"



Community agro-forestry project (FFI in the Bi-National area)



Centro Chachi Capulí This comes from work with the Chachi indigenous communities where the aim is to create a Chachi Indigenous Reserve.



Centro Chachi Corriente Grande More from the Chachi work. They are eager to create their own reserve and to be taught new techniques for making better use of their natural resources.



Centro Chachi El Encanto



Laguna de Cube. From our work with Jatun Sacha in developing management plans for the Laguna de Cube Reserve.

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Marketing Social Change

In Focus, November 2004

Zhang Zhe is a 27-year-old environmental engineer by training. She is accomplished and intelligent. But she has an alter ego—a large golden pheasant (a friend in a big bird costume, actually) that accompanies her as she spreads her conservation messages to hundreds of school children in China's Sichuan Province every month.

And she's not the only one.

With funding from the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), Zhang Zhe is one of 13 individuals being trained in social marketing and the art of convincing local communities and governments that conservation is key.

The project brings promising individuals and local groups together with the support of <u>Rare</u> and <u>Conservation</u> <u>International's</u> global communications team to build a global constituency for biodiversity conservation through Rare's replicable Pride program.

It's an entertaining, creative approach to the complex issue of biodiversity conservation, while building and bettering lives of local people.

"In the village that I am working in, most families have small home-based businesses, and tourism-related businesses," explained Zhang Zhe about one of the villages around Baishuihe National Nature Reserve where she is working in the Mountains of Southwest China biodiversity hotspot.

"It's mostly families, and though they're not lacking food or sanitation, they are still very concerned about generating incomes for the family. So we are trying to find a way, working with government and nongovernmental organizations, to combine economic development and conservation in this area."

Zhang Zhe's work is part of a project implemented by the Jane Goodall Institute Roots and Shoots China office, which is one of the organizations participating in the program.

With a marketing zeal not too unlike that which a marketeer for Coke or Pepsi would approach their audiences, the new Pride campaign leaders are generating huge interest and participation in their efforts to promote conservation of



© Rare
Zhang Zhe poses ald golden pheasant tha her during her camp. the villages around E National Nature Res Southwest China.



© Marides Van Delft The Katala Foundati led by Indira Lacerna recently convinced the Puerto Princesa to p hectares of crucial fe and roosting ground cockatoo.

DID YOU KN

Overviews for n campaigns suppose CEPF are available.

important ecosystems and the globally threatened species they shelter.

Enabling Expansion

A CEPF grant awarded last year is supporting an expansion of the Pride program with the 13 new campaigns in the Atlantic Forest, Cape Floristic Region, Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador, Guinean Forests of West Africa, Mesoamerica, Mountains of Southwest China, the Philippines, Succulent Karoo and Sundaland hotspots.

In addition to the CEPF-supported campaigns and others already underway, Rare has also launched 12 new campaigns in additional areas with support from others such as the David and <u>Lucile Packard Foundation</u> and <u>The Nature Conservancy</u>.

Each campaign aims to save a Critically Endangered species, solidify or create new protected areas, or conserve healthy biodiversity conservation corridors.

Rare's experience in conservation education stems from its work in the 1980s developing a very structured social marketing tool, known then as the Promoting Protection Through Pride program. The recipe is simple and effective: turn a charismatic flagship species into a symbol of local pride, as a lever for improving public understanding of biodiversity's value and the need to take action to preserve it

Both grassroots and mass-marketing techniques are used to create broad-based support—on a local or national level—for ecosystem protection.

Promising individuals are chosen to become campaign leaders, linked with a local organization and supported throughout the process, which officially begins with a 10-week training course at the University of Kent at Canterbury in the United Kingdom or the University of Guadalajara in Mexico. (See related story: Students Get Off to Strong Start for Conservation Education.)

For each campaign, the objectives, flagship species, and target audience are selected to address a specific, realistic, and measurable threat identified together with stakeholders. Threats targeted by the CEPF-supported campaigns range from illegal logging and mining to unsustainable wildlife trade to an advancing agricultural frontier.

In the Field

For people like 31-year-old South African Jakob Hanekom, the project is crucial. Using the Clanwilliam cedar tree as his flagship species, and promoting the campaign slogan of "Be a Friend to the Cederberg!" he aims to conserve the plants and animals of the Cederberg Wilderness Area where the Cape Floristic Region and Succulent Karoo hotspots converge in South Africa.

As part of his campaign, this married father of two is doing a weekly 10-minute live radio spot talking about conservation challenges, and spreading key campaign messages. He has

also prepared a package of materials to use during his visits to local schools, including rulers with messages that serve as "prompts" to remind children (and their families) even months later about the conservation messages they heard in school.

"It's really rewarding to work in my home town and bring information about nature and ecosystems to the people here," Hanekom said. "For many it's the first time ever they've been exposed to this type of program."

Hanekom, who is linked with Cape Nature, has also designed and printed an education booklet and fact sheet to spread information on conservation and development issues important to the wilderness area; recorded and sung a school song to more than 4,700 children; and developed a bilingual puppet show to use during his school visits.

Through the project's online club, campaign managers can also share information with their fellow managers in other hotspots, who are using similar social marketing techniques but specially adapted to the local situation.

In the Chocó-Darián-Western Ecuador Hotspot, Luis Arroyo Carvache is leading a campaign to preserve critical forests of San Lorenzo del Pailon in northwestern Ecuador. The campaign aims to help stop conversion of the forests and mangroves to agricultural land, particularly palm oil plantations, in the Chocá-Manabi conservation corridor.

Among his activities, Carvache has produced a costume of the red-lored parrot (*Amazona autumnalis*)—his campaign's flagship species—and a variety of materials for his work in 22 schools. He is also hosting a local radio show, producing a variety of radio spots to help people understand the benefits they receive from the forests.

Replicating Success the Pride Way

For the Pride program, success breeding success is part of the strategy.

For example, the campaign leaders conduct pre- and postcampaign surveys of 1-3 percent of their target population to learn about relevant knowledge, attitudes, and practices. The survey data is used to develop objectives, design messages, and ultimately to measure the change achieved during the campaign.

Rare has also developed a "Learning Framework for Pride," a set of 66 different data points that it is collecting throughout all the current campaigns. At the end, it will use this data to develop a predictive model of success for a campaign to determine, with statistically valid data, "what characteristics are most important for success," said Megan Hill, senior director for Pride at Rare's U.S. headquarters.

"All of that said, one of the most important points I use to define success is seeing Pride campaigns implemented long after Rare's direct involvement is over," Hill said. "It is a replicable model, and our ultimate goal is to train people to keep running outreach campaigns long into the future."

It's this forward thinking that often proves pivotal to conservation success, and the new campaign leaders are already demonstrating their capacity as catalysts.

In the Philippines, the Katala Foundation's campaign led by Indira Lacerna-Widmann recently convinced the Municipality of Puerto Princesa to protect 60 hectares of crucial feeding, nesting and roosting ground for the Critically Endangered Philippine cockatoo (*Cacatua haematuropygia*).

The Philippine cockatoo, the flagship species for Lacerna-Widmann's campaign, was once considered common but now numbers no more than 4,000. The new protected area on the island of Dumaran off the coast of Palawan is also important for local communities.

"The protected area will protect and ensure the water supply not only for this community but also for other barangays (villages) dependent on this sub-watershed," Lacerna-Widdman said.

Planning for the Future

Forward thinking is also pivotal in fast-developing economies like China.

In addition to her school and farm work, Zhang Zhe is completing a documentary about Baishuihe National Nature Reserve.

After a pre-campaign survey she conducted showed that 70 percent of her target audience gets its information from TV, she set out to produce this film to reach people living near the Reserve, as well as tourists. She hopes to have it broadcast on local and national TV stations, and to produce DVDs for use in schools.

"With the economic development and improving environmental awareness, China's environmental protection work will be so different 10 years later from today," Zhang Zhe said. "This film may well be used as study material by that time."

Indeed time is of the essence and Rare appears to be ready to launch more programs keeping in step with the growing global economy.

"Pride is really ramping up," said Brett Jenks, Rare's president and CEO. "In the first 15 years of the Pride program, Rare supported 30 campaigns worldwide. In 2004 alone, we have 29 operating campaigns, and 2005 will see a total of 49. So CEPF's return on investment will be greater than the sum of each campaign."

View more In Focus features



PAGITICO / TIENE LA CUARTA PARTE DE L'AS ESPEGIES VEGETALES.

Ohocó, abundancia y hambre

ZEI Choco es la zona con mayor biodiversidad de Colombia. Figura a nivel mundial como una de las áreas naturales más ricas. A su vez es una de las zonas más amenazadas del país por la deforestación.

Sesenta por ciento de la madera que se comercia en Colombia sala del Chocó, según la fundación chocoana Beteguma. Por esta industria se han arrasado miles de hectáreas y hoy se encuentran cientos de especies amenazadas.

Además, el Chocó contrasta su riqueza natural con la situación de la población. Un estudio de la Universidad Nacional revela que las poblaciones del Chocó presentan indices de yida inferiores a los de países considerados como los más pobres del mundo, como Haiti.

el os registros indican que en el Pacífico un 84,9 por ciento de la población no satisface necesidades básicas.

La Agenda Pacífico XXI es el programa principal del gobierno en el Chocó, que desde 1999 implemento la titulación colectiva: Ha favorecido a 28.028 familias, "Se han firmado 52 titilos colectivos de tres millones de hectáreas", dice Gonzalo Diaz, de la Universidad del Chocó, Faltan titular 327,680.

**TCon ello se pretende que la misma gente se encargue de regular la explotación de sus tierras. "Ahora las empresas deben concertar con las comunidades antes de extraer recursos", explica Díaz.

- La Fundación Natura, Conservación Internacional y el Fondo para la Acción Ambiental han dado dinero para conservación, pero los requerimientos son inmensos.
 - "La región del Pacifico se enfrenta a un futuro lleno de incertidumbre dado que sus instituciones y procesos de participación siguen siendo débiles", concluye el estudio de la Nacional, encabezado por el profesor Orlando Rangel.

Subregiones ecogeográficas del Chocó biogeográfico Colombiano



PROYECTOS

Gracias a una acción popular, el Fondo para la Acción Ambiental financia un proyecto en la cuenca del Río Cabí, que surte el acueducto de Quibdó.

La bocatoma del acueducto recibe aguas negras, materias fecales y residuos sólidos de barrios que carecen de acueducto y alcantatillado. Además, la deforestación ha propinado bajas de caudal y problemas en la navegación.

¡Se contempla la construcción del sistema de alcantarillado de los barrios aledaños a la margen derecha del río y la extensión de acueducto a barrios aledafios.

Conservación Internacional (CI) lidera el proyecto del corredor ecológico Chocó Manabí que abarca el pacífico colombiano, desde la zona del Darién hasta los bosques secos de Manabí (Ecuador), dice Ángela Andrade.

Se trabaja con las Corporaciones y el Instituto de Investigación del Pacífico en la creación de nuevos planos locales.

CHOCÓ BIOGEOGRÁFICO

Según el libro Biodiversidad, Colombia país de vida, el chocó biogeográfico contiene la cuarta parte de las especies vegetales del país en sólo el 11,5 por ciento del territorio nacional.

La extracción de madera, la minería de metales preciosos y la pesca son las principales actividades de la población. "El cambio del hacha por la motosierra ha acelerado el proceso de extracción hasta niveles insostenibles, especialmente de especies maderables como el cativo, el mangle rojo, el sajo, el machare y el abarco, entre otros", dice el libro.

Además de las comunidades negras, en el Chocó habitan indígenas cuna, embera, waunama y kwaiker.





EI

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Rainforest Alliance Launches Expanded Eco-Index

November 2003

English / Español

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

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

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

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

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

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

DID YOU KN

Press release: Alliance Launch Online Encyclog Conservation P Neotropics (PDI

From the news Rainforest Allian Expand Virtual Resource in Ne

It's easy to add to the Eco-Inde: Click here to co short questionn e-mail your requestionnaire dindex@ra.org

Learn more abo

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

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

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

La Alianza para Bosques Lanza su Eco-Index expandido

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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August - September 2003

Five-Year Plan for Saving Fragile Ecuadorian Chocó Defined by Varied Group of Stakeholders

Faced with continuing destruction in a region whose one-of-a-kind plant life astounds botanists, residents of the Chocó -- the humid lowlands west of the Andes in Colombia and northern Ecuador -- have come together to take conservation matters into their own hands by organizing the Northern Esmeraldas Region Conservation and Development Agenda for 2003-2008, popularly known as the Ecological Summit. The meeting of minds is the result of two years of lobbying, meetings, agreements, and disagreements between the region's various groups and institutions, says Domingo Paredes, Technical Director for Ecuador for the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), a summit funder.



Illustration by Allan Núñez ("Nano")

The Chocó's forests are famous for their biodiversity -- they hold some 9,000 plant species, about a quarter of which are found nowhere else on Earth. According to Conservation International, just in Ecuador's relatively small portion of the Chocó, which covers the northern part of that country's Esmeraldas province, there are 6,000 plant species, between 13% and 20% of which are endemic, 830 bird species, and

142 mammal species. Important portions of that biodiversity have been sequestered within five protected areas, the largest of which are the Cotocachi-Cayapas Ecological Reserve and the Cayapas Mangrove Ecological Reserve, which has some of the world's tallest mangrove trees, towering as high as 120 feet (40 meters).

Paredes notes that most of the Ecuadorian Chocó, which has a population of about 85,000, has already been converted to agricultural land -- less than 5% of the region's original forests remain intact -- and much of its remaining wilderness is threatened by loggers, and the expansion of oil palm plantations and shrimp farms.

He says the summit brings people together to collaborate on a strategy to promote environmentally friendly models of development in the region. To guide policy

changes that will promote sustainable development, the summit has established an inter-institutional committee that includes representatives from local groups, government institutions, non-governmental organizations and international aid agencies.

The summit is currently promoting strategies for land-use planning, payment for the environmental services provided by the Chocó's forests, the creation of community reserves, and a regional plan for reforestation and mangrove recuperation.

Reaching consensus on such issues is no small task, especially considering the varied needs and interests of parties as different from one another as large agricultural companies and indigenous groups such as Afro-Ecuadorians, the Chachi, and the Awá.

According to Paredes, many indigenous groups and Afro-Ecuadorians sold their land to outsiders for small sums prior to the summit. Now those same groups are working to create community reserves. One example is an Afro-Ecuadorian community that decided to set aside 62,000 acres (25,000 hectares) of communal land for conservation.

The summit also seeks economic alternatives for a region where approximately 80% of the population lives below the poverty level. In addition to strategies for better natural resource use, it is promoting improvement of basic services such as potable water and responding to the population's education needs, which includes strengthening traditional cultures. It is also working for improvement of the region's roads and the creation of commercial networks and credit options for small-scale producers, such cacao farmers, fishermen, and artisans.

According to Eduardo Beltrán, Executive Secretary of the Coordinating Unit for Sustainable Forestry Development for the province of Esmeraldas, the Ecological Summit has generated a lot of interest in the region and resulted in agreements between various groups. Nevertheless, he believes there remains much to resolve. "The easy work is done. What is needed now is to follow through with such efforts as land-use planning and the legalization of ancestral territories," he notes.

A land-use plan will make it possible for the groups involved to obtain reliable information about the condition of the region's natural resources, will identify priority areas for conservation, and will help determine what economic and conservation activities are appropriate in the Chocó.

According to Beltrán, one of the summit's objectives is to promote agricultural options such as reforestation with native species and agroforestry, which permits small farmers to plant fast-growing crops such as corn together with longer-growing crops, such as hardwood species.

For Paredes, the summit is a laboratory of sorts. "The task and challenge we face is to learn to be creative in how we promote alternatives to small- and medium-scale farmers, and good natural-resource management, while opposing high-tech investments that threaten biodiversity."

One of the summit's great achievements, in Beltrán's opinion, is that it has given local people the authority to defend their natural resources. "Many outsiders who

came to the region to exploit its natural resources thought the land had no owner," he says, "but now they now realize that the civilian population has decision making powers."

-- Katiana Murillo

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Read more about this project in the Eco-Index:

www.eco-index.org/search/results.cfm?ProjectID=501

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Students Get Off to Strong Start for Conservation Education

In Focus, August 2003

by Corrina Hackney

Amid the diverse student population of Kent University in England, a multinational team is nearing the end of an intensive 10 weeks of specialized training to become community educators with a single mission: to promote local pride in the environment in some of the planet's most threatened ecosystems.

The university course—offered in the United Kingdom and Mexico—is the first step in a 2.5-year program based on Rare's Pride Campaigns.

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) is supporting a major expansion to biodiversity hotspots of these highly successful campaigns by a new partnership between Rare and Conservation International's (CI) International Communications Department (see press release: New Alliance).

In this initial university phase—run by Rare staff in conjunction with the University of Kent in the UK—students receive intensive training in all the skills needed to produce and carry out comprehensive conservation education campaigns.

"The university component of the course covers an incredible range of activities—from conservation law and biodiversity management to social marketing techniques and practicalities such as puppet-making," says Rosemary Godfrey, Rare's course manager at Kent University.

Pride Campaigns are run by local organizations and aim to appeal to the public on an emotional level. The campaigns focus activity on a single species, aiming to capture a sense of public pride and ultimately to change behavior and better protect the local species. The CEPF-supported campaigns will take place in 13 sites in China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Southern and West Africa and Central and South America.

Unique



Indira Lacerna from (above) and Edward Sierra Leone (below students taking part Rare diploma course University.



© Photo courtesy of

DID YOU KN

Admission to th Conservation E Program and Di at Kent Univers to eight student to ensure a high interaction betw and instructors.

Pride Campaigr designed to targ segments of the from children to local leaders an

While there are a number of conservation education courses offered in other institutions, the Rare course is unmatched in the kind of support structures it gives to students. The program is also unique in combining academic and technical training with hands-on campaign activity and implementation in the field.

The students start with the 10-week university component, followed by a 10-week preparation phase during which they each develop a comprehensive campaign plan using stakeholder meetings and attitudinal surveys. Each student will identify a key theme tailored to their local communities, core objectives and a species to be the focus. They then implement the campaign, returning to the UK after the first year to report back and share experiences.

Throughout the program, each student receives one-to-one support from course lecturers and RARE and CI staff to translate theory into practice during their campaigns.

"They are supported through weekly telephone calls (now free through MSN), online discussions with staff and fellow students and two on-site visits," says Godfrey, who developed an online discussion club now used by past and present participants to share best practices and address common challenges.

Commitment to Conservation Education

The students, who range in age from 22-45, have been carefully selected based on a demonstrated need for conservation awareness as a key conservation strategy in their home region.

Their existing involvement in conservation work, a supportive local employer and their individual dedication and commitment were also strong elements in the selection process. Personalities are strong and cheerful—two essential qualities if they are to succeed as the "voice" for the threatened species in their respective regions.

"There are not a lot of opportunities for conservation education," says Daniela Lerda, manager of Cl's Community Education Program. "It is a very limited field in terms of training so there is a huge sense of privilege among the students, especially because the course has a hands-on component that will allow them to design locally appropriate programs for their communities."

None of the students knew each other prior to arriving in the UK but immediately established themselves as a cohesive group. The strength of this group will pay dividends when they return home and look to each other for additional support, via the Internet, while carrying out their campaigns.

The close, supportive nature of the group is characteristic of the program. Although the students will be leading their own campaigns back home, they will have the ongoing support of RARE and CI staff, fellow students and also past and future students through a Rare Club online community.

Course leader Godfrey and the other Rare staff are constantly looking for ways to make the program as well

Campaigns lead more than 30 so marketing techr as:

- billboards at m junctions
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- popular songs local radio
- activities and (schools
- badges and co for children
- placement of t images on telep stamps and t-sh
- outreach throu contacts and m

networked and supported as possible. The online community was developed to allow students past and present to talk to each other about challenges they face and solutions they are considering or have tried and tested.

One student, 34-year-old Clyde Scott, from the <u>Cape</u> <u>Floristic Region hotspot</u> in South Africa, said his preliminary campaign plan includes working the full network of 70 schools in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, to create a new generation of conservation-aware youngsters. He says the added layer of support from the online RARE staff and fellow students will be "a godsend."

"We can find out about what the other students have done, how they're getting on and we can learn from their experiences," Scott says.

Students for the current course at Kent University have come from South Africa, Sierra Leone, the Philippines, China and Indonesia. They have a variety of backgrounds reflecting the program's selection criteria. Some students already hold conservation-related qualifications; others have basic school qualifications. Conservation experience and enthusiasm are more important, however, than academic qualifications.

Indira Lacerna (see photo right), a 31-year-old student from the <u>Philippines hotspot</u>, holds conservation-related qualifications already but had been looking for a program like this for years. Morne Farmer, 22, from South Africa, has his high school certificate and oceans of passion and enthusiasm.

The students' participation is fully funded throughout the campaign, including salary and a budget for campaign activity, meaning that no potential candidate or threatened region need be excluded for lack of financial resources.

Lacerna says she is planning major radio campaigns alongside building core youth groups. She intends to set up regular biodiversity field trips so that local young people can see first-hand what it's all about. This won't be easy. Transport in the Philippines presents logistical difficulties while rebel activity can make visits to communities a risky element of the job.

Edward Sesay (see photo right), a 45-year-old student from Sierra Leone in the <u>Guinean Forests of West Africa hotspot</u>, believes that adapting what they are currently learning to their own political and social environment will be one of the greatest challenges they face. While many countries have communications and logistical problems, Sierra Leone remains an unstable region and this will present an additional challenge.

Zhang Zhe, 25, is one of two students who will pioneer the campaign program in the Mountains of Southwest China hotspot. She acknowledges that the culturally controlled flow of information in China may present challenges but she is optimistic for her ambitions to engage the enthusiasm of China's young people. Zhang Zhe is assessing the possibilities of working in a community near Tibet. Here, one of the practical elements of the Kent course could be put into play: puppet shows that can cross language barriers

and could also be used as an income generator in tourist areas.

Using the success stories of Rare's Pride campaigns in choosing a flagship species to focus understanding, Zhang Zhe has already identified the white-eared pheasant as a candidate. This bird has religious links amongst local people but is threatened by tourism, illegal hunting, logging and rapid economic development together with low environmental awareness about its status.

"My intention is to engage as many groups as possible to take ownership of the problem," Zhang Zhe says. "I am there to act as a facilitator so that the work will continue long after this particular diploma campaign ends."

In these next few weeks, the students are learning how to analyze problems and devise solutions that will benefit the people and wildlife of their region. When the students return to Kent University and the Rare course next year to report and review, they will hope to receive their Diploma in Conservation Education. The unique approach of the Rare course results not just in academic recognition but also practical achievement in conservation education thanks to the hands-on nature of this remarkable program.

Learn more:

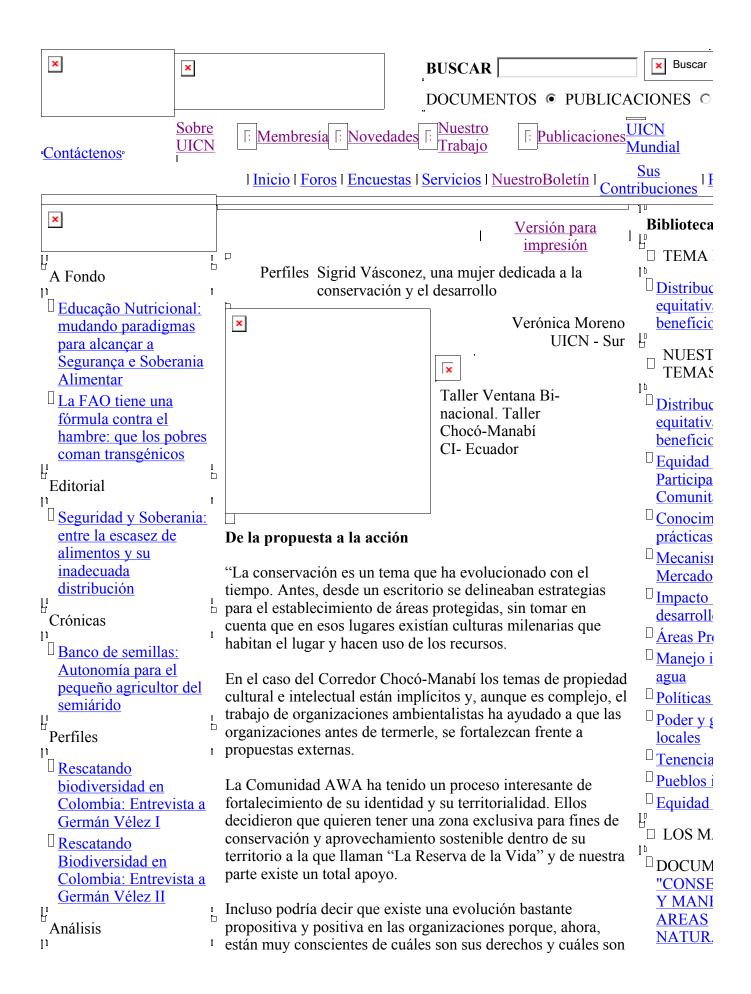
- Visit <u>www.rareconservation.org</u> for more on RARE and Pride Campaigns, including success stories.
- Visit <u>www.rareconservation.org.uk</u> to learn more about the Kent University course and the students.

View more In Focus features



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- Notas sobre alimento e cultura.(2)
- Números Anteriores
- Revise el listado
 histórico de nuestra
 revista
- ☐ SERVICIOS

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En esta sección, usted encontrará información sobre eventos técnicos, premios, capacitación, oportunidades de financiamiento y becas. - VER

sus obligaciones frente a su patrimonio.

La decisión de los AWA es muy valiente, porque la tomaron a pesar de estar asediados por presiones políticas, de mercado e, incluso, de narcotráfico. Esta es una comunidad que tiene un camino recorrido y muy claro el significado de la sostenibilidad. Sigrid Vásconez se define a sí misma con una socióloga ambiental... Una conjunción de profesiones común hoy en día, pero prácticamente impensable años atrás, cuando la conservación estaba relacionada exclusivamente con la biología y el paradigma era la preservación per se. Resulta interesante analizar como la problemática ambiental se posiciona en la agenda internacional y trasciende a las vidas de varias generaciones. La Cumbre de Río marca un hito en la historia al introducir en la mesa de discusión temas relativos a la naturaleza y visibilizar el lenguaje de la conservación con términos como desarrollo sostenible, diversidad biológica, áreas protegidas, recursos genéticos y otros más que eran desconocidos a los ojos del mundo.

Esta Cumbre derivó en un acuerdo global para cuidar los recursos de la tierra; los gobiernos comenzaron fortaleciendo sus capacidades para asumir este reto y nuevas generaciones de profesionales surgieron. Sigrid pertenece a un grupo de jóvenes que proyectaron sus inquietudes sociales en el campo de la conservación. En ella, existió siempre el interés por trabajar con la gente y aprender de la sabiduría de los seres humanos en el manejo de sus recursos naturales. El constatar que éstos son agentes de cambio, la llevó a especializarse en desarrollo y asumir el compromiso de trabajar por su país, el Ecuador, donde asegura, hay muchas cosas por hacer.

Sus inicios....

Sigrid comenzó a forjar su camino gracias a que se abrieron ciertos espacios en organizaciones locales ecuatorianas; ahí descubrió que existía un campo amplio, pero poco explorado por parte de los proyectos de conservación. Inicialmente trabajó en temas de educación ambiental para después pasar a trabajar en proyectos sobre género y participación.

En el 2002 Sigrid comenzó a trabajar en áreas protegidas en el diseño del proyecto GEF, justamente para el fortalecimiento del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas, SNAP.

Posteriormente, del 2002 al 2003 pasó al Fondo Ambiental, con el Programa de Áreas Protegidas.

Sigrid evalúa su experiencia como enriquecedora pues gracias a esto pudo entender cómo las áreas protegidas son herramientas reales, que logran una efectiva conservación de la biodiversidad.

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Enlaces 1

El salto hacia el tema de corredores lo dio al decubrir que las áreas protegidas necesitan una dinámica; y, el concepto de corredores de conservación, aunque todavía está en construcción, trabaja precisamente en esa conectividad.

Hoy en día, Sigrid se desempeña como Coordinadora del Proyecto "Corredor Chocó-Manabí" de CI Ecuador. Su labor consiste en dar seguimiento a los proyectos e iniciativas que la organización auspicia dentro del Corredor a través de visitas, asistencia técnica y evaluación continua. Al reflexionar sobre el término "corredores de conservación", habla de varios aspectos interesantes que surgen a la hora de aplicarlo en el trabajo de campo.

Existen, por ejemplo, un sinnúmero de "iniciativas que no se financian, ni entran en la lógica de un proyecto, pero que deben desarrollarse para que exista un corredor".

Se trata de procesos para apuntalar la sostenibilidad social, en los cuales las organizaciones deben invertir tiempo, esfuerzo y recursos, que muchas veces están fuera de cronograma pero que "es necesario hacerlas, pero sin perder el norte".

Por ejemplo, el trabajo de construcción social: cabildeo a nivel político (regional y local) para que los instrumentos de planificación y ordenamiento inserten este enfoque; la concientización a los pobladores de que viven en una región importante, que aprendan a utilizar el concepto para planificar mejor sus actividades y lo potencien; fortalecimiento de líderes; sensibilización de las comunidades; prevención de conflictos; etc".

El más importante, asegura Sigrid, es generar relaciones horizontales, para lo que es fundamental abrir espacios de diálogo entre actores. "Es muy necesario que la gente se encuentre, converse, intercambie experiencias, participe. Igualmente, es fundamental mantener esa relación en el tiempo y, para ello, recomienda participar en las fiestas de la comunidad, asambleas, reuniones; etc.

Para Sigrid, en un trabajo de este tipo no demanda gente que venga con el portafolio de "donante" o de "asistente técnico", sino que venga con el de ciudadano; por ello es bueno tener formación y sensibilidad social. "Hay que trabajar hombro a hombro, a un mismo nivel, ser parte de la comunidad."

Este elemento es vital porque, "los corredores de conservación buscan, ante todo, desarrollar estrategias compartidas y consensuadas."

Hace algunas semanas, Conservación Internacional Ecuador organizó una reunión de la Ventana Binacional (zona que comprende la frontera entre Colombia y Ecuador) del proyecto, en San Lorenzo. La idea era ofrecer, a los más de cien participantes, un espacio para que intercambiaran información, socializaran experiencias y necesidades.

El ejercicio fue muy productivo, asegura Sigrid, pues se demostró que el concepto de corredor de conservación aún genera muchas inquietudes y consecuencias en la vida cotidiana de las poblaciones. "Para la gente, es difícil levantarse un día y enterarse que vive en una zona protegida... ante eso la primera reacción es pensar que a partir de entonces sus actividades van a estar reguladas y que no va a poder hacer nada."

Por ello, CI está diseñando una estrategia de comunicación que busca llenar esos vacíos y explicar a las personas que un corredor es, ante todo, "un espacio de planificación concertada y gestión compartida."

Para reflexionar.

Para Sigrid Vásconez hacer conservación en América Latina es cada vez más complicado. Las razones: un decaimiento del movimiento ambiental (que pareció llegar a su punto máximo durante la Cumbre de la Tierra); la falta de articulación entre ambiente y política; consolidación de un modelo económico concentrado en la extracción de recursos; deterioro cada vez mayor de los recursos naturales; etc.

"Hoy, la biodiversidad está convirtiéndose en un bien cada vez más apetecido por los grandes intereses. Lo triste es sentir que caminas un paso, pero retrocedes cuatro".

Sus lecciones aprendidas...

Cuántos aciertos y cuántos errores pueden cometerse en doce años de trabajo?.. Muchos, sin duda. Pero lo más apasionante para Sigrid ha sido trabajar con gente que tiene otra dinámica de pensamiento, de vida, "porque los seres humanos son impredecibles y en esta medida, relacionarse con ellos es un aprendizaje continuo, que lo construí en el camino".

Uno de sus logros ha sido el saber relacionarse con la gente en el campo. Para ella, es clave entablar un diálogo horizontal y respetar la sabiduría de las poblaciones locales; "...sentarse con los campesinos y aprender de ellos; eso es algo que muchas veces lo olvidamos, aunque es de vital importancia". Un error frecuente en los proyectos de conservación y desarrollo es asumir que el proyecto va a transformar las

costumbres de una población y a enseñarle todo lo que ésta "desconoce".

"Como mujer joven, profesional, la lucha ha sido diaria. Aunque en el campo laboral existan varias mujeres, no ha sido fácil. El bosque, por ejemplo, es un sitio muy masculino y cómo éste, hay espacios ocupados en su mayor parte por hombres (manejadores de áreas protegidas, ingenieros forestales, etc.). "La complicación es real porque, finalmente, la mujer es una voz minoritaria, pero lo positivo es que el género se ha convertido en un reto y poco a poco las cosas están cambiando."

Sigrid se siente satisfecha con su trabajo. Le gusta la idea de trabajar localmente, con gente sencilla, que te da vitalidad, que tiene "muy poco" pero a la vez es rica. Además, la posibilidad de mirar los procesos desde una perspectiva global. "Además, la posibilidad de estar en dos lados a la vez, porque CI financia proyectos y acompaña el proceso".

Sigrid es una mujer que continuamente se plantea retos; en su trabajo busca refrescar a la organización con sus conocimientos y experiencia y dar a su labor un enfoque multidisciplinario. Así nos deja el sabor de una persona que disfruta lo que hace y que gracias a su compromiso, puede aportar mucho más...

Le invitamos a enviar sus comentarios sobre este artículo desde la sección <u>CONTRIBUCIONES</u> o si prefiere, puede participar

en el **FORO** de discusión sobre este tema.

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Se inició Congreso Ecológico

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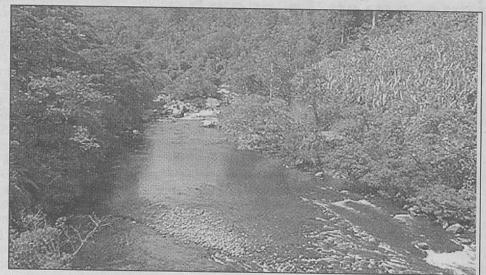
ESDE AYER se inició en la ciudad de San Lorenzo al norte de la provincia de Esmeraldas, la primera Cumbre Nacional de Ecología, el mismo que busca analizar y reglamentar el ecosistema de la región, el cual está siendo depredado sin control por la mano del hombre.

Un gran número de ambientalistas nacionales y extranjeros se han dado sita a la Cumbre, los mismos que junto a autoridades, estudiantes universitarios y pobladores ancestrales, discuten varios documentos que han sido presentados para su estudio, de los cuales saldrán los acuerdos que reglamentarán la explotación y el impacto ambiental de la zona.

El coordinador de la Cumbre, Pedro Guerrero indicó que durante los tres días se discutirán varios documentos y se espera sacar el mejor de los provechos no sólo para la zona, sino para todas las regiones del Ecuador donde existan reservas naturales, las mismas que se convierten en los pulmones de la nación.

GRAN MOVIMIENTO ECONÓMICO

Desde que se inició la Cumbre, San Lorenzo a experimentado una alza en el movimiento económico, esto obedece a la presencia de cientos de visitantes que par-



SAN LORENZO recibe a cientos de personalidades que participan en la primera Cumbre Ecológica.

ticipan del cónclave nacional.

Para empezar los locales de hospedajes no dan abasto a pesar de que la ciudad está en el tercer lugar de la provincia en infraestructura hotelera, después de Esmeraldas y Atacames,

De esta alza, también participan los comedores y restaurantes, cuyos propietarios y trabajadores deben doblegar esfuerzos para aprovechar este momento que no se presenta todo los días No se quedan atrás los lugares de diversión, quienes también han preparado programas que les permita atraer a los visitantes que quieren pasar un momento ameno en la ciudad fronteriza.

Las autoridades de la urbe, han extremado sus esfuerzos para darle mayor seguridad a la ciudad, por lo que han coordinado con la Policía y el Destacamento Naval

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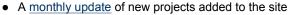
Rainforest Alliance to Expand Virtual Conservation Resource in Neotropics

November 2002

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

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

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



- Stories from the field: sharing conservation achievements and experiences
- <u>Best lessons learned</u>: select, valuable advice from colleagues
- In Print & On-line: links to online reports worth downloading

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

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



© Kim Awbry Project training, Trop

November 200 Rainforest Allian Expanded Eco-

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Learn more abo

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

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

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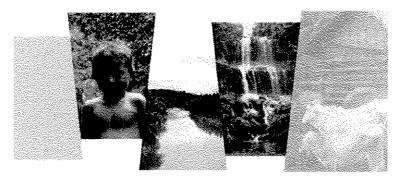
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MINISTERIO DEL AMBIENTE DEL ECUADOR ALIANZA REMACH

PLAN DE MANEJO Y GESTION PARTICIPATIVA DE LA RESERVA ECOLÓGICA MACHE CHINDUL 2005 – 2010



Propuesta sujeta a revisión y aprobación por parte del Ministerio del Ambiente



Facilitado por

Alianza REMACH











Con el apoyo financiero de:

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTHERSHIP FUND

El 09 de agosto de 1996, mediante Resolución Ministerial No. 045 del exINEFAN, publicada en el Registro Oficial No. 29 del 19 de septiembre de 1996, el Estado ecuatoriano resolvió la declaración de Reserva Ecológica a los remanentes de bosque húmedo tropical comprendidos en la Cordillera de Mache y Chindul. Esta decisión fue tomada en momentos en que el país vivía una situación de crisis política; de elevada crisis financiera; reducción de los créditos internacionales y recesión; así como del debilitamiento de las políticas agropecuarias y de legalización de las tierras; presión de la industria maderera sobre los recursos forestales de la Reserva; y, de manera específica, la dificultosa y larga transición (1996 a 1999) del manejo de las áreas protegidas, desde el Instituto Nacional Forestal y de Áreas Naturales y Vida Silvestre INEFAN, adscrito al Ministerio de Agricultura, hacia la Dirección de Áreas Naturales y Vida Silvestre en el recientemente creado Ministerio del Ambiente (octubre 1996).

Las difíciles condiciones del entorno social, económico y político que enfrentó el país, samada la escasa información y nula participación que caracterizó al proceso de constitución de esta área protegida, determinaron un escenario de tensión social incompatible con los objetivos de conservación que se propusieron. Así, a través del tiempo, no se logró legitimar el estatus de área protegida y menos aún instrumentar los objetivos de manejo que se propusieron. La investigación; la educación y cultura; la recuperación y recreación controladas; la extracción sustentable tradicional de los recursos naturales, fueron propósitos que quedaron apenas expresados en el acuerdo de creación, sin que en la práctica hayan existido condiciones para ser implementados. Pero quizá la norma mayormente violentada, fue la prohibición de ocupar el territorio por parte de grupos humanos, en forma posterior a la declaración de Reserva. En la práctica, la indefinición de la tenencia de la tierra, la ocupación ilegal del territorio, la no exclusión de los centros poblados del territorio de la Reserva y la falta de reconocimiento social físico de sus límites, son solamente algunos de los aspectos no resueltos que aún subsisten y siguen generando un entorno social adverso que hace inviable cualquier esfuerzo de conservación.

En cuanto al Estado ecuatoriano, hasta el momento no ha logrado consolidar una política clara de cómo proceder para consolidar el SNAP; y particularmente, como resolver los conflictos generados con la creación del área protegida. Las ejecutorias y aciertos por parte del MAE, Distrito Regional Esmeraldas, se han supeditado a las capacidades demostradas por el actual Responsable del Área para impulsar acciones puntuales de concertación comunitaria. En síntesis, al momento de iniciarse la elaboración del presente plan de manejo, casi toda la Reserva no estuvo delimitada y peor aún señalizada; la información fragmentada y olvidada en las bibliotecas de las organizaciones que la generaron; su cartografía nada operativa; el personal técnico absolutamente insuficiente en número, así como lo es la infraestructura y equipamiento con que cuenta; la asignación fiscal para el manejo es exigua y la capacidad de generación de fondos propios limitada. Todo esto ha incidido para que en la actualidad, la Reserva sea considerada como tal, únicamente gracias a la existencia del territorio de la nacionalidad chachi que justifica tal categoría de manejo.

Frente a esta realidad, el Ministerio del Ambiente y las organizaciones que integran la Alianza REMACH, iniciaron en junio del 2003 un proyecto financiado por el Fondo de Alianzas para Ecosistemas Críticos (CEPF), orientado hacia la elaboración del plan de manejo de la Reserva Ecológica Mache Chindul. La apuesta fundamental del proyecto fue que a partir de un proceso de negociación, transparente y equilibrado en cuanto a visiones e intereses, sería posible establecer una propuesta de manejo concertada, que responda a las necesidades de manejo y

gestión de la Reserva, y no confeccionada a la medida de uno u otro interés. Cabe destacar que el proyecto aprobado por CEPF, fue diseñado a partir de las percepciones y planteamientos de los pobladores de la Reserva y del propio MAE, mismos que daban cuenta de una voluntad de las partes por reestablecer el diálogo y arribar, mediante consenso, al planteamiento de alternativas de solución a dos aspectos fundamentales para el futuro del área protegida: la regularización de la tenencia de la tierra y la oportunidad para los pobladores de llevar una vida digna dentro de la Reserva. En tal sentido, el rol asumido por la Alianza REMACH ha sido eminentemente de facilitación y asistencia técnica, tanto para conducir un proceso de reflexión y planificación participativa, cuanto para concretar un producto llamado plan de manejo. En este afán, la Alianza REMACH ha conducido un trabajo apegado a la normatividad vigente en el país sobre áreas protegidas, pero no por ello ausente de una visión crítica y propositiva.

El plan de manejo v gestión de la Reserva Ecológica Mache Chindul se compone de seis secciones. La primera de ellas reseña el marco legal e institucional relacionado con la Reserva y el Sistema Nacional de Areas Protegidas. Seguidamente se analiza, de manera prospectiva, el escenario actual en el cual se inscribe la Reserva y sus pobladores. En esta segunda sección se destacan los factores: biológicos y ecológicos, sociales y humanos, economicos y productivos, institucionales y organizativos, que estarían incidiendo para que la Reserva tenga posibilidades, o no, de conservarse en el largo plazo. En la tercera sección del documento se sistematizan las oportunidades y desafíos más relevantes para el manejo y gestión del área protegida, identificados por los actores institucionales y organizativos participantes del proceso. Estos elementos son retomados en la sección siguiente, para organizar la propuesta de manejo y gestión del área, en donde se precisan las políticas generales, los objetivos estratégicos, la zonificación de usos; y de acuerdo a ello, los programas, subprogramas, actividades, costos e indicadores; es decir, la propuesta programática del plan. Posteriormente, en la quinta sección del documento, se describen los escenarios para la implementación del plan, los supuestos para su implementación y un conjunto de estrategias que permitan operativizar las iniciativas propuestas. Finalmente, en la última sección, se incluye un resumen consolidado del presupuesto requerido para implementar el plan de manejo y gestión, en el horizonte temporal fijado por los actores sociales participantes del proceso.

1. MARCO REFERENCIAL

1.1 LAS ÁREAS PROTEGIDAS EN EL MARCO DEL CUMPLIMIENTO DEL CONVENIO DE DIVERSIDAD BIOLÓGICA

El Convenio de Diversidad Biológica (CDB) en su Artículo 8 literal a) determina que "Cada parte contratante, en la medida de lo posible y según proceda, establecerá un sistema de áreas protegidas o áreas donde haya que tomar medidas especiales para conservar la diversidad biológica". ¹ Bajo este mandato, la cuarta reúnión de la Conferencia de las Partes del CDB (COP 4, 1998), escogió las áreas protegidas como uno de los temas de mayor atención y que deberían ser objeto de un examen detenido en las siguientes reuniones de la COP. Esta decisión motivó la conformación de un grupo de expertos, que luego de hacer un análisis de la situación de las áreas protegidas en el ámbito mundial y examinar las tendencias en los enfoques y métodos de planificación y gestión de áreas protegidas, propusieron en junio del 2003 un Programa de Trabajo sobre Áreas Protegidas para el Convenio de Diversidad Biológica. Luego de varas revisiones y aportes en diversos foros internacionales, principalmente las recomendaciones expresadas en durante la Cumbre Mundial sobre Desarrollo Sustentable (Johannesburgo) y el Congreso Mundial sobre Parques (Durban), dicho programa fue aprobado durante la Septima Conferencia de las Partes celebrado en Kuala Lumpur, en febrero de este año.

Desde la ratificación del CDB por parte del Estado ecuatoriano, en junio de 1993, las áreas protegidas han ocupado en el Ecuador un lugar privilegiado en las discusiones de distintos grupos de trabajo, foros, congresos nacionales y participación en eventos internacionales. Temas como, gobernabilidad de las áreas protegidas, participación social, equidad, conocimientos tradicionales, acceso a los beneficios derivados de la conservación de las áreas, han sido monivo de innumerables discusiones y propuestas. También ha merecido atención: la necesidad de fortalecer las capacidades nacionales de planificación, manejo y gestión, en el marco de la descentralización del Estado; la exigencia de revisar los marcos normativos alrededor de las categorías de manejo todavía vigentes en el país; la vinculación de las áreas a las dinámicas regionales; la creación de áreas y redes de conservación transfronterizas, entre otras.

1.2 EL SISTEMA NACIONAL DE ÁREAS PROTEGIDAS DEL ECUADOR

El manejo de las áreas protegidas y la introducción del concepto de sistema nacional se micia en 1976, bajo las directrices de la primera estrategia de conservación de las áreas silvestres sobresalientes del Ecuador, que define 13 objetivos nacionales de conservación y 4 categorías de manejo. En 1989 la estrategia para el Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas del Ecuador, segunda fase, ratifica el mantenimiento del sistema nacional, el mismo que fue integrado por un sistema mínimo conformado por 24 áreas y un sistema óptimo con 8 áreas adicionales, que toman como base del sistema a las áreas del patrimonio nacional de áreas naturales. Esta estrategia hace referencia a varias herramientas de gestión de carácter político, administrativo y técnico, sintetizadas en un conjunto de estrategias y acciones para el sistema nacional y para cada una de las áreas protegidas. Además, en esta estrategia se amplían a 23 los objetivos nacionales de conservación y se definen 9 categorías de manejo, incorporando 3 categorías que no se contemplan en la Ley Forestal: Monumento Natural, Territorio Indígena y Reserva de Biosfera (Cifuentes et al. 1989).

La propuesta del plan estratégico del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas del Ecuador, elaborada en 1999, establece un enfoque integral para ampliar el SNAP incluyendo las áreas del

patrimonio del Estado, áreas provinciales, áreas municipales, áreas comunitarias y áreas privadas. Establece una visión, misión y principios básicos y un conjunto de herramientas estratégicas relacionadas con la conservación y manejo, ordenamiento territorial del SNAP, categorías de manejo, valoración económica y financiamiento, desarrollo del conocimiento, participación y corresponsabilidad de los diferentes actores involucrados, educación ambiental y comunicación ambiental, desarrollo de incentivos y reformas del marco político y jurídico (Valarezo et al. 1999).

En el documento de políticas y estrategia nacional de biodiversidad del Ecuador 2001-2010, elaborada por el MAE, define como una de las políticas, que el SNAP será fortalecido y contendrá muestras representativas y funcionales de todos los ecosistemas del país y determina que en el patrimonio de áreas protegidas quedan exentas las actividades mineras, nuevas concesiones petroleras, obras de infraestructura de alto riesgo, extracción comercial de madera, forestación industrial y actividades agrícolas, ganaderas y acuícolas no sustentables. Además, dentro de la gestión de la estrategia se definen varios instrumentos de gestión, entre los cuales se mencionan la gestión económica, la planificación, la gestión tecnológica, la evaluación de impactos ambiéntales, planes de manejo y el desarrollo de la capacidad de gestión local MMT 2001).

El Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas se ha mantenido durante 27 años, con las áreas del patrimonio de áreas naturales del Estado, las mismas que tienen diferentes grados de desarrollo de acuerdo a su tiempo de vida, al impulso dado por el Ministerio del Ambiente y al apoyo de otros actores en los diferentes procesos. Hasta la fecha el sistema cuenta con 33 áreas naturales, las mismas que cubren una superficie aproximada de 4'754.586 hectáreas de superficie terrestre y 14'110.000 hectáreas de superficie marina, lo que corresponde al 18,55% del territorio nacional. El sistema se distribuye en 22 provincias e incluye la mayor parte de ecosistemas y 40 formaciones vegetales de las 46 existentes en el país. Sin embargo, vale mencionar que existen remanentes boscosos importantes en la costa y sur del Ecuador, con ecosistemas que actualmente tienen una baja representación y deben ser incorporados al sistema.

1.3 EL SISTEMA NACIONAL DE ÁREAS PROTEGIDAS Y EL DESARROLLO SUSTENTABLE DEL PAÍS

Conservar y utilizar de forma sustentable la diversidad biológica y cultural permite el mejoramiento de la calidad de vida de la población, por lo cual es prioritario: (1) consolidar y potenciar la sustentabilidad de las actividades productivas basadas en la diversidad nativa; (2) asegura la existencia, integridad y funcionalidad de los componentes de la biodiversidad – exosistemas, especies y genes- a través del fortalecimiento y consolidación del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas; (3) equilibrar las presiones para la conservación y uso sustentable de la biodiversidad, determinando desde la visión ecológica los niveles de utilización de la biodiversidad y no solamente desde la visión económica; y, (4) garantizar el respecto y ejercicio de los derechos individuales y colectivos para participar en las decisiones relativas al acceso y control de los recursos, y asegurar que los beneficios de la conservación y uso de la biodiversidad, conocimientos y prácticas de las comunidades y poblaciones locales sean justas y equitativamente distribuidas.

La biodiversidad desempeña un papel preponderante en el desarrollo del país, pues gran parte de las actividades económicas dependen de la integridad y viabilidad de los recursos renovables y no renovables. La contribución de la biodiversidad se expresa a través del: suministro de materia prima, proporcionando servicios ecológicos, manteniendo la opción para realizar actividades económicas en el futuro, brindando un significado cultural y estético, entre otros. En esta perspectiva, el desarrollo sustentable ya más allá del propósito de capitalizar la parturaleza la

sustentabilidad ambiental implica un proceso de socialización de la naturaleza, partiendo del principio de diversidad ecológica y cultural. Pero la visión del desarrollo sostenible no alude únicamente a los recursos naturales, sino también a las poblaciones con sus identidades culturales y costumbres. Por ello, es tarea vital del Estado proteger y recuperar el ambiente donde habitan estas poblaciones, para que les permita desarrollar el potencial productivo y reorientar sus actividades hacia el mejoramiento de la calidad de vida.

1.4 LAS ÁREAS PROTEGIDAS EN EL MARCO DE LA DESCENTRALIZACIÓN

La Ley Especial de Descentralización y de Participación Social (1997), abrió la posibilidad de transferir competencias para la administración y manejo de espacios naturales a los municipios y consejos provinciales. Este hecho permitió concebir una serie de iniciativas reformadoras, que sin duda han alterado la estructura organizativa del poder político, cambiando substancialmente el marco jurídico y tratando de hacer más eficiente la gestión pública. Los contenidos de esta les fueron ratificados el 11 de agosto de 1998, con la entrada en vigencia de la nueva Constitución Política de la República: "El Estado impulsará mediante la descentralización y de desconcentración, el desarrollo armónico del país, el fortalecimiento de la participación ciudadana y de las entidades seccionales, la distribución de los ingresos públicos y de la riqueza ...", por tanto "...el Gobierno Central transferirá progresivamente funciones, atribuciones, competencias, responsabilidades y recursos a las entidades seccionales autónomas o a otras de carácter regional".³

Con fecha 16 de febrero del año 2000, el Ministerio de Turismo y Ambiente de ese entonces emitió la Resolución N. 007, para la gestión y manejo de áreas naturales protegidas mediante la desconcentración y descentralización de competencias ambientales. Posteriormente, mediante Acuerdo Ministerial Nº 055, publicado en el Registro Oficial Nº 438, 23-N-2001, se establecieron los mecanismos para impulsar la transferencia de las competencias del Ministerio del Ambiente a los gobiernos seccionales. En este acuerdo se establecieron que las competencias a descentralizar estarían orientadas en dos grandes temas: el primero relativo al manejo de bosques, plantaciones forestales, flora y fauna silvestres; mientras que el segundo se refiere a competencias sobre calidad ambiental. Entre las competencias a descentralizar sobre el manejo de bosques, la número seis (6) se refiere a la declaratoria de áreas protegidas dentro de su jurisdicción—se entiende de los gobiernos seccionales-".4

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En este mismo sentido, se desconcentraron atribuciones y responsabilidades a los funcionarios de los Distritos Regionales⁵, en la que cada uno de ellos tienen competencia en la administración y manejo de las áreas protegidas. En cuanto al ejercicio de los roles, el Artículo 5 del Acuerdo Nº 055 determina que "...Los gobiernos seccionales ejercerán de manera concurrente las competencias de emitir políticas, controlar, normar técnicamente, planificar, coordinar, fiscalizar, sancionar y regular en su jurisdicción..."... Los concejos provinciales serán coordinadores y planificadores; y ejecutores por excepción. Los concejos municipales serán ejecutores por gestión directa o por cualquiera de las modalidades de gestión establecidas en la ley".

El que los gobiernos seccionales y las poblaciones locales ejerzan control sobre los procesos de conservación y desarrollo que ocurren en sus jurisdicciones, el que las decisiones sobre el manejo y uso de sus recursos recaiga directamente sobre estos, ciertamente implica el diseño e

² Constitución Política de la República del Ecuador, Art. 225

Ibid.

⁴ Acuerdo N. 055, Ministerio del Ambiente, R.O. 438, 23-X-2001. Regula la transferencia de competencias del Ministerio del Ambiente a los gobiernos seccionales.

implementación de mecanismos apropiados que apuntalen la institucionalización de estos procesos. Estos mecanismos sin duda se encuentran en el terreno de lo político, lo legal y lo financiero, pero también se requiere emprender en mecanismos que contribuyan a la toma de conciencia sobre la importancia que tienen las áreas naturales, obviamente en el contexto del desarrollo local y regional, pero también por sus valores intrínsecos como refugios de vida y sostén de procesos evolutivos. Tener una cabal comprensión de estos elementos, sin duda contribuirá a encauzar un proceso descentralizador que no atente con la integridad y unidad del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas.

1.5 Marco institucional de la Autoridad Ambiental

Las áreas protegidas en nuestro país forman parte del patrimonio de áreas naturales del Estado, pues tiene éste el derecho soberano sobre la diversidad biológica, reservas naturales, áreas protegidas y parques nacionales⁶. Pese a que el SNAP no se encuentra vigente, la institucionalidad pública del patrimonio de áreas naturales del Estado esta bajo el Ministerio del Ambiente. Al MAE le corresponde la determinación y delimitación de las áreas que forman este patrimonio, sin perquicio de las áreas ya establecidas por leyes especiales, decretos o acuerdos ministeriales anteriores. El MAE ejerce rectoría legal y administrativa sobre el patrimonio de áreas naturales del Estado⁸, en sujeción a los planes de manejo aprobados por éste, para cada una de ellas⁴.

De acuerdo a la Ley que regula las actividades dentro de las áreas protegidas del país, una Reserva Ecológica comprende por lo menos diez mil ha en uno o más ecosistemas, con especies de flora y fauna silvestres importantes, amenazadas de extinción y que contiene tanto formaciones geológicas singulares cuanto áreas naturales o parcialmente alteradas¹⁰. El Art. 168 del Texto Unificado de la Legislación Ambiental Secundaria, establece los objetivos básicos para el SNAP y el Art. 170 cita como actividades permitidas dentro del SNAP: la preservación, protección, investigación, recuperación y restauración, educación y cultura, recreación y turismo controlados, pesca y caza deportiva controladas, aprovechamiento racional de la fauna y flora silvestres.

Este cuerpo legal también menciona que "…estas actividades serán autorizadas por el Ministerio del Ambiente o la dependencia correspondiente de éste, sobre la base de la categoría de manejo de las áreas naturales". Además se señala, en el Libro I, Título I, Artículo I, que es el MAE quien dirige la gestión ambiental del país, a través de políticas, normas e instrumentos de fomento y control. Igualmente, el Artículo 2 prescribe que la autoridad ambiental nacional será el MAE. Determina igualmente en el Artículo 9 que en el nivel productivo-técnico del MAE está formado por la Subsecretaría de Capital Natural, que se subdivide en varias direcciones, una de los cuales es la Dirección de Biodiversidad y Áreas Protegidas.

En consonancia con lo antes dicho, la REMACH desde el punto de vista puramente legal e institucional, se encuentra dentro del patrimonio de áreas naturales del Estado; y por lo tanto debería conservarse inalterado, inalienable e imprescriptible, sin que sobre su territorio pueda

⁶ Constitución Política de la República del Ecuador, Art. 248

Se entiende que estas atribuciones que anteriormente le competían al Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería, le fueron transferidas al Ministerio del Ambiente según lo determinado en el Decreto Ejecutivo 259, publicado en el R.O. 51 de 5 de abril de 2000, que crea dicha cartera de Estado, donde se le atribuyen las funciones del INTEFAN, al igual que las atribuciones del Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería que la Ley Forestal y de Conservación de Áreas Naturales y Vida Silvestre le confería.

Ley Forestal y de Conservación de Áreas Naturales y Vida Silvestre, Art. 72, inc. 1

Texto Unificado de la Legislación Ambiental Secundaria, Libro III, Art. 171

[🏨] Ley Forestal y de Conservación de Áreas Naturales y Vida Silvestre, Art. 70. Ley No. 74. RO/ 64 de 24 de Agosto de 1981.

Un Elbro, III Del Régimen Forestal, Título XIV, De las Áreas Naturales y de la Flora y Fauna Silvestres. Capítulo I, De las Áreas

constituirse, legalmente, ningún derecho real¹². De ahí que el estatuto de creación de la Reserva Ecológica Mache Chindul cite en su Artículo 3, que las actividades a realizarse en la Reserva solo podrán ser de conservación, investigación, educación, cultura, recuperación y recreación controladas. Las comunidades locales podrán realizar en forma controlada actividades de extracción sustentable tradicional de recursos naturales (Registro oficial No. 29 del 19 de septiembre de 1996).

1.6 LEGISLACIÓN CON COMPETENCIA DIRECTA SOBRE LA REMACH

El marco legal referido a las áreas naturales protegidas en el país está contenido en varios cuerpos legales. A continuación una breve sistematización de las que tienen mayor relación con dichas áreas y particularmente con la REMACH.

En correspondencia con lo señalado en el acápite anterior, la Ley de Gestión Ambiental determina que "La autoridad ambiental nacional será ejercida por el Ministerio del ramo, que actuará como instancia rectora, coordinadora y reguladora del Sistema Nacional Descentralizado de Gestión Ambiental..." ¹³ y que las funciones¹³ que le corresponden, en lo atmente a las áreas protegidas son:

- t) Establecer las estrategias de coordinación administrativa y de cooperación con los distintos organismos públicos y privados:
- i) Constituir Consejos Asesores entre los organismos componentes del Sistema Descentralizado de Gestión Ambiental para el estudio y asesoramiento de los asuntos relacionados con la gestión ambiental, garantizando la participación de los entes seccionales y de la sociedad civil;

m) Promover la participación de la comunidad en la formulación de políticas y en acciones concretas que se adopten para la protección del medio ambiente y manejo racional de los recutsos naturales; y,..."

La Ley de Turismo en su Artículo 20 establece que "Será de competencia del Ministerio de Turismo y del Ambiente, coordinar el ejercicio de las actividades turísticas en las áreas naturales protegidas...", además que deberá sujetarse el Ministerio de Turismo a los planes de manejo ambiental. En el mismo sentido se pronuncia el Reglamento de Ecoturismo y Sostenibilidad, en el Artículo 5, que determina que existirá coordinación interministerial en la determinación de Políticas de Ecoturismo para el SNAP.

En el Texto Unificado de la Legislación Ambiental Secundaria, Libro III, Artículos 180 y 181 se establece en su orden, el pago de derechos por concesión de patentes de operación turística; así como la obligación de obtener "...la respectiva calificación de acuerdo a la Ley Especial de Desarrollo Turístico...". Existe también el Reglamento Especial de Turismo en Áreas Naturales Protegidas, que regula y determina principios para el desarrollo de la actividad turística dentro del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas; además, de definir los roles y competencias del Ministerio de Turismo y Ambiente, el control, requisitos e instrumentos para el cumplimiento de dichas actividades¹⁵.

A pesar de existir ordenamiento jurídico que confiere cierta garantía a las áreas protegidas, preexisten leyes que quebrantan esta protección. Precisamente, la Ley de Minería es un ejemplo, a

¹² Ley Forestal y de Conservación de Áreas Naturales y Vida Silvestre, Art. 71

¹³ Ley de Gestión Ambiental, Art. 8

Ley de Gestión Ambiental, Act. 9

Sept. Statistics Proposition Decreto Nº 3045 (R.C.) 656, 5-1X-2002)

pesar de que determina que no fomentará las actividades mineras dentro de los límites del Patrimonio Forestal del Estado y las áreas protegidas, dice que solamente por motivos de interés nacional se permitirán tales actividades, siempre y cuando se cumpla con lo establecido en esta Ley y su reglamento 16. Asimismo, grandes obras de infraestructura han sido realizadas al interior de las áreas protegidas como centrales hidroeléctricas, oleoeductos y caminos que son autorizados bajo el sustento legal del Artículo 74, inc. 2º de la Ley Forestal 17.

El Artículo 179 del Libro III, del Régimen Forestal dice: "En el Patrimonio Nacional de Áreas Naturales, el Ministerio del Ambiente podrá otorgar concesiones y celebrar contratos de comodato, arrendamiento y cualquier otra figura legal adecuada para la prestación de servicios o la utilización sustentable de recursos de las áreas naturales del Estado, con base al respectivo plan de manejo y en función de la categoría de manejo del área protegida".

Otra ley que apoya lo dicho anteriormente es el Código Civil, que en su Artículo 634 expresamente señala que "Nadie podra construir, sin permiso de autoridad competente, obra alguna sobre ..., terrenos fiscales y demás lugares de propiedad nacional". Se conoce como terrenos fiscales a los bienes nacionales cuyo uso no pertenece generalmente a los habitantes de la nación, tal como lo prescribe el Artículo 623 del citado cuerpo legal.

finalmente, a manera de reflexión respecto de cómo la legislación vigente podría apoyar o dificultar el manejo de la Reserva, citamos algunas conclusiones que han sido reiteradamente señaladas en distintos espacios de discusión. Los procesos de descentralización emprendidos por el Estado podrían afectar la integralidad del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas, pues los roles y competencias no estarían bien definidos, así como la capacidad técnica, administrativa y operativa de los gobiernos seccionales tampoco ha sido determinada. De otro lado, el que se permita el levantamiento de obras de infraestructura al interior de las áreas protegidas por interés nacional es un tanto subjetivo, pues no se ha considerado, porque obviamente no esta incluido en las Cuentas Nacionales, los costos ambientales. (Valor de reposición, costos asociados, etc.).

El Artículo 248 de la Constitución Política de la República, establece que el manejo de las áreas protegidas del país se hará bajo una política de manejo participativo, lo que coincide con lo que señala Estrategia Nacional de Biodiversidad del Ministerio del Ambiente en su Línea Estratégica 1, resultado número 3, referido al ecoturismo. Señala la Estrategia Nacional de Biodiversidad que los beneficios que genere el ecoturismo dentro de áreas protegidas, se lo hará a través de la generación de mecanismos que distribuyan los beneficios de esta actividad a las poblaciones locales, siempre que estas no afecten en modo significativo la armonía entre conservación e intereses locales. Se habla igualmente en la legislación de una coordinación, incluso de un comanejo del SNAP entre la autoridad ambiental nacional, los gobiernos seccionales y la participación de la sociedad civil, lo que se aviene con la resolución final del Primer Congreso Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas, realizado en julio del 2003.

Ley de Mineria, Art. 87

¹⁷ En estas áreas (áreas naturales del Estado) sólo se ejecutarán las obras de infraestructura que autorice el Minsíterio de Agricultura (hoy esta computanção agai Africaga).

Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot: Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor Table of Leveraged Funds

Organization	Project Title	CEPF Grant	Co-Financing	Project/Regional	Total Leveraged
	0 l W . t	44		Leveraging	Funds
	San Juan Venta		0400.000		# 400.000
CEPF: Corporación Serraniagua Co-Financing: CVC, IAvH, CIAT - Cali, UAESPNN, Mpio San Jose del Palmar y el Cairo, Secretaria de Agricultura del Valle	Development and Implementation of Private Nature Reserves in Serranía de los Paraguas	\$152,944	\$100,000		\$100,000
CEPF: Federación Nacional de Cafeteros de Colombia, Comité Departamental de Cafeteros del Valle del Cauca Co-Financing: CVC, Cenicafé, IAvH, Asocorredor, Red de Reservas, Mpios de El Cairo, El Aguilia, Argelia y Anserma Nuevo, USAID (\$100,000) and FPAA* (\$100,000)	Promoting and Evaluating Conservation Best Practices for the Coffee Growing Zone of the Micro-Corridor Paraguas-Tatamá	\$210,000	\$200,000		\$200,000
CEPF: Fundación Ecotrópico Colombia Co-Financing: Universidad Javeriana, IIAP, IAvH, WWF y otros ONG locales (\$50,000) and FPAA* (\$100,000)	Effects of the Fragmentation of the Landscape and Indicators for the State of Biodiversity Conservation in the Chocó Ecoregional Complex	\$170,000	\$150,000		\$150,000
CEPF: Fundación para la Investigación y Conservación ProAves Co-Financing: Corponariño, Rainforest, otros	Pangan Project: An Initiative to Achieve Community Conservation in the Pangan Reserve	\$119,700	\$30,000		\$30,000
CEPF: Unidad Indígena del Pueblo Awá Co-Financing: Corponariño, municipios, WWF (\$90,000) and FPAA* (\$100,000)	Preparation of a Land and Cultural Use Plan for Awá Indigenous Territory of Barbacoas and Tumaco, Colombia	\$178,588	\$190,000		\$190,000
** An Additional USD \$1.60 million in Project/Regional leveraging es being negotiated with the Dutch Government.					
	Bi-national Ver				
CEPF: Conservation International- Conservation Economics Program Co-Financing: GCF Project/Regional Leveraging: USAID(\$25.000). GTZ (\$20.000)	Chachi Reserve Zone Planning Grant	\$8,840	\$15,740	\$45,000	\$60,740

Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot: Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor Table of Leveraged Funds

Organization	Project Title	CEPF Grant	Co-Financing	Project/Regional Leveraging	Total Leveraged Funds
CEPF: Fauna & Flora International- Latin America Co-Financing: UICN (\$29,172), GCF (\$87,700), BDF (\$54,610), Others (\$265,713) Project/Regional Leveraging: England Loterry, others (\$300,000)	Awacachi Corridor Project - Sustainable Community Development and Capacity Building	\$330,066	\$437,195	\$300,000	\$737,195
CEPF: Fundación Altropico Co-Financing: WWF (\$10,000), P. Caiman (\$12,240), Provincial Govt of Carchi (\$2,000), Randi Randi (\$1,000), Altropical (\$13,840), MAE (\$3,300), PUCE (\$10,000) Project/Regional Leveraging: WWF- NL (\$6,000)	Conservation and Integrated Management of Golondrinas Protected Forest	\$24,000	\$52,380	\$6,000	\$58,380
CEPF: Fundación Altropico Co-Financing: OIMT (\$5,000), WWF (\$27,000)	Achieving Stakeholder Collaboration for the Sustainable Development of Northern Esmeraldas-Support for the Ecological Summit Process	\$40,000	\$32,000		\$32,000
CEPF: Fundación Altropico Co-Financing: GTZ (\$2,000), FEPP (\$2,000), Altropico (\$3,000), DED (\$500), SUBIR (\$800), PetroEcuador (\$13,000)	Regional Forum Prior to the Summit for Ecology and Development in the Northern Region of Esmeraldas	\$9,900	\$21,300		\$21,300
CEPF: Corporación para la	Mache Chindul Ecological Reserve Microregion Ventana				
Investigación, Capacitación y Apoyo Técnico para el Manejo Sustentable de los Ecosistemas Tropicales Co-Financing: F.Natura (\$42,292), MAE (\$21,179), FEPP(\$1,980), Jatun Sacha/CDC(\$40,351), EcoPar(\$61,183), CI (\$3,000), F. El Kaiman(\$1,980) F. Tercer Mundo (\$1,980) Project/Regional Leveraging: PetroEcuador (\$552,000), Atenea (\$2,500,000)	Preparation of a Management Plan for the Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve	\$149,981	\$173,945	\$3,052,000	\$3,225,945

Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot: Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor Table of Leveraged Funds

Organization	Project Title	CEPF Grant	Co-Financing	Project/Regional Leveraging	Total Leveraged Funds
CEPF: Fondo Ambiental Nacional Co-Financing: FAN Project/Regional Leveraging: WB- GEF	Strengthening the Management Capacity of Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve	\$77,000	\$135,000	45,000	\$180,000
CEPF: Fundación de Defensa Ecológica Co-Financing: FUNDECOL(\$6,050), SWISSAID(\$6,300)	Restoration of Mangrove Forests in Muisne, Ecuador	\$6,575	\$12,350		\$12,350
CEPF: Fundación Ecuatoriana de Estudios Ecológicos Co-Financing: EcoCiencia	Conserving Highly Threatened Coastal Rain Forest of Punta Galeras to Achieve Connectivity with Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve	\$59,992	\$10,000		\$10,000
CEPF: Fundación Jatun Sacha Co-Financing: Jatun Sacha/CDC(\$10,950), F.EI Kaiman(\$13,879), F.MeHiPro(\$12,500) Project/Regional Leveraging: S.C. Johnson	Conservation and Sustainable Development in Laguna de Cube	\$35,000	\$37,329	\$50,000	\$87,329
	Machalilla National Park - Protected Fore	st Chongón C	olonche Ventana		
CEPF: Asociación Ecuatoriana de Ecoturismo Co-Financing: ASEC	Strengthening Sustainable Tourism in the Protected Areas of the Chocó-Manabi Machalilla National Park, Ecuador	\$61,666	\$28,334		\$28,334
CEPF: Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli Co-Financing: CISP(\$40,000), Amigay(\$11,000), Municipalities (\$36,000)	Strengthening Local Government Capacity for Conservation Planning and Implementation in the Machalilla National Park - Chongon Forest Reserve Subcorridor	\$146,828	\$87,000		\$87,000
	Regional				
CEPF: Conservation International Co-Financing: CABS(\$14,872), NASA(\$5,222)	Assessment of Deforestation, Threats and Management: Needs of Five Protected Areas in the Chocó-Manabi Corridor of Ecuador	\$49,361	\$20,094		\$20,094
		Totals:	\$1,732,667	\$3,498,000	\$5,230,667

^{*} Through the Conservation International agreement with the Fondo Nacional de Acion ambiental (FAA) CEPF has leveraged up to a \$100,000 match per external grant made by Conservation International. This includes all CEPF external grants.

CONVENIO DE COOPERACION INTERINSTITUCIONAL ENTRE EL FONDO PARA LA ACCION AMBIENTAL Y CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

Entre los suscritos Nicolás García Piedrahita, identificado con la cédula de ciudadanía No. 19.123.083 de Bogotá, mayor de edad y vecino de esta ciudad, quien en su calidad de Secretario Ejecutivo, obra en nombre y representación del FONDO PARA LA ACCION AMBIENTAL, entidad cuyo objeto es la administración, supervisión y gestión de los recursos de la Cuenta de las Américas, según lo contemplado en el Acuerdo binacional suscrito entre el gobierno de la República de Colombia y el gobierno de los Estados Unidos de América. El Fondo para la Acción Ambiental es una persona jurídica de utilidad común, sin ánimo de lucro, con el carácter de organización no gubernamental, constituida por escritura pública No. 2538 del 23 de junio de 2000 de la Notaría Primera del Círculo de Bogotá, registrada en la Cámara de Comercio de Bogotá el 10 de agosto del mismo año, con domicilio principal en Bogotá, D.C., quien en adelante y para todos los efectos se denominará FPAA por una parte, y por la otra José Vicente Rodríguez-Mahecha, mayor de edad, domiciliado y residente en la ciudad de Bogotá D.C., identificado con cédula de ciudadanía número 19.067.813 de Bogotá, quien obra nombre y representación de CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION, entidad privada sin ánimo de lucro, cuya misión es contribuir a la conservación y uso sostenible del patrimonio natural de Colombia, con fundamento en el conocimiento científico y la participación activa de la sociedad, constituida mediante escritura de protocolización No. 02704 del 10 de septiembre de 1997 en la Notaría 30 de Bogotá D.C., aprobada mediante resoluciones No. 00082 del 6 de febrero de 1998 y 857 de 20 de octubre de 2000, expedidas por el Ministerio de Justicia y del Derecho y registrada por el DAMA como organización ambientalista no gubernamental, según Resolución No. 0477 del 6 de marzo de 1998, quien en lo sucesivo se denominará CI, se acuerdan las siguientes cláusulas: CLAUSULA PRIMERA.- OBJETO: El presente convenio tiene por objeto constituir una alianza estratégica para aunar recursos económicos, tendientes al desarrollo de objetivos comunes, enmarcados en la política de biodiversidad del país, en las políticas, estrategias y mecanismos del FPAA y las de CI, orientadas a minimizar la pérdida de biodiversidad, evitar la extinción de especies, estimular la identificación y gestión en áreas naturales protegidas y la consolidar corredores de conservación, procurando mecanismos altamente participativos que involucren la comunidad en general y particularmente los niños como pilares de una generación con conciencia ambiental positiva. CLAUSULA SEGUNDA.- Cubrimiento geográfico: Este convenio tendrá cubrimiento nacional con énfasis en las ecorregiones prioritarias del Chocó, Andes, Caribe y el área silvestre de la Amazonía. CLAUSULA TERCERA.- VALOR: El valor del presente convenio asciende a la suma de DOCE MIL MILLONES DE PESOS (\$12.000.000.000), los cuales serán aportados en porciones equivalentes por cada una de las partes. Estos recursos serán distribuidos de la siguiente manera: NUEVE MIL MILLONES DE PESOS

(\$9.000.000.000) para desarrollar proyectos a ser ejecutados por organizaciones de la sociedad civil. OCHOCIENTOS MILLONES DE PESOS (\$800.000.000) para el desarrollo de un programa de becas dirigidas a investigación básica aplicada sobre especies amenazadas de plantas y animales. MIL MILLONES DE PESOS (\$1.000.000.000) para un programa de publicaciones y difusión masiva del conocimiento sobre la biodiversidad, las lecciones aprendidas y resultados de la gestión de esta alianza. MIL DOSCIENTOS MILLONES DE PESOS (\$1.200.000.000), equivalentes al 10% del monto total de los aportes, para la promoción, asesoría científica, apoyo a la formulación de proyectos, evaluación ex-ante, monitoreo, acompañamiento y evaluación de impacto de la alianza y de sus inversiones, todos ellos necesarios para el cumplimiento del objeto de este convenio. CLAUSULA CUARTA.- DURACION: El presente convenio tendrá una duración de cuarenta y ocho (48) meses, contados a partir de la fecha de su perfeccionamiento. En los primeros veinticuatro (24) meses se procurará realizar la asignación total de los recursos, y en los veinticuatro (24) meses subsiguientes, se deberá continuar con el acompañamiento hasta la finalización de todos los proyectos cofinanciados a través de esta alianza. CLAUSULA QUINTA.- MECANISMO DE APROBACION DE PROYECTOS: Los proyectos serán presentados por las organizaciones de la sociedad civil a través de CI, entidad que operará como UNIDAD TECNICA del FPAA para los fines señalados en el objeto de este convenio. Una vez revisados los proyectos, la UNIDAD TECNICA trasladará sus recomendaciones al Comité Coordinador de la Alianza, de que trata la cláusula novena, para su aprobación y posterior traslado al Consejo Directivo del FPAA, para su decisión, reunión en la deberá asistir el Director Ejecutivo de CI o su delegados. PARAGRAFO Primero: Los honorarios profesionales que cubrirán los costos operativos, de seguimiento científico y acompañamiento, relacionados con este convenio y equivalentes al 10% del monto total aprobado, el 50% correspondiente al FPAA será reconocido a CI por ser esta última Unidad Técnica de la Alianza. CLAUSULA SEXTA.-MECANISMO DE DESEMBOLSOS: Cada una de las partes del presente convenio manejará sus recursos independientemente de la otra, quedando expreso que su aplicación se realizará por proyectos individuales, 50% aportados por CI, y 50 % por el FPAA. En ningún caso, el aporte del FPAA superará los 100.000 dólares por proyecto. CLAUSULA SEPTIMA.- SUJECION A LAS APROPIACIONES PRESUPUESTALES. Las apropiaciones presupuestales comprometidas en el presente convenio por parte de CI, comprometen las vigencias de los años fiscales FY 03 (que vence en junio del 2003) FY04 (que vence en junio del 2004) y FY 05 (que vence en junio del 2005) y serán sometidas cada año a la aprobación del CBC-MT como ente rector de las actividades de la CI en la región. CLAUSULA OCTAVA.- OBLIGACIONES DE LAS PARTES: Las partes se obligan a destinar: 1. Hasta CUATRO MIL QUINIENTOS MILLONES DE PESOS (\$4.500.000.000) cada una, para promover proyectos desarrollados por organizaciones de base, entendidas como comunidades organizadas con personería jurídica, directamente o a través de una ONG, que cumplan con los propósitos de este convenio. 2. Hasta CUATROCIENTOS MILLONES DE PESOS (\$400.000.000) cada una para un

programa de becas para investigación básica aplicada sobre especies amenazadas de plantas y animales. 3. Hasta QUINIENTOS MILLONES DE (\$500.000.000) cada una, para un programa de publicaciones y difusión masiva del conocimiento sobre la biodiversidad, las lecciones aprendidas y resultados de la gestión de esta alianza. 4. Hasta SEISCIENTOS MILLONES DE PESOS (\$600.000.000) cada una para: a) Divulgar los propósitos, mecanismos de acceso y disponibilidad de los recursos producto de este convenio. b) Capacitar a las entidades potencialmente beneficiarias de este convenio en la formulación de los proyectos relativos al objeto del presente convenio. c) Acompañar a estas mismas entidades en la formulación de los proyectos. d) Realizar el acompañamiento a la ejecución de los proyectos que resulten aprobados en desarrollo de este convenio. e) Evaluar el impacto de los proyectos aprobados. Las tareas anteriormente descritas serán adelantadas por CI, en su condición de UNIDAD TECNICA del FPAA. CLAUSULA NOVENA.- COMITE COORDINADOR: Para el desarrollo del presente convenio se conformará un Comité Coordinador, el cual estará integrado por el Secretario Ejecutivo del FPAA o su delegado y el Director de CI en Colombia o el Director de la Unidad de Ciencia & Análisis del CBC de los Andes o de su delegado. Este Comité será responsable de la dirección, desarrollo, seguimiento y evaluación de la alianza; se reunirá ordinariamente cada trimestre y en forma extraordinaria cuando las necesidades así lo requieran, dejando constancia de sus deliberaciones y decisiones mediante actas. El Comité Coordinador tendrá a su cargo las siguientes funciones: a) Supervisar el desarrollo general del convenio y recomendar los ajustes que considere necesarios, b) Presentar al Consejo Directivo del FPAA los proyectos recomendados para su aprobación y los informes técnicos y financieros sobre el avance de los proyectos y del convenio en su conjunto. c) Definir las metas esperables anualmente y propender por su cumplimiento. d) Promover el conocimiento y análisis del impacto generado por los proyectos ejecutados. e) Aprobar una estrategia de comunicación tendiente a difundir el desarrollo de la alianza y de aquellos proyectos exitosos con capacidad de réplica f) Diseñar y poner en práctica una estrategia de búsqueda de nuevos recursos que fortalezcan la alianza. CLAUSULA DECIMA.- TERMINACION: Causales de terminación del presente convenio: 1. El incumplimiento de las obligaciones aquí pactadas. 2. Por mutuo acuerdo de las partes, caso en el cual se garantizará la adecuada terminación de los proyectos en ejecución. PARAGRAFO: Cualquiera de las partes tiene la facultad de dar por terminado unilateralmente el presente convenio mediante comunicación escrita motivada, la cual deberá ser enviada con una antelación no menor de treinta (30) días, previa confrontación y costeo de los proyectos, con el fin de hacer los respectivos cruces de cuentas. CLAUSULA DECIMA MODIFICACION, ADICION Y PRORROGA: El presente convenio podrá ser adicionado, prorrogado o modificado, previo acuerdo de las partes, conforme a las formalidades legales. CLAUSULA DECIMA SEGUNDA.- CESION: CI y el FPAA no podrán ceder en todo ni en parte las obligaciones contraídas en este convenio sin el consentimiento previo, escrito y expreso de la contraparte. CLAUSULA

DECIMA TERCERA.- ARBITRAMENTO: Cualquier diferencia que surja entre las partes en razón del presente convenio durante su ejecución, su terminación, interpretación o liquidación, se someterá a la decisión de un tribunal de arbitramento que se sujetará al reglamento del Centro de Arbitraje de la Cámara de Comercio de Bogotá, de acuerdo con las siguientes reglas: A) El tribunal estará integrado por tres árbitros designados así: uno por la Cámara de Comercio de Bogotá, uno por el FPAA y uno por CI. B) El tribunal decidirá en equidad, y C) El tribunal sesionará en el Centro de Arbitraje y Conciliación de la Cámara de Comercio de Bogotá. CLAUSULA DECIMA CUARTA.- LIQUIDACION: Dentro de los cuatro (4) meses siguientes al vencimiento del término de duración establecido en este convenio, las partes, o quienes ellas designen, procederán a elaborar el acta de liquidación final del convenio, la cual será suscrita por las partes. CLAUSULA DECIMA QUINTA.- INEXISTENCIA DE RELACION LABORAL: Queda claramente entendido que no existirá relación laboral alguna entre el **FPAA** y **CI**, o el personal que ésta última utilice en la ejecución del objeto del presente convenio. CLAUSULA DECIMA SEXTA.- DOMICILIO: Para todos los efectos legales, el domicilio contractual será la ciudad de Bogotá, D.C. DECIMA SEPTIMA.-RÉGIMEN, PERFECCIONAMIENTO, EJECUCION Y LEGALIZACION: El presente convenio regirá por el derecho privado colombiano y se entenderá perfeccionado con la firma de las partes. De conformidad con lo anterior, se suscribe el presente documento en dos ejemplares del mismo tenor y validez, a los cuatro (4) días del mes de marzo del año 2003, en la ciudad de Bogotá D.C.

Por el FPAA

Por CI

Nicolás García Piedrahita

Representante legal

José Vicente Rodríguez M

Representante legal

OTROSÍ No. 1 AL CONVENIO DE COOPERACIÓN INTERISNTITUCIONAL CELEBRADO EL 194 DE MARZO DE 2003 ENTRE EL FONDO PARA LA ACCIÓN AMBIENTAL Y CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

Entre los suscritos NICOLÁS GARCÍA PIEDRAHÍTA, identificado con la cédula de ciudadana No. 19.123.083 de Bogotá, mayor de edad y vecino de esta ciudad, quien en su calidad de Secretario Ejecutivo y representante legal, obra en nombre y representación de la entidad denominada FONDO PARA LA ACCIÓN AMBIENTAL, organización no gubernamental sin ánimo de lucro, constituida por escritura pública No. 2538 del 23 de junio de 2000 en la Notaría Primera del Círculo de Bogotá, registrada en la Cámara de Comercio de Bogotá el 10 de agosto del mismo año, quien para los efectos del convenio de cooperación del 4 de marzo de 2003 se denomina FPAA por una parte, y por la otra JOSE VICENTE RODRÍGUEZ MAHECHA, mayor de edad, domiciliado y residente en la ciudad de Bogotá D. C., identificado con la cédula de ciudadanía número 19.067.813 de Bogotá, quien obra en nombre y representación de CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION, entidad privada sin ánimo de lucro, persona jurídica constituida mediante Escritura Pública No. 02704 del 10 de septiembre de 1997 en la notaría 30 de Bogotá D. C., aprobada mediante Resoluciones No. 00082 del 6 de febrero de 1998 y 857 del 20 de octubre de 2000, expedidas por el Ministerio de Justicia y del Derecho y registrada por el DAMA como organización ambientalista no gubernamental, según Resolución No. 0477 del 6 de marzo de 1998, quien para los efectos del convenio de cooperación del 4 de marzo de 2003 se denomina CI, hemos convenido celebrar el presente otrosí que modifica el texto del convenio de cooperación interinstitucional A-002-03 celebrado el 4 de marzo de 2003, de la siguiente manera: PRIMERA. La cláusula tercera del convenio objeto del presente otrosí, queda así: TERCERA.- VALOR: El valor del presente convenio asciende a la suma de DOCE MIL MILLONES DE PESOS (\$12.000.000.000.oo.), los cuales serán aportados en proporciones equivalentes por cada una de las partes. Estos recursos serán distribuidos siguiente manera: SEIS MIL OCHOCIENTOS MILLONES DE (\$6.800.000.000.oo.) para desarrollar proyectos a ser ejecutados por organizaciones de la sociedad civil. TRES MIL MILLONES DE PESOS (\$3.000.000.000.00) para el desarrollo de un programa de becas dirigidas a investigación básica aplicada sobre especies amenazadas de plantas y animales. MIL MILLONES DE PESOS (\$1.000.000.000.00.) para un programa de publicaciones y difusión masiva del conocimiento sobre la biodiversidad, las lecciones aprendidas y resultados de la gestión de esta alianza. MIL DOSCIENTOS MILLONES DE PESOS (\$1.200.000.000.oo.), equivalentes al 10% del monto total de los aportes, para la promoción, asesoría científica, apoyo a la formulación de proyectos, evaluación ex-ante, monitoreo, acompañamiento y evaluación de impacto de la alianza y de sus inversiones, todos ellos necesarios para el cumplimiento del objeto de este convenio. SEGUNDA. La cláusula octava del convenio objeto del presente otrosí, queda así: OCTAVA.- OBLIGACIONES DE LAS PARTES: Las partes se obligan a destinar: 1. Hasta TRES MIL CUATROCIENTOS MILLONES DE

PESOS (\$3.400.000.000.oo.) cada una, para promover proyectos desarrollados por organizaciones de base, entendidas como comunidades organizadas con personería jurídica, directamente o a través de una ONG, que cumpla con los propósitos de este convenio. 2. Hasta MIL QUINIENTOS MILLONES DE PESOS (\$1.500.000.000.00.) cada una para un programa de becas para investigación básica aplicada sobre especies amenazadas de plantas y animales. 3. Hasta QUINIENTOS MILLONES DE PESOS (\$500.000.000) cada una, para un programa de publicaciones y difusión masiva del conocimiento sobre la biodiversidad, las lecciones aprendidas y resultados de la gestión de esta alianza. 4. Hasta SEISCIENTOS MILLONES DE PESOS (\$600.000.000) cada una para: a) Divulgar los propósitos, mecanismos de acceso y disponibilidad de los recursos producto de este convenio. b) Capacitar a las entidades potencialmente beneficiarias de este convenio en la formulación de los proyectos relativos al objeto del presente convenio. c) Acompañar a estas mismas entidades en la formulación de los proyectos. d) Realizar el acompañamiento a la ejecución de los proyectos que resulten aprobados en desarrollo de este convenio. e) Evaluar el impacto de los proyectos aprobados. Las tareas anteriormente descritas serán adelantadas por CI, en su condición de UNIDAD TECNICA del FPAA. TERCERA. Queda entendido entre las partes que las demás previsiones y cláusulas del convenio de cooperación A-002-03 de la numeración interna de EL FONDO, celebrado el 4 de marzo de 2003, que no contravengan lo contenido en el presente otrosí, continúan vigentes y sin modificación alguna.

En constancia de lo anterior, las partes suscriben el presente otrosí en dos (2) ejemplares del mismo tenor y validez, a los _____ días del mes de _____ del año 2004. 0 9 MAR 2004

FONDO PARA LA ACCIÓN AMBIENTAL NICOLÁS GARCÍA PIEDRAHÍTA CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION JOSÉ VICENTE RODRÍGUEZ MAHECHA



CONVENIO MARCO DE COOPERACIÓN INTERINSTITUCIONAL PARA LA ESTRATEGIA DE CONSOLIDACION DEL CORREDOR DE CONSERVACION CHOCO-MANABI

ALFONSO MELO MARTINEZ, identificado con la cédula de ciudadanía No. 10.532.948 de Popayán, quien actúa en su calidad de Director General de la CORPORACION AUTÓNOMA REGIONAL DE NARIÑO, entidad corporativa de carácter público, creada por la Ley 87 de 1983 y modificada por la ley 99 de 1993. con domicilio principal en Pasto, en adelante CORPONARIÑO, y JOSÉ VICENTE RODRÍGUEZ MAHECHA, identificado con la cédula de ciudadanía No 19.067.813 Bogotá, quien obra como Representante Legal en Colombia CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION, entidad extranjera sin ánimo de lucro, cuyas existencia y representación legal están cobijadas por las Resoluciones No. 00082 del 6 de febrero de 1998 y No. 857 del 20 de octubre de 2000 expedidas por el Ministerio de Justicia y del Derecho, registrada por el DAMA como "Organización Ambientalista No Gubernamental" según Resolución No. 0477 del 6 de marzo de 1998, en adelante CI-COLOMBIA, hemos convenido celebrar el presente Convenio que se regirá por la Ley 80 de 1993 y las siguientes cláusulas, previas las inmediatas CONSIDERACIONES. 1) Que según el artículo 31 numeral 3 de la Ley 99 de 1993, es función de CORPONARIÑO promover y desarrollar la participación comunitaria en actividades y programas de protección ambiental, desarrollo sostenible y manejo adecuado de los recursos naturales. 2) Que CORPONARIÑO tiene como objeto propender por el desarrollo sostenible y la protección del medio ambiente en su jurisdicción, a través de la ejecución de las políticas, programas y proyectos sobre el medio ambiente y recursos naturales renovables, así como dar cumplida y oportuna aplicación a las disposiciones legales vigentes sobre su disposición, administración, manejo y aprovechamiento, conforme a las regulaciones, pautas y directrices expedidas por el Ministerio del Ambiente, Vivienda y Desarrollo Territorial. 3) Que la administración, planeación. regulación y gestión relacionada con la biodiversidad de la región es una prioridad de CORPONARIÑO. 4) Que entre las funciones señaladas por la Ley 99 de 1993 a las Corporaciones Autónomas Regionales se encuentra la celebración de contratos y Convenios con entidades sin ánimo de lucro cuyo objeto sea la defensa y protección del medio ambiente y los recursos naturales renovables, con el fin de ejecutar de mejor manera sus funciones. 5) Que CI-COLOMBIA es una organización no gubernamental sin ánimo de lucro la cual tiene por objeto. contribuir a la conservación del patrimonio natural viviente de Colombia - en especial la rica biodiversidad de la zona andina, de la Amazonia y el Chocó Biogeográfico- y propender porque la sociedad colombiana viva en armonía con la naturaleza. 6) Que CI-COLOMBIA auspicia y ejecuta una amplia gama de programas de conservación orientados a identificar la variedad y numero de especies biológicas, fortalecer el sistema de áreas protegidas, recuperar las especies y poblaciones biológicas amenazadas de extinción y propiciar practicas





productivas ambientalmente sostenibles 7) Que CI-COLOMBIA está interesada en promover corredores de conservación, como estrategia de planeación y uso del territorio, orientada a conciliar la conservación de la naturaleza y el desarrollo sostenible en la región. CLÁUSULAS: PRIMERA. Objeto General. Como objeto del presente Convenio Marco de Cooperación Interinstitucional, las partes manifiestan su intención de trabajar conjuntamente en la formulación e implementación de una estrategia para la consolidación del Corredor de Conservación Chocó-Manabí, en el área de jurisdicción de CORPONARIÑO. SEGUNDA. Objetivos específicos. En desarrollo del citado objeto las partes acuerdan: a) promover conjuntamente actividades y proyectos que contribuyan al propósito expresado en la cláusula anterior, en concordancia con los fundamentos. motivaciones y principios institucionales expresados en las "Consideraciones", en especial en temas como producción e intercambio de información sobre el corredor, respetando los derechos de autor respectivos, monitoreo, planificación y ordenamiento ambiental del territorio, visión estratégica del corredor, áreas protegidas y microcorredores de conservación, sistemas productivos sostenibles. especies amenazadas, instrumentos económicos, estrategia de comunicación, alianzas estratégicas y participación de comunidades; b) Como parte de la estrategia de sostenibilidad financiera del Corredor, se estudiará la posibilidad de incluir las propuestas acordadas en los planes de las entidades para financiar conjuntamente proyectos en áreas temáticas de interés común que apunten al cumplimiento del objeto del presente Convenio, pudiendo servir el aporte de cada una como contrapartida mutua o ante terceros financiadores, c) Estudiar propuestas, formular y presentar proyectos conjuntos ante financiadores nacionales o extranjeros, bien sea para ejecutarlas en forma directa y conjunta o para que sean ejecutadas por organizaciones no gubernamentales, comunidades y otros actores de la gestión ambiental con el soporte legal correspondiente, bajo la supervisión, acompañamiento o interventoría de las partes; d) Promover acuerdos formales e informales de cooperación con instituciones y grupos de interés locales, regionales y nacionales, cuya presencia y actividad en el área de jurisdicción de CORPONARIÑO sean determinantes para el desarrollo sostenible de la región y para el cumplimiento del objeto del presente Convenio; e) Habilitar de manera concertada espacios de participación y trabajo conjunto con las comunidades locales en la formulación e implementación de las actividades y proyectos que se realicen en el marco de este Convenio, así como socializar los resultados, a través de instrumentos educativos y de comunicación. PARÁGRAFO: Las invenciones y descubrimientos realizados por las instituciones en el marco de este convenio pertenecen a las mismas, de conformidad con el artículo 539 del Código de Comercio, así como el artículo 20 y concordante de la ley 23 de 1982 sobre derechos de autor. TERCERA. Deberes y derechos de las partes. Para la celebración y ejecución del presente Convenio, las partes darán cumplimiento a los derechos y deberes consagrados en los artículos 4 y 5 de la Ley 80 de 1993. CUARTA, Documentos del Convenio. Hacen parte del presente



Convenio y obligan jurídicamente a las partes, los siguientes documentos: a) Los informes del supervisor; b) Las actas suscritas por el Comité Coordinador del Convenio con ocasión de su ejecución, c) Las cartas de compromiso o de intención que lo desarrollen. No obstante lo anterior, las cláusulas del presente Convenio, prevalecerán sobre cualquier otro documento. QUINTA. Duración del Convenio y renovaciones. El término de duración del presente Convenio será de tres (3) años contados a partir de su perfeccionamiento y podrá ser prorrogado de común acuerdo por un término igual, si las partes así lo acuerdan. SEXTA. Comité Coordinador. Para la buena marcha del presente Convenio se crea un comité coordinador del mismo, que se denominará Comité Coordinador del Convenio CI-COLOMBIA / CORPONARIÑO, el cual se reunirá ordinariamente con periodicidad semestral y extraordinariamente cuando las partes o una de ellas lo juzguen oportuno, dando en este último caso, la parte convocante, aviso con diez días de antelación a la parte convocada. Este comité estará integrado por el Director General de CORPONARIÑO y el Director Ejecutivo de CI-COLOMBIA o sus delegados y por al menos un responsable técnico por parte de cada entidad vinculado a las actividades del Convenio. SÉPTIMA: Funciones del Comité Coordinador. El comité cumplirá las siguientes funciones: 1) Acordar planes anuales para el cumplimiento del Convenio, 2) Emitir conceptos sobre la forma en que se adelantan las actividades y labores convenidas; 3) Levantar las actas respectivas; 4) Realizar sugerencias por escrito y formular las observaciones que estime conveniente sobre el desarrollo del presente Convenio; 5) Trazar estrategias financieras y de gestión para su implementación; y 6) Hacer seguimiento y evaluación a las actividades que se ejecuten en el marco del mismo. Parágrafo: En el evento en que sea necesario el cambio del Coordinador por parte de CORPONARIÑO, no será necesario hacer modificación del presente Convenio y la designación se realizará mediante comunicación escrita. OCTAVA. Exclusión de relación laboral. Las personas que participen en este Convenio mantienen en todo momento su vínculo laboral con la institución de la cual dependen sin que se establezca relación laboral entre ellas. NOVENA. Modificaciones. Durante la vigencia del Convenio las partes podrán modificar de común acuerdo cualquiera de sus cláusulas, suscribiendo la correspondiente aclaración de la cláusula mediante documento que hace parte integral del presente Convenio. DÉCIMA. Terminación anticipada. El presente Convenio se dará por terminado por las siguientes causas: a) Mutuo acuerdo de las partes; b) Incumplimiento por alguna de las dos partes, en cuyo caso se dará aviso con un término de (30) días de anticipación a quien corresponda; c) Si se declarara la terminación unilateral por CORPONARIÑO y estuviesen pendientes tareas específicas de un Proyecto, estas continuarán desarrollándose hasta su culminación. Cualquiera de las partes podrá dar por terminado el Convenio en cualquier momento, previo aviso de su decisión por lo menos con tres (3) meses de anticipación. DÉCIMA PRIMERA. Solución de controversias convienen agotar todos los medios para resolver amistosamente y sin litigios,

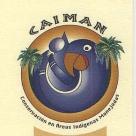


cualquier controversia que pudiera suscitarse con motivo de este Convenio DECIMA SEGUNDA. Suspensión temporal del Convenio Se podrá suspender temporalmente la ejecución del presente Convenio por mutuo acuerdo entre las partes, en los eventos de fuerza mayor o caso fortuito. En el acta que suscriban las partes por el evento de suspensión temporal del Convenio, se consignará en forma expresa los motivos que dieron lugar a la suspensión. Parágrafo. El tiempo de duración de la suspensión, se descontará del término de duración del mismo. DECIMA TERCERA. Liquidación. El presente Convenio se liquidará de común acuerdo entre CORPONARIÑO y CI-COLOMBIA, procedimiento que se efectuará dentro de los cuatro (4) meses siguientes a su terminación o a la fecha del acuerdo que disponga su finalización. La liquidación se efectuará mediante acta en la cual se describan en forma detallada todas las actividades desarrolladas y los recursos ejecutados. El Acta de Liquidación será firmada por el Director de CORPONARIÑO y el Representante Legal de CI-COLOMBIA, previo visto bueno del Comité Coordinador del Convenio DECIMA CUARTA. Cesión. CI-COLOMBIA no podrá ceder la ejecución del presente Convenio, ni los derechos y obligaciones derivados del mismo, a ninguna persona natural y/o jurídica, sin previo consentimiento expreso y escrito de CORPONARIÑO, la que se reserva las razones que tenga para negar la autorización de la cesión en el evento en que así lo estime necesario. DÉCIMA QUINTA. Perfeccionamiento. El presente Convenio se entiende perfeccionado con la firma de las partes y no representa erogación actual alguna. La suscripción de las cartas de compromiso específicas para el desarrollo del Convenio, se sujetará en los casos que impliquen recursos financieros a la disponibilidad presupuestal de las partes. DÉCIMA SEXTA.-Domicilio de las partes. Por domicilio de las partes, se tendrá a la Ciudad de Bogotá y la ciudad de sede principal de CORPONARIÑO ED I SET THAN

JOSÉ VÍCENTE RODRÍGUÉZ M. Representante Legal CI COLOMBIA

ALFONSO MELO MARTINEZ
Director General CORPONARIÑO





Convenio de Donación. Obligación Fija Convenio CAIMAN # 12

Señor Luis Suárez Director Ejecutivo Conservación Internacional (CI) - Ecuador Quito

Tema: Convenio No. (12) bajo Contrato USAID # LAG-I-00-99-00014-00, Orden de Trabajo #817

Estimado Sr. Suárez:

Es un gusto para mí conceder a la Conservación Internacional (CI) - Ecuador, de aquí en adelante denominada como "Donatario", un Convenio de Donación - Obligación Fija, por el monto US\$ 24,995 (Veinte y cuatro mil novecientos noventa y cinco dólares de los Estados Unidos de América) como contribución al proyecto "Estrategia Financiera Para la Reserva de Vida Awá".

El Cumplimiento de la obligación fija resultará a su vez del cumplimiento exitoso de actividades o logros indicados en el Anexo 1 – Descripción de Actividades.

A la presentación de cada informe que pruebe el cumplimiento de la actividad se hará el pago correspondiente, de acuerdo al siguiente cronograma:

Producto 1: Un plan de trabajo que especifique las actividades a desarrollarse con descrip<mark>ción</mark> de tiempos y presupuesto – Costo: US\$10,000 (Diez mil dólares de los Estados Unidos de América)

Producto 2: Un documento que contenga el análisis de los requerimientos financieros para la sostenibilidad de la Reserva, a mediano y largo plazo, y un informe de avance que detalle las actividades llevadas a cabo a la fecha y los avances específicos para desarrollar una estrategia financiera, y que presente concretamente al menos los dos primeros resultados esperados, será entregado al Proyecto CAIMAN el 21de Marzo del 2005 - Costo: US\$5,000 (Cinco mil dólares de los Estados Unidos de América)

Producto 3: Un documento que contenga la identificación de alternativas de manejo que contribuyan a la sostenibilidad a largo plazo de la Reserva de la Vida y un estudio de alternativas de autogestión en un marco participativo en el Plan de Manejo, identificando 2-3 de las opciones más viables deberá ser entregado a Proyecto CAIMAN el 19 de mayo del 2005 - Costo: US\$5,000 (Cinco mil dólares de los Estados Unidos de América).

Producto 4: Un documento que contenga la propuesta de mecanismos de financiamiento a largo plazo, alimentada de fondos externos y/o actividades de autogestión para el manejo de la Reserva de la Vida (e.g., fideicomisos, un sistema de incentivos o pago por servicios ambientales), y un informe final que resuma las actividades llevadas a cabo, problemas encontrados, lecciones aprendidas, deberá ser entregado al Proyecto CAIMAN el 1 de agosto del 2005 - Costo: US\$4,995 (Cuatro mil novecientos noventa y cinco dólares de los Estados Unidos de América)



El Proyecto CAIMAN
es financiado por la
Agencia de fos Estados Unidos
Pora el Desarrofo infermacional (USA
e implementado por
Chemorias International Inc.



- Obligaciones del Donatario (ADS 303). Mediante la aceptación de este Convenio, el Donatario se compromete a:
 - Documentar los pasos razonables que fueron tomados para asegurar que todas las compras financiadas por el Convenio son razonables en cuanto a costo y procedencia.
 - 2. Mantener registros completos, por el período de tres años luego de la expiración del Convenio, de todos los gastos financiados por el Convenio, y asegurarse que dichos registros sean accesibles para CHEMONICS International Inc., Proyecto CAIMAN o USAID y sus representantes, para su revisión cuando lo consideren pertinente. El acceso a los registros y archivos se requerirá por escrito con un mínimo de tres días de anticipación. Los registros contables deben actualizarse continuamente.
 - 3. Si CHEMONICS/Proyecto CAIMAN o USAID lo requiriesen, se solicitará al Donatario el reembolso de fondos recibidos procedentes de CHEMONICS/Proyecto CAIMAN que representen el reembolso de cualquier gasto determinado por CHEMONICS/Proyecto CAIMAN o USAID como un gasto que no ha cumplido las condiciones o términos de este acuerdo.
- Objetivo de la Donación, Plan de Implementación y Productos. Los fondos del Convenio deben ser usados únicamente para la consecución del objetivo del proyecto y para la elaboración de los productos concernientes al mismo, de acuerdo al Anexo 1, "Descripción del Programa".
- III. Período de la Donación. El período para la implementación de este convenio es de siete meses, del 3 de enero del 2005 al 1 de agosto del 2005. Todos los gastos deberán ser efectuados durante este período. Gastos incurridos antes de la fecha de inicio del proyecto, 3 de enero del 2005 y luego de la fecha de finalización del mismo, 1 de agosto del 2005, no serán aprobados por CHEMONICS/Proyecto CAIMAN. El reporte de terminación de la Donación y los productos de la Donación deberán ser entregados por el Donatario, en un plazo no mayor a 15 días luego de la fecha de finalización del proyecto, a menos que CHEMONICS provea al Donatario de una extensión por escrito del plazo. La fecha de terminación del proyecto puede ser modificada únicamente mediante la emisión de una enmienda hecha antes de la fecha de finalización del Convenio. La enmienda debe ser firmada por el Director del Proyecto CAIMAN y el Representante Legal de Conservación Internacional (CI) - Ecuador
- IV. Desembolso de la Donación. Los fondos de la Donación serán desembolsados mediante cheques pagaderos al Donatario por la presentación y aprobación del reporte técnico, de acuerdo a lo establecido para cada producto y en el Anexo I, al Director del Proyecto CAIMAN Sr. Joao de Queiroz, Ernesto Noboa Caamaño E13-35 y González Suárez, en Quito, a los teléfonos números 02-223-3110, 02-223-4413; o a la dirección de e-mail: jqueiroz@proyectocaiman.org
- Relación con USAID: Este Convenio ha sido administrado por CHEMONICS en nombre del Programa de Actividades del acuerdo CHEMONICS/Proyecto CAIMAN, como un contratista autorizado de USAID ("El Contratista"). Si bien USAID no está substancialmente involucrado en la administración de este Convenio, se sobreentiende y se acuerda que USAID, puede, a su discreción, a través de CHEMONICS/Proyecto CAIMAN/ Director del Proyecto CAIMAN, reemplazar cualquier decisión, acto u omisión tomada por CHEMONICS/Proyecto CAIMAN con respecto a este Convenio, dado que USAID actúa de acuerdo a las provisiones del Convenio y con tiempo suficiente, de forma que el Donatario no sufra detrimentos relacionados con esta decisión. acto o misión del contratista. El Donatario no se comunicará directamente con USAID por aspectos relacionados con este Convenio.



- Reconocimiento y deslindamiento de responsabilidad. Cualquier material publicado o resultante de las actividades del Convenio debe contener una mención sobre los fondos del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos otorgados a través de la Agencia Internacional de Desarrollo de los Estados Unidos (USAID) al programa del Proyecto CAIMAN. Estos materiales deben además incluir la siguiente especificación: "Esta (publicación, video, etc) fue posible gracias al apoyo de la Agencia Internacional de Desarrollo de los Estados Unidos al programa del Proyecto CAIMAN, implementado por Chemonics International Inc. Las opiniones, resultados, conclusiones y recomendaciones expresadas, son de responsabilidad del autor y no necesariamente reflejan los puntos de vista o pensamientos de la Agencia Internacional de Desarrollo de los Estados Unidos o de CHEMONICS International Inc."
- VII. Responsabilidades Laborales. El Donatario asume para sí todas las obligaciones laborales consagradas en el Código del Trabajo y Ley de Seguridad Social, respecto de los trabajadores que contrate para la ejecución del objeto del convenio; por lo tanto tendrá la calidad de patrono o empleador frente a sus trabajadores, sin que el Donante asuma responsabilidad alguna por estos conceptos, ni aún a título de solidaridad patronal. De manera particular pero no taxativa, el donatario es responsable de cumplir y hacer cumplir con las leyes laborales ecuatorianas, aportes patronales y personales al IESS de sus empleados, de pagarlos oportunamente y de acuerdo a lo establecido por la ley. Los aportes que se realicen al IESS serán sobre el sueldo básico unificado mensual percibido por el empleado. Asimismo, es responsable de realizar las retenciones y pagos respectivos de las Retenciones en la Fuente, tanto de Impuesto a la Renta, como del Impuesto al Valor Agregado al Servicio de Rentas Internas, (SRI). Multas e intereses resultantes del incumplimiento por parte del Donatario ya sea con el IESS, SRI u otros, se considerarán no permisibles y por lo tanto no serán reembolsados por el CHEMONICS/Proyecto CAIMAN. El Donatario no adquiere en virtud de este Convenio la calidad de agente, representante o mandatario del Donante.

De manera particular, el Donatario, esta obligado a cumplir el Reglamento de Seguridad, Salud de los trabajadores y Mejoramiento del Medio Ambiente de Trabajo del IESS, publicado en el registro oficial No. 565 de 17 de Noviembre de 1986.

VIII. Impuesto al Valor Agregado - IVA: Al amparo de lo previsto en el Artículo 69B de la Ley de Régimen Tributario Interno, y por requerimiento de USAID, el donatario está en la obligación de recuperar el Impuesto al Valor Agregado - IVA causado y pagado con fondos provenientes del Proyecto CAIMAN, para lo cual debe cumplir con todos los requisitos que establece dicha Ley, el Reglamento de Comprobantes de Venta y el Servicio de Rentas Internas - SRI.

El uso del IVA reembolsado por el Gobierno del Ecuador se hará de acuerdo con las instrucciones emitidas por el Oficial de Contratos Regional de USAID.

Será responsabilidad del donatario la declaración y pago de todos los tributos que le correspondiere, de acuerdo a las Leyes y Normas Ecuatorianas. El donatario no podrá hacer ningún reclamo Proyecto CAIMAN, Chemonics Internacional Inc. y USAID de cualquier perjuicio proveniente de reclamaciones al respecto.

El donatario hará todo lo que esté a su alcance para recuperar la totalidad del IVA pagado con fondos provenientes del Proyecto CAIMAN y presentará al Proyecto CAIMAN un informe trimestral, de acuerdo con la matriz del Anexo 3, sobre el IVA pagado y recuperado.



El Proyecto CAIMAN proveerá asistencia, en el caso de ser requerida, para guiar o apoyar los trámites pertinentes en la calificación y obtención para el derecho a devolución del IVA ante el SRI.

- Negociador Autorizado. El Director del Proyecto CAIMAN (o su designado) es el único individuo autorizado para ejecutar Convenios de Donación y modificaciones.
- Idioma de control. En caso de ambigüedad o discrepancia entre la versión en Inglés y X. Español, predominará la versión en Inglés.
- Confidencialidad y uso de información. El beneficiario no publicará, divulgará o hará uso de información alguna sin la autorización de CAIMAN.
- XII. Términos y Condiciones: Los términos y Condiciones de este Convenio de Donación resumen la mayoría de las regulaciones (Provisiones estándares) que se aplican al Convenio. El texto completo de las regulaciones se encuentra en el Anexo 2 de este Convenio. El Donatario debe leer y entender las regulaciones que se aplican a este Convenio pues su cumplimiento es responsabilidad del Donatario.
 - A. Costos permisibles. Por la Provisión obligatoria #1, el Donatario debe ser reembolsado por los costos incurridos, los mismos que son determinados como razonables, presupuestados y permisibles de acuerdo a los términos de este Convenio. Dichos gastos no incurrirán en costos indirectos. Bajo este Convenio, sub-donaciones no son permitidas, el Donatario debe obtener previamente una determinación por escrito por parte del Proyecto CAIMAN para incurrir en dichos costos.
 - B. Contabilidad, auditoría y registros. Por la Provisión Estándar #2, el Donatario debe mantener registros contables, con documentos de respaldo, registros estadísticos y otros registros pertinentes a la Donación, de acuerdo con los Principios de Contabilidad Generalmente Aceptados. Chemonics, el Proyecto CAIMAN y USAID se reservan el derecho de conducir una revisión financiera, requerir una auditoria, o de otra forma asegurarse del manejo contable adecuado por parte del Donatario, cuando lo desee.
 - C. Terminación. Este Convenio de Donación, y cualquier modificación al mismo, puede ser unilateralmente terminado por CHEMONICS/Proyecto CAIMAN en cualquier momento, mediante un aviso por escrito previo entregado al Donatario con 15 (quince) días de anticipación, bajo las siguientes condiciones:
 - 1) Por Causa CHEMONICS/Proyecto CAIMAN podría determinar que;
 - Con referencia al Ítem No II antes mencionado, es improbable que los objetivos del Convenio de Donación sean alcanzados; o
 - Si cualquiera de los Términos y Condiciones de este Convenio de Donación son incumplidos por el Donatario.
 - 2) Por conveniencia del Gobierno En caso de que el Gobierno de EE.UU. o demore o transfiera los servicios de Ecuador detenga, CHEMONICS/Proyecto CAIMAN por alguna razón.
 - Por conveniencia mutua El Donatario puede retirarse de este Convenio por mutua conveniencia, mediante una afirmación escrita.

- D. Disputas. En el caso de que surja cualquier disputa concerniente a cualquier aspecto de este Convenio de Donación, que no sea específicamente detallada en estos términos y condiciones, mediante este Convenio se acuerda que un comité ad hoc conformado para este efecto, que cuente con un representante de USAID, CHEMONICS/Proyecto CAIMAN y del Donatario que servirá como vínculo y árbitro final de tal disputa. El representante de USAID encabezará el comité y tendrá autoridad final para la resolución de cualquier disputa.
- E. Exclusiones, Suspensión y otros asuntos de responsabilidad. El Donatario firmará una certificación que acredite que él y sus derechos no se encuentran actualmente excluidos, suspendidos, propuestos para exclusión, declarados no elegibles o voluntariamente excluidos de las transacciones cubiertas por cualquier departamento Federal o agencia, entre otras declaraciones.
- F. Deslindamiento de responsabilidad. CHEMONICS/Proyecto CAIMAN y USAID no asumen responsabilidad alguna por cualquier tipo de reclamos de terceras partes que surjan bajo este Convenio.
- G. Modificación de este Convenio de Donación. Este Convenio de Donación podrá ser modificado por las siguientes razones, aunque dicha modificación no está limitada a éstas razones:
 - Cuando el cumplimiento del objetivo del programa está en peligro, pero la implementación de una modificación en la programación podría ponerlo nuevamente en el camino correcto; y/o
 - Cuando se presenta un aumento inesperado en el costo de la(s) actividad(es) propuestas para el financiamiento del Convenio de Donación; y/o
 - Cuando se requiere una extensión en el período del Convenio de Donación que no incrementa de forma alguna los costos de la(s) actividad(es).

Todas las modificaciones deben ser hechas por escrito y estar firmadas por el Director del Proyecto CAIMAN y el Agente del Donatario. De ninguna forma una modificación puede ser aprobada si la misma incrementa los Fondos Totales del Convenio sobre los US\$ 250,000.

H. Otros Términos y Condiciones. El Donatario es responsable de leer el texto que trata sobre las Provisiones Estándares Aplicables que se aplican a este Convenio de Donación. Estas provisiones están marcadas con una "X" en el Anexo 2.

Por favor firmar ambos originales de este Convenio de Donación para el reconocimiento, entendimiento y aceptación de sus términos y condiciones. Por favor entregue el original a en la oficina de CHEMONICS/Proyecto CAIMAN.

Atentamente,

Joaq de Queiroz

Director

Proyecto CAIMAN

Chemonics International Inc

Convenio de Obligación Dio No. 12 Dácino - 6

En nombre de Conservación Internacional (CI) -- Ecuador, el Donatario, mediante el presente documento expresa su conocimiento, entendimiento y aceptación con los términos y condiciones de este Convenio de Donación.

Firma:

Nombre: Luis Suárez

Cargo: Director Ejecutivo

Conservación Internacional (CI) - Ecuador

Fecha: En la ciudad de Quito, el día 23 de noviembre del 2004

Anexo 1: Descripción del Proyecto

Anexo 2: Provisiones Estándares Obligatorias y Requeridas Anexo 3: Matriz de información sobre IVA pagado y recuperado

Anexo I

Descripción del Programa

ESTRATEGIA FINANCIERA PARA LA RESERVA DE VIDA AWA

I. Introducción

Los Awá del Ecuador poseen un territorio de aproximadamente 120.000 hectáreas al noroccidente del país, situado en la región biogeográfica del Chocó, una de las más biodiversas, pero también una de las más amenazadas del mundo. El territorio Awá está cubierto en un 65% por bosques húmedos tropicales pero ha empezado a sufrir presiones provenientes de varias fuentes-colonización, explotación maderera y expansión de los monocultivos de palma africana.

La Federación de Centros Awá del Ecuador (FCAE) decidió establecer una reserva denominada "Reserva de la Vida", de unas 17.000 hectáreas de bosque primario, en la parte suroriental de su territorio. Esta iniciativa nació de la necesidad de contar con espacios para la protección de la biodiversidad, a fin de mantener los bosques tropicales de la región y asegurar la provisión de recursos naturales claves para esta nacionalidad. Si bien esta reserva es inhabitada, a su alrededor se asientan seis centros poblados Awá.

Con apoyo del Fondo de Alianzas para Ecosistemas Críticos (CEPF- "Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund"), la FCAE desarrollará un Plan de Manejo para la Reserva de Vida, buscando consolidar legal y fisicamente la Reserva y desarrollar alternativas productivas con las comunidades aledañas.

II. Objetivo General

Preparar una estrategia de financiamiento a mediano (2005-2010) y largo plazo (2011+) para el manejo y la conservación de la Reserva de Vida, considerando los costos y de la implementación integral de los programas del Plan de Manejo, explorando tanto opciones de autogestión como de apoyo externo/levantamiento de fondos.

III. Descripción de actividades

Esta actividad estará estrechamente articulada al diseño del Plan de Manejo a fin de identificar, analizar y planificar posibles iniciativas y estrategias que garanticen la sostenibilidad financiera de la Reserva, lo cual implica la sostenibilidad financiera de la Federación de los Centros Awá del Ecuador (FCAE), entidad responsable por la conservación del territorio Awá. Este Plan de Manejo deberá incluir una estrategia de sostenibilidad a largo plazo, producto de este convenio, que indique al menos dos áreas específicas:

Objetivos específicos y actividades:

- 1) Sostenimiento básico de la Reserva en la que se deben cubrir costos básicos de:
- Fortalecimiento de la capacidad técnica y administrativa de la FCAE para la administración y manejo de la Reserva de la Vida;
- Control y vigilancia;
- Planificación y gestión participativa (actualización del PM, Evaluación de Efectividad de Manejo, POAs, y Coordinación con las comunidades en la zona de amortiguamiento (Comité de Gestión) y con otras instancias de apoyo (Grupo Asesor Técnico de la Reserva).
- 2) Sostenimiento integral de la Reserva donde se incluyan los costos de:

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Implementación de todos los programas identificados en el Plan de Manejo, tales como: a)
 Manejo de Recursos Naturales, b) Turismo y Recreación, c) Desarrollo Comunitario (proyectos sostenibles para las comunidades aledañas a la Reserva), d) Educación Ambiental y e) Investigación y Monitoreo.

Para las dos áreas, la estrategia de sostenibilidad deberá identificar las acciones necesarias para el levantamiento de fondos y/o de autogestión.

Para la identificación de los requerimientos financieros para la implementación del Plan de Manejo de manera integral se espera un análisis de la viabilidad de implementar proyectos productivos alternativos en las comunidades aledañas a la Reserva de la Vida. Preliminarmente, se han identificado las siguientes posibilidades:

- Desarrollar actividades de ecoturismo, con la participación de los centros Awá ubicados alrededor de la Reserva;
- Establecer una estación científica y desarrollar un programa de turismo científico, a fin de realizar investigaciones biológicas y ecológicas en el área;
- Desarrollar proyectos con recursos biológicos promisorios, que brinden beneficios a las comunidades locales y que contribuyan al manejo de la Reserva de la Vida.
- Investigar el potencial para el establecimiento de un fondo fiduciario en los Estados Unidos
- Proponer una estructura para el fondo, fuentes de recursos, estructura y procesos administrativos

Con relación al tema de levantamiento de fondos, se debe contar con una estrategia específica, que explore el mercado del financiamiento para temas relacionados con la Reserva y que identifique a las organizaciones potencialmente interesadas en apoyar económicamente las iniciativas del Plan de Manejo de la Reserva de la Vida.Resultados

IV. Resultados

Resultado	Actividades
Resultado 1: Análisis de las necesidades financieras para el sostenimiento de la Reserva a mediano y largo plazo.	Participar en el desarrollo del Plan de Manejo para asegurar que las actividades propuestas sean económicamente realistas y viables.
	Desarrollar presupuestos operativos y una planificación financiera para la Reserva y su zona de amortiguamiento, con escenarios básicos e integrales, incluyendo, como mínimo, los siguientes rubros:
	- Personal
	- Gastos operativos (luz, agua, arrendamiento de oficinas, telecomunicaciones, etc.),
	- Infraestructura
	- Vehículos y medios de transporte
	- Equipamiento básico (equipos de oficina, mobiliario, equipo de campo)
	Mantenimiento (de instalaciones e infraestructura, de equipamiento, y de vehículos).



Resultado 2: Identificación de alternativas de actividades de autogestión que pueden contribuir al sostenimiento a largo plazo de la Reserva de Vida	 Identificar una gama de opciones para el desarrollo económico local que contribuyen a la conservación de la Reserva con base en: Participación en el desarrollo del Plan de Manejo Revisión de iniciativas propuestas por la FCAE y otras organizaciones de apoyo Revisión de otras experiencias e iniciativas similares en otros lugares
Resultado 3: Tamizado de las alternativas de autogestión, en el marco participativo del Plan de Manejo, para identificar 2-3 opciones más viables	 Desarrollar una serie de criterios transparentes y amplios para la evaluación de las alternativas Calificar las alternativas identificadas para seleccionar las alternativas de autogestión más viables a largo plazo Integrar la FCAE en el ejercicio
Resultado 4: Desarrollo de una planificación estratégica y financiera para la implementación de las actividades de autogestión.	 Elaborar, con la participación de los interesados, una visión y planes de actividades a mediano y largo plazo para las actividades de autogestión; Elaborar presupuestos detallados para el desarrollo de las actividades de autogestión, a mediano y largo plazo. Analizar la capacidad y las necesidades administrativas e institucionales para el desarrollo de estas actividades Recomendar estrategias de levantamiento de fondos (cuando sea pertinente).
Resultado 5: Propuesta de mecanismos financieros de largo plazo, alimentados de fuentes externas y/o de autogestión, para el manejo de la Reserva (e.g. fondos de fideicomiso, sistemas de incentivos o pagos por servicios ambientales)	 Identificar y diseñar los mecanismos financieros más apropiados según las actividades y necesidades identificadas, que permiten el manejo transparente y estable de recursos para la Reserva y su zona amortiguadora. Propuesta para el establecimiento de un fondo fiduciario o equivalente para apoyar en le conservación de la reserva de la vida.

V. Productos

- a. Presupuestos operativos y una planificación financiera para la Reserva, con escenarios básicos e integrales, a mediano y largo plazo, como parte del Plan de Manejo. Estos deben contemplar actividades, presupuesto, necesidades de fortalecimiento administrativo-institucional;
- b. Documento que resuma una gama de posibles actividades de autogestión identificadas y su calificación con base en los criterios seleccionados;
- Recomendaciones de estrategias para cubrir los costos básicos de operación de la Reserva (en un horizonte de 3 a 5 años) y para el desarrollo de tres iniciativas de autogestión (identificadas en el marco del Plan de Manejo), y
- d. Propuesta para mecanismos financieros a largo plazo, con recursos de autogestión y/o externos.

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VI. Base de datos de entrenamiento

Conservación Internacional (CI) - Ecuador mantendrá una base de datos sobre todos los eventos de entrenamiento. Esta base de datos deberá incluir los nombres y número total de participantes, género, organización y tópico del entrenamiento. Un breve reporte será entregado a CAIMAN para cada entrenamiento como anexo de los reportes técnicos.

VII. Reportes

El contratista presentará los siguientes informes:

- a. Un plan de trabajo que indique las actividades y las fechas en las que se llevarán a cabo.
- b. Un documento de análisis de los requerimientos financieros para sostenibilidad en las Reserva, a mediano y largo plazo, y n informe de avance que detalle las actividades cumplidas a la fecha y los avances específicos para desarrollar una estrategia financiera, que discuta concretamente al menos los dos primeros resultados esperados, será entregado a Proyecto CAIMAN el 21 de marzo del 2005.
- c. Un documento que contenga la identificación de alternativas de manejo que contribuyan a la sostenibilidad a largo plazo de la Reserva de la Vida y un estudio de alternativas de autogestión en un marco participativo en el Plan de Manejo, identificando 2-3 de las opciones más viables deberá ser entregado a Proyecto CAIMAN el 19 de mayo del 2005.
- d. Un documento que contenga la propuesta de mecanismos de financiamiento a largo plazo, alimentada de fondos externos y/o actividades de autogestión para el manejo de la Reserva de la Vida (e.g., fideicomisos, un sistema de incentivos o pago por servicios ambientales), y un informe final que resuma las actividades llevadas a cabo, problemas encontrados, lecciones aprendidas, deberá ser entregado al Proyecto CAIMAN el 1 de agosto del 2005.

Conservación Internacional (CI) – Ecuador, entregará los informes de acuerdo a los formatos acordados entre CAIMAN y CI que prueben el cumplimiento de las actividades y los resultados especificados en el punto V Resultados. Viajes (destino, propósito y duración) y consultas hechas por CI con la asistencia de CAIMAN deben ser listadas en el informe técnico. El informe técnico final debe ser entregado a CAIMAN para su revisión antes de su impresión. Se entregarán cinco copias impresas y una electrónica del informe final a CAIMAN.

VIII. Colaboración con los Subcontratistas y Donatarios de CAIMAN

La colaboración entre el Proyecto CAIMAN y la nacionalidad Awá trasciende las actividades incluidas en este convenio de donación. CAIMAN, además de proveer asistencia a directa a la nacionalidad Awá, la provee también a través de otras organizaciones mediante de convenios subcontratos, por lo que, de ser necesario Awá deberá coordinar con CAIMAN para evitar traslape de actividades, mantener la confidencialidad del uso y manejo de la información

CONVENIO DE COOPERACIÓN ENTRE EL FONDO AMBIENTAL NACIONAL (FAN) Y LA FUNDACIÓN CONSERVACIÓN INTERNACIONAL

Por una parte, el FONDO AMBIENTAL NACIONAL, en adelante y para efectos de este Convenio denominado "FAN", entidad sin fines de lucro, con domicilio principal en la ciudad de Quito, representada por el Señor Samuel Sangüeza Pardo, en su calidad de Director Ejecutivo y Representante Legal; por otra la FUNDACIÓN CONSERVACIÓN INTERNACIONAL, entidad sin fines de lucro, con domicilio principal en la ciudad de Washington DC, Estados Unidos de América, representada por Luis Suárez, en su calidad de Director Ejecutivo de Conservación Internacional Ecuador, en adelante denominada CI-Ecuador, convienen en celebrar el presente Convenio de Cooperación que se regirá por las siguientes cláusulas y previas las siguientes consideraciones:

I. LAS PARTES RECONOCEN:

PRIMERO: La importancia de proteger y conservar el patrimonio natural y cultural, la diversidad biológica y los recursos naturales del país, base del futuro desarrollo social y económico de la República del Ecuador.

SEGUNDO: La importancia de involucrar a la comunidad nacional e internacional en apoyo a la protección y conservación de la biodiversidad de la República del Ecuador, para beneficio de las presentes y futuras generaciones de ecuatorianos.

<u>TERCERO</u>: El interés conjunto de FAN y CI-Ecuador en promover la cooperación técnica e institucional en apoyo a la conservación de la diversidad biológica del país.

<u>CUARTO</u> Que es objeto de CI-Ecuador contribuir a la conservación del patrimonio natural viviente del Ecuador y demostrar que la sociedad ecuatoriana es capaz de vivir en armonía con la naturaleza.

QUINTO: Que es objeto del FAN apoyar al financiamiento de planes, programas, proyectos y cualquier actividad tendiente a la protección, conservación y mejoramiento de los recursos naturales y el medio ambiente, dentro de los alcances de la Estrategia Ambiental para el Desarrollo Sostenible del Ecuador y de conformidad con las prioridades y políticas que determinen sus órganos decisorios.

SEXTO: Que tanto FAN como CI-Ecuador, tienen como uno de sus objetivos el establecimiento de alianzas y la capacitación de líderes en el campo ambiental y de desarrollo sustentable.

II. LAS PARTES ACUERDAN:

PRIMERO: Colaborar, promover y desarrollar proyectos relacionados con la conservación, protección, manejo integral y uso racional de los recursos naturales en la República del Ecuador, especialmente en el sector ecuatoriano de los Corredores de Conservación Chocó-Manabí, Cóndor-Kutukú y Galápagos-Cocos.

<u>SÉPTIMO</u>: FAN y CI-Ecuador podrán desarrollar productos específicos enmarcados en el presente Convenio, por lo que estos productos serán definidos a través de contratos de asistencia técnica u otros mecanismos que permitan establecer los beneficios económicos y de autoría de cada parte o en conjunto según sea el caso.

OCTAVO: El presente Convenio tendrá una duración de cinco (5) años a partir de la fecha de su firma y se prorrogará automáticamente por el mismo período, a menos que alguna de las partes exprese lo contrario, mediante aviso formal por escrito con tres (3) meses de anticipación al vencimiento del período correspondiente.

NOVENO: El presente Convenio podrá ser terminado antes del plazo previsto por decisión unilateral de cualquiera de las partes, mediante aviso formal y por escrito a la otra parte con tres (3) meses de anticipación.

III DOCUMENTOS HABILITANTES:

Constituyen documentos habilitantes del presente Convenio, los nombramientos de los representantes legales del Fondo Ambiental Nacional y la Fundación Conservación Internacional.

VIII CONTROVERSIAS:

Las partes acuerdan que toda controversia o diferencia derivada de este Convenio sea resuelta con la asistencia de un mediador del Centro de Arbitraje y Mediación de la Cámara de Comercio de Quito. En el evento que el conflicto no fuere resuelto mediante este procedimiento, las partes someten sus controversias a la resolución de un Tribunal de Arbitraje que se sujetará a lo dispuesto en la Ley de Arbitraje y Mediación, el Reglamento del Centro de Arbitraje y Mediación de la Cámara de Comercio de Quito y las siguientes normas: a) Los árbitros serán seleccionados conforme a lo establecido en la Ley de Arbitraje y Mediación y fallarán conforme a equidad, b) Las partes renuncian a la jurisdicción ordinaria, se obligan a acatar el laudo que expida el Tribunal Arbitral y se comprometen a no interponer ningún tipo de recurso en contra del laudo arbitral, c) Para la ejecución de medidas cautelares el Tribunal Arbitral está facultado para solicitar el auxilio de funcionarios públicos, judiciales, policiales y administrativos sin que sea necesario recurrir a juez ordinario alguno, d) El Tribunal Arbitral estará integrado por tres árbitros, e) el procedimiento arbitral será confidencial; y f) el lugar del arbitraje será en las instalaciones del Centro de Arbitraje y Mediación de la Cámara de Comercio de Quito

En fe de lo cual, los representantes del FAN y Conservación Internacional Ecuador, firman de común acuerdo y en aceptación de todas las cláusulas del presente Convenio, en tres (3) ejemplares de igual tenor y validez, en la Ciudad de Quito a los 26 días del mes de junio del año 2003.

Por Conservación Internacional

Luis Suárez Director Ejecutivo Samuel Sangueza Pardo

D. Dauguen hos

Por el Fondo Ambiental Nacional

Director Ejecutivo



CONVENIO DE COOPERACIÓN ENTRE EL MINISTERIO DEL AMBIENTE DEL ECUADOR Y CONSERVACION INTERNACIONAL PARA LA IMPLEMENTACION DE LA ESTRATEGIA NACIONALE DE BIODIVERSIDAD DEL ECUADOR.

PRIMERA.- INTERVINIENTES

Comparecen a la celebración del presente CONVENIO DE COOPERACION, por una parte el Ministerio del Ambiente, representado por la señora Lourdes Luque de Jaramillo, en su calidad de Ministra del Ambiente y por otra, Conservación Internacional, representado por el señor Roberto Roca, Vicepresidente del Programa Regional Andino, según se acredita con la copia de la escritura pública de poder especial otorgada a su favor.

SEGUNDA.- ANTECEDENTES

- 1. El Ministerio del Ambiente es la autoridad estatal encargada de definir y regular las políticas ambientales y de coordinar los planes, proyectos y programas orientados a lograr un ambiente sano, mediante una gestión participativa, equitativa y solidaria. Entre sus funciones se encuentran el diseño de las estrategias sustentables para la conservación del ambiente, la promoción del desarrollo y de la participación de la comunidad, y la incorporación de la dimensión ambiental en la gestión pública y en los valores ciudadanos.
- 2. Conservación Internacional, Es una organización privada sin fines de lucro incorporada bajo la ley del estado de California, con sede principal en Washington D. C., USA. CI, manteniendo programas de desarrollo sustentable en 27 países en cuatro continentes. Su misión es conservar el patrimonio viviente de la tierra, la biodiversidad global, y demostrar que las sociedades humanas son capaces de vivir armónicamente con la naturaleza. CI es representada en el Ecuador por su división CI-Ecuador, la cual fue establecida de manera oficial en enero del 2001. Al suscribir este convenio, CI declara su interés en promover y cooperar en la conservación de la biodiversidad del Ecuador, a través de los diferentes mecanismos y herramientas que así se definan en el presente convenio y en futuras referencias, como es el caso de los Corredores de Conservación, las concesiones de conservación, los mecanismos de captación de Carbono y el manejo conjunto de áreas protegidas públicas y privadas.
- 3. La Política y Estrategia Nacional de Biodiversidad, así como la del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas es producto de un proceso participativo desarrollado en los dos últimos años que ha permitido dar los primeros pasos para lograr una visión común sobre los propósitos y las prioridades en relación con la conservación y uso de la biodiversidad del país.





- 4. La formulación de las Estrategias responde también al compromiso del Ecuador como parte Contratante del Convenio sobre Diversidad Biológica, que en su artículo 6 promueve la construcción de estrategias nacionales. Para esto, el Ministerio del Ambiente gestionó el proyecto GEF ECU/98-G31, denominado "Plan de Acción Nacional de Biodiversidad", que concluyó en julio del 2001.
- 5. La implementación de la Estrategia Nacional de Biodiversidad será un proceso complejo y de largo aliento. Su adopción e implementación coinciden con un escenario donde existen múltiples visiones sobre la problemática y la gestión de la biodiversidad, y con un contexto de amplio debate y reconocimiento de nuestra diversidad étnica. El éxito de la propuesta dependerá de la apropiación de la Estrategia por los diversos sectores de la sociedad, la articulación de las coincidencias y puntos de interés comunes y un sólido y práctico desarrollo de acciones que permita concretar resultados para la sociedad ecuatoriana. De allí la importancia de establecer alianzas y contar con el contingente de socios estratégicos en los distintos niveles.
- 6. La implementación de la Estrategia de consolidación del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas (SNAP), que forma parte de la Estrategia de Biodiversidad, requiere de la cooperación técnica internacional para fortalecer la capacidad institucional de la Dirección de Biodiversidad y Áreas Protegidas del Ministerio en la administración, manejo, monitoreo y evaluación del Patrimonio Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas y del Sistema Nacional de Areas Protegidas (SNAP).

TERCERA.- OBJETO Y ALCANCE DEL CONVENIO

El presente CONVENIO tiene por objeto formalizar el compromiso expresado por Conservación Internacional de contribuir a la implementación de la Estrategia Nacional de Biodiversidad y el fortalecimiento del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas, facilitando la cooperación técnica y financiera a través del Ministerio del Ambiente. Esta cooperación se concretará en el desarrollo de diferentes acciones enmarcadas en proyectos específicos que se definirán en cada uno de ellos al momento de su suscripción.

CUARTA.- PLAZO

El presente CONVENIO tendrá una duración de cinco (5) años, contados a partir de la suscripción del mismo y se prorrogará automáticamente por el mismo período, a menos que alguna de las partes exprese lo contrario, mediante aviso formal, por escrito con tres (3) meses de anticipación al vencimiento del plazo.





QUINTA.- OBLIGACIONES DE LAS PARTES

a) DEL MINISTERIO DEL AMBIENTE:

- Analizar y evaluar los proyectos elaborados por Conservación Internacional para la implementación de las líneas de acción específicas de la Estrategia Nacional de Biodiversidad y de fortalecimiento del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas.
- Coadyuvar en la gestión para la obtención de recursos económicos destinados al financiamiento de proyectos en áreas de interés común
- El Ministerio apoyará la creación de disposiciones legales que faciliten mecanismos de manejo de áreas protegidas y la creación de Corredores de Conservación, así como Concesiones de Conservación.
- Dentro de la Política de Estado el Ministerio apoyará el desarrollo de proyectos relacionados con el mecanismo de fijación de carbono y facilitará dichos procesos previa consulta y análisis de los proyectos.

b) DE CONSERVACIÓN INTERNACIONAL:

- Elaborar proyectos de interés común para la implementación de las líneas de acción de la Estrategia Nacional de Biodiversidad y de fortalecimiento del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas del Ecuador (SNAP).
- 2. Elaborar propuestas e implementar los Corredores de Conservación en el Ecuador.
- Proporcionar asistencia técnica y financiera para el proceso de implementación de la Estrategia Nacional de Biodiversidad y de fortalecimiento del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas del Ecuador.
- Responsabilizarse del manejo de fondos, la gestión financiera y la contratación del personal para los proyectos de Implementación.

c) OBLIGACIONES CONJUNTAS:

- Facilitar el acceso a la información que se considere necesaria y disponible en el Ministerio del Ambiente para la implementación de la Estrategia Nacional de Biodiversidad y de fortalecimiento del SNAP.
- Identificar y seleccionar áreas, para la aplicación y validación de las estrategias, modelos y/o mecanismos señalados en el presente Convenio.
- Para el desarrollo de áreas especificas y para instrumentar el seguimiento del presente convenio, las partes desarrollaran planes de trabajo anuales.
- 4. El Ministerio del Ambiente y CI podrán desarrollar productos específicos enmarcados en el presente Convenio, por lo que estos productos serán definidos a través de contratos de asistencia técnica u otros mecanismos que permitan establecer los beneficios económicos y de autoría de cada parte o en conjunto según sea el caso.





SEXTA.- EJECUCIÓN DEL CONVENIO

- Este instrumento será considerado como un CONVENIO MARCO. Si durante la vigencia del presente CONVENIO se suscitasen eventualidades que, a criterio de las partes hagan necesario ampliar, modificar o enmendar el alcance del mismo, las partes de común acuerdo y por escrito, realizarán los cambios pertinentes
- Para el desarrollo de áreas específicas y para instrumentar el seguimiento del presente convenio, las partes desarrollarán planes de trabajo anuales.
- 3. El Director de CI-Ecuador y el Director de Biodiversidad y Áreas Protegidas del Ministerio del Ambiente, respectivamente, serán los responsables de organizar y supervisar todos los aspectos de los trabajos que se realicen en conjunto de conformidad con el presente Convenio y se deberá celebrar una reunión por lo menos una (1) vez al año para evaluar los trabajos realizados y coordinar nuevas acciones.
- 4. El Director de CI-Ecuador y el Director de Biodiversidad y Áreas Protegidas, formularán y redactarán conjuntamente un Plan de Trabajo Anual Ministerio del Ambiente-CI, el cual deberá ser firmado por ambos funcionarios, con la anuencia previa de los representantes legales de cada institución, el primero de diciembre de cada año, mismo que regirá a partir del primero de enero del año siguiente.

SÉPTIMA.- USO DE INFORMACIÓN Y CRÉDITOS INSTITUCIONALES

Todos los documentos y publicaciones que se generen como producto de este CONVENIO serán de propiedad del Ministerio del Ambiente y de Conservación Internacional y deberán reconocer la participación de las instituciones mencionadas, y el apoyo de los respectivos proyectos y donantes. Las publicaciones de los trabajos conjuntos deberán realizarse previa consulta de las partes.

OCTAVA.- COMUNICACIONES

Toda solicitud, comunicación y notificación que las partes envíen con relación al presente CONVENIO, se efectuará por escrito y se considerará enviado desde el momento en que la correspondencia se entregue al destinatario en las direcciones que se indican a continuación:

MINISTERIO DEL AMBIENTE Av. Eloy Alfaro y Amazonas Edificio MAG, 7mo. piso Telefax: 2563423/429/430 Ouito.

CONSERVACION INTERNACIONAL - ECUADOR

Av. Eloy Alfaro 2515 y Catalina Aldáz Teléfonos: 2264 855 Fax 2264 855

Quito.





NOVENA.- SEGUIMIENTO Y EVALUACIÓN

El seguimiento y evaluación del presente convenio y las actividades resultantes, se realizarán a través de la Subsecretaría de Capital Natural del Ministerio del Ambiente. Para lo cual el Director de CI-Ecuador y la Dirección de Biodiversidad y Áreas Protegidas del Ministerio deberán elaborar un Informe de Trabajo Anual, que resuma los objetivos alcanzados y el trabajo realizado durante cada año, incluyendo un reporte financiero que represente los gastos e inversiones realizados en común, así como los recursos empleados por cada parte. Dicho informe será presentado en un período no mayor de dos (2) meses después de finalizado cada año de trabajo conjunto.

DÉCIMA.- TERMINACIÓN DEL CONVENIO

El presente CONVENIO se dará por terminado en los siguientes casos:

A) .- Por vencimiento del plazo;

B).- Por terminación anticipada, ya sea por acuerdo mutuo de las partes o por incumplimiento manifiesto de las obligaciones derivadas del presente CONVENIO o por razones de fuerza mayor y mediante aviso formal y por escrito a la contraparte con tres (3) meses de anticipación.

DÉCIMA PRIMERA.- RESOLUCIÓN DE CONTROVERSIAS

Si se presentaran controversias en la aplicación del presente CONVENIO, las Partes resuelven arreglarlos amistosamente, mediante la intervención de sus respectivos representantes. De no llegarse a un acuerdo las partes se someterán a la mediación del Centro de Arbitraje de la Cámara de Comercio de Pichincha, donde se seleccionarán los árbitros de acuerdo a los procedimientos establecidos por dicho centro arbitral.

DÉCIMO SEGUNDA.- ACEPTACIÓN

Las partes aceptan el contenido de todas y cada una de las cláusulas contenidas en el presente CONVENIO.

DÉCIMO TERCERA- CLÁUSULA ADICIONAL

Las partes de este Convenio declaran que son autónomas unas de otras, sin poder obligar las unas a las otras ante terceros.





Para constancia y aceptación de todo lo estipulado en este instrumento, las partes firman en cinco ejemplares del mismo tenor.

Dado en Quito, 3 de Octubre del 2001.

Por el Ministerio del Ambiente

Por Conservación Internacional

Lourdes Luque de Jaramillo

Ministra del Ambiente

Roberto Roca

Vicepresidente Programa/Regional Andino.

CC/DP/PGAM/SL/AO/03-10-01

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CARTA DE INTENCIÓN PARA LA ELABORACIÓN DEL PLAN DE MANEJO DE LA RESERVA ECOLÓGICA MACHE CHINDUL

Como parte de las actividades iniciales del CONVENIO DE COOPERACIÓN SUSCRITO ENTRE EL MINISTERIO DEL AMBIENTE DEL ECUADOR Y CONSERVACIÓN INTERNACIONAL PARA LA IMPLEMENTACION DE LA ESTRATEGIA NACIONAL DE BIODIVERSIDAD DEL ECUADOR, el Ministerio del Ambiente y Conservación Internacional han identificado como primer proyecto a ejecutarse la elaboración del Plan de Manejo de la Reserva Ecológica Mache Chindul, cuyas actividades específicas se detallan a continuación:

- Conservación Internacional destinara recursos para la elaboración del Plan de manejo de la Reserva Ecológica Mache Chindul,
- 2. El Ministerio apoyara las iniciativas de manejo que se realizan a través de organizaciones socias de CI dentro de la Reserva Mache Chindul y su zona de amortiguamiento, en especial los procesos necesarios para formalizar y legalizar el manejo y conservación de las áreas circundantes.
- 3. Las referidas acciones y otras que se identifiquen en el futuro, serán implementadas sobre la base de los planes de trabajo desarrollados en conjunto entre las partes firmantes de la presente Carta de Intención.

Para constancia y aceptación de todo lo estipulado en este instrumento, las partes firman en cinco ejemplares del mismo tenor.

Dado en Quito, 3 de Octubre del 2001

Por el Ministerio del Ambiente

Lourdes Luque de Jaramillo

Ministra del Ambiente

Por Conservación Internacional

Roberto Roca

Vicepresidente Programa Regional Andino.

CC/DP/PGAM/SL/AO/03-10-01