



PROJECT SYSTEMATIZATION

ADDRESSING DRIVERS OF DEFORESTATION IN PERU

CONSERVACIÓN
INTERNACIONAL
Perú



NICFI

Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative





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ADDRESSING DRIVERS OF DEFORESTATION IN PERU

Technical team CI Peru:

Claudio Schneider

cschneider@conservation.org

Ivo Encomenderos

iencomendero@conservation.org

Mirko Ruiz

mruiz@conservation.org

Yadira Diaz

Norith Lopez

Edward Isla



Edited by:

CONSULTANTS

Martin Dellavedova

Eric Müller

Matias Luraschi



Translation:

Maira Adaro

Photographs:

Todas las imágenes pertenecen al archivo de CI PERÚ

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Santiago Esquibel

Gaspar Talmon

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INDEX OF ACRONYMS

- ACAC** Association with you enlarging the circle
- ADE** Economic Development Agency
- ARA** Regional Environmental Authority
- ARD** San Martin's Regional Development Agency
- BPAM** Alto Mayo Protected Forest
- CI** Conservation International
- UNFCCC** United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- COOPBAM** Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples Bosque de Protección Alto Mayo Ltda. - Peru
- CTRIA** Regional Technical Commission for Agricultural Innovation
- DCS** Sustainable Coffee Challenge
- ECOAN** Andean Ecosystems Association
- ENCC** National Climate Change Strategy
- FERIAAM** Regional Indigenous Federation Awajun from Alto Mayo
- GRDE** Regional Economic Development Management Agency
- INIA** National Institute for Agricultural Innovation
- MEF** Ministry of Economy and Finance
- MINAGRI** Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
- MINAM** Ministry of the Environment
- NGOs** Non-Governmental Organizations
- NORAD** Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
- OPIPS** Office for the Promotion of Sustainable Private Investment
- OSINFOR** Forest Resources and Wildlife Oversight Agency
- RADP** Regional Development Action Plan
- PNCB** National Forest Conservation Program for Climate Change Mitigation
- UNDP** United Nations Development Programme
- UN** United Nations



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Peru is recognized regionally as a country of rapid economic growth. This growth is explained by a favorable external environment and by the implementation of prudent macroeconomic and fiscal policies. Peru's economic performance remained above the regional average, thanks to the country's rich natural resources, the export of raw materials and the development of sectors such as agro-export and tourism, among others.

The favorable economic context, with low inflation rates, a larger budget for public investment, a greater accumulation of national reserves and the reduction of the foreign debt, allowed for an improvement in the country's social conditions.

According to the national map of plant cover, Peru's natural forests constitute the largest ecosystem with 72,083,263 hectares and represent 56.09% of the national territory. Forests contribute to people's quality of life, performing important functions such as carbon capture and storage, regulating the climate and purifying the air, regulating the flow and supply

of water, conserving soils to prevent erosion, providing wood and non-wood forest products, providing a habitat for species that contribute to pollination and natural pest control, providing scenic beauty and landscapes of recreational value, among other goods and services for society. This is particularly important in the case of indigenous peoples, who suffer most from the effects of forest degradation and deforestation.

Given their large extension, Peru's forests constitute an important world reserve of timber. However, forest deforestation is high and has been increasing rapidly, generating 51% of all greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the country.

In Peru, there are processes of migration and unplanned land occupation associated with the development of economic activities that compete with standing forests, threatening them with deforestation and forest degradation, and putting at risk the provision of goods and services that important ecosystems provide to society.

In recent years, Peru has made commitments in various international forums to reduce the country's deforestation rate and, consequently, the emissions associated with deforestation.

The objective of this project was to facilitate green growth by involving the private sector, encouraging the adoption of improved agricultural practices, or the provision of alternatives, that reduce pressure on forests.

To this end, CI-Peru supported the creation of national and regional public policies to fully integrate REDD+ and green growth through the participation of the private sector.

The aim is to ensure the effective participation of actors from civil society who have a strong direct

impact on deforestation and natural resource governance, while protecting the rights of indigenous peoples and forest-dependent populations. The success of REDD+ depends largely on countries sharing their experiences to help each other implement national strategies.

The project has the following objectives:

Establish incentives to achieve REDD+ efforts through the new international climate regime or other sources of climate, environment and development finance.

The national government and The San Martin regional government is implementing policies, measures and safeguards related to REDD+, such as green growth policies, sustainable livelihoods, land use planning, indigenous peoples and local community rights, and women's rights.

Private sector actors implement social and environmental policies and practices that reduce pressure on forests and participate in global public-private

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PUBLIC POLICY AND GOVERNANCE



The economic and demographic growth experienced by the region of San Martín in the last decades has put great pressure on natural resources, which, added to the lack of territorial planning and scarce state control, has translated into an increase in deforestation rates.

Forest governance is defined as the way public and private actors negotiate, make and implement binding decisions on the management, use and conservation of forest resources.

CI-Peru has developed an effective forest governance process, encompassing all forest stakeholders, addressing all key aspects related to forests, and involving other sectors that influence or are influenced by forest governance.



“CI understands very well the changes that are taking place in the national and regional context, and therefore provides support in these transitions so that the achievements made so far are not discarded by the new administrations”

Officer Regional Government of San Martin

CI-Peru has been a promoter of an ecosystem of institutions that aim to achieve a healthy environment that allows the livelihoods of the population, ensuring the sustainability of resources and permanence of biodiversity. Among the main actors in the ecosystem are the Ministry of the Environment (MINAM), the National and San Martin REDD+, the Regional Environmental Authority (ARA) San Martin, the coffee and cocoa techniques of San Martin, the Regional Indigenous Awajun Federation of Alto Mayo (FERIAAM), Takiwasi, the Regional Technical Commission for Agrarian Innovation (CTRIA), the Regional Development Agency of San Martin, Andean Ecosystems (ECOAN), Civil Association with you Enlarging the Circle (ACAC), among others.

Thanks to the efforts of CI-Peru, laws and ordinances have been approved that establish the basic guidelines for the protection of forests and for the care of the environment. The particular way of working of CI allows it not to impose its own program, but to accompany and integrate the efforts of national and regional governments. This has led to CI having an excellent relationship with government officials, and CI technicians being consulted and taken into account by them.


Thanks to the strengthening of REDD+, the main actors in the field of conservation have realized that they can work together, and not only that, but that the ideas and political measures that emerge from these agreements between the different actors will have greater strength and general acceptance, thus maximizing the chances of compliance and success.

In Peru, the REDD+ Roundtable has managed to become not only a place for debate on the state of forest conservation, but also the main meeting point for members of different organizations and institutions that pursue the same objectives and that, if it were not for the existence of this space, would have no contact with each other.

“We have achieved recognition of the Peruvian State as a representative group of civil society. We have achieved this recognition thanks to the sustained work of the REDD+ group”

REDD + group member





CI has been working in Peru for more than 20 years. All this time has allowed him to understand the dynamics of the country's politics. Thanks to this continuous work with government agents, CI has now become a strategic ally of the public administration, where it will be given an advisor in matters of conservation and management of natural resources.

In Peru CI works closely with the national government through MINAM. In the last times, the work with this state organism has been intensified to the point that CI has become a technical advisor of MINAM. In addition, CI works with the Regional Government of San Martín supporting the Regional Economic Development Agency and OPIPS (whose creation is due to the work of CI). The joint work is also given at local level, through the support to the Local Economic Development Agencies. In addition, CI has provided training to government officials on REDD+ and green growth policies.

In terms of legislation, CI-Peru's major contributions were materialized in the "Forest Zoning" ordinance, the "Strategic Guidelines for the Promotion of Low-Emission Economic Development in the San Martín Region", the Directive for the Granting of Permits and Authorizations for Forest Products Other than Wood in Areas of; Native Communities, Private Property, and Public Domain and a proposed regional ordinance that promotes, values, and prioritizes the participation of indigenous women in productive initiatives of entrepreneurship and commercial exchange. With the impulse given by CI, the region has seen an important progress in legislative and public policies matters.

The project has had a positive impact on the way public policy is carried out in the San Martín region.

“The REDD+ group has come alive on its own, but without CI, the group would not exist today”

REDD + group member

The different actors have highlighted that the authorities are now better trained and more willing to listen and take note of the recommendations transmitted by civil society organizations.

The situation of Awajún women has changed dramatically as a result of this project. From having no voice or vote in the assemblies of the FERIAAM, they have become one of the greatest promises in terms of the potential tourist attraction of the Nuwa Forest and the trade of medicinal plants. Now the Nuwas have a minimum quota in the management positions of the FERIAAM.

4

PRODUCTION CHAINS WITH ZERO DEFORESTATION



Coffee is Peru's leading agricultural export product and Peru is the seventh largest coffee exporter in the world.

The San Martin Region is one of the main coffee producing regions in Peru, the area of coffee planted in the region represents 22% of the total area in the country. In addition, the production of cocoa represents 42% of the national production, which positions San Martin as a key point in the production of these commodities.

The region of San Martin has been the destination of thousands of families who, in search of new opportunities, have moved from the Andean regions to the Amazon regions of Peru. This migratory phenomenon has caused great stress on the local population and has generated great changes in land use.

Ignorance and need have historically allowed the advance of the agricultural frontier into forested territory. Fires have always been a common practice to advance over the forest, however, the impossibility of controlling them has generated invaluable losses of biodiversity over the years.

Although it is clear to producers, intermediaries, cooperatives and companies that deforestation is negative for the production of coffee and cocoa, there is also the contradiction that cultivation on recently deforested land generates costs for them. The most productive and best quality forests, which would explain the continuous deforestation.

Deforestation and the use of virgin lands and purmas by producers is a common and widespread practice throughout the region.

Coffee and cocoa producers are vulnerable to climate change because of their exposure, sensitivity and low capacity to adapt. This vulnerability is aggravated by inappropriate deforestation practices that harm producers in terms of water availability, biodiversity, and soil regeneration capacity, among other problems. However, despite this vulnerability, except for isolated initiatives, producers in the area have not worked on adequate measures for adaptation.

This current trend of increasing vulnerability, lack of control of greenhouse gas emissions, as well as deforestation in the productive phase of the coffee and cocoa chain, puts at risk the sustainability of this economic activity, given the trend of markets and climate change.



The organized producers and their cooperatives have in their majority certifications that guarantee the fulfillment of certain standards in the cultivation (organic product), the access to a fair price (fair trade) and in a lesser extent to the development of practices that assure the environmental sustainability (rainforest Alliance).

Non-associated producers commercialize mainly the so-called conventional coffee, which hardly possesses certifications. The traceability of coffee from unorganized producers is complex because the actors in the national value chain are not interested in the origin of the coffee. In practice, all coffee is collected and then classified by criteria such as bean size and other physical characteristics. This local market does not differentiate, much less reward, any effort in quality or sustainable or low-emission practices. It is only the export coffee that needs access to these standards.

For these reasons, it is essential to work with producers to raise awareness and adopt practices that will lead to the advancement of the forest and increase both the quality and productivity of the crops.

The objective of this project was to strengthen the capacities of coffee and cocoa producing families in the BPAM buffer zone so that they could implement a sustainable business model based on improving the quality and productivity of their crops with zero deforestation.



To achieve the proposed objectives CI worked with two allies:

**Association with you
Enlarging the Circle (ACAC)**

worked with farmers (mestizos)

Andean Ecosystems (ECOAN)

worked in the communities of Shampuyacu
and Alto Mayo

ACAC'S WORK

We sought to strengthen the capacities of Alto Mayo coffee and cocoa producing families so that they can implement a sustainable business model based on increasing the quantity and improving the quality of their production with zero deforestation.

We have worked with at least 600 families located mainly in the buffer zones of the Alto Mayo Protected Forest (BPAM), with the intention that this business model

The sustainable development of the forest will re-

duce the pressure of producers to enter the forest.

Emphasis has been placed on technical assistance in coffee and cocoa production under agroforestry systems and with good organic and biodynamic agricultural and post-harvest practices, which also contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation. Likewise, families are trained in business and organizational management, and are supported in establishing alliances with financial operators for lines of microcredit and with buyers from special



markets that recognize the quality of their production and their commitment to non-deforestation and, therefore, ensure the sustainability of their enterprise. The project accompanies these processes by promoting transparent practices among the actors, which favor the construction of a lasting relationship of trust among them.

We worked with organized producers on different topics such as: a) Soil management and fertilization, b) Pest control and c) Fermentation and drying tests for crops.

To encourage producers to join the production chain with zero deforestation, inputs were provided as a subsidy. On average, each producer family received US\$300 worth of equipment.

Conservation agreements have been signed where producers and native communities commit to interrupt practices that lead to deforestation.

RESULTS OBTAINED WITH PRODUCERS

The project has presented positive and encouraging results. Not only did it increase the productivity of the participating farms, but it also improved the quality of the crops. These improvements led to an improvement in the profit per hectare of cocoa and coffee producers.

This increase in yields and producers' income was achieved without generating additional forestation and through the implementation of agroforestry crops

WORKING WITH COOPBAM

The project articulated actions with the Cooperativa Bosque de Protección Alto Mayo Ltda. (COOPBAM), which is an organisation of coffee producers. During the implementation of the project they worked on issues of associativity (the number of cooperative members increased by 120), coffee cupping courses were organised to improve cup quality, organic and fair trade certification was supported, training was provided in agroforestry systems and market linkages were supported. With the support of the project, the cooperative managed to export an additional 100 tonnes of 82-point gold coffee to the United States and Europe between 2019 and 2020.



96.5%

of the coffee delivered meets minimum quality standards.
On average it reached a physical yield of 73%, humidity of 13%
and 81 points in cup.



27%

The average price at which producers sold in 2020 was 27% higher than the average price achieved in 2019.

30q/ha

The traditional behavior of coffee production combines an annual cycle of increased production with another annual cycle of decreased production. Thanks to the project the average yield of the best producers reached 30 quintals of parchment coffee per hectare, breaking the cycles of falling production.

80%

The profitability per hectare increased from 40% to 80% in 2020 due to improvements in quality and higher sales prices.

75%

The average physical yield of coffee rose from 72% to 75% and the percentage of humidity of coffee sold remained at 12%.

3.5%

Only 3.5% of the coffee delivered was rejected due to poor organoleptic characteristics in the cup. However, there is information on the problems encountered in order to work technically with these producers.

RESULTS OBTAINED WITH PRODUCERS

With respect to cocoa crops, there are great projections of improvement and increases in the production of kg/ha. However, this will depend on the amount of resources available for to be able to do

grafts and clone them. It is estimated that in approximately 3 years a cocoa producer could reach an average of 1800kg/ha.



30%

The profit per hectare of a cocoa producer in 2020 reached S/ 2,883, an increase of 30% over the profit obtained during 2019.

15%

The average yield of the best producers in the project was 753 kilos per hectare in 2020, an increase of 15% over 2019.

115%

The profitability per hectare reached 115% compared to the average cost of the campaign.

RESULTS OBTAINED WITH NATIVE COMMUNITIES.

We have worked together with the native communities of Shampuyacu and Alto Mayo in techniques that improve productivity while taking care of the communities' environment. CI, through ECOAN, sought to sign conservation agreements that included a commitment to environmental care by the communities. As a counterpart, the communities have received technical assistance and accompaniment for the implementation of agroforestry systems, pest management, organic fertilizers, recovery of forgotten native species, and crop diversification with species valued by the market such as vanilla and pitahaya. In addition, the communities began to receive conditional direct transfers (CDF) granted by the National Program of Forest Conservation for the Mitigation of Climate Change of the Ministry of the Environment.

Pilot plots have been implemented (mainly with cocoa) and have enabled the Awajun families to begin a process of progressive recovery of their land, which was under lease.



RESULTS OBTAINED WITH NATIVE COMMUNITIES



The physical yield of the coffee was 35% due to the use of agrochemicals, but thanks to the work with the communities it was possible to improve the yield to 60%. There has also been a slight improvement in quality with yields reaching 80 points per cup (with export potential).



Technical Assistance

A total of 208 Awajún families have received technical assistance in agroforestry plots of cocoa, coffee, yucca, vanilla, pitahaya and plantain.

Healthy Soils

Thanks to the signing of the conservation agreements, producers have stopped using agrochemicals on their plots, and have imposed penalties on those who use them.

Sustainable Techniques

In total, 214.5 has of crops apply sustainable techniques

Self-Supply

Currently 2 nurseries (one in each community) supply seedlings and organic fertilizers to the producers.

Conservation Commitments

A total of 208 producers actively implement the conservation agreements signed with CI.

Community

Thanks to this process, the Awajún identify with their resources and begin to take care of their land.

RESULTS OBTAINED WITH PRODUCERS

CI has collaborated in the strengthening and positioning of the San Martín Brand with the objective of promoting green growth in the region with inclusive development that fights deforestation and improves alternative production. This instrument links resources to forest conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and the reduction of illegal activities such as coca and illegal logging.

CI launched in Peru the Sustainable Coffee Challenge; an international alliance that seeks to make coffee the first sustainable agricultural product in

the world. It seeks to ensure good practices that sustain the well-being of coffee farmers while preventing deforestation and forest loss.

The Challenge aims to involve producers, traders, roasters, coffee industry retailers, as well as governments and civil society organizations, so that the entire value chain, from production to commercialization, policy formulation, and final consumer preferences are oriented towards a coffee that is effectively sustainable.

Brand Strengthening Sustainable Coffee Challenge



**SUSTAINABLE
COFFEE
CHALLENGE**



WORK WITH NATIVE COMMUNITIES



Since 2008, Conservación Internacional Perú has been promoting a sustainable landscape approach in the upper watershed of the Mayo River, with the main objective of building a model in which nature conservation is the key element to guarantee the sustainable development of a territory.

This project seeks to work with native communities to avoid deforestation and to implement sustainable economic alternatives that are related to the context of the Shampuyacu and Alto Mayo communities belonging to the Awajún indigenous people and the diverse populations that live in them.

Deforestation is one of the main challenges faced by the Shampuyacu and Alto Mayo communities, especially because of the lease of land to migrants from the Andean area for more than a decade.

About 90% of the natural forest has been lost. The agricultural techniques applied, among which the indiscriminate use of herbicides stands out, affect the quality of the soil and contaminate the water.

By not possessing land for cultivation, the Awajún have lost the ancestral practices that identify them. Furthermore, a great variety of crops have

been lost. By instance, only 4 out of 42 native yuca were grown at a given point.



CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL PERU'S STRATEGY FOR WORKING WITH THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES OF ALTO MAYO

CI-Peru's strategy of collaboration with indigenous peoples of the Alto Mayo is based on a gradual process of building trust, which, in an advisory/facilitating and partnership role, promotes the development of their skills and livelihoods that enable them to secure, strengthen, and effectively manage.

The aim is to protect their lands, conserve their biodiversity and improve the full exercise of their collective rights.

CI-Peru implements different types of activities with native communities and their leaders, in order to achieve common development objectives.



CI seeks that communities can manage the use of their natural resources in a sustainable way and that their decisions can respond to their needs. To this end, they support the communities in strengthening relations between men and women through training in equal opportunities, organizational capacity, and conflict resolution; and in strengthening their activities through workshops in leadership, administration, and project design. All of this is done within the framework of respect and conservation of their cultural identity.

Full and effective participation requires practical tools to measure and evaluate the performance of participatory processes. Through a Stakeholder Engagement Analysis (SEA), focused on those directly involved in the use and management of forest resources, CI has validated a participatory methodology that can be adapted to other contexts. Likewise, all the initiatives that we implement with the communities are applied through the identification of their needs and interests through open workshops with the community members.



Through CI's "Training of Trainers" methodology, representatives of the three indigenous peoples of San Martin - Kechwa, Shawi and Awajun - participated in informative workshops on climate change, forests and payment for ecosystem services schemes. On the other hand, the directors of the Regional Indigenous Awajun Federation of Alto Mayo (FERIAAM) are being contacted by CI for help with administration, management and project design. In addition, they receive support for the elaboration of their different plans of budget, projects and of institutional operation.

CI's work has allowed us to learn that conservation projects influence women and men differently, based on their respective roles and responsibilities, and that this has a direct impact on the long-term sustainability of conservation efforts. In this regard, CI has encouraged the participation of both men and women through the implementation of training workshops on equal opportunities for all, the evaluation of policies for men and women, and by incorporating this approach in all its work.



Gender



Water resources management

Water resources management: CI maintains among its lines of work, the application of technical tools for a better use of water resources. The aim is for communities to responsibly use their river quarries and be able to prevent risks by planting vegetation in riparian areas susceptible to erosion.

Conservation agreements: Conservation agreements are a tool that seeks to encourage communities to conserve in exchange for benefits. Conservation agreements can help conserve and restore forests, which are fundamental to the well-being of everyone.



Conservation Agreements

Promoting Equal Opportunities Between Women and Men Awajún: The Nuwas Forest, a Magical Place of Resistance

In the heart of the Awajún territory, there is the Nuwa forest. A space of 8.9has where 46 women of the Awajún ethnic group treasure the knowledge of their medical plans.

The Alto Mayo Valley where they live has lost a quarter of its forest cover in recent decades due to the rice and coffee plantations of the peasants who migrated to the area. For the Awajun men, the deforestation caused the loss of their natural hunting and fishing areas. For the Nuwas, who are responsible for caring for children and family members who fall ill, the deforestation meant the danger that the medicines they have historically used might be lost.

It is for this reason that, with the support and technical assistance of CI, they decided to conserve a portion of virgin forest, where they cultivate a great variety of plants that help them treat all types of illnesses, from fractures and fevers to muscle or stomach pain. Each nuwa has a 750m² plot marked by its name, where they plant the plants they use most in their daily lives.

The nuwas go 3 times a week to the forest to clean it of plagues and herbs, there they cook their traditional dishes made with mountain meat and the fruits of the forest, they refresh themselves in the river, they sing and they spend a time of peace in contact with nature.

When a visitor arrives, they receive them by painting their faces with vegetable dyes and teach them the best of their crafts, their dances and their culture.

With the support of the Takiwasi laboratory and CI, the nuwas have managed to identify and register 110 medicinal and aromatic species. In addition,



“The forest is our friend, and like a friend we must take care of it”

Nuwa of the Shampuyacu Community

they are ready to launch their own brand of infusions called “Nuwa”. Both versions are good for treating stomach aches, bleeding and flu.



“With the work we do our forest is well guarded and CI guides us on how to take care of it”

Nuwa of the Shampuyacu Community



**“ We do not take care of the forest only for ourselves,
but we do it for all human beings and for the planet ”**

Nuwa of the Shampuyacu Community

With the sale of these products the nuwas will be able to better protect their forest, conserve their ancestral knowledge and preserve their identity. This moment will be a true milestone in this process of recovering the territory and the memory that moves

them - and the men - Awajún of the Alto Mayo began a few years ago. When they understood that it was time not to allow the destruction of their forests anymore and that it was their responsibility to preserve their medicines, their food and their identity.



**“ CI has helped us to find markets where we can offer
our medicinal plants to get some incomes ”**

Nuwa of the Shampuyacu Community

IMPACT

Thanks to the project, important improvements have been achieved in terms of hygiene and health within the communities of Shampuyacu and Alto Mayo, as a result of the construction of bathrooms and kitchens that allow for better waste treatment.

The communities have understood the importance of recovering the management of their plots once the rental contracts are over, and the need to use agro-ecological techniques that allow them to reforest the damaged areas.

In addition to being a protected area, the “Bosque de las Nuwas” can become a great attraction for rural tourism that allows the communities to obtain an additional source of income.

Rescue of Traditions

Yuca varieties have been reintroduced and banana, native vanilla, and dragon fruit crops have been incorporated, and 110 varieties of medicinal plants have been identified.



The Awajún have the opportunity to recover their ancestral knowledge.

The Nuwas have been empowered to give back the importance within the community that they had lost.



Soil Care

It has been possible to recover degraded soils, which favors crop productivity, improving income from increased production and reduced spending on agrochemicals.



Quality Improvement

Thanks to a good post-harvest management, the quality of the coffee produced by the communities has been improved to the point of reaching 80 points in cup.



Strengthened Capacities

The capacities of the Awajún have been strengthened, accessing training and technical assistance to improve the production of their main crops (coffee, cassava).



Health Improvements

If these practices continue, it is expected that the Awajún will be less exposed to disease by consuming clean water and non-poisoned fish, while at the same time using medicinal plants.



Sustainability

Four community nurseries have been installed for the production of seedlings of endemic species, to restore riparian vegetation, and the conversion of coffee plantations to agroforestry systems, as well as the production of medicinal plants.

Progress in recent times has been so great that women now stand out as candidates for positions within community organizations. This fact, unthought of just a few years ago, denotes the paradigm shift that is slowly taking place within the native communities. In addition, the greater participation of the

Nuwas in different activities of the economic life of the communities has given them a greater level of self-confidence and has motivated them to want to become more involved in the social and political life of their communities.

6

DEFORESTATION



Peru is one of the ten countries in the world with the largest area of forest, being the second country with the largest area of Amazon forest and the fourth in tropical forest, only surpassed by Brazil, Congo and Indonesia.

At the national level, forests occupy more than half of the country's territory (56.9%), with the Amazon being the region with the largest forest area, followed by the Andean and dry forests. Peru's forests are home to a great diversity of flora and fauna species, and provide goods and services that are fundamental to the country's development and the well-being of its inhabitants, especially the indigenous or native peoples who live in a large part of the forests.



Given its large extension, the Peruvian forests constitute an important world reserve of carbon. However, historically their deforestation has been high, and has increased rapidly in recent years, generating 51% of all greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the country.

The conservation of forests is of vital importance for the mitigation of climate change. Similarly, maintaining the bio-logical diversity of forests is strategic because it contributes to their resilience and capacity to adapt, and ecosystem services, which contribute to reducing the vulnerability of society to climate change.



DesdeFor at least 10 years, the government has initiated a strategy that constitutes an effort to understand and dimension the problem of deforestation, its direct and indirect causes, the actors, the economic activities that produce them, but also to identify the ne-

cessary measures to be implemented to deal with them.

Although drug trafficking, mining and illegal logging represent a concrete threat to forests, agriculture and livestock are undoubtedly the main drivers of deforestation.

10.200

GgCO₂e



The conversion of forests to grasslands is the main cause of GHG emissions in St. Martin, being responsible for the release of 10,200.89 GgCO₂e per year into the atmosphere.

400.000

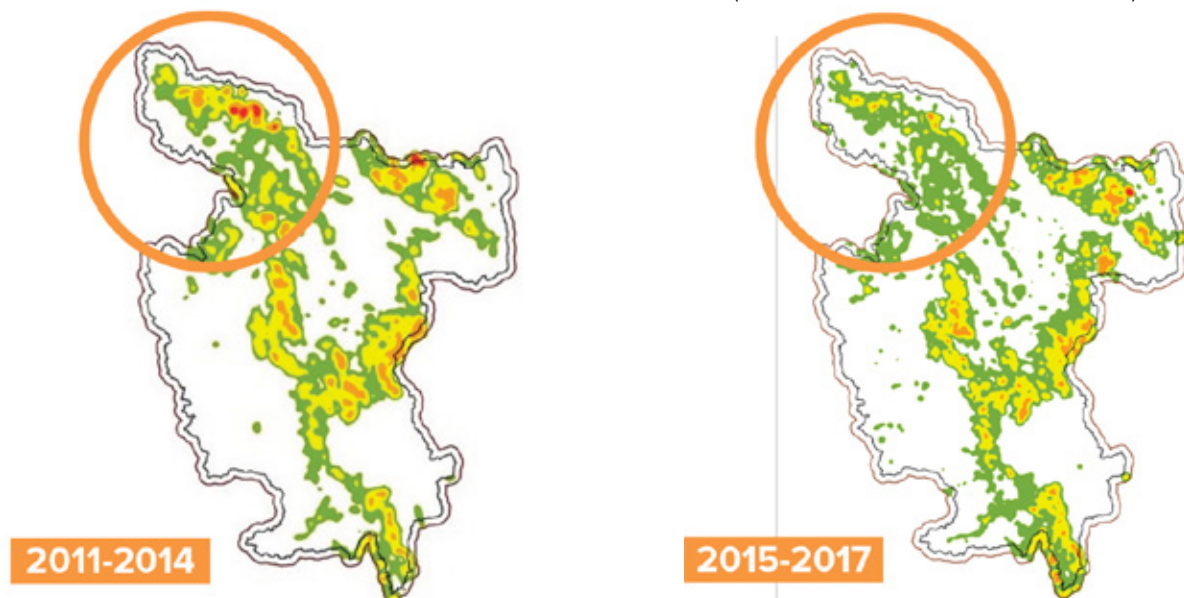


The annual emissions generated by Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (US- CUSS) in the San Martin region are equivalent to the emissions generated by 400,000 cars during a year.



In the region of San Martín, the main culprits of deforestation are coffee, cocoa, palm and livestock crops.

Coffee crops extend over more than 90,000has, which is equivalent to the surface of more than 130,000 soccer fields. On the other hand, cocoa cultivation extends over more than 50,000 hectares (more than 73,000 soccer fields).



The loss of forest in the San Martín Region shows a clear downward trend, having reached in 2019 the lowest rate of deforestation in the last 20 years.

As can be seen, the hot spots of deforestation were located in the north of the region, in the provinces of Rioja and Moyobamba (BPAM area).

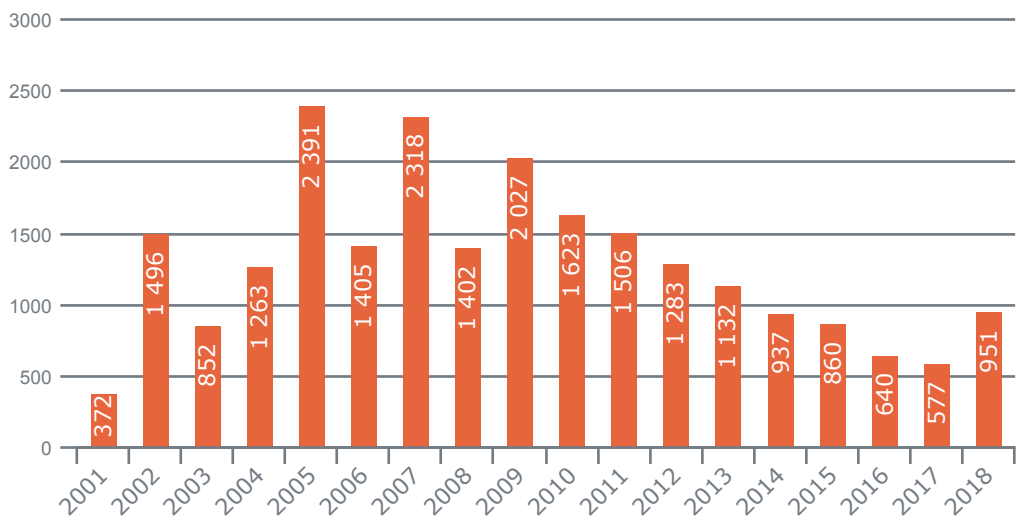
It is clear that during the years 2015- 2017 deforestation fell, mainly in areas where it was previously prevalent.

PROVINCE OF RIOJA

The reduction of the Amazon forest in Rioja has been constant over the last few decades. The loss of forest mass has reached 22,000 hectares be-

tween 2001 and 2018. However, the trend shows that the intensity of deforestation on the forest has fallen significantly.

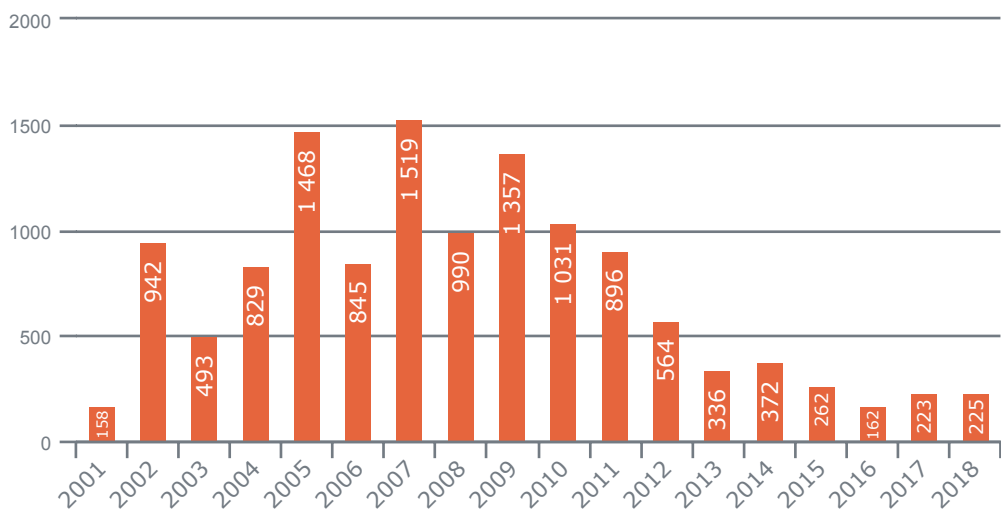
FOREST LOSS - PROVINCE OF RIOJA



Source: Geobosques

Within the province of Rioja, the districts where CI and its allies have worked are the Awajún district and Pardo Miguel.

FOREST LOSS – AWAJUN DISTRICT

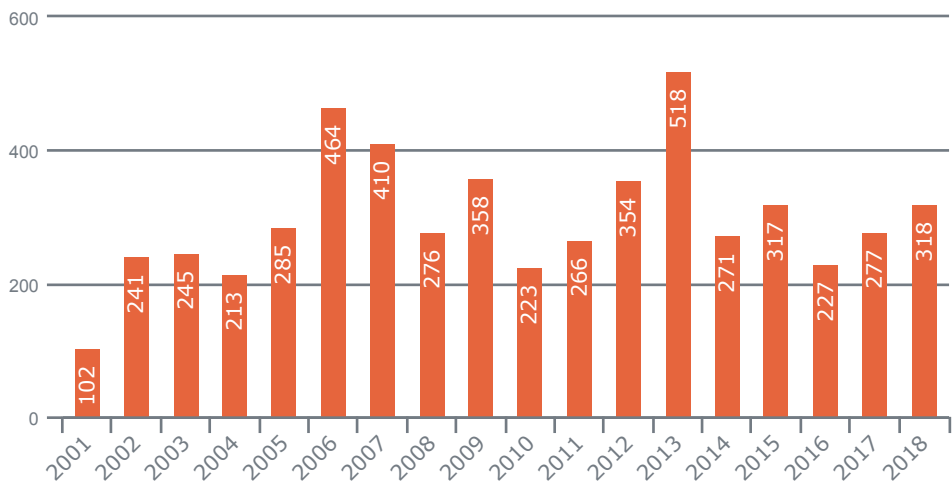


Source: Geobosques

The Awajún district has lost 32% of its forest cover since 2001. However, it has managed to considerably reduce the levels of deforestation, going from 1,357 hectares deforested in 2009 to 225 hectares in 2018.

The district of Pardo Miguel has suffered mild rates of deforestation, which explains the loss of some 5,000 hectares of forest from 2001 to 2018.

FOREST LOSS - PARDO MIGUEL DISTRICT



Source: Geobosques

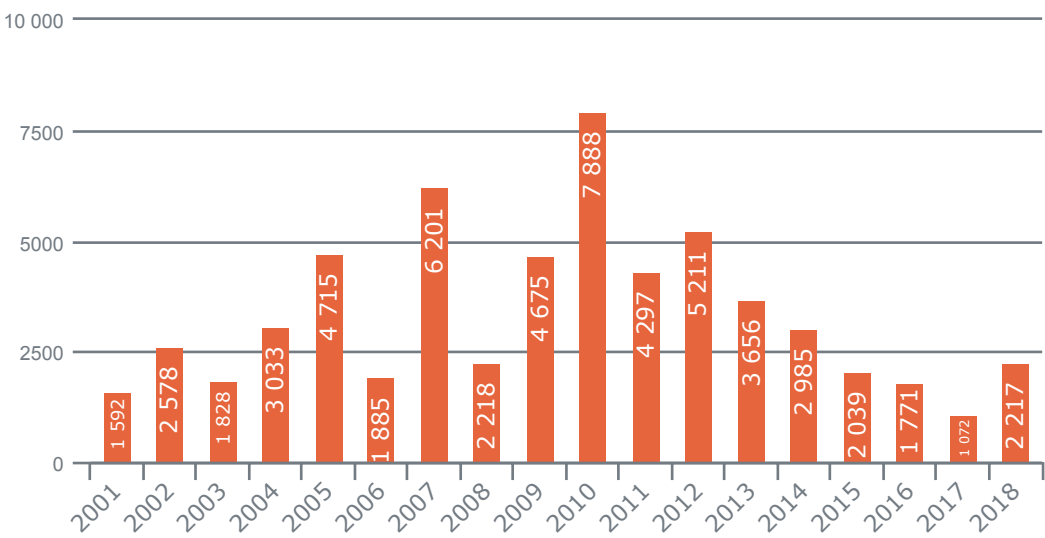


PROVINCE OF MOYOBAMBA

The province of Moyobamba has experienced higher rates of deforestation, which have generated a loss of more than 50,000 hectares of forest be-

tween 2001 and 2018. As in Rioja, in Moyobamba there has been an abrupt fall in deforestation since 2011.

LOSS OF AMAZON FOREST - PROVINCE OF MOYOBAMBA



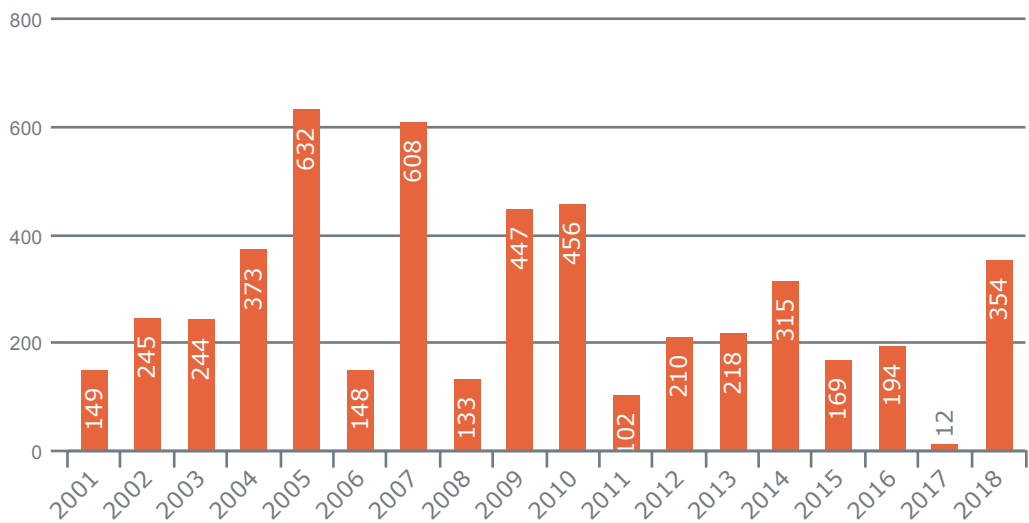
Source: Geobosques



The district of Jepelacio is one of the six districts that form part of the province of Moyobamba and where CI has worked together with its allies. Since 2001 the district has lost 28% of its forest co-

ver. Unlike what happens in the districts Awajún and Pardo Miguel, in Jepelacio there is no clear downward trend in deforestation.

FOREST LOSS – JEPELACIO DISTRICT



Source: Geobosques




PROJECT IMPACTS

Thanks to the conservation agreements signed with the producers and native communities, deforestation has been stopped in the benefited plots.

The Nuwa forest has been created, which has an extension of 9 hectares and allows the Nuwa to obtain medicinal plants for the use of the community and for trade. In addition, it is constituted as a community-based rural tourism circuit approved by the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism (MINCETUR).

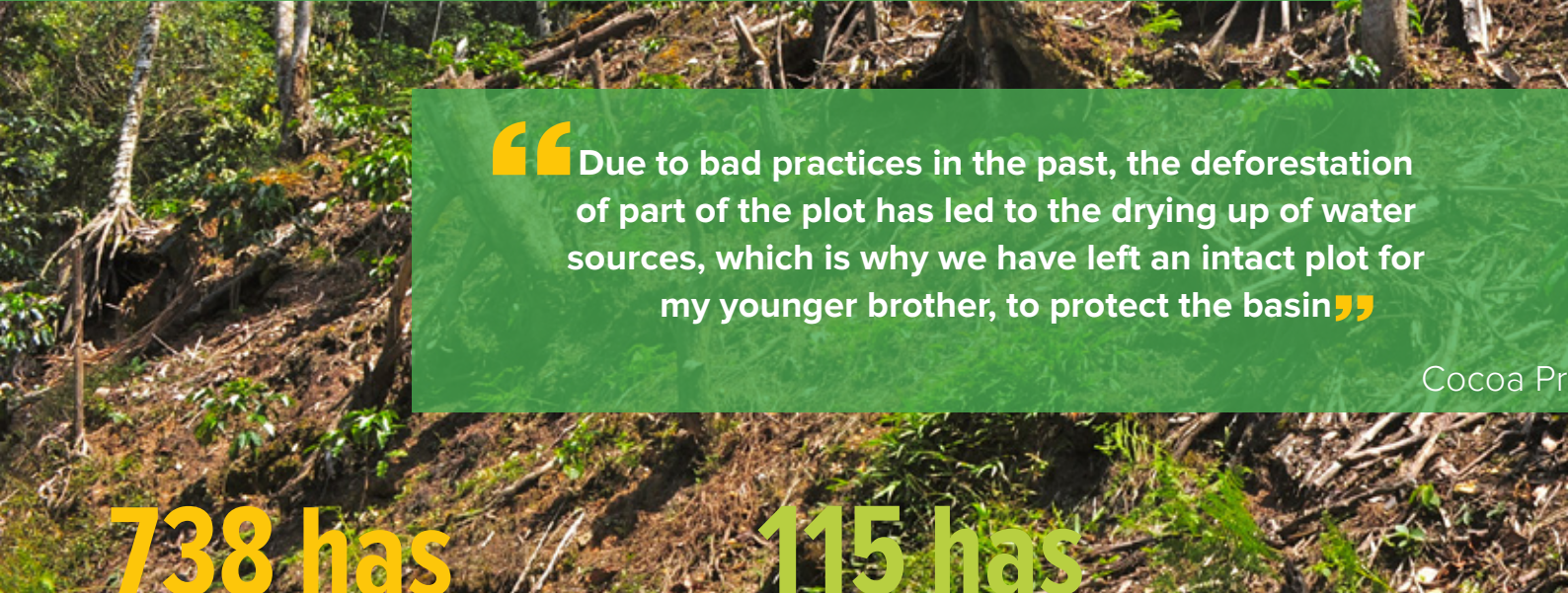
The nuwas are empowered and constitute an important source of income for their families and the community.

The producers have understood that the traditional practices attempted against the sustainability of their crops.



“The forest acts as a regulator, it allows me to contain the water on my farm. On summer days, when it's very hot, I come here and it's much more pleasant. From here I extract organic material from the soil to fertilize and manure the plants.”

Coffee Producer



“Due to bad practices in the past, the deforestation of part of the plot has led to the drying up of water sources, which is why we have left an intact plot for my younger brother, to protect the basin.”

Cocoa Producer

738 has

Area of conserved forest

115 has

Reforested forest area

Thanks to the training received, the producers understood the importance of having a portion of forest on their plot, and the danger of continuing deforestation. Thanks to the conservation of the forest, the producers have access to natural fertilizers that have allowed them to improve the quality of their crops.

The public sector's commitment to deforestation has been achieved, as evidenced by Regional Ordinance No. 038-2018-GRSM/ CR: Strategic Guidelines for the

Promotion of Low-Emission Economic Development in the San Martín Region and Ministerial Resolution No. 039-2020-MINAM: Forest Zoning in the San Martín Department.



producer

4 has

Forest massif rehabilitated area
8000 trees planted

100%

Throughout the project,
100% of the forest has been
kept within the plots of the
beneficiaries.

166 939

Planted trees



CONCLUSIONS

This project required the implementation of joint activities with the national, regional and district governments of the action areas, native communities in those regions, interest groups, companies and civil organizations.

It was an ambitious project, not only because of its geographical coverage, but also because of the causes of the deforestation that it seeks to combat and solve. In addition, to address the causes of deforestation with a landscape approach, it was necessary for CI to articulate with a large number of different

actors, with heterogeneous interests and objectives.

The success of the project has been possible thanks to the recognition that CI has among the main actors political, economic and social issues in Peru, for its trajectory as an expert organization in environmental issues, sustainable landscape and as an expert in providing technical assistance to different levels of government. Another success factor is that CI has formed a quality technical team, with a proactive attitude and a great dedication to the project, which has allowed them to carry out a great number of activities. Finally, CI had the criteria to select suitable partners (ACAC, ECOAN, Takiwasi, etc.) for specific tas-

ks, which have professionally fulfilled the assigned tasks. The work with partners has allowed a greater knowledge of the realities in the field, empowering local actors and organizations, and providing continuous accompaniment to the beneficiaries.

The project is achieving its results and demonstrating that it is possible to apply REDD+ policies to influence productive issues. Many of the results and impacts are tangible, and the method can be replicated in other regions and countries.

Among the main impacts generated by the project are:

Integration of deforestation reduction tools into national and regional policy

Thanks to the efforts of CI-Peru, laws and ordinances have been approved that establish the basic guidelines for the protection of forests and for the care of the environment.

CI-Peru has now become a strategic ally of the public administration, where it is considered an advisor on the conservation and management of natural resources, specifically on REDD+.

Skill building in public administration

CI-Peru plays a role as technical advisor to national and regional organizations, which has allowed updating the policies and ordinances of the different levels of government, incorporating elements related to conservation and sustainable practices.



Policy building in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders, which maximizes its probability of success

Thanks to the strengthening of the REDD+ Tables, the main stakeholders in the field of conservation have realized that they can work together, unders-

tanding that the policy ideas and measures that emerge from these agreements among the different stakeholders will have greater strength and general acceptance, thus maximizing the chances of compliance and success.

In Peru, the REDD+ Roundtable has managed to become not only a place for debate on the state of forest conservation, but also the main meeting point for members of different organizations and institutions that pursue the same objectives.

Give voice to the most vulnerable sectors of the population, such as native communities and women

Through this project, CI has strengthened the capacities of indigenous organizations, giving voice to those who are not usually heard.

Thanks to these initiatives, the nuwas are empowered, with a greater sense of ownership and have managed to raise their self-esteem to such an extent that they comment that they already dream of having the first female head of the community's Board of Directors.

Recognition of environmental benefits of REDD+ practices

One of the main impacts of the southern project is the internalization by coffee and cocoa products in Peru of the benefits.

The adoption of new practices that allow them to conserve the forests that produce them.

At present, it can be seen that small producers have adopted the new practices transmitted by CI and its partners, while already observing important results associated with better yields, better quality and greater versatility of crops.

Productive advantages

Coffee crops have increased their physical yield from 69% in 2017 to one of 75% in 2020. On the other hand, cocoa production per hectare has increased from 550kg/ha to 753kg/ha in the same period and is expected to exceed 1000kg/ha soon.

On the other hand, the coffee cultivated by the small producers of the project has a 75% of physical yield, a 12% of humidity and 82 points in cup, fulfilling the international standards.

All this translates into access to better sales conditions for the producers.

Strengthening networks and partnerships

The project has promoted collective actions among producers. These networks allow producers to access better sales conditions for their crops, while also integrating different producers into the same value chain and increasing their visibility.

CI-Peru has taken a multi-dimensional approach to the current project. For its implementation, they have taken into account organizational, linguistic, gender, environmental, cultural, technical, and legal issues, among others.

The progress made so far is the beginning of a paradigm shift in the way public policy is designed in the Region of San Martín.

Environmental Impact

The project has given the producers the opportunity to reforest, and at the same time increase and diversify their income by selling fruit and wood.

In addition, it has allowed the fixation of CO₂, the protection of river heads, the reduction of soil erosion, the reconstruction of mountain ecosystems, the creation of decent jobs in rural and urban areas, and the generation of economic income.

