



ACHIEVING GLOBAL TARGETS

BY EMPOWERING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES WITH EARTH OBSERVATIONS

Significance

Indigenous peoples' territories and lands contain an estimated 80% of Earth's biodiversity¹. Empowering indigenous peoples with the tools to sustainably manage their territories is key to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and addressing the challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss.

Objective

EO4IM aims to strengthen the technical capacity of indigenous organizations in the Americas to harness the power of Earth Observations (EO) for enhanced sustainable land management. EO4IM is a NASA funded project aligned with the ongoing Group on Earth Observations (GEO) AmeriGEO initiative. This multilateral initiative aims to increase the application of EO data and tools benefiting society.

Approach

EO4IM's novel approach combines remote sensing technologies with rigorous social science. Social science methods will initially assess the land management goals and capacities of indigenous organizations in Ecuador and Peru, as well as the resulting impact of capacity building. Webinars and on-site workshops will provide technical capacity building in EO tools that can help communities monitor the status and condition of their lands and make informed decisions about conservation and land management.

Project Activities

- Conducting participatory needs assessments to understand how indigenous groups in Peru and Ecuador currently approach sustainable land management decisions.
- Capacity Building to improve land management utilizing EO data, products, and tools based on the results of the needs assessment.
 - Targeted training materials
 - Bilingual NASA Applied Remote Sensing Training (ARSET) webinar series targeted to indigenous peoples' organizations globally (arset.gsfc.nasa.gov/land/webinars/GEO-EO4IM)
 - On-site trainings and knowledge exchanges introducing EO data and tools

Selected Communities

Communities selected for involvement in this project were prioritized by their interest in technical training, technical resources to use EO data, and who are already engaged with CI.



The Achuar Nationality of Ecuador— Indigenous communities whose territory is in the Pastaza and Morona Santiago provinces and contains 84 communities. CI has been working with the Achuar nation to strengthen the Achuar System of Ecological Reserves (SACRE) to manage their territory.

The Awajun Indigenous Group, Peru— An indigenous group of 14 communities in the Alto Mayo watershed of San Martin in northern Peru. CI has been working with these communities since 2013 to support sustainable activities.

Anticipated Outcomes

- GEO engagement expanded to include indigenous peoples and national NGOs
- An innovative framework for engaging indigenous organizations to utilize EO data to inform decisions and actions for sustainable resource management.
- Enhanced capacity of indigenous representatives from two AmeriGEO countries (Ecuador and Peru) to assess and use EO data in decision-making for sustainable land management.
- Increased knowledge exchange of EO applications within indigenous communities in the Americas and globally.

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