

Contribution to the environmental objectives of Peru

ProAmbiente II

Context

Peru has been experiencing strong economic growth for more than two decades. However, environmental standards and biodiversity conservation have not been considered sufficiently in this context. In many areas, this is leading to the degradation of ecosystems and destruction of the natural resources on which Peruvian livelihoods depend. The impact on tropical rainforests is particularly severe. The problem is exacerbated by climate change and an increase in the frequency of extreme weather events, which add to the country's environmental challenges and aggravate socio-economic conflict.

Peru has therefore set itself ambitious goals in the areas of climate change and biodiversity conservation, including the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), the Aichi Targets adopted within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and committed itself to implementing the environmental standards of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). However, despite all the progress that has been made, government institutions still lack the capacity required to manage and implement the progressive forestry and environmental policy aimed at ensuring the long-term conservation of forests and biodiversity.

Objective

Environmental governance and management, the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and sustainable forest management have improved.



Title	Contribution to the environmental objectives of Peru (ProAmbiente II)
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Country	Peru
Lead executing agency	Ministry of Environment (Ministerio del Ambiente – MINAM)
Overall terms	2017 to 2021

Approach

The programme strengthens Peru's steering and implementation capacities for effective environmental and forest governance at national and regional level and promotes linkage between environmental policy and other relevant policy fields.

Within the programme framework, advisory services – focusing on the technical level and on organisational development – are provided to the following partners: the Ministry of Environment (MINAM) and its subordinate authorities, i.e. the National Service of Environmental Certification for Sustainable Investments (SENACE), the Agency for Environmental Assessment and Enforcement (OEFA) and the National Service for Protected Areas (SERNANP); the Ministry of Agriculture (MINAGRI) and its National Forestry and Wildlife Service (SERFOR); the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF), the Ministry of Production

The programme strengthens capacities for the implementation of sustainable forest management



Left: Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in protected areas and their buffer zones

Right: Increasing efficiency in environmental enforcement.

(PRODUCE), and the Agency for the Supervision of Forest Resources and Wildlife (OSINFOR).

The measures are implemented mainly in the regions of Ucayali, San Martín and Arequipa and involve civil society, indigenous peoples and the private sector.

The programme is being implemented with the support of GITEC Consult GmbH.

Results

Cooperation with SENACE and OEFA has led to significant progress in environmental management. Since its founding in 2015, SENACE has supported a total of 16 environmental impact assessments for large-scale projects with an investment volume of almost three billion euros. To ensure that the proposed projects are environmentally and socially sustainable, SENACE applies international standards for the assessments. Affected social groups such as indigenous peoples are involved in this process. As a result, between 2016 and 2019, Peru's ombudsman did not register any complaints regarding SENACE's work.

Cooperation with OEFA has boosted efficiency in environmental enforcement significantly, with an 80 per cent reduction in implementation time. The resulting reduction in costs means the authority can now perform twice as many assessments per year with the same budget.

Progress has also been made in the area of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. A new MINAM directive prompts the inclusion of natural infrastructure in the rehabilitation process

following the El Niño event in 2017. This strengthens the population's resilience to future extreme weather events.

More efficient procedures for granting rights for sustainable use and tourism in protected areas have been implemented for an area of more than 95,000 square kilometres. What's more, between 2013 and 2019 the annual income of SERNANP was increased by 260 per cent, thus securing the long-term financing of protected area management.

By creating the brand 'Allies for conservation', SERNANP promotes the sustainable use of natural resources in protected areas and buffer zones by the local population. To date, 15 companies have received a licence to use the brand and can now position their products better on the market.

The area of forests under sustainable management has almost doubled over the past two years, reaching close to 3.5 million hectares in 2019. Together with SERFOR, a software solution has been developed that can be used to trace the origin of wood produced by forest enterprises and indigenous communities. The DataBOSQUE software is currently in use at around 50 forest enterprises to provide evidence of compliance with the forestry management guidelines.

OSINFOR has improved internal processes and as a result halved the time and costs required for forest monitoring. Moreover, OSINFOR successfully demonstrated its compliance with international standards within the framework of the ISO certification process.

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