



# FORESTRY

The Amazon rainforest, the most biodiverse region on Earth, composes more than 60 percent of Peru's territory. In recent decades, illegal logging in Peru has intensified and threatened future of the Peruvian Amazon. USAID strengthens Peru's forest sector as a means to combat environmental-crime and related security threats, uphold bilateral trade agreements, and sustainably manage forest resources to conserve biodiversity and reduce carbon emissions.

USAID, in partnership with the Government of Peru (GOP) is building capacity to implement sustainable forest management policies and practices and increase productive and efficient use of forest resources by the private sector and civil society. Programs also support indigenous peoples and other communities to benefit from the sustainable management of forest lands, while reducing irreversible damage to forests, improving local livelihoods, and mitigating significant climate impacts.

## **OUR WORK**

### STRENGTHENING FOREST INSTITUTIONS

Strong Peruvian environment and land management institutions are necessary to reduce emissions and promote sustainable forest management. To accomplish this, USAID supported the creation of the National Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR). SERFOR is the national entity responsible for forest and wildlife related issues. USAID also works with regional governments to form Regional

Environmental Authorities, which play a critical role in conserving tropical forests by inspecting and approving forest concession management plans. Finally, USAID supported the launch of both national and regional laboratories for forestry research, technological innovation in wood usage, and environmental sustainability.

#### DEVELOPING INCLUSIVE REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS

In addition to strong institutions, Peru also needs clear, enforceable laws to protect its forests. USAID provided substantial support for the approval of the new Regulations of the Forestry and Wildlife Law in September 2015. USAID worked closely with representatives from Peru's 52 indigenous communities living in the Amazon to include their inputs into the law. This landmark legal reform provides authority to SERFOR and local governments to formalize and regulate the timber industry, and to identify and address illegal logging.

At the local level, USAID has provided technical assistance to 46 indigenous communities in the regions of Ucayali, Pasco, San Martin, and Loreto to develop life plans, a tool for territorial management that fosters community forest management (CFM). The Amazonas CFM plan received an award for best practices in Intercultural Public Management from the Peru's Ministry of Culture.

#### **IMPROVING TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES**

Protecting Peru's natural resources requires reliable data to inventory legal sources of forest products, communicate with law enforcement, and assure potential buyers that the products adhere to international laws. USAID is assisting SERFOR to develop an online information forest and fauna management system to achieve these needs. The system tracks the supply chain of forest products so that SERFOR, regional governments and indigenous communities can prevent illegal logging. To quickly identify and monitor areas of illegal logging, USAID provides technical support for developing and utilizing geospatial information systems that can detect any changes to forest canopy.

## CONTACTS

#### MISSION

Lawrence Rubey, Mission Director USAID/Peru Av. La Encalada, Cdra. 17 Monterrico, Surco Lima, Peru Telephone number: +511-618-1200 Email: <u>wusaidperu@usaid.gov</u> Website: <u>www.usaid.gov</u>