

BUILDING THE RESILIENCE IN THE WETLANDS OF THE DATEM DEL MARAÑÓN PROVINCE, PERU



PRECEDENT

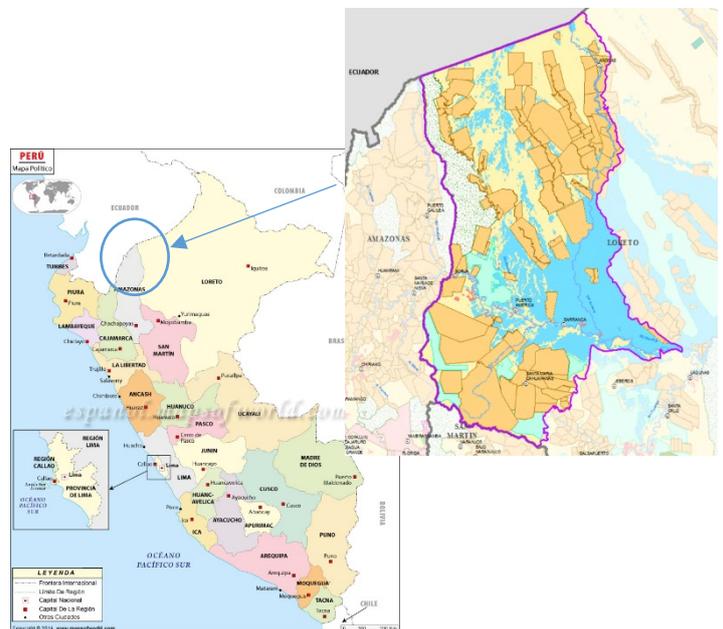
Profonanpe is a private, non-profit public interest entity specialized in efficiently raising, managing and channeling financial resources for programs and projects for biodiversity conservation, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

In March 2015, Profonanpe was accredited by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to receive funds for up to US\$ 10 million to execute directly. In November 2015, the GCF approved the funding for its first project entitled “Building the resilience in the wetlands of the Datem del Marañón Province, Peru” for a total amount of US\$ 9.1 million, with counterpart from the Government of Korea, through its International Cooperation Agency, KOICA.

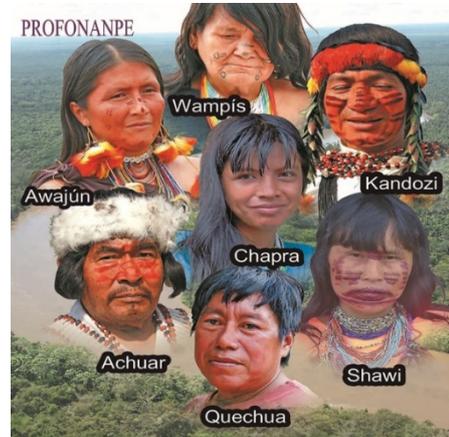
It is important to mention that Profonanpe is the first national private institutional accredited in America for the GCF, and that its project was the first approved worldwide by such fund.

PROJECT CONTEXT

- The Datem del Marañón province is located in the Loreto Department and has a total extension of **4,766,879 hectares**, from where **1,226,646** are *aguajales*.
- It is one of the poorest provinces in the country and with the least presence of government representatives in the area.



- The Datem del Marañón province has high environmental and cultural values, relevant to the Peruvian Amazon. Stand out, among others, the wetlands from the Abanico del Pastaza, the Rimachi lake system and the Manseriche Pongo¹.
- The Abanico del Pastaza is an international Ramsar site: it has 7 types of continental wetlands and fosters a population of over 20,000 aquatic birds, 292 species of fish and large extensions of palms forests (*aguajales*).
- Aside from a large diversity of ecosystems, the region has a high cultural diversity, since is inhabited by seven indigenous people: Achuar, Awajun, Chapra, Kandozi, Quechua, Shawi and Wampis.
- Taking into consideration this large cultural diversity, the project was designed in a **participative way**: communities, federations and indigenous organizations were consulted.



The peatlands (mostly formed by *aguajales*) in the basins of the Pastaza and Marañón rivers have large stocks of carbon, therefore its importance in conservation.

GOALS OF THE PROJECT

- To improve the resilience of the indigenous communities that inhabit the wetlands rich in carbon stock in the Datem del Marañón Province, as well as to improve their livelihoods.
- To reduce the effects of the greenhouse gases caused by deforestation.

IMPORTANCE OF THE PROJECT

- Work with 120 indigenous communities from the seven people previously mentioned.
- Support the conservation of the province carbon stock, estimated in 15 million tons of CO₂ equivalent².
- Support the conservation of 4.5 million hectares of forest in the province.
- Provision of sustainable economic activities for the indigenous communities, through the development of bio-businesses³.
- Strengthening the community and institutional capacities of the main stakeholders involved in the project execution.

¹ A pongo is a narrow, very deep canyon.

² CO₂ equivalent is the measurement unit in which we report.

³ A bio-business is a sustainable business where non-timber forestry products are used responsibly, without depredation and respecting the management plans established by and for the communities. Currently, there are bio-businesses implemented for the production of *aguaje* oil and pulp.



KEY COMPONENTS THE PROJECT IS GOING TO WORK WITH

- **Strengthening of the government institutional capacities** through: (1) the creation of environmental conservation areas (ACA for its name in Spanish); (2) the development of a climate change strategy for the province and support in the update of the regional strategy; (3) economic and ecologic zoning in the region; and (4) the regularization of identification documents for the villagers in the region.
- **Strengthening of capacities for the indigenous communities and its organizations** through: (1) the implementation of climate change communal observatories; (2) the development of forestry, fishery and fauna management plans in up to 10 areas; (3) the development of local management programs for the environmental conservation areas; and (4) the strengthening of indigenous producers associations.
- **Implementation of sustainable bio-businesses based on natural resources management and incorporating solar energy** through: (1) the design and implementation of up to 50 bio-businesses; (2) the support in the national and international commercialization of bio-businesses products; (3) the management training through the implementation of a Scholarship Program for the correct development of a bio-business; and (4) the implementation of equipment for the use of solar energy in six plants executing bio-businesses.
- **Development of tools for science, technology, knowledge management, and follow-up and evaluation**, through: (1) studies about climate change in the province, and (2) studies about the conservation of aguajales and carbon stock.