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Wildlife
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Putumayo-Içá Basin Project News

Welcome to the newsletter of the GEF Putumayo-Içá Basin Integrated Management Project! This newsletter is designed to keep you informed of the project's activities and achievements, as well as to offer you relevant information that may be of interest to you.

In this edition, we highlight key advancements from the last quarter, including the approval of the Annual Operating Plan and its budget, the formulation of calls for hiring professionals to complement our environmental and social baseline, as well as specialists in Aquatic Ecosystems, Social Governance, and Value Chains. Additionally, progress meetings with local communities, indigenous groups, and organizations that will enable the project's implementation through partnerships, among others.



1567 words

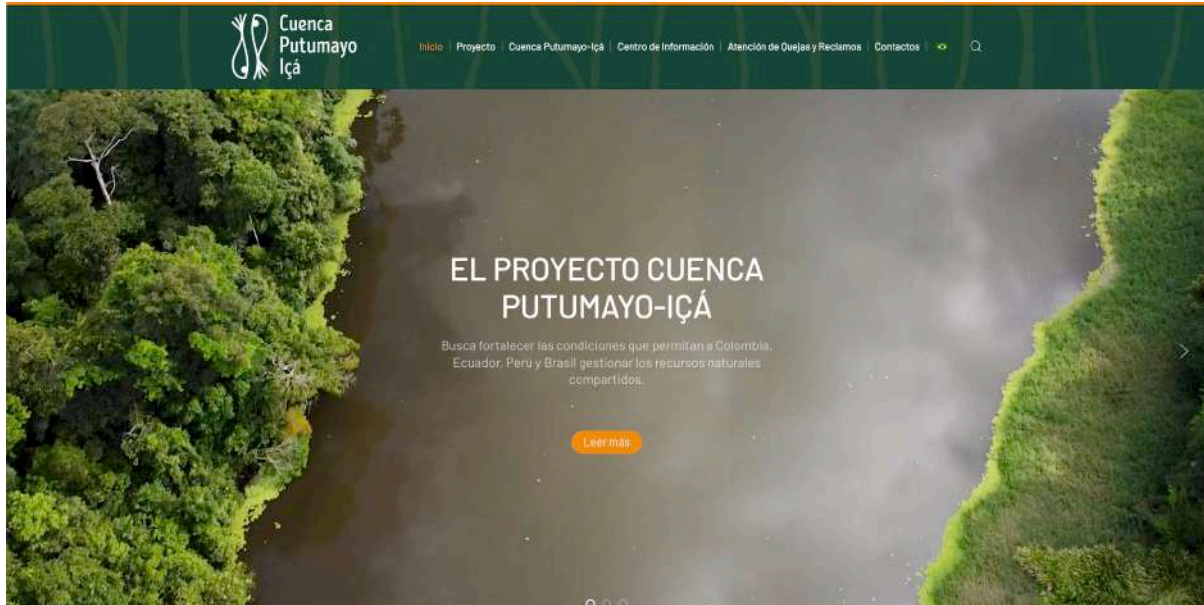


5-minute read

This newsletter reaches you because you have participated in our meetings, have been in contact with the project, or have subscribed through our website.

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Announcements



New Website

We are pleased to announce that the [Putumayo-Içá Basin Project website](#) - WCS has been completely updated and redesigned to reflect the project's visual identity. The site now functions as a repository and official public meeting point, where you can find technical components, strategic documents, and project news. The page also highlights the [Grievance Redress Mechanism \(GRM\)](#) and offers an updated calendar of events, calls for proposals, as well as links to the websites of partner and allied institutions and WCS in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru.

"Vital Connections" Webinar Series

We have launched a series of webinars titled "Vital Connections: Human Health and Biodiversity in Amazonian Aquatic Ecosystems," in collaboration with the Amazon Waters Alliance. You can find the recording of the most recent webinar here, ["Illegal Gold: Investigation, Routes, and Impacts in the Amazon,"](#) presented by Nelly Luna, Editorial Director of Ojo Público.

Upcoming Calls for Subproject Proposals

In the last quarter of the year, we will launch open calls for funds for subprojects for organizations and communities, as well as for allied entities of the project. These calls provide an

opportunity for local actors to submit proposals and benefit from the project's resources, which will enable a more sustainable use, management, and conservation of the Putumayo-Içá basin.

Technical and Administrative Activities

Financial and Management Report (January-June 2024)

The financial and management reports for the period from January to June 2024 were shared with the World Bank within the established deadlines. These reports provide a detailed view of the project's progress and resource utilization. These reports will be shared with the project's regional steering and technical committee.

Approval of the AOP

After meeting the enabling conditions for the implementation of project components 1 and 2, the Annual Operating Plan (AOP) for the remaining activities of 2024 was prepared and submitted. This plan was approved by the World Bank in June, allowing for the continuation of planned actions.

Participation in Strategic Alliances

The project has actively participated in various key spaces for the region, including the Amazon Waters Alliance and the Alliance Against Illegal Mining in the Amazon, with the projects "Conserving Together" and "Diverse Rivers." These engagements are fundamental to strengthening joint efforts in the Putumayo-Içá basin, in order to identify knowledge and experiences in mercury monitoring and other pollutants, pilot sites for sampling, inclusion in the system and early warnings, as well as restoration, rehabilitation, and remediation activities that can reduce pollution levels in the basin.

Management and Coordination Meetings

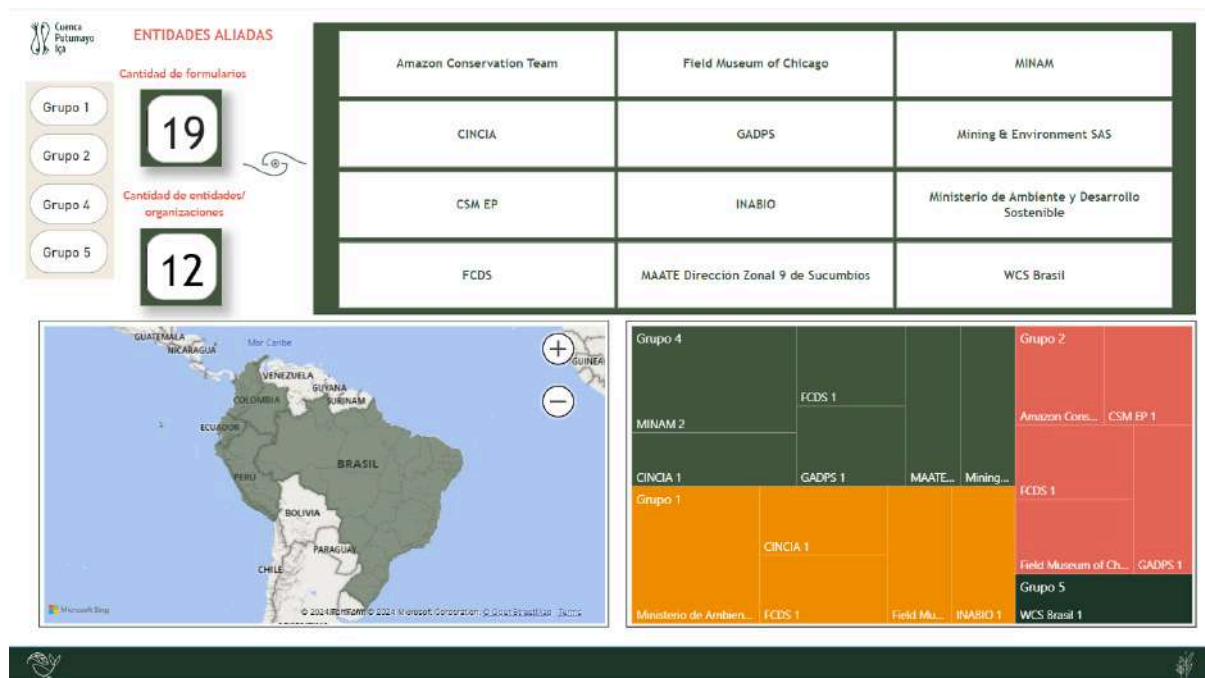
During this quarter, management and engagement meetings were held with several key organizations, including OTCA, COICA, CINCIA, FCDS, ACT, SINCHI Institute, SERNANP, GOREL, GAD of Sucumbíos, the Field Museum, and the San Francisco de Quito University. These meetings were essential for gathering information and coordinating initiatives related to the basin.

Regional Technical Committee

On August 20, 2024, a session of the Regional Technical Committee was held, where the project's execution status was shared, and progress was made in selecting priority areas for intervention. This meeting is an important step in the effective planning and execution of the project's activities.

Working Groups

This quarter, we have strengthened collaboration within the working groups, holding regular meetings to ensure effective project planning and execution. These groups, which cover essential topics such as Scientific and Ancestral Knowledge, Governance, Pollution, and Value Chains, are fundamental to our regional technical coordination and guidance. Below, we present a graphic showing the number of forms received and the number of participating entities and organizations, highlighting the commitment and involvement of our allies.

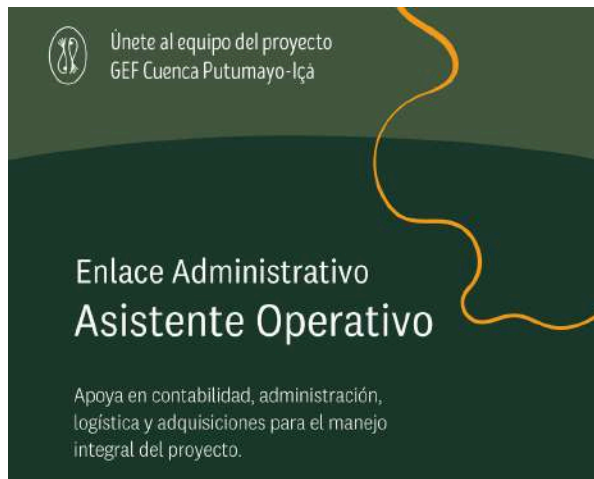


We invite you to review the participation form for the five working groups, which you will find below. Your participation, whether by registering to participate in one or more groups or forwarding it to those who may be interested in being technical members of these working groups, is key to the success of our activities.

- Group 1: Scientific Knowledge
- Group 2: Ancestral Knowledge
- Group 3: Governance
- Group 4: Water and Environmental Pollution
- Group 5: Value Chains

[Working groups registration form](#)

New Reinforcements to Boost the Putumayo-Içá Basin Project



Únete al equipo del proyecto
GEF Cuenca Putumayo-Içá

Enlace Administrativo Asistente Operativo

Apoya en contabilidad, administración, logística y adquisiciones para el manejo integral del proyecto.



Oportunidades no Projeto GEF Putumayo-Içá!

ESTAMOS BUSCANDO ESPECIALISTAS EM ECOSISTEMAS AQUÁTICOS, PRODUTOS NÃO FLORESTAIS E GOVERNANÇA.

MAIS INFORMAÇÕES NOS LINKS.

Cuenca Putumayo Içá



COLABORA CON NOSOTROS

CONSULTOR/A
LÍNEA BASE

Cuenca Putumayo Içá



Únete al equipo del proyecto
GEF Cuenca Putumayo-Içá

Enlace Técnico Técnico de Campo

Facilita y coordina las actividades del proyecto en campo, asegurando su éxito operativo y técnico.

The Project is strengthening its team with the addition of new technical and administrative talents.

For six months, four professionals will work on the Environmental and Social Baseline in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, which is essential for understanding the environmental and social conditions of the region, allowing us to identify areas where the project can support, strengthen, or initiate new initiatives.

Additionally, the project will add three specialists in Aquatic Ecosystems, Social and Governance Specialist, and Value Chains Specialist (non-timber forest products, fisheries, and livelihoods), who will join the team to drive the effective implementation of our strategies in these key technical areas.

We are also adding technical and administrative liaisons in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. These new members will be essential for coordinating and facilitating project activities at the local level, ensuring that our objectives are met in each territory through proper coordination, supervision, monitoring, and logistics. All these reinforcements are expected to join by October.

Coming Soon: Subprojects for Sustainable Development



The GEF Integrated Management of the Putumayo-Içá Basin Project will soon launch a series of calls for subprojects, one of the key participation mechanisms. These subprojects are designed for organizations and communities to submit proposals that generate environmental and social benefits in the basin.

During September and October, we will share detailed information on the terms of reference (ToR), selection criteria, formats, available amounts, and important dates for submitting proposals. Through informative sessions both in the field and through virtual channels, we will explain how to participate, and our technical team will evaluate the proposals received. The best will be selected in conjunction with the project's technical committee.

The subprojects will focus on two main components:

Component 1: Strengthening Governance and Decision-Making Capacity for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)

- Research and analysis of scientific and ancestral data to fill information gaps in the basin.
- Research developed by and for indigenous communities.

Component 2: Key Interventions in Pilot Sites for Integrated Water Resources Management

- Prevention and control of water and environmental pollution, especially related to mercury.

- Mitigation and recovery of small-scale water pollution.
- Promotion of alternative livelihoods that enhance food security and value chains.
- Design of management plans for fisheries and turtles.

Stay tuned to our communications and website for more details on how to participate in this important initiative.

Project Socialization and Participation Mechanisms



Over the past months, we have conducted socialization and participation activities in the four countries involved in the project. These meetings are essential to ensure that communities and organizations are informed and actively involved in decisions that affect their territories. Our goal is to ensure that each community and organization is not only aware of the project's actions but also meaningfully participates in its development and execution, respecting the legal and cultural frameworks of each region.

- **Colombia**

In Colombia, the project has been shared with representatives of 18 Murui Muina communities in Puerto Leguizamo and 12 Siona communities of ACIPS in Puerto Asís, as well as with representatives of 18 Kamentsá-Inga councils and associations, in the

municipality of San Francisco (San Silvestre area), upper Putumayo. Meetings will soon be held in Orito, Puerto Asís, Puerto, Leguizamo, El Encanto and Tarapacá. In addition, the project is actively working on technical management and coordination with the Prior Consultation process with indigenous communities, in coordination with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, and the Ministry of the Interior.

- **Ecuador**

In the province of Sucumbíos, outreach meetings were held with FONAKISE, the Kofán Avié and Kichwa-Siona Puerto Vega communities, as well as with representatives of the Sucumbíos Women's Association, the Putumayo Canton Fish Farmers Association, and technicians from the Sucumbíos GAD. Currently, new dates are being coordinated for outreach meetings of the project and mechanisms for participation in competitive funds with the Shuar and Awá communities of Sucumbíos.

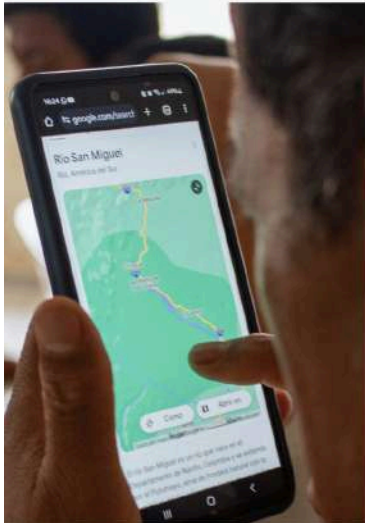
- **Perú**

Meetings have been scheduled with key institutions, including MINAM, MIDAGRI, GOREL, SERNANP, DEVIDA, IBC, Pronaturaleza and WCS Peru. In September and October 2024, outreach processes will be carried out in Gueppí, Soplin Vargas and El Estrecho.

- **Brazil**

Outreach with the communities around San Antonio de Içá has been postponed due to political campaigns and the difficult drought conditions in the region. These activities will resume in November. In the meantime, we have organized a National Committee in Brazil, which will include the participation of state and municipal government institutions, environmental authorities and indigenous organizations, as well as scientific and technological research institutions. This committee will meet from September 17 to 18 in Manaus to structure the work route on the Içá River. Through participation in the Amazon Waters event, work actions were identified with 12 regional organizations at the technical, scientific and governmental level.

Selection of Priority Areas



El proyecto continúa identificando áreas prioritarias para intervenir en la cuenca a través de sus componentes técnicos, basándose en información disponible y factores como la acumulación de contaminantes, manejo de pesca y minería ilegal. Agradecemos a las instituciones que nos han proporcionado información valiosa para completar este proceso, permitiéndonos enfocar mejor los esfuerzos del proyecto.

The project continues to identify priority areas to intervene in the basin through its technical components, based on available information and factors such as the accumulation of contaminants, fishing management and illegal mining. We thank the institutions that have provided us with valuable information to complete this process, allowing us to better focus the project's efforts.

Are you aware of other sites and/or initiatives in the Putumayo-Içá Basin where the project can intervene? Please include the information in the following form and we will consider it.

Formulario
Áreas Prioritarias Cuenca Putumayo-Içá

Gracias por su interés y apoyo en el seguimiento del Proyecto GEF Putumayo-Içá. Seguiremos trabajando juntos para lograr una cuenca más sostenible y mejorar la calidad de vida de sus comunidades.

¿Te enviaron nuestro boletín? ¡[Inscríbete aquí](#) para no perderte ninguna actualización!



Este e-mail se envió a {{contact.EMAIL}}

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