

Alliance for Wildlife and Forests: summary of progress and results for 2021

Contact:

Yovana Murillo, director of the Alliance for Wildlife and Forests, ymurillo@wcs.org.

Alonso Córdova, deputy director of the Alliance for Wildlife and Forests, alonso.cordova@wwfperu.org.

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We thank the WCS and WWF work teams in Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia, as well as the WCS team in Brazil, for the great work done.

We also thank our partners and allies who have accompanied and contributed to the consolidation of these advances and achievements in the year 2021.

Thanks to the professionals who have supported us with consultancies for the achievement of the proposed products.

To the authorities of the countries, we thank them for their willingness, the provision of information, and the collaboration and support in the different activities and proposals.

We thank the European Union, the funder of this regional Action, for its important support in combating wildlife and timber trafficking.

Yovana Murillo Director Alonso Cordova Deputy director





Abbreviations and acronyms

AFIN	National Indigenous Forestry Association, Bolivia (acronym in Spanish)
AIDESEP	Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Rainforest (acronym in Spanish)
ATFFS	Technical Forest and Wildlife Administrations (acronym in Spanish)
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna
CORPIAA	Regional Coordinator of Indigenous peoples of AIDESEP Atalaya (acronym in Spanish)
CORPOAMAZONIA	Corporation for the sustainable development of the southern Amazon of Colombia (acronym in Spanish)
FECONAU	Federation of Native Communities of Ucayali and Tributaries (acronym in Spanish)
FENAMAD	Native Federation of the Madre de Dios River and Tributaries of Peru (acronym in Spanish)
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance, and Trade - European Union
MAATE	Ministry of the Environment, Water and Ecological Transition of Ecuador
Minambiente	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Colombia
ORAU	Regional Organization AIDESEP Ucayali (acronym in Spanish)
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
OSINFOR	Agency for the Supervision of Forest Resources and Wildlife (acronym in Spanish)
DDP	Due Diligence Protocol
SBCBI	Bolivian Forest Certification and Incentives System (acronym in Spanish)
SERFOR	National Forest and Wildlife Service of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation of Peru (acronym in Spanish)
SMART	Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool
TIOC	Indigenous Territory Original Peasant (acronym in Spanish)
URPIA	Regional Union of the Indigenous Peoples of the Amazon of the Atalaya Province of Peru (acronym in Spanish)
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WWF	World Wildlife Fund



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Introduction

The Alliance for Wildlife and Forests (the Alliance or the Action) is a regional initiative established in 2019, which is funded by the European Union and implemented by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

The main objective of the Alliance is to improve the involvement and participation of civil society to strengthen the enforcement of the law against wildlife and timber trafficking, as well as the cooperation with and between the authorities of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, and the tri-borders with Brazil (Colombia – Peru–Brazil and Peru–Bolivia–Brazil).

This regional Action works in close collaboration and cooperation with the authorities in charge of law enforcement in these countries – in their border areas – and with civil society, including local communities, Indigenous peoples, and social organizations.

The Alliance aims to:

- Improve the common understanding of wildlife and timber trafficking dynamics in the Andean-Amazon region, generating diagnoses for countries and their border areas on emerging trends and priority species of attention to strengthen the fight against existing illegal trade.
- Develop collaborative mechanisms between civil society and government agencies to improve law enforcement and control and surveillance systems, to address wildlife and timber trafficking, from the promotion of regional and international cooperation.
- Informing and involving civil society in promoting and developing actions, in conjunction with the authorities to combat wildlife and timber trafficking, keeping them informed, sensitive, and participative as a strategic actor in these efforts.

The Alliance for Wildlife and Forests completed its third year of implementation in 2021, and this document summarizes the progress and results achieved during that year.

The development of the activities proposed by the Alliance for 2021 avoided challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic; however, despite the difficulties, the Action made significant progress at the regional level in combating wildlife and timber trafficking.

Sheet:

Name:

Alliance for Wildlife and Forests

Central theme:

Combating wildlife and timber trafficking

Duration: 2019-2022

Workplaces:

Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, and the tri-borders with Brazil (Colombia – Peru – Brazil and Peru – Bolivia – Brazil).

Alliance Leadership:

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)

Wildlife component implementer:

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)

Timber component implementer:

World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

Funder: European Union







2021 was the third year of the Alliance for Wildlife and Forests implementation. During this year, the following advances were consolidated:

A better common understanding of the dynamics of wildlife and timber trafficking in the region

To better understand the dynamics of these environmental crimes, thirteen government organizations¹ in Colombia, Ecuador and Brazil received information generated by the Alliance, specifically, national diagnoses on trends in wildlife trafficking.

In addition, four regional reports were made, with information associated with the components of wildlife and timber, which will be disseminated in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, and Peru in 2022. These reports are:

(i)"Online Wildlife Trade: Analysis of Platforms and Traded Species in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru";

(ii)"Diagnosis of illegal wildlife trade in the border areas of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, and Bolivia";





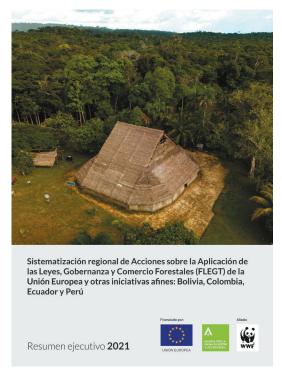
In Colombia: Directorate of Forests, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and Office of International Affairs of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Corporation for sustainable development of the Southern Amazon - CORPOAMAZONIA, Criminal Investigation Section of the Directorate of Protection and Special Services and Directorate of Protection and Special Services of the National Police and the U.S. Embassy in Colombia. In Ecuador: Directorate National of Biodiversity of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition, Directorate of Training and Missionary Strengthening and the Directorate of Criminal Studies of the State Attorney General's Office, the Legislative Administration Council of the National Assembly, and the Office of Counternarcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the United States Department of State. In Brazil: Secretariat of the Environment of Acre, Institute of Environment of Acre, Public Ministry of the State of Acre, the Superintendence of IBAMA in Acre and the Chico Institute Mendes for the Conservation of Biodiversity.



iii) "Diagnosis of the dynamics of the legal and illegal trade of matamata turtles in Peru, Colombia, and Brazil";

and iv) the document with the results of the "Regional Systematization of Actions on the Application of Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) of the European Union and other related initiatives: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru."





Results related to legal diagnoses were also consolidated. The Comprehensive Analysis of the Legal Component of Wildlife Trafficking in Colombia and the Legal Analysis of Wildlife Trafficking in Brazil were finalized. Based on this, and in consideration of the Comprehensive Analyses of the Legal Component of Wildlife Trafficking in Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru, which were prepared in year two, an Analysis of the Legal Tools against Wildlife Trafficking was developed, which constitutes a study in the Andean-Amazonian countries and provides a regional look at state of the art, the trends and challenges faced by legal, institutional and criminal justice systems frameworks to achieve increased effectiveness in law enforcement and addressing wildlife trafficking crime in the region.



In 2021, technical assistance was provided to the administrative and scientific authorities of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) of Peru to prepare a proposal to include matamata turtle species, genus *Chelus*, in Appendix II of CITES.



In an approach to online trade, in 2021, a <u>cooperation agreement with Mercado Libre</u> was signed, a company whose main activity is providing technology tools to facilitate electronic commerce by third parties. This agreement seeks to consolidate a cooperative relationship of exchange of information, technical knowledge, and experience to allow Mercado Libre to improve the detection of offers from users selling any animal or plant, alive or dead, and/or any part or derivative easily identifiable following the provisions of CITES, that violate international and national regulations, applicable in Latin American countries.







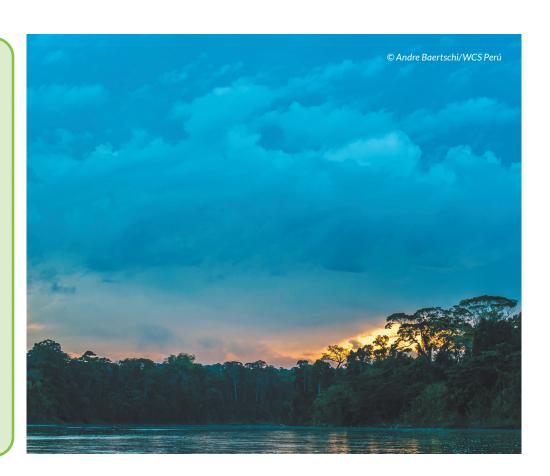
Development of collaborative mechanisms, between civil society and government agencies, to improve law enforcement and control and surveillance systems to address wildlife and timber trafficking

The Alliance provided technical assistance in four spaces, at the binational and regional levels, to exchange information and intelligence strategies and strengthen best practices. **These spaces were:**



1.

The meeting between the National Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR) of Peru and the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition (MAATE) of Ecuador, where the steps to achieve the approval of the "Binational Protocol for the repatriation of specimens of wildlife illegally trafficked in the border area" were discussed.



2.

The <u>"1st</u> <u>International</u> Meeting of Canine Guides for the Detection of Wild Fauna", in Bogotá, where officers of the National Police of Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru participated, exchanging information on the use of detector canines, to combat wildlife trafficking.





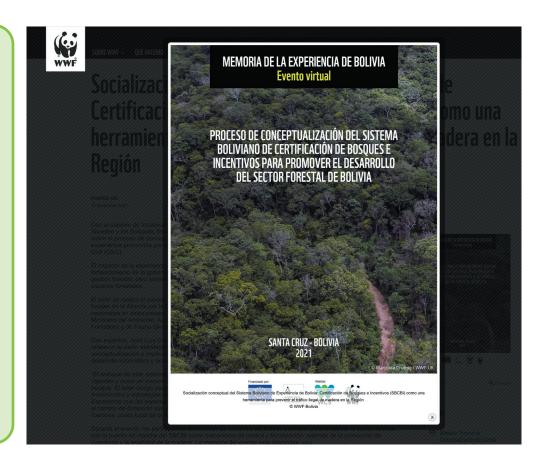
3.

The "Regional Border Meeting of Forest Tables", between Peru and Colombia, whose objective was to coordinate cooperation alliances to strengthen the governance and development of the border forestry sector.



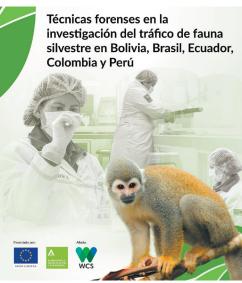
4.

The virtual observatory for the exchange of experiences of the "Process of conceptualization of the Bolivian Forest Certification and Incentives System (SBCBI)" as a tool to prevent timber trafficking, where representatives of governments and organizations of the civil society of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia participated.









Other results obtained in 2021, regarding the collaboration mechanisms, were:

- A new collaboration mechanism to promote the trade in the timber of legal origin, between the Colombian Government and civil society, with the signing of Phase 2 of the Intersectoral Pact for Legal Timber.
- Promotion of the approval of the activities to implement a proposal of "Binational Strategy for the prevention, control and sustainable management of forest resources, wildlife and hydrobiological and fisheries resources, in the Colombia-Peru border integration zone," by SERFOR and the Ministry of Production of Peru.
- Technical assistance and collaboration with the competent authorities of Peru and Bolivia for the formulation and progress in the implementation of a proposal for a "Binational Protocol for the Repatriation of Wildlife Specimens in the Peru-Bolivia Border Area".
- A schedule of activities to achieve the approval and validation of the "Protocol binational for the repatriation of specimens of wildlife trafficked illegally in the Peru-Ecuador border area."
- A proposal for "Ecuador-Colombia Binational Protocol for the Prosecution of Wildlife Trafficking Crimes and bring Species into the Border Area."
- Technical contributions to the proposal of "Supreme Decree No. 4489 for the Protection of Wild Fauna", highlighting the problem of wildlife trafficking and the importance of considering endemic and threatened species, at the request of the Directorate General of Biodiversity and Protected Areas of the Ministry of Environment and Water of Bolivia. This Decree was approved in April 2021.
- Preparation of a diagnosis of the capacities of the investigative agencies in the countries implementing the Action to apply <u>forensic</u> techniques that allow the integrated management of the crime scene against wildlife and the development of investigations for the identification of trafficked species.





Dissemination of the actions that the authorities, private sector, and civil society are implementing to ensure the legal origin of the timber in Peru within the framework of the alliance formed by PromPerú, ADEX, and WWF. This was done through the "<u>Timber and finishes for sustainability in construction" forum</u>, which served as a prelude to the 2021 business conference.

About capacity-building of government personnel, through the improvement of communication, cooperation, and training platforms, the Alliance achieved:



The strengthening of the capacities of:

676 people, in the five countries.

in the five countries,

from the Police and the National Army, the Prosecutor's Office, Protected Areas, and Customs, among other government agencies. This was carried out within the framework of different trainings aimed at combating wildlife trafficking and promoting timber of legal origin.

On the provision of tools for control and surveillance in the fight against wildlife trafficking, during 2021, support continued to be provided in the implementation of the three tools promoted by the Action:



In Colombia, support was given to the identification of timber species for the <u>Xylotron</u> xyloteca. In Peru, progress was made in the promotion of this tool and in the collection of botanical samples to include them in its database and so on support its implementation in the field and at the same time, strengthen the capacities of those responsible for the control and surveillance of timber and timber products.

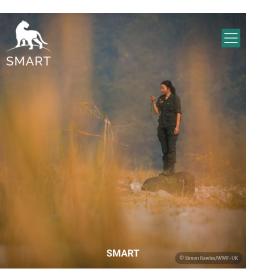




As for the platform <u>"Choose Legal Timber"</u>,

196 companies (118 new companies for the third year)

with a legal recognition scheme in force were updated.



Regarding the use of the <u>Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool</u> (SMART), **progress was made in the countries as follows:**

i) In Ecuador,

training was carried out for the implementation of the tool in **11 protected areas** and a data model was adapted according to the needs of the National Police Unit for Environmental Protection.

ii) In Peru,

in collaboration with the Technical Forestry and Wildlife Administration (ATFFS) of Lima, pilot tests were developed for the registration of data on illegal wildlife trade.

iii) In Colombia,

a data model for the collection of data from the Single Act of Control of Illegal Trafficking of Wild Flora and Fauna was presented to Minambiente and CORPOAMAZONÍA.

Partners

Developed and maintained by 9 active partners



















On the other hand, in Peru, in 2021, a roadmap for implementing the Pact for Legal Timber was being promoted with the State, specifically with SERFOR and the Supervision Agency for Forest Resources and Wild Fauna (OSINFOR). In this framework, support was provided for the execution of pilot tests in the field of the Due Diligence Protocol (DDP), which will serve as an instrument to implement the Pact for Legal Timber, at the request of SERFOR.



Information and involvement of civil society partners in supporting the authorities' actions to combat wildlife and timber trafficking

By disseminating information through social networks (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) at the regional level, the Alliance reached a range of:



about the issues associated with wildlife and timber trafficking. This was possible through webinars, communication campaigns, and the permanent dissemination of information related to the activities and themes of the regional Action.

474 people from the governments and CSOs identified by the Action were reached through the publication of the *Alliance's Electronic Bulletin Nos. 3* and *4*.



Additionally, during the third year of implementation of the Action, new mechanisms were developed to continue informing civil society:

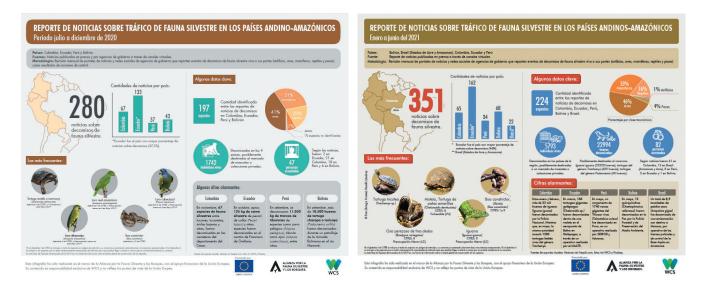
• The https://alianzafaunaybosques.org website







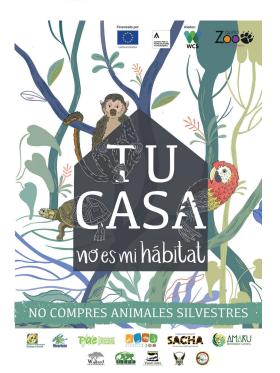
• The news report and infographic that share the results of the semi-annual monitoring of news on the illegal wildlife trade in the region. During 2021, two infographics were prepared, one for the <u>period July-December 2020</u> and the second for <u>January-June 2021</u>, which were disseminated through social networks and the electronic bulletin of the Alliance.



Concerning the development and dissemination of personalized messages to discourage wildlife trafficking, it is highlighted:



In Bolivia, 22 communicators from rural municipalities, including Indigenous territories where the Action is implemented, were trained on issues related to the illegal wildlife trade, its journalistic approach, and the development of local campaigns.





In Ecuador, the first phase of the "Tu Casa No Es Mi Hábitat" (Your house is not my habitat) campaign was implemented to sensitize public audiences in the urban environment so that they change their behavior and do not buy wild animals as pets.





In Colombia, progress was made with the design of a campaign that promotes <u>the platform "Choose legal timber"</u>, through posters distributed in different parts of cities such as Cali, Bucaramanga, Bogotá, Armenia, and Pereira.





In Peru, the implementation of the campaign <u>"Traffic Is Everywhere"</u> seeks to inform and generate actions in society to contribute to reducing the demand for wild animals in this country.





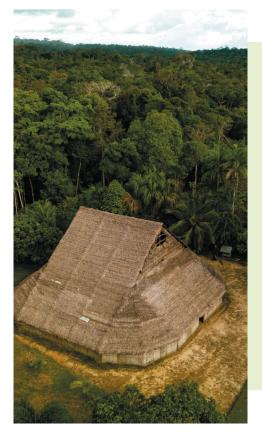
In addition, together with SERFOR, a proposal was designed <u>for the production of Podcasts</u> that show good practices in the forestry industry in Madre de Dios, Ucayali, and Loreto. Five programs of a series of nine podcasts, "<u>Beats of the Forest</u>," were completed that explain simply the process of timber from the moment it is extracted from the forest until it reaches the final consumer and how it is possible to ensure its legal origin.





Also, in Peru, with CITE-Forest, the campaign "Choose native timber and live in harmony with the forest" was created, which consists of 15 infographics with information on native timber of the Peruvian Amazon.

Regarding the number of people from the Andes-Amazon region trained to support the actions of involvement or involved in support of these actions to reduce wildlife and timber trafficking, during year 3, 194 people belonging to Indigenous organizations and rural communities were added. Among them, there are members of:

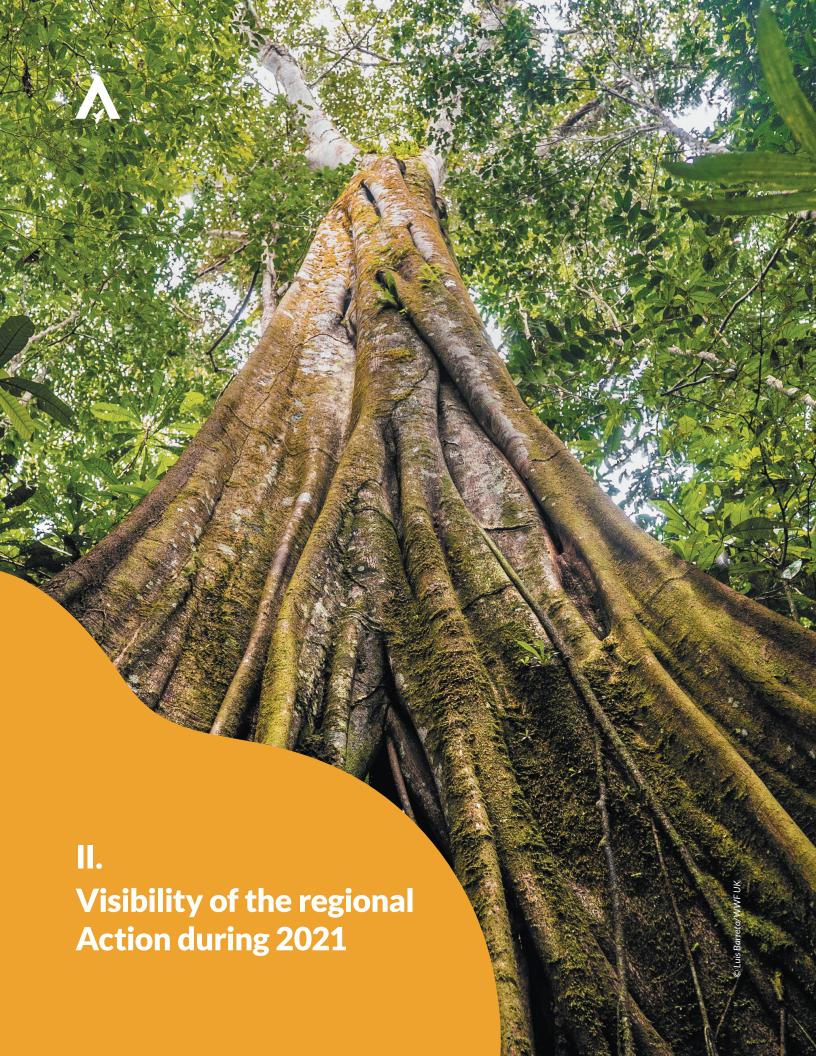


- The Shuar communities of Kumay and Kaputna, and the Achuar community of Copataza in Ecuador.
- The Indigenous communities Picaflor, Florida and Porvenir of the Peasant Native Indigenous Territory (TIOC) Bajo Paraguá, in Bolivia.
- In Peru, members affiliated with the Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Jungle (AIDESEP); its Regional Organization AIDESEP Ucayali (ORAU); the Regional Union of Indigenous peoples of the Amazon of the Province of Atalaya (URPIA); the Regional Coordinator of Indigenous Peoples of AIDESEP (CORPIAA); the Native Federation of the Madre de Dios River and Tributaries (FENAMAD); and the Federation of Native Communities of Ucayali and Tributaries (FECONAU).



One of the crucial achievements to highlight is the fact that the Palmarito Community Forestry Organization, on the border of the Monte Verde TIOC, in Bolivia, achieved *green certification* by complying with the standards of the SBCBI, as a result of the technical assistance and capacity building for sustainable forest management provided by the Action.







All the activities and materials, technical and communicational, that were carried out within the framework of the Alliance for Wildlife and Forests made this regional Action visible to the different audiences to which they were addressed, attending to the specifications given by the European Union to also make their contribution visible.

Additionally, during 2021, events were implemented, virtual, which apart from highlighting important dates and environmental issues, allowed to present to different audiences the key messages of the Alliance.



During the third year of implementation of the Action, five regional webinars were held on commemorative dates, where messages were disseminated to discourage illegal wildlife trade:

<u>World Wildlife Day:</u> "Amazon Forests and Livelihoods: The Relationship of People's Well-Being and the Health of the Planet".







2.

3.

International Day of Forests: highlights the importance of forest conservation.



<u>International Day for Biological Diversity:</u> "We are Part of the Solution", in which experiences and initiatives to conserve biodiversity in the Andean-Amazonian countries were shared.





4.

World Environment Day: a series of three webinars was developed, over three days: We Restore, We Conserve, We Connect.



<u>International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples:</u> "Indigenous Peoples and their important role in decision-making to conserve biodiversity".





From the regional Action, the International Day of Mother Earth was also commemorated, with the elaboration and dissemination of information through the social networks of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. Five audiograms were broadcast with representatives of the Alliance and Indigenous organizations, three of them with community leaders:



audiogram by Ruth Alipaz





















Other events where the Alliance contributed and participated were:

Amazon Day. The <u>virtual event "Amazon Evening"</u> was held, organized by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) South America and the Amazon 2.0 project, by the hand of the European Union in Peru. The regional Action, together with six other initiatives funded by the European Union, came together to disseminate the work they have been developing for the conservation of the Amazon forests.



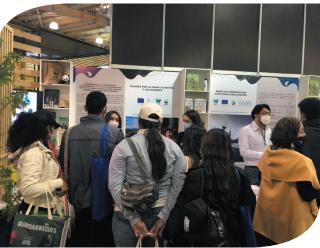
European Development Days #EDD21. The Alliance for Wildlife and Forests and Partners Against Wildlife Crime, with partners from the Asia region, co-hosted the session <u>"Strengthening Global Alliances to Combat Wildlife Crime".</u>





The International Environmental Fair (FIMA) in Bogotá, Colombia. The Alliance for Wildlife and Forests participated in this space in which environmental programs and projects of high impact in the region were presented, convening exhibitors, academics, environmental experts, entrepreneurs of the sector and citizens.





In Bolivia, the <u>2021 Chiquitanía Forest Fair</u> showed the strength of the forestry industry in the region of Chiquitanía. The fair space and the participation of the strategic partner National Indigenous Forestry Association (AFIN) made the Alliance visible.





To learn more about the Alliance for Wildlife and Forests scan the QR code below to **visit our website on your phone:**



