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Supporting Sustainable Forestry Industries in the Peruvian Amazon

Objectives :

- **Increase use of sustainable practices in forestry**
- **Increase land area and sites of special biological importance under sustainable management**
- **Increase sale of sustainably grown and/or certified products and services**
- **Improve the business competitiveness of sustainably managed and/or certified forestry, while advancing the well-being of workers and families**

Methodology :

The Rainforest Alliance provides small and medium forestry enterprises with the skills necessary to maintain a renewable supply of timber and non-timber forest products and to receive the maximum value for their goods and materials. Enterprises receive training and technical assistance in environmental, economic and social best practices. Assistance with business capacity may include legal status, management capacity and access to financing.

Total Value Equation for Conservation of Production Forests



For more informations :
www.rainforest-alliance.org

Synthesis

The Rainforest Alliance works to conserve biodiversity and ensure sustainable livelihoods by transforming land-use practices, business practices and consumer behavior.

It helps to alleviate destructive land-use practices by providing market incentives to organizations and communities that engage in best management practices for social, economic and environmental sustainability.

The Rainforest Alliance launched its forestry certification program in 1989, and later collaborated with other NGOs to develop the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), an independent, international organization that develops global forest management and Chain-of-Custody standards and accredits independent certification bodies.



The Rainforest Alliance is active in nearly 80 countries.

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Once engaged in sustainable practices, *the Rainforest Alliance* links enterprises to markets for their sustainably produced goods, and provide training in value-added processing (i.e., creating furniture components and building materials that can be sold for greater value). Additional areas of support may be in the marketing of non-timber forest products such as nuts, or payment for environmental services related to forest carbon. *The Rainforest Alliance* may also provide assistance with the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification process.

In all of our forestry activities, *the Rainforest Alliance* encourages adherence to the ten FSC sustainability principles. These principles include:

- 1) Compliance with all local laws
- 2) Documentation and legal establishment of tenure and use rights
- 3) Respect of indigenous peoples' rights of ownership and use of land and resources
- 4) Maintenance or enhancement of workers' and local communities social and economic well-being
- 5) Maintenance or enhancement of long term economic, social and environmental benefits from the forest
- 6) Maintenance or restoration of the ecosystem, its biodiversity, resources and landscapes
- 7) Development, implementation and documentation of management plans.

Results

The Rainforest Alliance conducted forestry activities in Madre de Dios, Peru as part of the Initiative to *Conserve the Andean Amazon* funded by the *United States Agency for International Development (USAID)*. *Fondation Ensemble* supported the last two years of this five-year project, which generated the following results:

- More than 690,000 hectares of forestland under improved management practices, maintained existing certification or new certification.
- More than USD 10 million of timber and USD 3.5 million of Brazil nuts sold.
- More than 1,800 individuals trained in natural resource management.
- More than 1,500 individuals working on land under improved natural resource management.

When *the Rainforest Alliance* began work in Peru, there were no certified logging concessions. With our partners, we helped five logging operations comply with FSC standards and improve their business management. As a result, the negative impacts of logging have decreased and biodiversity conservation has improved. One of these certified operations is located in *Bélgica Native Community*, where the standard of living of the *Yine Indians* is steadily improving. An additional five native communities received assistance with forest management plans and legal recognition.

The Rainforest Alliance also assisted four Brazil nut associations to improve their business management and practices. Two associations have used Peruvian government and international support to build and equip Brazil nut processing plants. A third association turned its Brazil-nut collection center into a bakery for members to make cookies and other products from the nuts. All of the associations received training in occupational safety and environmental best practices, which have improved the management of the forest.

Sources

- <http://rainforest-alliance.org/>
- <http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/community-forestry/regions/peru>
- <http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/multimedia/brazil-nut-peru>
- <http://www.fsc.org/index.htm>