FONDATION ENSEMBLE

Building Capacity for Near Real-time Deforestation Monitoring and Improving Forest Governance in the Peruvian Amazon

AMAZON CONSERVATION

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Synthesis

The Peruvian Amazon harbours high levels of biodiversity and large extensions of continuous and relatively intact tropical forests. However, forests face an increasing array of threats. Near real-time monitoring is key to inform authorities about forest degradation.

Objectives:

Establish a cutting-edge monitoring system allowing real time effective detection and rapid response to illegal activities, in order to reduce deforestation and protect forest conservation concessions.

Methodology:

The overall goal is to use the best available technology to detect deforestation in near real-time, determine the direct drivers of deforestation, and understand larger-scale deforestation patterns. In order to achieve this, the **Monitoring of the Andean Amazon Project (MAAP)** has a dynamic, evolving methodology designed to continuously incorporate the latest technology and inform the beneficiaries of this project on deforestation activities. Below is a diagram of this process:

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR NEAR REAL-TIME DEFORESTATION MONITORING AND IMPROVING FOREST GOVERNANCE IN THE PERUVIAN AMAZON

Get more information on the program supported by Fondation Ensemble:

here

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At the same time, Amazon Conservation supports the Peruvian Forest Service (SERFOR) in establishing a monitoring system that encourages frequent dialogue between government agencies and civil society based on regular generation of deforestation information.

The Integrated Monitoring System includes 5 stages:

1. Deforestation alerts detected through real-time monitoring
2. Prioritization of alerts
3. Identification of deforestation drivers
4. Active communication coordination among key agencies (Satellite Monitoring Unit, Department for Forest and Wildlife Control and National System for Control and Surveillance of Forests and Wildlife) nested under SERFOR
5. Strategic action to tackle deforestation.

Within the Madre de Dios forest conservation concessions, we are piloting deforestation monitoring and control. Concessionaires receive a license to operate drones and use this technology to verify deforestation alerts within concessions. For training and surveillance purposes, we are currently using this equipment:

- 4 Drone DJI Phantom 4 Advanced
- 2 Tablet Samsung Galaxy Tab S2
- 1 Garmin GPSMAP 64sc
- 16 Smartphones for the Global Forest Watch app to receive GLAD (Global Land Analysis and Discovery) alerts

Results:

- To date, 60 forest concessionaires have been trained and are currently using drones, early warning alerts and smartphones to monitor and do surveillance in their respective concessions. 13 concessionaries have an official license to operate drones ;
- In addition, a fully implemented protocol to monitor and respond to deforestation alerts in real time is being used by the region's Environmental Prosecutors.
- A monitoring specialist within the Prosecutors' office has attended three trainings on cutting-edge technology to improve capacity in using technology for monitoring analysis.
- Finally, government agencies, concessionaires and civil society are better able to access and exchange information and coordinate actions due to a published report by MAAP on deforestation and a successfully-operating National System for Control and Surveillance of Forests and Wildlife (SNCVFFS).

For more details:

http://www.amazonconservation.org/

https://maaproject.org/en/

For more information on real-time monitoring of deforestation, our work in Madre De Dios or in the Western Amazon in general, please contact Brad Goodman, Program Associate, at BGoodman@amazonconservation.org