



Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme to Ensure Integrated and Sustainable Management of the Transboundary Water Resources of the Amazon River Basin Considering Climate Variability and Change

AMAZON RIVER BASIN IN NUMBERS

Surface: 6.118.000 Km²

Geomorphology: The geomorphology of the basin varies from 6,500 m to sea level

Origin: Quebrada Apacheta in the Andes, Arequipa, Peru. (5.597 m)

Length: 6.992 Km

Average flow: 150.000 m³/s

Flow in the mouth: 230.000 a 300.000 m³/s

Annual discharge: 6.6 billion m³ of water

More than 50% of the **tropical rainforest** in the world

Mouth: Marajó Delta, Pará, Brasil



SHARED VISION FOR THE AMAZON (2015)

Water resources are strategic for the balanced and sustainable development of the peoples of the Amazon River Basin. These resources are subject to protection and conservation for their multiple uses with the purpose of improving quality of life* of present and future generations, respecting the ethnic and cultural diversity and the sovereignty of the Member Countries. The integrated management of water resources is made feasible by means of participatory management, exchange of information, research, implementation of actions to adapt to variability and climate change, through regional cooperation and the support of adequate institutions.

*Good living/wellbeing in harmony with Mother Earth, concept recognized by some Amazon countries.

TRANSBOUNDARY DIAGNOSTIC ANALYSIS (2015): MAIN ISSUES AGREED

1. Water pollution
2. Deforestation
3. Loss of biodiversity
4. Extreme hydroclimatic events
5. Erosion, sediment transport and sedimentation
6. Land use change
7. Loss of glaciers
8. Large infrastructure projects
9. Limited integrated water resources management

STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAM: FIRST REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR IWRM IN THE AMAZON

STRATEGIC RESPONSE LINES

Strengthening IWRM

Adaptation to Climate Change and Variability

Knowledge Management

PRIORITIZED STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Water quality monitoring • Water governance • Groundwater use and protection

Ecosystem and biodiversity protection • Erosion and sedimentation monitoring • Alert systems

Natural infrastructure • Glaciers • Coastal zone protection

Education and Culture • Science and policy • Training and capacity building

RESULTS TRACKER

Multi-country agreement on priority transboundary issues and root causes (TDA/equiv)
National inter-sectoral coordination mechanisms established
Multi-country agreement on governance reforms to address priority transboundary issues (SAP/equiv)
Regional transboundary waters legal agreement in force
Regional transboundary waters management institution in place
Implementation of stress reduction measures underway (SAP/equiv implementation)
Measurable environmental and/or socioeconomic status improvements

GEF IW PROJECT – AMAZON SAP IMPLEMENTATION

ACTO



Beneficiary Countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela

Agencies: UN ENVIRONMENT / ACTO

GEF Grant: US\$ 11,735,780

Co-financing: US\$ 108,501,713

The Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) is a regional intergovernmental organization that brings together the eight countries of the Amazon Basin. The Permanent Secretariat of ACTO (PS/ACTO) was established in 2002 to provide a platform for political dialogue and regional cooperation based on the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT), signed in 1978.

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR IWRM AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

WATER QUALITY MONITORING IN THE AMAZON BASIN

Problem: Limited comparable data and information concerning water quality conditions and changes over time in the Amazonian countries.

Solution: Proposal for a common Water Quality Monitoring System for the Amazon Basin (common water and sediment collection methodology, physical and chemical parameters, and regional database).

Impact: (i) enhanced capacity to develop public policies to protect the quality of Amazon rivers, (ii) concerted actions to identify and mitigate large pollution accidents, (iii) possibilities of political agreements for basin-wide regulations (mercury).

Scaling up/Replication: The system will be implemented in 12 major Amazon tributaries as part of the SAP implementation and is also replicable in other river basins of the world.

EARLY WARNING SYSTEM IN THE MAP TRANSBOUNDARY REGION

Problem: Extreme hydro-climatic events affecting local communities, economies, and ecosystems in the MAP tri-national region (Madre de Dios, Peru, Acre, Brazil and Pando, Bolivia).

Solution: Tri-national Early Warning System using TerraMA2 software platform and harmonized databases allows coordinated actions, alerts and responses across the borders.

Impact: The EWS successfully used during the historic flood that raised the level of the Acre River to more than 18 meters in February 2015, benefiting more than 80,000 people.

Replication: EWS replicated in Peru, where the National Water Authority (ANA) implemented Systems for Warning and Hydrological Monitoring at the national level, using the TerraMA2 technological platform. To be further replicated in the SAP implementation framework.

INTEGRATED REGIONAL INFORMATION PLATFORM ON WATER RESOURCES

Problem: Limited inter-institutional articulation and information exchange and coordination on IWRM between the Amazonian countries.

Solution: An Integrated Information System (IIS) for the Amazon basin specializing in information on water resources and allowing the generation of integrated reports at the basin level. As part of SAP implementation, the IIS will evolve to a regional platform connecting the 8 national water information systems.

Impact: Improved access to information on water resources for national and local governments and the whole Amazonian society, supporting regional coordination in water resources.

Scaling up/Replication: IIS is being integrated into the Amazon Regional Observatory (ORA) of ACTO, assuring its sustainability and scaling up both in geographic and thematic scope.

Q-CODES

TDA – SAP – AMAZON WATERS



Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis



Strategic Action Programme - SAP



Amazon Waters