

LATIN AMERICA AND
THE CARIBBEAN

Amazon Basin Conservation Initiative Award Announcement

The U.S. Agency for International Development is pleased to announce the selection of implementing partners for the Amazon Basin Conservation Initiative (ABCI). ABCI is a five-year, \$65 million USAID and partner-supported program to build conservation capacity and commitment across the Amazon Basin for effective stewardship of the Basin's globally important biological diversity and environmental services.

USAID greatly appreciates the input of all who contributed to the design of ABCI and would like to thank those who submitted proposals for their creativity and dedication in this extremely competitive initiative. USAID looks forward to continued collaboration among all stakeholders and, in particular, to finding opportunities for interested parties to participate in ABCI activities and events throughout implementation of the program. ABCI news and notices will be posted here regularly.

ABCI addresses priority threats to biodiversity conservation in the Amazon through two complementary program components:

- Conservation Consortia to address critical conservation issues at the sub-Basin scale, and
- a Secretariat to support Basin-wide program management and facilitate regional collaboration for conservation.

The largest of ABCI's program components is the conservation consortia, which include over 30 NGOs, indigenous and traditional peoples' organizations, universities, host government agencies, and research institutions, with the expectation that additional partnerships will be formed during the first year of the Initiative. The shared commitment of the ABCI consortia to building local capacity and fostering leadership roles for Amazon-based institutions is evidenced by the fact that over 80% of the implementing partners are Amazonian and that 70% of ABCI funding goes directly to these groups.

The names and implementing partners of the four ABCI conservation consortia are:

1. **Challenging the Advance of the Deforestation Frontier: Strengthening Local Institutions towards Social Justice and Sustainable Livelihoods in the Brazilian Amazon**
Geographic Focus: Western Brazil (Amazonas State)

Partners:

- International Institute for Education of Brazil – IEB (Brazil): (Lead Organization)
- Kanindé – Association of Ethno-environmental Defense (Brazil)
- Amazon Institute of People and the Environment – IMAZON (Brazil)
- Conservation Strategy Fund – CSF (U.S.)

2. **Strengthening Local Constituencies for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Land Management in the Madidi-Manu Conservation Complex**
Geographic Focus: Southwest Amazon (Peru, Bolivia)

Partners:

- Wildlife Conservation Society – WCS (U.S.): (Lead Organization)
- Amazon Conservation Association – ACA (Peru)
- Foundation for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Use – PUMA (Bolivia)
- Peruvian Fund for the Americas – FONDAM (Peru)
- Peruvian Society for Environmental Law – SPDA (Peru)

3. **Indigenous Landscapes: Strengthening Indigenous Amazonian Organizations**
Geographic Focus: Indigenous Landscapes in Brazil, Ecuador, Peru

Partners:

- The Nature Conservancy-Amazon Program (U.S.): (Lead Organization)
- Institute for Well-being – IBC (Peru)
- Foundation for the Survival of the Cofán – FSC (Ecuador)
- Coordination of Brazilian Amazon Indigenous Organizations – COIAB (Brazil)
- International Institute for Education of Brazil – IEB (Brazil)
- Indigenous Federation of the Cofán Nation of Ecuador – FEINCE (Ecuador)
- Association of Indigenous Peoples of Oiapoque – APIO (Brazil)
- Indigenous Council of Roraima – CIR (Brazil)
- Association of Indigenous Peoples of Roraima – APIRR (Brazil)

4. **Environmental Governance in the Madre de Dios-Acre-Pando Region**
Geographic Focus: Southwest Amazon (Peru, Brazil, Bolivia)

Partners:

- University of Florida – UF (U.S.): (Lead Organization)
- Herencia (Bolivia)
- Institute for Environmental Research in Amazonia – IPAM (Brazil)
- National Development Institute – INADE (Peru)
- SOS Amazônia (Brazil)
- Amazonian University of Pando – UAB (Bolivia)
- National Amazonian University of Madre de Dios – UNAMAD (Peru)
- Federal University of Acre – UFAC (Brazil)
- Woods Hole Research Center (Brazil and the US)

5. **ABCI Secretariat**

The ABCI Secretariat is a region-wide program component to facilitate overall implementation of the Initiative and support collaborative conservation efforts with the conservation consortia and other stakeholders. Like the conservation consortia, the Secretariat is an institutional partnership of technical experts from the private sector, NGO, educational, and communications sectors. The Secretariat team is led by Dr. Anthony Anderson, who will direct the Secretariat from the offices of partner International Institute of Education in Brazil (IEB). Ms. Jessica Hidalgo will serve as ABCI Secretariat Deputy Director from the Secretariat's office in the Peruvian Society for Environmental Law (SPDA) in Lima.

6. **Secretariat Partners:**

- **International Resources Group – IRG (U.S.): (Lead Organization)**
- International Institute of Education of Brazil – IEB (Brazil)
- Peruvian Society for Environmental Law – SPDA (Peru)
- The Academy for Educational Development – AED (U.S.)
- Social Impact – SI (U.S.)

Technical resource partners:

- Conservation Strategy Fund – CSF (U.S.)
- University of Florida – UF (U.S.)
- Tropical Forest Institute – IFT (Brazil)
- Brazilian Educational Institute for Sustainable Enterprise – IBENS (Brazil)



International Resources Group

1211 Connecticut Ave, NW, Suite 700

Washington, DC 20036

202-289-0100 FAX 202-289-7601

www.irgltd.com

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