

# IRG Project Profiles



## BIODIVERSITY AND FRAGILE ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT (BIOFOR) IN PERU

**B**iodiversity and the management and conservation of fragile ecosystems demands a flexible approach and determination to succeed, obstacles notwithstanding. This process requires educating the public and assisting local and national institutions to make informed, effective policy decisions and plans. Fragile ecosystems are often located in areas with other significant developmental issues. Thus, fostering a

desire to conserve and develop the ecosystems alongside economic development requires measures that make the process financially viable. Providing grants to organizations that develop and pilot conservation activities opens the way to demonstrate how such activities offer real benefits.

### Activities

BIOFOR addressed the issues surrounding ecosystems, particularly those of tropical forests, and provided technical, informational, and strategic support to various Peruvian agencies and private institutions.

IRG provided training and technical assistance and oversaw grants to both public and private institutions. By developing accurate economic valuation criteria and conducting sound socio-



Region: Latin America and the Caribbean  
Country: Peru  
Sector: Environment and Natural Resources  
Duration: September 1998–March 2002  
Client: USAID

### Key Accomplishments

- ◆ Developed economic valuation criteria and completed socio-economic studies for forest concessions
- ◆ Provided assistance leading to approval of a strategy for management of protected areas
- ◆ Completed ecological economic zoning analysis for the entire Department of Madre de Dios
- ◆ Completed an inventory of NGOs with a presence at activity sites
- ◆ Developed and completed a training program in strategic planning and financial management for NGOs at activity sites
- ◆ Launched a grants program with 12 grantees receiving funds and financial management
- ◆ Funded 13 pilot projects

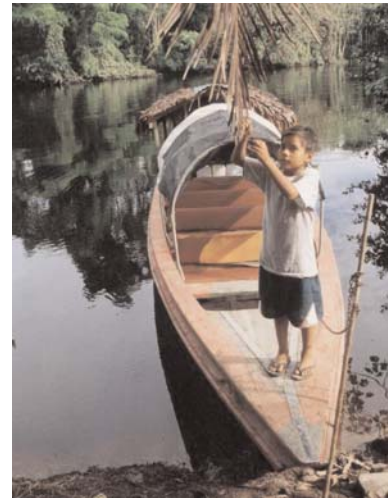
economic studies of the area, IRG provided a base from which to develop resource management plans and policies, as well as a starting point for institutional training.

IRG also provided assistance leading to approval of a strategy for management of protected areas and completed an ecological economic zoning analysis for the entire Department of Madre de Dios, the richest biodiversity zone in Peru. IRG

also completed an inventory of non-governmental organizations with a presence at activity sites.



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