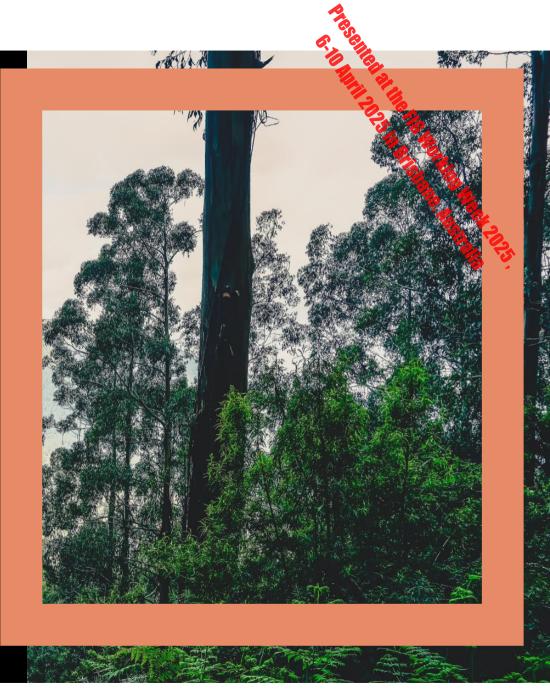
Land and Climate Action: Securing Land Rights for Climate Goals

FIG Working Week – Brisbane, 7 April 2025 Stamatis Kotouzas, Senior Land Administration Specialist World Bank



Agenda Highlights

- Introduction
- Paris Agreement and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
- Land-Based Climate Actions
- Issues with NDCs and Access to Land for Climate Actions
- Country Case Study: Peru
- Securing Indigenous Peoples' Land Rights



Paris Agreement and Land-based Climate Actions



Paris Agreement, 2015

Holding the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels

Pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above preindustrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change

Climate Resilience

Increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production.

Climate Finance

Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.

1 billion hectares

Reforestation/ Afforestation

Restoration

https://landgap.org

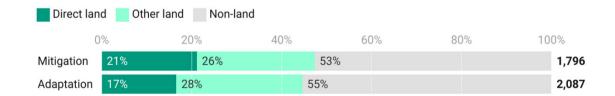
Land and Climate Action: What do we know so far?

Land is Critical for meeting Paris Goals

Australia, China, and Indonesia's total land commitments make up almost 80% of the pledged land for EAP.

Land Use Change

50% of pledges related to reforestation and/or afforestation will need land use change



Almost 1 in 2 climate actions relates to land

Critical to improve land tenure, sustainable land management and access for climate actions

Importance of Land Rights in Climate Action

Empowerment Through Land Rights

Secure land rights empower communities, enabling them to actively participate in climate action initiatives and decision-making processes.

Sustainable Land Management

With secure tenure, communities can invest in sustainable land management practices, promoting both environmental health and economic viability.

Biodiversity and Climate Mitigation

Investing in sustainable practices contributes to biodiversity preservation, which is essential for effective climate change mitigation efforts.





Land and Success with Climate Action in Agriculture

Food Security

Achieving food security while minimizing environmental degradation necessitates sustainable agriculture.

Effective Land Management

Adoption of new practices hinges on secure tenure and effective land management.

Incentives

Secure land tenure and clear land rights provide farmers with the confidence and incentives to adopt sustainable practices

Climate Finance

Documentation of land tenure rights is required for carbon credits



Role of Land-Based Climate Actions in Achieving NDCs

Reforestation Efforts

Reforestation is a crucial land-based action that helps sequester carbon and restore ecosystems, contributing significantly to NDCs.

Sustainable Agriculture

Sustainable agriculture practices enhance soil health and reduce emissions, playing a vital role in achieving climate goals.

Conservation Strategies

Effective conservation strategies protect habitats and biodiversity, enhancing carbon storage and supporting climate action commitments.

Importance of These Actions in Mitigating Climate Change



Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Land-based climate actions play a vital role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions by promoting sustainable practices and carbon sequestration.

Enhancing Carbon Sinks

Implementing these actions enhances carbon sinks, which are crucial for absorbing CO2 and mitigating climate change.

Supporting Biodiversity

These climate actions also support biodiversity, ensuring ecosystem health and resilience against climate impacts.

Improving Livelihoods

Land-based climate actions improve livelihoods by promoting sustainable agriculture and enhancing food security in communities.

Challenges with Landbased Actions

Lack of Clear Strategies

Many Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) do not articulate clear land use strategies, leading to ineffective climate actions.

Displacement of Vulnerable Populations

Danger of displacing poor and vulnerable people from marginal lands to convert them for climate actions

Impact on Climate Actions

The absence of effective land use strategies can hinder the implementation of necessary climate actions and policies.



Barriers to Accessing Land for Climate Actions



Land Tenure Insecurity

Uncertainty regarding land ownership can hinder investments and actions necessary for climate initiatives.

Lack of official recording or registration of many rights. Land records in a poor state, being incomplete or out of date.

Week Land Governance

Complex regulations and administrative processes can slow down or block access to land for climate projects. Weak land use and development controls result in informal/illegal construction.

Conflicting Land Interests

Conflicting interests among stakeholders can lead to disputes and limit access to land needed for climate actions.



Policy and Governance Issues

Importance of Systematic Registration

Effective governance is crucial for ensuring equitable access to land for all communities, promoting fairness and sustainability.

Impact of Weak Policies

Weak policies can deepen inequities, hindering marginalized communities from participating in vital climate actions and decisionmaking processes.

Role of Marginalized Communities

Empowering marginalized communities is essential for fostering inclusive governance and effective climate action policies.

Importance of Securing Indigenous **Peoples' Land** Rights

Role of Indigenous Peoples in Climate Action

Stewards of Biodiversity

Indigenous communities play a crucial role in preserving biodiversity through traditional knowledge and sustainable practices.

Sustainable Management Practices

The sustainable management practices of Indigenous peoples can significantly contribute to climate change mitigation efforts.

Advocacy for Policy Change

Indigenous leaders are increasingly involved in environmental advocacy and policy-making, ensuring their voices are heard in climate discussions.





Benefits of Securing Indigenous Land Rights

Better Resource Management

Securing Indigenous land rights leads to improved management of natural resources, ensuring sustainability and community involvement.

Community Resilience

Indigenous land rights enhance community resilience to climate change impacts, allowing for adaptive strategies and strong local governance.

Biodiversity Conservation

Securing land rights for Indigenous peoples contributes to better outcomes for biodiversity conservation through traditional ecological knowledge.

Case Study – Peru



Overview of Peru's Climate Goals and NDCs

Reducing Emissions

Peru's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) primarily focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, particularly from deforestation in the Amazon rainforest.

Deforestation in the Amazon

The Amazon rainforest is crucial for carbon sequestration, and its deforestation significantly impacts Peru's climate goals and global emissions.

Enhanced Land Management

Peru aims to improve land management practices to better align with its climate objectives, ensuring sustainable use of natural resources.

Dedicated Grant Mechanism for IPs

Project Objective

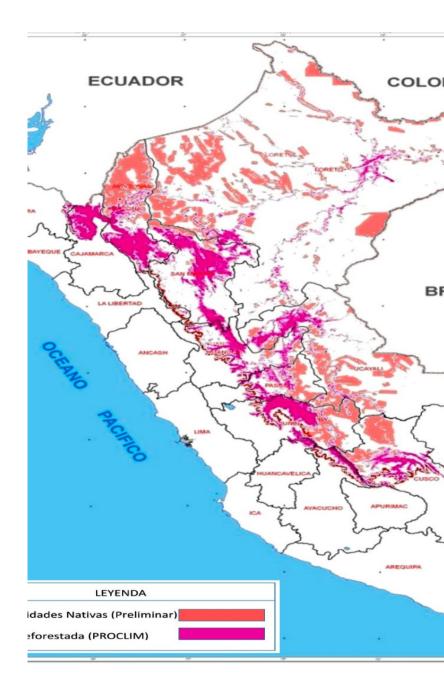
Support sustainable forest management practices among IP and target major drivers of deforestation

Land Component (US\$2 million, 40% of total):

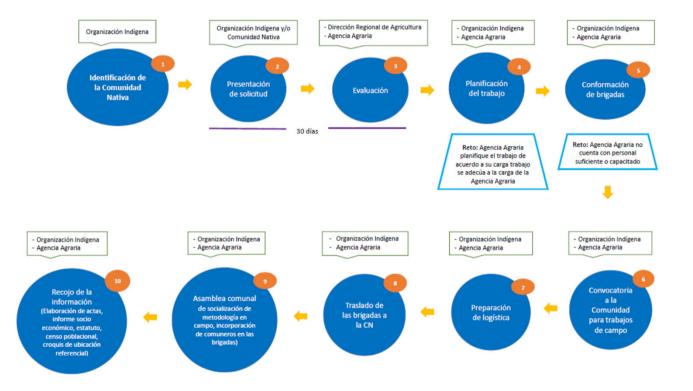
Formal recognition and registration of native communities Demarcation and titling of native lands

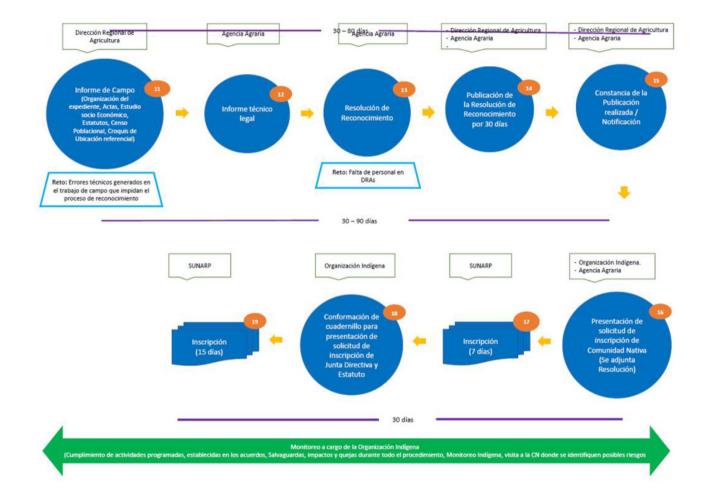
Technical and financial assistance for community-based productive activities (mainly agroforestry)

Implementation Period: 2015 – 2021 First World Bank-sponsored Project implemented by a National Steering Committee (national-level IP associations), National Executing Agency (WWF Peru), and Subproject Executing Organizations (local-level IP organizations)



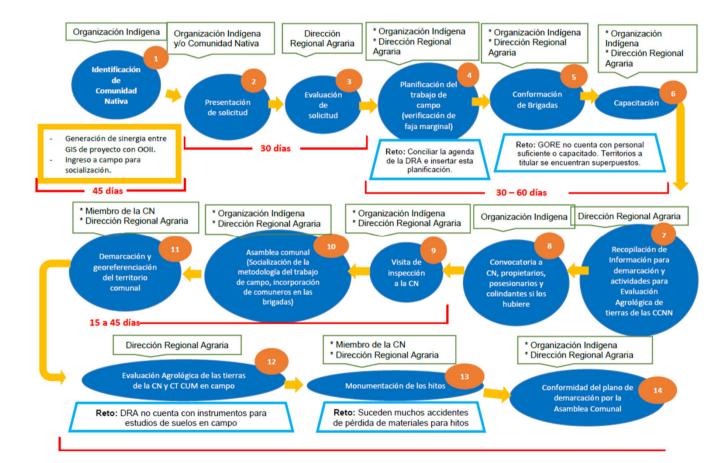
Recognition of an Indigenous Peoples community is lengthy...

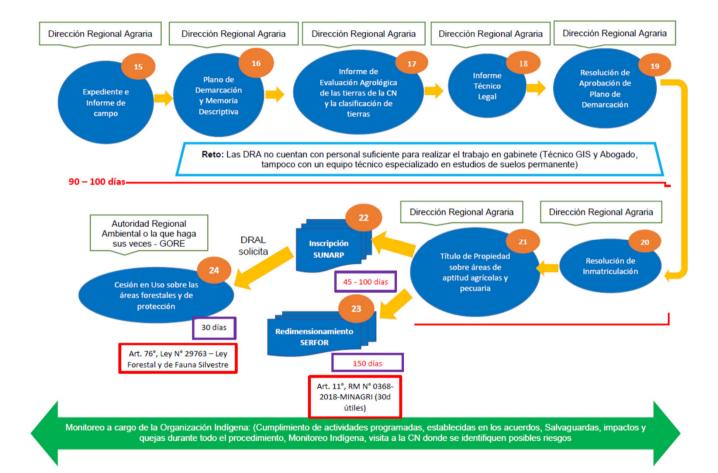




Approximately 19 steps and 230 days

Land titling is not much better





In fact, worse, it often takes 425 days and ca. 25 steps

Results – Recognition of Native Communities

- Technical and legal assistance to native communities
- Financing recognition and related operating costs of regional governments
- Results: 253 communities (27% of all IPNCs recognized since 2001; and 85% of total native communities that were pending formal recognition)
- In 2016, Saweto provided direct inputs and MIDAGRI adopted national guidelines for implementing these processes – reducing cost and duration

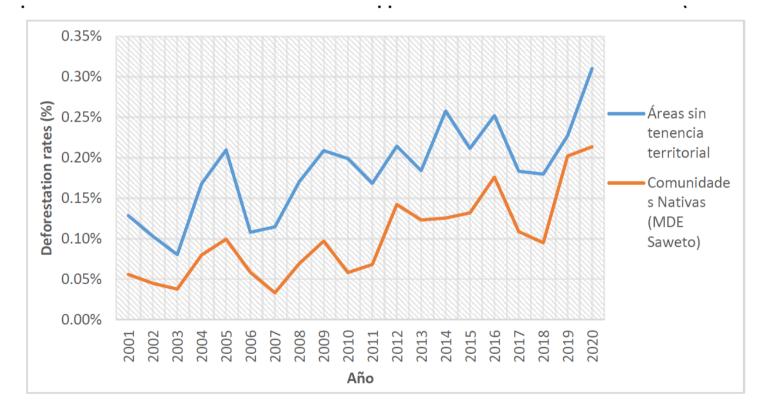


Results - Native community lands demarcation and titling



- Financing recognition and related operating costs of governments
- Results: demarcated and titled 60 communities, and 39 registered titles (both targets surpassed)
- Overall coverage of 481,000 ha, of which 256,000 ha in high threat areas
- Saweto engaged MIDAGRI who revised some of the most challenging titling steps (agrological assessment, measurement adjustments of permanent production forests, etc.)

Most successful titling program and expected to reduce deforestation in critical areas



Key Lessons Learned

- Co-leading work between Government staff and IPLCs works best and is more cost effective
- Strong political commitment accelerates recognition and titling processes.
- Indigenous Peoples can effectively lead development projects.
- Financial and technical support strengthens Indigenous capacity for climate dialogue.
- Combining titling with sustainable practices is crucial for success.



Conclusion

Importance of Land Rights

Integrating land rights into climate policies is crucial for achieving climate goals and promoting social equity.

Social Equity and Justice

Ensuring social equity and environmental justice is paramount while addressing climate change challenges.

Collaborative Approaches

Encouraging collaborative approaches can enhance land rights, leading to effective climate action and sustainable development.

Thank You

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