



REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INDIGENOUS ECONOMY: STRENGTHENING AMAZONIAN BIO-ENTERPRISES

On September 5 and 6, an important regional workshop was held between COICA and NESsT, within the framework of the Regional Indigenous Economy Program promoted by COICA. This meeting brought together COICA's grassroots organizations from Venezuela (ORPIA), Colombia (OPIAC), Ecuador (CONFENIAE), Bolivia (CIDOB) and Peru (AIDSESP).

During the workshop, delegates from each country shared their progress in indigenous bio-enterprises, presenting initiatives that seek to integrate the principles of sustainability and protection of the Amazon. COICA, for its part, presented the general vision of the regional plan, based on the principles of the indigenous economy established in Belém do Pará,

which prioritizes respect for the territory, the achievement of community objectives and the preservation of biodiversity and culture.

The space facilitated by NESsT allowed for the exchange of experiences on the regional biobusiness incubator, identifying advances in value chains, bottlenecks and specific challenges in each country. This dialogue was key to strengthening the production and distribution of indigenous initiatives in the Amazon, promoting organizational development and ensuring the survival of the peoples and their communities.





This workshop reinforces COICA's commitment to promote an indigenous economic model that respects territorial and cultural integrity, while addressing local adversities with an inclusive, community-based regional perspective.

NETWORK OF COMMUNICATORS FOR AMAZONIA IN ECUADOR: STRENGTHENING THE DEFENSE OF AMAZONIA





On September 7 and 8, the Camp of Communicators in Defense of Life and the Amazon was held at the headquarters of CONFENIAE, Ecuador. During this event, important advances were made in the consolidation of a coalition for collaborative work in territory and communication. Discussions highlighted the urgent need to strengthen alliances with community media and to collaborate with collectives, media and organizations to bring territorial information to international advocacy platforms.

COICA played a crucial role in articulating proposals for an international coalition of indigenous communicators to amplify the voices from the Amazonian territories to the world.

Approved Resolutions:

Advocacy in the Board of Directors of CONFENIAE: It was agreed to promote the creation of a communication direction in the 23 base organizations of the confederation, strengthening the communicative structure from the territories.



2. Creation of a network of indigenous communicators: A network will be established in alliance with community media, news agencies and collectives, with the objective of disseminating strategic information for the protection of the Amazonian territory.

3. Joint communication strategy: It was agreed to develop a unified strategy to make territorial struggles visible and ensure that early warning messages reach governmental and decision makers.



El campamento reunió a más de 70 personas, incluyendo comunicadores comunitarios, periodistas, medios de comunicación alternativos y colectivos, quienes se comprometieron a trabajar de manera coordinada, respetando la estructura organizativa de CONFENIAE y COICA. Este esfuerzo conjunto fortalecerá las voces indígenas y la defensa de la Amazonía en un contexto cada vez más crítico.



COICA PARTICIPATES IN KEY WORKSHOP TO HALT BIODIVERSITY LOSS IN THE AMAZON



From September 9-12, 2024, the city of Belém, Brazil, will host a crucial workshop focused on halting the alarming loss of biodiversity in the Amazon. Organized by the Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amazônia (IPAM) and Empresa Brasileira de Pesquisa Agropecuária (Embrapa), this event is part of the efforts of the Amazon Region Network of the Knowledge Center for Bending the Biodiversity Loss Curve. COICA's participation, recommended by the Scientific Panel for the Amazon, underscores its vital role in the defense of Amazonian life and territory.

The workshop generated practical scenarios for reversing biodiversity loss in the Amazon, covering key aspects such as:

- Defining the most urgent questions for research in the region.
- Fostering collaboration between regional initiatives, such as the Amazon Science Panel.
- Analyzing the causes of biodiversity deterioration and the conditions necessary for positive change.
- Establish priority policies and interventions to be tested through scenarios and models.
- Identify data and models to assess the impact of policies.
- Create an action plan for COP 30 in October 2025.

COICA, on behalf of the indigenous peoples of the Amazon Basin, reaffirms the importance of protecting the territory and biodiversity, fundamental for life in the region. Gregorio Mirabal, COICA's Climate Change and Biodiversity Coordinator, will contribute during the workshop with the ancestral knowledge of the indigenous communities, which is indispensable for effective conservation. COICA's Climate Change and Biodiversity Observatory has reiterated on several occasions the urgency of halting the loss of biodiversity, not only as an environmental challenge, but also as a right of indigenous peoples.

The Amazon as a Subject of Rights

The Amazon is more than the lungs of the planet; it is home to millions of people and species that depend on its balance. Bending the biodiversity loss curve is not only a scientific goal, but an ethical and social duty that COICA, together with key actors, will continue to promote until lasting results are achieved. This workshop reinforces the need for joint action between indigenous communities, science and governments, aligned with the Paris Agreement and the defense of the rights of nature.



MAPPING OF AMAZONIAN ENTERPRISES IN SAN MARTIN: JOINING EFFORTS FOR THE INDIGENOUS FOR THE INDIGENOUS ECONOMY

On September 14 and 15, COICA, together with AIDSESEP and the federations that make up CODEPISAM, organized the “Meeting of Diagnosis, Mapping and Territorial Categorization of Indigenous Enterprises” in Tarapoto, San Martin. This event is part of COICA’s Regional Indigenous Economy Program, whose main objective is to identify and strengthen the economic initiatives of Amazonian indigenous peoples, improving production processes and value chains.

The workshop was attended by the eight federations of CODEPISAM: FERIAM, FEPIKRESAM, FECONAKID, CEPKA,

FERISHAM, FEPIKBHSAM, FEKIHD and FEPIKECHA. During the conference, experiences and lessons learned about the economic initiatives of each organization were shared, creating a space for dialogue that strengthened the organizational fabric around the indigenous economy.

Vision and Commitment to a Sustainable Economy

COICA’s vision with the **Amazon for Life** Fund, which mobilizes \$10 million, focuses on strengthening Amazonian peoples and nationalities through new forms of economy that respect the protection of the territory and the survival of indigenous communities.



This effort seeks to ensure that bio-enterprises and economic initiatives are aligned with the principles of sustainability and respect for the biodiversity of the Amazon.

The meeting was led by Nelsith Sagama, member of the Board of Directors of AIDESEP and responsible for the Indigenous Economy Program, and by the apu Wilfredo Tsamash, president of CODEPISAM, who guided the participants in the socialization of the principles of the Indigenous Economy that govern these processes.

With these efforts, COICA seeks to strengthen its Regional Program for a sustainable Indigenous Economy that guarantees the survival of the peoples and communities of the Amazon.

Building the Future of the Indigenous Economy

The collaboration between COICA, AIDESEP and the Amazonian federations in this meeting marks an important step towards the consolidation of AIDESEP's Indigenous Business Incubator. This space will allow Amazonian communities to strengthen their enterprises, generate sustainability alternatives and create new opportunities for economic empowerment that respect the cultural and territorial identity of indigenous peoples.



Follow us on our official networks

