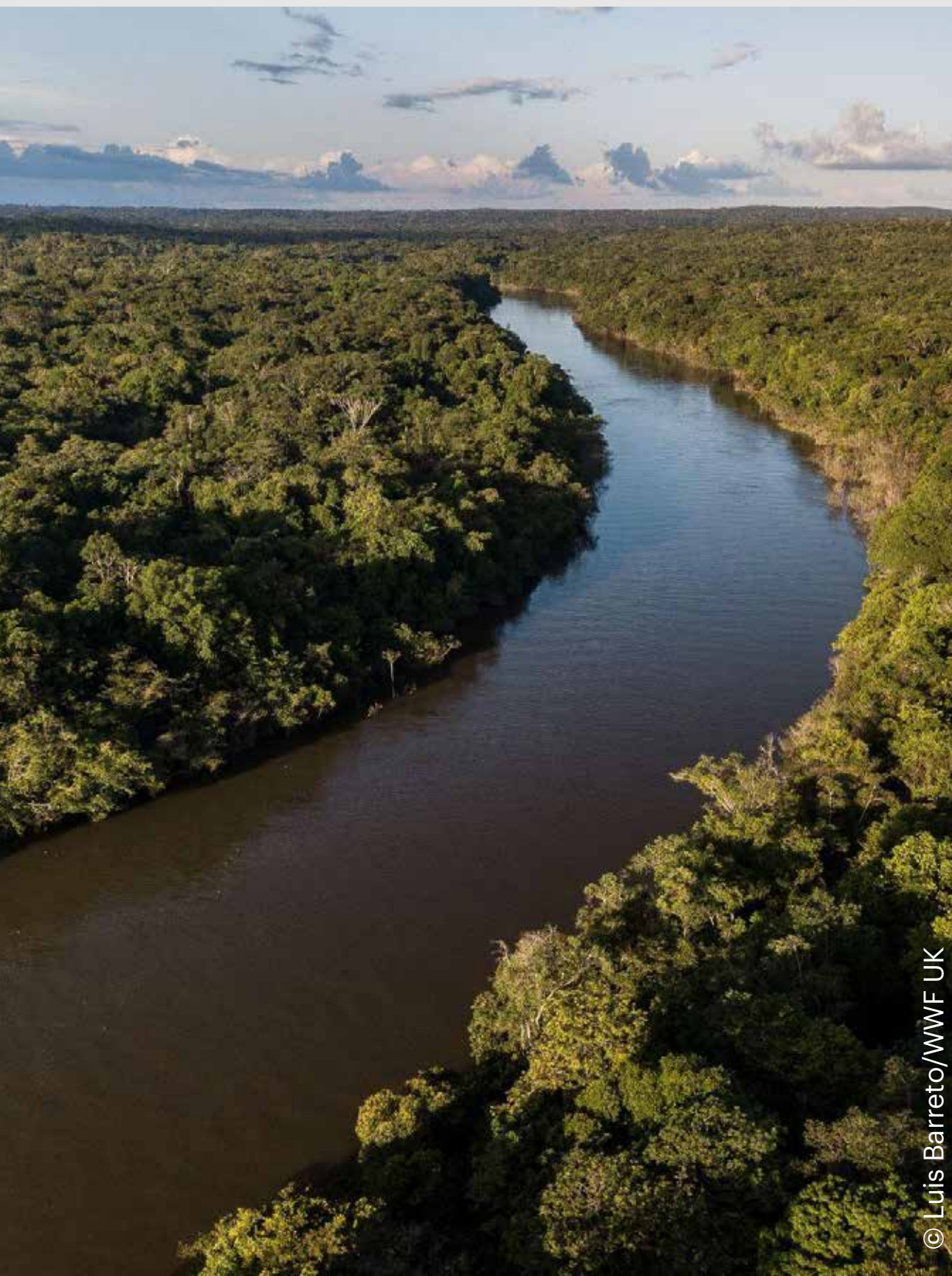


SHOWCASING SOLUTIONS FOR THE AMAZON

VOICES FROM YOUTH ON KEY
STRATEGIES TO AVOID THE TIPPING POINT

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BACKGROUND

- Currently, the Amazon faces several threats, and is at risk of losing its core ecosystem values, which sustain wildlife, human livelihoods and the balance of ecological processes worldwide. If a tipping point is reached, the planet may face ecological disaster. WWF believes that avoiding this tipping point requires safeguarding connected landscapes, through an integrated landscape approach that involves Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLC), governments and the private sector.
- WWF works across the most threatened ecosystems worldwide, like the Amazon, and plays an important role in achieving positive change and promoting a regional approach at the biome scale.
- WWF's vision for the Amazon is to ensure ecological health capable of maintaining contributions to local people, Amazonian countries and the world, within a framework of social equity, inclusive economic development and global responsibility.
- This session aims to present four of WWF's regional strategies and to enrich them through a panel of young representatives from different sectors, including IPLC, students, and the public and private sectors.

WHAT ARE THE CURRENT CHALLENGES?

- **Free flowing rivers (FFR):** Multiple Amazon rivers are at risk of losing connectivity due to potential construction of hundreds of dams. Other threats include illegal mining, deforestation and overfishing.
- **Jaguar:** The Amazon holds the largest jaguar population, which faces various threats: habitat loss and fragmentation, human-wildlife-conflict and illegal wildlife trade.
- **River dolphins:** Populations are shrinking due to habitat loss, use of dolphin meat as bait and connectivity loss.
- **Indigenous Peoples:** Indigenous Peoples rights and territories face illegal activities and lack of legal recognition. As a result, Indigenous Peoples struggle to establish sustainable livelihoods that would enable them to secure their cultures and futures.

OVERCOMING THESE CHALLENGES AND WHO CAN SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION

FREE FLOWING RIVERS

Hydropower dams are the dominant pressure on Amazonian rivers. If all planned dams are built, up to 61% of the Amazon Basin's connectivity could be lost. Twelve rivers identified as the Amazon's main aquatic corridors present a connectivity level that should be maintained or improved. Science-based solutions include Cx3 energy alternatives to hydropower (low conflict, low cost, low carbon) and basin scale planning. The involvement of Indigenous Peoples, civil society organizations and public institutions is essential to the success of these solutions.

RIVER DOLPHIN CONSERVATION

Strengthening transboundary coordination is key to dolphin conservation. The South American River Dolphins Initiative (SARDI) consists of a network of organizations and specialists

implementing coordinated and cooperative scientific research and actions related to policy, science and education. Policy-based solutions include Conservation Management Plans. The involvement of Indigenous Peoples and civil society organizations, such as Omacha Foundation, Faunagua and WCS, and public institutions working in environment, wildlife and fisheries, is key to the implementation of these solutions.

JAGUAR CONSERVATION

The implementation of the Jaguar Roadmap 2030, endorsed by 18 Latin American countries, seeks to strengthen the Jaguar Corridor, by securing 30 priority landscapes by 2030. In partnership with other organizations, WWF launched the Jaguar King Campaign to create awareness and involve the general public in asking governments to take action. The involvement of Indigenous Peoples and civil society organizations like WCS, Panthera and UNDP, as well as public institutions working in the environment, wildlife and forests, is essential.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

In its 2021 World Congress, the IUCN approved the 80X25 motion seeking to avoid the tipping point, by protecting 80% of the Amazon by 2025. The motion encourages governments and financial agencies to mobilize resources so that Indigenous Peoples can conserve and sustainably manage their territories through various mechanisms, indigenous enterprises being one of them. Many have been identified through the Amazon Indigenous Rights and Resources (AIRR), a USAID-funded project. Key actors are the national indigenous federations of AIDESEP (Peru), OPIAC (Colombia), CONFENIAE (Ecuador), COIAB (Brazil) and COICA (regional), as well as NESsT and WWF.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

FREE FLOWING RIVERS

Ensure river connectivity and services in the Amazon Basin through:

- Strategic planning at basin level to ensure adequate accounting for freshwater ecosystems
- Protection of key rivers through water reserves, protected areas, etc.
- Research into the value of free flowing rivers, their ecosystem services and their relation to human wellbeing.

JAGUAR

Ensure the conservation of key areas through:

- Increasing the area under conservation and effective management
- Ensuring the participation of local communities in conservation activities
- Increasing the connectivity between protected areas by promoting sustainable productive practices

- Mobilizing the general public to increase support
- Promoting sustainable forest management and continuous research, to reduce conflict.

RIVER DOLPHINS

Ensure key basins are healthy and connected through:

- Updating and coordinating a monitoring plan across the biome
- Attracting resources to strengthen the economies of fishing communities
- Effectively implementing commitments under the International Whaling Commission.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Strengthen the establishment of sustainable indigenous enterprises by:

- Legally recognizing territories and rights for Indigenous Peoples' wellbeing and the safeguarding of their cultural and natural heritage.
- Strengthening legal frameworks to ensure Indigenous Peoples' freedom and safety.
- Mobilizing financial resources to indigenous enterprises.

WHAT FRAMEWORKS OR INSTITUTIONS SHOULD PROVIDE SPECIAL ATTENTION?

Actors: International, national and local Indigenous Peoples organizations; public sector institutions from the local to the regional level; international financial institutions and impact investment firms; nonprofits and other civil society organizations; academia.

Institutions: International Whaling Commission, IUCN Congress, UNDP, COICA.

Frameworks: Pacto de Leticia, COICA's 80x25 Motion, Minamata Convention.

GLOBAL LANDSCAPES FORUM

The [Global Landscapes Forum \(GLF\)](#) is the world's largest knowledge-led platform on integrated land use, dedicated to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and Paris Climate Agreement. The Forum takes a holistic approach to create sustainable landscapes that are productive, prosperous, equitable and resilient and considers five cohesive themes of food and livelihood, landscape restoration, rights, finance and measuring progress. It is led by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), in collaboration with its co-founders UN Environment Programme and the World Bank and Charter Members.

[Charter Members](#): CIAT, CIFOR, CIRAD, Climate Focus, Conservation International, Crop Trust, EcoAgriculture Partners, EFI, Evergreen Agriculture, FSC, GEF, GIZ, ICIMOD, IFOAM - Organics International, ILRI, INBAR, IPMG, IUFRO, Rainforest Alliance, Rare, RRI, SAN, UN Environment Programme, Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation, part of Wageningen Research, WFO, World Agroforestry, World Bank Group, WRI, WWF International, Youth in Landscapes Initiative

TIPPINGPOINT

Solutions 21-23 September
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