



# AMAZONIA 2009

## PROTECTED AREAS and INDIGENOUS TERRITORIES

The Amazonia covered by this map extends over 7.8 million km² and contains tremendous socio-environmental diversity, shared by more than 370 native peoples, nine nation states and a human population of approximately 33 million people.

At stake are the interpretation of the current status and the prediction of the future of this region so crucial for the tropical environment of South America and for the climate balance of the planet. The level of discussion of these themes differs among the various stakeholders who live and operate in the region, as well as at the national or global levels.

This map is designed to present a set of geo-referenced information on the basis of an inclusive regional perspective. The main objective behind its publication is to contribute to overcoming fragmented views and to support joined-up national and international processes and initiatives that contribute to the consolidation of protected areas and indigenous territories, thereby making an important contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of this ecosystem.

This is the first product emerging from the collective efforts of a group of governmental and civil society research institutions from all the Amazon countries (with the temporary exceptions of Guyana and Suriname) to integrate and perfect their already existing databases under the framework of the Amazon Geo-referenced Socio-environmental Information Network (RAISG).

Further joint activities are anticipated within a shared agenda of thematic analysis and through protocols for shared and decentralized management of information in an on-going exercise that resembles a real jigsaw puzzle. The specificities of each country regarding the boundaries of and criteria for the establishment of conservation areas and for the recognition of indigenous territories were harmonized so as to permit their map-based representation and estimations on the basis of substantial equivalence. Detailed technical notes produced by the participating institutions are summarized below and the full versions can be accessed at [www.raisg.socioambiental.org](http://www.raisg.socioambiental.org) or on the website of each institution.

# AMAZONIE 2009

## AIRES PROTÉGÉES et TERRITOIRES INDIGÈNES

*L'Amazonie considérée dans cette carte a une extension de 7.8 millions de km² et abrite une énorme diversité socio-environnementale partagée entre neuf états nationaux, une population humaine d'approximativement 33 millions de personnes et plus de 370 peuples indigènes.*

*Cette carte présente un ensemble d'informations géographiques construites à partir d'une vision régionale. Sa publication a pour objectif primordial de contribuer à dépasser les visions fragmentées et à stimuler des initiatives et des procédures intégrées, nationales et internationales, qui contribueront à la consolidation de ces aires protégées et territoires indigènes, partie expressive de la solution pour la conservation et l'utilisation soutenable de cet écosystème.*

*Ce premier produit résulte d'un effort de collaboration entre un ensemble d'institutions de recherche gouvernementales et de la société civile des pays amazoniens (absence temporaire de la Guyane et du Suriname), pour intégrer et améliorer leurs bases de données pré-existantes, dans le contexte du Réseau Amazonien d'Informations Géographiques Socio-environnementales (RAISG). Cette initiative se poursuivra au travers de nouvelles analyses thématiques.*

*Les spécificités de chaque pays, telles que la question des frontières ou les critères d'établissement des Unités de Conservation ou la reconnaissance des Territoires Indigènes, ont été adaptées à fin de permettre une présentation cartographique homogène et des statistiques comparables. Des notes techniques détaillées produites par les institutions participantes ont été résumées et sont disponibles en version intégrale sur le site [www.raisg.socioambiental.org](http://www.raisg.socioambiental.org) ou dans les sites internet de chaque institution participante.*

## Which Amazonia?

There are different ways of defining the boundaries of Amazonia.<sup>1</sup> For this map we opted to show the sum total of the political boundaries of the Amazon regions of each country. In the cases of Bolivia, Peru and Venezuela these coincide with the biogeographic boundaries. In Ecuador and Colombia they correspond to the municipalities or provinces containing the biogeographical boundary. Brazil has adopted an administrative definition of its "Legal Amazon" region.

Within these boundaries lie an estimated 33 million people. These include more than 370 indigenous peoples with an estimated total population of 1.6 million people inhabiting more than 2,200 separate territories, not including those indigenous people living in urban areas and the so-called "isolated" Indians.

In addition to the political boundaries, on which the estimates contained in the tables are based, the map also shows the boundaries of the hydrological basin and the biogeographical boundaries. The boundaries of the Amazon basin are based on data obtained from Hydrosheds (see Sources) and result in an area of 5,913,491 km². Suriname and French Guiana are not part of the basin. Only a small part of the basin lies within Guyana and Venezuela. In Brazil and Colombia the area of the basin is smaller than that covered by the political boundaries, whilst in the cases of Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia it is greater. The biogeographical boundaries were arrived at by compiling country data on biogeographical boundaries and adding Guyana and Suriname in their entirety, resulting in an area of 6,970,939 km².

The Amazon ecosystem is subject to multiple pressures resulting from uncontrolled land occupation and various forms of predatory utilization of natural resources. Of these the most significant are the advancing logging and agricultural frontiers with their high levels of deforestation and forest fires, as well as hydraulic projects (highways, hydroelectric dams) and oil, gas and mineral extraction.

## Quelle Amazonie?

*Il existe différentes façons de définir les limites de l'Amazonie.<sup>1</sup> Sur cette carte, on a adopté la combinaison des frontières politiques des régions amazoniennes de chaque pays. En Bolivie, au Pérou et au Vénézuéla, ces frontières coïncident avec les limites biogéographiques; en Equateur et en Colombie, elles correspondent aux limites des communes ou des provinces qui définissent la limite biogéographique. Au Brésil, il existe une unité administrative nommée "Amazonie Légale". À l'intérieur de ces limites, la population totale est estimée à 33 millions de personnes, dont environ 1.6 millions d' indigènes, appartenant à plus de 370 peuples différents, distribués dans plus de 2.200 territoires, sans compter les Indiens qui vivent dans les villes et les groupements considérés "isolés".*

*Outre les limites politiques qui ont servi de base pour les calculs exprimés dans le tableau, la carte présente aussi les limites du bassin hydrographique ainsi que la limite biogéographique. La limite du bassin amazonien a été obtenue à partir de Hydrosheds (WFF - USGS), qui estime son étendue à 5.913.491 km². Le Suriname et la Guyane Française ne font pas partie du bassin, qui inclue par ailleurs une petite portion de la Guyane et du Vénézuéla ainsi que des portions considérables du Brésil, de la Colombie, de l'Équateur, du Pérou et de la Bolivie.*

*La limite biogéographique a été obtenue par l'assemblage des limites biogéographiques de l'Amazonie considérées par chaque pays auxquelles ont été ajoutés l'ensemble des territoires des Guyanes (Guyane, Suriname et Guyane Française). Il en résulte une surface de 6.970.939 km².*

*L'écosystème amazonien est soumis à différentes pressions issues de l'occupation spontanée du territoire et des différentes formes d'utilisation des ressources naturelles. Les principales formes de pression proviennent de l'exploitation du bois et de l'avancée de l'élevage et de l'agriculture qui entraînent des taux de déboisement élevés. L'implantation des infrastructures (routes, hydro-électriques), l'exploration de gaz, de pétrole et l' extraction minière sont d' autres formes de pressions.*

<sup>[1]</sup> Pour les différentes définitions des limites de l'Amazonie, voir: "Propuesta para la definición de los límites geográficos de la Amazonia, European Commission/OTCA/Univ Research Center, 2005".

## Amazonia by country

**BOLIVIA** → The Bolivian Amazon is a region comprising almost half the surface area of the country (approx. 475,278 km²) and comprises a mosaic of extensive tropical rainforests, seasonally flooded savannahs, sub humid transitional forests at the Cerrado and Chaco interfaces, and sub-Andean tropical forests characterized by high levels of biodiversity.

Approximately 24% of the Bolivian Amazon is under protection: 16% as national protected areas and 8% as departmental protected areas. Some 25% is constituted by Community Lands of Origin, corresponding to the territories of more than 25 indigenous peoples. In some cases these are superimposed on protected areas.

The main economic activities of this region, which contains more than a million inhabitants (2001 data), are agriculture, ranching, forestry and non- timber forest products, particularly the Amazon nut (Bertholletia excelsa) of which Bolivia is the world's largest exporter. Deforestation and forest fires are the main threats to Bolivia's Amazon ecosystems. Four thousand square kilometres are cleared annually for agricultural and cattle, whilst the incidence of forest fires is high, amounting to more than 70,000 registered heat spots a year (*Humberto Gómez & Saúl Cuéllar, Fundación Amigos de la Naturaleza - FAN/Bolivia*).

**BRAZIL** → Brazil's "Legal Amazon" region is defined by Law 1.806 of 1953 as a political entity and covers eight states in their entirety and part of the state of Maranhão. It covers 5,068,316 km² or 60% of the national territory and has 22,495,466 inhabitants. It contains a wide diversity of environments, including closed and open rainforests, seasonal deciduous and semi-deciduous forests, savannahs (extensive areas of Cerrado and enclaves known locally as "campos"); areas of localized sandy soils known as "campinaranas" and "campinas"; and pioneer formations; as well as extensive areas of regionally important transitional vegetation. Currently 39.6% of the Brazilian Legal Amazon is protected in the form of conservation areas (UCs) or indigenous lands (TIs). Areas protected as state and federal UCs make up 20% of the region, whilst TIs cover 21.6%, although some UCs are superimposed on TIs. In addition to the 406 officially recognized TIs there are communities whose lands have not been officially recognized. In 2008 there were 198 pending demands for official recognition, with a further 90 requests for enlargement of existing TIs. The Brazilian Amazon contains 98% of the total area of TIs in Brazil.

The Brazilian Amazon is subject to different pressures arising from expanding human settlement and various forms of natural resource use. The most important is the expanding agricultural frontier. With the annual rate of deforestation at around 13,000 km², the advance of this frontier has already accounted for more than 17% of the forested Amazon. Estimates suggest that cattle ranching is responsible for 75% of the area deforested. Other pressures include logging, mining, highway expansion and national energy demand translated into hydroelectric plants and agro fuels.

**COLOMBIA** → Amazonia is a region comprising hydrological, biogeographic and administrative areas that cover 483,119 km² (*Sinchi, 2008*). Its component ecosystems range from the upland plains of the eastern Andes, the source of many important Amazon rivers, to the tropical moist forest areas that make up most of the region. The region contains several types of forests: Andean, flooded, and dryland, as well as montane forest and savannah.

The regional population is 960,239, 2.3 % of the national total (*Sinchi 2007*). There are 62 indigenous peoples, out of a national total of 64 (*DANE, 2005*). Indigenous territories are the collective property of the indigenous communities and are inalienable, imprescriptible and unseizable (*Constitución Política, 1991*).

The National Parks System comprises 54 protected areas, of which 16 are in Amazonia. There are also forest reserve areas established under the terms of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Law of 1959 "for the development of the forest economy and the protection of soils, waters and wildlife" (*IDEAM, 2005*), and these to a large extent coincide with indigenous territories and national parks. The main threats are deforestation and fragmentation caused by human settlement, ranching, logging and mining, as well as ornamental and commercial fishery.

**ECUADOR** → The Ecuadorian Amazon represents 47% of the continental area of Ecuador. From the biogeographical point of view, the Amazon region in Ecuador starts with the Andean-Amazonian transitional forests at 1,300 metres above sea level along the Andean foothills and descends towards the Amazon plain to approximately 300 metres above sea level, where various types of lowland evergreen forests predominate (for example, forest seasonally flooded by white and black waters, palm forests) with a significant presence of marshy grasslands and other non-wooded ecosystems (*Siera, 1999*). The region contains part of the eastern Andean range with unique characteristic vegetation (for example, the moist montane scrublands of the Amazon cordilleras). Around 28% of the area is protected under the National Protected Areas System. Pressures on Amazonian natural resources stem from the advancing extractive frontiers, mainly large and small scale agriculture and ranching, oil and mining, illegal logging and, more generally, uncontrolled human settlement. Between 1986 and 2001 human activities altered 6.54% of the region. In 2001, 85.5% of the region retained its original vegetation cover. In 2008 indigenous communities controlled approximately 70% of the forest cover existing in 2001 and 70% of these territories retained their original vegetation cover (*Siera, 2001*). Administratively the region includes the provinces of Sucumbios, Napo, Orellana, Pastaza, Morona Santiago and Zamora Chinchipe (*Cárdenas a. y. Beltrán K, Eco/Ciencia*).

**FRENCH GUIANA** → French Guiana (GF) is an overseas department of France on the Atlantic coast of South America, (as is thus the main European Union territory on the continent). It covers an area of 86,504 km², bounded to the north by the Atlantic Ocean, to the east and south by Brazil and to the west by Suriname. Despite its monotonous appearance, GF is not simply a vast forest carpet, but includes tropical savannahs, rocky formations and several marine and coastal environments, especially mangroves, salt marshes and current and previous coastal plains. Located at the meeting of the Amazon Basin and the Guiana Shield, French Guiana contains high levels of biological diversity as demonstrated by some spectacular numbers: 5,400 inventoried plant species, including 750 tree species and 300 species of orchids. There are 186 recorded mammal species, 100 species of bat, 740 bird species, 187 species of reptile, 110 of amphibian, 480 species of freshwater and marine fish, and 350,000 or more insect species.

The protected area network of GF includes several general categories: the Guiana Amazon National Park (33,900 km², including a 20,300 km² strict conservation portion), the Guiana Regional Nature Park (2,220 km²), the Mana Biota Protection Area (257 km²), as well as six National Nature Reserves (3,000 km²), the Trésor Regional Nature Reserve (2,464 hectares), the Licéifer Biological Reserve (1,108 km²), and several coastal conservation sites stretching over an area of 11,900 hectares. All these can be considered Indirect Use categories and cover an area of 40,000 km², or 48% of the total GF surface area. Multiple National Areas of Ecological, Faunistic or Floristic Importance cover an area of approximately 20,157 km².

**GUAYANA** → Guyana is located in the northern Amazon region and covers an area of 214,970 km². There are only two protected areas in Guyana. The Kaieteur National Park was established in 1929 by the Kaieteur National Park Act, with a current area of 5,913 km². The park's main tourist attraction are the Kaieteur Falls, considered one of the most spectacular natural features in Guyana, with a drop of 228 metres. The Iwokrama Wilderness Preserve was created in May 1996 by the Iwokrama International Centre for Rainforest Conservation and Development Act and covers an area of 3,600 km². The act provided for half the area of the Iwokrama Forest (1,857 km²) to be dedicated to wildlife conservation, whilst the remaining areas could be used for the sustainable use of natural resources. With respect to indigenous territories and rights, in 1994 there were 28,975 indigenous people within the national territory belonging to nine different ethnic groups: Akawaio (8,800), Arawak (4,75), Arawak (15,000), Macushi (7,000), Wapishiana (6,000), Patamuna (4,700), Waiwai (198), Warrau (4,700) and Carib (2,700). Although some groups hold legal title to their lands, the territories of many communities still have not been asserted by the Amerindian Lands Commission. Currently 16% of the national territory has been classified as indigenous territory, of which there are 77 separate areas. Of those indigenous areas still awaiting recognition, many are under the control of mining companies, rural landowners and forestry concessions (*United Nations Development Programme, http://www.sdnp.org/undo-docs/inipd, accessed on 09/12/2006*).

**PERU** → The total area of the Peruvian Amazon region is 782,820 km², equal to 60.9% of the national territory and containing 13.4% of the national population, of which 332,975 are indigenous (*INEI - 2007 census*). The Peruvian Amazon is classified into the Upper Forest (500 to1900 metres above sea level) and the Lower Forest (00 to 500 metres above sea level). The total area deforested up to 2000 was 71,725 km² (9.27%) and the average annual rate of deforestation between 1990 and 2000 was 1,496 km². The main causes of deforestation are the construction of highways and local roads, as the expansion of agriculture and ranching is directly related to the accessibility of forested areas. There are 1,497 registered native communities in the Peruvian Amazon, of which 1,232 have title to their territories, totalling 102,634 km² (*IBC and AIDESEP estimates*). In addition there are five reserves for isolated indigenous communities, some of which in initial contact, totalling 28,126 km². The 34 national Natural Protected Areas in the Amazon cover 155,243 km². Discounting overlaps between the two categories of area, indigenous territories and NPAs comprise 35% of the Peruvian Amazon. The main threats to its forests are expanding agricultural and ranching activities, uncontrolled logging, mineral and hydrocarbon prospecting and extraction, and legislative attempts to change land usage from protected forest to agricultural use.

**SURINAME** → The entire area of the country (163,820 km²) lies within the biogeographical boundary of Amazonia. Protected areas are for the most part Indirect Use – eleven nature reserves and one nature park. Direct Use areas are denominated Multiple-Use Management Areas (MUMA), of which there are four. Indigenous peoples (Wayana, Carib, Arawaks, Trio and Akurio) and descendants of slaves brought from Africa during the colonial period and which fled from farms on the coast (they are known as "maroons", and classified into five groups: Ndyuka or Aukaner, Saramaka, Paramaka, Aluku or Boni, and Matawá) occupy State lands that make up 80% of the interior of Suriname. There is no specific legislation recognizing collective land rights of indigenous peoples and it has not been possible to locate sources of spatial information either on the communities themselves or on the lands traditionally occupied by indigenous peoples. For this reason these are not represented on the map by points or polygons.

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<b>SURINAME</b>	→ The entire area of the country (163,820 km²) lies within the biogeographical boundary of Amazonia. Protected areas are for the most part Indirect Use – eleven nature reserves and one nature park. Direct Use areas are denominated Multiple-Use Management Areas (MUMA), of which there are four. Indigenous peoples (Wayana, Carib, Arawaks, Trio and Akurio) and descendants of slaves brought from Africa during the colonial period and which fled from farms on the coast (they are known as "maroons", and classified into five groups: Ndyuka or Aukaner, Saramaka, Paramaka, Aluku or Boni, and Matawá) occupy State lands that make up 80% of the interior of Suriname. There is no specific legislation recognizing collective land rights of indigenous peoples and it has not been possible to locate sources of spatial information either on the communities themselves or on the lands traditionally occupied by indigenous peoples. For this reason these are not represented on the map by points or polygons.

Protected Areas and Indigenous Territories in Amazonia <sup>1</sup> - calculated on the basis of the political boundaries of Amazonia by country <sup>2</sup> (Information on protected areas and indigenous territories updated on 31 January 2008)																							
	Bolivia	Brazil	Colombia	Ecuador	French Guiana	Guyana	Peru	Suriname	Venezuela	total Amazonia													
		% of the national total	% of the national total	% of the national total	% of the national total	% of the national total	% of the national total	% of the national total	% of the national total	% of the Amazonia total													
<b>Total population of the country (m<sup>2</sup> of inhabitants)</b>	8,274,325	-	169,544,443	-	41,649,792	-	13,920,041	-	208,171	-	751,000	-	28,220,764	-	475,000	-	23,232,553	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Amazon population of the country (m<sup>2</sup> of inhabitants)</b>	1,233,727	14.9%	22,495,460	13.3%	1,650,904	4.0%	694,804	5.0%	208,171	100.0%	751,000	100.0%	3,675,292	13.0%	475,000	100.0%	23,232,553	8.2%	33,082,079	100.0%	-	-	-
<b>Total area of the country (km<sup>2</sup>)</b>	1,008,581	-	8,514,876	-	1,138,910	-	248,406	-	86,504	-	214,969	-	1,285,215	-	163,820	-	916,445	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Amazon area of the country (km<sup>2</sup>)</b>	475,278	43.3%	5,006,316	58.8%	483,119	42.4%	116,604	46.9%	86,504	100.0%	214,969	100.0%	782,820	60.9%	163,820	100.0%	453,915	49.5%	7,783,345	100.0%	-	-	-
<b>% of total Amazonia within the country</b>	6.1%		64.3%		6.2%		1.5%		1.1%		2.8%		10.1%		2.1%		5.8%		100.0%				

Protected Areas in Amazonia (km²)																							
	Bolivia		Brazil		Colombia		Ecuador		French Guiana		Guyana		Peru		Suriname		Venezuela		total Amazonia				
	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country			
<b>INDIRECT USE</b> Protection of biodiversity, geological and scenic landscape (aesthetic attributes) appropriate for tourism, education and research. Occupation by traditional populations not permitted, with the exceptions of Bolivia, Ecuador, French Guiana and Brazil.																							
National	39,201	8.2%	311,540	6.2%	66,816	13.8%	29,843	26.0%	23,592	27.3%	5,914	2.8%	77,535	9.9%	19,683	12.0%	171,145	37.7%	745,269	9.6%	-	-	
State/Departmental	15,243	3.2%	124,410	2.5%	-	-	-	-	2,618	3.0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	142,271	1.8%	-	-
total	54,444	11.4%	435,950	8.7%	66,816	13.8%	29,843	26.0%	26,210	30.3%	5,914	2.8%	77,535	9.9%	19,683	12.0%	171,145	37.7%	887,540	11.4%	-	-	
<b>DIRECT USE</b> Resource protection compatible with controlled use in accordance with management plans																							
National	22,743	4.8%	296,595	5.9%	-	-	-	-	35,584	41.1%	-	-	-	45,565	5.8%	5,655	3.5%	-	-	406,142	5.2%	-	-
State/Departmental	23,705	5.0%	267,665	5.3%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	291,370	3.7%	-	-
total	46,448	9.8%	564,260	11.3%	-	-	-	-	35,584	41.1%	-	-	-	45,565	5.8%	5,655	3.5%	-	-	697,512	9.0%	-	-
<b>TRANSITIONAL USE</b> Reserved forest area that may or may not be converted into protected area or concession as a result of further study																							
National	-	-	-	-	306,335	63.4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	32,143	4.1%	-	-	-	-	-	338,478	4.3%	-	-
State/Departmental	605	0.1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	605	0.0%	-	-	
total	605	0.1%	-	-	306,335	63.4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	32,143	4.1%	-	-	-	-	339,083	4.4%	-	-	
<b>DIRECT/INDIRECT USE</b> Areas of double categories																							
National	12,665	2.7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,665	0.2%	-	-
State/Departmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
total	12,665	2.7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,665	0.2%	-	-
<b>total for Amazonia/country</b>	114,182	24.0%	1,000,210	20.0%	373,151	77.2%	29,843	26.0%	61,793	71.4%	5,914	2.8%	155,243	19.8%	25,338	15.5%	171,145	37.7%	1,936,620	24.9%	-	-	-

Indigenous Territories in Amazonia (km²) <sup>3</sup>																							
	Bolivia <sup>4</sup>	Brazil	Colombia <sup>5</sup>	Ecuador	French Guiana	Guyana	Peru	Suriname	Venezuela	total Amazonia													
	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country											
Indigenous Territories	121,920	25.7%	1,084,665	21.7%	244,782	50.6%	75,542	65.0%	7,068	8.2%	data lacking	130,761	16.7%	data lacking	305,961	67.4%	1,970,690	25.3%	-	-	-	-	-

Protected Areas and Indigenous Territories in Amazonia (km²) <sup>6</sup> - Summary																		
	Bolivia	Brazil	Colombia <sup>7</sup>	Ecuador	French Guiana	Guyana	Peru	Suriname	Venezuela	total Amazonia								
	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country	area	% of the Amazon region of the country						
Protected Areas	114,182	24.0%	1,000,210	20.0%	66,816	13.8%	29,843	25.6%	61,793	71.4%	5,914	2.8%	155,243	19.8%	25,338	15.5%	171,145	37