

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Ecuador
Program Title:	Biodiversity Conservation
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	518-001
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$4,644,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$4,329,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	1997
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2006

Summary: The program conserves biodiversity in three biologically important areas: 1) 1,000,000 hectares in indigenous territories (Awa, Cofan, and Huaorani) in northern and eastern Ecuador through territorial consolidation, capacity building, and financial sustainability; 2) the 133,000 square kilometer Galapagos Marine Reserve by supporting implementation of the marine zoning plan, strengthening the governance of the Reserve, reducing illegal fishing and over-fishing, increasing tourism's contributions to conservation, and supporting public outreach; and 3) conservation of 2,000,000 hectares of the Tropical Andes by consolidating the management of four protected areas, establishing conservation partnerships with private landowners, and developing payments for environmental services.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation (\$4,644,000 DA). In northern Ecuador, indigenous peoples are extremely poor and vulnerable to the encroaching impact of oil, timber, and African Palm exploitation, and the spillover effects of Colombia's coca economy. To counteract the impact of these threats, USAID will help indigenous peoples gain legal rights over their resources, demarcate and patrol their territories to defend them against illegal incursions, and manage their territories to develop licit and sustainable sources of income. With USAID assistance, the Awa will title 101,000 hectares and legalize rights for 50 neighboring colonists and cooperatives to decrease conflicts. The Huaorani will gain official rights for three communities in the Yasuni National Park and the Chachi community will create a 16,000 hectare "Gran Chachi Reserve." The Awa, Cofan, and Huaorani federations will receive training to strengthen their administrative and technical capacities. The Awa Federation will resolve conflicts over territorial boundaries develop statutes for its 22 Awa centers, and define the management of the "Reserve of Life," the most pristine area within the Awa territory. The Huaorani Federation will support young Huaorani leaders in the use of traditional justice systems and develop a governance system for the vast Huaorani territory. New indigenous groups, the Secoyas and Sionas, will receive seed funding for small productive activities and will participate in leadership and negotiation skills, training jointly with Awa, Cofan, Chachi and Huaorani. The prime contractor is Chemonics. Subgrantees are the indigenous federations and local and international NGOs.

USAID will support the conservation of the Galapagos Marine Reserve by: 1) providing expert advice and training to 12 local authorities that are members of the Marine Reserve Participatory Management System, 2) supporting two key Galapagos institutions to improve control and patrolling activities, through monitoring illegal trade in sharks and sea cucumber, 3) providing organizational tools and techniques to four fishing cooperatives, 4) strengthening the tourism sector's two key organizations' ability to effectively promote conservation and by building economic links between the tourism and fishing sectors, 5) implementing several alternative activities to reduce fishing pressure by creating opportunities for fishermen to work in the tourism sector (e.g. sport fishing, scuba diving). The prime contractor is World Wildlife Fund, which leads

an alliance of nine local and international NGOs.

USAID's Tropical Andes Program will develop and implement the National Sustainable Finance Strategy for the national park system, establish an endowment fund to promote private land conservation, create opportunities for local participation in protected area management, establish conservation agreements with private landowners, and implement a program of 28 community park guards. A communication component will catalyze behavior change in local resource users and decision makers. The prime grantees are The Nature Conservancy and OIKOS Corporation and subgrantees are the Antisana Foundation, the Rumicocha Foundation, and EcoCiencia.

USAID's Amazon Basin Initiative will begin in FY 2005 and Ecuador will participate as appropriate. In addition, with the signing of a free trade agreement, USAID will develop additional pollution reduction activities to facilitate Ecuador's compliance with the agreement.

FY 2006 Program: Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation (\$4,329,000 DA). At least 10 sustainable income generating activities will be provided to indigenous groups along the fragile northern border area. Indigenous groups will be able to continuously patrol their most vulnerable segments of their territories, totaling close to half a million hectares. The Awa Federation will sustainably manage timber and ecotourism, reducing their vulnerability for illicit coca production. In the Galapagos Marine Reserve, USAID will: 1) finance the creation of new economic opportunities for fishermen, 2) consolidate the function of the Marine Reserve governance system through assistance in conflict management and institutional strengthening, and 3) encourage the application of an effective and participatory system to apply the Galapagos Special Law. The Tropical Andes Program will finance the final consolidation of three protected areas. Further analysis in FY 2005 will determine new direction or other priority areas. Same contractors and grantees as above.

Performance and Results: With USAID support, three indigenous populations will have improved their management of 184,000 hectares and gained greater control over 356,000 hectares of their ancestral territories. They reached agreements with their neighbors and demarcated 90 miles of their most vulnerable boundaries, helping conserve 1,040,000 hectares of pristine forest. The Cofan indigenous institution has evolved from a paper organization a year ago to a functional one today. Advances included formally elected leadership, office facilities and equipment, accounting systems, travel policies and procedures, a regular inventory of fixed assets, and strategic planning. With stronger organizational capacity, the Cofan federation demarcated 26 miles of vulnerable boundaries, regularly patrolled 250,000 hectares of pristine biodiverse rainforest, and established an enterprise that markets bamboo for construction.

To strengthen the conservation of the Galapagos Marine Reserve, USAID and the U.S. Country Team worked together to engage the President of Ecuador and his cabinet to provide technical assistance in governance, and to seek economic alternatives for destructive fishing practices. In the Tropical Andes, local people are contributing to conservation as community park guards to control hunting, fire, and illegal fishing in 23,300 hectares of highland grassland, reducing fires by 35%. A major conflict between spectacled bears and people is being addressed, resulting in a 50% reduction in attacks on cattle near the town in Oyacachi. Outside protected areas, 225 families are applying sustainable productive systems on 22,000 hectares, reducing pressures on forest areas of Cayambe-Coca and Antisana Reserves. As a result, approximately 485,000 hectares are being adequately managed. In 2004 Ecuador's water fund endowment reached \$1.8 million and invested \$228,800 in seven projects implemented in critical watersheds in the Condor Bioserve and leveraged \$381,800 from other sources as matching funds.

By FY 2007, the three targeted indigenous groups will have at least 900,000 hectares of participatory natural resource management plans and sustainable financing mechanisms for their implementation. The Galapagos governance system and law enforcement will be effectively functioning and the tourism sector will be implementing best practices. Ecuadorian organizations will consolidate the conservation of 776,203 hectares in the Tropical Andes, and the Water Fund

will invest at least \$260,000 annually to conserve watersheds.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Ecuador

	DA	ESF
518-001 Biodiversity Conservation		
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	25,930	3,000
Expenditures	19,719	2,000
Unliquidated	6,211	1,000
Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	5,008	0
Expenditures	3,431	1,000
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	30,938	3,000
Expenditures	23,150	3,000
Unliquidated	7,788	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	4,644	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	4,644	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	4,329	0
Future Obligations	15,564	0
Est. Total Cost	55,475	3,000