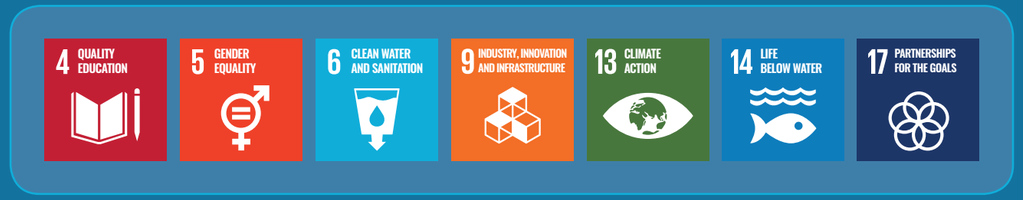
The Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization Member Countries Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Perú, Suriname y Venezuela, are committed to the SDGs through this project.



This initiative builds on the ACTO/UNEP/GEF Amazon Project-Water Resources and Climate Change, concluded in 2018 with the participation of the ACTO Member Countries. One of its results was the formulation and approval of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP), which started implementation in 2020.

FUNDING: USD11,735,780 GEF FINANCING

PROJECT EXECUTION STRUCTURE (Period 2020-2024):

- **PS/ACTO:** Regional Project Coordination Unit (PCU).
- **ACTO Member Countries:** National Project Coordination Units (NPCU).
- **Project Steering Committee:** PS/ACTO, UN Environment Programme and ACTO Member Countries.

ACTO - Project Address
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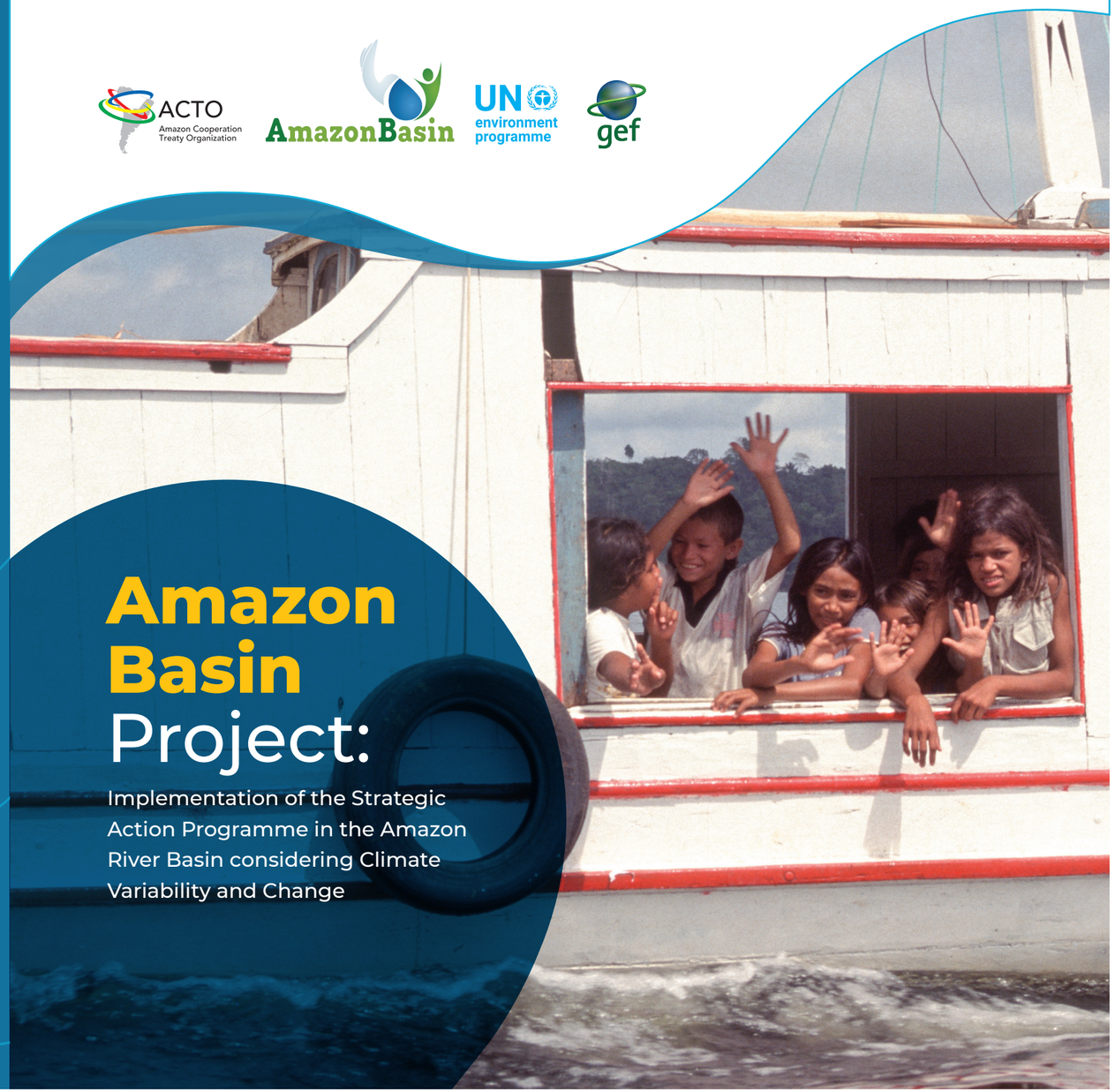
ACTO Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization
AmazonBasin
UN environment programme
gef



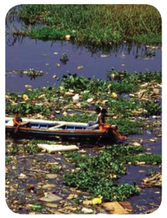
Amazon Basin Project:

Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme in the Amazon River Basin considering Climate Variability and Change

Amazon Basin Project-Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme

Water pollution in the Amazon River is at the top of the list of the 9 critical Amazonian problems related to ecosystem sustainability, followed by deforestation, loss of biodiversity, droughts, and floods, among others. These common concerns were defined by the Amazonian countries based on more than six years of research, consultations, and negotiation.

To address these problems, the countries developed the Strategic Action Programme (SAP), where each action will become a specific project to tackle and solve a problem.



This is how the Amazon Basin Project-Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme in the Amazon River Basin Considering Variability and Climate Change originates, seeking to ensure integrated basin-wide management, through managing water in its relation to land and forest as part of an ecosystem, in a way that social and economic well-being is maximized and sustainable management of the transboundary water resources of the Basin is achieved.

This perspective includes the participation of communities to build resilience, along with planners, scientists, and decision-makers within the countries. This is an innovative project as it will promote adaptive capacity to floods and droughts and contribute to face the effects of climate change, while monitoring the quality and quantity of water, erosion, and ecosystems through regional monitoring networks to obtain environmental data for coordinated decision-making in the Region.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE: to support the Basin countries in the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP), promoting Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in a source-to-sea *continuum*.

That is, through a holistic approach linking land systems, water and river flows loaded with sediments, biota (living organisms), and pollutants, connecting the river sources with its mouth in the Amazon delta, entering the Atlantic Ocean as an immense 240 km wide estuary touching the coast, and continuing its way to the open oceans. Therefore, the integrated management of environmental resources becomes essential, enabling the Amazon riparian countries to meet their Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and environmental convention targets.

THE AMAZON BASIN AT A GLANCE

The Amazon Region comprises the most biodiverse river basin in the world, covering more than 6.118.000 km². It accounts for over half the tropical rainforest containing the planet's greatest freshwater system, discharging 15-20% of the world's liquid freshwater to the Atlantic Ocean. It has a key role in the global water carbon cycles becoming a major natural climate regulator. The Amazon is home to approximately 48.5 million people, whose main economic activities focus mostly on natural resource extraction, either mineral or forest resources, as well as agriculture and small-scale tourism. (ACTO/SAP, 2018 | ACTO/Atlas, 2021)

COMPONENTS

The Project will be executed through four components, and it is expected to provide specific environmental and socioeconomic benefits and contribute to the achievement of the SDGs.

COMPONENT 1

Creating an innovative IWRM governance model for the Amazon basin.

COMPONENT 2

Building community resilience and aquatic ecosystem protection to address climate change.

COMPONENT 3

Monitoring water resources and ecosystems through an environmental monitoring system at regional level.

COMPONENT 4

Monitoring and evaluation of SAP implementation.

OUTCOME

1 OUTCOME 1:

Strengthened water governance at regional (ACTO) and national levels leading to improved basin management, ecosystem status and livelihoods.

2 OUTCOME 2:

Strengthened communities and ecosystems, able to adapt to drought and floods and sea level rise.

3 OUTCOME 3:

Better understanding of the transboundary environmental impacts of large infrastructure projects.

4 OUTCOME 4:

Basin wide compatible information to inform policy decision-making in IWRM, and to conserve and protect the main aquatic ecosystems.

5 OUTCOME 5:

Long-term sustainability of IWRM, bringing socioeconomic and environmental benefits from the effective SAP implementation at national and regional level.

SOCIOECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND INSTITUTIONAL BENEFITS FOR THE BASIN:

- Permanent Integrated Water Resources Management Coordination Mechanism for the Amazon Basin established in ACTO.
- More than 1.400 professionals and more than 10.000 members of local communities trained (at least 40% are women).
- Approximately 7.8 Million people with improved resilience to climate change impacts.
- Integrated environmental monitoring systems covering 600,000,000 ha.
- Online-monitoring and reporting system hosted by the ACTO and accessible within the framework of SAP implementation partners.