



“I’m not poor because I live with my five senses and the four spiritual energies”

ALBERTO MANQUERIAPA BITENTE

Chief of Santa Rosa de Huacaria Community

- *The Technical Mission team was received by the community of Santa Rosa de Huacaria. Indigenous representatives reported on their relationships with the Machiguenga population – an initial contact peoples, and also with isolated indigenous peoples in the region of Piñi Piñi. Also, the Leader of the community spoke to members of the mission on the conditions in which they live: there is limited mobility in the territories and therefore, they have lost control of natural resources of their lands. The community has been established at its current location because of access to sanitation and electricity services which, while benefiting the community, are not the main assets: “I’m not poor because I live with my five senses and four spiritual energies”.*



On May 18 – 31, 2014, the representatives of Ministries of Indigenous Affairs and Health of the Member Countries (MCs) of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), National Parks of some of the MCs, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the ACTO Permanent Secretariat, as well as journalists from Reuters News Agency, participated in a Technical Exchange mission to the regions of Cuzco and Madre de Dios, Peru. The objective of the mission was to exchange

experiences, and share information on methodologies for the protection and promotion of the rights of isolated indigenous peoples and those in initial contact.

The expedition was coordinated by the Ministry of Culture / Vice -Ministry of Inter-Culturality of Peru, as a counterpart to ACTO’s Program: “Strategic Framework for Development of a Regional Agenda for Protection of Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation and Initial Contact”, with IDB support.



The team traveled from the city of Cuzco (3,300m above sea level) to Kosñipata district (500m), in four vehicles, on Andes Mountains at an altitude of 3,900m through various climate zones and farming communities, sharing the life of local communities en route. Following the road trip, the journey continued via river in four boats from Atalaya Port to Boca Colorado – Madre de Dios – passing through the *Manu National Park*. One boat was designated to the journalists from Reuters who accompanied and documented the activities of the mission. The final leg of the Mission was overland from Boca Colorado to Puerto Maldonado.

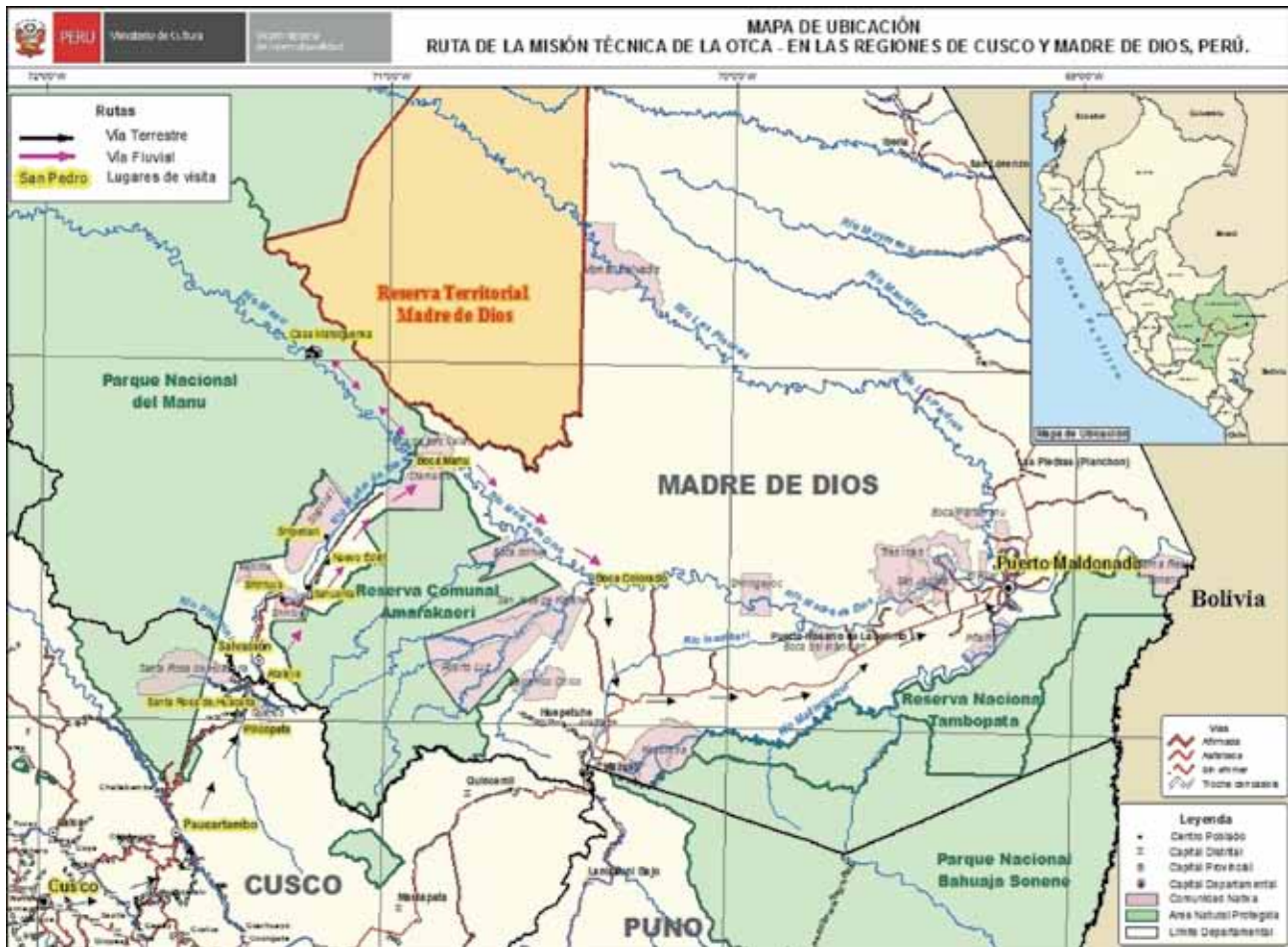
The regions of Cuzco and Madre de Dios are inhabited by peoples in isolation and initial contact, who live mainly in *Manu National Park*, territorial reserves of Madre de Dios, Kugapakori, Nahua, Nanti and other protected areas. Therefore, the Technical Mission was conducted in the region to allow the delegates of the member countries to share and learn about the

work being done by Peru's Ministry of Culture in collaboration with other government institutions, civil society and indigenous communities to protect Isolated Indigenous Peoples and Initial Contact (PIACI) in these regions.





ROUTE OF THE TECHNICAL MISSION OF ACTO COUNTRIES IN THE REGIONS OF CUZCO AND MADRE DE DIOS, PERU.



In preparation for the expedition, the delegates participated in the “National Workshop to Review the Technical Standard for Health for PIACI” in Lima, on May 19, 2014. The objective of the Technical Standard is to protect the health of the isolated and recently

contacted indigenous peoples, and to prepare health professionals to effectively respond in cases of unwanted contact, based on the principle of respect for the culture and self-determination.





The implementation of the strategies and established protocols were presented and observed at the Health Centre in Salvación City. The presentations highlighted the structure and functioning of Micro-Network of Health Services in the region. The mission also visited the indigenous communities of Santa Rosa of Huacaria and Shipiteari, which are part of Micro-Network. This Micro Network of Health Services is structured to

provide health services to the indigenous population in initial contact. There is a Health post in each of the 10 communities, 1 mobile health team and 1 Health Center in Salvación City.

During the technical mission, the indigenous communities requested the strengthening of the Micro-Network of Health Services to provide better health services to the PIACI, as well as a Contingency Plan to be activated in situations of possible (unwanted) contact with isolated peoples. These measures are needed in the region where there are constant tourism activities.

Throughout the regions of Cuzco and *Manu National Park*, tourism is as a major source of income. Some resorts are privately owned while others are managed by the Indigenous communities in different ways, to host the tourists. Isolated indigenous people have been sighted near many of the tourist resorts. While tourism has a positive economic impact on Indigenous communities, it also poses a threat to PIACI.



Photo provided by Dr Fernando Mendieta, Director of the Health Center of Salvacion.





isolated Indigenous peoples in the region and to avoid risky contact. The Sign Boards also warned that the supply of clothing and processed products can serve as a vehicle for transmission of diseases and illnesses, and would encourage the isolated peoples to risk unwanted contact with populated regions.

On the journey to *Manu National Park*, the mission visited one of its checkpoints “Limal” for registration, where rangers provided information about the protected area and the current situation of the Machiguenga peoples and isolated peoples of Mashco Piru who inhabit the territory of the National Park.

Given the situation in the region, the ACTO Member Countries delegates were invited by local authorities in *Pillcopata* and *Boca Manu* to share their experiences and information on mechanisms for conflict prevention, methodologies of prevention and promotion of Health for PIACI.

The Peruvian institutions that participated in the mission recommended that local authorities become part of the co-management committees, particularly in the *Manu National Park*. Moreover, the local authorities were informed as parts of protection measures for the isolated peoples, the Ministry of Culture has installed Warning Sign Boards in strategic points to alert, the surrounding population and tourists, of the presence of





MANU NATIONAL PARK

The Manu National Park is located in the region of Madre de Dios and Cuzco. It occupies an area of 16,921 km² of mountains and forests, forming ecosystems from the Andes to the Amazon basin. The park is the largest expanse of protected areas and biodiversity on earth; it is recognized as World Heritage by UNESCO. The Park is also inhabited by Machiguenga people in a situation of initial contact and isolated groups of Mashco Piru peoples.



RESULTS OF THE MISSION

- 1 Spaces were generated for dialogue with local authorities and indigenous communities, where members shared their problems and information on policies for the protection of PIACI.
- 2 Mission provided an opportunity for representatives of the Peruvian State to have dialogue with local authorities and indigenous communities, thereby tracking the problem of PIACI in the visited regions.
- 3 Allowed reflection on the compatibility of tourism activities with the measures of protection for indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and regions with PIACI population.
- 4 Gathered information about threats in the border zone of Peru – Brazil.
- 5 The agenda of the Ministry of Culture of Peru for this mission, provided the opportunity for the Mission team to see the relationships between Mashco Piro populations in recent contact and in isolation with neighboring indigenous communities; and encouraged the delegates to reflect on the protection mechanisms and contingency plans in cases of contact with PIAV to ensure the safety of neighbouring communities.
- 6 Promoted coordination and creation of network of institutions of Natural Protected Areas with presence of PIACI among member countries.
- 7 Delegates recognized the need to strengthen networks/spaces created by the program at the national and regional level, including National Technical Committee and CODIR, for PIACI.
- 8 Provided inputs for the implementation of the second phase of the program.



CLOSING EVENT OF THE MISSION

The Closing event of the Mission in Puerto Maldonado on May 31, 2014 with the participation of Minister Cesar De Las Casas, Director of Social Affairs of Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ramón Rivero Mejia, Director of the Office of Indigenous Peoples in Isolation and Initial Contact within the Vice Ministry Interculturality; and Morelo José Oswaldo Ruiz, Director of the Decentralized Office of Culture of Madre de Dios.

The delegates of the ACTO member countries noted that the Peru has advanced substantially in the formal recognition of PIACI and in enacting public policies for the protection of the rights of indigenous peoples. The formulation of guidelines in the health sector – the Health Standards and Technical Guidelines for health care –



for isolated indigenous peoples and recently contacted, was highlighted, and the successful implementations of which were observed by the Mission team in regions inhabited by PIACI.

PROGRAM: STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK TO DEVELOP A REGIONAL AGENDA FOR THE PROTECTION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN ISOLATION AND INITIAL CONTACT

The program seeks to contribute to protecting the rights of indigenous peoples in isolation and initial contact in the Amazon Basin by defining effective policies and concerted actions between governments, indigenous peoples and organizations, and non-governmental organizations with experience on the matter.

It consists of five components that aim to achieve: (i) a regional interinstitutional coordination mechanism supported by national bodies; (ii) a concerted strategic framework that incorporates physical and cultural protection measures; (iii) a territorial protection plan that includes legal and physical they occupy and adjacent areas; (iv) a regional health strategy that includes a technical health prevention standard with an intercultural approach or characteristics, and emergency health systems in the areas where they live; and (v) systematized data and knowledge about the situation of isolated peoples and capacity and commitment to protect them.

As counterpart for the program, the Government of Peru organized a mission to the regions of Cusco and Madre de Dios, for technical experts involved in protecting and promoting indigenous rights in ACTO Member Countries.

Its aim was to provide governmental stakeholders with a practical experience to promote or enhance multilateral action.

The mission's objective was consistent with the Program's Component 5, particularly "creating technical capacity and commitment in Member Countries to protect isolated indigenous peoples".



ILO CONVENTION 169 – INDIGENOUS AND TRIBAL PEOPLES

This was the first international legally binding instrument to specifically address the rights of indigenous and tribal peoples, recognizing their rights to work, land and territory, health and education (1989).

UNITED NATIONS GUIDELINES ON THE PROTECTION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN VOLUNTARY ISOLATION AND INITIAL CONTACT

On 16 December 2005 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Program of Action for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, in which two specific recommendations are made on indigenous peoples in isolation and in initial contact. At the international level it is recommended that "a global mechanism should be established to monitor the situation of indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and in danger of extinction." At the national level it is recommended "that a special protection framework for indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation should be adopted and that Governments should establish special policies for ensuring the protection and rights of indigenous peoples with small populations and at risk of extinction."



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