

# **AMAZONÍA+ PROGRAM, PROC/2024/GRA/001** **“AMAZONÍA VIVA” PROJECT – REGIONAL** **ARTICULATION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND** **PROTECTION OF ITS LANDSCAPES AND ECOSYSTEMS**

**Minutes of questions and answers submitted to COOPI pursuant to Section No. 8 of the Terms of Reference published for the Call for Support to Demonstrative Projects in the areas of forest fire prevention, and the fight against deforestation and forest degradation.**

Considering that the Call for Support to Demonstrative Pilot Projects was published on October 14, 2025, and that the virtual socialization session took place on October 21, as established in the Terms of Reference, COOPI, in its capacity as the contracting entity for this activity, has compiled the questions and answers received for this specific case.

It is important to clarify at the outset that, within the framework of the Project, pilot projects are understood as *“demonstrative interventions, of limited scope and defined duration, implemented in a priority landscape of the Amazonía Viva Program, with the objective of testing and validating in the field forest use, conservation, and restoration practices that maintain ecological and productive functions, comply with legal frameworks, reduce pressures of deforestation and degradation, and generate measurable evidence for replication and scaling up.”*

Furthermore, these projects are designed and implemented in a participatory manner with local stakeholders (including the effective participation and leadership of women), and may also incorporate elements related to territorial planning for Integrated Fire Management (IFM), management of protected areas according to the local context, and include a monitoring and evaluation plan (baseline, indicators, and lessons learned), as well as social and environmental safeguards and technical-financial traceability.

The following section presents each of the questions and corresponding answers received.

| Question 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Answer 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| From the Universidad Católica de Cuenca, Macas campus in Morona Santiago, we have an agreement with the municipal government of the Morona Canton. Is it possible to count on the participation of municipal governments in the development of the projects? Considering that, as undergraduate students, we have a collaboration agreement with the institution and seek to integrate them as part of the research team. | Indeed, in accordance with the provisions established in the Terms of Reference of this call, the participation of a university or institute supported by a municipal administration is part of the proposal evaluation criteria. It is important that the projects demonstrate that they are already embedded in an ongoing process and that they have the potential to scale up and be replicated at the territorial level, as |

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| <p><b>Question 2</b></p> <p>From the municipality of Taicha Canton, in the Amazonian region of Morona Santiago, we serve as a buffer zone for the Yasuní National Park. As a municipality, we have a company dedicated to agricultural and livestock activities. Is it acceptable for the municipal public enterprise to submit the application, or must it be done by the municipality itself? There is an entity — the municipality or autonomous municipal government of the canton — which, through an ordinance, created a public agro-livestock company financed by the municipality during the first two years, but which must then become self-sustaining. It has already been operating for five years and has a reforestation program through cacao cultivation systems in areas affected by illegal logging or forest fires in the Amazonian region. Each of these entities, both the municipality and the public enterprise, manages its own RUC independently. So, the question is: should the application be submitted in the name of the municipality or the municipal public enterprise?</p> | <p><b>Answer 2</b></p> <p>Both may apply. It will be very important to provide information proving the legal constitution of the enterprise, specifying its activities, how long it has been established, and how long it has been in operation, in order to have sufficient elements to understand its nature. In any case, a detailed review of the Terms of Reference is recommended, particularly the evaluation criteria.</p> |
| <p><b>Question 3</b></p> <p>Can we submit a proposal for the La Bonita municipal reserve?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p><b>Answer 3</b></p> <p>Considering that the topics of interest are defined in the Terms of Reference, it is recommended to review them to verify the internal relevance of the proposal.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Question 4</b></p> <p>Are there priority areas for submitting proposals in specific provinces of Ecuador?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p><b>Answer 4</b></p> <p>The Terms of Reference indicate the Amazonian region of Morona Santiago, Orellana, and Sucumbíos. No specific micro-targeting has been carried out, as it is understood that Amazonian territories do not necessarily coincide with the political-administrative divisions, and a territory</p>                                                                                                          |

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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>may include areas of rainforest, jungle, mountains, and highlands. Therefore, this is a regional focus, which in the case of Ecuador applies to Amazonian territories located within the provinces of Orellana, Sucumbíos, and Morona Santiago.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <p><b>Question 5</b></p> <p>In Morona Santiago, a new GAD (Decentralized Autonomous Government) has been created, which has not yet been legally constituted but has been working on a reforestation project with women. However, there is still no legal framework supporting it. Could participation occur under another legal form? This GAD is currently called Sevilla Don Bosco but, if I am not mistaken, it has been annexed to the COMAGA GADs.</p> | <p><b>Answer 5</b></p> <p>It will be very important to have the documents proving legal constitution. The minimum period required is three years, as established in the Terms of Reference. This applies to associations, organizations, and territorial entities. In any case, the application could be submitted through the women's association, provided that it is legally established.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Question 6</b></p> <p>What other activities are currently being carried out under the Amazonia+ Project in which we could participate?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p><b>Answer 6</b></p> <p>In addition to this ongoing call, free training processes are being developed for the four countries — Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia — within a training cycle that begins with a first webinar on October 29, a second webinar on November 1, and additional training sessions in the following week. Information will be shared via email and through the social networks of consortium members.</p> <p>Between November and February of next year, two virtual courses will be held with UNAD and USFQ, and two MOOC courses of over 140 hours, free and open to an unlimited number of participants. Afterwards, a diploma course will be held with a maximum of 40 people selected among those who have consistently participated in webinars and online courses. The courses focus on preventing deforestation, recognizing the current state of the Amazon forests, and reflecting on how Amazonian and</p> |



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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p>Indigenous communities, together with state institutions, address social, environmental, and legal conflicts in Amazonian territories. These are free training opportunities open to people aged 14 and older, and participants are encouraged to share the training calls to continue strengthening the network that promotes cultural transformation and sustainable territorial practices.</p>                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Question 7</b></p> <p>From the Environment and Promotion Directorate of the Morona Santiago GAD. The available alternatives for deforestation and mitigation are minimal. The question concerns how, within the municipality, we have PITs (Territorial Intervention Plans) and how work will be carried out with Indigenous communities in conservation areas, which nonetheless require productive alternatives. For example, in Maicuan there is a tourism association made up of a group of women who work in pottery and need further strengthening. This group cannot really replicate itself, as it is small and cannot duplicate its work in other communities. There is a Shuar association that could state its desire to strengthen its pottery work and tourism activities, but it lacks the means for replication. I would like to promote the group of Shuar women potters, who have been working for years producing value-added products, but cannot replicate their work in the targeted territories. It is an example of perseverance, but not of replication.</p> | <p><b>Answer 7</b></p> <p>There are two simultaneous calls open: one for pilot and demonstrative projects, and another with a more productive profile, called support for productive projects, associative and community initiatives. The group of women potters is encouraged to consult the latter, as scalability or replicability of initiatives is not necessarily required there, given their community-based nature. Both calls will be sent by email for more precise review.</p> |

### Question 8

I am from Peru, Ucayali department. I work in the forest protection program and am also a volunteer firefighter. My question is whether this call could be extended to the Ucayali region, as we work here with native communities and buffer zones, in Indigenous reserves and national parks such as Sira and Alto Purús, where peoples in initial contact live, threatened by increasing forest fires. Could the project coverage be expanded?

### Answer 8

In this first ongoing call, the territorial scope does not include Ucayali; however, in the third call of the financial support program to third parties, Ucayali, Beni, and Pando will be included, thus expanding territorial coverage. Through the contacts established in this communication, details of the third call will be sent, which could help bridge existing territorial gaps in integrated fire management and deforestation and degradation prevention mechanisms. You are therefore encouraged to consult that upcoming call as well.

### Question 9

We thank you for this invitation to submit projects and for encouraging our colleagues from the Amazon to present valuable proposals. It is necessary to seek sustainable alternatives in livestock and productive projects suitable for various cantons. As a municipality, we have already replicated similar projects, and we believe they can benefit not only Limón but many other institutions and territories. We are currently implementing a project with the Limón municipality and would like to work so that the Ministry of Environment delegates powers to us for the management of part of the national park, enabling municipalities to participate actively, even though there is still no specific regulation.

### Answer 9

Thank you for helping to disseminate the invitation and for encouraging the participation of other actors in the submission of proposals. Everyone is encouraged to identify projects with potential for replication or scaling up.



#### Question 10

From the Sucumbíos Municipal GAD, my proposal concerns the possibility of working with the La Bonita Chicuane Municipal Conservation Area, located in the Sucumbíos canton, covering 53,000 hectares, created in 2017. The canton has the largest water reserve in Ecuador, with 101,000 hectares, covering parts of the Carchi province, Sucumbíos canton, and Gonzalo Pizarro canton.

#### Answer 10

Thank you for the question. Indeed, you may submit the application based on what has been indicated, in coherence with the ongoing territorial processes. The evaluation committee will analyze all enabling and technical criteria.

**Bogotá, Colombia**

**October 29, 2025**