

**Amazon Sacred
Headwaters Alliance
Bioregional Fund**



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Indigenous Leadership for Planetary Conservation & Regeneration



The Amazon Sacred Headwaters Alliance (ASHA) Bioregional Fund is an Indigenous-led fund that will leverage blended finance Indigenous knowledge and living systems design, macro-systemic risk analysis, and professional investment expertise to guide strategic investments in the realization of ASHA's Bioregional Plan 2030 for transitioning to a thriving Indigenous bioeconomy, addressing systemic threats to the Amazon, and securing permanent protection of this critical bioregion.

By combining technical assistance, grant-making, revolving loans for regenerative enterprises, and innovative financial mechanisms such as biocultural stewardship units, **the Fund aims to mobilize tens of millions annually to a systemic portfolio of projects, processes, and enterprises strategically designed to rapidly transform extractive conditions towards rapid regeneration and permanent protection of the Amazon Sacred Headwaters.**

We are an alliance of 30 Indigenous nations formed in 2017 to permanently protect 35 million hectares (the size of Germany) of rainforest in Ecuador and Peru.

Our Alliance is established under a shared understanding that we belong to and steward an interdependent living network of rivers and forests, and that **preventing the collapse of the entire Amazon rainforest – and the Earth's climate and its hydrological cycle – will be only possible if we unite to defend its headwaters.**

However, to fully realize our Bioregional Plan by 2030 and overcome the extractive forces we're up against, **we need to increase annual investment in our territories by 20x.**



Fund Governance and Accountability

1

An independent governing body composed of Indigenous representatives, external multicultural interdisciplinary experts, and ASHA staff will oversee investment decisions, programming allocation, monitoring, and transparency.



2

An advisory committee of Indigenous elders, spiritual leaders, thematic experts, and allied funders will ensure alignment with the Bioregional Plan and Indigenous wisdom.

3

A regular third-party auditing process will ensure accountability.



4

A culturally grounded Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) framework will integrate ancestral and scientific indicators to understand and evolve impact.

Our Current Portfolio

● JAGUAR BIOCULTURAL STEWARDSHIP UNITS

Our pilot in Sharamentza combines forest monitoring using satellite imagery, drones, camera traps, and real-time dashboard data. This robust data underpins the issuance of “Jaguar Units” on a blockchain registry, which are sold to generate revenue that funds community life plans. The model is scaling to adjacent communities and may expand across the entire headwaters bioregion.

● LIVING SCHOOL OF THE AMAZON (EVA)

EVA is an Indigenous-led leadership training program for youth (ages 18-30) in political representation, ancestral wisdom, and technical skills. EVA aims to be institutionalized as a 2-year accredited institution by 2026.

● INDIGENOUS-LED REGENERATION IN MORONA SANTIAGO

Restoring 10,000 hectares of degraded land and ensuring the long-term protection of 100,000 hectares of intact forest through cattle removal, assisted natural regeneration, edible forest gardens, and more.

● TERRITORIAL GOVERNANCE STRENGTHENING

Legal recognition, territorial demarcation, and capacity building for Autonomous Indigenous Territorial Governments (GTA's) from Peru.

● REGENERATIVE ENTERPRISES

Our territorial finance work promotes livelihood pathways that reduce pressure on wildlife and forests, including eco-cultural tourism, diversified food production, and the cultivation and value-added processing of essential oils, vanilla, medicinal remedies, fruits, nuts, and latex.



ASHA operates with 33 staff, a ~\$2M budget, and distributes 94 re-grants.



JANUARY

The BioFi Project establishes a Co-design partnership with ASHA to support the design, creation, capitalization, and implementation of a first-of-its-kind **Bioregional Financing Facility**.

ASHA participates in the BioFi Cultivator program.

SEPTEMBER

The ASHA General Assembly (ASHA's highest governing body) votes to mandate the creation of the **ASHA Bioregional Fund** and officially allocate staff towards its creation.



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OCTOBER

ASHA hires a **Fund Design Coordinator to synthesize design progress** to date, conduct extensive interviews with ASHA staff, territorial representatives, external experts, develop a Governance & Operations Blueprint.

MARCH

ASHA staff, board, an territorial representatives gather with BioFi Project and strategic partners for **an in-person workshop in Quito** to establish a shared vision, purpose, and design process for the **ASHA Bioregional Fund**.

2025

2024

2021

[2017

Alliance formed by **30 Indigenous nations** to permanently protect the headwaters.



ASHA Bioregional Plan 2030 established with extensive community participation.



Join Us!

BECOME A BIOREGIONAL FUND DESIGN PARTNER

→ **Share your wisdom and experience.**

JOIN ASHA'S BIOREGIONAL FUND FUNDERS' CIRCLE TO HELP US MEET OUR FUNDING TARGETS

→ **Complete Fund design** Seeking \$100K to reach implementation stage.

→ **Catalytic Seed Funding** Seeking \$1M by March 2026 to initiate powerfully.

→ **Founding Investors** Seeking \$10M in grant funding by EOY 2026.

BE A CHAMPION

→ **Amplify our story**, connect us to your networks, advocate with us.

Contact Us

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ASHA's Strategic Partners for the Bioregional Fund



BioFi Project



REGEN
NETWORK



FUNDACIÓN
PACHAMAMA



Pachamama
Alliance



Stoknes Futures AS

The BioFi Project / Fund Co-design Partner

Regen Network / Protocol Development, Outcome Verification Ledger & Technical Assistance

Fundación Pachamama / Implementation Partner

The Pachamama Alliance / US Fiscal Sponsor and Financial Advisor

Stoknes Futures / Piloting the Jaguar Biocultural Stewardship Strategy