

AMAZON
SACRED
HEADWATERS

2025

Annual Report

Contents

1

**A Message from
Uyunkar Domingo Peas**

2

**Executive Summary
A Year in Review**

3

2025 Achievements

- 5 Strengthening Governance and Operations
- 8 Preparing Future Forest Guardians
- 10 Strengthening Indigenous Territorial Governance
- 11 Food Sovereignty Pilot Program
- 13 Indigenous-Led Regeneration and Bioeconomy Livelihoods
- 14 Response to Growing Health Crisis in the Bioregion
- 16 Regrants for Institutional Strengthening, Emergencies and Assemblies
- 17 Regional and Global Advocacy
- 20 Innovative Financial Mechanisms
- 21 Global Recognition and Partnerships

22

Our Communications

23

**Media and Public
Positioning**

24

Financials

26

**Thank You to
Our Supporters**



Photo: Eduardo Pichilingue / ASHA.

A MESSAGE FROM

Uyunkar Domingo Peas, ASHA President



Photo: Atossa Soltani / ASHA.

As we step into 2026, we reflect on a year of collective work rooted in our territories, the living forests, rivers, and the Indigenous communities where our work begins. Over the past year, I have spent time walking our lands, listening to elders and leaders, and

meeting with youth and communities who carry the daily responsibility of protecting life. In many places, pressures are growing. Extractive projects, illegal mining, contamination, and illness continue to reach even the most remote territories. Defending life is urgent work, and at times it is overwhelming.

And yet, everywhere I go, I also see determination and hope. I see young people trained in the Living School of the Amazon returning to their territories with new tools and confidence, ready to serve their people. I see elders sharing knowledge that has sustained our forests for generations. I see communities choosing unity, dialogue, and collective action, even when the path forward is not easy.

Through the Amazon Sacred Headwaters Alliance, we are strengthening bonds among Indigenous nations across this bioregion in Ecuador and northern Peru and connecting these efforts with allies around the world who understand that the future of the Amazon is inseparable from the future of the planet.

This year, we deepened coordination across territories, supported youth leadership, and laid important foundations for long-term, Indigenous-governed financing through the Amazon Sacred Headwaters Alliance (ASHA) Bioregional Fund. You can read more about our achievements and aspirations in this report.

Your solidarity makes this work possible. It reminds our communities that they are not alone and that this shared responsibility is held far beyond the Amazon rainforest.

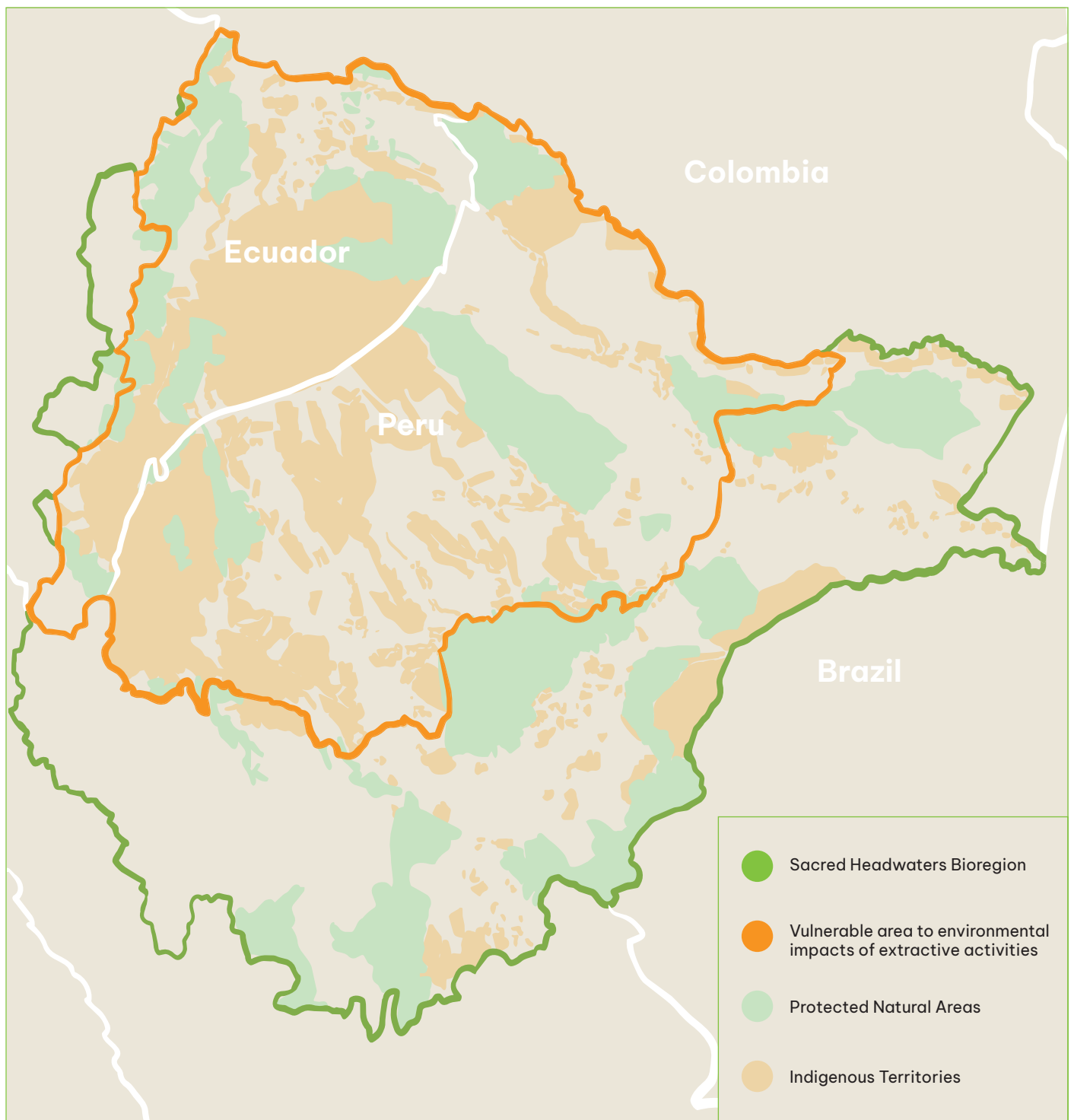
As we move into the year ahead, we will continue this work with patience, courage, and unity: protecting the headwaters of the Amazon and securing a future rooted in respect for all life.

With gratitude and respect,
Uyunkar Domingo Peas Nampichkai
President, Amazon Sacred Headwaters Alliance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Year in Review

Over the past year, the Amazon Sacred Headwaters Alliance (ASHA) delivered significant impact toward protecting 35 million hectares of rainforest and advancing the rights and wellbeing of 30 Indigenous nations across Ecuador and northern Peru. Operating in an environment of rising oil and mining threats, new regulatory constraints on civil society, ongoing political volatility, and a growing public health crisis, ASHA strengthened Indigenous-led governance, expanded its programs and mobilized coordinated, territory-centered actions that produced concrete, life-saving, and landscape-level results.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Year in Review

In 2025, ASHA not only transitioned toward a fully Indigenous-led governance structure, but also consolidated operations under its Ecuadorian nonprofit and appointed Zenaida Yasacama, a prominent Kichwa leader, as Executive Director.

The Amazon Sacred Headwaters Alliance established a new Swiss-based legal nonprofit. The Alliance held its Annual Assembly of its 28 member organizations in September 2025 and held monthly board meetings via Zoom for its 11-member board. ASHA provided more than 70 institutional strengthening and technical assistance grants and 20 emergency response grants, supporting assemblies, territorial monitoring, legal defense, and community planning that bolstered Indigenous governance across millions of hectares of ancestral lands.

In Peru, ASHA helped secure high-level political commitments for the Achuar, Shawi, and Chapra nations, including advances in bilingual education, land titling processes, and food assistance programs through targeted dialogue with ministries.

ASHA's technical teams facilitated strategic planning with 6 Autonomous Territorial Governments (GTAs) to advance territorial claims for 6 million hectares of ancestral lands not yet legally recognized by the Peruvian state. We installed 6 solar-powered satellite

internet hubs, expanding communication capacity for these remote Indigenous nations.

Youth leadership flourished through the Living School of the Amazon (EVA), where 46 young Indigenous leaders graduated and a new cohort of 53 students from Ecuador and Peru began their year-long training. Many of the 2025 graduates returned to their communities to implement the projects they had developed during their training. In 2025, EVA developed new partnerships with NaturaTech LAC, Kara Solar, Limelight Rainforest / Selvatek, and Indigenous Clean Energy to provide students with basic knowledge of technologies needed for protecting their forests, including drones, digital cameras, GIS mapping, and solar energy. Two EVA graduates were hired as ASHA fellows, and one was selected among 20 global youth leaders to participate in the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress.

ASHA played a crucial role in responding to an escalating public health emergency. In Ecuador, ASHA, alongside partners and government agencies, organized 18 emergency evacuation flights, deployed 402 medical brigades, facilitated more than 10,600 medical consultations, and supplied food, hygiene kits, and water purification systems, directly supporting 37 remote communities. In Peru, ASHA coordinated national-level advocacy that resulted in the state's commitment to



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Year in Review

deploy 16 medical brigades with specialized personnel to the Datem del Marañón (Loreto), following outbreaks that caused over 30 deaths among Achuar and Chapra communities.

On territorial defense, ASHA supported the Shawi and Achuar nations in pressing state agencies for oil spill remediation, leading to new field inspections and soil and water sampling by the Environmental Evaluation and Enforcement Agency. In the Chapra territory, ASHA's legal accompaniment supported the expulsion of illegal loggers and reinforced Indigenous authority. ASHA also coordinated national statements and civil society coalitions opposing harmful legislative proposals, including efforts to open protected areas to oil extraction.

At regional and global scale, ASHA contributed to shaping major policy outcomes. At Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP16, ASHA and allied Indigenous organizations contributed to advocacy efforts for the creation of the first-ever subsidiary body on Indigenous issues, a landmark win for Indigenous peoples. At COP16 of the Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD), ASHA participated in inaugurating the first Indigenous Peoples Forum and advanced the Sacred Land Declaration. During the year, the Alliance coordinated various national and regional statements opposing the expansion of the fossil fuel frontier. At COP30 in Belém, we launched the Life Zones campaign, calling for the Amazon to be recognized as the first exclusion zone off limits to more fossil fuel extraction.

2025 also marked the public launch of the Amazon Sacred Headwaters Bioregional Fund, a transformative grant-making and revolving

loan facility designed to channel long-term, territory-focused financing to implement the Bioregional Plan 2030. The Fund's governance structure, monitoring system, and portfolio are being finalized. ASHA convened more than 40 philanthropists and impact investors at COP30 to enlist support for the Fund.

ASHA and Fundación Pachamama began the planning process for a new initiative to restore 10,000 hectares of degraded land in Morona Santiago, Ecuador. The first Shuar community was selected and the field team was assembled. The project will integrate cattle removal, assisted natural regeneration, and edible forests to revive wildlife corridors while strengthening food sovereignty and regenerative livelihoods, including in cocoa, coffee, and vanilla cultivation.

Globally, ASHA's work gained major recognition, including being selected as an Earthshot Prize finalist, participating at high-level gatherings at Climate Week NYC, the Circular Bioeconomy Alliance, and being featured in a cover story in Stanford Social Innovation Review. Alliance President Uyunkar Domingo Peas received the 2025 WinWin Gothenburg Sustainability Award in the fall of 2025 for his trailblazing leadership.

Despite ongoing threats to the bioregion, ASHA's achievements reflect a growing movement of Indigenous nations holding back destruction and advancing a shared bioregional vision rooted in autonomy, territorial integrity, conservation, and ecological regeneration. The Alliance is firmly positioned to scale transformative climate solutions and protect one of the planet's most critical ecosystems for generations to come.



Mobilization of the Shawi people against mining activity. Photo: Shawi Nation.

Strengthening Governance and Operations

During 2025, ASHA continued its transition to Fundación Alianza Cuencas Sagradas. In July 2025, ASHA established a legal nonprofit organization in Switzerland with a majority-Indigenous board to provide European donors the ability to donate to a tax-exempt charity in Europe. Our Alliance has steadily grown to 28 member organizations who form the Assembly of Members, of which 25 are Indigenous organizations from Ecuador and Peru, and 3 are civil society organizations. The Alliance is governed by an 11-member board of directors, nine of whom are representatives of Indigenous Peoples' organizations.

In January 2025, ASHA's leadership and staff gathered in Quito for strategic planning sessions guided by our Wisdom Keepers Council. These meetings reaffirmed the centrality of Indigenous leadership and territorial priorities as the guiding pillars for the next phase of the Alliance's growth.

In May, technical staff met in Puyo to refine ASHA's work plans and clarify the organizational restructuring needed to support our

growing membership and expanded program areas. The most significant milestone in this transition was the recruitment of **Zenaida Yasacama**, a respected Kichwa leader, as ASHA's new Executive Director beginning August 1. Her leadership marks an important step in fulfilling our commitment to Indigenous self-determination and has brought renewed vision and strength to the organization. As of today, 50 percent of ASHA's staff is composed of Indigenous professionals from the Achuar, Shuar, Kichwa, Siona, Shawi, Waorani, Wampis, and Siekopai nations.

In September, ASHA held its Annual General Assembly in Puyo, Ecuador. Representatives from twenty-eight member organizations met and adopted a series of resolutions that reaffirmed our shared bioregional vision, strengthened governance structures, expanded commitments to gender equity and youth leadership, and established priority actions for territorial protection and bioregional finance. These resolutions provided a clear mandate for the Alliance's work in 2026.

The following five strategic pillars represent our current priorities:



Secure Our Territories & Rights

Strengthen our organizational, technical, and political capacities to legalize, govern, and defend our territories and our rights.



Advance Indigenous Wellbeing

Support Indigenous economies and livelihood by funding and implementing programs for food sovereignty, forest conservation and restoration, health, renewable energy, women's empowerment and youth leadership.



Grow Strategic Alliances & Collective Advocacy

Deepen our strategic alliances regionally and globally to coordinate collective actions to halt extractive industries, defend Indigenous Peoples' rights and the rights of Nature.



Strengthen Governance, Capacity and Learning

Strengthen the Alliance's coordinating capacity, governance and our financial sustainability while instituting a robust monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) system to track our progress towards our strategic objectives.



Mobilize Resources at Scale

Establish the Amazon Sacred Headwaters Bioregional Fund, a grant-making vehicle and revolving loan fund designed to mobilize and channel resources necessary for the full implementation of the Bioregional Plan 2030.

Context: Growing Political Volatility

ASHA's work during this period has unfolded in a context of increasing political volatility in both Ecuador and Peru. Over the past months, the Ecuadorian government has introduced new laws and regulations that expand state authority over civil society organizations and weaken safeguards for Indigenous rights. The implementation of the new "Foundations Law" has created an environment of significant uncertainty for nonprofits, establishing invasive monitoring mechanisms and explicit prohibitions against supporting activities that the government may consider obstructive to extractive projects. These measures have direct implications for organizations like ASHA that work to defend Indigenous territories and champion environmental protection. During the months of September and October, the Ecuadorian government

attempted to intimidate Indigenous movement protests against oil and mining policies by temporarily freezing the bank accounts of various Indigenous organizations, including the personal accounts of over 60 leaders.

At the same time, pressures to expand oil, mining, and infrastructure projects continue to grow, creating heavier burdens on Indigenous nations, who are already facing public health emergencies caused by a lack of medical infrastructure and contamination from illegal mining. This context underscores the urgency of ASHA's work: strengthening territorial governance, supporting Indigenous rights, protecting ecosystems, and creating alternative economic pathways that do not rely on extraction.





Chapra woman. Photo: Eduardo Pichilingue Ramos / ASHA.

In Peru during recent months, ASHA's team has been navigating one of the most politically turbulent periods in recent history. The removal of President Dina Boluarte in October 2025, and the subsequent dissolution of the cabinet of ministers, created a vacuum that directly affected progress on Indigenous territorial agendas.

Despite this instability, our team strived to maintain continuity in dialogue with state institutions by rapidly reestablishing communication with new ministerial teams, rebuilding bridges, and generating fresh commitments, particularly with the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Irrigation (MIDAGRI), the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion (MIDIS), Ministry of Education (MINEDU), the Ministry of Culture (MINCUL),

the National Office of Electoral Processes (ONPE), and regional authorities.

Through coordinated technical and legal support, our team helped secure high-level technical working groups, opening pathways for major institutional improvements benefiting the Achuar, Shawi, and Chapra nations. These engagements resulted in concrete political commitments including strengthened food assistance programs, bilingual education, expansion of the Datem del Marañón UGEL, and progress on land-titling processes.

Complementing this, the ASHA technical team continues to coordinate actions with Indigenous organizations such as CORPI, AIDSESP, and FENAP, ensuring unified political positions across national platforms.



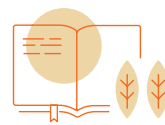


2025 EVA Graduating Students. Photo: ASHA.

Preparing Future Forest Guardians: Living School of the Amazon (EVA)



EVA students during the graduation ceremony of the Class of 2025. Photo: ASHA.



46 graduates from the Ecuadorian and Peruvian Amazon, specializing in territorial monitoring and solar energy

Empowering youth leadership continued to be one of ASHA's most dynamic program areas. In March of 2025, the Living School of the Amazon (EVA) concluded its second cohort with the graduation of 46 young people from the Ecuadorian and Peruvian Amazon. EVA entered into a formal partnership with NaturaTech LAC, which made donations of vital technology to the school, including computers, drones, and digital cameras.

Students applied their academic learning in their territories, returning to their communities to implement proposals developed during training, with support through follow-up visits and virtual classes. EVA held two specialized training sessions: one on territorial monitoring technologies in partnership with NaturaTech LAC, and one on solar energy with Kara Solar and Indigenous Clean Energy—allowing EVA students and Indigenous territorial monitors to strengthen their technical capacities. Additionally, ASHA held a territorial monitoring session with the winner of XPRIZE Rainforest. Limelight Rainforest and their regional partner Selvatek for participants from seven Indigenous nations and EVA students.



Photo: NaturaTech LAC.

ASHA hired two EVA alumni as fellows for a rotational internship with ASHA's technical team. One of them was selected as part of a group of twenty young leaders from around the world to participate in the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress. EVA's intergenerational, experiential approach ensures that young leaders graduate not only with knowledge and practical mentorship from seasoned leaders and wisdom keepers, but with networks, confidence, and tangible project proposals that benefit their communities immediately.

The EVA coordination team has completed a strategic planning process projecting the school's growth and institutionalization process. EVA's 5-year strategic plan proposes the design of a proper campus once the school becomes an independent institution under the name of *Forest Wisdom Institute*.

ASHA also held a Youth Climate Leadership Workshop as part of the Amazonian Diplomacy School, "From the Roots: Indigenous-Led Climate Negotiation," organized in partnership with WWF Ecuador, Fundación Pachamama, Transforma, and Climate Action Network Latin America (CANLA).



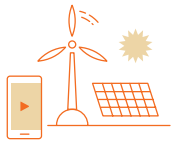
An EVA student at a NaturaTech LAC workshop. Photo: NaturaTech LAC.





Chapra mother and child in Sicuanga river, Loreto. Photo: Lorena Mendoza Egúsqiza / ASHA.

Strengthening Indigenous Territorial Governance



6 Solar-powered satellite internet hubs installed

In 2025, ASHA focused on strengthening territorial governance and stewardship systems for six Autonomous Territorial Governments (GTAs) in a remote region of northern Peru, including the Kandozi, Chapra, Kukama Kukamiria, Shiwilu, Shawi, and Inka. We held strategic planning workshops, peer-to-peer exchanges, and began the work of systematizing the technical dossiers for land claims preparation.

Our team conducted comprehensive needs assessments with the six Autonomous Territorial Governments (GTAs) of their ancestral lands covering 6 million hectares, currently not legally recognized by the Peruvian state. Our work has laid the foundational road map for strengthening the GTAs' capacity for territorial governance and stewardship.

We also installed 6 solar-powered satellite internet hubs to facilitate communication and coordination on an ongoing basis.

In parallel, the team provided specialized legal support to the Shawi Territorial Government, enabling it to establish coordination with the Center for the Development of the Native Amazonian (CEDIA), one of the most experienced civil society actors in community land titling in Loreto. Together, they prioritized the communities most vulnerable to threats such as the Balsapuerto–Moyobamba highway and 11 mining concessions granted to First Quantum Minerals Peru mining company. The team also supported territorial monitoring and defense efforts by drafting statements, formal petitions, and coordinating meetings with state authorities.

For the Chapra GTA, ASHA's legal accompaniment proved essential in actions related to the expulsion of illegal loggers and land invaders, reinforcing Indigenous authority over their territories. These advances strengthened the legitimacy and operational capacity of the GTAs, consolidating their role as autonomous Indigenous governments defending land rights, territorial integrity, and self-determination.



This is one of the women from the Food Sovereignty Pilot Programme community. Photo: ASHA.

Food Sovereignty Pilot Program



35 native species
planted (more than
6,278) on **6,500m²**
of restored land

ASHA launched a food sovereignty pilot project in the **Shiwiar community of Panintza**. The initiative integrates agroecological gardens and small-scale fish farming to improve nutrition and preserve biocultural heritage, planting more than 6,278 plants of over 35 native species on 6,500 square meters of restored land.

This model combines ancestral knowledge with contemporary approaches, recovering more than 35 native species alongside fruit trees and short-cycle crops. Its objective is to promote healthy nutrition, restore local ecosystems, and

foster self-sufficiency, ensuring the long-term wellbeing of the community.

Project implementation is organized in phases, beginning with community training, followed by the creation of agroecological gardens and the installation of ponds for raising local fish species. This approach ensures continuous and sustainable intervention, supported by economic incentives that reinforce community responsibility. Through ongoing monitoring, the project seeks to increase biodiversity, improve nutritional health, and generate new economic opportunities through the sale of surplus production. This model has the potential to be replicated in other Amazonian communities, expanding its reach and ensuring program continuity.

In the **Kichwa community of Pacayacu**, ASHA funded women leaders who have begun a participatory diagnostic process to strengthen ancestral agroforestry, focusing on seed management and soil conservation. ASHA supported a series of training sessions in the community for women who would like



Tubers harvested by the community as part of the food sovereignty project. Photo: ASHA.

to become seed guardians. The project is being implemented in close collaboration with the elected representative for Women of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of the Ecuadorian Amazon (CONFENIAE).

In Peru, our team continued to deepen its work to strengthen Indigenous bioeconomies and community-based production systems. A major milestone was the successful incorporation of the **Achuar Shakaim Cooperative** into the AmazonBeEco initiative, an international program fostering regenerative bio-enterprises. This will allow the cooperative to

access specialized training, financial literacy tools, and business mentorship provided by the NESsT investment fund. The cooperative now forms part of a regional cohort of 25 Indigenous and local bio-enterprises. Through AmazonBeEco workshops, Shakaim has begun improving its operational processes and cooperative governance, and identifying pathways to scale and increase income for families linked to agroforestry products. The program positions Indigenous communities as central actors in the region's transition toward a regenerative bioeconomy.





Members of the Cuchaentza community are taking important steps in implementing a pre-project aimed at strengthening food sovereignty through an integrated approach that combines ancestral knowledge, agroecological systems, and territorial regeneration. This initiative is part of a collaborative effort between the Cuchaentza Association, ASHA, NASHE, and Shuar leaders. Photo: Fabricio López / ASHA.

Indigenous-Led Regeneration and Bioeconomy Livelihoods

ASHA and Fundación Pachamama teamed up to plan a joint program with the goal of restoring 10,000 hectares of degraded cattle ranching areas across Shuar and Achuar territories in Morona Santiago, Ecuador. The initiative will integrate cattle removal, assisted natural regeneration, enrichment planting, and edible forest gardens to revive riparian zones and wildlife corridors while strengthening food sovereignty and regenerative livelihoods, including the cultivation of cocoa, coffee, and vanilla.

The Pachamama Alliance has secured funding for the pilot phase and is working jointly with ASHA to raise the additional funds to restore

the first 1,000 hectares. ASHA has hired community liaisons to formalize agreements with participating communities, while parallel efforts are advancing the development of robust measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems for impact data collection and learning. Field research is currently underway to analyze cattle-ranching dynamics and design measures to prevent deforestation leakage.

Beginning in 2026, the project will invest in Indigenous team capacity building, establish native seed nurseries, and engage communities in co-designing restoration activities.



Jacob Espinar, President of FiAAP, Lidia Dahua, Achuar woman and Elmer Kunchim, President of FENAP. Photo: Eduardo Pichilingue Ramos / ASHA.

Response to Growing Health Crisis in the Bioregion



37 remote communities received medical support across the Amazon

The Amazon Sacred Headwaters Bioregion is facing a deepening public health crisis driven by contamination from oil spills, illegal mining, and extractive industries, compounded by government neglect, lack of medical infrastructure, and the collapse of vaccination systems. In Peru, a whooping cough epidemic, along with other undiagnosed and untreated illnesses, has caused more than 30 child deaths, hitting Kandozi, Achuar, and Chapra communities the hardest. Meanwhile, in Ecuador, leptospirosis, yellow fever, dengue, and malaria are spreading in remote areas with limited access to safe water and healthcare.

In Ecuador, Amazon Sacred Headwaters Alliance and Fundación Pachamama, in partnership with the Ecuadorian Ministry of Public Health, local health districts, Indigenous organizations, and municipal governments,

mounted a rapid and coordinated response to a severe health crisis in Achuar and Shuar territories. Since March, we have supported the organization of 18 emergency evacuation flights, the deployment of 402 medical brigades, more than 10,600 medical consultations, and the delivery of vital supplies including food kits, oral rehydration solutions, clothing, and hygiene items. We also supported vaccination and health education campaigns, laboratory diagnostics, vector control measures, and the installation of water purification systems. These actions reached 37 remote communities, saving lives, reducing disease transmission, and strengthening the resilience of Indigenous forest guardians in one of the most biodiverse regions of the Amazon.



Achuar child affected by illness. Photo: FIAAP - FENAP.



Jacob Espinar and Lidia Dahua in an interview. Photo: BEO Noticias.

In Peru, the emergency has spanned the entire year and has been further complicated by political instability and the frequent turnover of ministers. These changes triggered the replacement of key personnel within the Ministry of Health. This forced ASHA to restart communication channels with new authorities, while also creating a strategic opening to advocate for stronger health interventions in Indigenous territories. In 2025, the most significant gap identified remained the lack of access to healthcare and the lack of intercultural appropriateness in services delivered to communities.

In Peru, ASHA played a key coordination and advocacy role, ensuring that Indigenous authorities were heard at senior levels of government and placing the health crisis on the national media agenda. The team

supported the development and approval of four national joint statements, signed by the Regional Coordinator of Indigenous Peoples of San Lorenzo (CORPI-SL), the Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Rainforest (AIDESEP), and six regional Indigenous organizations, that elevated the urgency of the ongoing crisis.

In parallel, ASHA accompanied four delegations of Shawi, Achuar, and Chapra leaders traveling to Lima, facilitating meetings with the Ministry of Health, the National Center for Epidemiology, Prevention and Disease Control, the Ministry of Culture, and the Ombudsman's Office at national and regional levels, as well as multiple interviews with specialized health press, streaming programs, and international media to amplify concern around the health alert affecting children in their territories. One of the most notable media collaborations was with the independent Peruvian outlet Sapiens, which reached 478,341 views on Instagram.

Collaboration with civil society allies such as *Voces Ciudadanas* increased pressure on the Medical College of Peru, leading to public pronouncements and institutional action. These efforts resulted in a concrete state commitment: the deployment of 50 medical brigades with specialized personnel to the Datem del Marañón, backed by newly allocated public funds for emergency response. However, the Peruvian state refused to declare the corresponding health emergency despite the scale of the epidemic and the repeated requests presented by the organizations accompanied by ASHA.

18

**Emergency
evacuation flights
organized**

402

**Medical
brigades
deployed**

10K+

**Medical
consultations
facilitated**

Regrants for Institutional Strengthening, Emergencies and Assemblies

ASHA maintained a dedicated emergency fund and protocol to address urgent situations, supporting more than 20 emergency cases, including health crises and security measures for leaders whose lives are at risk or who face threats from extractive industries. ASHA also made more than 70 institutional strengthening grants to its members for a variety of programs and projects. We continued to improve internal systems to better monitor resource flows to territories, Indigenous leadership across programs, community participation, and organizational resilience.

CORPI meeting with the 6 Indigenous Nations of Datem del Marañón presidents. Photo: Segundo Chuquipiondo / ASHA.



20+ Emergency Cases Supported

70+ Institutional Strengthening Grants Awarded





During July 2025, our President, Uyunkar Domingo Peas Nampichkai, participated in the first Harmony Summit hosted by The King's Foundation at Highgrove Gardens – a powerful encounter between Indigenous wisdom and global leadership. Photo: The King's Foundation / Ian Jones Photography.

Regional and Global Advocacy



6 International Forums – 200 communities and 19 organizations represented

During 2025, ASHA intensified its support to the **Autonomous Territorial Government of the Shawi Nation** in the face of a growing territorial crisis threatening their ecological, cultural, and political integrity. The Shawi Nation, which brings together around 200 communities in the provinces of Alto Amazonas and Datem del Marañón in Loreto, faces simultaneous pressure from a road project promoted between Balsapuerto and Moyobamba and from eleven mining concessions granted to First Quantum Minerals Perú S.A.C., overlapping forests, rivers, and ancestral territories of several communities. These initiatives have advanced without adequate participation or prior consultation processes and in a context of weak state presence that

does not fully recognize the Shawi GTA as a legitimate political interlocutor. In addition, the Shawi Nation faces structural limitations in territorial defense: a lack of consolidated legal personhood, insufficient specialized technical staff, limited access to communication tools, and few legal instruments to oppose extractive concessions overlapping its territory.

In response, ASHA deployed a comprehensive strategy of organizational strengthening, legal defense, and public visibility. The Alliance supported internal coordination processes of the Shawi people through spaces for political deliberation and technical training for their authorities, ensuring territorial leadership had legal information on mining legislation, prior consultation mechanisms, and tools for defense against extractive projects. At the same time, ASHA advanced a legal defense strategy against the mining concessions and coordinated with specialized organizations such as the Center for the Development of the Native Amazonian (CEDIA) to prioritize vulnerable communities and move forward on land titling and territorial security. ASHA also supported the drafting of statements, formal petitions, and meetings with state



Elmer Kumchim, President of FENAP. Photo: MOCICC.

authorities to demand transparency regarding projects affecting the territory. Finally, ASHA strengthened the public communications strategy of the Shawi GTA, promoting interviews and media coverage that placed the voices of its authorities in international media, highlighting the risks posed by mining expansion and the road to sacred forests, headwaters, and the cultural continuity of the Shawi Nation.

Also, three years after a July 2022 spill from the Norperuano pipeline, two abandoned temporary camps remain, with 300 sacks of crude-contaminated material leaching toxins into land and waterways. In the middle of 2025, ASHA organized meetings with leaders from the Shawi and Environmental Assessment and Oversight Agency (OEFA), PETROPERU, and relevant ministries, and developed communications materials to publicize the case. The team supported the filing of a new environmental complaint with supporting evidence, resulting in OEFA conducting new field inspections and sampling in June 2025.

ASHA coordinated the **Peru Working Group on Hydrocarbon Impacts** within the National Coordinator for Human Rights (CNDDHH), together with OXFAM Peru. This group brings together a total of 19 organizations to address the impacts of oil exploitation. We issued joint statements against violence toward forest defenders, against harmful legislative proposals, and demanding accountability from state institutions regarding hydrocarbon impacts on local communities.

Among the Working Group's principal achievements in 2025 was helping foster public debate around a just energy transition and a bill proposing the Peruvian Amazon as an exclusion zone for oil activity. This debate featured representatives of the Achuar, Chapra, and Kichwa nations and AIDSEP, alongside members of the Parliamentary Network for a Fossil-Free Future from Peru, Colombia, and Ecuador. With this group, ASHA helped organize a press conference, a public forum, and advocacy efforts in the Congress of the Republic of Peru. These actions also helped build articulation ahead of the Amazon





ASHA indigenous delegations at global events. Bottom left: Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland with Olivia Bisa, President of the Chapra Nation. Photos: MOCICC and ASHA.

Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO). Additional advocacy actions took place during the visit of United Nations Special Rapporteur on Climate Change Eliza Morgera in October.

At the **UN Convention on Biological Diversity COP16** in Colombia in October 2024 and subsequently in Italy in February of 2025, ASHA co-developed a unified position with the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of the Ecuadorian Amazon (CONFENIAE), the Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Rainforest (AIDESEP), and Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon River Basin (COICA) that advocated for the creation of a subsidiary body on Indigenous issues within the CBD framework. The subsidiary body was eventually adopted and emerged as a key outcome of COP16.

At COP16 of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification in Saudi Arabia, ASHA participated in the opening of the first Indigenous Peoples' Forum, presented the Declaration on Sacred Lands, and took part

in the One Water Summit, where President Uyunkar Domingo Peas called for the forging of alliances linking water, women, and territorial defense.

The Alliance participated in panels and talks at various global gatherings ranging from Bioneers to **London and NY Climate Week**. We engaged with current and new allies and donors and participated in high-level events and strategy meetings.

At **COP30 in Belém**, ASHA played a central role in advancing Indigenous-led climate solutions. We launched our Life Zones campaign, calling for recognition of territories essential for planetary balance, beginning with the Amazon biome as exclusion zones to fossil fuels, and convened a major event to officially launch the capital-raising phase of the Amazon Sacred Headwaters Bioregional Fund. Although COP30 concluded without the breakthroughs urgently needed, the experience reaffirmed that Indigenous Peoples are leading the way forward.





Part of the Sharamentsa community monitoring team. Photo: Fundación Pachamama and the Sharamentsa Community.

Innovative Financial Mechanisms

Developing innovative financial mechanisms to support Indigenous-led forest conservation remained a central pillar of ASHA's strategy to support self-determination, territorial defense, and regenerative livelihoods.



Jaguar captured on a camera trap in Kapawi. Photo: Kapawi Community and Fundación Pachamama.

Jaguar Biocultural Stewardship Units

ASHA took part in a consortium implementing the Jaguar Biocultural Stewardship Strategy with the **Achuar community of Sharamentsa**, Regen Network, Fundación Pachamama, Stoknes Futures, and NaturaTech LAC. Blockchain-based Jaguar Tokens are issued tied to ecosystem health indicators such as jaguar presence. This pilot project in Sharamentsa combines forest monitoring using satellite imagery, drones, camera traps, and a

real-time data dashboard. The data underpins the issuance of Jaguar Units on a blockchain registry, which are then sold to generate revenue to fund the community's life plan. The model is scaling to three adjacent Achuar communities who are resisting a proposed road through their territory.

Amazon Sacred Headwaters Bioregional Fund

In 2025, ASHA and the BioFi Project launched a participatory process to create the Amazon Sacred Headwaters Fund, a bioregional grant-making vehicle and revolving loan facility. To fund the Bioregional Plan and address the scale of the threats facing this bioregion, we must mobilize resources at least 20 times our current funding level. The Fund's governance structure is taking shape within our Ecuadorian organization. During the year, workshops were held, over 25 interviews were conducted, and work advanced on the governance architecture. With a robust monitoring, learning, and evaluation program to guide its impact, the Fund is being designed to channel sustained, transparent resources to the critical efforts to protect rainforest and defend Indigenous rights and support bioeconomy enterprises for decades to come. During COP30, ASHA held a public event to launch the Fund and invited more than 40 philanthropists and impact investors to make commitments.

Global Recognition and Partnerships

ASHA's work gained global visibility over the past year. Highlights included participation in Climate Week in New York and London. The Alliance was featured as a case study in a book about collaborative action and appeared in a cover story in **Stanford Social Innovation Review**. In October 2025, Alliance President Uyunkar Domingo Peas received the **WinWin Gothenburg Sustainability Award** for his trailblazing leadership.

ASHA continued to participate in a number of global networks, including the Circular Bioeconomy Alliance, the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature, Artists for Amazonia, Rights and Resources International, NaturaTech LAC, and Regen Network. During the year, we also formed several new partnerships, including with the Collaborative for Systemic Climate Action and the BioFi Project.



Alliance President Uyunkar Domingo Peas received the WinWin Gothenburg Sustainability Award for his trailblazing leadership. Photo: WIN WIN Gothenburg Sustainability Award.

2024 EarthShot Prize Finalists Uyunkar Domingo Peas and Atossa Soltani joined The Prince of Wales at London Climate Week. Photo: Andrew Parsons / Kensington Palace.



Our Communications

Between January and December 2025, ASHA's digital communications strategy significantly expanded the public reach of advocacy work and the visibility of initiatives led by the Alliance and its member organizations.

Across our social media platforms, we registered more than 2.45 million impressions.



1.6 million
(Spanish)



752K **54.5K**
(Spanish) (English)

During the same period, ASHA experienced sustained audience growth, gaining thousands of new followers.



1,205 followers
(Spanish)



2,542 followers
(Spanish)

By the end of 2025, our total number of followers reached the highest it's ever been.



4,678
(Spanish)



6,637
(Spanish)

2,710
(English)



2,189
(Spanish)

403
(English)



At the same time, the work of ASHA and its allies was covered by international media such as Reuters, Yahoo News, the World Economic Forum, Infobae, and Mongabay, among others, generating an estimated potential audience of between 80 million and more than 100 million people through international press, analysis platforms, and global news agencies. These appearances helped position Indigenous-led territorial protection proposals and the strategic importance of the region in international public debate.



Leaders of the Indigenous Nations of Peru meet with parliamentarians calling for a fossil fuel-free future. Photo: Eduardo Pichilingue / ASHA.

Media and Public Positioning



19 media outlets covered the "For an Amazon Free of Oil" campaign

During 2025, the Amazon Sacred Headwaters Alliance achieved one of its most visible milestones in public positioning through the dissemination of the message "For an Amazon Free of Oil," coordinating national and international media coverage stemming from the working breakfast held on August 5 at the Congress of the Republic. The strategy included drafting press releases, direct outreach to media outlets, and interviews with Indigenous authorities, which helped place an urgent discussion on just energy transition, environmental remediation, and the defense of Indigenous peoples' rights on the public agenda. The result was a strong, coordinated, and politically timely presence in key media outlets.

At the international level, media advocacy amplified ASHA's political reach through publications and mentions in **Agencia EFE, Swissinfo, ABC of Spain, Radio Caracol, El Universo, Yahoo News, La Patria, El Día, W Radio, and TeleSur**. This regional and international expansion reinforced the idea that the Amazon oil crisis is not an isolated local issue, but rather a continental debate tied to climate justice and alternatives to extractivism. In addition, the coverage gave visibility to the coordination between parliamentarians from

Peru, Colombia, and Ecuador and Indigenous leaders, showing a shared agenda aimed at halting oil expansion in the Amazon in the lead-up to larger political processes, including COP30.

At the national level, the impact was also significant, with coverage in major national media outlets such as **RPP TV, Infobae, Caretas, Epicentro, La Indómita, and Servindi, as well as interviews on RPP, TV Perú, and Exitosa TV and radio**. This coverage allowed the debate to move beyond specialized spaces and reach broader audiences, linking the issue of oil spills to concrete demands for remediation, prior consultation, and territorial protection.

The content circulated in the media during 2025 was supported by compelling data and spokespersons with substantial political and territorial authority. It was highlighted that between 1997 and 2023, 1,460 oil spills occurred in Peru, of which 831 affected the Amazon, and that in 2025 alone, Block 192 had already recorded 15 new spills, demonstrating the persistence of a structural crisis. At the same time, testimonies from Indigenous representatives and allies of the Amazon Sacred Headwaters Alliance reinforced that the impacts of oil extraction are sanitary, cultural, and environmental. The advocacy actions that the Alliance maintained throughout 2025 before the Peruvian State in response to the consequences of the spill that occurred in Andoas in October 2024 show continuity between public denunciation and political action.

2025 Financial Report



2025 Income Summary	Amount (USD)	%
Foundations & Institutional Donors	\$1,121,891	82.8%
Individual Donors	\$214,617	15.8%
Online Donations	\$18,647	1.4%
Total	\$1,355,155	100.0%



2025 Expense Summary	Amount (USD)	%
Programs	\$915,296	47.8%
Re-Grants	\$607,592	31.8%
Management & Operations	\$200,982	10.5%
Fundraising	\$189,596	9.9%
Total	\$1,913,466	100.0%

2025 Financial Position (Year End)	Amount (USD)
Opening Balance (Jan 2025)	\$1,067,211
Donations Received	\$1,355,155
Total Expenses	\$1,913,465
Net Change in Funds	\$(558,309)
Ending Cash Balance	\$508,902

2025 Financial Report

2025 Detailed Expenses		Amount (USD)	%
Re-Grants	Grants: Institutional Strengthening of Indigenous Orgs	\$470,499	24.6%
	Grants: Assemblies, Workshops & Projects	\$82,855	4.3%
	Urgent Action Grants: Territories & Health	\$54,238	2.8%
Programs	Regional and Global Advocacy Campaigns	\$174,065	9.1%
	Communications	\$105,542	5.5%
	Legal Programs & Strategies	\$42,532	2.2%
	Alliance Coordination, Governance, Annual General Assembly	\$143,654	7.5%
	Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL)	\$46,533	2.4%
	Education and Leadership Training / Escuela Eva	\$373,744	19.5%
	Reforestation / Restoration	\$22,837	1.2%
	Youth-Led Programs	\$6,390	0.3%
Fundraising		\$189,596	9.9%
Management & Operations		\$200,982	10.5%
Total		\$1,913,466	100.0%

In 2025, ASHA raised \$1.37 million, with 83% of funding coming from foundations and institutional donors. A total of 79% of total expenditures of \$1.9 million were directed toward programmatic implementation, including Indigenous governance strengthening, education and leadership development, advocacy, and conservation initiatives. Administrative and operational costs remained at 11%. The organization closed the year with a positive unrestricted cash balance, ensuring operational continuity into 2026. In addition during 2025, ASHA secured \$1,000,000 in pledges and multi-year grants for 2026 and 2027 not reflected in this report.

The Alliance is deeply grateful to our global network of institutional funders and individual donors and organizational allies for their financial support.

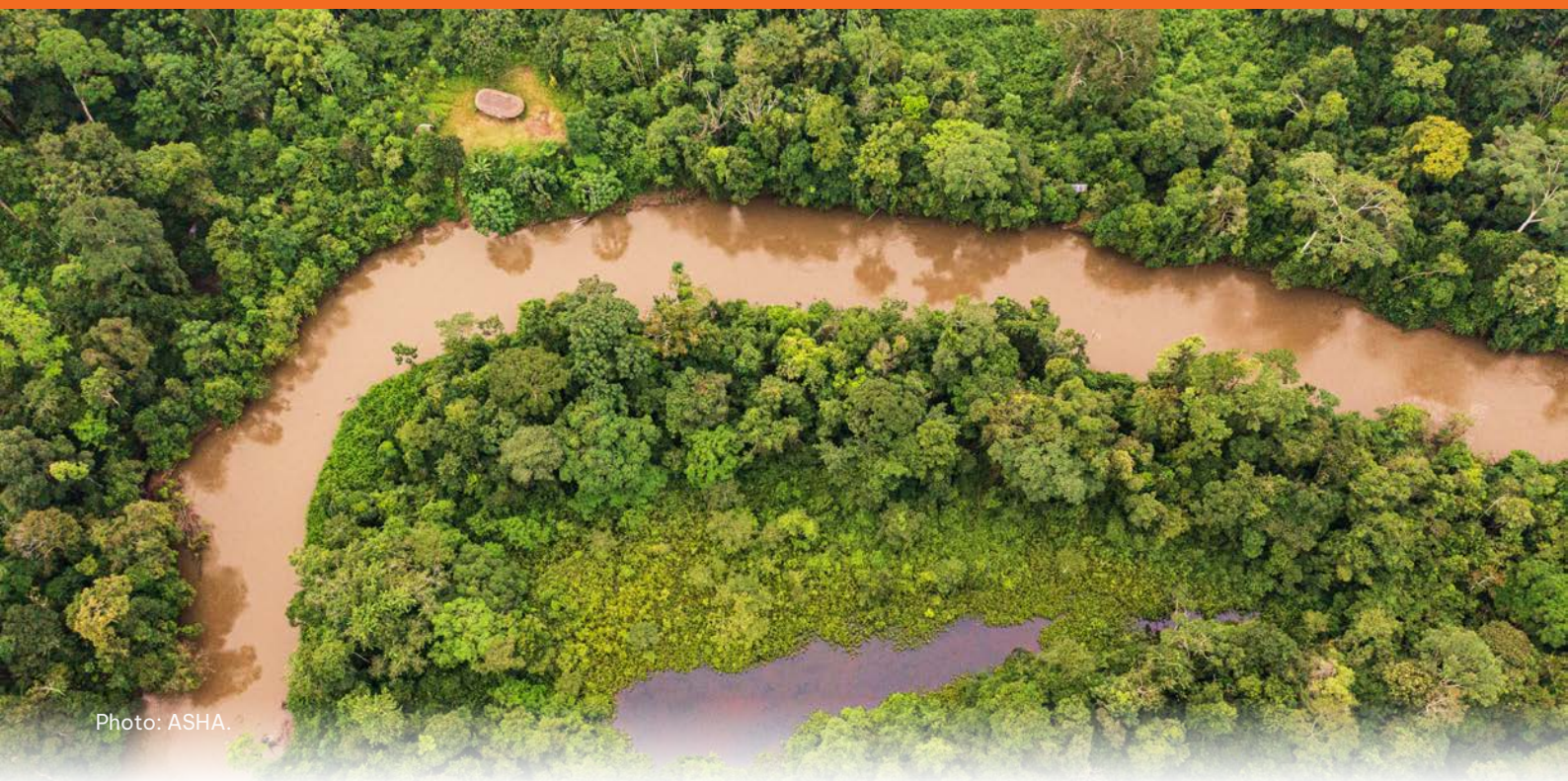


Photo: ASHA.

Thank You to Our Supporters

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 Synchronicity Earth
 The Mayten Foundation
 WinWin Gothenburg Sustainability Award

And to our donors who wish to stay anonymous, thank you.



Download this pdf for more information on our current priorities and programs.

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