



ANNUAL REPORT

REDD+ Brazil Nut Concessions 2023

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Bam
Bosques Amazónicos





Table of contents

- 1.- Introduction
- 2.- Madre de Dios: “Biodiversity Capital of Peru”
- 3.- About REDD+ Brazil Nut Concessions
- 4.- 2023 Milestones: Climate, Community and Biodiversity
 - 4.1.- Climate positive impact
 - 4.2.- Community impact
 - 4.3.- Biodiversity monitoring
- 5.- Other relevant milestones
- 6.- Contact

Introduction

Did you know that aprox. 20% of global greenhouse gas (GHE) emissions come from deforestation and harmful agricultural practices?

In the case of Peru, where around **200,000 hectares are lost per year**, **deforestation** accounts for over **50%** of the country's total CO₂ emissions (MINAM, 2020).

Experts have indicated that natural climate solutions, such as the conservation and restoration of forests and wetlands, can contribute up to one third of the emissions reductions needed to meet climate goals by 2030 (The Nature Conservancy, 2023). In this sense, the promotion of projects that seek to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) become immediate and essential strategies to fight the environmental crisis.

Since 2009, Bosques Amazonicos (BAM) has been developing REDD+ conservation projects in the Peruvian Amazon with the aim of fighting climate change, safeguarding the integrity of ecosystems and promoting the sustainable development of local communities.

Currently, BAM is developing **5 REDD+ conservation** projects in Peru.

- **REDD+ Brazil Nut Concessions:** +500,000 ha ; +700 partner families
- **REDD+ The Last Habitat:** +20,000 ha ; +835 families benefited
- **REDD+ Amazon Guardians:** 50,000 ha ; +130 partner families
- **REDD+ Forest Alliance:** 220,000 ha ; 16 partner families
- **REDD+ Indigenous Communities:** 316,223 ha ; 39 communities benefited



“Biodiversity Capital of Perú”

Madre de Dios is one of the **richest areas on the planet in terms of biodiversity**. This biologically abundant tropical rainforest of more than 85,000 km², constitutes an essential part of the Amazon River basin, in the southeast of Peru. This extraordinary region is recognized as one of the most biodiverse areas on the planet and the "Biodiversity Capital of Peru", as it is home to a great variety of flora and fauna, including some endangered species such as the jaguar, puma, tapir and the giant anteater. In the last 15 years, Madre de Dios has lost +200,000 hectares of rainforest, making it **one of the Peruvian regions most affected by deforestation, degradation and habitat fragmentation** (MINAM).

The Brazil nut forests of Madre de Dios provide sustainable livelihoods for thousands of local families who live in and from the forests and are home to thousands of wildlife species.

Through the strategic development and implementation of REDD+ Brazil Nut Concessions, BAM and its partners grouped in the Federation of Brazil Nut Producers of Madre de Dios, FEPRO-CAMD, contribute to improving the living standards of hundreds of Brazil nut growing families, positively impacting the socio-economic conditions of the region.



Social flytrap
Myiozetetes similis



Poison dart frog
Ameerega trivittata



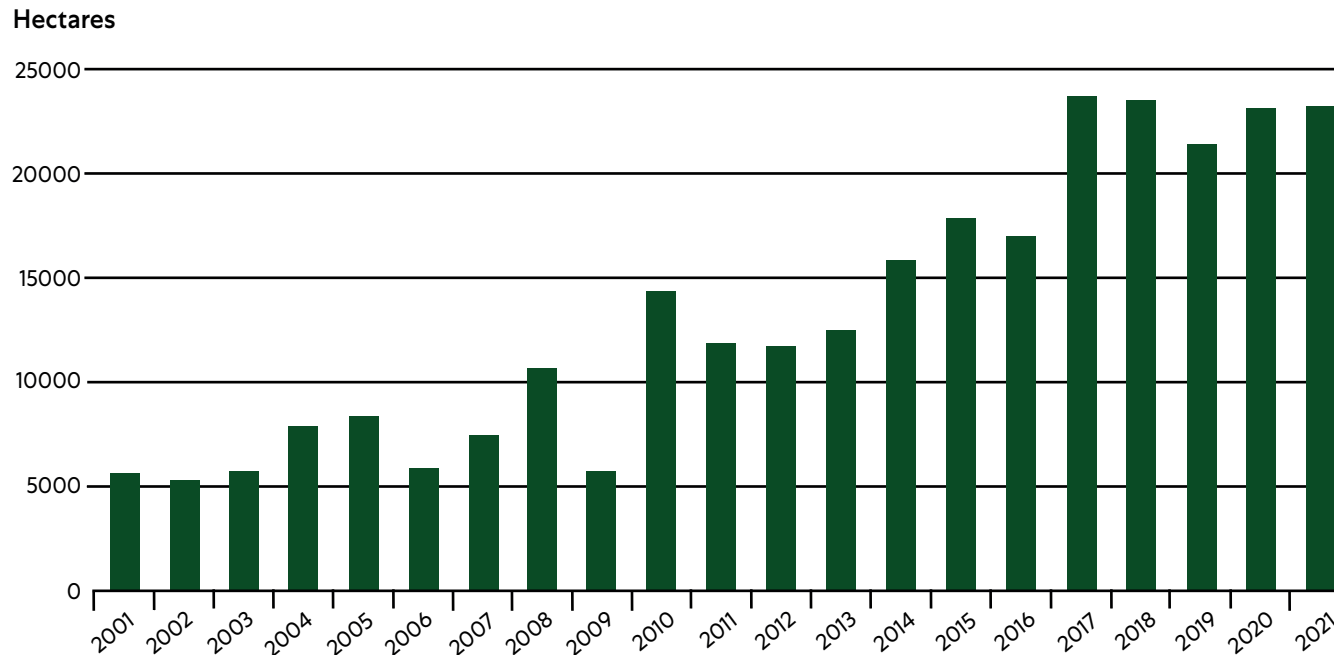
Añuje
Dasyprocta variegata

“Biodiversity Capital of Perú”

The ecological abundance of Madre de Dios has been threatened mainly by human pressure generated as a consequence of the construction of the Inter-Oceanic Highway (Brazil-Peru). Since its construction (2009), the migration of people to the area to exploit its valuable resources (such as timber and mining) has led to a 4x increase in the deforestation rate in the region (MINAM).

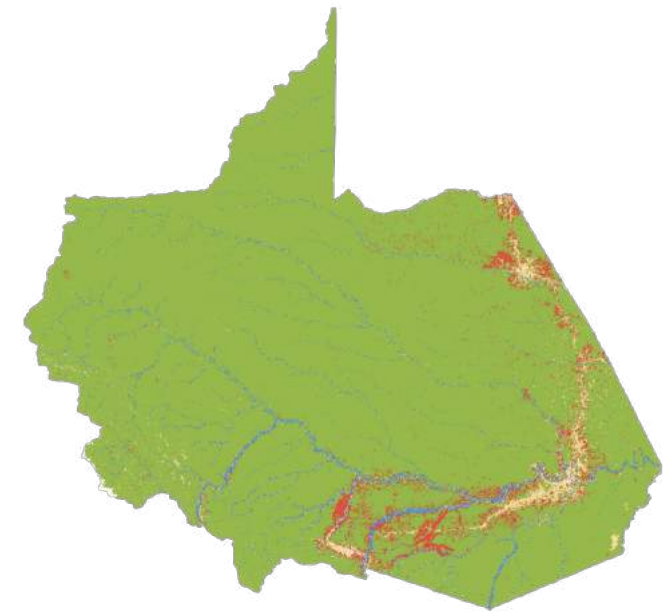
Madre de Dios is home to **primary Brazil nut forests** which are only found in a “natural triangle” formed on the borders between Peru, Brazil and Bolivia. These forests represent an essential habitat for diverse animal species and a vital resource for local communities.

Loss of Amazon forest in Madre de Dios



Source: Ministry of the Environment (MINAM)

Concentrated deforestation along the Interoceanic Highway



Source: Ministry of the Environment (MINAM)

About REDD+ Brazil Nut Concessions

The construction of the Inter-Oceanic Highway generated a **major threat to the forests of Madre de Dios** and specifically to the Brazil nut forests allocated to small local concessionaires in the region.

In response to this threat, since 2009, BAM has been working together with **+700 Brazil nut producing families** grouped in the Federation of Brazil nut producers of Madre de Dios (FEPROCAMD) with the purpose of **protecting +500,000 hectares of unique Brazil nut forests**, promoting sustainable economic development and improving the living conditions of concessionaire families, partners of the project.

+700 Brazil nut partner families

+500,000 ha of protected forests

+950 fauna species protected

+100 flora species protected

3,000 ha avoided from deforestation, on average per year

2.5 MM tons of CO₂e avoided per year

Being a grouped project, **new concessionaires and areas can be added** to the project over time. For example, during the last few years, **more than 300 new concessionaire families have joined REDD+ Brazil Nut Concessions project!**



2023 Milestones: Climate, Community & Biodiversity

In 2023, we continue to successfully develop our REDD+ Brazil Nut Concessions (REDD+ Brazil Nut) conservation project, contributing to the **protection of our forests**, which are unique in the world, and helping to **improve the quality of life** of hundreds of Brazil nut families.

To meet the project's objectives, we implemented various strategies and activities aimed at fulfilling the **climate, community and biodiversity (CCB) pillars**.

+500,000

hectares of megadiverse and unique Brazil nut forests protected in Madre de Dios, Peru.



Climate positive impact

Monitoring, control and surveillance system

In order to prevent, **identify and curb threats of deforestation and/or forest degradation** in the project's area of influence, we continue to implement and strengthen our integrated monitoring, control and surveillance system (MCSS) together with local authorities and our Brazil nut partners.

This system establishes and activates **protocols to act quickly and effectively** in response to potential threats in the area of influence, according to each type and degree. The system consists of 3 main pillars:



High-tech satellite monitoring



Field trips (with partners and authorities)



Permanent technical and legal assistance

Satellite monitoring and control:

We analyze **daily spatial** dynamics using sources such as Geobosques, NASA and Planet in order to identify **early warnings or hot spots** (possible deforestation threats) in the project's area of influence.

Monitoring and technical control:

With the data collected in satellite control and with the information gathered in the permanent visits to the concessions (surveillance patrols), our technical team in field activates the appropriate response protocols, which include a combination of **field inspections, patrols and legal advice**. To assist concessionaires, the expert technical team visits the concessions or project areas potentially affected to advise project partners in the process, **collecting evidence and making the necessary reports**, if necessary, to submit the respective allegations to the competent authorities.

It is worth mentioning that the **project partners actively participate in the monitoring system**. Through the use of technologies and applications such as “NoteCam” and “Avenza Maps”, they have the possibility to **report in real time** any threat or situation that might be occurring within their areas, to be immediately attended to by the project's technical and legal team.

To this end, **ongoing training is provided to the community** on the operation of the monitoring and control system and the use of technologies for surveillance of their forests.



Climate positive impact

Monitoring and legal control:

The system is accompanied by a **legal structure** where, once the information has been collected, the project's technical and legal team accompanies the concession partners in the process of filing complaints with the competent authorities, following up on the cases until their resolution.

REDD+ Brazil Nut works in **collaboration and support with authorities and other competent institutions** such as the Regional Government, the Forestry Directorate, FEMA, OSINFOR, etc. to carry out due diligence and interventions, ensuring the timely, adequate and legitimate resolution of cases. Through a coordinated effort, the response capacity to possible threats in the area and the general monitoring of our Brazil nut forests is strengthened.

In this manner, and through the implementation of other prevention and control strategies and activities, REDD+ Brazil Nut manages to **curb deforestation, preventing potential risks** (agriculture, illegal/mining, etc.) from affecting the area.

For more information, visit www.bosques-amazonicos.com/blog/en/brazilnutmcss/



Technical and legal assistance

In 2023, we continued to provide **ongoing technical assistance** to our partners to ensure the proper and sustainable management of their concessions, in line with the requirements established by law in the concession contracts. For example, we continue to provide support to the community in management services ("ordenamiento forestal"), boundary marking and placement of milestones at the corners of the concessions, which allows, among other things, to properly maintain the forest inventory and define the boundaries of the concessions for proper management of the areas.

The **concession management and boundary marking services** performed this year were carried out in collaboration with Consult-Forest, a company dedicated to providing services related to forest management, project development, proposals for the use of technologies, etc. We also continue to provide permanent technical support to our partners in the preparation of their management documents to be submitted to the competent authorities, favoring the adequate and sustainable administrative management of their forests.



Climate positive impact

Ongoing community training on sustainable forest management and other topics of interest

In 2023, we continued to provide **decentralized workshops to strengthen the technical and productive capacities** of concession holder families, promoting, among other topics, the monitoring and surveillance of concessions, the preservation of biodiversity and the development of sustainable productive activities. In this way, we seek to provide the community with greater capacities and tools to properly manage their forests, and to improve their livelihoods and those of their families around conservation and sustainable forest management.

These workshops play a **fundamental role in the fight for the preservation of our forests, reinforcing project partners' commitment** to conservation and the REDD+ project.

Some of the main workshops of 2023 were: “My Commitment with the project”, “Forest fire prevention workshop” (with the firefighters of Madre de Dios), “Strengthening of soft skills and leadership”, training in technological tools such as NoteCam and Avenza Maps applications for recording deforestation threats, among others.

We held +40 decentralized workshops to directly reach each project partner, in which +45% of participants were women!



45%



Community impact

In order to reduce the pressure (deforestation / degradation) on the forest and to promote sustainable development of the population, we seek to promote and implement initiatives that seek to:

- **Increase the economic capacity** of the community through access to diverse sources of income in activities related to conservation and sustainable forest management
- **Improve the basic needs** (health, education and others) of the local community.

Some of the projects implemented in 2023 with this objective are detailed below.

Sustainable productive projects

Aim: Recover/restore areas that had been degraded prior to the start of the project to generate sustainable income alternatives for the community in the short, medium and long term

Strategic partner: Peruvian Amazon Research Institute (IIAP)

● Agroforestry systems:

The project involves the implementation of agroforestry systems that combine **short (banana), medium (açai, cupoazú) and long term (Brazil nut) products** in an efficient and sustainable scheme for the benefit of the community. As part of the project, the REDD+ Brazil Nut team works in cooperation with IIAP to **provide material** (high quality seedlings) to the participating council members and **permanent technical assistance** for the establishment and **monitoring** of the installed plots to the participating concessionaire partners.

● Reforestation with Brazil nut:

The project involves the **enrichment (reforestation) of clearings** with Brazil nut (*Bertholletia excelsa*) to increase the productivity and benefits generated by the concessionaires in relation to this product, contributing to the environmental balance and proper conservation of the concessions. As part of the project, the REDD+ Brazil Nut team works in cooperation with IIAP to **provide material** (high quality Brazil nut seedlings) to the participating concessionaires and **permanent technical assistance** for the establishment and **maintenance** of the installed plants.



Community impact

Aim: Increase the productive and commercial capacity of project partners in relation to the Brazil nut activity

Strategic partner: ARCOMAD, CITE Productivo

● Organic Brazil nut certification and formation of “ARCOMAD”

The project involves providing support to concessionaires in achieving organic certification for their products, so that they can access better prices and market opportunities. To this end, training workshops, technical assistance, material for achieving certification, support in internships and business rounds, among others, were provided to concessionaires participating in the project.

Furthermore, REDD+ Brazil Nut also contributed this year to the formation and consolidation of the Madre de Dios Association of Organic Brazil Nut Collectors (ARCOMAD), a non-profit organization that aims to meet the requirements of good forest management to achieve organic certification of the Brazil nuts collected by its members, thus gaining access to better opportunities in the international Brazil nut market. In 2023, ARCOMAD obtained the organic certification for Brazil nuts, complying with national (Peru), European and North American regulations, and was able to close a first commercial agreement for its certified product. The REDD+ Brazil Nut technical team continues to support the cooperative in finding and establishing new commercial opportunities in the market.

● Value-added products with Brazil nuts:

With the same purpose of **increasing the commercial position of our partners in the Brazil nut market**, this year we continued our work in collaboration with the Center for Innovation and Technology of the Ministry of Production (CITE Productivo) to identify and develop value-added products derived from Brazil nuts.

For example: **snacks, oil, chocolates and Brazil nut flour**, among others, with potential markets in the United States, Korea and Europe (Spain and Germany).

● Sustainable harvesting of non-timber products:

As an additional initiative, in 2023 we promoted the sustainable use and harvesting of other non-timber forest products, specifically **palm fruits (aguaje and ungurahui)**, as a complementary activity for the benefit of our partners.

This project involves, among other things, **training** in the sustainable harvesting of fruits, **technical assistance** for the management of the corresponding management documents and the delivery of **materials** for the sustainable development of the activity.

“ With the support of REDD+ Brazil Nut Concessions in coordination with FEPROCAMD, we have formed our association ARCOMAD. The project has given us workshops and we have already obtained organic certification and have even sold our products. We are still being advised by the project as part of ARCOMAD's growth and I believe that REDD+ Brazil Nut is supporting us.

David Quispe, son of REDD+ Brazil Nut partner and member of ARCOMAD

Community impact

Brazil nut Scholarship Program

In a joint effort to **promote high quality academic opportunities** in the region, positively impacting the living standards of the Brazil nut partner families, this year we launched the first edition of our **Brazil Nut University Scholarship Program** in partnership with the National Amazonian University of Madre de Dios (UNAMAD).

Linda Valencia, Ruth Taipe and Kevin Quispe, children of our Brazil nut partners, are completing their university studies thanks to the Brazil nut Scholarship Program.

“ This is one of the most important moments for our project. Giving our members' children the opportunity to improve their quality of life and the future of their families is a notable achievement, which we proudly add to other milestones obtained since the beginning of the project.

Jorge Cantuarias, BAM's CEO and founder

“ Thanks to the REDD+ Brazil Nut project, my family, like many others, now has greater support in managing and protecting our forests and concessions. In addition, we directly receive other benefits that allow us to continue taking care of our forests. Currently, thanks to the project's Scholarship Program, I'm able to continue my university studies in Law and Political Science. When I finish, with the help of the scholarship, I will be able to help even more my family, the Brazil nut producers and the protection of our forests in Madre de Dios.

Ruth Taipe, daughter of Brazil nut partner and one of the winners of the Scholarship Program



Community impact

Delivery of economic benefits

In addition to the different benefits for the Brazil nut families provided through the activities implemented, REDD+ Brazil Nut delivers **economic benefits directly** to its partners as a result of conservation efforts and carbon credit sales.

US\$ 10 million delivered to the Brazil nut families, partners of our project

For more information, please visit
www.bosques-amazonicos.com/blog/en/economic-benefits/



Biodiversity monitoring

Technology and innovation: BAM's Science Program

BAM **promotes and develops scientific research** on the Amazon forests and their biodiversity as part of its value proposition to enhance the importance of these ecosystems and promote their conservation.

In 2023, we continued to implement BAM's Science Program, which aims to **periodically assess the ecological richness** (flora, fauna, water sources) to describe, understand and protect the value of biodiversity in our areas of influence.

Biodiversity expeditions

As part of "BAM's Science Program" we conducted several **expeditions in cooperation with prestigious organizations** such as CORBIDI, the Natural History Museum of the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, and the San Diego Zoo in the scope of our REDD+ projects, and specifically REDD+ Brazil Nut Concessions, in order to evaluate the biodiversity found in our areas of influence, **obtaining extraordinary results!**

For more information, please visit
www.bosques-amazonicos.com/blog/en/bams-science-program/
<https://www.bosques-amazonicos.com/blog/en/biodiversity-assessment/>



Biodiversity monitoring

Results of one of our expeditions

Learn about the results of one of BAM's scientific expeditions within the area protected by REDD+ Brazil Nut Concessions!

277 bird species

69 flora species

35 amphibian species

25 reptile species

34 mammal species

8 vulnerable species

2 endangered species



Science and community

We promote the participation of our partners and their families in project activities! We continued with our **Participatory Biodiversity Monitoring Program** with an expedition to "Villa Ana", a concession of one of our partners, Marita Vargas, in alliance with the Natural History Museum of the Universidad Mayor de San Marcos.

In this occasion, the activities began with a **theoretical discussion**, in which researchers from each specialty gave a scientific presentation in a laboratory area, before going out into the **field to carry out practical exercises**. The experience provided an opportunity to **exchange knowledge** about the value of biodiversity and its importance for conservation and environmental balance.

At the end of the expedition, participants **shared reflections and lessons learned**, highlighting the essential role of each species within the ecosystems, emphasizing how this type of **activity helps them to know their own forests better and to feel more identified and committed to their protection**.

For more detail: www.bosques-amazonicos.com/blog/en/scienceandcommunity-mdd/



Commitment & interest

New partners joining the project!

Over the past few years, **more than 300 concessionaires have joined our project!** This reflects the impact and success of REDD+ Brazil Nut Concessions project, the benefits it is bringing to the community and the commitment of the Brazil nut community to forest conservation.



Letter of commitment and celebration

This year our Brazil nut partners reaffirmed their commitment to the REDD+ Brazil Nut project and forest conservation through a **signed letter of declaration**, a milestone that was also celebrated at a Brazil nut fellowship reunion and camaraderie event.

For more information, please visit
www.bosques-amazonicos.com/blog/en/compromise-fellowship-event/
www.bosques-amazonicos.com/blog/en/redd-commitment/



Sustainable Development Goals

Compliance Report

We launched our Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Compliance Report! These global commitments established by the United Nations seek to achieve transformative change at all levels of society.



You can download the Report in www.bosques-amazonicos.com/blog/en/sdgs-bam/



Our REDD+ Brazil nut team

Meet us!

All these activities are implemented by **a team of +40 people** (agroforestry and related forestry specialists, lawyers, sociologists, communicators, among others) permanently dedicated to the management of the project and the attention of our Brazil nut partners.

Together with the entire BAM support team, we seek the best service and impact of our project.



Let's fight together against climate change!

Learn more about the impact of REDD+ Brazil Nut Concessions, BAM's conservation project in partnership with more than 700 families which protects +500,000 hectares of unique forests in Madre de Dios, Peru.



Bam

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**Private investment for
a sustainable world**

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