Mapping the Presence, Lands, and Territories of Afro-descendant Peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean

FINDINGS AND CHALLENGES FOR THE CLIMATE DEBATE AND COLLECTIVE TENURE RIGHTS







Policy Brief October 2022

Context of the study

The CoP26 explicitly recognized the crucial role Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendant Peoples, and local communities play in achieving the goals of adaptation to climate change and environmental conservation. Its general report pointed out that "the importance of protecting, conserving, and restoring ecosystems so that they provide crucial services, such as serving as sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases, reducing vulnerability to the effects of climate change, and sustaining sustainable livelihoods, in particular for indigenous peoples and local communities."

The identification and protection of ecosystems that provide services to reduce vulnerability to climate change requires a comprehensive view that combines an ecological consideration of these territories with their sociocultural and economic conditions. In Latin America, many of these ecosystems are found in the territories of Afro-descendant communities. The link between the protection of these ecosystems, effective action against climate change, and the importance of recognizing the culture and knowledge of local communities as a strategy to deal with impacts, was highlighted at CoP26.²

To make this link more visible, the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI), the Process of Black Communities (PCN) and the Pontifical Universidad Javeriana's Observatory of Ethnic and Campesino Territories (OTEC), in coordination with 20 grassroots organizations and researchers of Afrodescendant Peoples, carried out a joint investigation to identify the presence, lands, and territories of the Afro-descendant People in Latin America and the Caribbean. For the first time, a freely accessible cartographic viewer gathers decisive data in the region on the territorial presence and the significant relationship between these territories and areas of great importance for the conservation and stability of the terrestrial and oceanic climate. The cartographic viewer combines more than 100 state, private, and organizational sources and has been contrasted and enriched with cartographic information built in collaboration with representatives of the Afro-descendant communities in the countries studied (Appendix 1). It is the first time that there is a tool to visualize the population, territorial, and ecosystem data at a regional scale. This cartographic information is complemented by two analyses, one on the effectiveness of the regulations for the protection of local Afro-descendant communities' territorial rights, and a second on the census information of the Afro-descendant population in each of these countries. The link between population recognition through census and cartographic (spatial) information systems, the recognition and protection of their territorial rights, and the proper management of strategic ecosystems that favor adaptation to climate change is crucial for hundreds of local Afro-descendant communities that disproportionately face the impacts of climate variability in their territories.3

Study Results

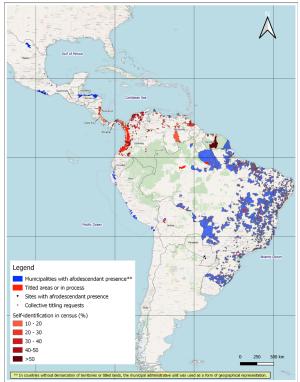
- This is the first tool to visualize the population, territorial, and ecosystem data at a regional scale of the territorial presence of Afro-descendant, Black, Maroon, Garífuna, and Creole peoples in 16 countries. ⁴ The territorial presence of these Peoples intersects with areas of ecological and strategic importance for the regulation and mitigation of climate change. These are decisive ecosystems for the conservation of biodiversity in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Nearly 145.8 million hectares of land has been mapped in the 16 countries with the presence of Afro-descendant Peoples. It is estimated that at least 403 protected areas overlap and/ or connect the cartographically identified territories with the presence of Afro-descendant Peoples.
- The Afro-descendant territories in countries such as Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Suriname, and Belize have a percentage of tropical rainforest that exceeds 60 percent. In Guatemala and Nicaragua, this percentage exceeds 40 percent of the territories with an Afro-descendant presence.
- Only four countries analyzed in the study have legal frameworks for the protection of the collective tenure rights of Afro-descendant Peoples (Colombia, Brazil, Ecuador, and Nicaragua). In the case of Suriname and Honduras, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACHR) has urged them to protect the territorial rights of Afro-descendant Peoples, but to date, they do not have an established procedure for recognition and titling. In the other countries, ancestral lands and areas of current occupation do not have solid protection systems for collective tenure rights over lands and territories.
- The most representative ecosystems inhabited by Afro-descendant People in the countries analyzed are tropical rainforests, dry forests, wetlands, savannahs, mangroves, sandy beaches, soft bottoms, salt marshes, estuaries, coastal lagoons, seagrass beds, rocky bottoms, coral reefs, macroalgae forests, and coastal plains in the Pacific, the Caribbean, and the Atlantic.
- Thirteen of the 16 countries analyzed have a significant presence of Afro-descendant Peoples in marine-coastal areas that are characterized by a clear marine influence up to the open sea. These ecosystems have supported Afro-descendant Peoples' way of life and have natural capacities to regulate and mitigate the impacts of storms and floods, phenomena that are becoming more frequent and intense in climate change scenarios.
- The results of the study show that for the effective protection of strategic ecosystems for adaptation to climate change, the recognition and protection of the tenure rights of Afrodescendant Peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean must be prioritized. Therefore, Afrodescendant Peoples should be a fundamental actor in regional and global discussions on climate change and conservation.

The cartographic viewer can be seen through this link.

Presence of local Afro-descendant communities and protected areas in Latin **America**

For decades, local Afro-descendant communities in Latin America have organized and demanded that states protect their territorial rights, which have been threatened by various types of pressure including extractive industries, the expansion of the agricultural frontier, and the implementation of restrictive environmental policies. These pressures have limited the exercise of customary rights of use and occupation, and create risks for their ways of life. The effectiveness and scale of these organizational exercises have depended to a certain extent on the recognition that states have given to these communities as political actors who can make decisions about what happens in their territories. The accelerated impacts of climate change have led to an increase in the vulnerability of socio-ecosystems essential for their economic, ecological, and cultural sustainability. Change is required in the public management of these ecosystems, which recognizes tenure rights, territorial rights, and the knowledge and practices of managing the natural systems of Afro-descendant populations in Latin America. Map 1 shows its population and territorial presence in critical areas for the implementation of public policies against climate change and biodiversity in an approximate continental area of 145.8 million hectares and shows a relationship between the lack of information on the population that identifies itself

Map 1. Population and territorial presence of Afro-descendant Peoples and their relationship with protected areas and ecosystems of particular importance



Protected areas refer to national declarations, and conservation protocols are declared areas under international instruments cited in Appendix 1. Sources cited in Appendix 1: Compilation and spatial analysis of RRI, PCN, and OTEC (2022).

as Afro-descendant and the weak recognition of their territorial rights.

Recognition policies for Afro-descendant Peoples and collective tenure rights

Although some countries have censuses that make it possible to account for the proportion of the population that self-identifies as Black or Afro-descendant, in most cases the data are estimates and tend to be controversial. According to available information, the ranges span from 56 percent to 0.2 percent, as follows:

Ranges of self-recognition as Afro-descendant in national census information*	Countries	
> 50%	Brazil (56%)	
30 – 40%	Panama (42%), Belize (36%)	
10 – 20%	Suriname (18%)	
< 10%	Colombia (9.34%), Nicaragua and Honduras (9%), Costa Rica (8%), Ecuador (7.1%), Mexico (2%), Venezuela (3.6%), Peru (3.5%), Guatemala (1%), Bolivia (0.2%)	
No census information	Paraguay and Chile	

^{*}Compilations based on national censuses and compared with Agudelo (2017) and World Bank (2018).

The legal frameworks for the recognition and protection of the territorial rights of Afro-descendant communities in Latin America are differentiated. While some countries recognize territorial rights beyond cartographic delimitations, others do not even recognize the collective nature of Afrodescendant communities' lands. Although some countries grant reinforced protection of Black communities' rights through the entitlement to the right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC), in other cases, the communities face regulatory frameworks that do not recognize their status as an ethnic group, nor do they offer differential treatment as a result. The degree of protection varies between each of the cases analyzed, with Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Honduras being those with the greatest degree of breadth in recognized rights compared to Belize, Chile, Mexico, Paraguay, and Suriname, whose legal frameworks are more incipient on collective tenure rights for Afrodescendant Peoples.

The consequences of the lack of recognition of Afro-descendant communities as an ethnically differentiated group varies from country to country. These include restrictive regulations concerning their fundamental right to FPIC, the lack of protection of land tenure rights and management of natural resources, and the limitation of Afro-descendant communities' political rights and participation.

Contributions for a discussion on climate change focused on Afro-descendant territories

The research identified five strategic ecosystems that are located in territories with a significant presence of Afro-descendant People in Latin America and the Caribbean: wetlands, rainforests, savannahs, mangroves, and dry forests. The recognition and protection of the territorial rights of Afro-descendant Peoples would be an effective way to preserve these ecosystems and fulfill the goals of adapting to and mitigating climate change and the conservation of biodiversity. Table 1 indicates what percentage of each of these ecosystems is found in local Afro-descendant communities' settlement areas in the countries included in the study where spatial data was available and analysis possible.

Table 1. Main ecosystems in areas with a presence of Afro-descendant Peoples

Ecosystem in areas with a presence of Afro-descendant Peoples (%)					
Country	Wetlands ⁶	Rainforests ⁷	Savannahs ⁸	Dry Forests ⁹	
Panama	1.75	75.75	0.69		
Belize	6.74	59.37	11.12	0.53	
Mexico	0.92	7.38	5.73	0.03	
Honduras	3.10	55.57	2.61		
Costa Rica	6.70	63.30	17.5		
Guatemala	10.92	49.74			
Ecuador	1	45	14.6	0.50	
Nicaragua	8.32	40.69		3.09	
Bolivia	58.11	33.5	0.26	5.55	
Colombia	3.76	79.3	2.55	2	
Peru	0.18	0.004	0.04	18.77	
Suriname	0.8	98		9.8	
Chile	2.07		5.41	2.78	

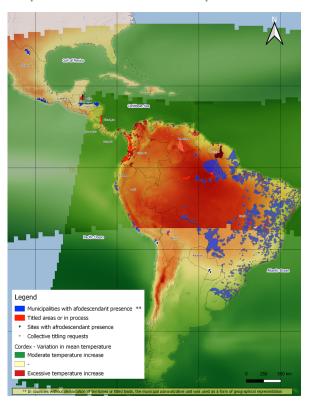
Source: RRI, PCN, and OTEC (2022).

These ecosystems fulfill important functions in terms of preventing effects related to climatic variations and contribute to adaptation to climate change. Properties such as ecosystem resilience, genetic diversity, physiological adaptations of dry forest species, in addition to the importance of aquifer recharge areas and wetlands, are crucial for climate regulation.¹⁰

Mangrove, dry forest, wetland, and savannah ecosystems are an integral part of the territoriality of the Afro-descendant People who inhabit, protect, and manage them, and provide material and cultural sustenance. The mangroves support fishing and medicinal practices, as well as mollusk and crustacean harvesting; the use of wood to build boats, construction rods, fishing elements, and firewood for cooking; and community tourism. 11 For Afro-descendant communities that live in rainforest areas, ecosystem services include regulating, provisioning, supporting and cultural services, timber harvesting, and medicinal plants. 12 Dry forests are the base for hunting systems, forest use, and traditional medicine. 13 The ecological characteristics of savannahs can be an alternative to sustainable grazing and effective use of wind and solar energy.14

As shown in Maps 2 and 3, climate change has significantly affected and will continue to affect these socio-ecosystems as well as the impacts that increase with the expansion of extractive activities without consultation that affect the effective use and control of common goods and the territorial rights of Afro-descendant Peoples. In most cases, they are caused by the expansion of the agricultural frontier, overexploitation of timber, cattle ranching, the establishment of extensive crops, and the construction of large-scale tourism projects that tend to privatize communal lands without legal protection. Various sources demonstrate how the construction of salt pans, shrimp farms, oyster and fish farming projects,15 the overexploitation of marine resources, the development of tourism projects, urbanization, and the construction of civil and port projects¹⁶ have led to the contamination of mangroves, increased sedimentation, salinity, and temperature of the ocean, loss of connectivity, and changes in the use of adjacent land and water flows.¹⁷ In the rainforests, the expansion of the agricultural frontier, mainly associated with cattle ranching and soybean and oil palm monocultures, was the cause of 40 percent of the deforestation recorded between 2000 and

Map 2. Excessive rise in temperatures



Map 3. Areas with the presence of Afro-descendant Peoples affected by increased coastal flooding



2010.18 Additionally, the establishment of extensive sugarcane, rice, and soybean crops and pastures for livestock activity is one of the causes related to the deforestation of the dry forest. 19 Some of the main causes of the fragmentation and degradation of wetlands worldwide are the advance of the agricultural frontier, the overexploitation of these water systems to meet irrigation needs, erosion, and urbanization.²⁰ Savannahs have been affected by large-scale agricultural processes, considering that they are old soils with high levels of leaching. Nitrates, phosphates, and sulfides must be added for sowing,²¹ affecting the soil's natural composition.²²

For the Afro-descendant Peoples of Mesoamerica and South America who live in coastal regions, marine ecosystems support their ways of life and cultural practices. Throughout the region, Afrodescendant organizations and Indigenous Peoples are reclaiming the sea as a space inhabited and managed ancestrally. In Nicaragua, Panama, Mexico, and Honduras, there is a significant overlap in the presence of Afro-descendant communities with areas already established with some level of protection through nature reserves, biosphere reserves, protected areas, and sanctuaries for flora and fauna. This overlap, although it has caused controversies regarding the rights of use, is also an opportunity to optimize financing mechanisms that comprehensively contemplate conservation activities in ecosystems already declared important in terms of resistance to impacts related to climate change and the protection of biodiversity, through the creation of local political instruments that provide security in terms of land tenure for Afro-descendant Peoples. The protection of Afrodescendant communities' livelihoods in Central America requires assurance in the use of marinecoastal ecosystems. This close relationship is a warning sign for the differential effects on these ecosystems in climate change scenarios. In this context, the generation of proprietary information focused on the characterization of the transformations in the use systems would allow the active and participatory monitoring of the communities when facing the effects of climate change. Likewise, this information would provide guidelines for the generation of mitigation and adaptation strategies.

In the countries analyzed, different pressures are identified, mainly associated with those related to the extraction of natural resources and the establishment of protected areas. This is why a rights-based conservation approach is needed in these countries where Afro-descendant Peoples are present but are not included in the dialogue of national conservation policies. As stated at CoP26 in Glasgow, the material guarantee of land tenure needs to be coordinated, as well as the assessment and recognition of territorial governance mechanisms exercised autonomously by Afrodescendant, Indigenous, and local communities. However, the continuous pressures of extractive and conservation models are detrimental to this exercise, and many countries are focusing their efforts on the provision and allocation of licenses for ancestral or traditional lands to transnational or private companies. This situation is even more serious in countries like Peru, Chile, and Paraguay, which do not include Afro-descendants as Peoples with collective tenure rights under the terms of ILO Convention 169. This makes it difficult to have a proper territorial governance mechanism given the absence of demarcation or recognition of collective property as a place for the exercise of political rights.

The follow-up to the commitments made at CoP26 by Germany, Norway, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States, and 17 private institutions to finance the implementation of programs and projects that seek to care for the natural environments of Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendant Peoples, and local communities can establish a window of opportunity that facilitates progress towards the implementation of effective measures that protect the expression of identity for Afrodescendant Peoples within each of the countries analyzed in this study, thereby guaranteeing rights of use and access to natural resources and securing collective land tenure.

Challenges and next steps

One of the main challenges evidenced by the study is to progress in the identification and visibility of the territories of Afro-descendant Peoples, to achieve recognition of their territorial rights, and to strengthen their territorial management and collective forms of economy. These are necessary conditions for achieving the effective protection of strategic ecosystems that play a vital role in adapting to climate change. In this sense, it is crucial that Afro-descendent Peoples be prioritized and hold a decisive place in regional and global discussions on climate change, in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and conservation, in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

To secure tenure rights in the context of climate change, a solid cartographic base is crucial. The spatial scope, dimensions, and hectares of the rights analyzed both in the continental and maritime areas need to be more rigorously explored. Thus, the work of the network of Afro-descendent organizations promoting this effort will be more effective in advocating for recognition and protection of their territorial reports from states, and gaining their own space for representation, voice, and decision making in global strategic bodies.

- ¹ FCCC/CP/2021/12/Add.1. Numeral 50.
- ² FCCC/CP/2021/12/Add.1. Numeral 66.
- ³ The systematization and construction of geographic information has focused on the analysis and consultation of national databases on political-administrative boundaries, cartographic baselines, environmental, mining, and productive components, and agricultural production evaluations. Additionally, the various national natural protected areas and other conservation protocols that countries have at international, regional, and local levels have been included. In terms of climate change, the layers of geographic information derived from the evaluations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) have been evaluated and systematized, in which the main current phenomena of climatic variability and some projections under the scenarios that have been proposed by experts are included. Likewise, interviews have been carried out with key stakeholders in each country to find out if they have data that is relevant for the analysis of this project or publications that facilitate the construction of geographic data.
- ⁴ Brazil, Paraguay, Bolivia, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Suriname, Panama, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica Guatemala, Belize, and Mexico.
- ⁵ Not all the countries in this study have census information systems with adequate variables for self-recognition as an Afro-descendant People, so there continues to be a significant gap in the characterization of the population. Given this, the Central American Black Organization (ONECA) has made important efforts and, since 2012, has been publishing statistical approximations on the Afro populations in several countries in the region comparing demographic sources from national censuses and organizations such as ECLAC, the World Bank, and different UN bodies.
- ⁶ Typified by the Ramsar Convention in the following categories: continental (20 types), marine-coastal (12 types), and artificial (10 types). Some of them are estuaries, coastal lagoons, rivers, lakes, non-forested peat bogs, mountain wetlands, springs, and ponds (Ramsar, 2012).
- ⁷ They are found within the tropical humid climatic zone, with a rainfall of more than 1500 mm/year, high relative humidity (70-80%) (Chaves & Arango, 1997), and average annual temperature above 18°C; however, they can vary in these and other variables such as pH, drainage, soil depth (Loumann et al., 2001), topography, and hydrography (Chaves & Arango, 1997).
- ⁸ Geographical areas with a homogeneous plant community where woody plants grow more or less apart surrounded by herbaceous pastures. Woody plants and herbaceous grasses are usually constant competitors, so they tend to exclude each other, meaning that large trees are not abundant, however, there are woody patches without herbaceous grasses, and patches with woody plants surrounded by grasses (ILRI, et al., 2021; Walter & Breckle, 1985).
- ⁹ They are found in areas with annual temperatures greater than 17°C and where evapotranspiration exceeds precipitation (Pizano & García, 2014). They are distributed from Mexico to Argentina, crossing the Caribbean (DRYFLOR, 2016).
- ¹⁰ See McLeod, E. and R. Salm. 2006; Borchert 1998; Ramsar 2012; IAvH 2015; ILRI et al. 2021; and López et al. 2006.
- ¹¹ Villalba 2006; CATHALAC 2007; Moreno 2012.
- ¹² Emanuelli 2014; Barrance et al. 2009; Martínez et al. 2015.

- ¹³ Barrance et al. 2009.
- ¹⁴ ILRI et al. 2021.
- ¹⁵ Terchunian et al. 1986.
- ¹⁶ Ministry of Environment 2002.
- ¹⁷ Lizcano et al. 2001.
- ¹⁸ FAO and UNEP 2020.
- ¹⁹ Pizano and García 2014; DRYFLOR 2016.
- ²⁰ Ramsar 2015.
- ²¹ See López et al. 2006; Lozano et al. 2010; and Santiago do Vale et al. 2017.
- ²² This information is reflected in data collected in the in-depth interviews with members of Afro-descendant communities. Some of the effects already recognized by the communities have to do with the loss of important species for fishing, birds, and mammals, a rise in sea level, and changes in the rainy season that affect agricultural activities.

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Appendix 1: Main sources of information and cartographic layers of the viewer

Cartographic information sources by country	Category	Year
Belize		
BERDS	Protected areas	2015
The Biodiversity and Environmental Resource Data System of Belize	Coverages	2017
Belize Biodiversity Office	n/a	2020
Bolivia		
GeoBolivia	Coverages	2010
Military Geographic Institute of Bolivia	Political-administrative	n.d.
National Service of Protected Areas (SERNAP) of Bolivia	Protected areas	2004
National Service of Protected Areas of Bolivia	Protected areas	2015
Brazil		
IBEGE	Coverages	2007
"Acervo Fundiario - Titled Territories Survey of Quilombola promoter"	Afro Territories	n.d.
Department of Protected Areas	Protected areas	2020
National Indigenous Foundation	n/a	2005
Chile		
Spatial data infrastructure Chile	Coverages	2015
Military Geographic Institute of Chile	Coverages	n.d.
Military Geographic Institute of Chile	Political-administrative	n.d.
Ministry of Environment, Division of National Resources, Renewables, and Biodiversity	n/a	2020
Colombia		
ANT - Hileros - OTEC	Afro Territories	n.d.
Colombian Land Coverage 2018 Period	Coverages	2018
National Parks of Colombia	Protected areas	2022
Costa Rica		
National Geographic Institute of Costa Rica	Coverages	2019
National System of Conservation Areas of Costa Rica	Protected areas	2020
Ecuador		
National rural land information system	Coverages	n.d.
National Institute of Censuses and Statistics	Political-administrative	n.d.
Directorate of Protected Areas and other forms of Conservation, Ministry of		
Environment, Water, and Ecological Transition	Protected areas	2022
Guatemala		
FEWS NET	Economic and extractive activities	2016
CONAP	Protected areas	2017
Directorate of Geographic, Strategic Information, and Risk Management of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Food	Coverages	2010
National Geographic Institute of Guatemala	Political-administrative	2018
SIGAP, National Council of Protected Areas	Protected areas	2020
Honduras		
INHGEOMIN	Economic and extractive activities	2021
ICF	Protected areas	2022
Geoportal of the Forestry Sector of Honduras	Coverages	2018
National Institute of Forest Conservation and Development, Protected Areas and Wildlife	Political-administrative	n.d.
Honduran Black Fraternal Organization Garífuna People	Afro Territories	
Department of Protected Areas, Forest Conservation Institute	Afro Territories	2020

Cartographic information sources by country	Category	Year
Latin America		
Amazonia SUPRA	n/a	2002
Conservation International	n/a	2002
Ramsar Secretariat	n/a	2020
The Nature Conservancy	n/a	2015
IUCN, World Bank, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	n/a	1995
UNESCO	n/a	2021
Mexico		
CONABIO	Economic and extractive activities	2010
SGM	Economic and extractive activities	2021
CONANP	Protected areas	2021
National Institute of Statistics and Geography	Coverages	2021
INEGI intercensal survey 2015 INEGI Baseline Mexico	Political-administrative	n.d.
INEGI intercensal survey 2015 INEGI Baseline Mexico	Afro Territories	n.d.
National Commission of Natural Protected Areas	Protected areas	2022
Nicaragua		
Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies (INETER)	Political-administrative	n.d.
Indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples of Nicaragua Ethnography, Natural Ecosystems and Protected Areas	Afro Territories	n.d.
Land Coverage and Uses in the Republic of Nicaragua	Coverages	2000
Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, General Directorate of Natural Heritage and Biodiversity	n/a	2020
Panama		
ANAM	Protected areas	2006
National environmental information system	Coverages	2021
Directorate of Protected Areas and Biodiversity, Directorate of Environmental Information, Ministry of Environment	n/a	2021
Paraguay		
National Statistical Institute of Paraguay	Political-administrative	n.d.
Community plans and topographic surveys	Afro Territories	n.d.
Secretariat of the Environment of Paraguay	n/a	2018
Peru		
National Geographic Institute of Peru	Political-administrative	n.d.
Geo-ethnic map CEDET - 2017 Population Census	Political-administrative	n.d.
Geo-ethnic map CEDET - 2017 Population Census	Afro Territories	n.d.
SERNANP Information Management Functional Operation, Responsible for SERNANP Spatial Information Management	n/a	2022
Suriname		
Suriname Online Open Data	Coverages	2000
United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	Political-administrative	n.d.
Venezuela		
Ministry of People's Power for Ecosocialism, National Parks Institute	n/a	2020
Provita	n/a	2016

Bolivia, Chile, and Ecuador digitized spatial data on the *Afro Territories* category from interviews conducted with Afro-descendant community representatives in 2022

About the Rights and Resources Initiative

The Rights and Resources Initiative is a global Coalition of 21 Partners and more than 150 rightsholders organizations and their allies dedicated to advancing the forestland and resource rights of Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendant Peoples, local communities, and the women within these communities. Members capitalize on each other's strengths, expertise, and geographic reach to achieve solutions more effectively and efficiently. RRI leverages the power of its global Coalition to amplify the voices of local peoples and proactively engage governments, multilateral institutions, and private sector actors to adopt institutional and market reforms that support the realization of their rights and self-determined development. By advancing a strategic understanding of the global threats and opportunities resulting from insecure land and resource rights, RRI develops and promotes rights-based approaches to business and development and catalyzes effective solutions to scale rural tenure reform and enhance sustainable resource governance.

RRI is coordinated by the Rights and Resources Group, a non-profit organization based in Washington, DC. For more information, please visit www.rightsandresources.org.

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