

MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENT ASPECTS IN ARGENTINA

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Matters.

- Argentina has supported the Mountain Partnership since its creation in 2002
Since then Argentina is an active member of the Mountain Partnership.

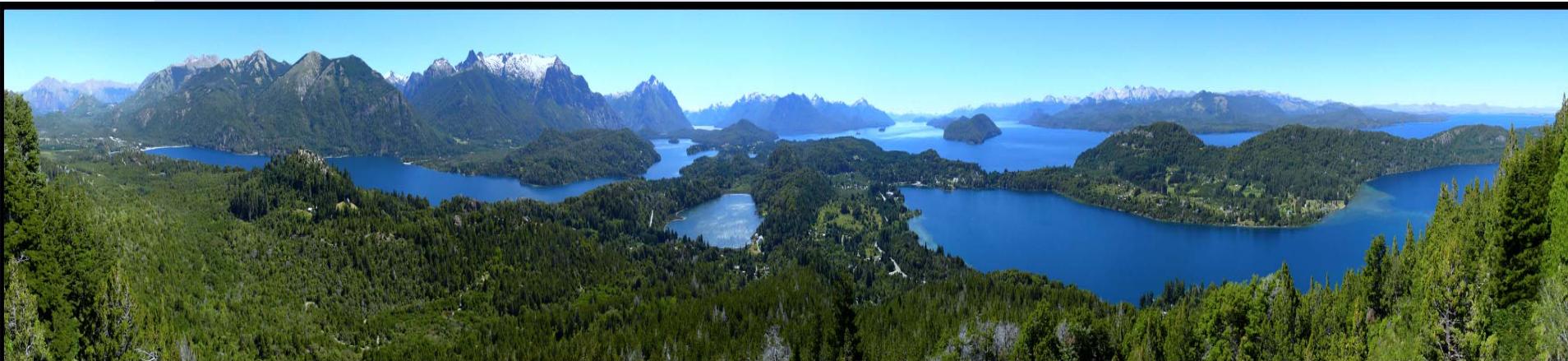


Argentina recognizes the importance of its mountain regions and the need to protect its natural resources and mountain ecosystems from

- Exploitation
- Pollution
- General Degradation
- One of the priority concerns is to rethink the management of water resources.

Committee for the Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions of Argentina.

- Created May 2nd. 2005.
- Interinstitutional Committee.
- International Focal Point: General Directorate for Environmental Matters.



Dinamics of the International Focal Point within the Committee.



- National axis.
- Regional axis.
- Global axis.

THE ACTION PLAN OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE



- Territorial sustainable development of the mountain areas.
- Sustainable livelihoods in mountain areas.
- Biodiversity and Ecosystem preservation of the mountain environments.
- Conservation of Natural and Cultural heritage of our mountains
- Institutional development of the mountain zones.
- Transversal Issues: Education, Genre, Communication and Information Networks.
- Local actor involvement (Committee has developed an assessment major group composed by NGO´s and other civil society members).

Activities of the Committee

- Information research relative to the conservation, promotion, and sustainable development of the mountain regions of Argentina.
- Promote cultural, scientific, social, economic, recreative and any other activity related to mountains.

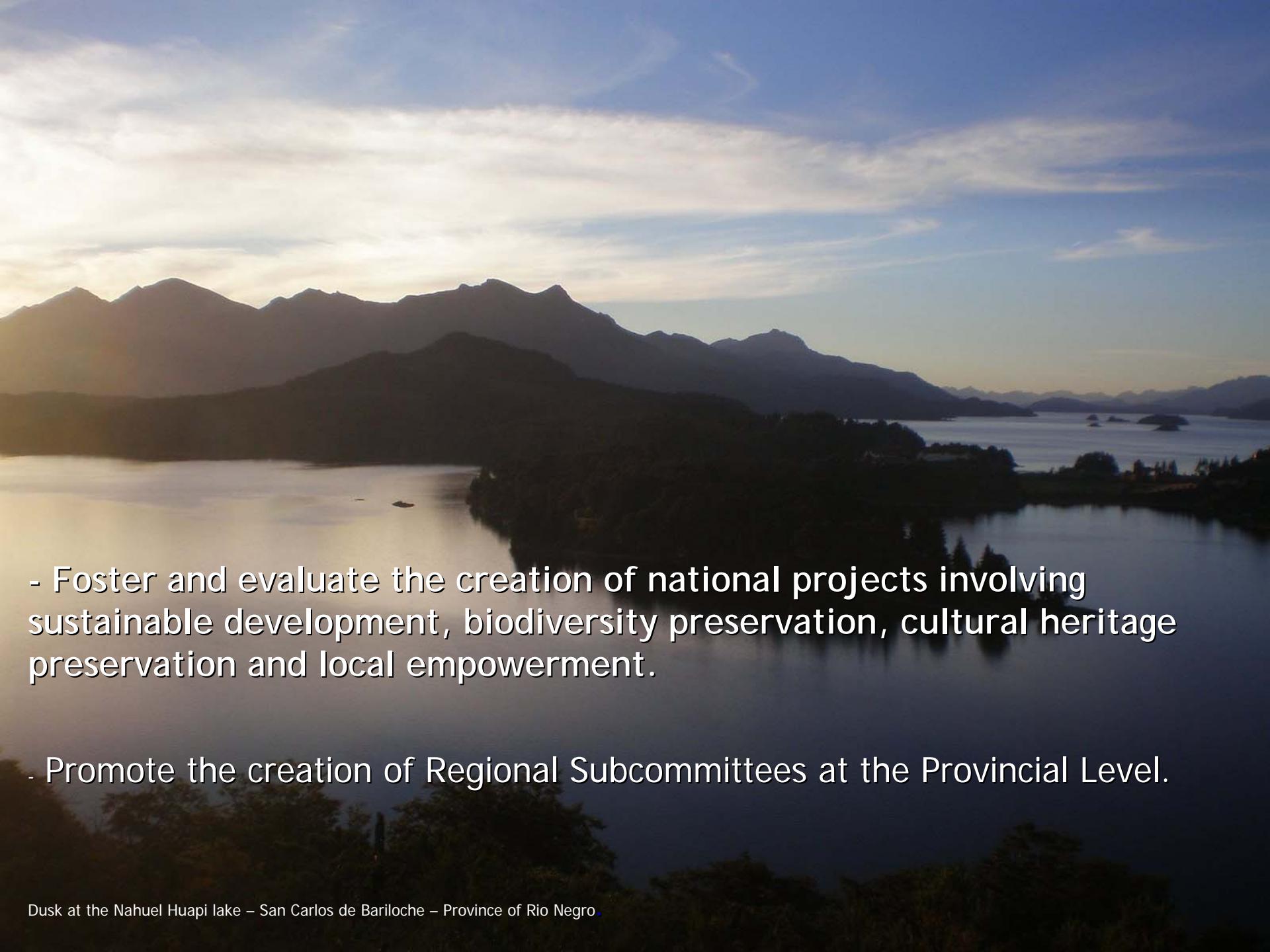


LLao LLao Hotel in the Province of Rio Negro - Argentina

- * Promote and disseminate the activities of the Committee and coordinate actions with the provinces. (According to National Constitution the Provinces are the owners of the Natural resources, being the National Government in charge of dictating the Minimal Principles of National application).
- * Participate in the formulation of an integral national mountain policy for the country.



Vineyard in the province of Mendoza - Andes at background

A wide-angle photograph of Nahuel Huapi lake at dusk. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, with wispy clouds. In the background, a range of mountains is visible, their peaks partially obscured by the low light. The lake's surface is calm, reflecting the colors of the sky. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of trees and bushes are visible. The overall atmosphere is serene and peaceful.

- Foster and evaluate the creation of national projects involving sustainable development, biodiversity preservation, cultural heritage preservation and local empowerment.
- Promote the creation of Regional Subcommittees at the Provincial Level.



- Fitz Roy Mountain

- **The general goals of Argentina's National Biodiversity and Action Plan (NBSAP) are**
- 1. **To guarantee the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources**
- 2. **To reduce adverse effects of production activities on biological diversity and the equitable sharing of benefits derived from the appropriate use of genetic resources.**

The NBSAP lays out, according to the themes of the 2010 Biodiversity Target, different objectives and actions for each thematic area.

These themes include:

- * **sustainable use of biodiversity**
- * **restoration of degraded lands**
- * **bio-regional planning and use of land**
- * **protected areas and education**
- * **communication and capacity-building.**

Conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity of Mountain Ecosystems. Actions:

- High Andean Wetlands Regional Strategic
- The Convention for the Conservation and Management of Vicuña, signed between Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador.
- Coordination meetings with Chile for Shared Water Resources.
- Bilateral Mechanisms between Argentina and Chile for some species: Huemul, Beaver, Bison, Jabal and Red Deer.
- Project "Sustainable economic use of wild south American Camelids: Strategies for improving rural productivity in pastoral communities in Latin America"
- Memorandum of Understanding between Argentina-Chile for the Cauquén Red Head Conservation
- Agreement between Argentina and Chile for the Restoration of southern ecosystems affected by the American Beaver

Some Protected Mountains areas in Argentina:

- Ramsar Sites:
 - "Natural Monument Pozuelos Lagoon"
 - "Vilama Lagoon"
 - "Llancanelo Lagoon "
- MAB Program UNESCO: Biosphere Reserves:
 - San Guillermo
 - Norpatagónica Andino Biosphere Reserve
 - Pozuelos Lagoon
 - Las Yungas Biosphere Reserve



Pozuelos Lagoon Biosphere Reserve



San Guillermo Biosphere Reserve

Yungas Biosphere Reserve

