PERÚ Ministerio de Desarrollo Agrario y Riego

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HEART OF BIODIVERSITY

CANDIDATE HOST FOR THE XVI WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS 2028



The Government of Peru has submitted its candidacy to host the XVI World Forestry Congress in 2028. The country proposes bringing the international forestry community together in a territory where Amazonian, Andean and dry forests converge, alongside extraordinary biological and cultural diversity and relevant experience in forest management, restoration, sustainable production and community participation.



Peru: a forest country and megadiverse nation

60% **of Peru's territory is covered by forests**

With 73 million hectares of forest cover, Peru has the fourth-largest area of tropical forests in the world and ranks ninth globally in total forest cover. In South America, it ranks second after Brazil (FAO, 2020) and is one of the world's 17 megadiverse countries.

Peru's forests harbor exceptional biological wealth, concentrated mainly in the Amazon region, where most of the country's forest area is located.

Forests: ecosystem services, livelihoods and economic value

Forests provide a wide range of essential ecosystem goods and services, including regulation of the hydrological cycle and surface and groundwater flows, biodiversity conservation, carbon capture and storage, climate regulation, and the provision of food, raw materials and plants used for medicinal purposes. They therefore play a fundamental role in human health and well-being.

• Amazonian tropical forests: They are essential for biodiversity conservation, climate regulation and the socioeconomic development of many Indigenous and local communities.

• Dry forests: They contribute to biodiversity conservation, soil protection, and the reduction of erosion and desertification processes. They also support nutrient cycling and provide food, fodder and other resources used by local populations.

• Andean forests: They play a fundamental role in climate change adaptation and mitigation through water regulation, soil conservation and carbon storage. They also help reduce the impacts of floods, droughts and other extreme climate events.

From an economic perspective, the forest sector makes a significant contribution to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In 2019, the forest sector's gross value added represented 1.3% of national GDP.

Forests provide raw materials and resources for a range of productive activities, including timber harvesting, the collection of non-timber forest products and ecotourism.

Forests are also essential for food security and for the livelihoods of rural communities and Indigenous Peoples who depend on them, as well as for the development of diverse economic activities and the well-being of the population.

Perú

Located on the western coast of South America, Peru is a country of rich geographic, biological, cultural and historical diversity. Its territory encompasses three main regions: the arid coast, the Andean highlands and the lush Amazon rainforest.

This varied topography offers striking landscapes and is home to extraordinary biodiversity. Peru contains more than 28 of the world's 32 climate types, making it an exceptional setting for scientific research and nature conservation.

With a history stretching back to ancient civilizations such as Sechín, Caral and the Incas, Peru is a cultural crossroads where ancestral traditions coexist with modernity.

Lima, the capital city, is a vibrant cultural and economic center that reflects this blend, offering internationally renowned cuisine, a dynamic nightlife and a growing arts scene.

The country has 12 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the iconic citadel of Machu Picchu.

Peru is committed to sustainable development policies, promoting investment in renewable energy and the conservation of its natural resources.

The Peruvian Government has implemented innovative programs for forest management and biodiversity protection, reflecting its commitment to sustainable development.

The country also implements specific mitigation and adaptation measures in the land-use and forestry sector as part of its commitment under the Paris Agreement, contributing to the development of its people and addressing climate change with the support of Indigenous Peoples and communities.

Forest leadership and experience as a host country

Peru is presenting its candidacy to host the XVI World Forestry Congress 2028 from an active position in regional forest dialogue. At the time of submitting this candidacy, Peru, through the National Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR), holds the Pro Tempore Presidency of the Amazon Network of Forest Authorities (RAFO) of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), from which it promotes the exchange of experiences and the development of regional responses to the challenges facing Amazonian forests.

This role in the forest agenda is complemented by proven experience in organizing large-scale international events. Peru has hosted three editions of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum - APEC 2008, 2016 and 2024 - as well as COP20 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2014 and the Annual Meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund. Lima also hosted the 2019 Pan American Games and has been selected to host the 2027 Pan American Games.

At the sector level, Peru hosted the World Potato Congress in 2018, bringing together specialists and participants from a range of countries. These experiences have strengthened national capacities for inter-institutional coordination, logistics management, security, protocol and services for international delegations.

The combination of forest leadership, organizational experience and infrastructure for major events supports Peru's capacity to deliver an inclusive and technically relevant World Forestry Congress that is closely connected to the main challenges facing the world's forests.

Forest experiences to share

One of the main advantages of holding the XVI World Forestry Congress in Peru would be the opportunity to complement technical and scientific exchange with field visits to concrete experiences in the management of forest and wildlife resources across different regions of the country.
Peru's ecosystem diversity provides an opportunity to showcase representative experiences from the coast, highlands and Amazon, together with different approaches to forest and wildlife resource management, community-based management, restoration and the sustainable use of forest products. These visits would create spaces for exchange among participants from different countries and allow them to share knowledge and experience developed jointly with communities, public institutions, academia and local stakeholders.



Representative field experiences

- Coast - Northwestern dry forest: In the district of Chalaco, Morropón Province, rural communities, local authorities and the University of Piura developed an initiative focused on the sustainable management of natural resources and rural development using a watershed-based approach. Activities included the restoration and management of the Mijal Forest, strengthening local organizations, and improving the productive, educational and management capacities of the population. Conserving this forest was especially important because of its role in water capture and regulation and the benefits it provides to communities located downstream.
- Highlands - Planted forest: In the district of Pucará, Huancayo Province, Junín Region, the community of Raquina has managed eucalyptus plantations for more than 40 years. These plantations originated from extension programs implemented by Peru's Ministry of Agriculture and international cooperation, particularly through the FAO-Netherlands and Andean Tree projects, which sought to integrate trees into the agricultural landscape of the Peruvian highlands. The results contributed to improving conditions affecting agricultural and livestock productivity by promoting associations of native tree and shrub species with crops and pastures. This approach was subsequently institutionalized through successive publicly funded projects, ultimately supporting a self-managed community for which planted forest resources are among its most important assets.
- Amazon - Tropical rainforest: The community of Veinte de Enero, in the Amazonian region of Loreto, is recognized as one of the first communities in Peru to successfully use tree-climbing techniques to harvest aguaje fruit (Mauritia flexuosa), thereby avoiding the felling and consequent death of the palms. The experience was systematized over a twenty-year period, from 1993 to 2012. Today, the community produces more than 9,000 sacks per year. Under the current management plan, each family may harvest up to 58 sacks of aguaje per month.

A candidacy backed by advanced preparatory work

Peru is not starting from scratch. The country was previously selected to host the XVI World Forestry Congress and carried out a substantial preparatory process that now provides a concrete foundation for the 2028 candidacy.

The Government of Peru proposes resuming, updating and strengthening that work, building on the capacities and progress already developed.

Identified venue:

Lima Convention Center

Organization:

Institutional structure previously developed

Logistics:

Requirements and services identified

Budget:

Budget baseline to be updated for 2028

Technical experiences:

Field visits previously identified

PERU 2028: Previous experience, established capacity and renewed commitment

Peru as host of the Congress

Peru has specialized infrastructure in Lima for hosting major international events. One of these facilities is the Lima Convention Center (LCC), a modern and versatile venue that has hosted important national and international events and can accommodate thousands of participants.

The LCC is located within the National Cultural Center in the district of San Borja, alongside major institutions and cultural venues such as the Museum of the Nation, the National Library of Peru and the Grand National Theater, among others. The facility has 18 multifunctional convention halls, including spaces of up to 5,000 m², as well as smaller rooms, underground parking, kitchens, dining and catering areas, and a cafeteria.

Its facilities make it possible to conduct different activities simultaneously, including plenary sessions, technical meetings, conferences, exhibitions, institutional activities and networking spaces for participants. Its rooms and equipment also provide the conditions required for in-person activities and hybrid formats, depending on the needs of the Congress.

The Convention Center's location is an advantage for an international event. Its connection to the city's main thoroughfares facilitates participant mobility and provides access to a wide range of hotels, restaurants, shopping centers, cultural venues and other services. Its location in Lima also facilitates connections with Jorge Chávez International Airport and the city's main points of interest.



Services for participants

Accommodation and participant services

Lima offers a broad range of hotels across different categories and price ranges, allowing it to meet the needs and means of different participant profiles. This offer is complemented by restaurants, commercial services, cultural venues and other visitor options.
The concentration of these services across different areas of the city makes it possible to offer participants a variety of accommodation and dining options, as well as venues for social and cultural activities complementary to the Congress.

Medical services and emergency care

Lima has an extensive network of health facilities, including hospitals and clinics, that can address the medical needs of national and international visitors. The location of event venues and their connection to urban infrastructure facilitate access to medical and emergency services.
For an international event of this scale, coordination with the competent authorities and relevant service providers is envisaged in order to establish the necessary care and response protocols and ensure appropriate well-being conditions for participants.

Security and mobility

The city has services and institutions responsible for security and emergency management. Their coordination will support the measures required for the orderly and safe conduct of the Congress. Event planning may include coordination mechanisms for participant assistance, travel management and response to potential emergencies.
Lima's road infrastructure and transport services also connect the Convention Center with the city's main hotels, cultural venues and points of interest, facilitating participant mobility throughout their stay.



An experience beyond the Congress

Lima stands out not only for its vibrant cultural life, but also for its remarkable natural wealth, offering World Forestry Congress delegates a comprehensive experience that brings together history, art and nature.

The Historic Centre of Lima, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is renowned for its architectural and artistic richness, reflecting the deep cultural heritage of the city and the country.

World-renowned museums such as the Larco Museum and the Lima Art Museum display valuable collections of pre-Columbian and contemporary art, offering an immersive connection with Peru's historical and cultural legacy.

Complementing this cultural experience, the Lomas de Lúcumo Natural Reserve, located on the outskirts of Lima, offers an exceptional natural setting for those seeking outdoor activities. This unique ecosystem, with its coastal hills and dry forest landscapes, provides trails that reveal flora and fauna adapted to the region's arid conditions. Visitors can enjoy walks with panoramic views of the city and the Pacific Ocean while gaining an appreciation of the importance of conservation and forest management.

The combination of these cultural and natural attractions makes Lima an exceptional destination, offering delegates an enriching experience that celebrates both history and nature.



Importance

Peru's candidacy to host the World Forestry Congress in 2028 offers participants from other countries the opportunity to learn about forest experiences across different life zones and to see first-hand initiatives currently underway to address the major social and environmental challenges faced by countries today, including deforestation driven mainly by the expansion of the agricultural frontier.

Hosting the XVI World Forestry Congress in 2028 would provide Peru with an unparalleled opportunity to showcase its cultural and natural diversity to an international audience. The event would attract thousands of participants, including policymakers, forestry professionals and stakeholders from many countries.

https://www.udep.edu.pe/proyectos-sociales/proyectos-ejecutados/proyecto-chalaco-2002/

A strong institutional framework

The Ministry of Agrarian Development and Irrigation (MIDAGRI) will lead the organization of the XVI World Forestry Congress 2028, coordinating the competent public entities and ensuring continuous coordination with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

The National Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR), as the national forest and wildlife authority, will provide specialized technical support for the preparation and delivery of the Congress.

- MINISTRY OF AGRARIAN DEVELOPMENT AND IRRIGATION

Institutional leadership of the Congress

- NATIONAL FOREST AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Technical leadership on forestry matters

- INTER-INSTITUTIONAL ORGANIZATION

Planning and budget | International cooperation | Logistics and administration | Legal affairs | Protocol and foreign relations

- ONGOING COORDINATION WITH FAO

A governance structure integrating political leadership, technical specialization and operational capacity.

Technical, logistical and operational capacity

Peru has the experience, infrastructure and institutional capacities required to organize large-scale international events, complemented by specialized services to meet the requirements of the XVI World Forestry Congress 2028.

- Infrastructure

A venue prepared for plenary sessions, simultaneous sessions, exhibitions and international meetings.

- Technology and connectivity

High-capacity internet, digital platforms, broadcasting and technical support.

- International services

Simultaneous interpretation, accreditation and delegation assistance.

- Logistics and mobility

Transport, accommodation and services for participants.

- Security and health

Specialized coordination, access control and emergency care.

- Communications

Press, digital media, audiovisual production and international outreach.

Comprehensive capacity to welcome approximately 6,000 participants from around the world.

A global, diverse and inclusive Congress

The Government of Peru, in coordination with FAO and cooperation partners, will promote broad and representative participation from all regions of the world, with particular attention to developing countries.

- Universal participation

Governments and forest authorities

Indigenous Peoples and local communities

Women and youth

Academia and the scientific community

Private sector

Civil society and international organizations

- Resource mobilization

Scholarships and travel support

Accommodation support

Reduced or waived registration fees

International cooperation

Contributions and partnerships

Joint resource mobilization with FAO

The objective: to ensure that financial means do not become a barrier to truly global participation.

PERU 2028 - Heart of Biodiversity

The Government of the Republic of Peru reaffirms its commitment to host the XVI World Forestry Congress 2028 and to ensure the institutional, technical, financial and operational conditions required for its successful delivery.

- Forest diversity
- Infrastructure
- International experience
- Institutional organization
- Financial commitment



"Peru is ready to welcome the world in 2028."

PERÚ Ministerio de Desarrollo Agrario y Riego

SERFOR Servicio Nacional Forestal y de Fauna Silvestre

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