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| <b>Name:</b>                                   | <b>6. THE CEIBA-PILARES PROJECT</b>  |                              |  |
| <b>Region</b>                                  | Latin America and the Caribbean  | <b>Country</b>               | Ecuador & Peru                         |
| <b>Ecosystem</b>                               | Forest & woodland  |                              |  |
| <b>Nature of approach</b>                      | Improvement in capacity, design and policy measures (identifying and/or developing adaptation approaches, promoting policy change, incorporation into relevant strategies);<br>Implementation of EBA measures (natural resource management, diversifying livelihoods)  |                              |  |
| <b>Description of approach</b>                 | <p><b>Objective/Expected outcomes</b><br/>The Tumbesian dry forests of south-western Ecuador and north-western Peru provide essential ecosystem services, including protection of the largest river catchment west of the Andes, promotion of fog-drip which lengthens the growing season by two months, and forest resources for local livelihoods. They are extremely threatened, with very little original forest remaining. Climate change impacts are expected to include increased rainfall and flooding (exacerbated by soil erosion). The objective of the Ceiba-Pilares project was to sustainably manage the forest, so it can continue to provide essential services, including protecting communities from erosion and flooding which will become even more important with changing climate conditions.</p> <p><b>Actions</b><br/>Several hundred families spread out over 11 Ecuadorian and 6 Peruvian communities were involved in a process of participative management of approximately 25,000 acres of the forest, to improve sustainable management of forest resources. This included creation of zoning policies to regulate the use of the forest and through the provision of microcredit for sustainable livelihood diversification.</p> <p><b>Results achieved</b><br/>Communities were empowered to participate in the decision-making processes on the use of natural resources. Zoning resulted in certain areas designated for community and individual use, and other areas meant for regeneration and conservation. Conservation of the forest helps protect the watershed reducing the vulnerability of people to severe weather events. Through agricultural diversification, communities benefit from more stable agroecosystems, resulting in improved food security. The portfolio of livelihoods now includes sustainably produced goat's milk, products from locally-bred animals and honey production using native bees. Community microcredit banks also financed activities such as small corn plantations.</p> <p><b>Lessons learned</b><br/>Co-benefits included the creation of a social network which will help identification of and adaptation to, climate change impacts.</p> <p>The shared watershed made bi-national cooperation for development and natural resources management essential to adapt to climate change vulnerability.</p> |                              |  |
| <b>Type of organisation</b>                    | NGO  | <b>Name of organisation:</b> | Nature and Culture International (NCI) |
| <b>Further information and contact details</b> | <a href="http://www.birdlife.org/downloads/america/files/Flder_Tumbes_La%20Ceiba_En.pdf">http://www.birdlife.org/downloads/america/files/Flder_Tumbes_La%20Ceiba_En.pdf</a><br><a href="http://www.natureandculture.org/htm/peru/areas-dryforest-ceibapilares.htm">http://www.natureandculture.org/htm/peru/areas-dryforest-ceibapilares.htm</a><br><a href="#">Birdlife 2009 Partners with Nature: How healthy ecosystems are helping the world's most vulnerable adapt to climate change. Netherlands: Birdlife.</a>   |                              |  |