

Amazon Investor Coalition

2024-2025 Biennial Report

Our impact

AMAZON INVESTOR COALITION



www.amazoninvestor.org

This report was prepared, edited, and designed by the Amazon Investor Coalition team, 2026.

Novelty for capital allocators

Calling all impact financiers!

Did you know that for-profit and philanthropic investments in the Amazon forest may be among the highest ROI opportunities in the world?

Considering the economic value of environmental services, one analysis suggests potential ROIs between **3100%** and **8600%.**

A sister study suggests potential ROIs **over 1000%,** even without carbon or ecosystem financing. The smart money is on the Amazon forest.

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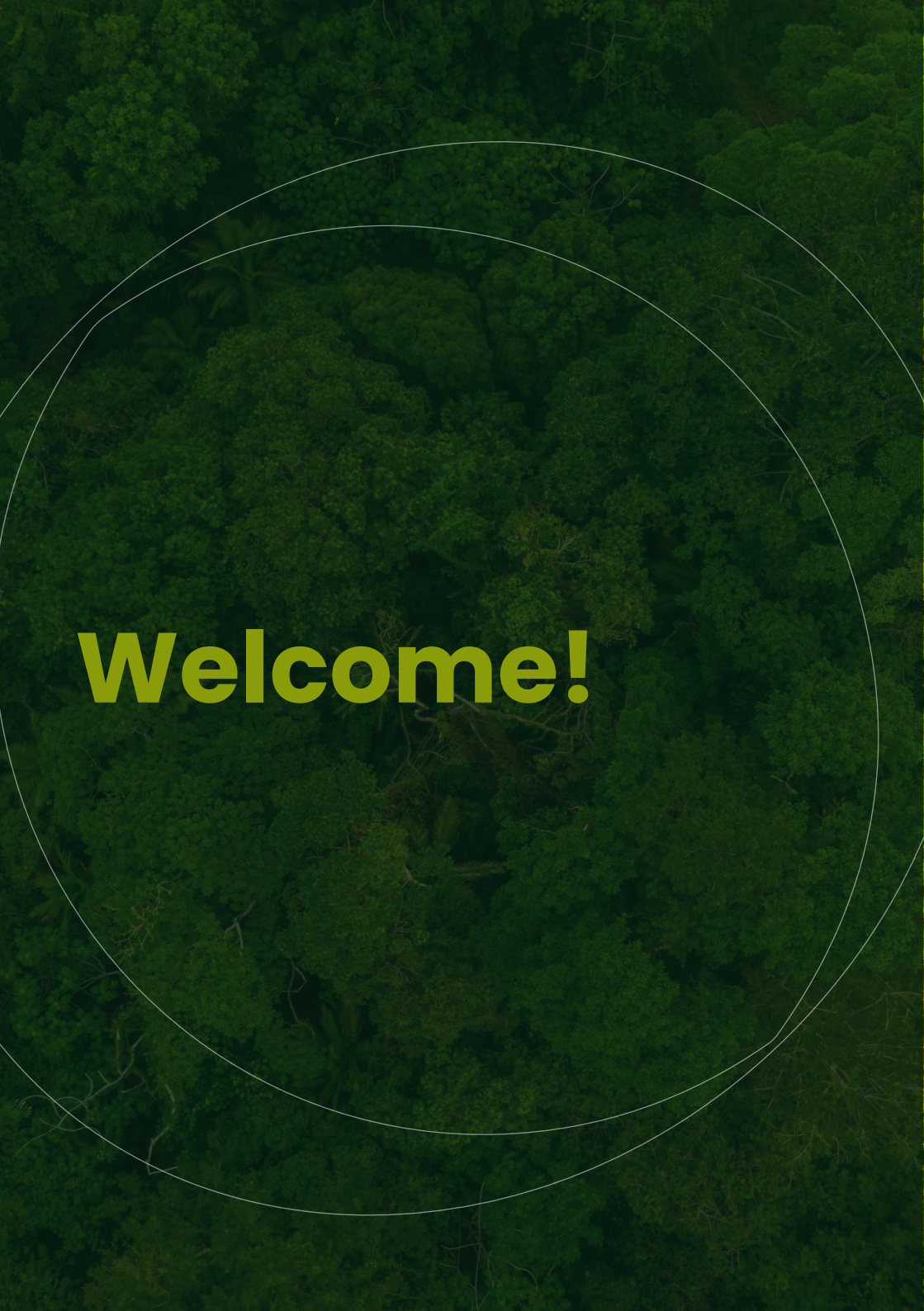
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Welcome!

Founded in 2020, the Amazon Investor Coalition is a global, non-profit learning-and-collaboration platform that unites investors, philanthropists, and corporate buyers in partnership with Amazon communities, entrepreneurs, governments, and civil society.

We serve as a catalyst by improving the capillarity between Amazonians and circles of capital around the world.

Our mission is to shift Amazonian economies away from deforestation and towards forest protection.

In 2024, we transitioned from serving primarily as a convener, to also serving as a grantmaker.

We deployed $1.5M+ in grants in the past 2 years.

Over this period, we have tested assumptions, honed strategies, and produced this biennial report about both our lessons learned and our impact.

Directly and indirectly as a result of our work, our partners were able to mobilize significant new financing in the past two years.

Though the final grant sizes and details are still being negotiated at the time of this writing, the total amount of new funding mobilized exceeds **$15 million.**



Introduction and background

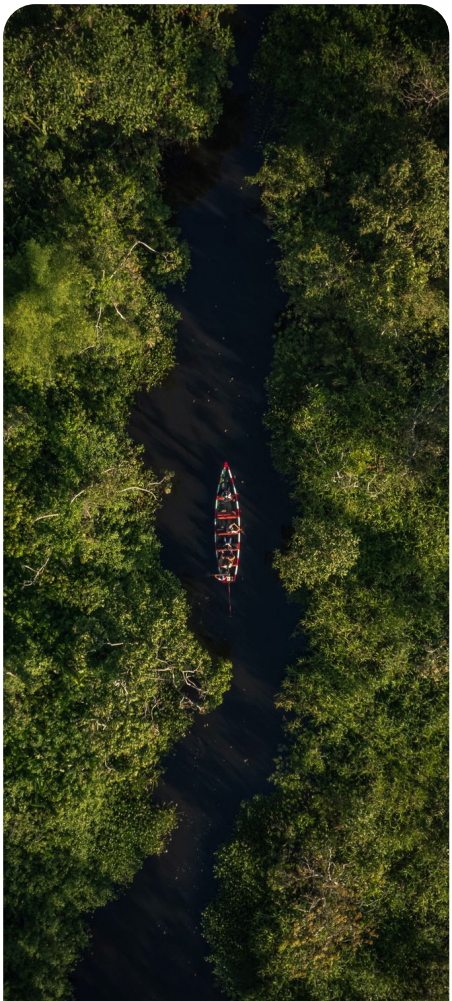
In February, 2024, scientists reported that reforestation of **5%** of the Amazon is needed to prevent the region from collapsing into a dry grassland ecosystem.

Collapse could threaten **10%** of the world's species, start new pandemics, destabilize global water cycles, release over **100gt of CO_2**, put global food security at risk, and more.

Meanwhile, even though deforestation in Brazil has dropped by 50% since 2022 (11% in 2025 and 31% in 2024), regional forest fires reached record levels.

While there is progress on paper, forest stress is high, criminal activity is rising, and local economic drivers still favor deforestation. And, given the historic retreat of USAID in early 2025, fresh funding sources are sorely needed.

Given these realities, since 2024, we have prioritized the development of catalytic activities that can help stabilize the rule of law, build high-integrity regional supply chains, secure financing and help the forest-protection economy to replace the deforestation economy.





Resource mobilization strategies

Regenerative. Catalytic. At scale. With these objectives in mind, we are working to demonstrate that by uniting investment, philanthropy, and corporate procurement, we can help any given Amazonian development Dollar, Euro, or Real multiply into ten.

Philanthropy

One recent study estimated that between $1.7 and $2.8 billion per year is needed for Amazon conservation, in Brazil alone.

The available funding continuously comes up short. Each year, approximately $700 million is donated, with about $500 million coming from governments and $200 million from philanthropy. To fill the gap, we will need to overcome issues of indecision, uncertainty about impact, fear of mistakes, cultural hesitation, donor fatigue and more.

As a first step, we mapped the donor landscape, and decided to bring new philanthropy to the region, helping to reduce competition for existing funding streams. We then developed a grant evaluation facility, connecting new donors with high value projects.

We also conducted donor education efforts at philanthropy-related conferences like NEXUS, TED, and the World Economic Forum.

Along the way, in 2024, we discovered that grant money was left on the sidelines because the right information was not reaching the right audiences.

To tackle the issue in 2025, we created a new peer-to-peer network for prospective high-level donors to connect with their more experienced counterparts and support the arrival of new generosity in the region.

To date, over 50 grantmakers and high-net-worth individuals have joined the new Amazonia Philanthropy Network. The process meanwhile, has

leveraged our position as a convener, supported donor trips to the region, and inspired allies to introduce us to new philanthropists who want to learn about the Amazon.

We also recently launched a new campaign, through the Global Commons Fund, for consumers to adopt bank accounts that legally recognize the global commons, govern it through variable translation fees, and generate funding for the Amazon. If successful, the effort will generate small dollar donations for the forest at scale in a permanent, ongoing way.

Finally, we have also recently started enrolling owners of professional sports franchises to label deforestation-free food concessions in stadiums, promote Amazonian products, and give athletes equity in forest-positive Amazonian companies in exchange for social media endorsements.

Though our donor mobilization efforts to date are preliminary - across donor-grantee matchmaking, peer-to-peer network development, alternative banking mechanisms, and sports franchise activations - they are innovative in the way that they help successful business families touch the Amazon for the first time.

In multi-generational business dynasties, family members often separate, develop unique expertise, and gravitate toward different lines of family financing ranging from philanthropy and investing to business operations.

With the help of the AIC, they can come together and do all three - donating, investing, and corporate purchasing - all at the same time, in the Amazon. Eco-tours for business families with such interests are organized on demand.

Investment

When the AIC began, we surveyed investors, connected them with investable opportunities and conducted a landscape analysis about investing in the region. While high value opportunities were rare, we realized that hype about them

could create perverse incentives and drive local entrepreneurial talent to prioritize financial returns over ethics or impact.

We learned that more philanthropy was needed to stabilize market conditions, and prime the pump of commercial-grade opportunities that both protect the forest and attract investment.

These discoveries helped to shape the bioeconomy development strategies we drive today.

To align expectations and investment realities in the region, we recently built a new program for investor education and enrollment. As a starting point, it helps investors develop detailed profiles about their investment theses and needs.

The program strategy to date has included periodic investment webinars, LACLIMA Institute reports on local investment complexities and practical frameworks, an Igarape Institute study on territorial and legal risks, a Latimpacto fellowship on Amazon financing, and databases of local Amazonian startups and community enterprises that seek investment.

We have also contributed to the design of new Amazonian investment instruments such as Estimulo, Amazon Food&Forest, a wild harvest fund concept, and more.

The most significant AIC-led offerings to innovative finance are still in development, and involve blended finance, revenue based financing, ecosystem service payments, carbon financing, product price premiums and much more.

Corporate Procurement

The history of the Amazon bioeconomy is replete with examples of forest communities creating agroforestry plots, but

struggling to prosper financially when they can't find buyers. Correspondingly, we sought to uphold market access and corporate procurement as a third key financing pillar, for the Amazon, to scale alongside investment and philanthropy.

Early on we mapped prices, developed wikis on Amazonian products, and made one-off introductions between buyers and sellers. Since 2024, we have attended tradeshows, consolidated databases of Amazonian suppliers, surveyed buyer preferences, and supported product showcases.

In this time we have facilitated over 150 connections between buyers and Amazonian suppliers,

and produced scholarship on the "invisible infrastructure" that is needed for markets.

Recently, the AIC has begun to support several intermediaries to boost and aggregate suppliers, organize and negotiate with buyers, and accelerate value chains that are ready for export.

Finally, in addition to improving the landscape for buyers, the AIC has also made significant investments in supporting suppliers and regional bioeconomy development at large.

Capital Alignment Multiplier

By uniting the interests of philanthropy, investment and corporate procurement into an integrated strategy, we foster synergies.

Procurement support increases sales. Sales improve community investability. Investability reduces financial dependency. And, thus the flywheel spins - helping bioeconomies to replace deforestation economies.



Bioeconomy development

Opportunity

Deforestation in the Amazon is driven by economic incentives that make clearing land for agriculture, logging, and mining more profitable than preserving the forest.

To reduce the influence of such financial drivers, the Amazon bioeconomy needs to scale. One 2021 study calculated that the region supplies only **0.002%** of a global **$175 billion** market of 64 forest compatible products, despite being the largest tropical forest in the world.

A separate 2021 study, by the AIC, estimated that replacing Amazonian cattle and soy with agroforestry, could swell local incomes from **$20 billion** to **$206 billion** a year, while restoring tree canopies, improving water cycles and sequestering carbon. The potential for growth is huge.

Amazonian bioeconomies are poised to scale across several distinct verticals, including wild harvesting, ecological restoration, carbon/ecosystem-service-payments, and more.

For donors concerned about impact-per-dollar, wild harvesting of commercial products from pristine forest is a top priority because conservation is more cost effective than restoration. For investors, ecological restoration strategies are a top priority because they represent the fastest pathway to profitability.

Other bioeconomic development strategies, such as pharmacological exploration and carbon financing, are longer term, and may depend more on regulation.

Wild Harvest

In 2024, we prioritized wild harvesting with our first set of grants, deploying over **$500,000** to unlock capabilities for key value chains such as Brazil nuts, tonka beans, arapaima (pirarucu), cocoa, rubber, and more.

We invested across different models of community-led enterprise, including indigenous groups, cooperatives, for-profit startups, and traditional NGOs. To fill gaps in the bioeconomy development process, we made further investments of **over $200,000** in supply chain integrity, certification, seed collection, seedling production, and market data intelligence.

Several of the grantees we supported are references in the region. While ASPROC organizes over **500** family-handlers and sells pirarucu from the Jurua and nearby rivers, and ACOSPER sells rubber collected from over **20 communities** along the Tapajos river, both cooperatives help to conserve the forest surrounding their respective tributaries of the Brazilian Amazon.

The NGO Agrosolidaria Florencia supports agroforestry and wild harvest of non-timber forest products in the Colombian Amazon, and the indigenous group AMWAE, unites **300 Waorani** women in 10 communities for indigenous-led cultivation of cacao in the Ecuadorean Amazon.
Also significant, the startup MazoMana commercializes 14 wild harvest species for sale as a protein shake that will help protect 10 million hectares of forest, if successful.

Traceability and Price Premiums

One of our top partners, since 2024, is Imaflora, a longstanding supply chain traceability and certification agency.

Together with their Origens Brasil network, we helped bring market access, traceability and integrity to 54 conservation units and indigenous territories of the Brazilian Amazon, helping to conserve **62 million hectares** of standing forest.

We also began collaborating on new pricing models for wild harvest products, helping them to earn premiums by recognizing their contributions to ecosystem services.

A flagship financial mechanism to cover these premiums is expected to be launched by September, 2026.

Training

Early in 2025, we expanded our team, monitored progress, and identified catalytic investment opportunities where a little bit of funding could go a long way, and unlock select market capabilities and investments for many.

One key issue we identified was the absence of skilled wild harvesting knowledge across many commercially important species. In response, we convened a consortium of forest knowledge providers and supported the development of a training program led by the Tropical Forest Institute.

We committed **$90,000** and helped to mobilize **nearly $1 million** more from the Jacobs Futura Foundation and others, in an effort to train over **10,000 people** in a 10-year project.

Ecological Restoration

Later in 2025, we also began to expand our investments in the economies of ecological restoration. Even though silvopasture, intensified production and other cattle ranching sustainability improvements are growth opportunities in the region, we prioritized agroforestry because of its higher profitability and contributions to the water cycle and biodiversity conservation.

We selected the Alliance for the Restoration of the Amazon as a strategic partner and operational platform because of its history, knowledge, membership and reach.

Earlier in 2024, we also invested in other restoration related efforts, such as the Redario Initiative, which convenes and supports 27 community-led native-species seed collection networks, uniting over 2,500 collectors.

We also supported the ClimAccelerator, of Quintessa, an incubation program for restoration-related startups that offer ecological restoration economy solutions.

The program accelerated several startups covering solutions ranging from seedling production and fire-fighting

efforts, to MRV technology and land tenure applications.

Intermediaries

We also identified the need to support market intermediaries to help suppliers professionalize their production processes and improve their market readiness. Early on, we supported Tucum to expand markets for the indigenous handcraft industry internationally.

A first export was possible in 2025 with the indigenous arts being exhibited in Musée du quai Branly, Paris and Musée des Confluences, Lyon in France. We also invested in Con Amazonia to bring the services of market intermediaries to the indigenous communities of the Ecuadorean Amazon.

Finally, we also began to conduct research on the diverse sustainability certifications available in the region to help both buyers and sellers to navigate the landscape, and strive for greater market integrity.

Networks

Developing communities-of-practice has been a core AIC strategy from the start. After organizing a podcast, and hosting two online summits about investing in the Amazon, the AIC began to support third party networks.

Today, we participate in many groups to help with information dissemination, entrepreneurial development, research on best practices, conference organizing and more.

In 2024, we became a founding donor of the Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy (PANB) to promote locally-led sustainable bioeconomies across the Amazonian countries.

Today, PANB has over 35 members and organizes its efforts into task forces, addressing issues such as markets, capacity building, public policies and finance. The AIC co-leads the Task Force on Access to Finance.

Carbon

Carbon markets and payments-for-ecosystem-services are vital components of Amazonian bioeconomies. In late 2024, Brazil legislated its carbon market for the first time, creating a 5 year runway to structure the system. In 2024, the AIC surveyed carbon projects throughout the Amazon, discovered multiple irregularities, and settled on market integrity as the top priority.

Correspondingly, in October, 2025, we released a position paper on Building Trust, Scaling Impact: An Integrity Ecosystem for Carbon in the Amazon, to share our vision for the sector.

Then in November, 2025, at COP30, together with the Voluntary Carbon Market Integrity Initiative we published the study Best Practices for High Integrity Carbon Projects in Brazilian Amazon. Both studies serve as international references for investors, entrepreneurs and other allies working on carbon ventures in the region.

Finance

Financial innovation and access to capital are also essential ingredients of bioeconomy expansion. To contribute, we helped design and fund two new debt instruments that each bring unique innovations to finance in the region.

Fundo Estimulo Amazonia is a BRL R$100 million private credit fund that uses blended financing and AI to automate analysis of bank statements to expedite loans for small and medium Amazonian enterprises.

Relatedly, the BRL R$50 million Amazon Food&Forest Fund aims to transform the bankability of community projects into investable opportunities by aggregating suppliers and offtakers for the commercialization of wild-harvest products from the Amazon region, through the offering of working capital and receivables financing.

Both interventions offer patient and affordable financing to Amazonian economies, playing a crucial role in supporting the

sustainable value chains that protect the forest.

Market Analysis

In 2025, to present a vision for Amazon bioeconomy market reform, the AIC published the study *From Showcase to Territory: Invisible Infrastructure and the Future of the Amazon Bioeconomy*. The study argued that forest-based economies cannot achieve scale with justice and permanence, without the "invisible infrastructure" that precedes production.

Common to mature markets, such infrastructure includes strong land security, logistics, connectivity, technical assistance, trust networks, local governance, and fit-for-purpose financial instruments.

This perspective guides the bioeconomy development strategies of the AIC, and others, reinforcing support for traceability, certification, market intermediaries, forest knowledge training, and other pre-productive and pre-competitive conditions necessary for a forest-protection economy to thrive.

Market Readiness and Conclusion

Our investments, partnerships and overall work from the past two years - across verticals of wild harvesting, supply chain traceability, forest knowledge training, ecological restoration, intermediaries, practitioner networks, carbon integrity, innovative finance and market analysis - have improved Amazonian market readiness and positioned the AIC as a strategic partner, funder, knowledge holder and catalytic convener.

From this position of leverage, we hope to catalyze more investment in the region, as we bring our discoveries to ever wider circles of future prospective Amazonian philanthropies, investors, and buyers.

With the proper support, soon the market readiness of the forest-protection economy will help it to outcompete the deforestation economy, and eventually replace it, one hectare at a time.



Legal integrity

Legal insecurity in the Amazon is one of most significant, and least appreciated drivers of deforestation. **By many estimates, over 90% of deforestation in the region is illegal.**

Paradoxically, rule-of-law issues also frighten away many donors, even when they are needed most. Such issues also frighten away investors and entrepreneurs, who seek stable and predictable markets.

To tackle these issues, the AIC conducted research about possible philanthropic interventions to improve regional governance and law enforcement. Since 2024, we have convened peers, built networks, and started to fund research and strategic partner NGOs.

One study we funded, with the Igarape Institute, titled "Under the Radar," found that investment in the Amazon is heavily constrained by territorial insecurity, criminal activity, and fragmented governance, which increase operational risk and deter capital.

A subsequent study we supported with the LACLIMA Institute, titled "Sustainable Investments in the Amazon, Volume I," showed that even where security risks are lower, legal uncertainty - especially unclear land tenure, shifting regulations, and inconsistent enforcement - creates significant barriers to investment.

These issues need to be addressed to enable large-scale, sustainable investment in the Amazon.

For our other grants in the region, we sought to enable capabilities where they did not exist previously. Many forest communities and small bioeconomy enterprises in the Amazon do not have access to legal expertise, remain part of the informal economy, and fall out of legal compliance, or suffer criminal abuse as a result.

To help address some of these issues in the Brazilian state of Para, we funded the Maparajuba Collective to support grassroots

legal education, and promote environmental justice.

To support the wider region, we co-founded and funded the Legal Alliance for the Amazon to promote dialogue and cooperation among different actors in the region to help strengthen the rule of law, scale existing initiatives and foster new collective strategies.

At the international level, we also aided the planning and fundraising efforts of the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime, GI-TOC.

Though the AIC served as one of several contributors to a GI-TOC fundraising appeal to the Norwegian International Climate and Forest Initiative, the effort helped to secure a large multi-year grant agreement.

Though originally negotiated in 2025, on May 11, 2026, the Norwegian government announced a grant to GI-TOC of **kr120,000,000 NOK**, equivalent to **$13.04 million USD** at the time.

The program will produce and share intelligence on forest crimes.

As a result of our interventions, select decision-makers now have greater awareness about legal challenges in the region, and many Amazonians now have access to legal knowledge and assistance for the first time.



Research, publications and campaigns

In appreciation of the catalytic power of new ideas and knowledge, we sought to conduct research on questions that could lower the transaction cost of conducting bioeconomy business in the Amazon region.

We settled on research questions that touch investment risk analysis, carbon market integrity, pre-competitive market arrangements, supply chain certification, global commons governance and more.

We also sought alliances with new kinds of actors that could spread news about the Amazon in general, and our discoveries in particular, to both niche audiences in the Amazon, and wider audiences globally.

Our publication and outreach journey opened many doors connecting us to local Amazon media innovators like Amazônia Vox and global YouTube stars like MrBeast.

Publications

Prior to 2024, the AIC led research on several studies of reference. Several include a 2020 overview of Amazon conservation investing, a 2021 article on agroforestry prices, a 2022 study on Amazon region financing, and a 2023 article on Amazonian philanthropy. Building off of this previous scholarship, we helped produce the following articles and studies in 2024 and 2025.

On Bioeconomy Infrastructure, Carbon and Climate

- From Showcase to Territory: Invisible Infrastructure and the Future of the Amazon Bioeconomy, June, 2025, with Amazon Week in Berlin
- Building Trust, Scaling Impact: An Integrity Ecosystem for Carbon in the Amazon, October, 2025
- Best Practices for High Integrity Carbon Projects in Brazilian Amazon, November, 2025, with the Voluntary Carbon Market Integrity Initiative
- Climate Adaptation of the Amazon Forest, November, 2025, with the Foundation for Amazon Sustainability

On the Rule of Law and Finance

- Wild Harvest Fund Concept, December, 2024, with Conservation International and the Climate Policy Initiative
- Under the Radar: Territorial and Regulatory Security Risks in the Brazilian and Colombian Amazon, September, 2025, with the Igarape Institute
- By the Numbers: How Consumer Choice Can Finance the Global Commons, October, 2025, with the Global Commons Commission
- Sustainable Investments in the Amazon, Volume I, October, 2025, with LACLIMA Institute
- Sustainable Investments in the Amazon, Volume II, November, 2025, with LACLIMA Institute
- Financing the Pan-Amazon Bioeconomy, November, 2025, with the Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy

On Global Governance

- White Paper on the Global Commons and Philanthropy, June, 2025, with the Global Commons Fund
- Consumers and Financial Service Providers Can Reset Global Governance, October, 2025, with the Global Commons Commission
- The Singularity of Consumer-Led Global Commons Legal Recognition Is Near, November, 2025, with the Global Commons Commission

Campaigns

Food Culture

Gastrodiplomacy uses food and cuisine to win hearts, minds, and stomachs, in ways that promote economic ties and tourism. In 2025, the AIC embarked on a campaign to promote the Amazon through gastrodiplomacy.

An initial series of mini-

grants served as catalytic investments ahead of COP30, with funding directed toward communications, events, and visibility strategies aimed at elevating Amazonian food systems, sociobiodiversity, and standing-forest economies in global climate and biodiversity agendas. The grants facilitated narrative development, market visibility, and strategic positioning, while laying the groundwork for future investment.

The grant portfolio included a diverse set of campaign related recipients and activations, such as Iacitatá, Amazônia Vox, #TogetherBand, the Food Guardians Manifesto, Indigenous Cook Book Production and more.

Among many actions, grantees hosted capacity building workshops, trained hundreds of participants, aided dozens of artisans, and supported **over 1900 families**, with special attention to efforts led by women.

The process generated media across 25 outlets, and served Amazonian cuisine to international leaders at events in Berlin, Sao Paulo, New York and especially Belem, during COP30.

#TeamWater

To bring global visibility and small dollar fundraising to the Amazon, we hosted a virtual event in May, 2025, with two of the world's most popular YouTubers, Mark Rober and Jimmy Donaldson, aka MrBeast.

They presented the concept of #TeamWater to a network of philanthropists that we convened. By uniting thousands of social media influencers from around the world, the Youtubers planned to mobilize **$40 million** to secure clean water for millions of people.

In June, we then presented at NEXUS, with the campaign producer Josh Sage Thome.

In appreciation of the AIC, the #TeamWater campaign launch video featured delivery of clean water kits to one AIC grantee, Maria Jose "Majo" Andrade Cerda, and her Kichwa indigenous community of the Ecuadorean Amazon.

Finally, the campaign launched on August 1, 2025, and achieved its goal in just 30 days. The launch video was ultimately seen by **over 100 million people** with generous recognition of the AIC.

The experience brought many new allies to our doorstep, and by association also to the Amazon.

Amazonia Calling

In June, 2025, a historic gathering of indigenous communities from the Amazon convened and announced a joint declaration of demands for the UNFCC, representing a first-of-its-kind consensus of **hundreds of indigenous ethnicities** from the region.

Following the momentum from #TeamWater, and our role in it, we joined forces with Maria Jose Andade Cerda, Artists for Amazon and Amazon Watch, to produce a video recognizing indigenous leadership and the role of the Amazon as a central pump of the global water cycle that is relevant for clean water everywhere.

The video also introduced "Amazonia Calling" as a follow on campaign from #TeamWater, to unite celebrities, artists, athletes and other influencers around a common agenda: supporting the priorities of the indigenous community at COP30.

The video was recognized by MrBeast through the #TeamWater account, and posted by the Hollywood star Jason Momoa.

Follow-on endorsements came from musicians and actors, including Alok, Shawn Mendes, Mark Ruffalo, Joaquin Phoenix, Jamie Lee Curtis, Jeff Bridges, and many others. The effort galvanized dozens of NGOs and attracted endorsements from hundreds of VIPs, becoming one of the largest celebrity mobilizations for the Amazon in history.

In response to pressure from the campaign, and many others, the Brazil government extended permanent recognition to many new indigenous territories, and more.



Governments and conferences

The AIC was founded in 2020, in collaboration with the United Nations 75th Anniversary Global Governance Forum, as a global call to action for support of the Amazon region.

In 2021 and 2022, the AIC convened subsequent global online conferences about investing in the Amazon region. From the start, conferences as well as government and multilateral engagement have been a core part of AIC operations.

While conferences foster connections and spread knowledge, government involvement is essential for policy development, policy implementation, legal legitimacy, and law enforcement.

While deforestation rates may depend on government interventions indefinitely, the political affairs that shape governments are dynamic, and require consistent engagement from investors, donors, and other civil society actors, to ensure responsible long term sustainable development.

COP16 UN Biodiversity Conference

In 2024, the AIC joined the 16th Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Biodiversity. Hosted in Cali, Colombia.

With nearly half of our Amazonian team participating, we co-hosted side events, and joined multiple panel discussions on topics including bioeconomy development, carbon markets, and the rule of law.

It was the first international summit of several AIC team members, an important educational experience for the organization, and it helped shape the AIC strategy for the larger COP30 Summit scheduled for 2025, in the Brazilian Amazon.

Brazilian Government

In 2025, the AIC engaged with the Brazilian impact economy agenda through the federal policy architecture of the Ministry of Development, Industry, Trade and Services (MDIC). The AIC contributed to the National Impact Economy Strategy of

MDIC, known as Enimpacto, and studied its five-axis structure focusing on capital supply, impact businesses, intermediary organizations, regulatory frameworks, and sub-national government coordination.

To aid the process, the AIC joined a working group to support impact investment literacy, blended finance, and the new Impacta Brasil platform. In parallel, the AIC also contributed to state-level policy development for the impact economy in the states of Pará and Amazonas.

During this process, the AIC was recognized as an "Entrepreneurship Support Organization" (ESO), with qualified research data and field knowledge that helped to keep the federally managed Impacta Brasil portal current.

The effort mobilized more than **40 partner institutions,** screened **nearly 1,500 ventures,** and launched with **351 impact businesses** in its first portfolio during COP30 in Belém.

The UN Food and Agricultural Organization and the Vatican

Also in 2025, together with the Future Food Institute, the AIC took part in high level international conversations on food security and food systems transformation, linked to the Vatican and the UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) ecosystem in Rome, Italy.

In conjunction with the World Meeting on Human Fraternity, panel discussions were convened on agrifood systems, inclusion, and justice. Global food security governance was emphasized, along with the need for cross-sector coalitions dedicated to resilient, equitable food systems.

These proceedings will rely on the AIC in the future, given its work to link Amazonian food systems, gastronomy, and territorial value chains to wider debates on food security, ethics, regeneration, and global governance.

COP30 UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

In late 2025, the UN convened its 30th Conference of the Parties on Climate Change in Belem, Brazil. The AIC joined with most of its team and advocated for increased investment, procurement, and philanthropic capital for the Amazonian bioeconomy.

We spoke at and/or organized **34 panels,** where we raised awareness of bioeconomy solutions and strategies to protect the forest. We also hosted several official launches.

The Legal Alliance for the Amazon was inaugurated to coordinate and unify lawyers, researchers, and members of human rights organizations committed to strengthening the legal protection of the forest.

The Under the Radar report was released with Igarapé Institute to evaluate risks and solutions associated with threats to physical safety, land conflicts, and environmental degradation in the Amazon.

The first Sustainable Investments in the Amazon report was published with LACLIMA to help guide investments into the Amazon bioeconomy. And, the Amazonia Calling campaign was announced to promote indigenous demands at COP30 and beyond. Overall, the AIC's involvement at COP30 was mentioned in **31 news articles.**

Other Events

In addition to COP16 and COP30, the AIC attended and spoke at numerous conferences, trade shows, and other events in 2024 and 2025. In 2024, two key events included the World Economic Forum and the Milken Global Conference, among many.

In 2025, we went further and attended **77 major events and spoke at 15.** Highlights include Natural Products Expo West, NEXUS Global, the Fifth Governors' Climate and Forests Task Force Annual Meeting, CLIIQ – Climate Investment & Innovation Conference, Global Impact Summit, Amazon Week - Berlin, Rio Innovation Week, The Leigh Steinberg Super Bowl Party, P150, and the Concordia Amazonas Initiative.



AIC team during COP30, participating in events and panels hosted by the World Climate Foundation (WCF) and Casa Niaré, covering topics such as ethical contracts, markets, carbon, the rubber value chain, finance, the launch of the Legal Alliance for the Amazon, and the Under the Radar panel.

Photo credit: AIC Photo Archive.

Talent

The AIC is unlike many international conservation NGOs that are dominated by foreign leadership.

In the past two years, we hired world class talent, with **70% of our team** now based in the Amazon region, including leadership.

We also rely on the financial management of three key fiscal sponsors: The Giving Back Fund in the USA, ISPIS in Brazil, and re:wild in other Amazonian countries.





Cultural influence and institutional relations

In addition to spearheading new strategies for capital mobilization, we sought to be catalytic through cultural influence and strategic institutional relations.

By positioning the AIC as a thought leader and convener, we aimed to strengthen our ability to elevate key ideas and partners.

Toward this end, in 2025, we created an External Affairs program to focus on external institutional relations, strategies, and campaigns.

The program translates Amazonian territorial realities into agendas that can be understood and acted upon by donors, investors, corporate buyers, policymakers, and international institutions.

In practice, the program strengthens the connective tissue between field based opportunities and global circles of influence through narrative development, high level representation, and relationship building.

Finally the program also shapes the institutional, diplomatic, and reputational conditions needed for Amazon-centered solutions to gain traction across markets, policy spaces, and public debate.

As a first step, we started campaigns to promote gastrodiplomacy, bringing Amazonian food culture to the masses with audiences and partners like the FAO, COP30 and the Vatican, along with local media producers like Amazônia Vox.

As a second step, we engaged online influencers with the #TeamWater campaign, as well as Hollywood celebrities with the Amazonia Calling campaign.

These efforts, to date, have attracted over 100 million views and the engagement of hundreds of celebrities.

Despite some outsized success so far, our External Affairs program will continue to operate with a small team, helping the AIC to punch above its weight, and promote Amazonian products, investment, philanthropy and awareness, at the global level.



Some of the prominent voices who joined and supported the Amazonia Calling campaign, featured across AIC's social media channels.



Grantees and capital allocation

Between 2024 and 2025, the Amazon Investor Coalition (AIC) deployed over 55 grants across more than 40 organizations in 5 countries, amounting to over $1.5 million in catalytic capital for advancing bioeconomies, territorial governance, and ecosystem development across the Amazon region and beyond.

Grant sizes ranged from **$1,000 to $150,000,** reflecting a flexible and adaptive funding strategy designed to support both early-stage initiatives and high-impact ecosystem actors.

Impact Highlights

As a result of AIC support:

- **Over 10,000 hectares** of forest landscapes are progressing toward sustainable management and certification.
- **More than 1,000 individuals** engaged in forest-based economies gained access to income-generating opportunities through bioeconomy initiatives.
- **Over 15 Indigenous and territorial organizations** strengthened governance systems, sustainable livelihoods, and territorial stewardship.
- **More than 20 startups** and ecosystem actors accessed acceleration, advisory, and capacity-building support.
- **Financial mechanisms** supporting the Amazon bioeconomy were strengthened, improving

access to capital for local enterprises.

- At least **five international partnerships** were activated, connecting Amazon-based solutions to global markets and networks.

Geographic Scope

The AIC portfolio spans a diverse geographic footprint, combining deep territorial engagement with international connectivity:

- Brazil, as the primary focus, with strong support for Indigenous-led initiatives, territorial organizations, and bioeconomy ventures
- Peru, Colombia and Ecuador, strengthening regional value chains and cross-border ecosystem articulation
- United States and Europe, enabling capital mobilization, partnerships, and global positioning of Amazon-based solutions

This distribution reflects the AIC's commitment to bridging local realities with global capital and knowledge flows.

Portfolio Distribution by Initiative Type

The portfolio deployed resources across five complementary strategic areas:

- Bioeconomy
- Finance & Capital
- Territorial Governance
- Ecosystem & Innovation
- Advocacy & Policy

The distribution underscores the AIC's strategic emphasis on institutional influence, ecosystem strengthening, and enabling infrastructure, alongside targeted investments in bioeconomy value chains.

Strategic Approach

The AIC uses a systems oriented approach to catalytic capital, grounded in the understanding that durable change in the Amazon depends not on isolated projects, but on strengthening the conditions that allow forest-based economies, territorial governance, and enabling

ecosystems to take root and grow with integrity.

Our strategy combines targeted funding, ecosystem coordination, knowledge generation, and global engagement to help connect territorial realities with long term structural opportunities. To this end, the AIC prioritizes:

- Strengthening territorial leadership and local governance capacities
- Advancing bioeconomy and sustainable value chains
- Enabling financial innovation and access to capital
- Building long-term ecosystem infrastructure and institutional resilience
- Advancing global advocacy through campaign strategies to mobilize attention, legitimacy, and commitments in support of the Amazon

Rather than deploying grants as standalone transactions, the AIC uses capital strategically to unlock structural transformation.

This means supporting the leadership, coordination, partnerships, and enabling conditions that make sustainable development viable in practice, from territorial governance and supply chain integrity to market readiness, catalytic communications, and fit-for-purpose financial mechanisms.

Through this approach, the AIC seeks to help build a more connected, resilient, and globally recognized Amazon ecosystem, one capable of sustaining inclusive prosperity while keeping the forest standing.

Selected Grantees

The AIC grantee portfolio includes a diverse set of organizations and initiatives, such as: Imaflora, ISA – Instituto Socioambiental, Igarapé Institute, Impact Bank, Quintessa, Latimpacto, MazôManá, Metareilá (Associação Suruí), Tropical Forest Institute (IFT), Con Amazonía, Amazon Watch, Climate Ventures, Impact Hub

Manaus, among others.

Together, these partnerships reflect AIC's commitment to combining territorial depth with global articulation, ensuring that capital deployment translates into measurable, scalable, and sustained impact.

Additional Capital Mobilized

In addition to deploying our own grants, the AIC has influenced the mobilization of capital from dozens of other sources over the years, supporting the bioeconomy and the rule of law in the Amazon, as well as other global philanthropic efforts.

In total, we have helped to mobilize **over $15 million** to date for partners and ecosystem allies.

Some examples include a three-year grant for the Global Alliance against Transnational Organized Crime, from the Norwegian Government for **$13.04 million**; **over $1 million** for the Tropical Forest Institute from the Jacobs Futura Foundation and others; and finally, over **$1 million** for #TeamWater and other partners, from multiple donors.

AIC GRANTEES 2024-2025

Includes grants of $5,000 and above

BIOECONOMY

COOPAVAM
Brazil (2024)
$100,000

Revolving fund for Brazil nuts and raw materials

ACOSPER
Brazil (2024)
$100,000

Sustainable rubber production by riverside communities

MAZÔMANÁ
Brazil (2024)
$100,000

Superfood brand + forest conservation

ASPROC
Brazil (2024)
$75,000

Pirarucu value chain + fair trade

AGROSOLIDARIA FLORENCIA / SOMOS UTAI
Colombia (2024)
$50,000

Non-timber forest products

YORENKA TASORENTSI INSTITUTE
Brazil (2024)
$30,000

Circular bioeconomy + traditional knowledge

AMWAE
Ecuador (2024)
$30,000

Indigenous women-led cacao

CON AMAZONIA
Ecuador (2025)
$20,000

Indigenous market access

IMPACT BANK / ARRANJO DA BORRACHA
Brazil (2025)
$30,000

Sustainable rubber production by riverside communities

TUCUM
Brazil (2025)
$30,000

Scale markets for indigenous arts and crafts

FINANCE & CAPITAL

IMPACT BANK
Brazil (2024)
$60,000

Working capital and supply chain financing

FOOD & FOREST PROGRAM – IMPACT BANK
Brazil (2025)
$60,000

Financing for cooperatives and value chains

ASSOCIAÇÃO ESTÍMULO
Brazil (2025)
$30,000

Launch of BRL 100M debt fund

LATIMPACTO
Colombia/USA (2024)
$25,000

Fellowship + investor education

PAN AMAZON NETWORK FOR BIOECONOMY (CI/WRI)
BRAZIL/USA (2024)
$25,000

Network creation and secretariat

TERRITORIAL GOVERNANCE

ISA – INSTITUTO SOCIOAMBIENTAL
Brazil/USA (2025)
$84,000

Native seed networks

MAPARAJUBA
Brazil (2025)
$53,600

Legal education and environmental justice

IGARAPÉ INSTITUTE
USA (2024)
$110,000

Research on territorial and regulatory risks

ISPIS
Brazil (2024)
$90,000

Institutional strengthening of NGOs

ECOSYSTEM & INNOVATION

INSTITUTO FLORESTA TROPICAL (IFT)
Brazil (2024)
$10,000

Curriculum + restoration training

INSTITUTO FLORESTA TROPICAL (IFT)
Brazil (2025)
$40,000

Expansion of restoration capacity

QUINTESSA
Brazil (2024)
$25,000

Restoration startups (ClimAccelerator)

HELP PERU / ASOCIACION SELVA MADRE
Peru/USA (2025)
$150,000

Land purchase for conservation

ALLIANCE FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE AMAZON
BRAZIL (2025)
$15,000

Restoration hubs strategy in Pará

ADVOCACY & POLICY

CLIMATE FOCUS / VCMI
USA (2025)
$50,000

Carbon market integrity guide

LACLIMA
Brazil (2025)
$30,000

Guide to ethical investment and legal compliance in the Amazon

ARTISTS FOR AMAZONIA
USA (2025)
$35,000

Amazonia Calling campaign

AMAZÔNIA VOX
Brazil (2025)
$11,400

Communications and media

UNLEASH AMAZON
Brazil (2024)
$20,000

Youth mobilization and leadership

AMAZONIE IMMERSIVE
France (2024)
$5,000

Trade show sponsorship

CASA NIARÉ
Brazil (2025)
$15,000

Indigenous entrepreneurial hub

MEMORIAL CHICO MENDES
Brazil (2025)
$10,000

Sociobiodiversity Week

LEIGH STEINBERG SUPER BOWL PARTY
USA (2025)
$10,000

Engagement with sports ecosystem

TOGETHERBAND
UK/BRAZIL (2025)
$7,000

Amplifying indigenous voices

NEXUS
USA (2025)
$5,000

Investor and donor education

CATALYST NOW
USA/Brazil (2025)
$5,000

Event and coordination support

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AMAZON INVESTOR COALITION

"The forest is worth more alive and standing, than cut and burned."