

# Regional project: Resilient Andes to Climate Change



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
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Swiss Confederation

Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC

Connecting stakeholders for a regional effort to address climate change in the Andes

Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru

## Theme

Climate change adaptation

## Socios

Environment, Agriculture and Economic and Social Inclusion ministries of the countries selected: Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru. Local partners in Andean learning territories.

## General information

Climate change threatens fragile mountain ecosystems in the Andes and the livelihoods of farmers living in the surrounding areas. The Andes form one of the longest mountain ranges in the world and its rural population is one of the most vulnerable to these new challenges of climate change. The situation calls for action with an inclusive and systemic approach for the poorest communities. The initiative will strengthen a regional approach, fostering peer learning, dialogue and collaboration between countries.

## Project Objective

Help strengthen and connect up public and private stakeholder capacities to provide services for strengthening the resilience of poor and vulnerable Andean rural communities and their capacity to adapt to climate change, in order to improve their food and water security.

## Beneficiaries

**Direct:** decision-makers and implementers of national and sub-national public policies for climate-resilient development activities.

**Indirect:** poor high Andean rural communities vulnerable to climate change.

## Budget

### Total

Inception phase, phase 1 and phase 2:  
CHF 9'000'000

## Duration

**Inception phase:** Oct 2019 - Feb 2020

**Phase 1:** 2020 - 2023

**Phase 2:** 2024 - 2027



**The tropical Andes are one of the regions with the greatest exposure and sensitivity to global environmental changes. Combined effects of land-cover and land-use change and climate change put unprecedented pressure on the region's biodiversity, which is one of the most significant in the world.**

**Habitat loss and fragmentation, the over-exploitation of natural resources and climate change have multiple impacts, particularly on water availability and agricultural food systems. These systems sustain the livelihoods of small-scale farmers in Andean ecosystems, and the societies that depend on the water and food produced there.**

For over five decades, Swiss cooperation has been committed to the Andean countries and to supporting their efforts to reduce poverty in rural Andean areas. In the last decade it has also emphasised adaptation to climate change, as climate change constitutes a major threat to the sustainability of the development achieved by the Andean rural communities.

**Resilient Andes** uses the accumulated experience, knowledge and progress of SDC's national programmes and projects, capitalising on lessons learned in the areas of natural resource management, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, sustainable mountain agriculture and productive water management by small producers. The project strengthens and brings together public and private stakeholders' capacities to provide services that enhance the resilience and capacity to adapt to climate change of poor and vulnerable Andean rural communities, aiming to improve their food and water security.

## General objective

**Resilient Andes** contributes to the resilience and capacity to adapt to climate change of men and women in poor and vulnerable rural Andean communities in Ecuador, Bolivia and Peru, and focuses on improving their food and water security, in coordination with public and private actors at various levels

## Intervention strategy

**Resilient Andes** will facilitate activities that contribute to poor and vulnerable rural Andean communities' resilience and adaptation to climate change, and will coordinate with national and sub-national government programmes and projects that in the public service value chain could contribute to vulnerable rural Andean communities' adaptation to climate change, enhancing these capacities in Ecuador, Bolivia and Peru.

The project will each country's current activities and their probable evolution, in order to articulate, add, complement and contribute to those with the potential to catalyse systemic and transformational change, and impact the poor and vulnerable rural (high Andean) communities' adaptation to climate change.

## Expected outcomes

- **Policies strengthened and implemented**

National and sub-national climate change adaptation policies strengthened and implemented, giving priority to the adaptation needs of poor and vulnerable high Andean rural communities.

- **Best practice scaled up**

Good climate change adaptation practices that strengthen the food and water security of poor and vulnerable high Andean rural communities are scaled up, through national rural poverty reduction and other major programmes, based on solid evidence of their effectiveness.

- **Progress in adaptation measured and reported**

Partner countries report on progress in adaptation to climate change of poor and vulnerable high Andean rural communities, by monitoring with indicators for transparent reporting and verification of the effectiveness of the adaptation policies and measures implemented with a systemic and inclusive approach.

- **Globally shared regional learning**

Andean regional learning on climate change adaptation with a pro-poor approach is highlighted and shared globally with decision-makers and stakeholders from other mountain regions in UN Framework Convention on Climate Change platforms.

In this way, the project will join with the countries of the region to help fulfil the Paris Agreement commitments, increase national- and regional-level climate change adaptation ambition, with special emphasis on rural agricultural communities living in poverty and climate vulnerability in the Andes, and globally position both the problem and the response to these communities' needs and initiatives.

## CONTACT

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