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# Science Diplomacy for Development at USAID

Transforming Development through

SCIENCE,  
TECHNOLOGY &  
INNOVATION



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## State of the Union Address, 2011

China is not waiting to revamp its economy. Germany is not waiting. India is not waiting. These nations -- they're not standing still. These nations aren't playing for second place. They're putting more emphasis on math and science. They're rebuilding their infrastructure. They're making serious investments in clean energy because they want those jobs. Well, I do not accept second place for the United States of America.

***“This is our generation’s Sputnik moment”***



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## **National Security Strategy, 2010**

- Reaffirming America's role as the global engine of scientific discovery and technological innovation has never been more critical
- America's scientific leadership has always been widely admired around the world, and we must continue to expand cooperation and partnership in science and technology



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## **Global Development Policy, 2010**

- Development is vital to U.S. national security and is a strategic, economic, and moral imperative for the United States
- The US will invest in game-changing innovations with the potential to solve long-standing development challenges
- Increase funding for development-focused research, including by increasing developing countries' creation and use of science and technology and removing impediments to innovation faced by the private sector



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## USAID Forward

- Transform USAID into the global leader in development by pioneering scientific, technological, research-motivated, and innovative approaches to traditional development challenges.
  - Lead the Agency to launch a set of Grand Challenges for Development
  - Leverage the federal science agencies and academic research investments to address shared challenges that affect Americans at home and developing countries abroad.
  - Enhance, build, and support the scientific and technical expertise in the agency



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# WHY SHOULD SCIENTISTS CARE ABOUT DEVELOPMENT?





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## Hypotheses

- Development goals are advanced by the contributions of science and scientists
- Scientific engagement in development leads to advances in the state-of-the-art practice of scientific disciplines
- Case studies:
  - Conservation science in Bolivian Amazon
  - Archaeology and sustainable forestry in Guatemala





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# Bolivia

Sustainable harvest of spectacled  
caiman (*Caiman yacare*)



**ESTRATEGIA DE DESARROLLO  
SOSTENIBLE DE LA TCO - TACANA  
CON BASE EN EL MANEJO DE LOS  
RECURSOS NATURALES  
2001 - 2005**



**Consejo Indígena del Pueblo Tacana  
(CIPTA)**

**Sociedad para la Conservación  
de la vida Silvestre (WCS/Bolivia)**

**Auspicio: USAID/Bolivia**

**LA PAZ - BOLIVIA**





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## **Initiative for Conservation in the Andean Amazon (ICAA)**

ICAA brings together 20 public and private organizations in the Amazon regions of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, to build constituencies and agreements that promote the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity and environmental services of the region





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## **Development goals of ICAA**

- Improve local communities' quality of life and promote profitable income-generating alternatives that support conservation.
- Contribute to national sustainable development and conservation goals, thus leading to increased economic and social well-being.
- Address challenges and threats to biodiversity and maintain the environmental services the Amazon Basin provides, such as: water collection, erosion control, carbon capture and climate regulation, and medical, nutritional, and industrial resources.



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## Madidi-Manu conservation consortium (Bolivia-Peru)

Conserve the biodiversity and integrity of the landscape conservation corridor of Madidi - Manu through integrated land management, technical assistance to indigenous groups and other resource users, the implementation of sustainable alternatives, partnership development, and monitoring of infrastructure projects in the region.





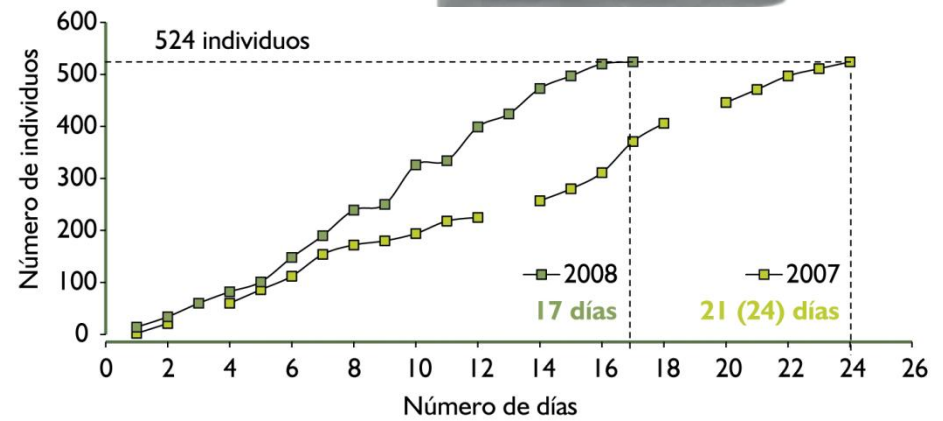
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# Guatemala

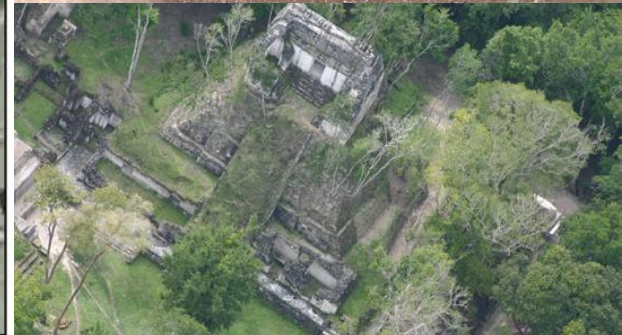
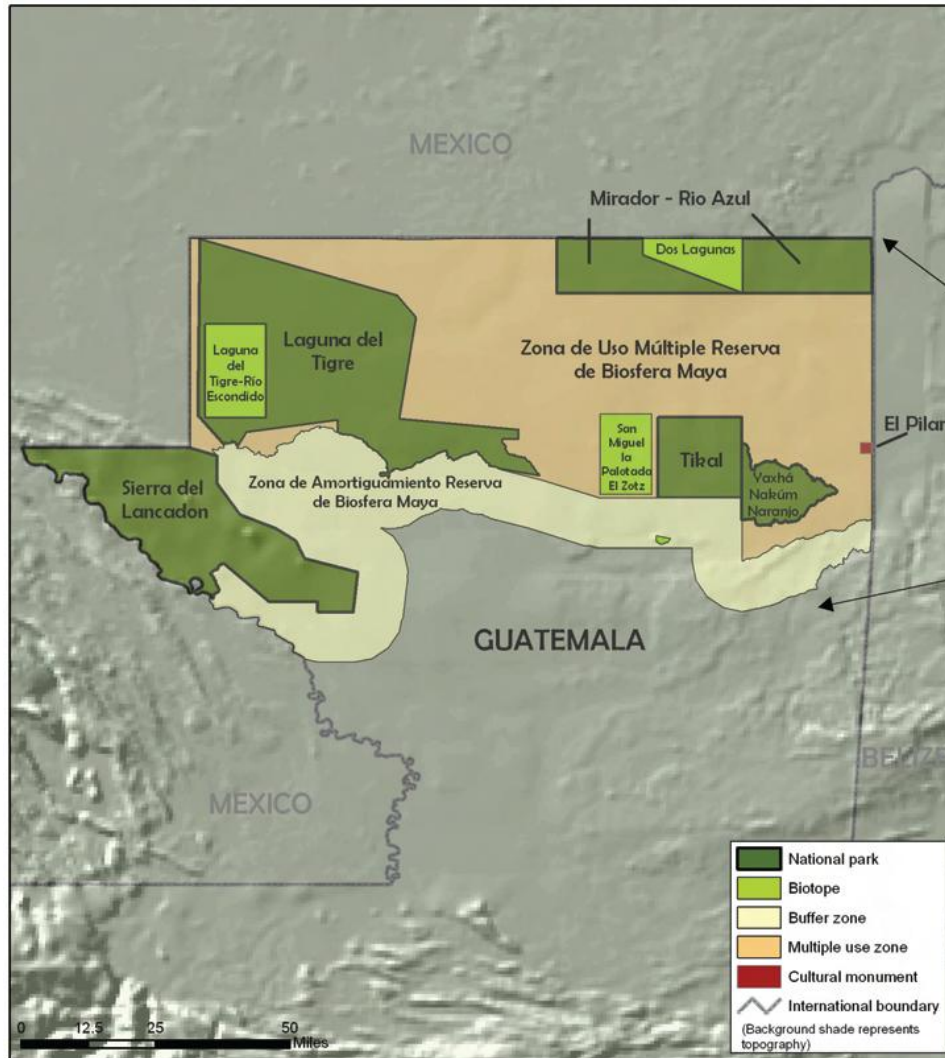
Conservation and counter-narcotics in the Maya Biosphere Reserve







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Map and photos by WCS





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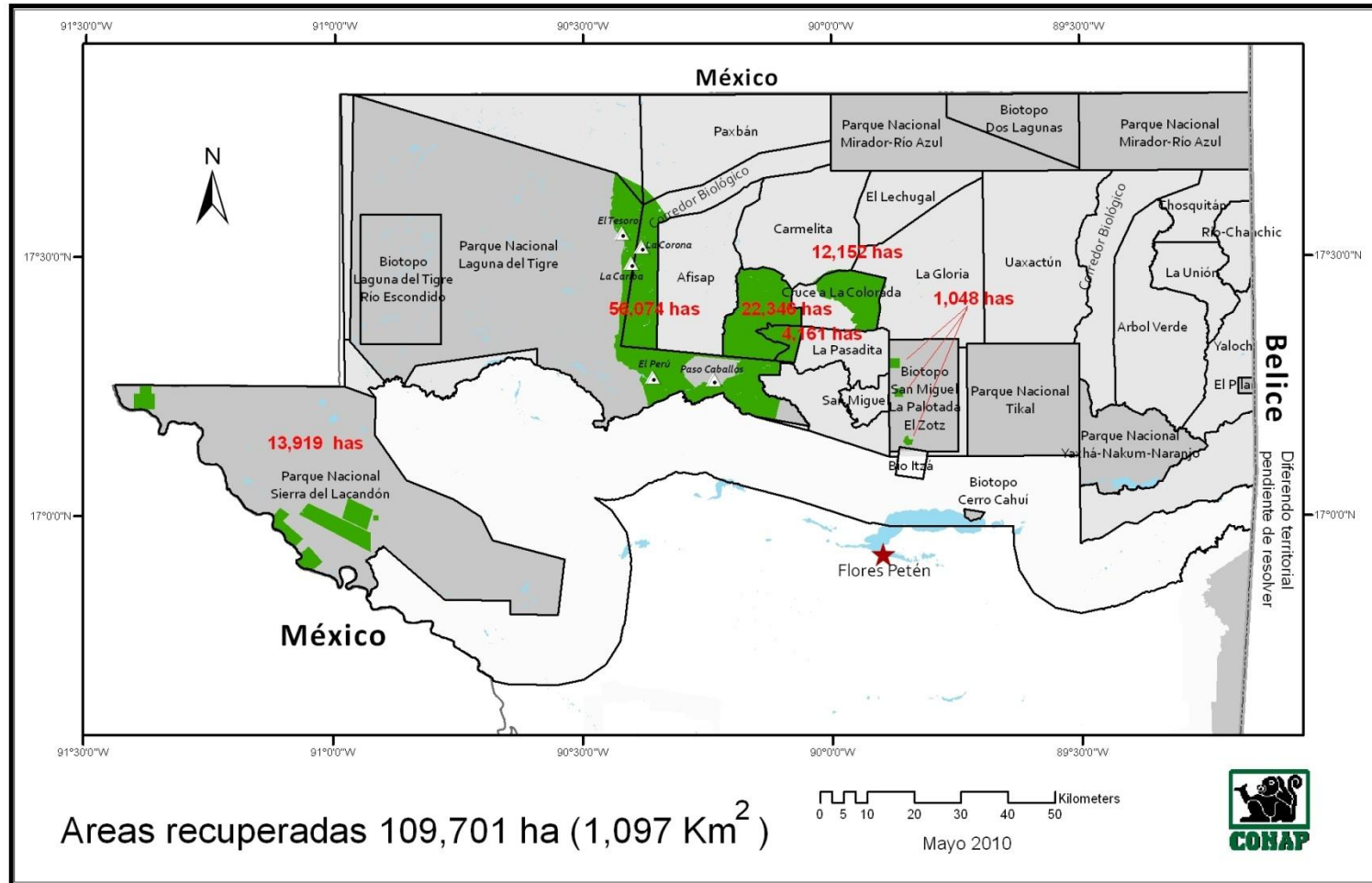
# Sustainable forestry and archaeological heritage management



Photo by P. Aventurier, 2005



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## Lessons learned for effective science diplomacy

- Embrace development goals
- Link scientific research to outcomes policy experts care about
- Engage with other scientists, non-scientists, and local populations

