

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES  
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

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Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Panama City (Panama), 14 – 25 November 2022

AMAZON REGIONAL OBSERVATORY:  
A STRATEGIC TOOL TO SUPPORT  
THE CITES IMPLEMENTATION IN THE 8 AMAZONIAN COUNTRIES

This document has been submitted by the Secretariat at the request of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization\* in relation to agenda item 17.

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**DOCUMENT TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE  
NINETEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF  
THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON  
INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES  
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CoP19 CITES).**

**PANAMA CITY, PANAMA**

**14- 25 NOVEMBER 2022**

1. This document was prepared by the Permanent Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (PS/ACTO)
2. The purpose is to inform the CITES Parties about the creation and implementation of the ACTO's Amazon Regional Observatory, as the strategic tool to support the CITES implementation in the 8 Amazonian countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela.

## Amazon Regional Observatory: a strategic tool to support the CITES implementation in the 8 Amazonian countries

### 1. BACKGROUND

The Amazonian Regional Observatory is an initiative of the 8 Amazonian countries (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela). This initiative has been promoted under the cooperation framework of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) based on the postulates of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (TCA) signed by the Member Countries (MC)<sup>1</sup> in 1978. Article VII of the Treaty foresees that to maintain the ecological balance within the region and preserve the species, it should be ***promoted scientific research and exchange information and technical personnel among the competent agencies within the respective countries, as well as to establish a regular system for the proper exchange of information on the conservationist measures adopted or to be adopted by each State in its Amazonian territories, which shall be the subject of an annual report to be presented by each country.***

*The PS/ACTO began in 2019 a substantive and operational work to design the concept and operation of the Observatory by considering the needs and purposes expressed by the MC at the XI and XII Meetings of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, held in November 2011, in Manaus, Brazil, and in El Coca, Ecuador, in May 2013, respectively. The ministers decided that the PS should lead the development of the ARO as a permanent forum linked to the study of the Amazon region and as a reference center for regional information on biodiversity, natural resources, and socio-diversity of the Region.*

Several technical documents and proposals resulted from a series of regional meetings with the MC; However, it was only in 2019, after a thorough analysis of the discussions carried out, the Permanent Secretariat of ACTO assumed the urgent task to develop a single concept that should be modern, strategic, innovative, and technological for implementing the ARO. During late 2019, 2020 and 2021, devoted work on the conceptual design was conducted and for the effective implementation of the ARO in phases<sup>2</sup>, under the premise of generating a public management tool shared regionally by the Member Countries at the level of the Amazon Region to serve a different universe of users, including decision-makers, public servants, research institutes, academia and the general public to know and obtain official and updated information related to the Amazon.

During 2021, construction works were conducted for the ARO which was inaugurated on November 10, 2021, during a face-to-face event, with live transmission through the ACTO channels and social networks. Participated in the event the Secretary General of ACTO, Ms. Alexandra Moreira; the German Ambassador to Brazil, Mr. Heiko Thoms, the Director of KfW in Brazil, Mr. Martin Schröder, the eight diplomatic representatives of the ACTO Member Countries, as well as the authorities of the Diplomatic Corps based in Brasilia.

Alexandra Moreira stated the Amazon Regional Observatory was conceived by the countries since the Amazon Cooperation Treaty. “In 1978, the Member Countries understood the urgency and the need for the sustainable management of natural resources in the region through the monitoring and control of wild flora and fauna species, the exchange of information, good practices, and the establishment of joint management and cooperation systems at the various governmental, academic, scientific levels, and of society in general”, she highlighted.

<sup>1</sup> The Amazonian countries of ACTO in alphabetical order are Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela.

<sup>2</sup>In October 2020, KfW, the financing entity of the Bioamazon Project, approved the three-phase implementation proposal of the ARO, presented by the PS/ACTO.

The German ambassador, Heiko Thoms, in his speech highlighted the relevance of the ARO for ACTO; also, he stressed the ARO's potential to contribute to the conservation of Amazon forests and species through integrated and sustainable management. "Cooperative relations with ACTO began in 2002 aimed at supporting the implementation of CITES, and the inauguration of the Observatory, today, should be seen as an important contribution to the sustainable development of the Amazon," said the Ambassador Heiko Thoms, during the inauguration of the ARO.



**Figure 1.** The Secretary General of ACTO, Alexandra Moreira, and the Ambassador of Germany, Heiko Thoms, during the inauguration of the ARO.



**Figure 2.** View of the auditorium of the Amazon Regional Observatory (ARO)



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The Secretary General of CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora), Ivonne Higuero, and the Executive Secretary of GBIF (Global Biodiversity Information Facility), Joe Miller, sent their messages through videos congratulating the inauguration of the Observatory. Recently, ACTO became part of the GBIF as an associated institution.

Ms. Ivonne Higuero, in her message congratulating ACTO, commented that *“the center will promote the exchange of information among institutions, government authorities, scientists, academics, and civil society from the Amazonian countries, and in this way will support our common work. We also very much welcome that CITES is one of the thematic modules of the Observatory.”*



**Figure 3.** The CITES Secretary General, Ivonne Higuero, during the inauguration of ARO.

GBIF Executive Secretary Joe Miller said that with the addition of ACTO to GBIF, the fund now has 41 voting participants and 20 partner countries. *“GBIF looks forward to working with the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization to increase the amount of valuable data to be shared with the Amazon Regional Observatory, which will inform evidence-based decision-making,”* he said.



**Figure 4.** The GBIF (Global Biodiversity Information Facility) Executive Secretary, Joe Miller, during the inauguration of ARO.

**CONCEPT, VISION AND MISSION**

Since the definition of the ARO at the XII Meeting of Foreign Ministers of ACTO (2013), it has been updated, including elements outlined in the conceptual design, and expanding its scope to become a Center of Reference for Amazonian Information and a permanent Virtual Forum that promotes the flow and exchange of information among institutions, government authorities, scientific community, academia and civil society of the Amazonian countries.



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Its **Mission** is "to collect, process, organize and disseminate information on the Amazon in a comprehensive and comparable manner on the topics set out in the Amazonian Strategic Cooperation Agenda (ASCA) of ACTO, providing information services to governmental and non-governmental organizations, scientific community and civil society for the study and development of the Amazon Region".

The exchange of information among the ACTO/MC promotes the development and strengthening of public management in terms of monitoring actions, generation of early warning systems, production of solid information, scientific bases, geodata, along with the use of innovative tools and technology applicable to the management of both natural resources and the socioeconomic sphere of the Amazon Region, allowing the generation of official and useful data for political decision-makers to take more effective measures in the different areas covered by the ARO. In addition, the work carried out within the Observatory will serve as a basis for intersectoral strategic planning in the public policies of the MC and, at the same time, will be a collaborative mechanism for public management of the MC according to their priorities.

## 2. OBJECTIVES

The ARO aims to:

- a) Facilitate and promote access to the information generated and sent by the Member Countries, through a virtual space for storing, exchanging, and socializing the information about the Amazon Region which is generated by the Member Countries;
- b) Prepare and disseminate regional reports and documents on thematic contents given priority by the MC;
- c) Promote the exchange of information, research, and capacity building within the thematic lines of the ARO;
- d) Establish a mechanism for the flow of information to and from the Observatory that allows for the dissemination, visibility and standardization of the information made available at the regional level, which will initially be based on ACTO's activities, programs, and projects;
- e) Identify and disseminate common information needs to promote communication and institutional capacity building of the human talents of the Member Countries in the prioritized areas;
- f) Carry out other activities related to their own functions as agreed upon by the Member Countries;
- g) Facilitate mechanisms and tools for the uploading, analysis and visualization of information and data, as well as for the monitoring of thematic indicators and the generation of forecasting models.

## 3. STRUCTURE

A functional computer-based structure supports the ARO that is accessed through a web portal (<https://oraotca.org/>) for the acquisition, homogenization, storage, and publication of information on the different topics prioritized by the ACTO/MC. These topics are aligned with the ASCA themes: biodiversity, CITES, water resources, forests, Indigenous peoples, and climate change..

This functional structure enables the ARO to organize the information in in thematic and **integrating modules**, which have their respective functions, products, and services, in order to allow an adequate management of Amazonian knowledge.

Several governmental entities of the ACTO/MC provide the information that should be published by the ARO, along with external sources, such as regional and international organizations, which are recognized for their work in the Amazon Region. Data is presented or visualized through

dashboards<sup>3</sup> and geographic viewers (Figure 3) that include data and thematic indicators of the Amazon Region through graphical, tabular, and geographic reports. The layout of the different contents within the platform can be seen in its web map (Figure 5).

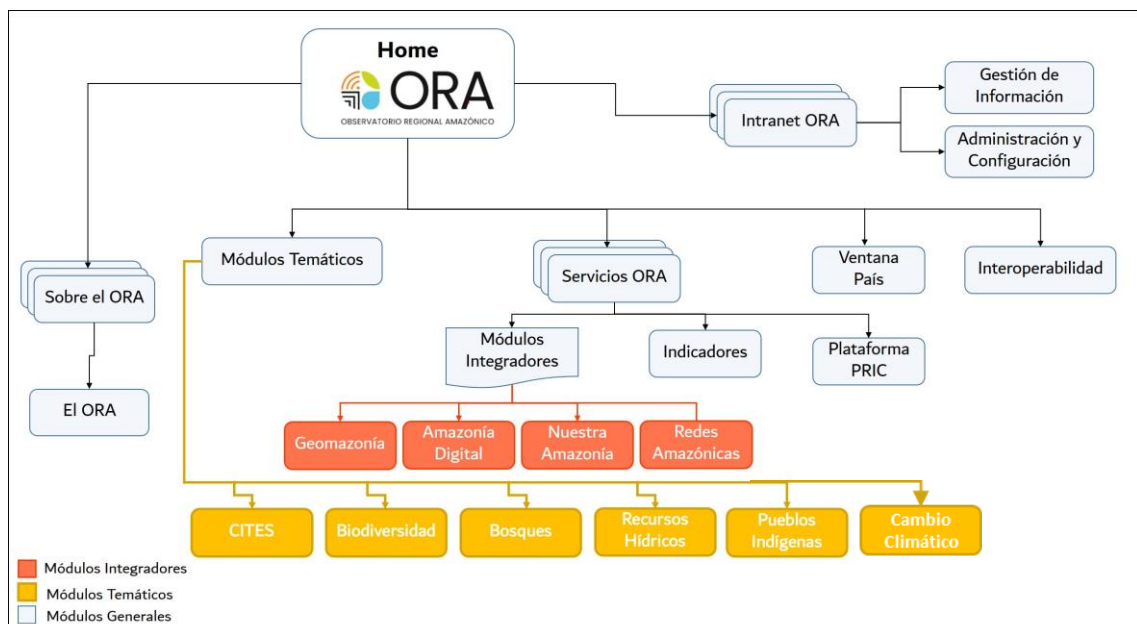
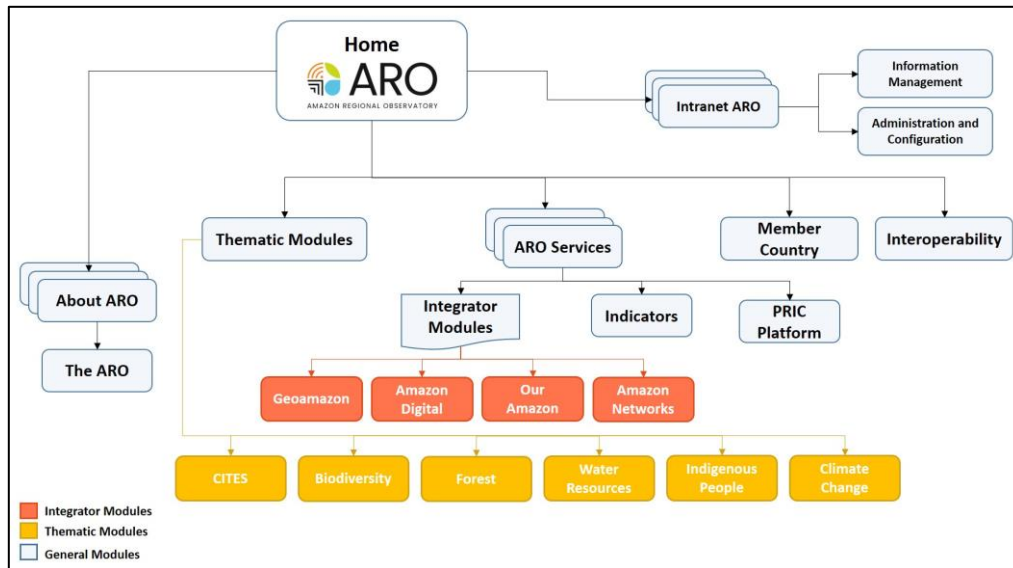


Figure 5. Web map of the Amazon Regional Observatory with the layout and organization of the contents in thematic and integrating modules.

### THEMATIC MODULES

The thematic modules address each of the topics prioritized by the ACTO/MC for ARO, which are covered by ASCA. The degree of specific information for the Amazon Region, associated with their catalog of indicators, is their added value,

The CITES Module introduces information on central issues relevant to the implementation of the Convention by CITES Authorities in the ACTO/MC, such as: exports, imports, re-exports and repatriations, and illegal trafficking of species (Figure 6).

<sup>3</sup>A dashboard is a tool for graphic visualization of mainly descriptive statistical information.

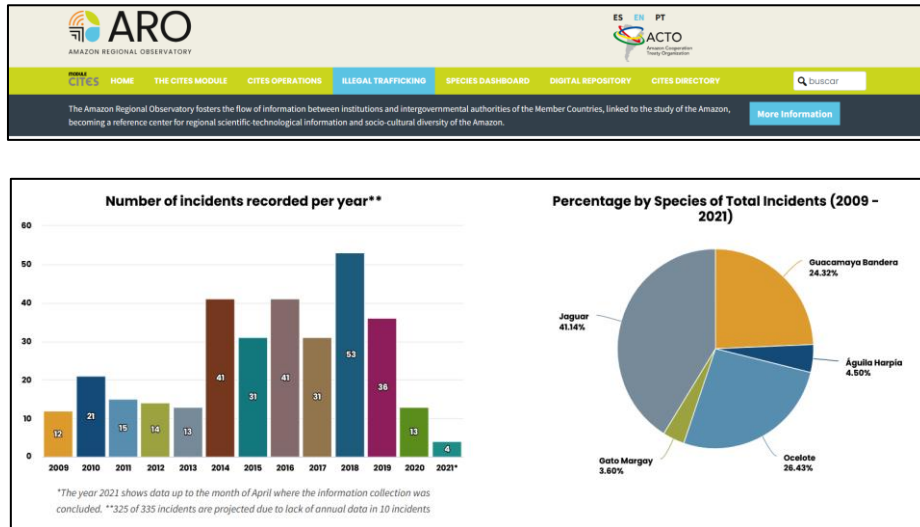


Figure 6. View of the dashboard on illegal trafficking of five species of Amazonian fauna listed in Appendix I of CITES.

The Biodiversity Module presents information and data on species lists, biological collections, a repository of several scientific, technical, and legal documents about Amazon biodiversity that have been shared by the different ACTO/MC. In addition, its methodological and computer tools enable the visualization, downloading and generation of new information from the analysis of the population data available in the module.

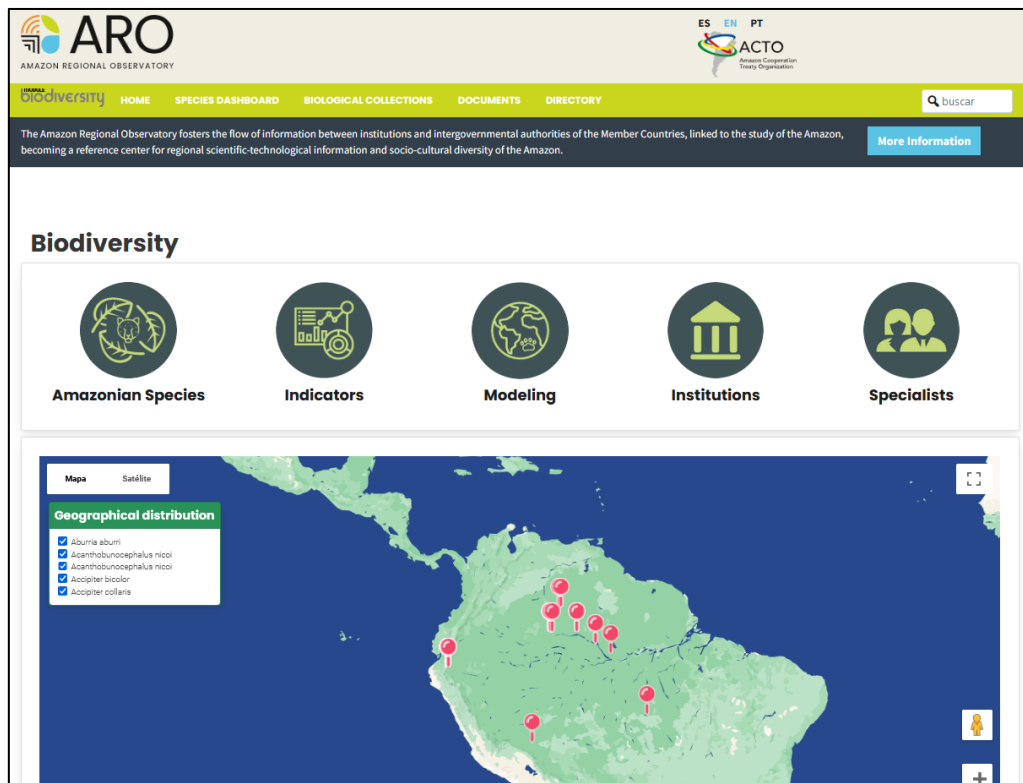


Figure 7. View of the main interface of the Biodiversity Module displaying the organized information and the geographic viewer of species location.

INTEGRATING MODULES





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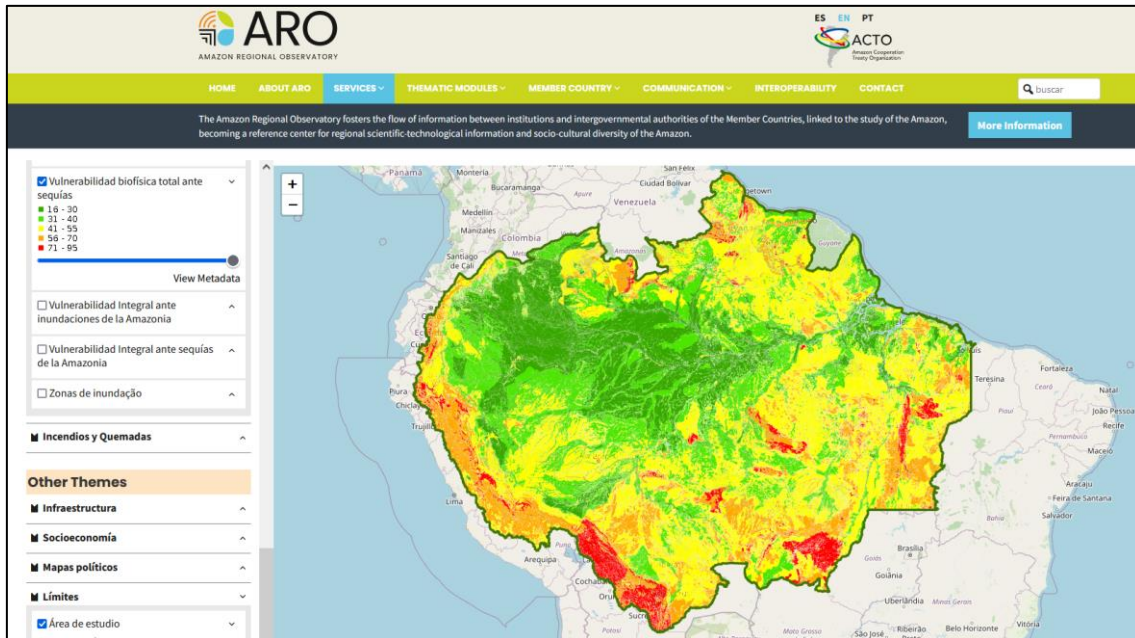
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The integrating modules are conceived to provide integrated information consultation services for specialized thematic and sub-thematic information, which is presented through different visualization tools, depending on the communication objective and the associated format.

The Geoamazon Module presents regional information through a geoviewer that allows the superimposition of different layers of information. It is fed by a catalog of maps from official and non-official sources, organized under different themes and sub-themes.

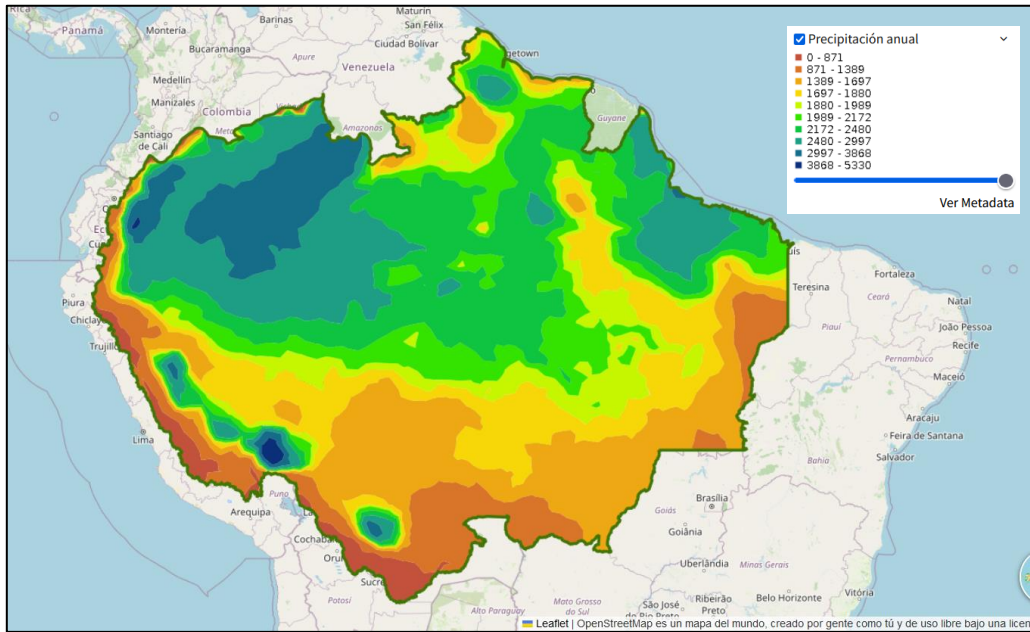


**Figure 8.** View of the Geoamazon Module geoviewer showing information on biophysical vulnerability to droughts of the Water Resources thematic module.

The Water Resources Module provides thematic maps of climatological variables (Precipitation, Evapotranspiration, Temperature) along with studies of the region's hydrological characteristics (watercourses, flood zone).

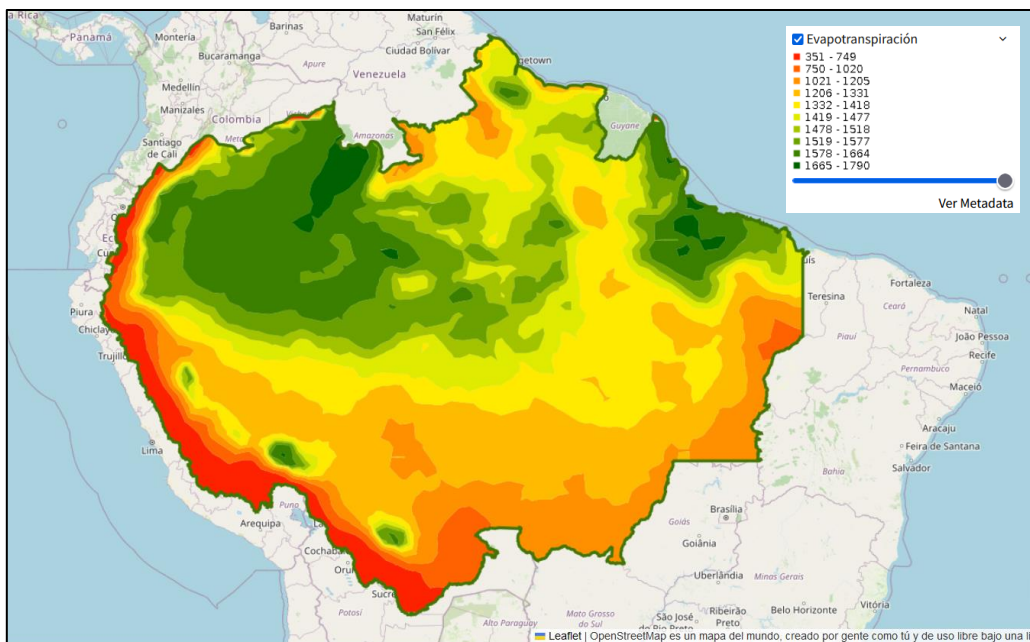
Akin to the other modules available in geoviewer, the maps and water resources information can overlap with each other and with any other module.

Figure 9 shows the distribution of annual precipitation based on monthly normal data from meteorological stations from the Amazonian countries' Meteorological and Hydrological Services, together with data from NASA's 0.5 degrees of resolution TRMM model.



**Figure 9.** Map of the Water Resources Module geoviewer showing the distribution of annual precipitation.

Figure 10 shows the evapotranspiration map of the Amazon basin; the rates are extremely high mainly in the north central part of the region where the standing forest is more present.



**Figure 10.** The map of the Water Resources Module geoviewer showing the distribution of actual evapotranspiration in the region according to the calculation equation proposed by Turc.

In Figure 11, the map of waterways shows the dependence of the Amazon Region on its rivers to bring food, fuel, and health to the riparian communities.

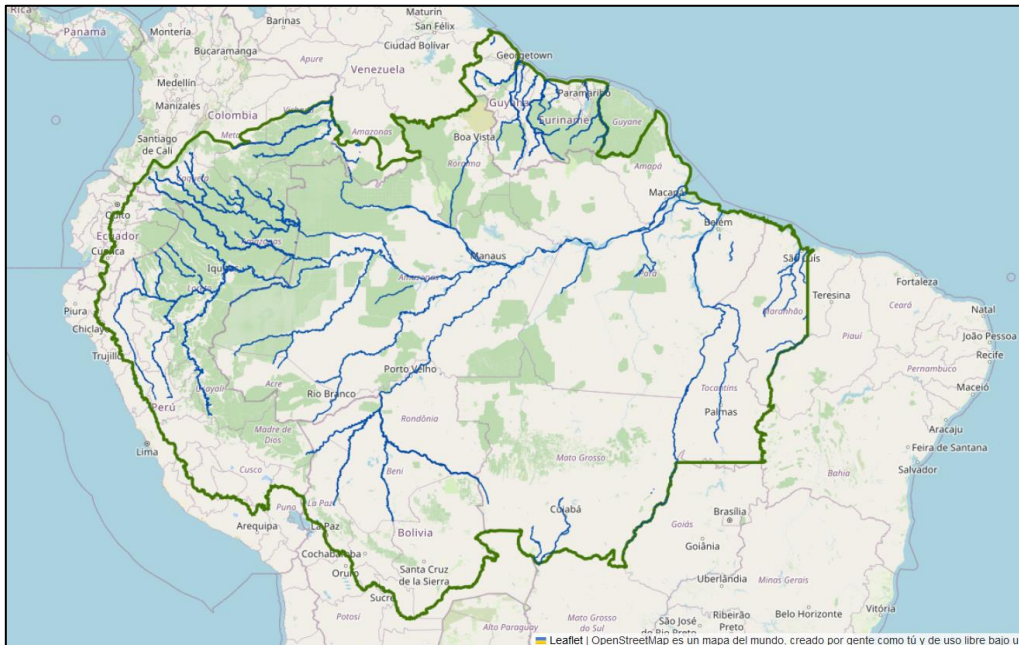


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**Figure 11.** Map of the Water Resources Module geoviewer showing the waterways, which are the river network for transit or navigation of river vehicles.

Figure 12 shows the distribution of flood zones in the region. This information was obtained from the compilation of flood plain area coverage for each ACTO country.



**Figure 12.** Map of the Water Resources Module geoviewer showing the distribution of annual precipitation.

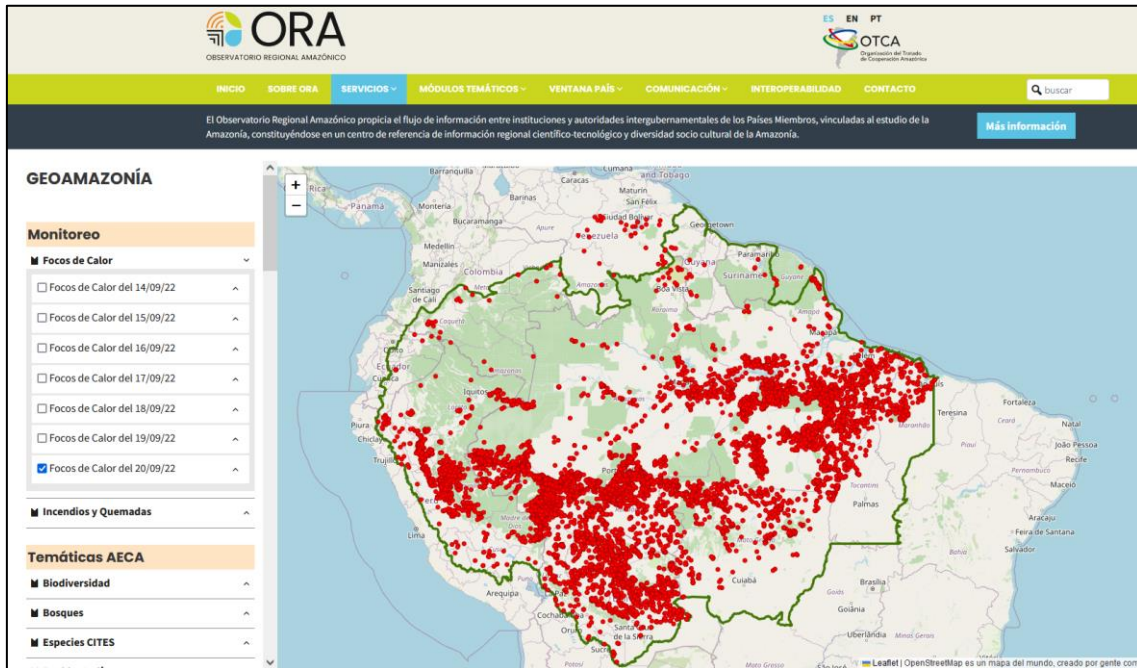
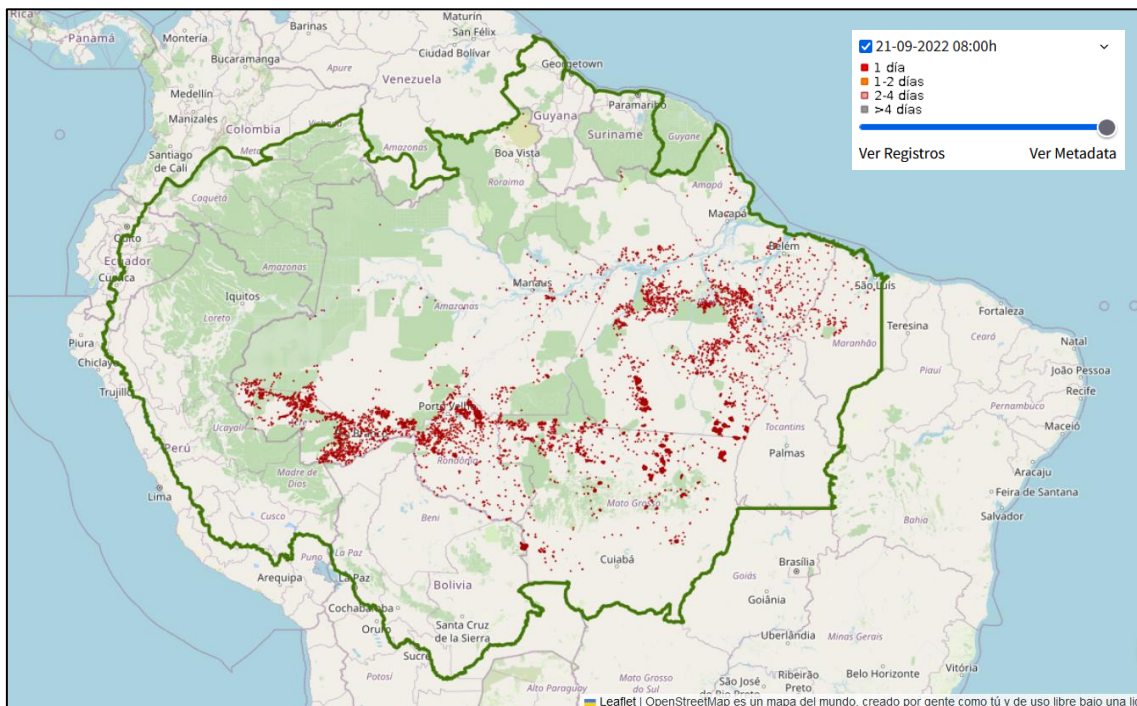


Figure 13 shows the hot spots detected throughout the basin area. These are raw data without the use of information filters.

**Figure 13.** View of the Geoamazon Module geoviewer displaying information on hot-spots in the Amazon Basin.

In Figure 14, the data of the hot-spots are processed, and the following figure provides information on burns/forest fires, with the objective of combating them. At the moment, this information is only available for the Brazilian Amazon, but soon it will be available for the whole basin.



**Figure 14.** Map of fires/burns identified in the Brazilian Legal Amazon.



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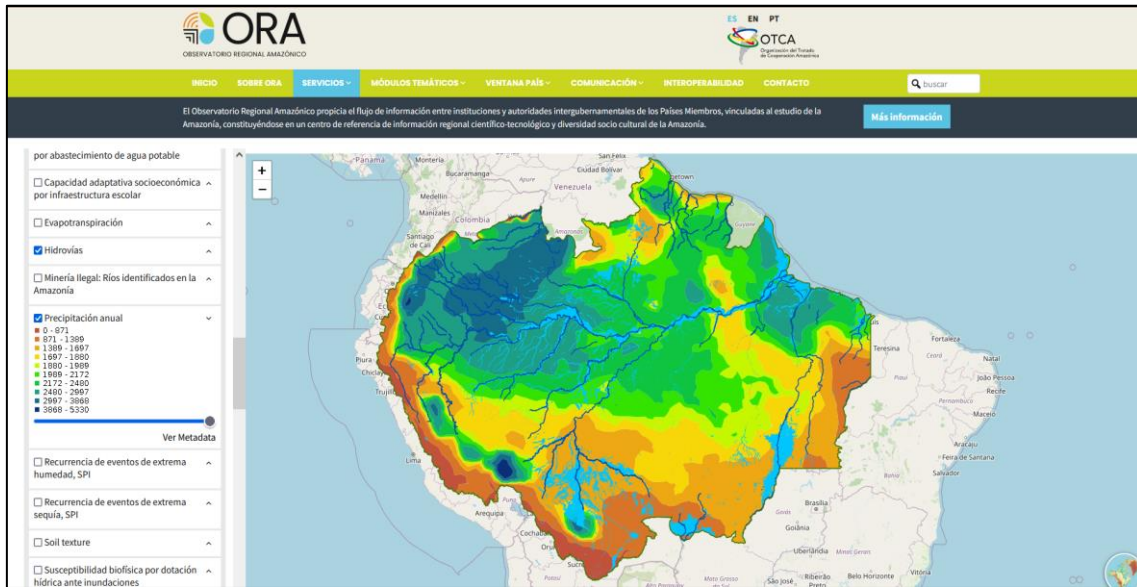
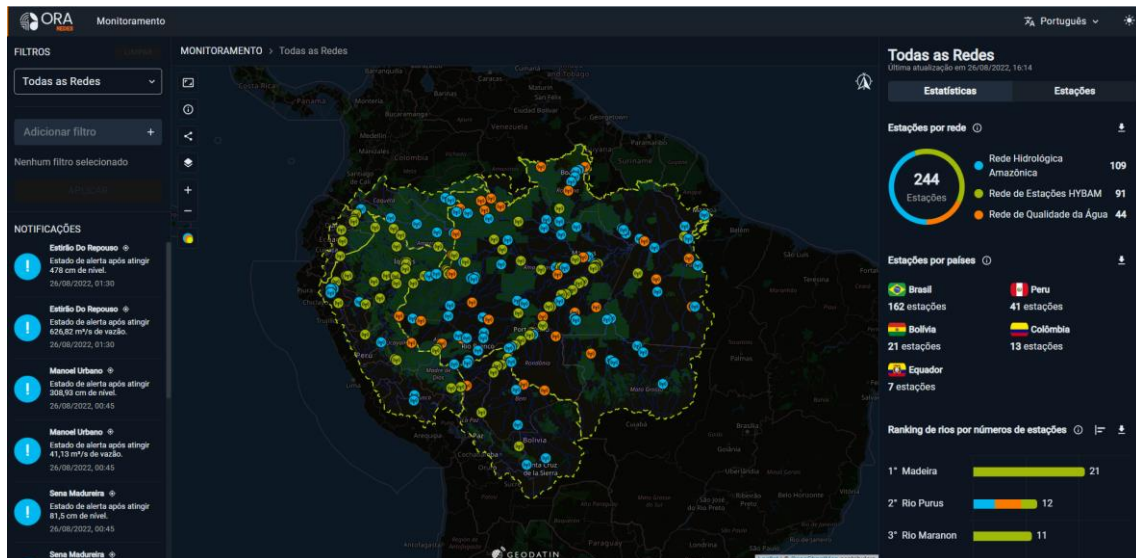


Figure 15 shows the interaction with the different information available in geovisor, where it is possible to superimpose and cross-reference information from different layers for better analysis.

**Figure 15.** View of the Geoamazon Module geoviewer showing the overlay of the layers of waterways, flood zones and annual precipitation of the Amazon Basin.

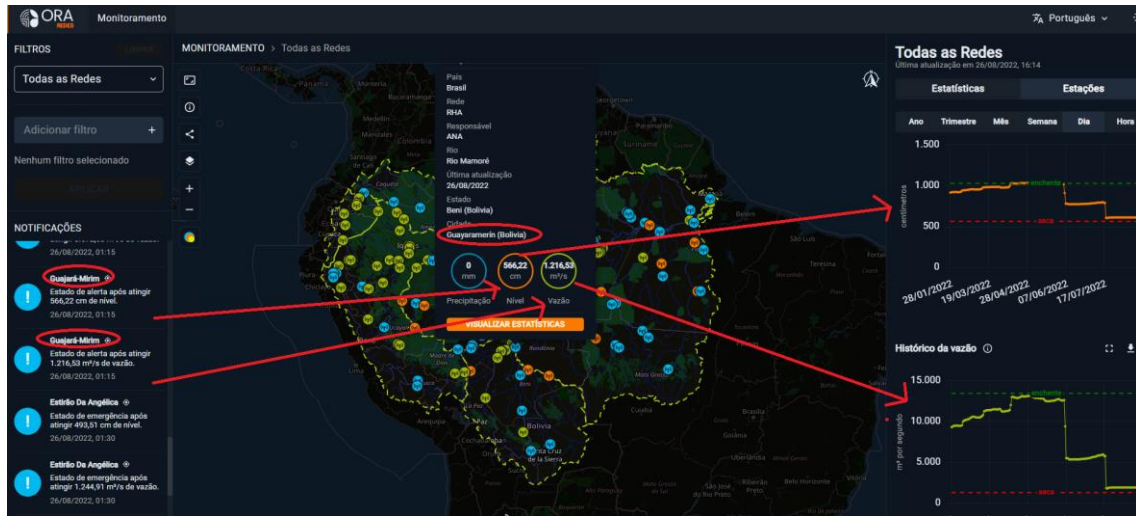
The Amazon Networks Module articulates information from different monitoring networks established in the region that produce official data for water resource management in the ACTO/MC, such as the Amazon Hydrological Network (RHA), HYBAM Stations Network and Water Quality Network.



**Figure 16.** View of the geoviewer of the Amazon Networks Module with information from three water resources monitoring networks with coverage in five countries of the Amazon Basin.

In Figure 17 it can be observed from the Guajará-Mirim station, the measurements of rainfall, level, and flow of the river in real time, updated every 15 minutes. By knowing each river through the historical measurements of each station, it is possible to calculate its permanence curves. Hence, when a river exceeds one of these quotas, the system automatically sends an alert (left column). In the right column it is possible to see the

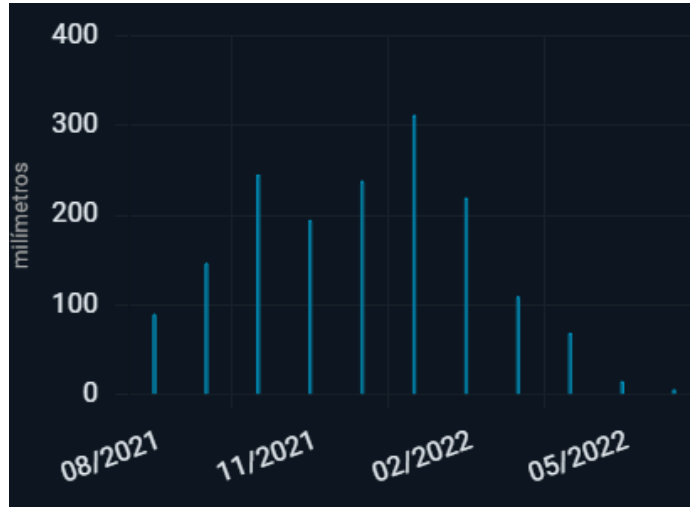
history, in graphs, and the accumulated values of each of the stations, on an annual, semi-annual, monthly, weekly, daily, and hourly basis (Figures 18 to 21).



**Figure 17.** View of the geoviewer of the Amazon Networks Module showing in graphs the weekly real-time information from the Guajará-Mirim Station.



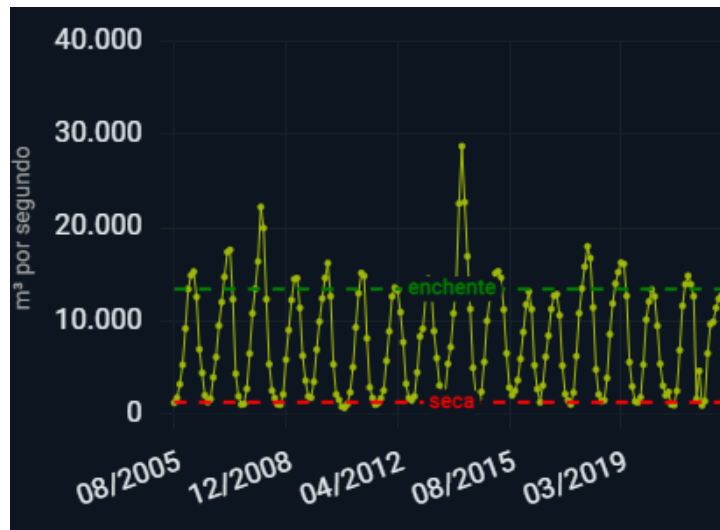
**Figure 18.** View of the geoviewer of the Amazon Networks Module showing the graphs with historical information and accumulated values for Guajará-Mirim, on an annual, semi-annual, monthly, weekly, daily, and hourly basis.



**Figure 19.** View of the Amazon Networks Module Geoviewer showing monthly rainfall information for Guajará-Mirim.



**Figure 20.** View of the Amazon Networks Module Geoviewer showing monthly river level information for Guajará-Mirim..



**Figure 21.** View of the Amazon Networks Module Geoviewer showing monthly river flow information for Guajará-Mirim..

#### 4. TARGET USERS

Among the target users for the ARO are national authorities, provincial and local authorities, public officials, CITES authorities (administrative and scientific), researchers, businessmen, professionals, university students, Indigenous communities, and rural communities in each of the member countries;

which may benefit from:

- Access to specialized and spatialized information on the Amazon region and basin (on biodiversity, water resources, Indigenous peoples, science, and technology, etc.) through reports, maps, documents, and tabular data;
- access to scientific data processing services oriented to the modeling of ecological niches, environmental and climatic predictions, and simulations, etc.;
- access and linkage with various networks of public and private stakeholders in the MC;
- tools for interrelation and collaboration among stakeholders in the countries (forums, sharing of databases and files);
- tools for data processing and generation of added value;
- access to primary and secondary information for scientific research, infrastructure, and social development projects.

#### 5. GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

The ARO is governed by a Steering Committee composed of one or two institutional delegates appointed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of each Member Country. The delegate(s) are interlocutor(s) connecting the ARO with the participating public and private institutions within each country, as well as with international institutions not necessarily belonging to the Member Countries.

The main objective of the Steering Committee is to direct, manage, prospect, accompany, monitor, and provide feedback on the scope, proper functioning, and sustainability of the Observatory.

The Steering Committee has the authority to promote inter-institutional articulation, data exchange, standardization of information, conditions of use and even information management policies for the ARO's proper operation. It will also promote the formation and consolidation of National Committees facilitating the ARO-countries articulation.



## 6. DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARO - STATE OF ART

Currently, the first stage of implementation of the ARO computer platform has been fully completed. The thematic modules: Biodiversity, CITES species, Forests, Water Resources, and Indigenous Peoples, along with the integrating modules: Geoamazon (geographic information), Digital Amazon (documentary information), Our Amazon (information on successful experiences), Amazon Networks (national services of hydrological monitoring networks, hot spots, etc.) and Country Window (socioeconomic indicators) are operating.

Cooperation agreements have been established under different management instruments to manage the increasing volume of information entering the ARO database, as well as to optimize its use in the provision of new useful information for the sustainable management of the natural resources by the ACTO Member Countries' governmental institutions, and for all users inside and outside the Amazon Region. Up to now, agreements have been established with the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), the Brazilian National Institute of Spatial Research (INPE), the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF, formerly known as the Andean Development Corporation), the Institute of Research for Development (IRD) and other institutions.

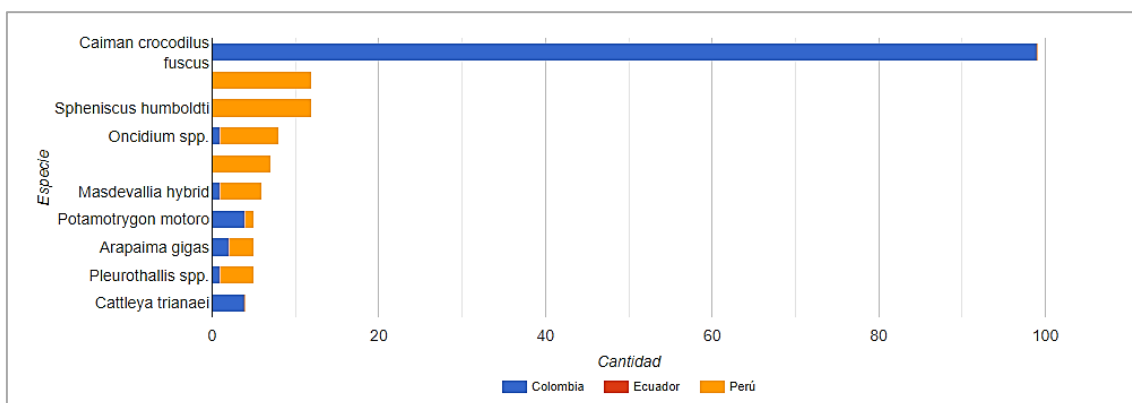
## 7. CITES MODULE

The CITES Module (<https://oraotca.org/cites/>) development was guided by the need to manage, integrate, and interoperate national data with the ARO, on CITES species trade information in the eight ACTO Member Countries. For purposes of data integration, the core themes in the management and implementation of the Convention in the Member Countries were considered. Thus, the module includes information services on i) CITES implementation operations, ii) Illegal trade in species listed in CITES Appendices I and II, and iii) List of CITES species in the Amazon region.

### *CITES Operations*

Access to statistics on international trade (exports, imports, and re-exports), issuance of CITES permits/certificates and seizures of Amazonian CITES species, at the species and species group level, is available through this information service. Additionally, the list of ACTO/MC that carried out operations during the last ten (10) years is presented.

According to the data collected for the Amazon Region from the ACTO/MC, in relation to Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, ten species that were most exported in 2019 were identified (Figure 22).



**Figure 22.** Species with the highest number of exports by country in 2019.

Figure 23 shows that the most traded products from these three countries are: live species (LIV), skins (SKI) and small items made from skins (LPS):



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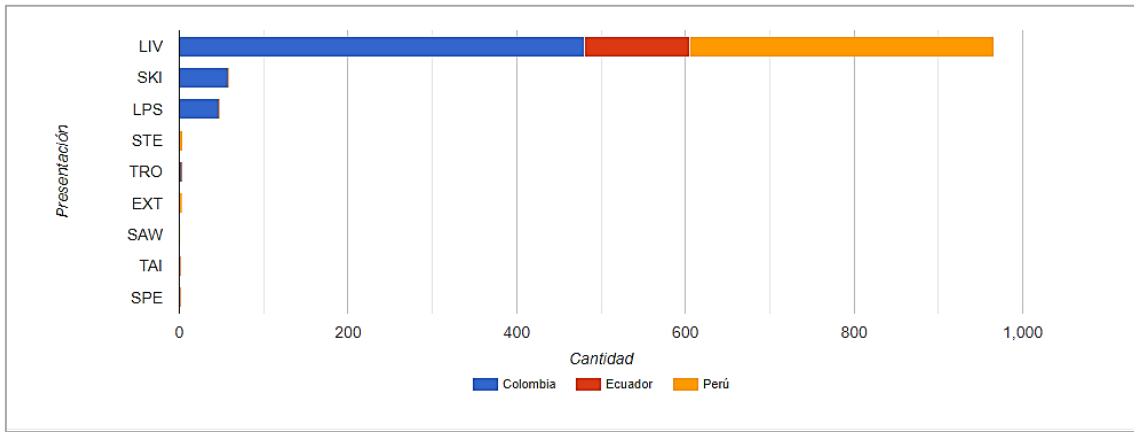


Figure 23. Types of products most exported by country in 2019.

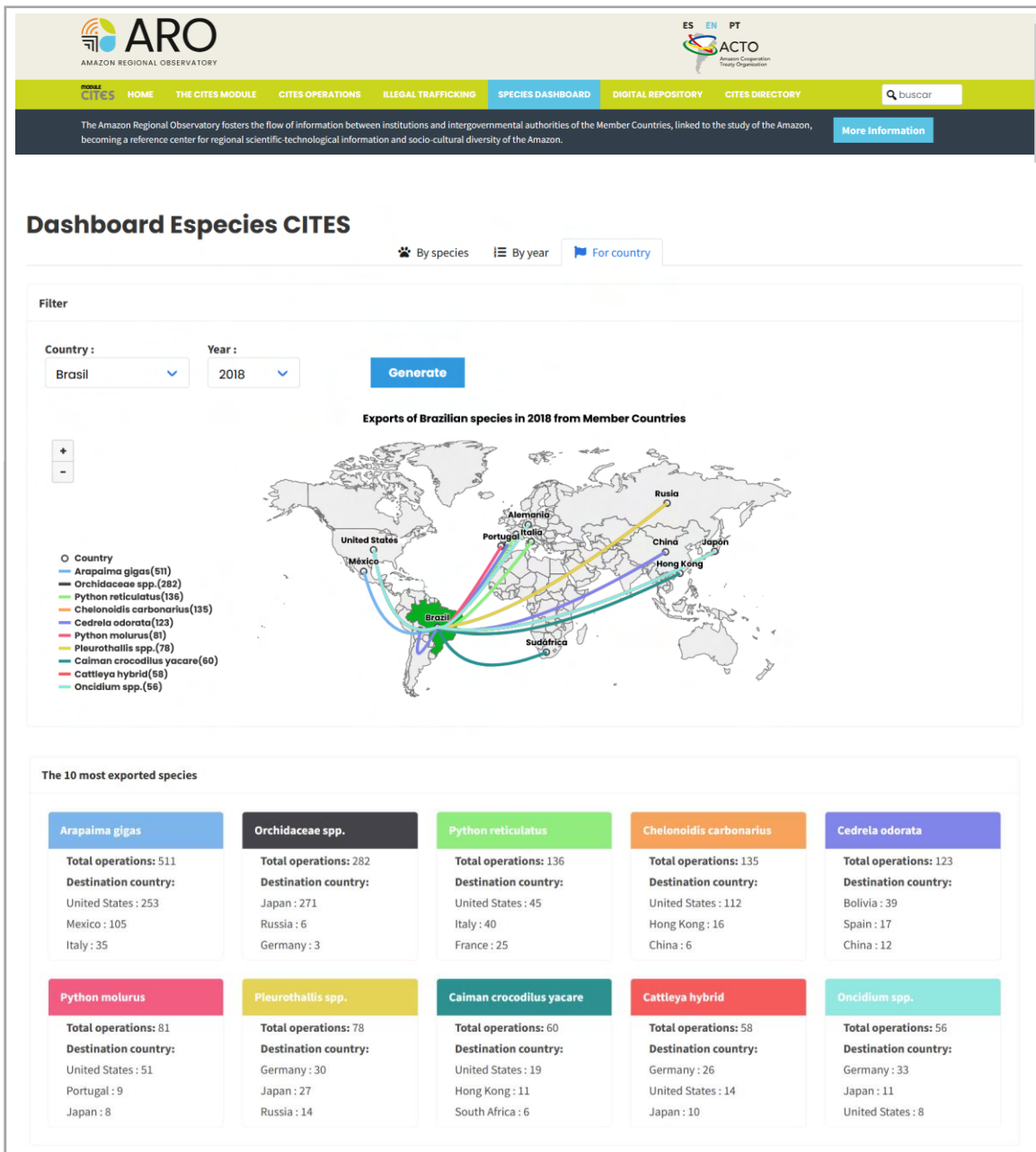


Figure 24. Main routes of the 10 most exported species in the last 10 years.



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The CITES Module provides information on exports, imports, and permits related to trade of CITES species through a dashboard report that provides access to two types of information sources:

- Information on exports and imports of Amazonian CITES species from the official institutions of the Member Countries, for the period from 2015 to 2022, consisting of a database with 39,158 records.
- Database with 1.152.350 records from the [CITES.ORG](https://www.cites.org) portal, which includes the data of Amazonian CITES species from 2010 to 2021.

The user, when visiting the dashboard, can choose to access the desired type of information source.

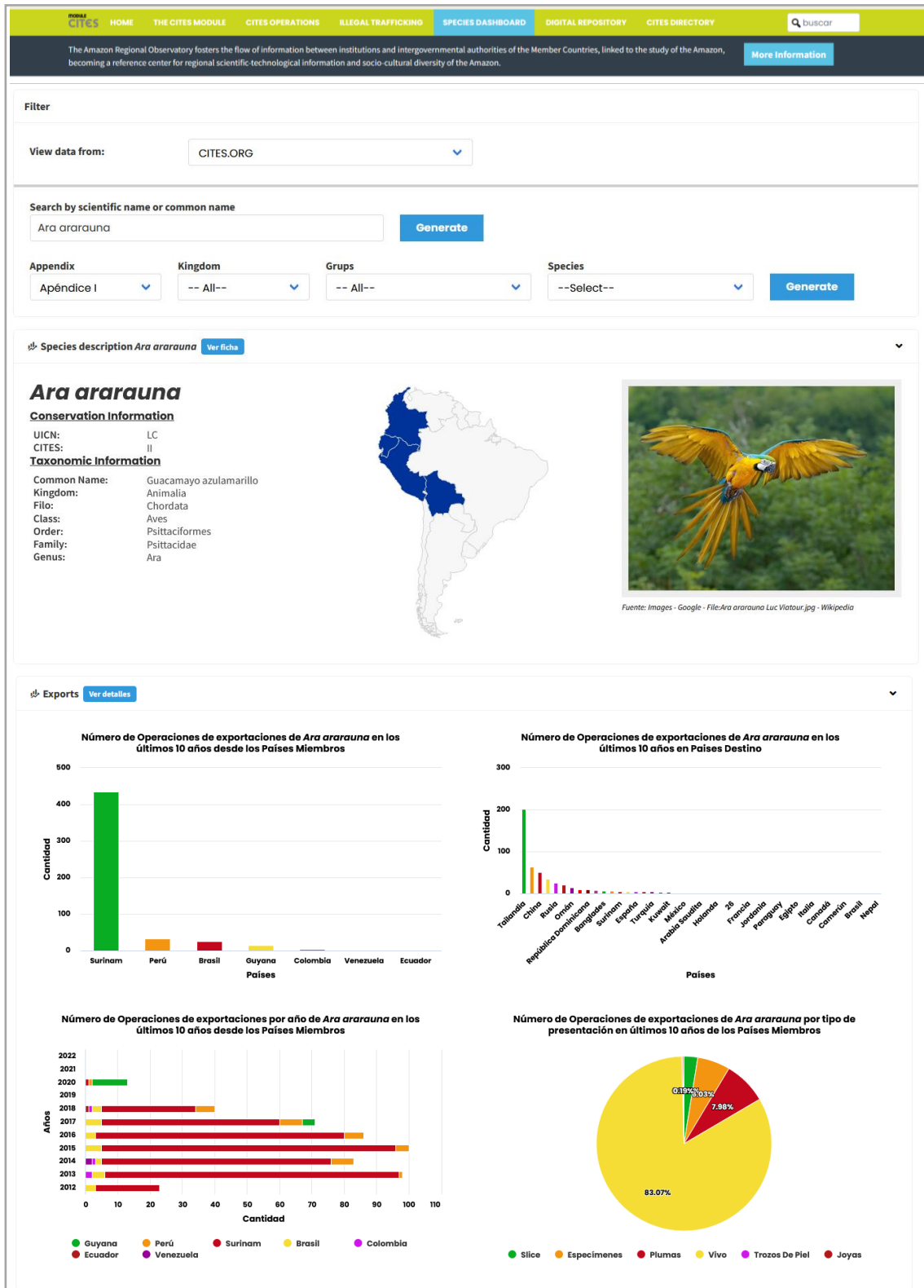


Figure 25. Dashboard of Species with information on Export and Import operations from Member Countries.

On the other hand, data analyzed of the illegal trade of the 5 emblematic Amazonian species of Appendix I, show that between 2009 and 2020 the main trade markets of these species were: United States, China, Spain, and New Zealand.

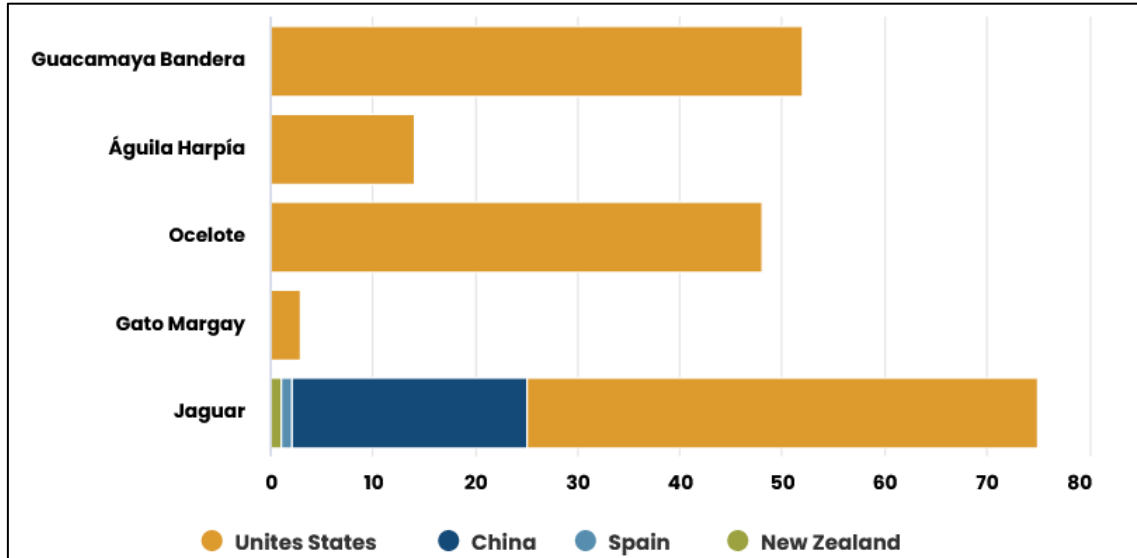


Figure 26. Main markets for the commercialization of five CITES Appendix I species of Amazonian fauna.

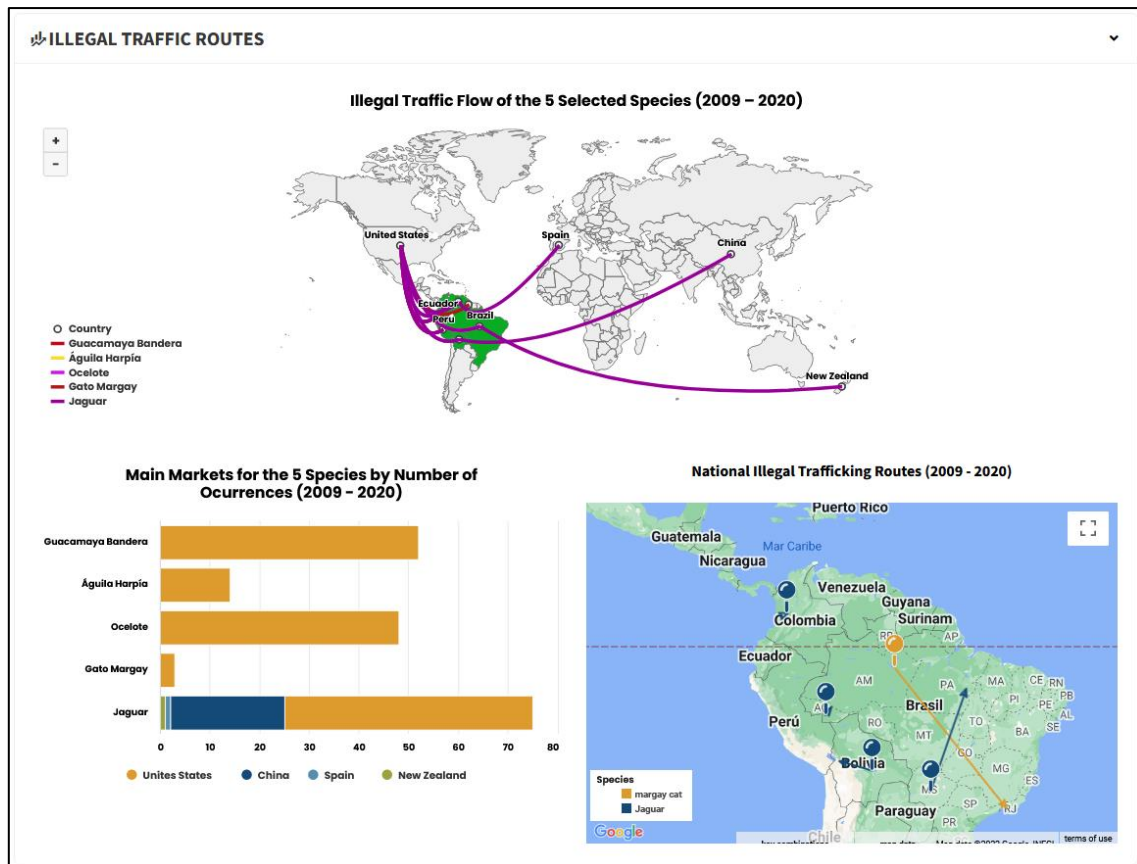
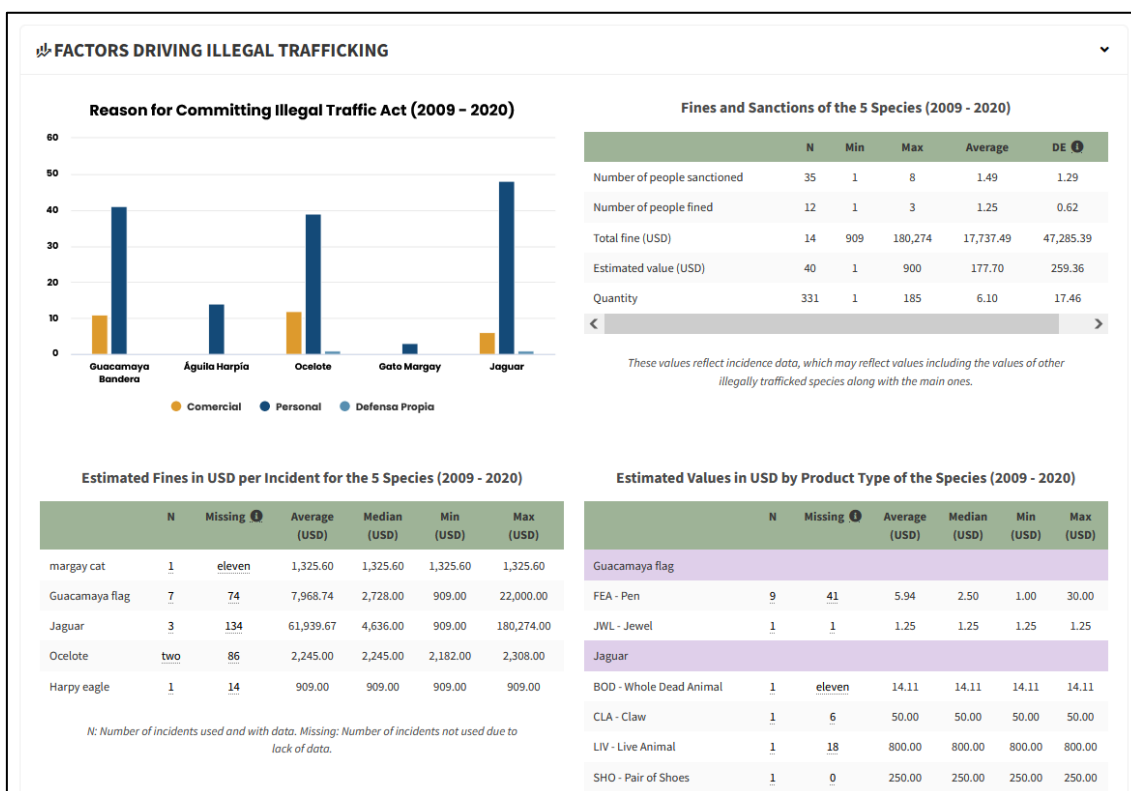


Figure 27. Main illegal trafficking routes of 5 Amazonian species.



**Figure 28.** Information on the main drivers of illegal trafficking and the estimated dollar value of products obtained from 5 Amazonian species.

The data are sourced from national institutions and from records published on the CITES website itself. Table 3 shows the quantitative and qualitative detail of the information resources included in the CITES website.

Table 3 Status of CITES Module information resources

Country	National Supplier Institutions	Nº of Sources <sup>4</sup>	Nº of Records <sup>5</sup>
Bolivia	Ministry of Environment and Water of Bolivia (MMyA for its acronym in Spanish)	07	267
Brazil	Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources	16	268,654
Colombia	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	03	5,648
Colombia	Territorial Environmental Information System of the Colombian Amazon ( SIAT-AC)	02	46,315
Ecuador	Ministry of the Environment, Water and Ecological Transition (MAATE for its acronym in Spanish)	20	122,416
Guyana	Guyana Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission (GWCMC)	05	7,551
Peru	Research Institute of the Peruvian Amazon (IIAP)	05	319
Peru	Ministry of Environment	10	7,144
Peru	Ministry of Production (PRODUCE)	02	1,494
Peru	Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR for its acronym in Spanish)	03	6,450
Venezuela	Ministry of Popular Power for Ecosocialism Venezuela (MINEC for its acronym in Spanish)	02	122
<b>ACTO</b>	Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO)	36	4,058

<sup>4</sup>The number of resources refers to the number of databases and maps.

<sup>5</sup>The number of records corresponds to the number of records in each database.



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	<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>470,438</b>
<b>Other countries</b>	<b>International Institutions</b>		
Switzerland	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)	13	1,191,378
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>1,661,816</b>

Source: ACTO/ARO (07/14/2022).

The data in the CITES Module can be fully downloaded by any user visiting the ARO who wants to obtain data in tabular format; likewise, there is also an API for data consumption from other computer systems.

### Illegal Trafficking

This service provides access to systematized and analyzed information on illegal trafficking of five CITES Appendix I animal species emblematic for the Amazon Region. The information is displayed through a dashboard that is organized into the following contents:

- Illegal Trafficking Hot spots
- Routes of Illegal Traffic
- Main demands and Trafficked Specimens
- Other Illegally Trafficked Species
- *Modus operandi*; and,
- Features driving illegal trade

More extensive and detailed information on each of these items can be found in the comprehensive report, which is accessible in the interface for reading or can be downloaded in PDF format.

Additionally, there is information organized in the following contents:

- Information from Authorities CITES: It includes a directory of the various authorities classified as follows: Administrative Authorities, Scientific Authorities, Enforcement Authorities, Focal Points, Sources of Information and Websites of Interest.

The screenshot shows the 'Directory of CITES Authorities' interface. At the top, there are logos for ARO (Amazon Regional Observatory) and ACTO (Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization). Below the logos is a navigation menu with options like HOME, THE CITES MODULE, CITES OPERATIONS, ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING, SPECIES DASHBOARD, DIGITAL REPOSITORY, and CITES DIRECTORY. A search bar is also present.

The main content area is titled 'Directory of CITES Authorities' and includes a sub-header: 'CITES Authorities are public institutions belonging to ACTO member countries that have administrative or scientific responsibility in matters related to international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora.' Below this is a search form with a text input 'Search for authority...', a dropdown menu for 'Type' (set to 'Administrative authority'), a dropdown menu for 'Country' (set to 'All'), and a 'Search' button.

The search results are displayed in a table with the following columns: #, Name Authority, Description, Contact, web, and Type. There are 3 entries listed:

#	Name Authority	Description	Contact	web	Type
1	Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible de Colombia	El Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible es uno de los minist...	servicioalciudadano@minambiente.gov.co	https://www.minambiente.gov.co/	Administrative authority
2	Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis (IBAMA)	O IBAMA, órgão executivo do PNMA, que assume a forma de uma autarquia ...	presid.sede@ibama.gov.br / sic.sede@ibama.gov.br	https://www.gov.br/ibama/pt-br	Administrative authority
3	Servicio Nacional Forestal y de Fauna Silvestre - SERFOR	Servicio Forestal y de Fauna Silvestre - SERFOR	informes@serfor.gob.pe / hlopez@serfor.gob.pe /	http://www.serfor.gob.pe	Administrative authority

Figure 29. View of the CITES Authorities Directory Interface.

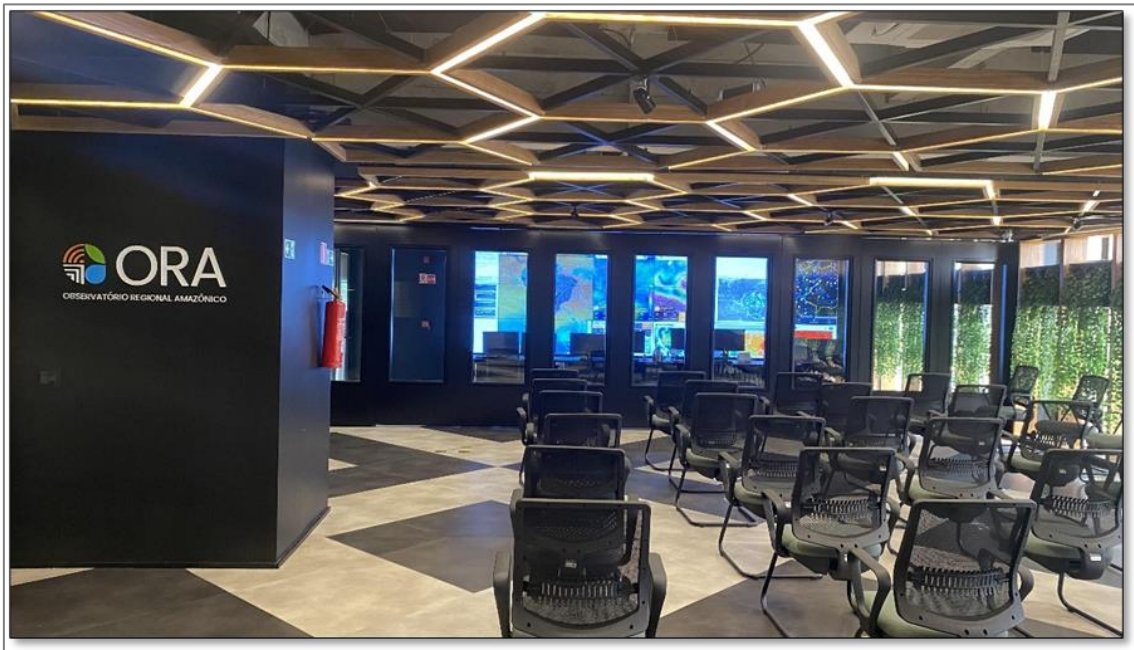


- Information from experts: It includes a directory of professionals who are experts and/or related to CITES issues.
- Information on commercial farms and businesses: It includes a directory of companies, hatcheries, nurseries, and propagation centers related to breeding, rescue, processing centers of products based on CITES species.
- Repository of technical documents, publications, and scientific articles. Includes the national FP reports submitted to CITES.

In addition, more than 120 information resources (i.e., databases) have been collected from different public institutions of the Member Countries, exceeding 1.2 million records (e.g., documentary, tabular and geographic information), and the collection, uploading and visualization of more than fifty indicators of the topics prioritized for the ARO in its first phase of implementation has also begun: CITES Species, Forests, Biodiversity and Water Resources

## FACILITIES AND VISITATION

The Amazonian Regional Observatory, in addition to being accessible on the Internet, its physical headquarters are located in the facilities of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization, in Brasilia, and it is open for visitation by interested public.



**Figure 30.** View of the ARO, in auditorium format, with the acoustic partitions closed to the Water Resources Situation

Its physical space with a usable area of 341.21 m<sup>2</sup> allows for lively and dynamic interaction, supported by technology. Its integral concept design has 120-person capacity auditorium equipped with interactive screens and monitors, ideal for exhibitions, workshops, and international events.



**Figure 31.** View of the auditorium of the ARO in a format for a training room.

The ARO is endowed with a Situation Room that houses the Amazonian Hydrological Network (AHN) and the Water Quality Monitoring Network (WQMN) of the ACTO in order to systematically monitor various features related to water resources and critical events at the Amazonian regional level.



**Figure 32.** Water Resources Situation Room of the Amazon Regional Observatory.  
**Visit the Amazonian Regional Observatory!**



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YouTube:	English: <a href="https://youtu.be/uPt1OI52ymQ">https://youtu.be/uPt1OI52ymQ</a> Spanish: <a href="https://youtu.be/n2ur8t_YySc">https://youtu.be/n2ur8t_YySc</a>