

ANTICIPATORY ACTION FOR AMAZONIAN CHILDREN:

Intercultural Multi-Hazard Preparedness

IMPACT REPORT



CLIMATE CRISIS ON THE AMAZON BORDER

In **Madre de Dios**, Amazonian Indigenous communities face increasingly frequent and severe climate events, while conventional humanitarian preparedness and response systems face limitations operating in last-mile territories.

Structural Conditions of Vulnerability

In the district of **Las Piedras**, Madre de Dios, more than 86% of the population lives in remote rural areas with difficult access, beyond the reach of conventional humanitarian response systems.



River-only connectivity: Geographic isolation during periods of flooding or low water levels prevents emergencies from being reported in time.



Language barriers: Official alert and response systems operate in Spanish, without interpreters or materials in Indigenous languages (Yine, Ashaninka).



Poverty and limited recovery capacity: The loss of infrastructure, crops, or transportation means has critical and long-term consequences.



Presence of Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation: Extreme climate events alter the mobility patterns of the Mashco Piro people, increasing the risk of unplanned contact with neighboring communities.

Recurring Climate Threats

Between 2021 and 2025, Madre de Dios was placed under a state of emergency four times due to hydrometeorological hazards,

- Seasonal flooding
- Cold waves
- Dry seasons
- Forest fires



INTERVENTION MODEL

Save the Children and DAS Perú developed and tested an intercultural anticipatory action model specifically designed for remote Amazonian communities, structured around three components to act within the window of opportunity between early warning and climate impact.

- 1 Life Plans with Anticipatory Action Integration:** Risk management was incorporated into Indigenous governance through existing community planning instruments, validated in community assemblies and respecting self-governance structures.
- 2 Intercultural Response Protocol:** which outlined an operational pathway engaging communities, the Indigenous representative body (FENAMAD), and institutions within the national disaster risk management system, integrating ancestral knowledge with international humanitarian frameworks.
- 3 Pre-Positioned Emergency Kits:** where supplies were defined through a participatory process, incorporating contributions from children and adolescents, and tailored to local risks and practices. This ensures that emergency resources are available before river isolation restricts humanitarian access.



RESULTS



2 communities have integrated anticipatory actions into their Life Plans, which were validated during assembly. These actions include threat identification, assigning responsible actor, and defining a shared vision of a "safe community".



Intercultural protocol validated by the Native Federation of the Madre de Dios River and Tributaries (FENAMAD), which establishes the activation pathway between community, federation, and State, this reducing the gap between Indigenous alerts and institutional response. Additionally, FENAMAD now has its first emergency personal protective equipment.



3 communities equipped with pre-positioned kits that are culturally relevant and participatorily defined, integrating an intercultural approach into already standardized humanitarian processes.



First documented culturally relevant anticipatory action pilot implemented in last-mile Amazonian Indigenous communities in Peru.

367  people benefited, including

167  children and adolescents

BEYOND THE PILOT

- 1 Participating communities strengthened their territorial monitoring capacity, indirectly contributing to the protection of the Mashco Piro people during climate events that alter their mobility patterns.
- 2 A new interinstitutional dialogue space was created between FENAMAD, the Ministry of Culture, INDECI, and SERNANP on preparedness in Indigenous Amazonian territories—an unprecedented coordination mechanism before the project.
- 3 Children and adolescents actively participated in risk identification and the definition of humanitarian aid, engaging as agents in the response process.
- 4 The pilot has contributed to strengthening territorial protection and community preparedness in the face of increasingly unpredictable climate scenarios.

- 3 **Indigenous federation as a core component.** FENAMAD acted as a key political and operational bridge between communities and the formal humanitarian system.
- 4 **Intercultural approach.** Anticipatory action in Amazonian territories requires integrating technical knowledge with Indigenous governance, rather than replicating humanitarian models designed for urban or more accessible settings.

SCALING OPPORTUNITIES

Evidence indicates that the model is replicable, provided that three conditions are maintained: preparedness anchored in community governance, Indigenous representation throughout the process, and locally driven definition of humanitarian

- 1 **Deepen the Model:** Operationalize the protocol and anticipatory action focal points through drills, as well as mechanisms for replenishing pre-positioned emergency kits.
- 2 **Expand Coverage:** Explore adaptation in other Amazonian regions of Peru and in cross-border corridors where Indigenous communities face similar climate-related threats.
- 3 **Influence Public Policy:** Leverage the evidence generated to promote the integration of an intercultural anticipatory action approach into national disaster risk management instruments.

LESSONS LEARNED

- 1 **Build on existing plans.** Risk management becomes more feasible when integrated into instruments and relationships already recognized by the community, such as Life Plans. FENAMAD's participation, along with validation through community assemblies, served as key enabling factors for the model.
- 2 **Timing is as critical as cultural relevance.** In Amazonian territories, emergency preparedness calendars must be aligned with productive seasons, river dynamics, and community cycles.



For More Information, Please Contact:
Semirani Florian / New Business Development Manager
Semirani.Florian@savethechildren.org