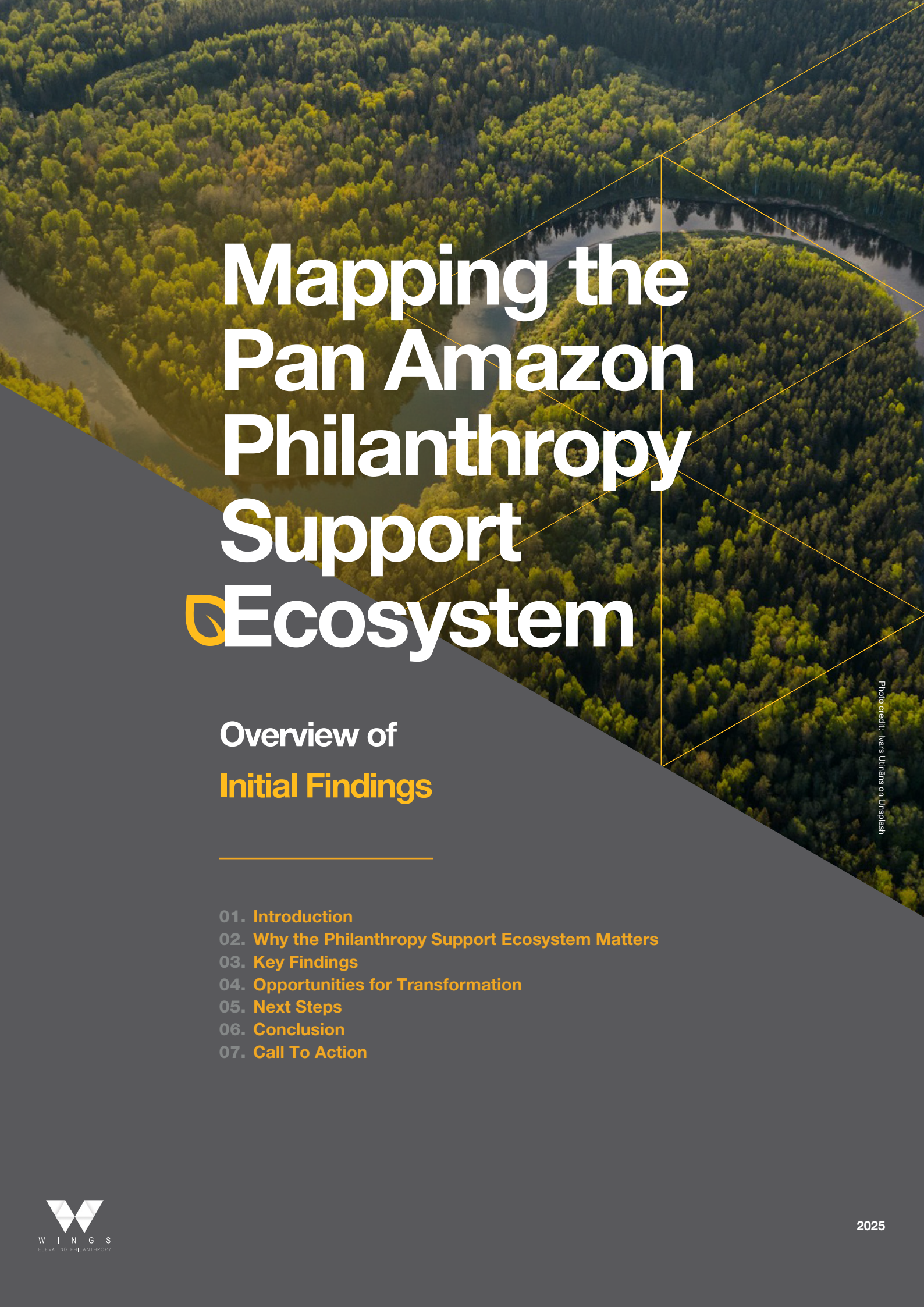




Mapping the Pan Amazon Philanthropy Support Ecosystem

Overview of Initial Findings

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Introduction

01

The Amazon region – home to 47 million people, including 2.2 million Indigenous peoples from over 350 ethnic groups – is one of the world's most vital ecological and cultural biomes. Yet it is reaching a critical tipping point, as available climate funding remains insufficient, fragmented, and too often fails to reach local communities. While [global philanthropic investment in climate action is increasing](#), very little of this growth currently flows to Amazon-based or locally led initiatives. A strong Philanthropy Support

Ecosystem is therefore needed to bridge this gap—by making local philanthropy actors more visible, identifying barriers to resource flow, and informing a roadmap for collective action. By strengthening this ecosystem, the region can attract and channel international climate philanthropy more effectively, while also unlocking domestic giving, building trust, and mobilizing coordinated funding at the scale the Amazon urgently needs.

Why the Philanthropy Support Ecosystem Matters

02

- Neither the quantity nor the quality of international resources, from public and private sources, is sufficient to address the Amazon's challenges.
- Unlocking the potential of domestic philanthropy and strengthening cross-sector collaboration can mobilise local resources at scale.
- A strong philanthropy support ecosystem can drive more international and domestic resources to climate solutions, catalyse collaboration, increase credibility of the sector, and scale locally-led climate action.



Key Findings

03

1

Current resources are not enough to protect or restore the Amazon and are unevenly distributed.

- Current public and private funding of ~US\$5.8 billion over 10 years (2013-2022) falls drastically short of the estimated ~US\$7 billion that is needed annually.
- Foundations contributed ~14% of the ~US\$5.8 billion, with the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and the Bezos Earth Fund being the biggest individual private donors, giving more than US\$250 million and US\$150 million, respectively.
- The majority of climate funding goes to national governments and international NGOs.
- Less than 1% of direct funding reaches Indigenous peoples.
- Five major donors (private, public, and intermediary) account for nearly 60% of funding, pointing to dependency risk.
- The withdrawal of major bilateral donors like USAID deepens vulnerability and underscores the need to diversify and localise funding sources.

- However, data gaps outside these countries obscure the accurate scale of giving — the Philanthropy Support Ecosystem can fill that knowledge and coordination gap.
- It can be estimated that upwards of US\$130–250 million of international philanthropic grants (2020–2022 levels) could be routed through local and national intermediaries rather than international NGOs — about US\$45–85 million per year — based on [Brazil's 61/39](#) split and the World Bank's [recipient mix](#).
- Examples such as [Fundo Casa Socioambiental](#) and the [Amazon Sacred Headwaters Alliance](#) already demonstrate that well-established local intermediaries can absorb and re-grant millions in international and domestic funding directly to Indigenous and community-led initiatives — showing that the infrastructure to localize resources at scale in Brazil already exists and can be strengthened.

2

Domestic and International Resources Can Be Better Mobilized Through Strong Local PSOs

- The potential to redirect domestic giving to climate causes in countries like Brazil and Colombia is promising: mobilising 2-15% of existing domestic giving could add ~US\$216 million/year for Amazon climate action.

3

Partnerships are essential to unlock local resources at scale

- Philanthropy alone cannot fill the funding gap. Unlocking new domestic resources must go hand-in-hand with building multi-stakeholder partnerships that blend philanthropic, public, and private resources, expertise, and networks.
- [Emerging evidence on the positive impact of MSPs on climate and biodiversity in Latin America](#), especially when they centre local leadership, can be replicated in other contexts, as seen, for example, through the Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy.

- Established and emerging MSPs like the [Amazon Regional Protected Areas Program](#) and the [Tropical Forests Forever Facility](#) show what's possible when sectors collaborate at a larger scale.

4

The geographic distribution, type, and function of Philanthropy Support Organisations in the Amazon is uneven and requires further research and investment

Our preliminary mapping highlights key insights that require further research to develop a comprehensive understanding of the entire ecosystem:

- [68 organisations have been identified](#), primarily concentrated in Brazil, with emerging clusters in Colombia and Peru.
- The majority are intermediary funds channeling international resources to local actors—crucial connectors, but few mobilise domestic giving.
- Philanthropy lacks credibility, recognition, and influence across the territories mapped.
- Gap alert: Little to no mapped presence of philanthropy infrastructure yet in Venezuela, Guyana, Ecuador, or Suriname.

Opportunities for Transformation

04

1

Strengthen Cross-Border Collaboration

Because ecological boundaries transcend national borders, philanthropy must do the same. Building a regional, interconnected philanthropy support ecosystem is essential for effective climate action.

2

Leverage Intermediary Funds for Domestic Resource Mobilisation

Intermediaries already have strong relationships with local communities. Empowering them to mobilise domestic resources (not just international funding) will build long-term resilience.

3

Expand Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships (MSPs)

MSPs are vital platforms uniting public, private, and philanthropic capital. They facilitate shared

4

governance, reduce risk through blended finance, and centre Indigenous and local leadership. See the [recent Latimpacto report](#) for more recommendations.

Build Trust in and Visibility of Philanthropy

Credibility is foundational for scaling philanthropy. Demonstrating impact, increasing transparency, and improving data collection can attract long-term philanthropy investments.

5

Close Data Gaps Across the Region

Beyond Brazil and Colombia, most countries lack philanthropic visibility. Continued mapping is required to identify actors, quantify giving, and design locally relevant strategies.



Next Steps

05

1

Extend Mapping: Identify additional Philanthropy Support Organisations across all Amazon countries through desk research and conduct further interviews, with an eye for underrepresented countries.

2

Assess Health of the Philanthropy Support Ecosystem: Evaluate strengths, gaps, and readiness to scale to inform the road map.

3

Co-Create a Roadmap: Engage local partners to build a shared strategy for strengthening the philanthropy support ecosystem.

4

Pilot a MSP in Brazil: Build on Brazil's strong ecosystem to test a collaborative model blending philanthropic, public, and private resources for forest protection and locally led development.

Conclusion

06

Strengthening the Philanthropy Support Ecosystem in the Amazon is not just beneficial; it is essential. By mobilising domestic and international resources, building credibility, and connecting key actors through collaborative frameworks, the Philanthropy Support Ecosystem can help

close the funding gap and ensure climate solutions are locally led and globally supported. This preliminary study lays the groundwork for transforming fragmented funding efforts into a coordinated, impactful movement for the future of the Amazon and the global climate.

Call To Action

07

We must work together to unlock even more resources to protect and save the Amazon biome. Join us as we explore the opportunities highlighted through this

preliminary study. To get involved in this initiative's next steps, please contact **Erika Miller, Head of Climate** emiller@wingsweb.org.