Amazon Fish for Food
Improving food security in Bolivia

The Amazon Fish for Food project (Peces para la Vida) is the first multi-stakeholder platform dedicated to the fisheries and aquaculture sectors in Bolivia. It provides technical and social information, creates opportunities for exchange, and helps strengthen artisanal fisheries and small-scale fish farming and their value chains in the Bolivian Amazon.

WHO ARE WE?
A partnership of three NGO’s specializing in sustainable rural development, gender equality and equity, and aquatic resource management

- Centro de Promoción Agropecuaria Campesina (Bolivia)
  www.cepac.org.bo
- Instituto de Investigaciones Aplicadas de los Recursos del Agua (Bolivia)
  www.faunagua.org
- World Fisheries Trust (Canada)
  www.worldfish.org

One expert in marketing and business development

- Ingeniería Marketing Gestión Consulting (Bolivia)
  www.img.com.bo

One financial institution for development

- Institución Financiera de Desarrollo (Bolivia)
  www.cidre.org.bo

One university

- University of Victoria (Canada)
  www.uvic.ca

...collaborating with more than 20 stakeholders and institutions from the fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

WHERE ARE WE WORKING?

- Beni and Pando: One Municipality (Riberalta), five indigenous territories and one protected area
- Santa Cruz: three Municipalities (Yapacani, San Carlos y San Juan)
- Cochabamba: five Municipalities in Chapare

Supported by the Canadian International Food Security Research Fund (CIFSRF), a program of Canada’s International Development Research Centre (IDRC), undertaken with financial support from the Government of Canada, provided through Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (DFATD).
Amazon Fish for Food proposes a number of possible solutions and strategies for the fisheries and aquaculture sector while promoting gender equity and equality and respecting local dynamics.

Learn from positive experiences
* Sustainable fisheries of paiche (*Arapaima gigas*) in indigenous territories
* Family fish farming based on production initiatives led by women

Move in the right direction
* Analyze the risks and productive potential of the fisheries and aquaculture sector to inform strategic planning

Work together
* Create multi-stakeholder spaces for dialogue
* Strengthen local organizations
* Disseminate technological innovations based on the exchange of information among fish producers

Resolve bottlenecks
* Resolve technical bottlenecks, provide training and international exchanges
* Develop specific business plans
* Increase access to sustainable financial services over time

Improve markets
* Develop quality assurance tools and standards for fish handling with regulatory public entities
* Promote and develop marketing strategies for fishery and aquaculture products

Being nutritional and healthy, fish are an indispensable part of a balanced diet as well as contributing to food security.

The development of fisheries and aquaculture is vital for improving the living conditions of indigenous families and farming communities in the Bolivian Amazon.

Thousands of families in the Bolivian Amazon, particularly from indigenous and farming communities, depend on fish.

The fisheries and aquaculture sectors of the Bolivian Amazon have full potential to provide quality products and meet domestic demand.

60% of the fish reaching the Bolivian consumer is imported from neighboring countries.

In the Bolivian Amazon, more than 300 species of freshwater fish can be used for human consumption. Artesanal commercial fishing currently produces 3,000 tonnes of fish per year.

Bolivian fish farming produces 700 tonnes of fish per year and has the potential to double its productive capacity in the coming years.