



SCENAM • Scenarios Amazonas • The Think Tank

The **SCENAM Think Tank** is a non-profit association under Swiss law, based in Zürich, whose purpose is to facilitate the implementation of a scenario planning process in the Amazon River Basin. SCENAM is operating within the framework of the first phase of a large multilateral project known as GEFAMⁱ.

SCENAM Think Tank's creation has been motivated by the need to:

- Maintain the momentum between the inevitable lag-times of the various multilateral steps inherent to long term sustainability projects like GEFAM, as well as simplifying its presentation for awareness raising and fundraising purposes.
- Provide a platform to align “non-basin” stakeholdersⁱⁱ for scenario interviews and strategic partnering purposes.
- Create a process incubator to allow for the best possible multi-stakeholder scenario design with emphasis on private sector engagement and financial strategy development to achieve donor independence.
- Act as a scenario capacity building resource for GEFAM and its Sub-Project – Vision Amazonas (described on p.2&3).
- Provide a scenario monitoring and evaluation (m&e) framework.

SCENAM Think Tank's goal is to:

- Raise awareness cross-sectorally at local, national and global level about GEFAM and its Sub-project –Vision Amazonas, their challenges and their necessity.
- Make proposals for the establishment and capacity building of the management structure required for the launch, execution, monitoring and evaluation of the Scenario Project.
- Develop the scenario design according to stakeholder alignment and prepare the necessary working documents (workplan, budget, m&e processes, reporting templates, logframe).
- Raise the 1:2 co-financing ratio required for Vision Amazonas to receive the funds allocated by the GEF for this sub-project.
- Launch and execute the scenario exploration phase related to the “non-basin” interview process.

Short descriptions of GEFAM and its sub-project Vision Amazonasⁱⁱⁱ can be found in the next two pages.

ⁱ GEFAM (GEF Amazonas) is a United Nations Environment Program-Global Environment Facility - UNEP-GEF implemented project entitled *Integrated and Sustainable Management of Transboundary Water Resources in the Amazon River Basin considering Climate Variability and Change* - Full-size project document can be found on http://www.thegef.org/gef/FSP_2009.

ⁱⁱ Not physically located in the basin but holding interests in it (multinationals companies with operations in the basin, NGOs with mandates in the basin, development aid agencies with activities in the region, environmental activists, multilateral politicians etc.).

ⁱⁱⁱ SP I.1 *A Vision for the Amazon River Basin* – Sub-project document is included in GEFAM Full-Size project document.



GEF Amazonas • Integrated and Sustainable Development of Transboundary Water and Land Resources considering Climate Variability and Change

GEF Amazonas is a UNEP-GEF implemented project that seeks to strengthen the institutional framework for planning and executing – in a coordinated manner – activities for the protection and sustainable management of the land and water resources of the Amazon River Basin^{iv}, while allowing for legitimate socio-economic development of the region. In this context Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) was assigned the role of enhancing the political, economic and social integration of the Amazon River Basin, essential to mitigate and avoid the increasing process of exploitation of the Basin's resources, destruction of its biodiversity, and degradation of the quality of life of its fast growing population. Despite all the difficulties and obstacles in the complex process of creating a multinational agency, the political will of the Amazonian countries in establishing a mechanism for the common management of the resources of this important region is a clear statement and important first step toward identifying and implementing sustainable solutions to these urgent issues.

GEF Amazonas has been motivated by the need to:

- Mitigate the negative environmental and social impacts of the ongoing development process via a framework for joint action of a preventive nature, as well as in guiding the development process.
- Support the movement by the Amazon countries toward the integrated management of their shared water resources via institutional development and strengthening for policy and activity coordination.
- Generate and exchange technical and scientific knowledge and information for the development of shared and harmonious legal regimes.
- Identify current and emerging problems and finding joint solutions.
- Engage all stakeholders into the process in a rational, efficient and appealing manner.

GEF Amazonas' Goal is to:

- Implement effectively integrated water resources management and climate change adaptation responses, supported and based on a shared vision for the Amazon River Basin.
- Adopt integrated strategies into the institutional framework within the multi-country basin.
- Integrate groundwater considerations into land and water management.
- Optimize competing water uses on the basis of a Strategic Action Program—including policy, legal and institutional reforms and investments—needed to address transboundary concerns, inclusive of adaptation measures.
- Introduce climate variability and change considerations into Basin management policies and practices, thus reducing the vulnerability of peoples and ecosystems to extreme events.

^{iv} Following a 2003 initiative introduced by the Brazilian National Water Agency, and based on the results of a meeting of national focal points of the Inter-American Water Resources Network, ACTO - on behalf of the Amazon Basin countries-, and in collaboration with the Organization of American States, sought the support of the GEF –via UNEP as its implementing agency- to help develop a project proposal aimed at strengthening the institutional framework to effectively initiate integrated water resources management within the world's largest hydrographic basin, in the context of climate variability and change.



Vision Amazonas • GEFAM Sub-Project I.1

Vision Amazonas is the initial sub-project of GEFAM, that proposes the use of a multi-stakeholder scenario methodology in the Amazon River Basin in order to (i) understand the problems, needs, and aspirations of Basin stakeholders in relation to integrated water resources management, (ii) identify key forces and build future development scenarios for the Amazon Basin, and (iii) formulate a shared vision for the water resources of the Amazon Basin. Vision Amazonas will serve as a basis for GEFAM to develop a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and a Strategic Action Program (TDA-SAP^v) and will also be used as input to develop a communication and a financial strategy^{vi}.

Vision Amazonas using scenario planning has been motivated by the need to:

- Deal with the region's extreme level of complexity coupled to a speedy rate of change in an uncertain environment.
- Minimize the risks associated with deforestation, climate variability and conflicts regarding the use of water and natural resources.
- Credibly start a multi-stakeholder process capable of actively engaging the eight governments, the private sector, academia and civil society in the formulation of a SAP.
- Foster a common identity in a region witnessing socio-economic exponential growth and migratory flows from various origins, all happening at a time when the social, political and educational structures in place are extremely weak.
- Develop a powerful communication tool that can be understood and used by all stakeholders.

Vision Amazonas Goal is to:

- Launch an in-depth study of the Amazon society (basin interviews) in order to understand the needs and aspirations of the society, including relevant opinion leaders and major political and economic actors.
- Develop a set of scenario stories in order to increase the Basin constituencies' understanding of key driving forces and possible alternative futures of the region.
- Build a shared, committed to Vision of the Basin's future to serve as a framework for the SAP decision-making process and policy development.
- Bring greater environmental awareness and engagement of Basin stakeholders, increased commitment to environmental and sustainable development planning, increased environmental innovation, as well as new economic opportunities and sources of financing.
- Create the adequate societal environment required to support the implementation of an integrated management of transboundary water resources in the Basin.

^v The Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis - Strategic Action Program - TDA-SAP is a UNEP developed resource assessment methodology based on technical and scientific identification of causal chain relations of critical hydro-environmental problems in river basins –from their physical, socio-economic, legal and politico-institutional aspects.

^{vi} SP III.4: *Communication, Outreach and Finance* sub-project document is included in GEFAM Full-Size Project Document.