

## Acción Andina Seventh Season Report

### January 2024 - March 2025



Polylepis cuttings collected for production in Tunari National Park, Bolivia. Feb 2024. Credit Faunagua

[Global Forest Generation](#) (GFG) is enormously grateful for your support to [Acción Andina](#) and pleased to share with you highlights from the seventh season, which ran from January 2024 to March 2025.

#### **Acción Andina continues to build a movement across the Andes<sup>1</sup>:**

- 14 local partner organizations implemented 23 projects in high Andean forest landscapes in Argentina, Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru
- 31 conservation leaders and 175 project coordinator and nursery staff supported at local partner organizations
- 150 local communities engaged
- Almost 13,000 people participated in reforestation campaigns specifically

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<sup>1</sup> Shapefiles available in July 2025 and other data uploads to the [Restoration Scope](#) platform will provide more detailed information on individual Acción Andina projects. This report serves as an overview of Acción Andina activities and achievements in the 2024 season.



- Approximately 40,000 people participated in reforestation, fencing, irrigation, weeding, community service projects and infrastructure projects
- 336 donors helped GFG provide \$2.6 million directly to on-the-ground partners

#### **Main 2024 Season Impacts:**

- 2,446,265 native trees planted
- 804 hectares reforested
- 102 nurseries actively producing

#### **Despite these impressive results, the 2024 season also presented challenges and opportunities**

In Argentina, Fundación de Actividades Biosféricas (FAB) reported strong planting activity, but unexpected heavy rains early in the season impacted seedling survival. Fundación Germinar in Tucumán faced a wildfire that affected early plantings, and a fungal issue at their sole nursery. In Ecuador, Aves y Conservación in Yanahurco, central Ecuador, adjusted planting timelines in response to a particularly dry season and isolated fire events, along with localized wildlife pressures from deer and rabbits. These experiences are helping partners refine field planning and improve contingency strategies.

Implementing Acción Andina in Chile also remains a challenge. While we began supporting a director from the National Forest Corporation of Chile (CONAF) in 2024, plant propagation and community engagement remains hard to achieve at the scale needed to fully implement all components of the Acción Andina model. ECOAN in particular remains close to CONAF contacts in Chile, and we are currently exploring new opportunities there.

Acción Andina convened a meeting in October 2024 in Nor Yauyos Cochas, Peru aimed at helping NGO partners build skills and address needs for scaling. That meeting featured five tracts: understanding forest ecosystem services such as water recharge, scaling up nursery production, strengthening community engagement and gender inclusion, and overall planning and organization for projects.

Among the clear challenges highlighted in the gathering was the need for a more robust Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) systems and training at all levels within the initiative.

#### **Building a more robust MRV strategy**

Three partner NGOs participated in a pilot study of a Water Impact Monitoring Framework designed by BlueRisk consultancy during the season. The framework is a groundbreaking initiative that will provide missing, quantifiable data on how high-altitude reforestation measurably enhances water retention and mitigates drought.



The October gathering brought together MRV technicians and local staff from across the initiative to share knowledge, monitoring best practices, and provided a venue to introduce the Water Impact Monitoring Framework. We are immensely grateful to our donors for their support of enhanced MRV systems across the initiative.



A nursery in Las Chacras, Córdoba, Argentina. Sept 2024. Credit: Fundación Actividades Biosféricas

### Restoration Highlights from Peru, Argentina, Bolivia and Ecuador

Acción Andina's holistic approach to forest ecosystem restoration and conservation includes diverse activities in reforestation, protection of existing forests, local leadership development, and local community engagement and support. Almost 13,000 people participated in reforestation campaigns specifically, while up to 40,000 were included in all activities (reforestation, fencing, irrigation, weeding, and community service and infrastructure projects).

Across Acción Andina projects this season, local partners collectively planted 2,446,265 native trees covering approximately 804 hectares. In Peru, Acción Andina co-lead ECOAN is a regional leader in high-Andean forest restoration, producing hundreds of thousands of *Polylepis* seedlings across a vast community nursery network. In its flagship Vilcanota project alone, over 400,000

native trees were planted. In its Aquia project, in northern Peru, a historic [150,000 native trees were planted](#) in a single day. In Abancay, el Instituto para la Conservación de Especies Amenazadas (ICEA) strengthened technical capacity through soil management, micro-irrigation, and workshops on native seedling production. Overall, reforestation efforts frequently overlap with headwater protection zones, reinforcing water security for rural and Indigenous populations.

In Argentina, Árbol y Vida Puna engaged over 300 community members to plant 22,000 trees in two communities, including 15,800 trees in a single day. Other Argentine partners such as Fundación Bosquizar, Fundación Actividades Biosféricas (FAB), and Germinar have collectively planted hundreds of thousands of native trees, increased the number of nurseries (up to 27 nurseries in FAB's case), and collaborated with Indigenous and rural communities.

In Bolivia, Asociación Civil Armonía and Faunagua combine scientific rigor with community participation to restore native forests in the Tunari National Park region. Armonía planted over 236,000 trees with 500 people, supported by two nurseries and a strategic alliance with the local government. Faunagua's work is particularly notable for its focus on *Polylepis pacensis*, categorized as Endangered due to a restricted distribution, estimated to cover only 22,000 km<sup>2</sup> (including Cochabamba, where Faunagua operates). The main threats to the species include changes and intensification of land use and climate change.

In Ecuador, FONAG led the reforestation of 71 hectares near Quito's water recharge zones, planting in water conservation areas serving over 120,000 people. Aves y Conservación, working in two locations in Ecuador that are also water reserves, was featured in an [Ecuadorian news outlet](#) (link in Spanish). The table on the following page summarizes restoration results for this Acción Andina season.

Table 1. Acción Andina 2024 Season Local Partners, Projects, Native Trees Planted, and Staff Supported

Country	Acción Andina Partner	Project Location	Native Trees <sup>2</sup>	Hectares	Species planted (%)	Nurseries	Project Leaders	Nursery Leaders / Project Staff
Argentina	<a href="#">Fundación Bosquizar</a>	Córdoba, Central Argentina	144,650	45.22	100% <i>Polylepis australis</i> , <i>P. tomentella</i>	1	1	7
		Jujuy, Northern Argentina	61,570	15.77	100% <i>Polylepis tomentella</i>	4		15
	<a href="#">Fundación Actividades Biosféricas (FAB)</a>	Córdoba, Central Argentina	244,590	64.37	100% <i>Polylepis australis</i>	29	1	40
	<a href="#">Germinar</a>	Tucumán, Northern Argentina	40,000	20	100% <i>Polylepis australis</i>	2	1	5
	<a href="#">Árbol y Vida</a>	Puna, Northern Argentina	30,300	8.8	100% <i>Polylepis australis</i>	3	2	5
		Yala, Northern Argentina	52,519	10.11	31% <i>Polylepis australis</i> ; 69% <i>Alnus acuminata</i>	4		5
Bolivia	<a href="#">Asociación Armonía</a>	Tunari National Park, Cochabamba, Central Bolivia	236,100	100.59	40% <i>Polylepis subtusalbida</i> ; 60% <i>Alnus Acuminata</i> , <i>Kageneckia lanceolata</i> , <i>Schinus areira</i>	2	3	7
	<a href="#">Faunagua</a>	Tunari National Park, Cochabamba, Central Bolivia	110,000	13.99	100% <i>Polylepis pacensis</i>	2	1	5
Ecuador	<a href="#">Aves y Conservación</a>	Imbabura, Northern Ecuador	120,500	46.07	75% <i>Polylepis pauta</i> ; 25% <i>Polylepis reticulata</i> , <i>P. ochreatea</i>	2	3	7

<sup>2</sup> Shapefiles available in July 2025 will provide more accurate data about reforestation sites.

		Yanahurco, Central Ecuador	7,500 <sup>3</sup>	2.2	74% <i>Polylepis incana</i> , <i>P. pauta</i> ; 26% <i>Gynoxys</i> spp, <i>Scallonia myrtilloides</i>	1		4
	<a href="#">Andean Adventures</a>	Riobamba, Central Ecuador	141,000	14.10	100% <i>Polylepis incana</i>	3	3	6
	<a href="#">Fundación Incana</a>	Tungurahua, Central Ecuador	100,500	100	71% <i>Polylepis reticulata</i> , <i>P. incana</i> , <i>P. pauta</i> ; 29% <i>Alnus acuminata</i> , <i>Buddleja incana</i> , <i>Vallea stipularis</i> , <i>Oreopanax ecuadorensis</i> , <i>Cedrela montana</i>	3	2	7
	<a href="#">Fondo para la Protección de Agua (FONAG - a water protection fund)</a>	Pichincha, North-central Ecuador	136,500 <sup>4</sup>	71.25	91% <i>Polylepis pauta</i> , <i>P. incana</i> ; 9% <i>Gynoxys acostae</i> Cuatre, <i>Siphocampylus gigantus</i> , <i>Escallonia myrtilloides</i> , <i>Oreopanax ecuadorensis</i>	6	1	1
Peru	<a href="#">Asociación Ecosistemas Andinos (ECOAN)</a>	Vilcanota, Southeast Peru	461,500	103.87	95% <i>Polylepis lanata</i> , <i>P. incana</i> , <i>P. microphylla</i> , 5% <i>Gynoxys</i> sp.	20	4	4
		Ccorca, Southeast Peru	79,900	16.98	100% <i>Polylepis incana</i>	4		1
		Nor Yauyos Cochas, Southwest Peru	72,920	15.17	100% <i>Polylepis racemosa</i>	5	3	4
		Aquia, Western Peru	150,000	60	100% <i>Polylepis racemosa</i> , <i>P. incana</i>	3	2	4
		Cajamarca, Northern Peru	35,000	17.50	100% <i>Polylepis racemosa</i>	1	1	2

<sup>3</sup> Aves y Conservación is planting 80,000 more trees in April.

<sup>4</sup> FONAG is planting 90,000 more trees in April.

		Calipuy, Northwestern Peru	31,961	15.98	100% <i>Polylepis incana</i>	1		1
	<a href="#">Instituto para la Conservación de Especies Amenazadas (ICEA)</a>	Abancay, Southern Peru	32,385	5.98	100% <i>Polylepis sacra</i> , <i>P. racemosa</i>	1	1	2
	<a href="#">Conservación Amazónica (ACCA)</a>	Q'ero, Southern Peru	36,000	17.1	60% <i>Polylepis rodolfo vasquezii</i> , <i>P. serrata</i> ; 40% <i>Buddleja montana</i> , <i>Gynoxys</i> sp., <i>Alnus acuminata</i> ,	3	2	23
		Challabamba, Southern Peru	120,870	39.2	90% <i>Polylepis serrata</i> , <i>P. incana</i> ; 10% <i>Escallonia myrtilloides</i> , <i>Gynoxys pillahuatensis</i>	2		20
TOTAL			2,446,265	804.24		102	31	175





Community members at an annual Queuña Raymi reforestation festival in Vilcanota, Peru. Dec 2024. Credit: ECOAN

### Highlights from 150 Communities Engaged in Acción Andina

Each one of the local communities is engaged in project activities from design, planning, and implementation phases through ongoing maintenance and long-term stewardship. These activities are laid out in written agreements signed between local community leadership and implementing partners. A critical component of these projects are the community services and infrastructure provided by local Acción Andina partners. These are determined by the community members, and tend to support natural resource management needs they have identified. GFG is grateful to supporters of Acción Andina, who understand this work as integral to successful forest ecosystem restoration.

#### *Argentina*

- Árbol y Vida and Fundación Bosquizar fostered long-term commitment through land-use agreements for nurseries and training programs in agroecology, particularly involving women-led groups like the Women Defenders of the Environment.



## Bolivia

- Armonía constructed a 100,000-liter water reservoir in La Aguada, benefiting 50 families—a critical intervention in a region vulnerable to water scarcity.
- Faunagua has been supporting The Warmi Kewiñas women's collective since 2022. Based in Chiaraje, Bolivia, within the Cocapata municipality of the Cocapata National Park, it comprises approximately 20 members aged between 20 and 70 years. This group has been actively involved in the restoration of native Kewiña (*Polylepis* spp.) forests in the northern slopes of the Tunari mountain range. The group's dedication has inspired other women in Cocapata to join as protectors of the Kewiña tree and the environment.

## Ecuador

- FONAG supported irrigation system upgrades in one community and offered training in dairy processing for women in another, linking reforestation and watershed care with economic empowerment.
- Aves y Conservación led workshops on *mortiño* (Andean berry) propagation and facilitated irrigation infrastructure improvements in three communities. These programs were complemented by environmental education workshops for over 100 schoolchildren, ensuring that the next generation is involved in stewardship from an early age.
- Fundación Incana supported potable water infrastructure improvements in three communities, while leading workshops on wetland ecosystems and forest restoration.

## Peru

- Conservación Amazónica's (ACCA) Challabamba project benefitted 200 families through improved irrigation infrastructure that supports agriculture. Complementary activities included workshops on natural resource management and demonstration projects on compost and humus production, providing tools for more productive and sustainable family gardens.
- In ACCA's second project in the Q'ero region, conservation leaders delivered 80 greenhouse structure hoses ([fitotoldos](#))
- ICEA distributed potable water hoses to bolster nursery operations and supply water to the broader Atancama community.

The table on the following page summarizes community engagement activities across the initiative.

Table 2. Acción Andina 2024 Season Local Partner Community Engagement and Services Summary

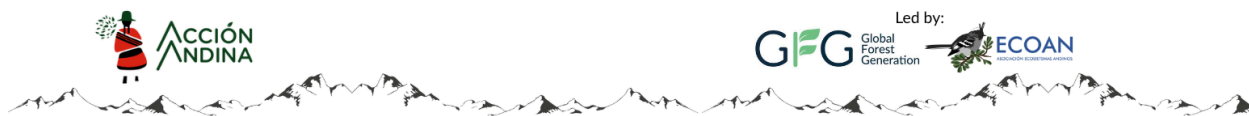
Country	Acción Andina Partner	Project Location	Community Product & Services Provided	Community Impact	Environmental Education	Participants
Argentina	<a href="#">Fundación Bosquizar</a>	Córdoba, Central Argentina			3 workshops 6 workshops	39 community members 160 university and secondary school students
		Jujuy, Northern Argentina	Livestock management	4 communities	2 workshops 2 workshops 1 community event	34 secondary school students 60 people from 16 communities 364 families from 8 communities
	<a href="#">Fundación Actividades Biosféricas (FAB)</a>	Córdoba, Central Argentina	Ecotourism development	3 tourist destinations tested	20 workshops	618 participants from 9 schools and 2 prisons
	<a href="#">Germinar</a>	Tucumán, Northern Argentina	Textile production & leather Determine support for next season: honey production	3 communities	4 workshops	160 participants from 4 communities
	<a href="#">Árbol y Vida</a>	Puna, Northern Argentina	Agriculture support	1 community	2 Agroecology workshops	1 community
		Yala, Northern Argentina	Study to determine support for next season: livestock management	4 communities	5 workshops World Environment Day	University of Jujuy 164 participants
Bolivia	<a href="#">Asociación Armonía</a>	Tunari National Park, Cochabamba,	Water reservoirs	4 communities overall 120 families in 2 communities	3 workshops	4 communities

		Central Bolivia				
	<a href="#">Faunagua</a>	Tunari National Park, Cochabamba, Central Bolivia	Irrigation infrastructure Ecotourism infrastructure Ongoing support to women's group	5 communities 1 community Warmi Kewiñas in 1 community	25 workshops	203 participants from 5 communities
Ecuador	<a href="#">Aves y Conservación</a>	Imbabura, Northern Ecuador	Irrigation infrastructure Native fruit production Community infrastructure	2 communities Andean berry production with 43 people Improved community plaza in 1 community	Workshop for schoolchildren	121 participants
		Yanahurco, Central Ecuador	Native fruit production	Andean berry production with 19 people from 2 communities		
	<a href="#">Andean Adventures</a>	Riobamba, Central Ecuador	Water catchment systems	380 people in 1 community 350 people in 1 community	1 workshop	200 high school students
	<a href="#">Fundación Incana</a>	Tungurahua, Central Ecuador	Irrigation infrastructure	1100 irrigation tubes in 2 communities Maintenance in 1 community	4 workshops	100 participants
	<a href="#">Fondo para la Protección de Agua (FONAG - a water protection fund)</a>	Pichincha, North-central Ecuador	Irrigation infrastructure Livestock management	1 community  Dairy farming with a women's association	3 workshops	3 schools



Peru	<a href="#">Asociación Ecosistemas Andinos (ECOAN)</a>	Vilcanota, Southeast Peru	Maintenance on Vilcanota Trek (paths) Didactic material	19 communities Polylepis propagation and nursery management manual in Quechua		
		Ccorca, Southeast Peru	Irrigation infrastructure	1 community	1 workshop	4 communities
		Nor Yauyos Cochas, Southwest Peru	Livestock management Tourism infrastructure	2 communities 2 communities	15 workshops	Local schools
		Aquia, Western Peru	Irrigation infrastructure & training	500 people	Geology & mineral workshops Educational workshops	Local water boards Primary school students
		Cajamarca, Northern Peru	Forest fire prevention and management	1 community	4 workshops Field trip Educational workshops on cultural importance of native species	1 community University students 1 community
		Calipuy, Northwestern Peru	Forest fire prevention and management Tools for construction & agriculture	7 communities 7 communities	1 workshop	63 participants from 7 communities
	<a href="#">Instituto para la Conservación de Especies Amenazadas (ICEA)</a>	Abancay, Southern Peru	Irrigation infrastructure	1 community	Workshop about water harvesting	35 participants from 1 community

	<a href="#">Conservación Amazónica (ACCA)</a>	Q'ero, Southern Peru	Forest fire prevention and management Irrigation infrastructure Community infrastructure Livestock management	1 community 3 communities 1 community Seeds and fencing in 1 community	5 workshops	95 participants
		Challabamba, Southern Peru	Irrigation infrastructure for agriculture	32 rolls of tubing in 2 communities Various irrigation materials to 200 families in 1 community	6 workshops 2 school visits Internship program	90 community members from 5 communities 47 students 20 university students



## High Andean Forest Protection

Acción Andina projects are not just about restoring high Andean forests—they're about protecting them too. While Acción Andina projects are increasingly including more protection activities for existing forests, most protection takes the form of fencing newly reforested sites to ensure they grow into healthy forests, as well as preventing and managing forest fires as efficiently as possible. Forest protection also involves creating legally-recognized protected areas, a lengthy process that in some cases first involves titling the ancestral lands of local communities who will manage them.

### *Argentina*

- Fundación Bosquizar projects in Córdoba and Jujuy inspected and maintained over 42 kilometers of fencing, with additional monitoring in protected reserves where it operates.
- Germinar added 700 meters of new fencing to safeguard young forests. These physical barriers are crucial to defending seedlings from grazing animals and environmental pressures, especially as projects adapt to climate stress.

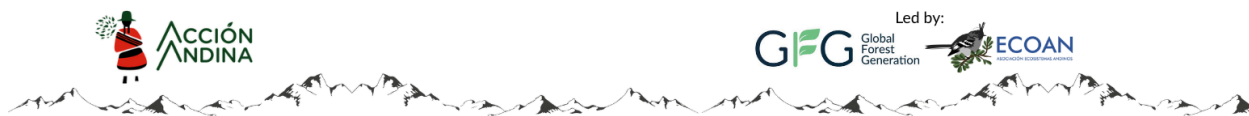
### *Bolivia*

- Armonía has partnered with the National Protected Areas Service to support long-term forest management, including the advancement of a forest management plan for exotic species. Armonía reports 60% progress on shifting exotic species plantations to native species to grow new forests.
- Faunagua has maintained high seedling survival rates (85–90%) and emphasized the prevention of deforestation and erosion through community training.

### *Ecuador*

- Fundación Incana installed 4 kilometers of fencing and is working on a proposal to designate 5,310 hectares in Cerro Igualata as a Water Protection Area—a major milestone in linking forest conservation to water security.
- Aves y Conservación supported park guards in Mojandita-Curubí, a reserve it helped create in 2020 that covers 550 hectares.
- Ecuadorian partners are also working together: Aves y Conservación is collaborating with FONAG on mapping existing forests, underscoring the importance of data-driven conservation strategies.
- FONAG has signed agreements with two communities to conserve 1,065 hectares of existing forests.





## Peru

- ACCA conducted fire prevention workshops with SERNANP, the Peruvian government agency for protected areas, and patrolled Ukumary Llaqta, a community-managed conservation area. ACCA discovered that there were [three species of Polylepis](#) growing there, instead of only two as previously thought.
- In ECOAN's Aquia project it worked with SERNANP to establish a new conservation area, while in Cajamarca, also in northern Peru, it formed a community-led fire brigade.
- In Nor Yauyos Cochas, a landscape reserve and tourist destination for Lima residents in particular, ECOAN works closely with the reserve's authorities to provide support for the five communities within the reserve, as well as for forest fire prevention and management.
- As part of its Vilcanota project, ECOAN involved 471 people in the weeding and irrigation of previously reforested sites covering 22.7 hectares.
- ECOAN is also coordinating conservation efforts across multiple municipalities and producing a technical manual for Polylepis propagation and nursery production, set to be published in Quechua in July 2025.

**We look forward to sharing Acción Andina 2025 season progress, including new countries for project implementation and new local partners, throughout the year. Thank you again for your support, resources, and enthusiasm throughout the Acción Andina journey.**

[We invite you to view photo and video highlights from the season here.](#)

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## ACCIÓN ANDINA CO-FOUNDERS

[Global Forest Generation](#) is a US-based 501(c)3 organization uniting local leaders and their communities across national borders to bring lost and degraded forest ecosystems back to life. As lead strategic partner of Acción Andina, GFG is guided by local culture and community; provides a critical bridge between on-the-ground conservation partners and global agencies and institutions; and scales a network of like-minded organizations who would otherwise work alone to ensure shared benefits from natural resources and time-tested restoration approaches.

[Asociación Ecosistemas Andinos](#) is a Peruvian conservation non-profit and lead administrative and implementation partner of Acción Andina. ECOAN provides long-term protection and restoration of threatened Andean ecosystems in partnership with local communities and authorities, while ensuring quality project management, data collection and monitoring, and resolving day-to-day operational challenges and facilitating information exchange among Acción Andina partners.