

Dear IRI friends and colleagues,

On behalf of the team, please find activity updates from the [Interfaith Rainforest Initiative](#) from July 2026.

BRAZIL

IRI BRAZIL LAUNCHES RIGHT TO BREATHE CLEAN AIR, WATER AND CLIMATE SECURITY CAMPAIGN IN ACRE

From 15–17 July, IRI Brazil held an intensive agenda in Rio Branco to launch the state-level Right to Breathe Clean Air, Access Drinking Water and Climate Security campaign. The launch combined religious mobilization, public communication and institutional engagement to establish the campaign as a local cooperation platform for climate education, disaster-risk prevention and protection of vulnerable populations. Activities included campaign presentations through Rádio Difusora, meetings with the IRI Brazil state chapter, religious leaders, university students, researchers and scientists, and consultations with the Diocesan Pastoral Coordination, the Chico Mendes Committee, the Acre Bar Association and local communicators. A meeting with the State Court of Accounts generated a proposal for a future convening with mayors and municipal secretaries on extreme climate events and municipal response capacity. The campaign also gained significant visibility through radio, television and local digital media coverage.

IRI BRAZIL EXPANDS CAMPAIGN MOBILIZATION IN AMAZONAS

From 27–31 July, IRI Brazil launched the campaign the Right to Breathe Clean Air, Access Drinking Water and Climate Security campaign in Manaus through a broad agenda of institutional and social mobilization. Activities engaged religious organizations, universities, public institutions and social leaders with the goal of expanding environmental education, climate awareness and protection for vulnerable communities in Amazonas. The agenda included meetings with Cáritas Archdiocese of Manaus, Laudato Si' animators, social leaders, the Court of Accounts School, the Presbyterian Church of Brazil and the Amazonas State Department of Education. The campaign was also presented at the Federal University of Amazonas to graduate students in Social Work, Communication and Nursing. The launch opened new cooperation opportunities with public, religious and educational institutions and strengthened the basis for IRI Brazil's ongoing presence in Amazonas.

IRI BRAZIL BUILDS CATHOLIC PARTNERSHIPS THROUGH EXPOCATÓLICA 2026

In July, IRI Brazil participated in ExpoCatólica 2026 in São Paulo, one of the main gathering spaces of Brazilian Catholicism. The event brought together more than 200 exhibitors, approximately 60,000 visitors and religious leaders from across the country. IRI Brazil used the opportunity to expand relationships with Catholic leaders, pastoral agents, communicators, missionaries, communities, movements and social

organizations interested in the connection between Christian faith, science and environmental protection. Strategic contacts included representatives of Canção Nova, Fazenda da Esperança, Aliança da Misericórdia, parishes, sanctuaries, the Pastoral of Entrepreneurs, Catholic media and national speakers and writers. As the only interreligious organization present, IRI Brazil strengthened its visibility and opened new possibilities for formation, film screenings, content production and Catholic engagement on care for our common home.

IRI BRAZIL STRENGTHENS EVANGELICAL ENGAGEMENT THROUGH THE BRAZILIAN EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE

In July, IRI Brazil participated in the Encontro à Mesa of the Brazilian Evangelical Alliance, which brought together 60 evangelical leaders from different denominations, ministries and Christian organizations. IRI Brazil joined a panel on society, church and the environment, presenting care for creation as a practical dimension of Christian witness and emphasizing the need to connect churches, science and civil society in response to Brazil's socio-environmental challenges. The event strengthened relationships with national evangelical leaders and organizations, including World Vision Brazil and the First Independent Presbyterian Church of Palmas. IRI Brazil was also invited to help build the Young Evangelical Alliance Network, a space to connect emerging evangelical leaders around strategic issues for public Christian engagement.

IRI BRAZIL MOBILIZES MORE THAN 90 GROUPS THROUGH "TEMPO DE CUIDAR"

In July, IRI Brazil began national mobilization for the "Tempo de Cuidar" campaign, which promotes care for creation as an expression of evangelical practice. In its first month, more than 90 churches, groups, student movements and evangelical organizations joined the campaign across all regions of Brazil, with additional participation from groups in Colombia, Honduras and the Dominican Republic. The campaign engaged Baptists, Presbyterians, Assemblies of God, Methodists, independent churches, university movements and Christian organizations including ABC², ABU, Dunamis Pockets and UCU. Around 2,000 copies of the devotional were requested, including large orders from national and university-based networks. The campaign already reached 18 of Brazil's 27 states, demonstrating its strong potential as a tool for formation, awareness and evangelical engagement on socio-environmental responsibility.

IRI BRAZIL ENGAGES CHRISTIAN WRITERS AND PUBLISHERS THROUGH FEFICC

In July, IRI Brazil participated as an official partner in FEFICC, the Christian Fiction and Culture Fair, held at the Memorial da América Latina in São Paulo. The event brought together publishers, writers, artists, ministries and Christian readers from across Brazil, with an estimated 40,000 visitors over four days. IRI Brazil distributed the children's book "Turma do Smilinguido e Bone Fernandinha em Cuidando da Criação," expanding access to Christian environmental education materials for families, churches and

children's ministries. The participation also strengthened relationships with publishers, writers and Christian content producers. As a follow-up, IRI Brazil began developing a future scientific immersion for Christian fiction writers, designed to connect authors with INPE, CEMADEN and scientific content on climate change, biodiversity, disaster prevention and environmental conservation.

IRI BRAZIL REACHES MORE THAN 4,000 PEOPLE THROUGH AMAZÔNIA VIVA AND AMAZÔNIA PRA SEMPRE

Throughout July, IRI Brazil held at least 14 days or actions of screenings of the VR films *Amazônia Viva* and *Amazônia Pra Sempre*, reaching approximately 4,082 people in activities with quantified audiences. The films were presented in institutional, educational, religious and large public events, consolidating virtual reality as one of IRI Brazil's main tools for climate education and public awareness. Screenings reached 602 people in the Federal District through the Amazônia Popular project, 300 participants at the ABU Brazil Amanhar Congress, 400 people at FEFICC, approximately 1,600 visitors at ExpoCatólica, 350 people in São José dos Campos, and 800 Presbyterian leaders during the Presbyterian Church of Brazil Council in Amazonas. The screenings expanded public understanding of the Amazon, Indigenous Peoples and climate risk across diverse religious, educational and civic audiences.

IRI BRAZIL TRAINS LEADERS TO USE ENVIRONMENTAL DATA TO PROTECT COMMUNITIES

In July, IRI Brazil held two new online cohorts of the course "Information to Protect Communities: Practical Use of Public Environmental, Climate and Health Monitoring Platforms," reaching 20 effective participants. The course introduced public tools that help leaders and communities understand environmental and climate risks in their own territories, including CEMADEN's drought monitoring and GeoRisk platforms, INPE's TerraBrasilis and BDQueimadas, Fiocruz's InfoDengue, the Geological Service of Brazil's SACE system, MapBiomass and AdaptaBrasil. Participants completed guided exercises on locating and interpreting local data and examined a practical case on monitoring floods in the Acre River. The training strengthened the capacity of religious and community leaders to use scientific information for prevention, preparedness and local climate resilience.

IRI BRAZIL ENGAGES CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY LEADERS AT AMANHAR

In July, IRI Brazil participated in Amanhar, a generational gathering organized by the Brazilian University Bible Alliance, which brought together around 600 students, professors, professionals and Christian leaders from across the country. IRI Brazil joined the panel "Christianity and the Environment" alongside former Environment and Climate Change Minister Marina Silva, theologian Timóteo Carriker and researcher Raquel Arouca. The discussion explored contemporary environmental challenges in light of evangelical faith and emphasized the importance of connecting scientific knowledge, biblical commitment and public action by the Church. IRI Brazil also led a

workshop for 15 participants on interreligious action in the environmental agenda and supported a screening of the documentary *O Vale*, expanding dialogue on faith, memory, justice and territorial restoration.

IRI BRAZIL DEEPENS COLLABORATION WITH THE DIOCESE OF SÃO JOSÉ DOS CAMPOS

On 21 July, IRI Brazil joined the Socio-Environmental Commission of the Diocese of São José dos Campos for a day of awareness-raising linking Christian faith, environmental education and Amazon conservation. A public screening at Shopping Jardim Oriente reached approximately 300 people, including many children and families, using virtual reality to introduce broad audiences to Amazon biodiversity, forest peoples and the challenges facing the biome. In the evening, *Amazônia Viva* was presented during Youth Week at São Sebastião Parish, reaching around 50 young people in a reflection on care for creation as an expression of Christian faith. The agenda strengthened Catholic youth engagement and created new opportunities for cooperation with diocesan socio-environmental work.

IRI BRAZIL RENEWS PARTNERSHIP WITH SMILINGUIDO FOR CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

In July, IRI Brazil renewed its partnership with Turma do Smilinguido, strengthening its strategy for Christian environmental education for children. The partnership included the printing of 1,000 new copies of “Turma do Smilinguido e Bone Fernandinha em Cuidando da Criação,” with editorial review by Editora Lion. The books were used in strategic formation and mobilization activities, including distribution at FEFICC and at the Brazilian Evangelical Alliance gathering. As a result of the renewed partnership, Editora Lion expressed interest in deepening collaboration with IRI Brazil through new educational materials, including a possible collection on care for creation and a themed Smilinguido Book Club box on nature protection, conservation and Christian environmental responsibility.

COLOMBIA

IRI COLOMBIA ADVANCES CREATION OF CONGRESSIONAL PLATFORM FOR THE AMAZON

During July, IRI Colombia held a series of strategic working meetings with Representative-elect Miguel Ángel Rubio and his legislative team to advance a parliamentary agenda for Amazon governance. The collaboration produced a draft resolution for the Presidency of the House of Representatives to create the Accidental Commission for National Coordination on the Amazon, conceived as an interinstitutional space linking Congress, state entities, scientific institutions, Indigenous Peoples, civil society organizations and other strategic actors committed to Amazon protection. IRI Colombia also supported the structuring of a bill to create a permanent Legal Commission for the Amazon, which would give Congress an enduring mechanism to

monitor, analyze and advance public policies, legal frameworks and political oversight related to conservation, sustainable development, climate action and the rights of Amazonian communities.

IRI COLOMBIA PARTNERS WITH CDA TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN PROTECTED-AREA MANAGEMENT

In July, IRI Colombia joined the Corporation for the Sustainable Development of Northern and Eastern Amazonia, Guaviare section, to support community engagement around the 2026–2031 Management Plan for the Serranía de La Lindosa and Angosturas II National Protective Forest Reserve. The reserve covers more than 28,000 hectares and is recognized for its biodiversity, ancient rock art and strategic role connecting Amazonian forests with the Orinoquía savannas near Chiribiquete National Natural Park. The process brought together 109 community leaders from Nuevo Tolima, Cerro Azul and El Retiro through a series of workshops on conservation objectives, socio-environmental conditions, land-use rules, strategic priorities and community benefits. IRI Colombia also presented its mission, program lines and main achievements, helping strengthen community ownership, interinstitutional coordination and local participation in sustainable territorial management.

IRI COLOMBIA WORKS WITH ESCUCHA LA AMAZONÍA TO DEFINE STRATEGIC ROADMAP TO 2030

On 17 July, IRI Colombia joined partner organizations of the Escucha la Amazonía alliance to define a strategic roadmap for 2026–2027, with a longer-term vision to 2030. The meeting brought together leadership, technical and communications teams from member organizations to clarify the alliance's mission and vision and develop a shared action plan. The roadmap is organized around three strategic lines: advocacy, strategic communications and the role of organized civil society. Priorities include influencing the formulation of Colombia's 2026–2030 National Development Plan, engaging international spaces such as the biodiversity and climate COPs, and expanding dialogue with the private sector and academia. The process also strengthened internal governance by defining principles and methods for decision-making, technical collaboration and joint action among alliance members.

IRI COLOMBIA CONTRIBUTES TO NETWORK OF NETWORKS STRATEGY FOR AMAZON COOPERATION

In July, IRI Colombia continued participating in collective strategy-building spaces convened by Red de Redes, contributing to a shared agenda among organizations, platforms and movements working to protect the Amazon and promote sustainable development. IRI Colombia brought its experience building alliances among religious leaders, faith communities, scientific institutions, Indigenous Peoples, social organizations and public entities. Its participation helped strengthen a model of collaborative governance based on dialogue, trust and collective action. The process creates an opportunity to consolidate cooperation mechanisms, build institutional

capacity and generate synergies that increase the impact of advocacy, education, communications and social mobilization for tropical forest conservation and the well-being of Amazonian communities.

DRC

IRI DRC CONTRIBUTES TO PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIONS ON FOREST CODE REFORM

In July, IRI DRC participated in the provincial consultation process for the revision of the 2002 Forest Code, led by the Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development and New Climate Economy with participation from the private sector and civil society. To support the process, IRI DRC worked with CAGDFT, DGPA and MMT to prepare a contribution note proposing formulations and revisions to key provisions of the draft law. IRI DRC mobilized its chapters in Maniema, Lomami, Tshopo and Equateur to participate in the consultations and carry forward shared recommendations. Priority themes included facilitating the process for granting Local Community Forest Concessions, securing areas of high ecological value, strengthening access to land rights and advancing biodiversity-credit mechanisms. The engagement helped ensure that IRI DRC's priorities for sustainable forest-resource governance were reflected in the national reform process.

IRI DRC ADVANCES PREPARATIONS FOR “NO FORESTS, NO FUTURE” CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

On 27 July, the IRI DRC facilitation team and religious-confession focal points held a coordination meeting to finalize preparations for the launch of the national “No Forests, No Future” campaign. The meeting confirmed 4 August 2026 as the launch date, reviewed logistical preparations, including printed materials, invitations and the event program, and presented the national campaign guide. Religious focal points validated the design of the guide and provided final comments on images, references, sources and layout. The meeting also aligned each religious confession around stakeholder mobilization, transmission of religious leaders' remarks and validation of the first draft of both the national campaign guide and the image-box facilitation guide. The launch was scheduled to be led by the Secretary General for Environment, Sustainable Development and New Climate Economy, representing the Minister.

IRI NORTH KIVU MOBILIZES RELIGIOUS LEADERS FOR URBAN AND SEMI-URBAN FOREST PROTECTION

On 31 July in Goma, the IRI DRC North Kivu chapter convened its provincial Advisory Council to launch a citizen-mobilization effort for the protection of urban and peri-urban forests and the restoration of degraded spaces in and around Goma, despite the ongoing security context. The meeting positioned the “No Forests, No Future” campaign as part of a broader vision for participatory, sustainable and inclusive environmental

governance involving public authorities, religious confessions, schools, civil society organizations, youth, women and local communities. Religious leaders showed strong commitment to addressing deforestation and the degradation of green spaces, and agreed on the need for stronger collaboration among public institutions, schools, churches, civil society and citizens. The meeting generated momentum for regular and structured reforestation, including concrete actions for tree planting, monitoring and protection.

INDONESIA

IRI INDONESIA STRENGTHENS PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT FOR THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES BILL

On 2 July, IRI Indonesia held an advocacy meeting with Nasir Djamil, a member of the Legislative Body of the House of Representatives from the Prosperous Justice Party faction, to provide substantive input on the Indigenous Peoples Bill and strengthen political support for its acceleration. The meeting brought together 13 participants, including representatives of IRI Indonesia, AMAN, Forest Watch Indonesia and the Samdhana Institute. IRI Indonesia's delegation included Advisory Council representatives from the Indonesian Ulema Council, the Communion of Churches in Indonesia and the Indonesian Hindu Council. The meeting reinforced the message that recognition and protection of Indigenous Peoples is both a constitutional obligation and a moral commitment shared by religious communities to safeguard forests, cultural heritage and environmental justice. It also produced follow-up commitments to maintain coordination during the legislative process.

IRI INDONESIA LAUNCHES SOUTHWEST PAPUA CHAPTER AND SCIENCE IMMERSION FELLOWSHIP

From 28–31 July, IRI Indonesia launched its Southwest Papua chapter and organized a science immersion fellowship 2026 in Sorong. The chapter launch brought together 97 participants representing religious organizations, Indigenous Peoples, government institutions, universities, civil society organizations and local communities. The event introduced the chapter as a multi-stakeholder platform connecting spiritual values, scientific knowledge, Indigenous Peoples' wisdom and collective action for forest conservation, and included a joint reading of an Interfaith Commitment for the Protection of Papua's Forests. Following the launch, 39 science fellows joined a three-day leadership program integrating science, faith and Indigenous Peoples knowledge. Sessions addressed climate risks in Papua, tropical rainforest ecology, biodiversity conservation, Indigenous Peoples' rights and faith-based environmental stewardship, and included a field immersion in the Malaumkarta Indigenous Territory.

IRI INDONESIA BUILDS A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE FOR PAPUA FOREST PROTECTION

The science immersion fellowship in Southwest Papua strengthened a new network of emerging leaders committed to tropical forest protection, ecological justice and Indigenous Peoples' rights. Participants learned directly from BMKG, Prof. Jatna Supriatna, AMAN, Rev. Ronald Richard Tapilatu and Indigenous Peoples' communities in Malaumkarta about climate change, biodiversity, customary forest governance, local ecological knowledge and the relationship between culture, spirituality and conservation. The program expanded IRI Indonesia's presence in eastern Indonesia and strengthened collaboration among faith leaders, Indigenous Peoples, government institutions, academia and civil society. It also laid the foundation for an IRI Indonesia Community of Practice that can carry forward learning, advocacy and coordinated action for Papua's forests.

IRI INDONESIA CONTRIBUTES TO GREEN ECONOMY AND CLIMATE ACTION IN THE RIMBA–SEMBILANG CORRIDOR

On 7 July, IRI Indonesia participated as a resource in a technical coordination meeting organized by the Ministry of Agrarian Affairs and Spatial Planning/National Land Agency on strengthening community roles in the RIMBA–Sembilang Ecosystem Corridor. The meeting brought together 14 participants from IRI Indonesia, the Ministry, the RIMBA Project Management Unit, the Project Implementation Unit and the technical team. IRI Indonesia shared its experience mobilizing faith leaders, Indigenous Peoples and local communities to support environmental stewardship and sustainable landscape governance. The discussion strengthened coordination with the Ministry and identified opportunities to integrate faith-based community engagement into green economy, climate action and spatial-planning initiatives in the corridor.

IRI INDONESIA PROVIDES TECHNICAL INPUT TO GOVERNMENT ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES BILL

On 15 July, IRI Indonesia participated in the Legislative Body's working meeting with the Ministry of Human Rights, the Ministry of Culture and the Legislative Body expert team to provide further input on the Indigenous Peoples Bill. The meeting involved 24 participants, including seven representatives of the Indigenous Peoples Bill Coalition and 17 representatives from government ministries and parliamentary expert staff. Discussions focused on strengthening provisions related to Indigenous Peoples' recognition, customary territories, collective rights, institutional arrangements and harmonization with existing legislation. The meeting produced strategic inputs for improving the substance of the bill, strengthened coordination between civil society, government and parliamentary experts, and enabled IRI Indonesia to prepare minutes and policy notes for the next stage of advocacy.

PERU

IRI PERU SUPPORTS DEVELOPMENT OF A MULTIPARTY PARLIAMENTARY AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABILITY

On 3 July, IRI Peru convened a working meeting with Congresswoman-elect Ruth Luque's office and civil society organizations including OXFAM, DAR, SPDA, OCEANA and SOA to exchange ideas on a future legislative agenda. The discussion identified an opportunity to establish a multiparty parliamentary group focused on sustainability, with priorities including the Amazon, marine protection, Indigenous Peoples and renewable energy. The initiative will be led by Congresswoman Luque's office with technical support from IRI Peru and allied organizations. The meeting strengthened IRI Peru's role as a bridge between civil society expertise and legislative action, helping create an early platform for coordinated advocacy in the new Congress.

IRI PERU JOINS PAS COLLECTIVE TO STRENGTHEN ACTION AGAINST ILLEGAL MINING

On 6 July, IRI Peru formally joined the PAS Collective, a platform that brings together business associations, civil society organizations and academia to raise awareness and mobilize action against illegal mining. IRI Peru will contribute the voice and moral reflection of faith communities to one of the most urgent threats facing the Amazon and its peoples. As a member, IRI Peru will participate in institutional meetings, public advocacy initiatives, communications review processes and possible spokesperson roles on agreed issues. The current work plan includes pilot actions in Huánuco, Loreto and Ucayali; co-created materials such as a proposed interfaith guide against illegal mining; and a social media strategy to strengthen public rejection of illegal mining and its impacts on forests, communities and human dignity.

IRI PERU PREPARES AMAZON AND FOREST AGENDA AHEAD OF PAPAL VISIT

In July, IRI Peru began coordinating with church and communications partners to help ensure that the announced visit of Pope Leo XIV to Peru includes strong attention to forests, Indigenous Peoples and the Amazon. Following discussions with CLUA, IRI Peru agreed to advance three communication priorities: media management, a workshop with journalists and a spokesperson-training process for IRI leaders. On 11 July, IRI Peru met with Bishop Martín Quijano of the Apostolic Vicariate of Pucallpa to offer support around the Pope's expected encounter with Indigenous Peoples at Yarinacocha, parish workshops, communications support and a public vigil. On 24 July, IRI Peru also met with the Peruvian Episcopal Conference's communications commission, agreeing to prepare two journalist workshops and information materials on the Amazon, illegal economies and the challenges facing forest communities.

IRI PERU SUPPORTS METHODIST CHURCH TRAINING ON FORESTS AND FAITH IN AREQUIPA

On 19 July, IRI Peru supported the Methodist Church of Peru's national training process through a "Forests Are Life" workshop in Arequipa. The event brought together around 40 participants at the Methodist Church Ciudad de Dios in the Costa Sur district, under the theme "Caring for the Earth Is Caring for Life." IRI Peru led sessions on the importance of forests for planetary life and the urgent need for a new faith-based

paradigm of care, in contrast to the dominant paradigm of domination over nature. The workshop, held largely in Quechua, deepened the integration of faith, cultural identity and ecological responsibility, and continued a process initiated after Methodist leaders participated in IRI Peru's Amazon immersion.

IRI PERU STRENGTHENS HUÁNUCO HUB AND PREPARES NEW LOCAL CHAPTER IN TINGO MARÍA

On 11 July, IRI Peru convened the “No Forests, No Life” workshop in Tingo María with the IRI Peru local chapters of Huánuco and Aucayacu and representatives of the future IRI Tingo María chapter. Participants assessed the situation of forests in the Huánuco region and developed a joint strategy for the upcoming electoral period. The meeting brought together Catholic and Church of God of Prophecy participants and produced concrete next steps: the launch of IRI Tingo María on 8 September, a dialogue table with local actors the same day, a sensitization workshop for IRI Aucayacu on 4 September and an electoral forum with local candidates on 5 September. The process strengthened regional coordination and positioned local chapters to bring forest protection into the local electoral agenda.

IRI PERU BRINGS AMAZON PROTECTION INTO NATIONAL INTERFAITH PRAYER

On 21 July, IRI Peru participated in “We Pray for Peru,” the annual interfaith prayer for the country organized by the Interreligious Council of Peru with public authorities for national holidays. The event brought together leaders from diverse faith communities, Indigenous leaders and government authorities, and was broadcast on TV Perú. As part of the Interreligious Council's work, IRI Peru led the prayer for care for creation, raising concern over the daily deforestation of more than 400 hectares in the Amazon and the dumping of more than 40 tons of mercury into rivers as offenses against the Creator. The event allowed IRI Peru to bring the Amazon, illegal economies and ecological responsibility into a nationally visible spiritual and civic space.

IRI PERU PARTICIPATES IN HIGH-LEVEL AMAZON DIALOGUE ON CORRUPTION AND ILLEGAL ECONOMIES

On 23 July, IRI Peru participated in a high-level Amazon dialogue convened by Proética with the global leadership of Transparency International. The meeting brought together around 20 Amazon-focused institutions, Indigenous organizations and state actors to discuss institutional capture, natural-resource governance, corruption and impunity, illicit financial flows, human rights, Indigenous Peoples and protection of defenders. Participants expressed concern over the growing influence of illegal economies and corruption across the country, including the complicity of authorities with illicit activity. IRI Peru's participation reflected recognition of its forest-protection work and strengthened its engagement with anti-corruption actors addressing the structural drivers of Amazon destruction.

IRI PERU SUPPORTS IRI PUNO IN PREPARING REGIONAL ELECTORAL ADVOCACY

On 15 July, IRI Peru held a virtual accompaniment meeting with IRI Puno, combining training and planning. The first part presented the current situation of Puno's Amazonian zone, linking forest protection to faith commitments and the need to introduce ethical criteria into regional and local elections. In the second part, participants agreed to organize an electoral forum with candidates for the regional governorship of Puno to hear their proposals on care for creation. They also agreed to hold a replica workshop of "Grade Your Regional and Local Candidate" with the Roundtable for the Fight Against Poverty in Puno. The meeting strengthened the new chapter's capacity to connect faith-based environmental concern with civic education and electoral accountability.

IRI PERU PREPARES JOURNALIST AND SPOKESPERSON TRAININGS FOR PAPAL VISIT

As part of the "No Forests, No Life" campaign and preparations for the visit of Pope Leo XIV, IRI Peru advanced plans for a journalist workshop titled "Let's Talk About the Amazon: Journalism Coverage Workshop for the Visit of Pope Leo XIV." The workshop will bring together Amazonian journalists already connected to IRI Peru, along with local and national media, to place the Church's concern for the Amazon on the regional and national media agenda. Proposed topics include the situation of the Amazon and illegal economies, the significance of the Pope's visit, storytelling on spiritual messages and faith communities, and ecclesial protocol for papal coverage. IRI Peru also prepared national and regional spokesperson trainings with CLUA-supported agency Impronta, planned for September, to strengthen the capacity of faith leaders and local chapters to communicate clearly on forests, Indigenous Peoples and the Amazon.