



Mid-Term Evaluation of the Pilot: “Reciprocity Facing the Climate Crisis: Empowering Indigenous Autonomy.”



Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Management

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I. Introduction

The pilot - aims to address both the mitigation of climate change and the reduction of the vulnerability of Indigenous peoples in the Amazon.

One year since the pilot, the following mid-term evaluation is being conducted to analyze the effects of the basic income from the perspective of the pilot partners.

II. Objectives

- To document the stories and experiences of the pilot subjects through participatory videos that reflect the most significant changes in their lives over the past year.
- To evaluate the contribution of the pilot to these significant changes.
- This report presents the results of the subjects' conversations and experiences, while the communications team will present the final products related to the videos.

III. Methodology

A. Study Design

This study aimed to identify the most significant changes in the lives of the people who have been participating in the pilot for the past year through a participatory and qualitative approach.

The main instruction during the visit was for subjects to identify and share the most significant change they have experienced in their lives over the past year related to their participation in the pilot. It was emphasized that this change should be what they consider most



important and valuable. Therefore, they were invited to reflect on their experience in identifying their situation “before, during, and after” this change, and tell a story based on it.

The exercise included audio recording —with prior informed consent— and taking notes as backup, ensuring anonymity in the evaluation report. The facilitators also shared their own examples to illustrate the exercise.

After sharing their stories, the partners selected one story per group. Then, this was acted out by all subjects, recorded, and later shared across the three communities.

B. Dates, Site, and Screening of Subjects

The evaluation was conducted during a week, from December 2 to 6, 2024 in the district of Pichanaki. A group of pilot partners was convened from the three Indigenous communities where the activities have taken place.

Subjects were selected based on three criteria:

- i. Not having previously participated in the quarterly monitoring,
- ii. Not having any mental or intellectual disability, and
- iii. Agreed to share their testimony and have it recorded audio-visually

At the end of the workshops, a consultation process was conducted on the exhibition of the final videos.

In total, the evaluation was conducted with 23 subjects distributed as follows:

- Women Q1: 6 women subjects
- Women Q2: 6 women subjects
- Men Q3: 5 subjects
- Men Q4: 6 subjects

C. Analysis of Results

The conversations were transcribed and subsequently analyzed using Nvivo software. The results are presented below.

IV. Results

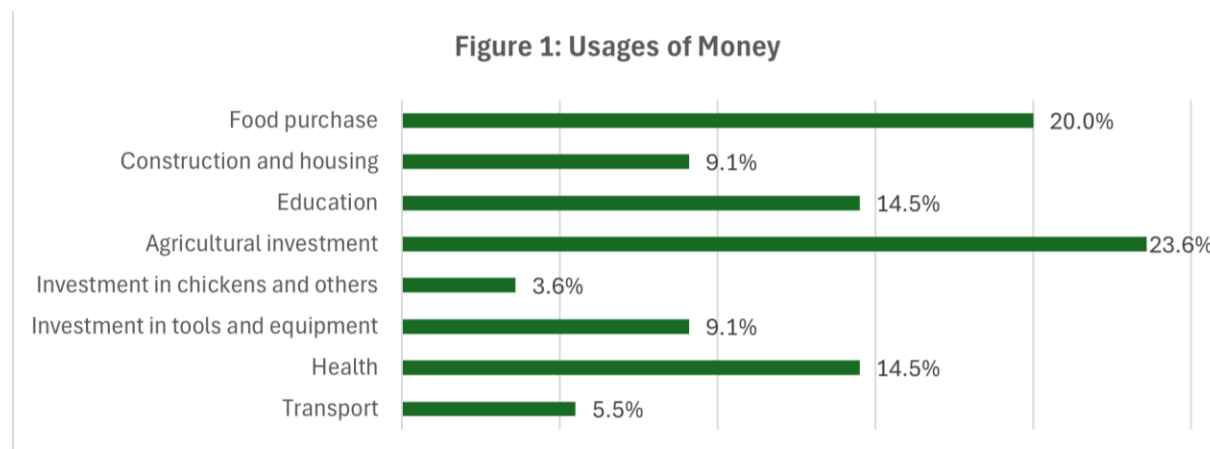
The results are presented below.

A. Subject Profile

Among the total number of subjects (23), the average age of the partners is 37 years old with an age range from 19 to 63 years old. The group includes 12 women and 11 men from the three Indigenous communities of the Pilot.

B. Usages of Money

Most subjects attributed significant improvement in their quality of life over the past year to spending money on sustainable livelihoods: 23% invested in crops, 9% in tools and equipment, and 4% in chickens and other poultry. On the other hand, many subjects mentioned that the positive changes in their lives are related to spending money to cover basic needs such as food (20%), health and education (15%), construction and housing (9%), and, finally, 5% highlighted that improved transportation had a significant effect in improving their quality of life in the last year.



Overall, subjects highlight the economic autonomy they have achieved by reducing the amount of time spent on daily wages. Due to the money transfers, partners can invest in tools to work their plots, which has reduced their dependence on working on daily wages in other farms. Previously, this activity was necessary because of the lack of resources to invest in their land, although it generated limited income. Now, some partners have stopped working on daily wages and dedicate themselves

entirely to their plots. Others still work on daily wages, but to a lesser extent, prioritizing the cultivation of their land.

"I mean, suddenly, the change in the family has been this, right?... to suddenly avoid working on daily wages in the fields because, although it is true, I mean, there was somewhere where we could support ourselves to avoid working on daily wages and focus on the fields and work our plot within the communal territory." (Man)

They achieved autonomy through agricultural investment in their plots, livestock, or tools and equipment. The pilot has helped them generate livelihoods and spend more time with their families, moving faster and even saving money. The partners have strengthened ties with their families, which improves their relationships as a couple and with their children.

Differences in Results by Gender

Men highlight investment in agriculture and production as a key strategy for generating economic autonomy, ensuring family well-being, and guaranteeing long-term sustainability.

For example, one subject mentions that he began to invest in his plot by buying plants such as papaya, plantain, and cassava. This allowed him to improve his agricultural productivity and contribute to his economic autonomy. In addition, he acquired tools such as a chainsaw, motors, and a pulper, which facilitated his work in coffee production. This support also had an impact on his emotional and social well-being. The subject mentions that he used to live worried and sad because of the lack of resources. Nowadays, he feels happier and more confident due to his involvement in the community and his active participation in the workshops.

"First, my life was a little bit sadder, and I was worried about where to get money, right? Well, I could not even sit down as it should be, I did not sit there, I mean, at home. I went to look for a job wherever I could and sometimes they did not pay you as it should be, right? As I said, you only get a minimum of what you can spend. Sometimes they discounted you the amount they gave you as an advance. And then, you could not afford anything, right? Not even for your clothes. In the end, there was nothing left, and so on. But now, I feel incredibly happy that... being in this association. I am a partner of the pilot. I feel incredibly happy, right? That is the most important thing." (Man)

Furthermore, they mention the importance of having their means of transportation. Three people indicated that owning a motorcycle has allowed them to save time and money. It also increased the time they spend with their family.

"I mean, that has changed a lot for me, right? I had that desire to see sites, and places, and with the pilot I went to see them, right? And thanks to that I have also been able to go to my school, to go for a ride, to go anywhere. Before, we used to spend more on tickets, as Mr. Félix says, right? We can go anywhere with ten soles of gasoline. On the other hand, if we do not have the mobility, we cannot, right?" (Man)

More than one male subject mentioned that the pilot money allowed them to spend more time with their family, because they reduced their travel time and did not need to work on daily wages. They also were able to dedicate themselves to their farm, which has led to greater trust from their partners and improved relations with their families.

As for women, a widowed subject who takes care of her children alone was able to invest the pilot money in sources of livelihood. She invested in tools such as a chainsaw to plant on her farm, and a strimmer to clear her coffee fields. In addition, she has managed to hire personnel that support her to improve her farm.

It is worth noting that some women, as well as men, have invested in crops. However, unlike men, women also make their "cushmas" (dresses) and sell them. Moreover, women have invested in raising small animals such as chickens, geese, and ducks. In one case, a partner expressed that it had always been a dream of hers to have these animals.

"(...) and the pilot helped me a lot and I am incredibly grateful for it, because I always wanted, I always wanted to have my own little animals. When I was a little girl, I always liked it. My mother would sometimes give me a chicken, it would grow up and I would eat it. I never threw it [raised it]. And now I have my little farm. It will not be that big, little by little. We always start with a little of what we have, and I am getting there. And that is... I sometimes feel proud of myself for doing this, and I also have the support of my mom and dad." (Woman)

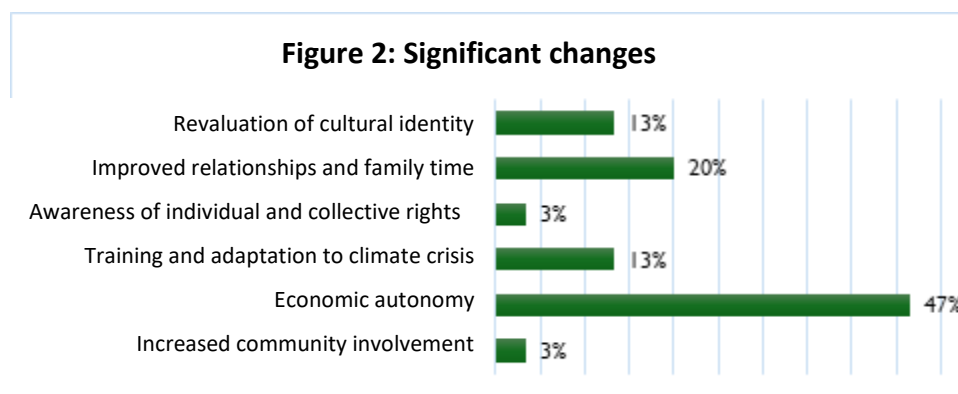
In more than one case, women mentioned that, with the pilot money, they have been able to cover their basic needs, such as food, health, education, and housing. For them, the concern for their family is fundamental, and their children are a priority in their lives. In addition, several women mentioned that the money has allowed them not only to cover basic needs but also to invest in livelihoods.



"My concern was about my two young daughters, and my nephew's health situation. I did not know how to get out of it, right? I had it all bottled up there. And after that, the pilot arrived. It was a joy for me, right? I already had a livelihood for myself, right? Because I was able to support my son in his education, and in my nephew's health. I had enough help with alimentation, right? Because I already knew that a fixed incentive was coming, right? It is an immense help to me and for me, right? And I... this... I could feel more relieved, right? Now I feel calmer, I am calmer. I am not worried about what I was... what I had before, right? Now my nephew's health is better. Thank God, everything is fine, and my family is more united. And now I have some cash, right? I am sure it will come to me, so I can also educate my daughters, have a better life, take advantage of it, and plant something productive on my farm, right? I feel better." (Woman)

C. Significant Changes

As shown in the previous section, most subjects expressed that their lives improved positively because they invested the pilot money in livelihoods. This gave them economic autonomy (47%), which reduced the time spent working on daily wages in other lands and thus generated their resources. Secondly, the subjects highlighted that the main change brought by the pilot was related to the improvement of their relationships and family time (20%), followed by the revaluation of their cultural identity (13%), and adaptation to climate change (13%). Finally, some subjects mentioned that improvements in their lives in the last year have also been achieved due to their increased knowledge of individual and collective rights (3%), and increased participation in the community (3%). These last two points are related to the political agenda of ONAMIAP and OMIASEC since they are the ones who train partners in rights and community empowerment.



Economic Autonomy

As mentioned above, subjects have strengthened their economic autonomy by investing money in assets that provide them with long-term sustainability. Before the pilot, they worked on daily wages on other people's land, which generated insufficient income to invest in their plots and barely covered their daily needs.

One example of how the investment of money has boosted their economic autonomy is the acquisition of motorcycles. As shown below, these have allowed several partners to move more freely and quickly to their jobs, besides facilitating the transportation of their children to school.

"There has been a change in my life, yes, due to the money that they give us, so the change has also been mine, right? Where I sometimes... I have bought a standard motorcycle. (...) God blesses us with this money, so I also started to pay my quota to be able to, suddenly, go to the city or take my daughter easily to school, right? (...) suddenly, there is a need at home, so it is something that is not... with your transportation, you go at the time you want or need. This has been very useful for me. This has been very useful for me. One of my duties is fulfilling the requirements of my registration card." (Man)

"In the winter we went to work, and they did not pay us a full daily wage. We had to work a few more hours to make up for it. When we went to work, and it rained, sometimes we did not get a full daily wage. And because of the pilot by earning, during the year, we bought something, a motorcycle, something cheap. Thanks to that, I was able to go to school and return home." (Man)

In the following paragraph, a woman also mentions that she used to work on daily wages and get work contracts with her husband. However, due to the pilot, she is now able to fulfill her dream and dedicate herself to her plantations.

"(...) I used to work on daily wages. I used to have a contract with my husband, with my family, with my children. This allowed me to have, as you say, "something to take home," right? But this pilot has given me a dream, that this pilot, that... What I must do. I must reach a goal, an achievement, an objective. This is related to my plantations, improving, cleaning, pruning, because every plant requires maintenance, right?" (Woman)

Improved Relationships and Family Time

As the following testimonials show, the pilot had a positive impact on households. Most of the women emphasize the importance of family unity and value the possibility of providing greater support to their children.



"I mean, having time and, I mean, being with my family more than anything else, right? Supporting what they feel, listening to them. More than anything, that my children have affection, love, and everything, right? As they say, health and food." (Woman)

Furthermore, men highlight the increase in family time, because now they can work closer to their community and home, instead of having to travel to distant places.

"(...) that money changed my life. I no longer go to work far away. I am more often with my family" (Man).

In addition, the pilot gave them the possibility to give gifts to the children on special occasions such as Christmas.

"When I did not have enough income at home, we lived, like this. The house was a mess, right? There was not one thing in the kitchen. We had to be there looking for a way to buy something or we always argued "There is one thing missing." And sometimes, as you say, it is not good to be arguing in front of our children, but we could not control it. We had to be always asking "I need something, I need shoes, I need education, health." (...) sometimes our children, at Christmas, say, "I don't even have enough for a panettone, a toy," but, at least, they are going to have something for Christmas, right? That is what I can share, sister, and I feel incredibly happy." (Woman)

Awareness of Individual and Collective Rights

One person stated that an important change in the community has been that people now know their rights:

"That is the change I have seen in my community. My brothers are at least waking up. I mean they are beginning to know their individual and collective rights." (Man)

Revaluation of Identity and Increase in Community Participation

Several people indicated that the community has been strengthened because they have revalued their identity:

"On a collective level, I have also been able to perceive or see my brothers from the community... more united and enthusiastic about wanting to continue developing their identity, because, previously, there was not... how can I tell you? That involvement of continuing to be part of the community" (Man)

Finally, one subject highlighted the importance of revaluing their customs and identity, noting that this process could be key to addressing climate change more effectively.

"(...) we have started to reevaluate our customs, our... our identity as an Asháninka, and then this... too, right? We have also been able to receive training with... on how we can counteract the climate change that is being discussed these days, right?" (Man)

Climate Crisis and Reforestation

Four subjects mentioned climate crisis during their intervention. The pilot would have come at a time when climate change had affected them.

"There has been a lot of heat and now a lot of rain due to climate change, but this pilot gives me the strength to continue. It has helped me a lot to buy my tools, to be prepared (...)" (Woman)

Moreover, climate change would have affected the entire community, and their ability to fulfill their basic needs.

"Climate change was already affecting the weather quite a lot. Most people know how we have been living, that it has affected us, right? It has affected all of us, not only us as selected communities but others too. We were desperate with this climate change. We could no longer provide for our health, education, and food." (Woman)

Finally, the same person referred to the work they are currently doing around reforestation and as a community. The pilot facilitated this change:

"We have had a change. We used to think we were not going to achieve anything, but now we are working together. We are planting trees, raising fish farms, and planting native plants. That is what we are doing." (Woman)

D. Acknowledgment and Very Positive Feelings

The total number of subjects (N=23) expressed feelings of joy and gratitude towards the pilot and the implementing organizations. Their satisfaction is associated with the reduction of their money-related worries, as they can cover their basic needs.

"I do not even know where to start. I am incredibly happy and joyful, right? First, my life was a little bit sadder, and I was worried about where to get money, right?" (Man)

On the other hand, their satisfaction is also related to gaining knowledge about their individual and collective rights:

"I mean, there has been a process of training about Indigenous governance, of understanding our individual and collective rights, so yes... I feel incredibly happy because I have been able to... I have received these types of training within the community." (Man)

They also mention that relations with the family have improved:

"Thanks to the pilot, as I repeat, I no longer leave my family, as I used to went further away to work." (Man)

And, especially, women mention the satisfaction of being able to help their children regarding food, health, education, and housing:

"And now this year changed my whole life with my family. Now we are, as you say, united. And now I feel happy and calm with my children. More than anything, I can spend time with them, right? Everything went well for me this year." (Woman)



“And from there, my son felt better and now I feel happy that I have four little children and no... More than anything, I feel boundless joy to have my children and everything that happens in our home. Now, I am calm. What I lived before with my husband was worse, a misfortune, right? Now that I am here, with this workshop, I feel better.” (Woman)

Finally, it should be noted that no negative feedback was identified during this data collection.

E. Selected Stories

After each group of partners shared their stories of significant change, the facilitators guided them to identify a story that represented the group's experience with the pilot. After discussing and exploring the changes and benefits the partners experienced through the pilot, they selected a story that reflects the impact of it on their lives.

The first group of men selected the story of a partner who achieved economic autonomy by working on his plot of land. They describe it as a polyculture plot, as he planted plantain, and corn, among others. For this, he invested in tools such as a pulper and chainsaw. The partners noted that, as a result, he now spends more time with his family.

“Now he is with his wife, and he has his children here. When the pilot came, as he says, he used to work far away, but now he is here with his family. Now he is here, dedicating himself to his farm. He grows plantain and corn, and his wife is at home. That is it.” (Man)

They selected this story considering criteria such as the recovery of their cultural identity, the union with the community and family, and agricultural sustainability through work on their farm.



The second group of men agreed on the importance of the production of coffee, citrus, and other crops. As in the previous group, they also mentioned the importance of the family and ensuring the future of the children, and the union with

the community and working together. They also pointed out the importance of the acquisition of tools and a motorcycle to improve their quality of life.

"But, thanks to his effort, he has not needed anyone. He has been able to sow something else. And, as he says, he has eight children and spends time with his family. Because of the project, he has been able to have more plantations, more, as he says, he has his citrus demonstration field. He feels incredibly happy, right? And that is what every one of us wants: to feel happy with the little we have. Thanks to his efforts, he managed to sow a plantation." (Man)

As for women, the first group selected the story of a partner who raises her children without a spouse. Before the pilot, the partner lived with food shortages and worked on daily wages. Due to the money transfers, she bought a pulper and a chainsaw. In this way, she was able to clear her land, grow coffee, and build a house.

The subjects chose this story because of the partner's resilience in moving forward to becoming an entrepreneur without a spouse. The partner invested in tools to improve her farm's production and feed her children.

"(...) despite living alone, she kept going, and, in the end, she is currently doing well. She is well." (Woman)

Finally, the second group of women selected a story where both the partner and her spouse stopped working on daily wages thanks to the pilot. Furthermore, because of the program's workshops, the subject learned about her rights and duties, which allowed her to put a stop to violence and discrimination.

"(...) she knew her rights, her duties, her laws and put a stop to violence, discrimination, like she learned in her workshops, right?" (Woman)

In addition, they mention that the climate crisis affects the products of the majority, including her. However, due to the pilot, the subject diversified her crops, such as including cocoa, and improved her fertilizer techniques. Her participation in assemblies and the support she provides to her family are also highlighted. Lastly, her story highlights the increased time she spends with her children.

In the quote below, a partner recounts the scenes the group filmed based on the partner's story.

"First scene, she was there before the pilot appeared, right? She worked on daily wages with her husband. And once she... once she... once the pilot was brought to us, right? She stopped working on daily wages and dedicated herself to her farm. She no longer worked on daily wages, instead, she dedicated herself to cultivating cocoa on her farm, and she is...

She fertilizes it, so that it will bear fruit, right? The third scene occurs after she has grown products from her farm, and she is saving the money she got from the production of her

farm, right? The fourth scene is when she is going to participate in the workshops. That is, in the workshops, sometimes, they teach us everything, right? How we should live. Then, in the fifth scene, after all these activities, she begins to dedicate herself to handicrafts, the farm, and weaving. Sometimes, our handicraft is weaving "cushma" (dresses), backpacks, and necklaces. In the sixth scene, once she collects all the money, everything, right? So there is income. The sixth scene shows her living happily with her family. She no longer worries about working on daily wages. They are happy in their home; there she finds happiness. That is all." (Woman)

V. Conclusions

One year after the pilot, the cash transfers provided to subjects from the Indigenous communities of three communities have given them the flexibility to cover their most urgent needs, such as food, housing, health, or education.

They have increased their economic independence and agency because they can decide how to invest or save their money according to their needs. Most have been able to obtain the necessary tools and equipment to work on their farm or invest in livestock or crops.



Some subjects consider that the main consequence of their autonomy is the improvement in relationships and the increase in family time.

The revaluation of cultural identity and adaptation to the climate crisis were also important aspects. Some subjects highlighted that the pilot has helped to strengthen the community and work together. Improving their living conditions

would be key to combat the effects of the climate crisis and give them the possibility to reforest. This will be explored in depth during the final external evaluation.

To get bigger results and as a recommendation, the strengthening of capacities in communities must be carried out continuously, as a single visit is not sufficient.

Overall, subjects expressed satisfaction and gratitude for the assistance received, indicating that their economic concerns have diminished.

Key Results:

The partners interviewed indicated that the money was used for:

- A large portion (23%) of subjects invested the money in **their crops**, such as coffee production and plantations of papaya, plantain, and cassava. Agricultural sustainability on their land is an important aspect as it allows them to reduce the time spent working for daily wages on plots far from their own.
- 20% use the money to **buy food**. The majority would be able to cover their basic needs such as food.
- 15% invest in health, similarly, 15% did it in education, which would indicate that support for their children is fundamental.
- 9% indicated that they invested in **tools and equipment** to improve their plots. This would allow them to generate economic autonomy and stop working on crops that are not theirs.
- Similarly, 9% invested in **construction and housing**. Subjects mentioned the importance of collaborating with their community to improve construction in common spaces, but also to be able to improve their homes.
- 5% invested in a **means of transportation** such as a motorcycle, indicating that because of this they can spend more time as a family, as well as taking their children to school.
- Finally, 4% invest in other sources of consumption such as chickens, ensuring diverse livelihoods.

The partners interviewed highlighted that the pilot had a positive effect on their lives. They achieve significant changes in the following areas:

- The majority (47%) of subjects generated **economic autonomy** thanks to the pilot. The investment of the money in improving their plots and the purchase

of a motorcycle has allowed them to generate resources sustainably, reduce travel time, and support their family.

- 20% of subjects mentioned that **relationships with their family have improved**. There has been an increase in family time and trust between partners.
- 13% mentioned that they have **revalued their cultural identity** by returning to ancestral customs and contact with Mother Nature.
- Similarly, 13% mentioned the **importance of the workshops on adaptation to the climate crisis** since most have seen the consequences of this crisis on their crops. This would have led them to diversify their crops and invest in improving them.
- Finally, **3% mentioned that, due to the pilot, they have understood their individual and collective rights, and their participation in the community has increased**. Most subjects highlighted the feeling of union with the community.

In selecting meaningful stories, partners considered key criteria that reflect the impact of the pilot program on their lives:

Family Bonding

- Stories that highlight the importance of family, time shared with children, and support to meet their basic needs were prioritized.

Agricultural Investment

- Stories that demonstrated prioritization and diversification of their crops were selected. They valued increased agricultural production as a means of securing long-term family livelihoods.

Acquisition of Motorcycles or Transportation

- The acquisition of tools, equipment, or motorcycles was considered an essential element that facilitated agricultural work, family transportation, and access to education for children.

Community Empowerment

- Active participation in the community and the rescue of ancestral customs were valued.

Personal Growth and Resilience

- Stories of people who, despite facing adversity, managed to move forward, undertake new projects, and improve their quality of life were recognized. The story of a single mother who managed to invest her money in sources of livelihood and cover the basic needs of her children was highlighted.

Basic Needs: Food, Education, and Health

- Finally, access to food, education, and health for the family and, if possible, saving money for times of need in these areas is also considered essential.



VI. Appendixes

- A. [List of subjects](#)
- B. [Videos of subjects](#)

