

Reciprocal Water Agreements (ARA) — Los Negros Watershed Programme, Bolivia

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Bolivia

Quality score: 40/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Since 2003, Fundación Natura Bolivia's reciprocal water agreements have paid upstream farmers in-kind (beehives, seedlings, training) to protect cloud forest; by 2023 the model covered ~24,000 farmers across ~80 municipalities, financed by municipal water tariffs.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	1/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	2/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[Fundación Natura Bolivia](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[Mongabay: Reciprocal Water Agreements protect millions of hectares of Bolivian forest \(2023\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[Ecosystem Marketplace: Bees, Trees, and Mountain Streams — Bolivia Redefines Watershed Payments](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[CBD Secretariat case study: Bolivia — Los Negros PES](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

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