

# Building Back Better in Peru with Nature-Based Solutions

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An aerial photograph showing a flooded area with muddy brown water. In the center, a yellow excavator is working on a partially submerged white truck. Another yellow excavator is positioned further down the river. A large crowd of people is gathered on the muddy banks, watching the operations. The background shows some green vegetation and a fence line.

We all recognize the urgency of **scaled action** to mitigate and adapt to climate risks.

In 2017, the Peruvian coast was severely affected by a series of floods and landslides caused by *El Niño Costero*; the disasters caused billions of dollars in damage and left hundreds of victims seriously injured or killed.

**1.8 million Peruvians  
affected**

**114 casualties**

## Nature-based solutions can contribute to significantly mitigating climate and water risks

Evidence shows that the conservation of vegetation cover in the Andes (mainly in paramo, puna and forest ecosystems) is very effective for controlling soil erosion, with erosion rates between **9 and 12 times lower** than those of agricultural and grazing areas.

Ancestral and communal management practices for water and soils (such as terraces) reduce soil erosion **by up to 50%** compared to unmanaged areas.

Conservation and restoration of native forests can substantially reduce the occurrence of mild or moderate floods and mass movements such as landslides. (4)

(4) *Infraestructura natural para la gestión de riesgos de erosión e inundaciones en los Andes: ¿Qué sabemos?*  
Armando Molina, Veerle Vanacker, Miluska Rosas Barturen, Vivien Bonnesoeur, Francisco Román, Boris F. Ochoa-Tocachi, Wouter Buytaert







**Gaps in information, capacities and tools can hinder implementing the political will to include nature-based solutions in public investments.**

Evidence-based conceptual framework

Methodologies for project formulation

Tools to identify intervention areas

Clear roadmap identifying project design

Technical specifications for designing natural infrastructure measures



Innovative partnerships and well-targeted pre-investment can successfully generate the information, capacity and tools needed to scale up effective, sustainable and equitable nature-based solutions.



4 NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS



PERUVIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

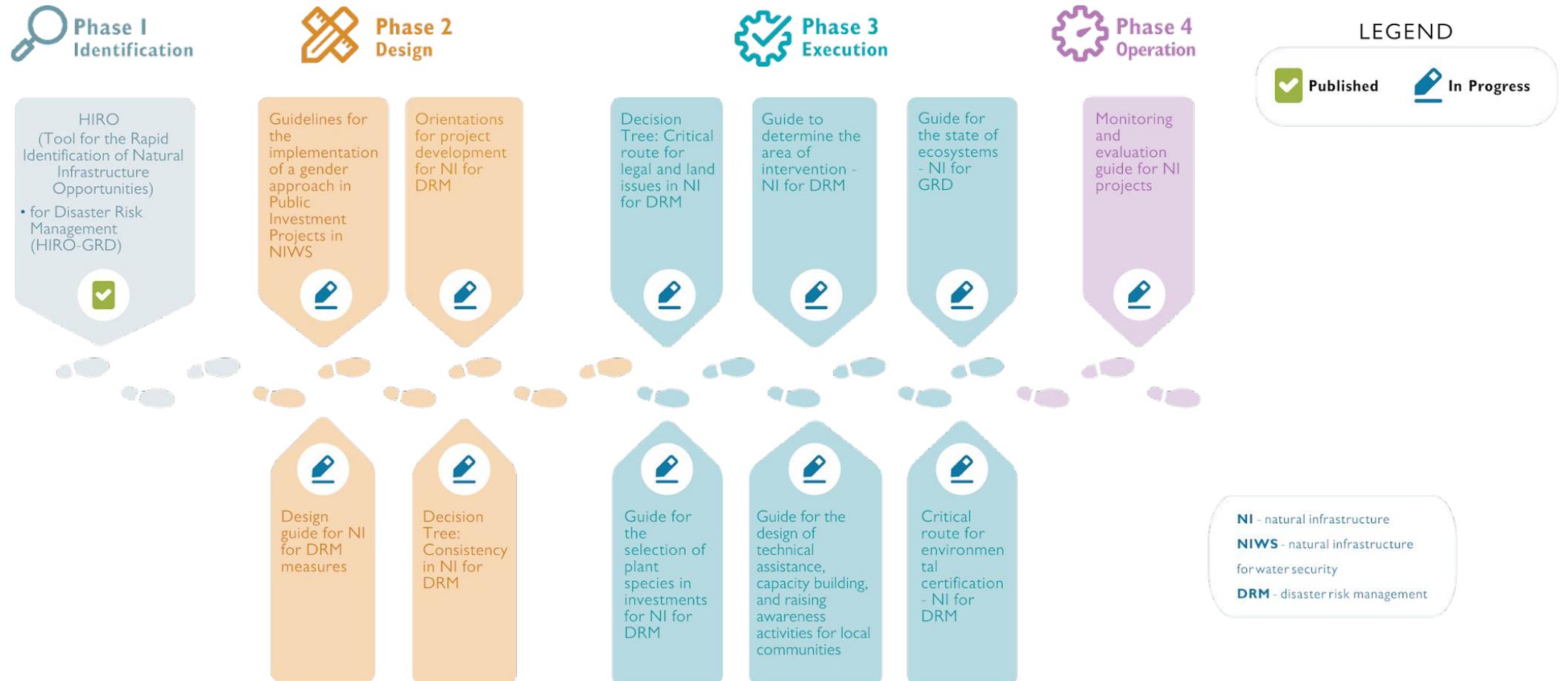
CIVIL SOCIETY



ENGINEERING COMPANIES

# Tools, information, frameworks and methodologies developed to address needs in the project development cycle for RCC

Summary of frameworks, tools and methodologies used to improve the effectiveness and sustainability of investments, through the participation of local populations in the design and implementation of interventions, while addressing the differentiated needs of men and women





## Strategy for building capacities of consulting firms tasked with project design and execution

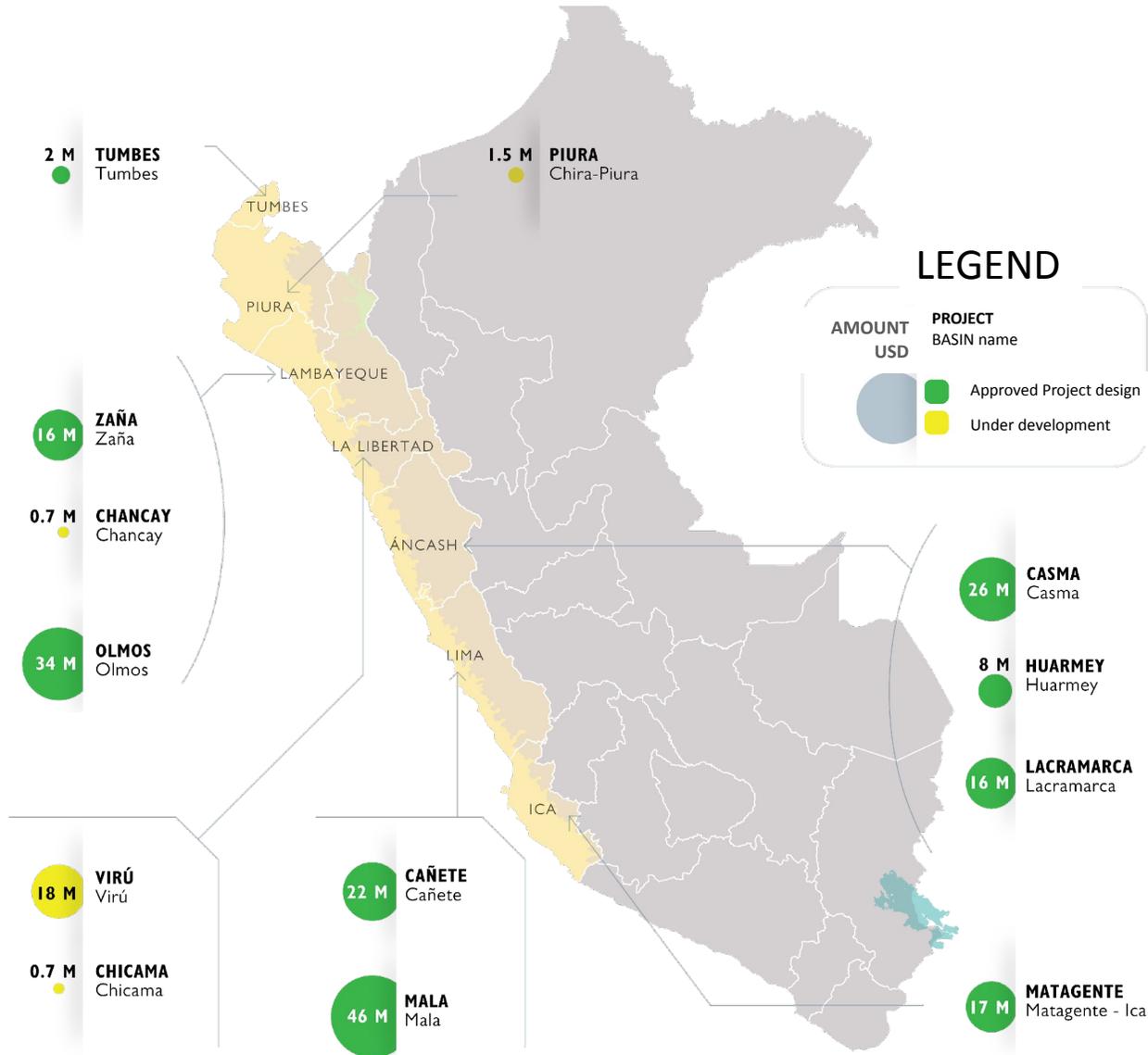
Tools, technical assistance and training strategies are being developed to support the development and design of NI projects with a DRM approach.

E-learning training courses

Technical assistance for final project design

Knowledge transfer through development of project design guidelines

## Natural infrastructure projects in development in RCC portfolio (value in USD by watershed and region)



## RCC's investments could change the trajectory for nature-based solutions in Latin America

Peru has developed an investment portfolio of **more than US\$200 million** in reforestation, scrubland and grassland restoration, and improvement of soil and water management practices to be implemented over the next four years.

Investments, which are expected to restore more than 45,000 hectares of critical landscapes in Peru's vulnerable coastal basins, are designed to protect soils from erosion and increase infiltration, reducing flood and landslide risks to vulnerable populations, livelihoods, as well as service infrastructure (communication roads, health infrastructure, education, sanitation, etc.).

**+600,000** daily wages during execution period



**Economic reactivation of Peru  
in rural areas**

# Summary

- 1. At the policy level, simple but timely language requiring implementers to include nature-based solutions in strategies to address water and climate risks can have a huge impact.**  
Policy should seek complementarity of NBSs in the source areas of flood and/or mass movement with the traditional investments that are made in the affected areas, as well as allow technical specialists some flexibility to design NBS that can best address those risks.
- 2. NBS implementation requires a strong project portfolio,** which in turn requires a set of enabling conditions (capacities, conceptual frameworks, tools and information) that are often 1) inadequate to support rapid scaling, and 2) overlooked in policy development.
- 3. In Peru, an innovative partnership between government entities at multiple levels, international cooperation, civil society and the private sector has played a key role** in addressing need in a way that builds on what has already been developed, while ensuring that solutions are designed to fit the local context and needs, thus laying the groundwork for public and private entities to begin to apply them at scale.



Thank you!

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