

PANAMAZONÍA EN RED

Bioeconomy
Innovation and
Investment Forum

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Pan-Amazonía en Red: Bioeconomy Innovation and Investment Forum

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Executive Summary

Between May 12 and 22, 2025, the Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy, with support from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), organized the event Pan-Amazonía en Red: Bioeconomy Innovation and Investment Forum. The event brought together representatives from different sectors across the Amazon basin in 15 panel sessions, conducted virtually with simultaneous interpretation in Portuguese, Spanish, and English. The Forum sought to answer the central question: How can we promote a sustainable, locally-led Amazonian bioeconomy that integrates knowledge, investment, and innovation?

Discussions were structured around eight thematic axes—finance, innovation and technology, public policy, biodiversity and climate, market access, knowledge and education, and cities and cross-border regions—offering shared diagnoses, concrete experiences, and practical proposals. In total, 212 recommendations were systematized, organized and synthesized according to the Network’s five task forces: Finance, Market Access, Research and Knowledge, Public Policies, and Capacity Strengthening.

Key messages include:

- The need to scale solutions from within territories, respecting the rhythms of the forest, local organizational structures, and Pan-Amazonian cultural diversity.
- The centrality of Indigenous Peoples, traditional communities, people living in transboundary territories, and youth, ensuring direct access to resources, negotiations, and majority participation in governance.
- The urgency of applied innovation and technology to overcome bottlenecks in quality, post-harvest processes, logistics, and standardization—including territorialized R&D, community-based processing facilities, and simple traceability systems that guarantee fair benefit-sharing.

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The contents of this report reflect the contributions and discussions of the Forum participants and do not necessarily represent the official positions of the Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy, WRI, CI, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), or partner institutions.

- Expanding market access and competitiveness, with value addition at the source, fair contracts, public and private anchor purchasing, accessible certifications, traceability, and territorial narratives for both national and international consumers.
- The importance of tailored, streamlined, and inclusive financial instruments (grants, direct-transfer funds, adapted microcredit, guarantees, blended finance, and patient capital), integrated with technical assistance, legal support, and financial inclusion.
- The creation and implementation of enabling public policies, aligning legal frameworks, institutional procurement (e.g., PAA, PNAE – from the Portuguese acronyms), and participatory governance to strengthen value chains, secure territorial rights, and integrate climate, biodiversity, and development agendas.
- The recognition and strengthening of traditional knowledge and training, integrating knowledge systems and science through intercultural education, Pan-Amazon research networks grounded in data sovereignty principles, and capacity development for teachers, youth, and technical leaders in territories.
- The need for adapted infrastructure and logistics, including solar energy, connectivity, water and sanitation, and adequate river transport—supported by urban hubs and decentralized solutions that reduce costs and losses while enabling scale.
- The need to address climate-change impacts on the bioeconomy, strengthening the resilience of value chains and territories to droughts, floods, fires, and other socio-environmental vulnerabilities.

This document presents a synthesis of the discussions for each thematic axis and a strategic curation of the recommendations, with the aim of guiding public policy, investments, and institutional strategies toward a regenerative, inclusive, and locally-led Amazonian bioeconomy.

Introduction

Context

The bioeconomy has been discussed as a promising alternative for reconciling economic development, environmental conservation, and social justice in the Amazon (OECD, 2009; FAO, 2021; One Earth Editorial Team, 2024). However, its implementation requires a contextualized approach that respects Indigenous rights, values traditional knowledge, and accounts for the region's complex socioecological dynamics. This aligns with the proposal for a New Economy for the Brazilian Amazon, which prioritizes integrated, territory-based solutions grounded in local knowledge (Nobre et al., 2023) and built upon community-led productive arrangements compatible with a living forest and Amazonian ways of life (Abramovay, 2021; Baniwa et al., 2024). When applied uncritically, bioeconomy models conceived in the Global North risk reproducing historical patterns of exploitation that have degraded the biome, as illustrated by the disorderly expansion of açai monocultures, where formerly sustainable practices have been transformed into predatory activities (One Earth Editorial Team, 2024).

For a bioeconomy in the Amazon to be viable and just, it is essential to start from the realities and knowledge of local communities, confirming and strengthening the sociobioeconomies that already exist (Castro et al., 2024). This requires addressing structural barriers that limit their development, including the lack of enabling public policies, insufficient financing mechanisms, and inadequate technical assistance tailored to production systems (Costa et al., 2022; Nobre et al., 2023; Chiavari et al., 2024), as well as persistent market bottlenecks that undermine the economic predictability of sociobiodiversity value chains and the insufficient participation of Indigenous and rural producers in public-policy formulation.

Rather than adapting technocratic, market-oriented solutions, it is necessary to build strategies grounded in Amazonian actors themselves, recognizing the centrality of local communities in shaping sustainable alternatives and ensuring their leadership both in forest conservation and in sustainable income generation (Nobre et al., 2023; Castro et al., 2024). This paradigm shift requires reimagining the bioeconomy through the lenses of environmental justice and post-growth, breaking away from models based on economic expansion and technological innovation that continue to reproduce extractivist and colonial logics (Urzedo et al., 2024).

Instead of commodifying biodiversity and marginalizing local knowledge systems, it is essential to acknowledge the diversity of existing forest economies, guarantee equitable benefit-sharing, and strengthen the political participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities—moving beyond extractivist economic models through a just and regenerative transition (Nobre et al., 2023; Urzedo et al., 2024). Only through such a transformation will it be possible to build a bioeconomy oriented toward well-being, territorial autonomy, and the socioecological preservation of the Amazon.

At the same time, caution is needed in expanding the sociobioeconomy to avoid repeating the errors of extractivist models that result in biodiversity loss, income concentration, and the erosion of traditional livelihoods. Products such as açai and cacao, initially associated with sustainable forest use, have been reshaped by public policies and market pressures into energy-intensive commodity chains with negative social and ecological effects (Vieira et al., 2024). In this context, it becomes crucial to adopt strategies based on productive diversification, the strengthening of local markets, the use of technologies appropriate to community contexts, and the valorization of decentralized, territorialized arrangements—consistent with proposals for a new economy that emphasizes inclusive, place-based solutions (Nobre et al., 2023). Consolidating the sociobioeconomy in the Amazon requires scaling local initiatives that are closely aligned with the region's biological, cultural, and institutional diversity (Vieira et al., 2024).

In the face of these challenges, initiatives such as the creation of the Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy highlight the importance of locally-led processes capable of building a bioeconomy rooted in territorial realities and oriented toward forest preservation, biodiversity conservation, and the well-being of Amazonian populations (One Earth Editorial Team, 2024).

About the Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy

The Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy is a multisector alliance committed to advancing a sustainable, inclusive, and locally-led bioeconomy across the Amazon. Established in 2023, the Network operates as a "network of networks", connecting producers and community associations, Indigenous and traditional peoples, impact investors, financial institutions, research centers, and civil society organizations (Appendix A).

The Network adopts the concept of the sociobioeconomy as its guiding framework, understood as a development model based on products and services compatible with the ecological integrity of the Amazon biome, the cultural identity of its peoples, and the socioeconomic inclusion of its inhabitants. More than beneficiaries, Indigenous peoples, Afro-descendant communities, and local populations are recognized as protagonists in defining institutional arrangements, safeguards, indicators, and pathways for a just transition.

Its role is to bridge the coordination gap among the region's dispersed efforts, fostering the convergence of visions, the sharing of experiences, and the scaling of local solutions. The Network advocates for the recognition of the bioeconomy as a strategic sector capable of generating transformative scale from the territories outward.

The Network's work is structured around five thematic task forces (Figure 1), which function as dynamic hubs of collective action:

- **Finance:** coordinates efforts to mobilize financial and non-financial resources with robust socio-environmental safeguards, promoting strategies to expand access to investments suited to local realities.
- **Market Access:** strengthens sustainable value chains and market strategies that generate local income, with an emphasis on community-based enterprises and fair commercialization mechanisms.
- **Research and Knowledge:** promotes the co-production and integration of scientific and traditional knowledge, addressing data gaps and proposing indicators and outputs that reflect the multiple values of the bioeconomy.
- **Public Policies:** aligns legal frameworks and public policies with climate, biodiversity, and innovation goals, working on concrete proposals and multisector policy engagement.
- **Capacity Strengthening:** develops capacities and training processes aimed at management, innovation and territorial governance, supporting of communities and organizations in the region.

FIGURE 1 | Task Forces of the Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy



Source: Authors.

Pan-Amazonía en Red: Bioeconomy Innovation and Investment Forum

From May 12 to 22, 2025, the Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy, with support from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), organized the event Pan-Amazonía en Red: Bioeconomy Innovation and Investment Forum. Held virtually, the Forum brought together 61 panelists, of whom 15 served as moderators. Participants represented seven countries: Brazil (34), Colombia (8), Ecuador (6), Peru (4), the United States (4), Bolivia (3), and Suriname (2).

In total, 15 panels were conducted across eight thematic axes, with panelist selection guided by the themes of each axis and by the pursuit of territorial representation, sectoral diversity, and varied regional perspectives—principles that reflect the collaborative and plural nature of the Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy. The Forum registered 560 participants and generated 111 new subscriptions to the Network’s newly launched YouTube channel, fostering the exchange of experiences across diverse Amazonian territories.

The central objective of the Forum was to answer the guiding question:

How can we advance a sustainable and locally-led Amazonian bioeconomy by integrating knowledge, investment, and innovation?

Each webinar was structured around specific guiding questions that stimulated dialogue across different sectors and territories, ensuring a comparative and integrative approach to disciplines and worldviews (Table 1). Throughout the sessions, discussions brought forward concrete experiences, identified shared challenges, and highlighted practical solutions to strengthen the Pan-Amazon sociobioeconomy.

Each panel lasted between 1h15 and 1h30 and featured 3 to 6 guest panelists and moderators with diverse backgrounds—including Indigenous and community leaders, young entrepreneurs, government representatives, technical specialists, academics, and impact investors (Appendix B). Some panels also included short complementary video interventions—featured in the segment “Bioeconomy Correspondents”—in which actors from Amazonian territories presented local experiences and ongoing initiatives (Appendix C).

TABLE 1 | Structure of Thematic Axes, Panels and Guiding Questions of the Pan-Amazonía en Red: Bioeconomy Innovation and Investment Forum

THEMATIC AXIS	PANEL	GUIDING QUESTION
Opening	Regional coordination for a locally-led bioeconomy	How can we connect actors, knowledge, policies, and financial resources to consolidate an inclusive Pan-Amazon bioeconomy?
Access to Finance	Bridging finance to sociobioeconomy business	How can we improve the efficiency and accessibility of financing for the bioeconomy?
	Capital driver	How can innovation, criteria, and incentives guide better investments in the region?
Innovation and Technologies	Innovation as value creation for the forest	How can innovation serve as a catalyst for forest-based value creation?
	Innovation systems and technology development	How can co-production and multi-actor collaboration strengthen multidisciplinary innovation systems?
Public Policies	Access to policies, incentives, and regulatory models	How can value chains be strengthened through advocacy and activation of public policies?
	Pathways for governance and integration	How can governance and integrated coordination strategies foster a just bioeconomy?
Biodiversity and Climate	Biodiversity and climate as bioeconomy dimensions	How does biodiversity shape the bioeconomy, and how are both affected by climate change?
	Bioeconomy as a nexus between biodiversity and climate in global agendas	How does the bioeconomy connect global and regional agendas on climate and biodiversity?
Business and Market Access	Connecting territories and markets	How can we strengthen connections among bioeconomy actors to expand market access?
	Strengthening value propositions	How can strategies for value enhancement and competitiveness expand market and investment opportunities?
Knowledge and Education	Knowledge and education for the bioeconomy	How can education, innovation, and ancestral knowledge be integrated?
	Amazon-led research and innovation	How can we strengthen Amazonian ecosystems of science, technology, and innovation?
Cities and Borders	Cities as mediators and drivers	How can we overcome infrastructure and logistics challenges in the Amazon?
	Transboundary integration and coordination	How can transboundary cooperation be strengthened for innovation and territorial security?

Source: Authors.

All webinars offered simultaneous interpretation in Portuguese, Spanish, and English, ensuring trilingual and equitable participation among countries in the region. The plurality of voices, the regional perspective, and the commitment to local leadership were central features of the event.

Synthesis of discussions by thematic axis

Opening

The opening session discussed the role of the Pan-Amazon bioeconomy in reconciling conservation, innovation, and inclusive socioeconomic development. Speakers highlighted the existence of multiple “invisible” and underfunded local economies based on productive chains already active in Amazonian territories, such as community-based forest management, associative agro-industrialization, and community-based tourism, and emphasized the need to connect them in a network, bring visibility to their value chains, and organize efforts around knowledge, financing, and capacities, always placing nature and local populations at the center while respecting territorial and cultural diversity.

Regional coordination for a locally-led bioeconomy

The discussions stressed that the Amazonian bioeconomy is neither an abstract nor a recent concept, but an ancestral practice that must be strengthened and recognized as a foundation for regional development. Local leaders emphasized that this bioeconomy already generates income, supports territorial permanence, and promotes forest conservation, yet it is still not treated as a “formal economy” by traditional investors. Participants highlighted that the focus must be on local and community economies—often rendered invisible—that ensure people can remain in their territories and provide concrete alternatives to predatory exploitation. The need for coordination among Amazonian countries, institutions, and peoples was identified as essential to addressing financing gaps, harmonizing public policies, and building cooperation mechanisms that respect territorial and cultural diversity. Such mechanisms must include the direct participation of Indigenous organizations, local associations, and productive cooperatives in decision-making—not only national governments. The importance of philanthropy and hybrid financial instruments was also underscored as a means to strengthen local initiatives, as well as the central role of Indigenous and community organizations in the direct management of resources.

TABLE 2 | Characterization of the opening panel

PANEL	DISCUSSION CONTEXT / FOCUS	MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS
Regional coordination for a locally-led bioeconomy	The Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy was presented as a collaborative platform that connects governments, communities, investors, and research centers around five pillars: finance, markets, knowledge, public policies, and capacity building.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bioeconomy should prioritize local economies that are sustainable and compatible with the forest. • Traditional knowledge serves as an ethical, cultural, and technical foundation for regional development. • Mixed financial instruments are needed—combining philanthropy, patient capital, and impact investment. • Indigenous and community organizations must have leadership roles and direct access to financing. • Regional cooperation should harmonize policies and integrate public, private, and community actors to achieve greater scale and legitimacy.

Source: Authors.

Access to Finance

The Finance axis focused on discussing how to expand access to resources for the Amazonian bioeconomy through innovative and inclusive mechanisms tailored to local realities.

Bridging finance to sociobioeconomy business

Discussions emphasized that advancing the bioeconomy depends on financial mechanisms adapted to Amazonian realities—including local knowledge systems, productive cycles, and community-based organizational structures. Participants also addressed historical barriers such as the low volume of accessible credit, excessive bureaucracy, and the financial exclusion of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. Panelists highlighted that the lack of traditional collateral and the small scale of many enterprises continue to limit access to credit, requiring new forms of risk mitigation. They underscored the importance of direct-transfer funds with shared governance and rules adapted to community contexts, as well as credit lines designed for seasonal activities or long-term return cycles. One example presented was CONAFIPS (Spanish acronym for Corporación Nacional de Finanzas Populares y Solidarias), which developed a bioeconomy taxonomy and green credit products for cooperatives in Amazonian territories, focusing on sustainable agriculture and local value addition. Another example referenced a blended financing model supported by IFC and Natura, which uses layered capital structures to reduce risk and expand producers’ access to impact credit. Experiences such as credit guarantees, bioeconomy taxonomies, and integrated technical assistance were identified as essential to lowering access barriers. Participants also stressed the need for simple financing instruments, support for

collective initiatives, the inclusion of cultural practices, and the recognition of Indigenous economies as systems of well-being, not solely income generation. Speakers reinforced that financing must acknowledge social, cultural, and environmental values, not only financial metrics.

Capital drivers

To ensure financial resources have real impact, participants highlighted the need for decentralization, direct access by local organizations, and strengthened capacities in the territories. They emphasized that the Fondo Indígena Amazonía para la Vida sets an important precedent by guaranteeing direct, non-intermediated access to climate and bioeconomy funds, strengthening Indigenous autonomy and governance. In this context, the role of cooperatives, Indigenous funds, impact investors, and cross-sector alliances was highlighted in building a financial ecosystem that respects local leadership and territorial specificities. Experiences were shared of direct credit for cooperatives and producer associations, with incentives linked to socio-environmental targets and financial rewards when sustainability objectives are achieved. Fund governance, participants noted, must be built with Indigenous and community participation and incorporate impact criteria that value environmental regeneration, protection of traditional knowledge, and long-term community benefits. The inclusion of local well-being indicators, creation of risk-mitigation mechanisms, and coordinated action among public, private, and philanthropic actors were seen as central elements. There was clear convergence on the importance of co-responsibility among investors, communities, and intermediary organizations, as well as on the need to decolonize financing practices through active listening, cultural adaptation, and a focus on local autonomy. The panel concluded that democratizing access to capital also means recognizing the right of Amazonian peoples to guide their own development pathways.

TABLE 3 | Characterization of the Access to Finance thematic axis

PANEL	DISCUSSION CONTEXT / FOCUS	MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS
Bridging finance to sociobioeconomy business	Creation of financial mechanisms designed according to local and cultural realities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct transfer funds with governance adapted to community contexts. • Flexible microcredit and patient capital. • Specific taxonomies and guarantees for the bioeconomy. • Technical assistance and incubation linked to financing. • Simple financial instruments aligned with local livelihoods.
Capital drivers	Ensuring that financial resources reach communities with impact, transparency, and autonomy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct access to funds by Indigenous and community organizations. • Shared governance with majority local participation. • Impact indicators aligned with regeneration and well-being. • Risk-mitigation mechanisms and financial literacy support. • Overcoming intermediaries and fragmentation of initiatives.

Source: Authors.

Innovation and Technologies

The Innovation and Technologies axis focused on how co-producing innovation and strengthening multidisciplinary innovation systems can catalyze value creation for the forest—ranging from technologies and tools used at the business level, to innovations that enhance competitiveness, and even deep tech solutions.

Innovation as value creation for the forest

Innovation generates value when it resolves bottlenecks across value chains (post-harvest processes, logistics, quality, traceability) using appropriate, low-friction technologies. Highlighted solutions included conservation processes that reduce or even eliminate the need for conventional refrigeration systems, simple traceability and production-management apps, and digital platforms facilitating access to credit and advance purchasing. One example presented was a fruit-processing method that eliminates the need for conventional refrigeration by using solar energy and conservation techniques that keep pulp stable at room temperature. Another experience demonstrated the use of blockchain and artificial intelligence in simplified credit processes, enabling Amazonian producers to access investment in a safe and comprehensible way. The link with traditional knowledge emerges through co-creation (workshops, rapid prototyping, open manufacturing guides), territorialized R&D, and intellectual property and benefit-sharing arrangements that recognize authorship and the “pace of the forest.” Participants emphasized projects in which agro-extractive communities develop their own equipment prototypes—such as cassava peelers and açai collectors—built in locally managed community factories. Inclusive models combine micro-industries or community factories, anchor purchasing, royalties and transparent pricing, and pedagogical financial instruments (guarantees, patient capital, and accompanied financial management). To ensure that technology does not exacerbate inequalities, participants stressed that solutions must come with educational mediation, user-centered design, accessible language, and shared governance, generating nutritional, social, and ecological value—not merely monetary. Digital inclusion was highlighted as essential for communities to appropriate technologies autonomously.

Innovation systems and technology development

Coordination occurs when innovation ecosystems are designed from the territory outward, enabling technical centers, cooperatives, local enterprises, and researchers to operate as networks that solve chain-level challenges (quality, minimum standards, legality, and logistical costs). Examples were presented of innovation networks formed among universities, associations, and community labs, focused on developing technological solutions derived from local demands—such as simple processing equipment and sociobiodiversity-based products. Scaling through networks means replicating productive “cells” supported by regional operators, technical extension services, digital management tools, and impact metrics aligned with well-being. Data governance with community consent, along with public policies that guarantee territorial rights and essential infrastructure (energy, connectivity, transportation), are preconditions for ensuring that innovation is not extractive. Participants emphasized that new technologies and monitoring/management apps must ensure community control over data, including consent protocols and direct participation in defining indicators. Sociobioeconomy business models must adopt ethical trade practices, transparency, the rhythms of the forest, low-carbon regenerative economic principles, and entrepreneurial education to encourage youth to remain in their territories. Practical cases included co-created products developed by communities, universities, and companies—such as cosmetics and handicrafts produced through collaborative workshops. Participants underscored that the role of funding is to reduce bureaucratic barriers, lower risk, and enable the transition from prototype to product (including local manufacturing), while maintaining community leadership. It was noted that hybrid funds and patient capital can support stages from prototyping to commercial consolidation, ensuring that communities retain autonomy in decision-making and benefit-sharing. Discussions reinforced that innovation must be understood as a tool for community autonomy and for enabling people to remain in the forest.

TABLE 4 | Characterization of the Innovation and Technologies thematic axis

PANEL	DISCUSSION CONTEXT / FOCUS	MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS
Innovation as value creation for the forest	Showcased innovation experiences as catalysts for forest-based value creation, ranging from grassroots technologies and business tools to high-tech and deep-tech applications.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate post-harvest and solar energy technologies. • Simple, user-centered traceability and management tools. • Co-creation and territorialized R&D with benefit-sharing. • Community micro-industries and anchored procurement models. • Patient financing combined with technical assistance. • Well-being and regeneration metrics.
Innovation systems and technology development	Building multidisciplinary innovation systems with horizontal scale (replicability), data governance, and territorial safeguards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horizontal scaling through replication of productive cells. • Local R&D and innovation networks connected to value chains. • Community data governance with prior consent. • Assurance of territorial rights and basic infrastructure. • Ethical and regenerative business models with transparency. • Simplified funding and risk reduction from prototype to product.

Source: Authors.

Public Policies

The Public Policies axis explored how legal frameworks, including government procurement and incentive instruments, governance systems, and the integration of the bioeconomy into global and regional agendas can strengthen community-based Amazonian value chains.

Access to policies, incentives, and regulatory models

Participants highlighted the impact of well-designed public policies, especially government procurement programs, in creating and sustaining regional markets that value traditional production, generate income, and keep the forest standing. The Brazilian experiences with the Food Acquisition Program (PAA, Portuguese acronym for *Programa de Aquisição de Alimentos*) and the National School Feeding Program (PNAE, Portuguese acronym for *Programa Nacional de Alimentação Escolar*) were emphasized for boosting family farming by establishing minimum purchasing quotas based on social and territorial criteria. However, several obstacles persist: bureaucratic hurdles, insufficient technical assistance, and the difficulty of characterizing products derived from sustainable practices, all of which hinder the use of prioritization tools in public procurement. Solutions mentioned included origin-based certifications and labels, accessible digital platforms, and federative arrangements that involve communities in co-creation, implementation, and monitoring. Also discussed were mechanisms to ensure fair benefit-sharing and non-regressive incentives that prevent the monopolization of value chains by large companies, promoting economic inclusion grounded in territorial governance. A Bolivian example illustrated how the State began subsidizing and purchasing most of the production from Indigenous associations, linking financial support to community-based management plans and sustainable processing.

Pathways for governance and integration

Discussions underscored that recognition and protection of territorial rights are the foundation for promoting an inclusive bioeconomy in the Amazon. Without legal security over territories, it is impossible to develop economic models that value local knowledge, conserve the forest, and promote well-being. Speakers emphasized that delays in the titling of Quilombola, Indigenous, and other community lands hinder access to credit, infrastructure, and public policies. Participants shared historical struggles for land rights and for the consolidation of instruments such as extractive reserves, Indigenous and Quilombola territories, and community-managed areas, alongside policies that recognize the role of local peoples as guardians of the forest. Panelists recalled how historical figures and movements,

such as the *Aliança dos Povos da Floresta* (Alliance of the Peoples of the Forest, free translation) and the mobilizations of rubber tappers, continue to inspire forms of resistance and collective management rooted in solidarity, dialogue, and the protection of life. Participants advocated for the creation of institutional arrangements that include local federations and associations in decision-making and policy design, ensuring permanent spaces for dialogue between the State and society. The importance of youth, women, and ancestral knowledge was emphasized as fundamental to the continued presence and well-being of populations in their territories, as was the role of communication, education, and active listening in designing context-appropriate solutions. Political training programs, community communication initiatives, and youth entrepreneurship efforts were highlighted as means of strengthening identity and creating economic opportunities within territories, preventing outmigration and cultural loss. According to participants, effective governance requires instruments that respect collective approaches, promote social justice, and ensure the leadership of forest peoples.

TABLE 5 | Characterization of the Public Policies thematic axis

PANEL	DISCUSSION CONTEXT / FOCUSS	MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS
Access to policies, incentives, and regulatory models	Using legal frameworks, government procurement, and incentives to create fair and sustainable markets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public procurement with social quotas focused on family farming. • Programs such as PNAE and PAA to guarantee stable markets. • Accessible digital platforms for producers and managers. • Origin labels and certifications adapted to territorial contexts. • Inclusion of sustainable products in public procurement systems. • Prevention of market concentration by large corporations.
Pathways for governance and integration	Territorial recognition, political inclusion, and the valorization of local knowledge as the foundation for effective policies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Titling of collective territories as a precondition for a viable bioeconomy. • Participatory governance involving federations and local associations. • Policies recognizing traditional knowledge and practices. • Youth and women as key agents of transformation. • Instruments that respect collectivity and promote social justice. • Continuous dialogue between governments and forest peoples.

Source: Authors.

Biodiversity and Climate

The Biodiversity and Climate axis examined the interconnections and impacts among biodiversity, bioeconomy, and climate, highlighting synergies across these agendas in the Amazonian context and the role of the bioeconomy as a climate solution within global and regional frameworks.

Biodiversity and climate as bioeconomy dimensions

Discussions emphasized that biodiversity, climate, and economic agendas must be treated as components of a single socioecological system. Participants stressed that no forest-based economy is possible without integrated climate action, and that isolated policies tend to reproduce institutional fragmentation. They argued that existing territorial solutions—such as community-based management of arapaima (pirarucu fish)—demonstrate how conservation and income generation can be effectively integrated. This initiative was highlighted as an emblematic example, grounded in traditional knowledge, local governance, and diversified production. The case also illustrates the effects of climate change, with historic droughts and hydrological fluctuations affecting fishing quotas, income, and food security. Panelists warned that the bioeconomy still faces significant structural challenges, including extreme droughts, logistical bottlenecks, and the absence of basic infrastructure, which hinder its consolidation. Challenges cited included the lack of ice and potable water for processing fish and fruits, as well as high river-transport costs during drought periods. Effective governance of these value chains requires recognizing the sociocultural diversity of the

Amazon, valuing traditional knowledge systems, and ensuring participatory, multilevel decision-making spaces. A polycentric governance model was advocated, involving multiple levels and interinstitutional arrangements that connect communities, governments, and organizations. Effective integration requires structural public policies, institutional capacity in the territories, and financial instruments that reflect the specificities of community economies and mounting climate risks. The discussions highlighted the importance of accessible climate funds, patient capital, and payment-for-environmental-services mechanisms that recognize the role of communities in maintaining the forest.

Bioeconomy as a nexus between biodiversity and climate in global agendas

Panelists emphasized that biodiversity, climate, and culture are inseparable dimensions of the same system, and that the bioeconomy should act as the connective thread weaving these agendas together through a lens of socio-environmental justice. They argued that a meaningful transition will only be possible through integrated public policies and the active participation of local communities and Amazonian youth. Participants noted that environmental policies remain fragmented, with overlapping mandates and limited coordination across government levels and ministries. Examples from Brazil and Colombia demonstrated progress in national bioeconomy strategies but also underscored the need for stronger interministerial coordination, institutional development, and policy continuity beyond electoral cycles. Local and cross-border integration experiences were also highlighted, particularly in frontier regions, where territorial policies involve agroecology, seed protection, community monitoring, and public procurement for sociobioeconomy products. Cases from the tri-border region (Brazil–Colombia–Peru) illustrated the potential for regional cooperation and community-based management in the face of historic droughts, combining local innovation with shared public policies. Amazonian and Indigenous youth were presented as an emerging political and cultural force, creating startups, networks, and movements that drive innovation, communication, and green jobs in their territories. To scale these practices, it is necessary to foster cooperation among governments, the private sector, universities, and grassroots organizations, supported by adequate financing arrangements, data systems under local governance, and institutional recognition of the Amazon’s territorial and cultural diversity. The panel concluded that integrating biodiversity, climate, and bioeconomy is essential to reposition the Amazon as a global leader in socio-environmental solutions, recognizing forest peoples as protagonists.

TABLE 6 | Characterization of the Biodiversity and Climate thematic axis

PANEL	DISCUSSION CONTEXT / FOCUS	MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS
Biodiversity and climate as bioeconomy dimensions	Articulating environmental conservation, climate adaptation, and economic inclusion within Amazonian productive systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration of traditional knowledge, science, and polycentric governance. • Value chains such as arapaima management show potential but face drought and logistical challenges. • Need for structural policies and community participation. • Sociocultural diversity as the foundation of resilience. • Ecosystem services must be valued through appropriate financial mechanisms.
The bioeconomy as a nexus between biodiversity and climate in global agendas	Building territorial policies and financing systems that promote buen vivir and just transitions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental policies remain fragmented across levels and sectors. • Local initiatives show strong potential (e.g., agroecology, monitoring, public procurement). • Youth and Indigenous Peoples should play leading roles. • Data and evidence governance must remain under local control. • Support for territorial permanence and valorization of sociobioeconomy.

Source: Authors.

Business and Market Access

The Business and Market Access axis focused on how to connect territories and markets by strengthening the value chains of the Amazonian bioeconomy.

Connecting territories and markets

Building robust value chains requires aligning commercial strategies with social justice, local participation, and environmental conservation. Participants emphasized that market access cannot be limited to exporting raw materials; it is necessary to add value within territories, ensure fair benefit-sharing, and strengthen forest-based production models. Examples from Bolivia and Peru illustrated how organic certification, fair trade, and traceability have enabled Amazonian products such as Brazil nuts and superfruits to reach conscious international niches. Participants also discussed the logistical and legal barriers that still constrain local producers, reinforcing the need for financial mechanisms adapted to Amazonian realities. Initiatives such as community factories, sociobioeconomy business networks, and partnerships with major companies were presented as pathways to expand purchasing scale and predictability, promote fairer contracts, and integrate youth and women into the value chains. Brazilian cases showed that supply contracts with fair timelines, advance payments, and legal support are essential conditions for equitable commercial relations between industries and communities. The importance of traceability, territorially grounded certification, and direct channels with conscious buyers—both national and international—was widely emphasized. Digital inclusion and the creation of Pan-Amazon platforms were highlighted as strategic tools to connect producers and consumers more transparently.

Strengthening value propositions

Expanding market access depends on combining productive training, tailored financial instruments, and strong local governance arrangements. Cases such as the *Origens Brasil* network, the model of the Association of Agro-Producers of Beruri (ASSOAB, from its Portuguese acronym), and experiences in Peru and Suriname demonstrate that fair markets and long-term contracts emerge from network-based arrangements, continuous technical support, transparent pricing, adequate credit, and institutional mediation. Strengthening supply requires decentralized infrastructure, simplified approval processes, accessible certification systems, and platforms that connect companies, communities, and trusted intermediaries. Participants noted that the regional bioeconomy still faces structural gaps in countries such as Suriname, where laboratories, certifying bodies, and adequate logistics are lacking—making government support essential to provide enabling conditions and stimulate sustainable demand for Amazonian products. Conscious consumption and demand creation were also highlighted as key conditions for the growth and stability of these value chains. Brazilian examples reinforced the importance of raising awareness among national consumers by valuing products such as Brazil nuts, arapaima, and copaíba oil as expressions of Amazonian identity and engines of forest conservation. Speakers concluded that repositioning sociobiodiversity products as symbols of regional identity supports the consolidation of sustainable local and global markets.

TABLE 7 | Characterization of the Business and Market Access thematic axis

PANEL	DISCUSSION CONTEXT / FOCUS	MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS
Connecting territories and markets	Strategies to add value, scale, ensure fair contracts, and connect territories to national and international markets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community factories and value-added production. • Sustainable contracts and predictable purchasing arrangements. • Partnerships with large companies and regional platforms. • Certification and traceability adapted to local contexts. • Active participation of women, youth, and traditional peoples. • Direct connections with conscious consumers and ethical market niches.
Strengthening value propositions	Mechanisms to ensure infrastructure, credit, certification, and networks that enable community-based enterprises.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decentralized infrastructure and support for local production. • Financial instruments and guarantees tailored to Amazonian realities. • Platforms connecting buyers and communities. • Digital traceability and accessible certification schemes. • Territorial cooperation networks to overcome asymmetries. • Building critical mass and recognition of Amazonian products.

Source: Authors.

Knowledge and Education

The Knowledge and Education axis explored how to integrate traditional knowledge, science, and innovation to train leaders and foster a regenerative, inclusive, and territorially grounded Amazonian bioeconomy.

Knowledge systems and education for the bioeconomy

The articulation of education, innovation, and traditional knowledge begins with integrating curricula and pedagogical practices rooted in territories—reflecting local ways of life, landscapes, economies, and cultures. Participants emphasized that knowledge is not limited to formal schooling: oral histories, myths, and forest narratives also transmit values and conservation practices, constituting legitimate forms of Amazonian science. Experiences such as Itinerários Amazônicos demonstrate how culture, biodiversity, sustainable entrepreneurship, and life projects can be integrated into pedagogical proposals aligned with Brazil’s National Common Curricular Base (BNCC), expanding students’ understanding of their roles within socioproductive chains. The program was highlighted as a Latin American reference in territorialized education, focused on youth and teachers, reaching tens of thousands of educators and inspiring public policies beyond the Brazilian Amazon. Meanwhile, the Escuela Viva de la Amazonía invests in training rooted in Indigenous worldviews, focused on territorial governance, ancestral medicine, ecological monitoring, and economic justice. This bioregional model integrates 11 Indigenous nationalities and combines ancestral knowledge with contemporary technologies, forming bilingual young leaders and strengthening governance and ecological regeneration in territories across Ecuador and Peru. Speakers also highlighted the importance of scientific co-innovation, citing enterprises such as Bioingred Tech, which connect universities and communities through local processing and value addition to Amazonian biodiversity. Panelists emphasized that education is a political act that cultivates leaders capable of regenerating ecosystems, preserving cultures, and proposing development models aligned with *buen vivir*.

Amazon-led research and innovation

Strengthening Amazonian knowledge ecosystems requires building Pan-Amazonian networks of research, innovation, and technical training grounded in the realities of the forest and its peoples. Participants stressed that the Amazon should not be merely an object of study but a protagonist of its scientific and technological agendas, reinforcing cooperation among countries and local institutions. Presentations showed that strengthening local R&D centers, promoting intercultural bilingual education, and investing in territorial infrastructure are essential steps for overcoming the disconnect between biodiversity and science. The mapping of more than 700 science and technology

infrastructures in the Brazilian Amazon and the creation of the Bioamazônia Network represent concrete advances toward integrated and decentralized research in the region. Experiences from the Sinchi Institute (Colombia) illustrated how bioprospecting can generate local value by cataloguing thousands of species and transferring technology to dozens of communities engaged in value chains such as buriti, cupuaçu, and other Amazonian products. The combination of green technologies, co-creation processes with communities, and scientific governance models that respect free, prior, and informed consent and collective intellectual property is central to generating local value and inclusion. Proposals for conscious alliances among universities, the productive sector, and communities indicate pathways for innovation that produces direct social, economic, and environmental returns for Amazonian territories—breaking with extractive and centralized models. Initiatives like Fulbright Amazonia demonstrate the potential of international cooperation to train new generations of Amazonian researchers and consolidate forest-based science as a global public good. The panel concluded that knowledge is a public good and that training new generations of Amazonian educators and researchers is the decisive step toward a just and regenerative bioeconomy.

TABLE 8 | Characterization of the Knowledge and Education thematic axis

PANEL	DISCUSSION CONTEXT / FOCUS	MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS
Knowledge and education for the bioeconomy	Valuing territorialized curricula and educational practices rooted in Amazonian realities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amazonian Itineraries integrating local knowledge and the BNCC. • Teacher training with an intercultural approach. • Escuela Viva focused on ancestral medicine, governance, and regeneration. • Oral traditions and culture as educational tools. • Youth leadership and situated learning.
Amazon-led research and innovation	Building research and innovation networks grounded in territories and responsive to local community needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pan-Amazon networks of research institutes and universities. • Local R&D and technical training centers. • Green technologies with community participation. • Scientific governance with collective consent and ownership. • Alliances between science, the productive sector, and communities.

Source: Authors.

Cities and Borders

The Cities and Borders axis examined the importance of urban centers and transboundary regions as mediators of the bioeconomy in the Amazon. Speakers emphasized that cities act as the link between forest and economy, connecting communities, markets, and essential services.

Cities as mediators and drivers

Discussions underscored that access to reliable energy, potable water, basic sanitation, and connectivity is the minimum condition for any sustainable development model to be viable in the Amazon. Without these services, schools and health units cannot function, food spoils, and productive chains fail to consolidate. Highlighted solutions included decentralized solar-energy systems, rainwater cisterns, and community-based infrastructure management arrangements supported by technical assistance and blended public–private financing. The role of river logistics was widely discussed as a vital pillar for mobility, supply, and productive outflow. River seasonality, especially during low-water periods, was treated as a structural challenge requiring preventive planning and continuous public investment in alternative routes and adaptable port infrastructure. Examples were also shared of financial inclusion initiatives, such as credit hubs in Amazonian cities that bring public banks and cooperatives closer to Indigenous and riverine populations. These initiatives reinforce the role of cities as mediators between communities and markets, facilitating access to services, credit, and infrastructure to boost locally rooted bioeconomy ventures.

Transboundary integration and coordination

Cross-border cooperation was recognized as strategic for addressing shared challenges, such as crime, illegal mining, and climate vulnerability, and for building regional innovation ecosystems. Speakers stressed that sustainable development in border regions depends on multilevel governance and regulatory harmonization among Amazonian countries. Differences in environmental and resource-management regulations, such as closed-season rules for fisheries—were cited as loopholes that enable illegal activities, reinforcing the need for common frameworks and regional cooperation platforms. Experiences such as the development of the Strategic Bioeconomy Plan for the Alto Solimões region illustrated how universities, local governments, and business initiatives can stimulate innovation hubs focused on youth, business incubation, and forest-compatible economic alternatives. The creation of impact incubators and innovation labs in the tri-border region was presented as an example of how science, technology, and traditional knowledge can generate opportunities and encourage youth to remain in their territories. The need for binational information systems, regulatory harmonization, and regional political platforms, such as the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), was emphasized to coordinate agendas on security, infrastructure, culture, and traditional knowledge. The bioeconomy was framed as a credible alternative to illegal economies, provided it is paired with digital inclusion, youth financing, and recognition of local innovative solutions—including unconventional ones such as cultural technologies and social-impact platforms. Discussions pointed out that regional bioeconomy and security policies must advance together to create opportunities and reduce vulnerabilities. Regional integration should promote both the prevention of environmental crimes and the strengthening of lawful, sustainable economies, grounded in trust, shared data, and Pan-Amazon cooperation.

TABLE 9 | Characterization of the Cities and Borders thematic axis

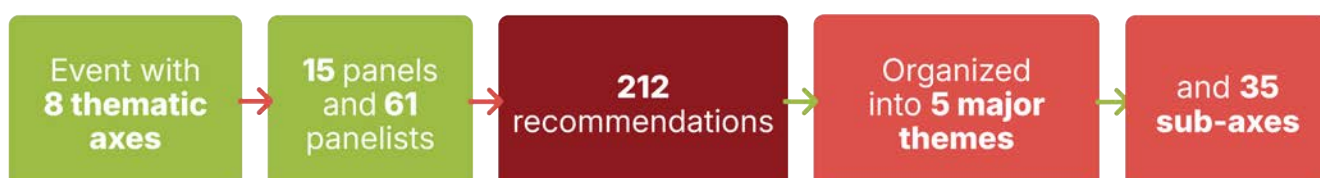
PANEL	DISCUSSION CONTEXT / FOCUS	MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS
Cities as mediators and drivers	Ensuring basic conditions (energy, sanitation, connectivity, transport) as prerequisites for sustainable development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reliable energy as a foundation for water supply, health, and food preservation. • Decentralized systems with community-based governance. • Integrated planning across sectors (energy, sanitation, logistics). • Logistics solutions adapted to river seasonality. • River transport systems with traceability and last-mile support. • Expansion of urban credit hubs and financial inclusion for remote communities.
Transboundary integration and coordination	Building regional ecosystems through youth engagement, productive inclusion, and addressing illegality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional integration through platforms such as ACTO and trinational pacts. • Incubators and innovation networks targeting local youth. • Regulatory harmonization among Pan-Amazonian countries. • Bioeconomy as an alternative to illegal activities. • Valorization of culture and traditional knowledge. • Support for cooperative models and low-cost solutions for security and connectivity.

Source: Authors.

Recommendations from the panels

The recommendations presented below were developed based on the contributions of participants in the panels of Pan-Amazonía en Red: Bioeconomy Innovation and Investment Forum. In total, 212 recommendations were systematized and grouped into 35 thematic sub-axes, outlining concrete proposals to advance the Amazonian bioeconomy from the territories outward (Figure 2).

FIGURE 2 | Systematization and Organization of Recommendations



Source: Authors.

Although they do not necessarily represent the institutional positions of WRI or the Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy, these recommendations reflect a collaborative synthesis of the discussions held and are organized according to the themes of the Network's five task forces. The recommendations capture the specific contexts and experiences of the participants' projects and territories. For this document, the content has been strategically synthesized with the aim of providing a clear and actionable overview of the pathways identified by participants to strengthen the region's bioeconomy.

Finance

- **Direct financing for Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendant Peoples, and local communities:** create mechanisms for direct financing with simple rules adapted to community organizational realities, ensuring agile and transparent access to resources and strengthening the autonomy of local initiatives.
- **Financial mechanisms and tailored instruments:** develop credit lines and guarantees specific to the Amazonian bioeconomy, including layered structures (first-loss, mezzanine, senior), risk-mitigation mechanisms for territorial operations, taxonomies to prevent greenwashing, and digital tools that support cooperatives and credit agents in analysis and eligibility.
- **Technical assistance and investment incubation:** strengthen the work of community incubators and facilitating organizations in preparing enterprises to access direct funds, offering technical support in financial management, proposal development, and engagement with investors.
- **Technological innovation and digitalization:** simple, accessible, offline-capable digital solutions to facilitate production management, reporting, and credit operations in remote communities, supported by mobile teams and adaptive connectivity.
- **Governance and community leadership:** ensure the active participation of Indigenous and local organizations in fund governance, with collectively developed rules and monitoring mechanisms grounded in their own timelines and decision-making structures.
- **Impact criteria and shared responsibility:** adopt indicators that reflect territorial regeneration, protection of traditional knowledge, and strengthening of local networks, ensuring shared responsibility among communities, donors, and investors.
- **Private and catalytic capital:** structure pre-competitive instruments (public guarantees, catalytic funds) to attract private investment.

Market Access

- **Structuring and strengthening local value chains:** support bioeconomy value chains and community-based enterprises centered on standing-forest economies by activating their surrounding ecosystem, promoting infrastructure, local innovation, formalization, and fair regional markets grounded in collective management and shared benefits.
- **Integration into fair markets and partnerships with the private sector:** develop strategies that connect producers to ethical buyers and anchor companies through adapted contracts, legal assistance, advance payments, and commercial stability, valuing socioenvironmental impacts and cultural identities.
- **Technologies, traceability, and certifications:** create technological solutions such as solar-powered processing that reduces dependence on conventional refrigeration, humidity meters, and low-cost equipment, as well as traceability systems adapted to extractive value chains and integrated with accessible certifications and reverse-logistics policies.
- **Legal, institutional, and financial support:** strengthen cooperatives and community enterprises through legal assistance, access to financing, regularization processes, and representative structures that enhance their autonomy and full integration into productive chains.
- **Enabling policies, institutional procurement, and food security:** expand participation in programs such as PAA and PNAE with simplified rules and technical support for municipalities, linking public procurement to food security and supply continuity during extreme climate events.
- **Infrastructure and logistics:** finance energy, transport, and communication systems essential for product distribution, using seasonal logistics planning (e.g., low-water periods) and reverse logistics; strengthen the role of Amazonian cities as hubs for certification, credit, and distribution.
- **Communication, consumption, and cultural valorization:** promote educational campaigns that connect Amazonian products to narratives of territory and buen vivir, highlighting culture, health, and sustainability as key differentiators in national and international markets.

Research and Knowledge

- **Integration of traditional and scientific–academic knowledge:** recognize local knowledge systems as legitimate science, integrating them into research processes with community consent and authorship, through intercultural centers that value orality and intergenerational knowledge transmission.
- **Community innovation and technological co-creation:** foster local innovation ecosystems through co-creation workshops, open licenses, and the development of solutions based on community needs, in coordination with universities and incubators.
- **Local education and training:** invest in territorialized curricula, scholarships, and training centers for Amazonian youth, connecting schools, universities, and intercultural networks to sustainable productive practices and ancestral knowledge.
- **Applied research, biotechnology, and scientific infrastructure:** expand decentralized laboratories and centers focused on valuing sociobiodiversity and developing biotechnological inputs with community participation—integrating participatory planning, field research on native species, local innovation, and climate-change adaptation.

- **Diagnostics and knowledge gaps:** promote studies on vulnerabilities, climate impacts, and scientific gaps that inform public policies, investments, and regional bioeconomy strategies based on evidence.
- **Regional cooperation and access to knowledge:** strengthen Pan-Amazon scientific networks through collaborative production, open digital tools, and cross-country exchanges, promoting knowledge sovereignty and access by local communities.

Public Policies

- **International cooperation and Pan-Amazon integration:** harmonize public policies among Amazonian countries with support from institutions such as ACTO, promoting a regional plan with shared targets, cross-border integration, and coordinated action against illegal activities.
- **Recognition of rights and territorial governance:** recognize life plans and the self-governance systems of Indigenous Peoples, traditional communities, and local populations as legitimate foundations of public policy. Ensure free, prior, and informed consultation; land titling; and technical and financial support for autonomous territorial management, including the use of cultural indicators such as Indigenous well-being.
- **Institutional recognition of traditional knowledge:** create legal and programmatic mechanisms to value traditional knowledge and guarantee its presence in bioeconomy governance, strengthening research and policy formulation led by communities.
- **Incentives, legal reforms, and regulatory frameworks:** review fiscal, sanitary, and environmental regulations to promote community entrepreneurship, recognizing traditional practices and social technologies, and, when relevant, harmonizing legislation on biodiversity and access to knowledge with regulatory frameworks adapted to Amazonian realities.
- **Social participation and institutionalization:** institutionalize permanent spaces for community participation in multi-level councils and forums, with guaranteed resources, decision-making parity, and active listening, ensuring policy continuity and protection against setbacks.
- **Decentralization, intergovernmental coordination, and local policies:** strengthen municipal and micro-regional public policies through funding, capacity-building, and cross-sectoral structures, promoting synergy across areas such as environment, tourism, and health, with clear goals and participatory, multisector governance adapted to territorial contexts.
- **Institutional density and public presence:** expand the presence and capacity of public institutions in remote areas of the Amazon, ensuring the necessary structure for public services, monitoring, technical support, and the implementation of bioeconomy policies, especially in protected areas and territories with low state presence.
- **Targeting resources and incentives toward the bioeconomy:** redirect fiscal incentives, public procurement, and funds toward sustainable enterprises using social and environmental justice criteria, valuing traditional knowledge and strengthening local economic circuits with active participation of women, youth, and traditional peoples.

Capacity Strengthening

- **Technical assistance and continuous capacity-building for organizations and producers:** provide specialized, mobile, and context-adapted technical assistance tailored to Amazonian realities, covering management, finance, sustainable resource use, and formalization, using accessible methodologies that strengthen the autonomy of community organizations.
- **Training for youth and community leaders:** support programs offering scholarships, bilingual training, startup pathways and innovation hubs, and assistance for sustainable enterprises, linking education, culture, and the return of youth to their communities.
- **Amazonian curricula and learning networks:** develop curricula, programs, and methodologies adapted to Amazonian contexts, incorporating themes such as community entrepreneurship, territorial governance, ecological regeneration, and climate justice, while strengthening intercultural learning networks among schools, universities, and communities.
- **Innovation and development of related technologies:** promote appropriate social technologies and bio-based deep tech through workshops, community factories, and digital tools centered on local users, supporting value addition, clean energy, and value-chain monitoring.
- **Inclusion of women and youth in productive and decision-making processes:** ensure incentives, political training, and full inclusion of women and youth in productive chains and governance spaces, valuing their knowledge, leadership, and historical role in territorial protection and socioproductive innovation.
- **Territorial integration and institutional innovation:** replicate integration models such as the Alto Solimões Science and Technology Park (PaCTas, Portuguese acronym for Parque Científico e Tecnológico do Alto Solimões), connecting public policies, universities, research institutes, and community productive arrangements to promote innovation and multisector governance in territories.
- **Teacher training and development of multipliers:** expand continuous training for teachers with content linked to the bioeconomy and students' life projects, strengthening the role of schools as spaces of territorial innovation and ensuring that qualified youth return to their communities.

FIGURE 3 | Summary of recommendations by thematic axes and sub-axes

Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funds with direct transfers to communities ▪ Adapted rules and accountability mechanisms ▪ Support for catalytic funds and already consolidated initiatives <p>2. Financial Inclusion and Adapted Instruments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Flexible financial products and transition credit ▪ Specific guarantees for Amazonian contexts ▪ Microcredit and adapted eligibility (e.g., supply contracts) <p>3. Financial Education, Technical Assistance, and Incubation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community incubators and practical training ▪ Exchange networks among communities ▪ Credit agents with territorial presence <p>4. Technological Innovation and Digitalization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offline and accessible financial applications ▪ Digital inclusion through mobile teams (boats, antennas) ▪ Support for community-level economic management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tax incentives and basic infrastructure (transport, connectivity) ▪ Specific taxonomy to prevent greenwashing ▪ Partnerships among banks, governments, and communities <p>6. Indigenous Governance and Community Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Active participation in fund management ▪ Collective rules and long-term planning ▪ Recognition of local social and cultural structures <p>7. Impact Criteria and Shared Responsibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Eligibility based on territorial impact ▪ Metrics for regeneration, knowledge, and community networks ▪ Shared responsibility among funders and promotion of partnerships
Market Access	<p>1. Structuring and Strengthening Local Productive Chains</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Incentives for collective management and regenerative practices ▪ Formalization of cooperatives and community enterprises ▪ Valorization of cultural and technological chains led by youth <p>2. Market Inclusion and Fair Trade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strategies for high-value-added market niches ▪ Connections with ethical buyers and contractual stability ▪ Fair sharing of royalties and recognition of traditional knowledge <p>3. Technologies, Traceability, and Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accessible digital platforms integrated with socio-environmental data ▪ Digital traceability (including offline systems) with community participation ▪ Mobile processing infrastructure and support for certification 	<p>4. Legal, Institutional, and Financial Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fair contracts, certifications, and access to credit ▪ Advance payment funds and tax regularization ▪ Community chambers of commerce and representation platforms <p>5. Communication, Consumption, and Cultural Valorization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational campaigns and product identity valorization ▪ Participation in food programs and local fairs ▪ Support for creative chains (community media, digital games, Indigenous entrepreneurship) <p>6. Infrastructure and Market Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local logistics: ice, transport, energy ▪ Strengthening regional markets and internal circuits ▪ Promotion of river logistics as public policy
Research and Knowledge	<p>1. Integration of Traditional and Scientific Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recognition of traditional knowledge as legitimate science ▪ Co-authorship, consent, and return of results to communities ▪ Intercultural bilingual centers and valorization of oral traditions <p>2. Community Innovation and Co-creation of Technologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Co-creation workshops and social technologies based on local challenges ▪ Development of accessible technical and political tools ▪ Integration with universities and public policy agendas <p>3. Education and Local Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical and academic education that values local knowledge ▪ Scholarships, intercultural curricula, and scientific initiation programs ▪ Qualified return of youth as community leaders 	<p>4. Applied Research and Scientific Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Localization of science: local centers and coworking hubs ▪ Research on productive chains, native species, and financing ▪ Territorial planning through participatory scenario building <p>5. Regional Cooperation and Knowledge Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pan-Amazon scientific networks and cross-country exchange ▪ Open platforms with data on value chains and native species ▪ Collaborative knowledge production with guaranteed local access
Public Policies	<p>1. International Cooperation and Pan-Amazon Integration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Harmonization of public policies across Amazonian countries ▪ Participation of governments, communities, and scientists in regional forums ▪ Regional plans with shared goals and indicators <p>2. Recognition of Rights and Territorial Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Land titling and strengthening of autonomous management ▪ Inclusion of community life plans in decision-making processes ▪ Community-defined indicators as legitimate monitoring tools <p>3. Legal and Regulatory Reforms for Inclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revision of fiscal, sanitary, and environmental regulations ▪ Valorization of traditional practices and adapted contracts ▪ Specific legal frameworks for the Amazon and reduced taxation <p>4. Social Participation and Institutionalization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Legally recognized community councils and forums ▪ Polycentric governance with decision-making parity ▪ Durable legal frameworks to safeguard institutional progress <p>5. Decentralization and Local Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy formulation at municipal and micro regional levels ▪ Intergovernmental and cross-sectoral coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clear bioeconomy guidelines for municipalities <p>6. Institutional Support and Public Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthened state presence in remote areas ▪ Technical assistance and minimum service delivery structures ▪ Enhanced environmental and socio-economic public agencies <p>7. Resources and Incentives for the Bioeconomy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Redirecting public procurement and fiscal funds ▪ Criteria for social justice, equity, and conservation ▪ Collaborative environments for territorial investment <p>8. Public Policies and Institutional Procurement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expansion of programs such as the Food Acquisition Program (PAA) and National School Feeding Program (PNAE), with a focus on forest peoples ▪ Simplified procedures for municipalities and cooperatives ▪ Continuity of commercialization during extreme climate events <p>9. Institutional Recognition and Political Inclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inclusion of traditional knowledge in Science, Technology & Innovation policies ▪ Indigenous and local community participation in decision-making councils ▪ Co-production of research with equitable benefit-sharing
Capacity Strengthening	<p>1. Technical Assistance and Continuous Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specialized support adapted to Amazonian contexts ▪ Training in management, credit, traceability, and sustainable resource use ▪ Mobile teams with accessible materials and locally tailored methods <p>2. Youth and Community Leadership Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scholarships, hubs, startups, and support for Amazonian youth ▪ Bilingual education and participation in international events ▪ Pathways for returning to communities and ensuring institutional continuity <p>3. Innovation and Appropriate Technologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prototyping workshops and low-cost technologies ▪ Solutions for agriculture, fishing, soil management, and renewable energy ▪ Adapted digital tools and knowledge-exchange networks 	<p>4. Inclusion of Women and Youth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Active participation in production and decision-making processes ▪ Training in political engagement and communication for leadership ▪ Support for youth leadership in restoration, innovation, and culture <p>5. Institutional Structuring and Integrated Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Credit activation workshops and municipal technical support ▪ Replicable models (e.g., Alto Solimões Science and Technology Park) for integrated public policies ▪ Integration between local policies and community initiatives <p>6. Teacher Training and Multipliers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Content aligned with territorial realities and the bioeconomy ▪ Schools as hubs for social innovation and sustainability ▪ Encouraging the return of trained youth as local educators

Source: Authors.

Final considerations and pathways for action

The Pan-Amazonía en Red: Bioeconomy Innovation and Investment Forum reinforced the importance of aligning innovation, financing, inclusion, and conservation based on territorial realities. Structured into eight thematic axes and 15 panels, the event brought together participants from the nine countries of the Amazon Basin to discuss pathways toward a bioeconomy grounded in standing forests, flowing rivers, and *buen vivir*.

The dialogues revealed strong convergence around key priorities, including:

- The need to scale solutions from the territories, respecting forest rhythms, local organizational structures, and Pan-Amazonian cultural diversity.
- The leadership of Indigenous Peoples, traditional communities, people living in transboundary territories, and youth, with direct access to resources, participation in governance, and strengthened territorial autonomy.
- Innovation and applied technology to overcome production, logistical, and standardization bottlenecks, driving territorialized R&D and solutions such as community factories and accessible traceability systems.
- Expanding market access and competitiveness, with value addition at origin, fair contracts, participatory or accessible certifications, anchored purchasing models, and strengthened territorial narratives for national and international consumers.
- The creation and refinement of tailored, simplified, and inclusive financial instruments—with direct access and shared governance—integrating microcredit, guarantees, blended finance, and patient capital with technical and legal assistance and financial inclusion support.
- The design of enabling public policies, aligning legal frameworks, institutional purchasing (e.g., PAA, PNAE), and participatory governance to strengthen sustainable value chains, secure territorial rights, and integrate climate, biodiversity, and development agendas.
- The recognition and strengthening of traditional knowledge and education, connecting ancestral knowledge and science through intercultural education, Pan-Amazon research networks grounded in data sovereignty principles, and training for youth, teachers, and community leaders.
- The deployment of adapted infrastructure and logistics, including solar energy, connectivity, water and sanitation, and river transport suited to Amazonian contexts—supported by urban hubs and decentralized solutions that reduce costs and losses while enabling scale.
- The integration of climate adaptation as a core dimension of the bioeconomy, with infrastructure, logistics, and value chains resilient to droughts, floods, fires, and other socio-environmental vulnerabilities affecting communities and ecosystems.

Rather than proposing a single model, the panels highlighted the richness of solutions already emerging across territories and the urgency of recognizing, connecting, and scaling them. The Amazonian bioeconomy is already happening, but its consolidation depends not only on spaces for dialogue and coordination, but also on public policy development and reform, mobilization of capital at multiple scales, and effective coordination across sectors and countries.

The recommendations systematized throughout the Forum reflect this collective effort of co-creation. They do not aim to impose consensus, but to provide inputs to guide public decisions, institutional strategies, and investment priorities at scale. Each recommendation carries the perspective of diverse actors—communities, associations, entrepreneurs, public managers, researchers, youth, and technical partners—who share a commitment to making the bioeconomy a driver of regeneration and inclusive socioeconomic development.

Appendix A. Members of the Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy

The Network's members include: the Amazon Concertation, Amazonía Empreende, Amazonia Impact Ventures (AIV), Amazon Investor Coalition, Agrosolidaria Florencia, Andy Wayusa, Assobio, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Conservation International (CI), COICA, the Brazil Coalition on Climate, Forests and Agriculture, , Conexus, FAO, Fundación Aliados, Fundación Avina, Fundación Pachamama, the Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN), Imazon, Impact Not a Bank, the Amazônia+10 Initiative, Instituto Floresta Tropical (IFT), Instituto Igarapé, Instituto Sinchi, IPAM, Latimpacto, NatureFinance, NESST, the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program of the World Bank Group, Reos Partners, Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), The Amazon We Want, Tucum, Tropenbos International, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), World Resources Institute (WRI), and World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

Appendix B. Information on panels, panelists, and organizations

TABLE B1 | Panels organized by thematic axis, with links to recordings and the list of participants and their respective institutions/countries

THEMATIC AXIS	PANEL	PANELISTS
Opening	Regional coordination for a locally-led bioeconomy	<p>Joana Oliveira de Oliveira, WRI Brasil & Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy (Brazil)</p> <p>Irene Arias Hofman, IDB Lab (USA)</p> <p>Rachel Biderman, Conservation International (CI) & Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy (Brazil)</p> <p>Martin von Hildebrand, Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) (Colombia)</p> <p>Eduardo Nugkuag Cabrera, Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Rainforest (AIDSESP) (Peru)</p> <p>Tatiana Schor, Amazon Coordination Unit, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) (Brazil)</p> <p>Ricardo Calderón, Agrosolidaria Florencia (Colombia)</p>
Financing	Bridging finance to sociobioeconomy business	<p>Marcelo Cwerner, Amazon Investor Coalition (Brazil)</p> <p>Maria Jose Lopez, Corporación Nacional de Finanzas Populares y Solidarias (CONAFIPS) (Ecuador)</p> <p>Ivy Figueroa, International Finance Corporation (IFC) (USA)</p> <p>Rodrigue Gehot, Fundación Pachamama (Ecuador)</p>
	Capital drivers	<p>Marcus Bessa, Impact Hub (Brazil)</p> <p>Fany Kuiru, Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA) (Colombia)</p> <p>Aldo Soto, Amazonia Impact Ventures (Peru)</p>
Innovation and Technologies	Innovation as value creation for the forest	<p>Mariana Brimdjani, WTT (Brazil)</p> <p>Macauley Abreu, Forest Fi (Brazil)</p> <p>Edgar Montenegro, Corpo Campo (Colombia)</p> <p>Odair Scatolini, Instituto Invento (Brazil)</p> <p>Gabriela Weber, Natura (Brazil)</p>
	Innovation systems and technology development	<p>João Arthur Reis, Amazônia+10 Initiative, FAPESP (Brazil)</p> <p>Fabiano Silva, Fundação Vitória Amazônica (FVA) (Brazil)</p> <p>Julia Totto, Urucuna (Brazil)</p> <p>WariNkwí Flores, Kinray Hub (Ecuador)</p> <p>Victor Moutinho, Embrapii/PA (Brazil)</p>

THEMATIC AXIS	PANEL	PANELISTS
Public Policies	Access to policies, incentives, and regulatory models	<p>Sarah Gammage, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) (USA)</p> <p>Mayra Eseeboom, Centre for Agricultural Research in Suriname (CELOS) (Suriname)</p> <p>Camilo Garzon, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) (Colombia)</p> <p>Eduardo Spanó, Instituto Jataí (Brazil)</p> <p>Fortunato Angola, Instituto para el Hombre, la Agricultura y Ecología (IPHAE-ARA, Regional Amazonian Articulation) (Bolivia)</p>
	Pathways for governance and integration	<p>Rachel Biderman, Conservation International (CI) & Pan-Amazon Network for Bioeconomy (Brazil)</p> <p>Glenda Ortega, Ministry of Environment, Water, and Ecological Transition (MAATE) (Ecuador)</p> <p>Jhonny Martins, National Coordination of Articulation of Afro-descendants Quilombola Communities (Conaq) (Brazil)</p> <p>Angela Mendes, Chico Mendes Committee (Brazil)</p>
Biodiversity and Climate	Biodiversity and climate as bioeconomy dimensions	<p>Wendy Francesconi, Alliance of Biodiversity International & CIAT (Colombia)</p> <p>João Vitor Campos-Silva, Instituto Juruá (Brazil)</p> <p>Simone Athayde, World Resources Institute (WRI) (Brazil)</p> <p>Vinicius Ahmar, Instituto Arapyaú (Brazil)</p>
	Bioeconomy as the nexus between biodiversity and climate in global agendas	<p>Julie McCarthy, Nature Finance (USA)</p> <p>Brenda Izidro, Global Youth Biodiversity Network (Brazil)</p> <p>Alejandro Bañol Salazar, Ministry of Environment (Colombia)</p>
Business and Market Access	Connecting territories and markets	<p>Ana Costa, Conexsus (Brazil)</p> <p>Jorge López-Dóriga, Grupo Aje (Peru)</p> <p>Carolina Ochoa Koepke, Quintessa (Brazil)</p> <p>Aimé Hecker, Hylea 1886 SRL (Bolivia)</p>
	Strengthening value propositions	<p>Humberto Gomez, Tropenbos International (Bolivia)</p> <p>Keivan Hamoud, Association of Agricultural Producers of Beruri (ASSOAB) (Brazil)</p> <p>John Goedschalk, Biotara (Suriname)</p> <p>Luiz Brasi Filho, Ilmaflora (Brazil)</p> <p>Percy Summers, Conservation International (CI) & Amazon Business Alliance (ABA) (Peru)</p>
Knowledge and Education	Knowledge and education for the bioeconomy	<p>Maickson Serrão, O Pavulagem (Brazil)</p> <p>Alcielle dos Santos, Instituto Iungo (Brazil)</p> <p>Luis Carlos Carrillo, Bioingred Tech (Colombia)</p> <p>Maria Andi, Escuela Viva de la Amazonía, Cuencas Sagradas Amazónicas (Ecuador & Peru)</p>
	Amazon-led research and innovation	<p>Henrique dos Santos Pereira, INPA & Red BioAmazonia (Brazil)</p> <p>Luz Marina Mantilla Cárdenas, Instituto Sinchi & Red BioAmazonia (Colombia)</p> <p>Luiz Loureiro, Fulbright Commission Brazil (Brazil)</p> <p>Daniel Lage Chang, Red BioAmazonia (Brazil)</p>
Cities and Borders	Cities as mediators and drivers	<p>Maria Camila Uribe, IDB (Chile)</p> <p>Sheila Litaiff, Banco do Brasil Bioeconomy Hub (Brazil)</p> <p>Paulo Diógenes, UNICEF (Brazil)</p> <p>Michelle Guimarães, Navegam (Brazil)</p>
	Transboundary integration and coordination	<p>Marcelo Salazar, Mazô Maná (Brazil)</p> <p>Edith Paredes, Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) (Ecuador)</p> <p>Melina Riso, Instituto Igarapé (Brazil)</p> <p>Pedro Mariosa, Socio-Environmental Impact Business Incubator of Alto Solimões (InPACTAS) & UFAM (Brazil)</p> <p>Vitarque Coelho, Ministry of Integration and Regional Development (Brazil)</p>

Source: Authors.

Appendix C. Information on the “Bioeconomy Correspondents” videos

TABLE C1 | Information on the “Bioeconomy Correspondents” videos

CORRESPONDENT	ORGANIZATION	COUNTRY
Jefferson Alvarez	HASA - Native stingless bee hospital	Ecuador
Jailson Franco Aguiar	Castanha-Amazonica Observatory	Brazil
Mary Lima	Círculo D and the Amazonidas Climate Network	Brazil
Vitarque Coêlho	General Coordination of Territorial Management, Brazilian Ministry of Integration and Regional Development	Brazil
Maurício Alcântara	Regenera Institute	Brazil
WarĩNkwĩ Flores	Kinray Hub	Ecuador
Julio Andrés	Amazonía Emprende	Colombia
Hugo Chavarría	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture	Costa Rica
Fernanda Stefani	100% Amazônia	Brazil
Darlete Sansareth	Rainha dos Apostólos Agricultural School	Brazil
Carmen Garcia	Peruvian Amazon Research Institute	Peru
Cairo Bastos	NESST	Brazil

Source: Authors.

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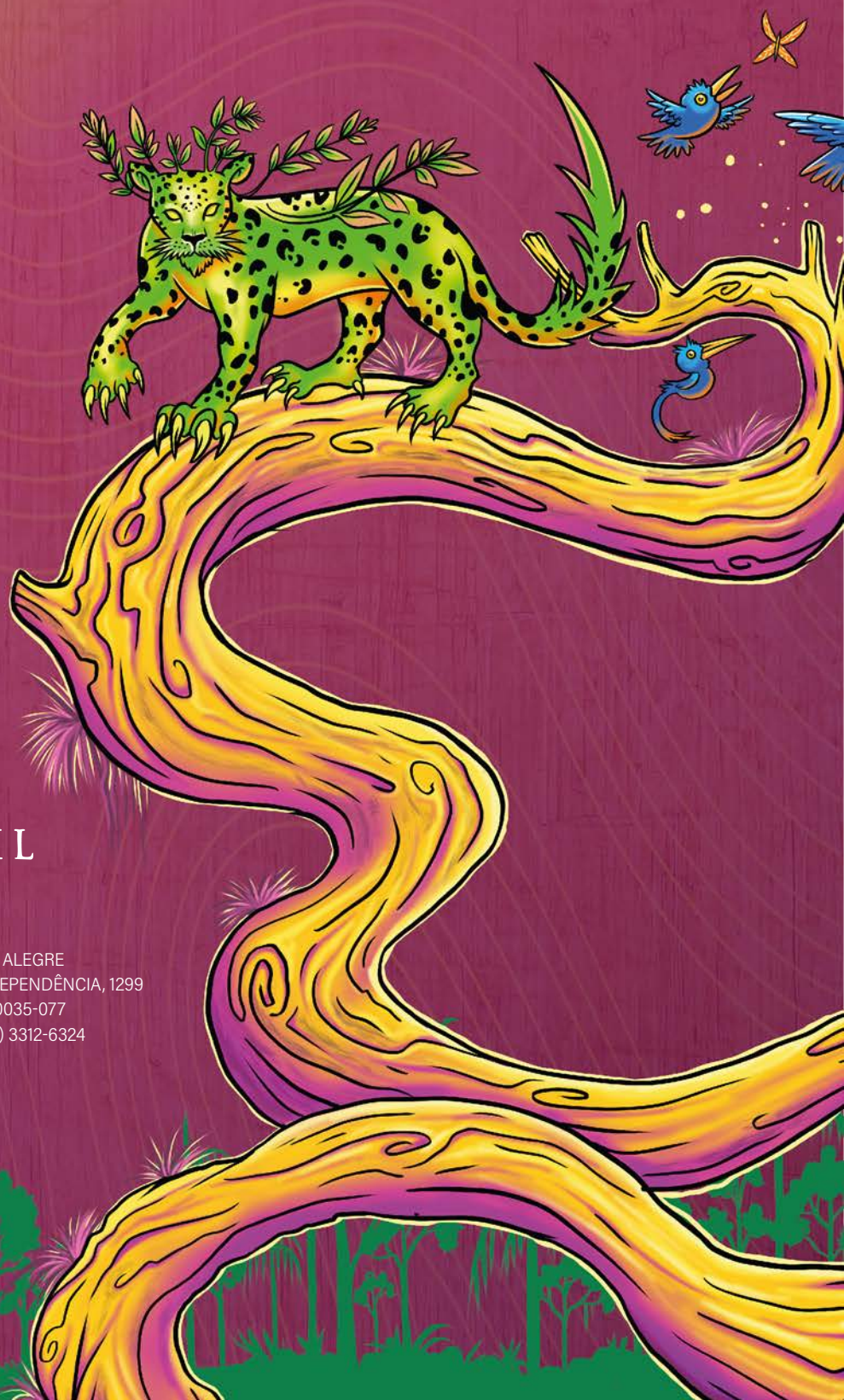
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