



**Acceso
PanAm**



**Annual
Report**

2023



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Director's Message



Greetings to all! We are thrilled to share with you the accomplishments achieved during the year 2023. This period has been marked by exciting developments and projects that have significantly strengthened our organization. In particular, we have solidified our operations in the regional directions and have commenced our work in Bolivia, thanks to the efforts of Cristina Copa.

We want to express our gratitude to Diana Alexia Gomez Cavieres, who represented Acceso Panam with dedication for many years in Peru. Diana is an exceptional individual who will maintain her connection with APA from a different context. We welcome Harold Zegarra, who takes on the responsibility with enthusiasm, demonstrating a strong commitment to lead and develop new projects.

We invite you to explore the report thoroughly to obtain updated information on our impact and activities in the various countries where we operate. Additionally, we highly value your feedback and suggestions, as we are open to continuous growth and progress in our mission.

We appreciate your ongoing support and look forward to continuing to count on your collaboration in this exciting journey of building more equitable access for all.

Esteban Degregori

Introduction

In this report, you will be able to see the general activities of Access PanAm for the region and a detailed overview of projects in each country. It also includes our financial balance.

All our information for the year 2023 is contained in this report.



Partnerships and Organizational Strengthening

Throughout the year 2023, Acceso PanAm focused on the continuation and strengthening of efforts to consolidate existing partnerships and forge new alliances, aiming to expand our reach and develop concrete work proposals.

With crucial support from the Freyja Foundation, we continued to fortify the Regional Direction in Bolivia. We maintained collaboration with Black Diamond and once again received the invaluable support of Alex Honnold for our initiatives. Additionally, we reestablished contact with the Petzl Foundation by executing a project funded by the foundation, with prospects for continued collaboration in 2024.

Furthermore, we persisted in exploring opportunities for international cooperation to establish new partnerships and secure sustainable income.

In a significant step, we launched an individual donation campaign as a pilot project. In this initiative, we focused on improving sanitary facilities in Piedra Parada (ARG) as a central theme. The results of this campaign will not only contribute economically but also serve as valuable learning for the planning and execution of future fundraising campaigns.

Moreover, we sought to strengthen our ties with the community through volunteer calls, actively inviting community participation in various areas of our organization. This approach reaffirms our commitment to collaboration and mutual support.

Acceso PanAm had the honor of being invited to participate in a panel discussion in the United Nations High Ambition Coalition webinar series to end plastic pollution. Our participation focused on addressing challenges and offering solutions regarding the presence of plastics and pollution in the mountains. The basis for this invitation and our contribution lies in the "Clean Mountains" project. The primary goal of this webinar was to explore and discuss the possibility of establishing a legally binding international treaty aimed at eradicating plastic pollution by 2040.

On another note, the formulation of an Institutional Policy for working with children and youth (CY) has been a crucial step in our work. Acceso PanAm actively engages with this population through various activities, such as empowerment programs, leadership, and sports practices. Given the centrality of working with children and youth in the development of our projects, having clear guidelines to guide our interactions with them and resolve potential conflicts related to childhood and youth is essential.

Actions at the Regional Level

Clean Mountains

By facilitating users to report trash and waste, the Montaña Limpia app has helped raise awareness about the impact of waste on the environment and motivated users to become more active in environmental conservation efforts.

In addition to its primary function of reporting trash and waste, Montaña Limpia has also contributed to building a sense of community around environmental conservation.

By providing users with a platform to share their experiences and knowledge, the app has facilitated collaboration among users and encouraged them to work together to address environmental issues.

Due to technical issues, the app has stopped working, and during 2023, we have focused on solving the technical obstacles so that it can soon become operational again.



Actions at the Regional Level

Water Mountains

The Water Mountains Campaign emerged in 2019 in Chile in support of the social movement NO TO ALTO MAIPO, which seeks to stop the Alto Maipo hydroelectric project and its impacts on the Maipo River basin and the San José de Maipo aquifers. Chile faces a long drought, and the debate focuses on protecting water reserves and glaciers, as there is no legal framework protecting them and prioritizing human consumption in case of scarcity. Acceso Panam Chile launched a campaign with a simple message and a demand perspective, questioning the inexhaustibility of water and promoting reflection on its use. After 4 years of campaigning, it has been recognized that the fight against the water crisis is based on knowledge and its effective dissemination. It is essential that mountain users, such as climbers and mountaineers, inform themselves, study, and engage in research on this topic. From Acceso Panam LATAM, we seek to expand the successful campaign initiated in Chile to other countries where APA operates. The main objective of this new project is to generate effective awareness of the importance of water in mountainous areas, highlighting the challenges and issues associated with pollution and misuse of the water resource. The proposal involves replicating the campaign in various countries, covering both iconic tourist destinations and water suppliers for mountain centers. The focus is on directly impacting the communities that depend on

water from the mountains. To achieve this, active community participation is sought in obtaining water samples in the basins and intermediate areas. These collected data will allow establishing a reference line and continuously monitoring water quality over time. During 2023, we focused on gathering information to precisely define the objectives, goals, and activities of the project. This effort was aimed at ensuring a solid foundation for the successful development of Water Mountains in the region.





Argentina

Human Waste in El Chaltén, Santa Cruz

In January, the second phase was carried out in the units built in 2022 in El Chorrillo. In this part, a compost chamber was built adjacent to the two constructed bathrooms. The work was performed with volunteers from APA Argentina and the economic and logistical support of the Friends of PNLGZN Association. After the construction, the chambers were emptied, and the material was deposited in the compost chamber. The units improved the environmental quality of the area where the old latrine was located. There is positive feedback from users and area managers. The project continues with the modifications of our unit in Capri to transition it to this system.





Argentina

Aconcagua, New Bathroom System for High Altitude Areas, Mendoza

The Biosanita company installed a sanitation system for high mountain regions commissioned by Grajales Expeditions with the support of Acceso PanAm. Waste management is a growing problem in climbing sites, and Aconcagua, the highest summit outside the Himalayas, is no exception.

At the Plaza de Mulass base camp, at an altitude of 4350 meters, it becomes essential to reduce environmental impact, sanitary risks, and operational costs.

Biosánita developed this prototype, as well as the management protocol to evaporate, dehydrate, fractionate, and transport waste out of the mountains for subsequent composting.

The goal is to research these processes to apply them to the rest of the bathrooms, where currently untreated discharges accumulate in barrels that must be removed by a helicopter.





Argentina

Maintenance of Toilets at Piedra Parada, Chubut.

Maintenance was carried out on both toilets within the canyon. The toilet system was changed to a drawer system, also with urine separation. This way, the toilet remains clean, and maintenance is easier. The structure and wells were checked, both with sufficient capacity for several more seasons. New cleaning products were also left in each bathroom.

Remember that it is important to contribute to cleanliness, refill water bottles when possible to throw in the urinal. This way, we will all make the most efficient use of the bathrooms.





Argentina

Enabling the climbing sector La Biblioteca, Bariloche, Rio Negro

After two years of work, the first climbing sector within Nahuel Huapi National Park is formally enabled.

The enabling and refurbishment project of the La Biblioteca sector has been a joint effort driven by AEBAR and supported by institutions such as Club Andino Bariloche, AAGM, and Acceso PanAm. During March, thanks to volunteers, AEBAR participants, and park workers, progress was made in conditioning the access trail to the sector, and the necessary signage for enabling, financed by APA-EOCA, was installed.

Appreciated by traditional climbers, La Biblioteca offers a variety of cracks on a basalt column wall up to 35 meters high. Today, this is not only a high-quality sector but also an example of community work and environmental management.

Development and promotion of sustainable climbing in Parque Patagonia, Santa Cruz, and Parque Patagonia Azul, Chubut.

During November, we were in Parque Patagonia developing a project in collaboration with Rewilding Argentina and the Petzl Foundation. It arises in response to the need to include rock climbing as part of the public use activities in the park. This is not only for visitors but also for the foundation's programs that promote the training of young people and children in the area.

The project also involved managing access to Cañadón Caracoles, a sector with over 90 climbing routes. Where the area will soon be definitively enabled and incorporated into the park. In the canyon, we built a composting toilet, equipped about 12 routes from 4 to 6b+, adding to the existing sectors. We also built an indoor climbing wall within the park's planetarium area. Subsequently, in collaboration with the Pari Aike Andino Club from Perito Moreno, we conducted training for local climbers and park





Argentina

staff, aiming to unify criteria and familiarize those working in the foundation with rock climbing and indoor climbing.

From the steppe to the coast, working in Parque Patagonia Azul. Where we developed a climbing sector with 19 routes from 4+ to 7b. We opened routes considering a variety of grades, especially for beginners. El Sauce Canyon is a small sector 10 minutes from the free campsite and has the potential to open more routes in that sector and others nearby. On the last day in the area, we held an open activity for the Camarones community for their first rock climbing experience; everyone was super motivated, and soon an Introduction to Rock Climbing Course will be held.

Without a doubt, these two parks will become a new destination for climbers and trekkers traveling through Patagonia. Also, a tourist and sports resource for nearby towns.





Brazil

Management Plan for Parque do Monge – Lapa-PR

We participated in a meeting to address inquiries about rock climbing in Parque do Monge, an area housing numerous climbing routes undergoing transformation into a state park. Park authorities were grappling with the decision to permit climbing, as they lacked operational details about this activity. Thanks to the explanations provided during the meeting, they gained a better understanding and confidence, resulting in the opening of almost all areas for climbing. Only a few routes were closed due to the high influx of visitors accessing the site for tourism and religious purposes.





Brazil

Partnerships with athletes and photographers to promote awareness campaigns.

Partnerships were established with athletes Vivian Telles and Bernardo do Espinhaço, as well as Brazilian photographers Gabriel Tarso and André Dib, to collaborate on photographs and promote campaigns.



Mountain Festival

We participated in a conference, workshop, and discussion on climbing, ethics, sector access, and the environment during the 3-day festival held in São Bento do Sapucaí, SP.





Brazil

Recovery of Trilha Morro do Anhangava - PR.

We participated in the organization and promotion of a joint effort aimed at recovering the most critical sections of the trail on this iconic mountain in Paraná. The goal was to raise awareness about the care we must take on the mountain, particularly regarding the trail and waste.



ConfraTrad

We participated in organizing an event that aims to bring together sport and traditional climbers in this important sector of sandstone rock climbing in the country. The objective is to promote good practices related to route opening, respect for ethics, the environment, and inclusion in the sport. The event included talks, workshops, and climbing practices for beginners. Toilets were constructed in the sectors, along with improvements to trails and the isolation of archaeological sites near the ascent routes.





Brazil

Conference on sustainable climbing in Afonso Cláudio, ES.

We attended a conference on the structured and sustainable promotion of mountain activities in the city of Afonso Cláudio, ES. The community, entrepreneurs, mayor, councilors, and secretaries participated.



Inquiries about the use of a shit tube

We participated in discussions and consultations on the use of shit tubes on trails with a high concentration of people in Paraná, organized by CPM, Clube Paranaense de Montanhismo.



clubeparanaesdemontanhismo

Curtilho por mtanhabe e outras pessóas

clubeparanaesdemontanhismo O Clube Paranaense de Montanhismo (CPM) lança, de maneira oficial, uma pesquisa comportamental em que frequentam as trilhas da nossa região, em especial a Serra do Ibitiquara (Pico Paraná, Caratúva, Rapvoça e outras montanhas) no Parque Estadual Pico Paraná (PEPP).



Bolivia

Alliances and Projects:

APED - Asociación Paceña de Escalada Deportiva (La Paz Climbing Sports Association).
Reequipment Project for Aranjuez Routes.
Project for the Development of Topo-Guides in the La Paz department.

ADEAC - Asociación de Andinismo y Escalada Cochabamba (Cochabamba Mountaineering and Climbing Association).
Equipment of 30 routes in Yana Qaqa.

SANTA CRUX - Asociación de escalada Santa Cruz (Santa Cruz Climbing Association).
Equipment project for 10 routes in a new climbing area in Santa Cruz, Las Tacuaras.

Mujer Montaña Bolivia (Mountain Women Bolivia).
Climbing and Environmental Education Festival "Phawariy" as part of their "Mountains for Life" project.





Bolivia

Activities:

First "Leave No Trace" workshop in Bolivia, targeting leaders of the most important climbing and mountain institutions in Bolivia.

Online lecture on environmental best practices for equipping new climbing areas. Participation included 26 climbers from different cities, including experienced route developers.

Participation in the cleanup of Pico Tunari organized by ADEAC. "Leave No Trace" principles were shared with over 20 volunteers during the event.



Support for Mujer Montaña Bolivia with the "Leave No Trace" workshop in the municipality of Yaco, involving 53 students from Yaco's high school and other communities.

Visits to equipment sites, monitoring of various projects, and support for climbing championships and other events organized by climbing and mountaineering-related institutions.





Bolivia

Collaboration with Mujer Montaña for the "Phawariy" event as part of their "Mountains for Life" program, aiming to motivate indigenous communities near the new climbing area in Qollpana. The event included rock climbing, "Leave No Trace" principles, and birdwatching, engaging over 30 children with their parents.

Joint environmental day with Escaladores Oruro, focusing on cleaning the Cañón Colorado, a climbing area and oasis in the Oruro highlands. The cleanup, supported by Acceso PANAM, involved more than 20 volunteers, collecting around 100 kg of mainly single-use plastic.



Environmental gathering involving various institutions, volunteers, guides, and community members in Llaullini to clean the tourist area of Huayna Potosí. The event, led by AGMTB ECO and SDSN Bolivia with Acceso Panam's support, gathered around 70 volunteers and collected approximately 2 tons of waste.



Bolivia

Inauguration of a new climbing area in Cochabamba. ADEAC, with Acceso PanAm's support, successfully equipped a new climbing area in Qollpana, 2.5 hours from Cochabamba, with 30 rock climbing routes.

Inauguration of a new climbing area in Santa Cruz. Santa Cruz Asociación Cruceña de Escalada Deportiva, with Acceso PanAm's support, successfully equipped a new climbing area in the Las Tacuaras community, 2 hours from Santa Cruz, with 10 climbing routes.





Chile

Climbing and Emotional Management Workshop

In the Aysén region, where depression, youth suicide, and poor mental health indicators are high, a rock climbing workshop was conducted. The goal was to provide emotional control tools to first-year students at the University of Aysén.

The workshop included two rock climbing sessions where students experienced boulder problem visualization, trust in equipment (crash pads) and peers, as well as fear and frustration. Theoretical sessions focused on emotional control tools such as breathing techniques, concentration, and self-dialogue awareness.





Chile

Montañas de Agua (Mountains of Water)

Collaboration with the Club Andino Austral of the Universidad Austral de Chile for a volunteer day in Cerro Castillo National Park, involving the removal of shelters from old reforestation initiatives.

The volunteer day included an environmental education intervention by CONAF to enhance participants' understanding of the ecosystem and its impact.





Chile

"Más Huemul" Program: Trail Camera Donation

Through the partnership with Lippi Outdoor, a significant donation of trail cameras was secured to enhance the monitoring system implemented by CONAF in Cerro Castillo National Park. This support has been ongoing since 2019 through the "Más Huemul" volunteer program.

The donation nearly doubled the number of available cameras, positively impacting park ranger management and conservation efforts.



Participation in the Seminar "Chile, Land of Forbidden Mountains" (Valdivia):

Invited by the Club Andino y de Escalada de Valdivia to participate in the seminar, exploring pending challenges in regional and national regulations for mountain access.





Chile

First Mountain Culture Seminar

In response to the assumption that there is no mountain culture in the country, the First Mountain Culture Seminar was organized in collaboration with the Universidad Andrés Bello and the Universidad San Sebastián.

Over four days, 28 panelists and 18 organizations enriched and disseminated Chile's mountain culture. Special emphasis was given to Andes Santiago's efforts to establish the Chilean capital as a new mountain destination. The seminar was held at the Universidad Andrés Bello in Santiago, with free streaming.



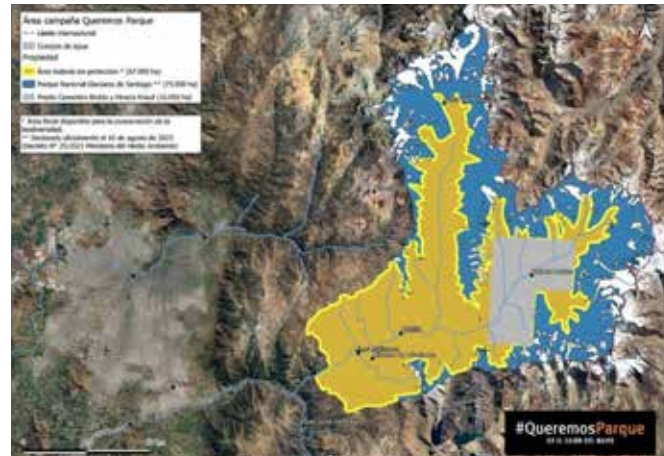


Chile

"Queremos Parque" Campaign:

After four years of effort, the #QueremosParque campaign successfully protected 75,114 hectares of mountain territory in the Colorado and Olivares river valleys through the creation of the Glaciares de Santiago National Park.

Donations from the Wyss Foundation were received in 2023 for legal studies regarding the boundaries of the public land to be protected and property rights of surrounding settlements.



Partnerships have been established with organizations to facilitate collaboration with local communities, engage them in the campaign, and ensure better reception of the new protected area by the territory's users, especially the herders.



Cuba

Bolts for Cuba

A glimpse into our history. CubaClimbing.com is not just a website; it is a comprehensive program dedicated to establishing and maintaining climbing in Cuba, providing essential equipment such as ropes, shoes, harnesses, bolts, anchors, and even clothing. Virtually all the gear used by 100 to 150 Cuban climbers was donated by our program. Under the names CubaClimbing

and Bolts4Climbers, these projects in Cuba operate uniquely. Unlike conventional access organizations in the country, our actions are limited to what the Cuban government allows or does not impede. Given the evident need for climbing equipment in Cuba, these projects have become initiatives of Acceso PanAm on the island, accomplishing what the government cannot stop. In essence, climbers travel throughout the island, using the collected gear and bolts acquired outside of Cuba, transporting them in the luggage of tourists committed to our cause. Although requests to form climbing clubs have been repeatedly denied by the government,



the climbing community gathers annually in Viñales. During these meetings, experiences are exchanged, donated equipment is distributed, and bolts are shared. This account underscores the need to recognize the work we have carried out in Cuba by including our projects in the APA annual report.





Ecuador

This year, the focus was on seeking strategic alliances with different public and private entities. In the public sector, due to the change of government and the political crisis our country went through, we were unable to materialize some projects.

Among the activities worth mentioning are:

Interaction with FONAG (Quito Water Protection Fund), a public-private entity for cleaning and reforesting some areas. We are still in the process of defining resources.

Discussions with administrators of protected areas to promote the "Mountains of Water" project. In this regard, we are seeking direct contact with Engineer Paúl Tito, Administrator of the Chimborazo Fauna Production Reserve, to present the project.





Ecuador

Working with tax advisory to find the correct way to apply for the existing tax incentive for private companies so they can deduct their taxes, with contributions and support for sports.

Conducted various clean-up events and workdays.

"Clean Mountain" event in Cubilche 2023.





Perú

Erosion Monitoring in Ch'áqo Wayllasqa Climbing Park

In light of receiving the 2022 Mountain Protection Award from UIAA for our commitment to the development of climbing parks in Pitumarca, Cusco, Peru, in collaboration with the 7a Escalada association, we have initiated the erosion monitoring process in the Ch'áqo Wayllasqa Climbing Park, also in collaboration with the 7a Escalada association.

Fauna Monitoring in Ch'áqo Wayllasqa Climbing Park

We have established a strategic collaboration with the NGO Alianza Gato Andino to implement camera traps in the climbing parks of Ch'áqo Wayllasqa, Cusco. These cameras aim to monitor the local fauna, with a special focus on observing the Andean cat, thus contributing to the conservation of these endangered species.





Perú

Outdoor School

We have formed valuable partnerships with other organizations such as 7a Escalada and Uma Rumi to formalize the outdoor school. In this space, the focus is on conservation, leadership, and teamwork through climbing with children. We are committed to the comprehensive education of youth, using climbing as a tool for personal development and environmental awareness.



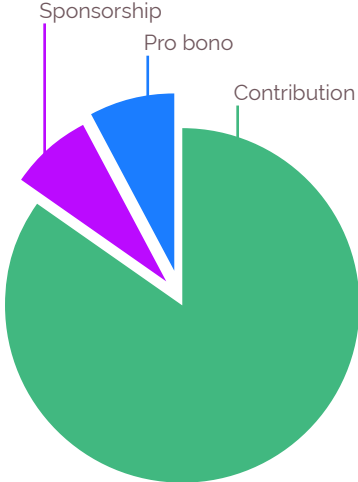
Seeking Funds for Conservation and Sustainable Sports Development:

- Australian Embassy in Lima: Direct Aid Program (DAP): "Strengthening the Lamay Ccoscco community for sustainable mountain tourism development."
- EOCA: "Andean Ecosystem Conservation and Restoration Project: Sustaining Biodiversity and Community Resilience."

2023 Balance

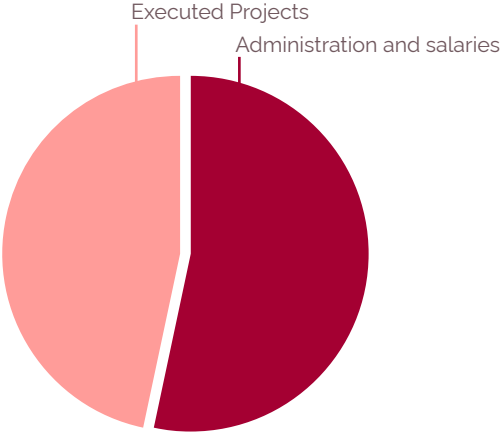
Income

Contribution	U\$S 55.656	84.8%
Pro bono	U\$S 5.000	7.6%
Sponsorship	U\$S 5.000	7.6%
Total	U\$S 65.656	



Outcome

Administration and salaries	U\$S 28.400	53.4%
Executed Projects	U\$S 24.745	46.6%
Total	U\$S 53.145	



RESPECT

CLIMB

PROTECT

