

## TFK programme, funded projects 2024

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| <b>Project title:</b> Andean-Finland Forest Education & Research: Promoting Sustainable Management of forest resources |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Coordinator</b><br><br>Itä-Suomen yliopisto<br><br>Blas Mola, blas.mola@uef.fi                                      | <p>The project titled “Andean-Finland Forest Education &amp; Research: Promoting Sustainable Management of forest resources” (AFFER) aims to enhance sustainable natural resources management education and professional training, by increasing the awareness of different methodologies applied in different ecosystems. AFFER is focused developing an intensive course on forest and water management in tropical, Andean and boreal ecosystems, which will include mobility. AFFER involves students and staff from the School of Forest Sciences of Universidad Nacional Agraria La Molina – UNALM (Peru), students and researchers with hydrological processes background from Universidad de Cuenca’s Department of Water Resources and Environmental Sciences - iDRHICA (Ecuador) and students and researchers with forest and environmental sciences background from University of Eastern Finland (UEF) from the School of Forest Sciences and the Department of Environmental and Biological Sciences. AFFER aims to have a course where experts from each institution can share their knowledge through on the basis of case studies. This course will be developed via online and onsite phases, with laboratory and research stations visits, to complement the gained knowledge.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Partners</b><br><br>Universidad de Cuenca, Universidad Nacional Agraria La Molina                                   | <p>Today, it is common that Finnish institutions and companies have international experts in their staff or international cooperation projects. For that reason, AFFER aims to support and promote the exchange of international knowledge and talent between the Latin America region and Finland. This project aims to provide the basis for future long-term cooperation in the form of long-term educational and research initiatives and continue and strengthen the ongoing collaboration between the partner institutions.</p> <p>AFFER plans to enhance educational experiences in tropical and boreal forest management, hydrological processes, environmental water quality, landscape, and watershed management topics, between the partner institutions. The main aim of AFFER is to address, through mobility of students and researchers/staff, key educational activities in the partner institutions, that can be implemented in the other partner institutions, or can complement current educational practices. AFFER aims to develop and enhance the skills of the students and researchers/staff to have more competitive talent, with strong international background in expertise and cooperation. AFFER aims to contribute to the ongoing exchange of talents, by enhancing the internationalisation of Finnish, Peruvian and Ecuadorian higher education institutions. The significance of the partner region at global level, and the combination of advance methodological approaches in the institutions ensures academic outcomes of highest impacts. Therefore, it is key to promote the exchange among students</p> |

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|  | and researcher/staff in the partner institutions with focus on methodologies in forest, hydrological and environmental sciences. |
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