"I'm not poor because I live with my five senses and the four spiritual energies"

ALBERTO MANQUERIAPA BITENTE
Chief of Santa Rosa de Huacaria Community

The Technical Mission team was received by the community of Santa Rosa de Huacaria. Indigenous representatives reported on their relationships with the Machiguenga population — an initial contact peoples, and also with isolated indigenous peoples in the region of Piñí Piñí. Also, the Leader of the community spoke to members of the mission on the conditions in which they live: there is limited mobility in the territories and therefore, they have lost control of natural resources of their lands. The community has been established at its current location because of access to sanitation and electricity services which, while benefiting the community, are not the main asset: "I'm not poor because I live with my five senses and four spiritual energies".

On May 18 – 31, 2014, the representatives of Ministries of Indigenous Affairs and Health of the Member Countries (MCs) of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), National Parks of some of the MCs, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the ACTO Permanent Secretariat, as well as journalists from Reuters News Agency, participated in a Technical Exchange mission to the regions of Cuzco and Madre de Dios, Peru. The objective of the mission was to exchange experiences, and share information on methodologies for the protection and promotion of the rights of isolated indigenous peoples and those in initial contact. The expedition was coordinated by the Ministry of Culture / Vice-Ministry of Inter-Culturality of Peru, as a counterpart to ACTO's Program: "Strategic Framework for Development of a Regional Agenda for Protection of Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation and Initial Contact", with IDB support.