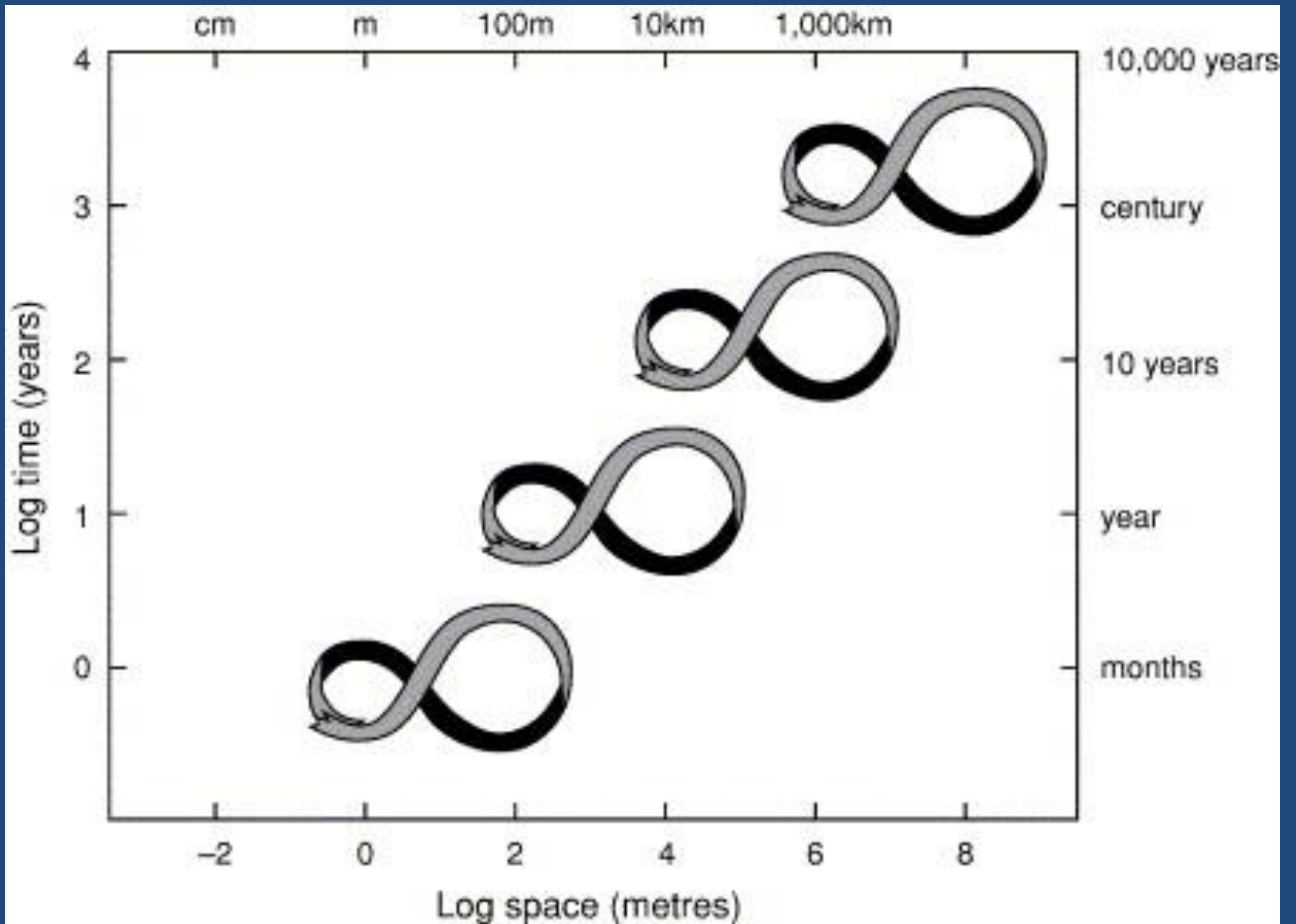


Amazon Development History

LAS 6938/LAS 4935
Seminar on the Amazon
Fall, 2015
Dr. Marianne Schmink



Pre-Colonial Period

- Occupation of the Amazon as early as late Pleistocene
- Root plant domestication 8-10,000 B.P.
- Hierarchical, complex societies
- Elaborate forms of “terra forming”
- Dense populations settled in “garden cities” connected by roads

Colonial Period

- 17th century European explorers: diseases introduced large indigenous populations
- Jesuit missionaries: *aldeiamento*, detribalization
- 1751-1777 Marquis de Pombal “modernizing” regime in alliance with landowners, merchants
- Population dispersion; river traders

Rubber Boom, 1870-1910

- Industrialization: International global demand and technological change
- Brazil: Inter-regional migration (100,000s)
- Becker: Territorial incorporation, definition of national borders (Acre)
- Globalization: the Bolivian Syndicate

Rubber Boom: levels

- International demand for rubber due to technological and market development
- Nation-building in Brazil
- Inter-regional migration
- Disruption local populations and social organization

Economic Diversification and State Expansion, 1920-1945

- Vargas (1930s-40s): Modernization; nation state.
- Rise of urban-industrial elites over agro-export
- Industrial demand for raw materials: jute, brazil nuts, fruits
- Economic diversification

WW II and Post-War

- Rubber boom revival financed by US war effort: 55,000 rubber soldiers; SESP/BCB
- Post war: import-substitution industrialization, Brazilian demand for rubber (price supports, credit)
- SPVEA 1953: Credit for land and agriculture; new municipalities; rural to urban migration
- Mining: tin (Rondônia); gold (Tapajós, Pará)
- Belém-Brasília highway and other roads

Agricultural Frontier: 3 phases

- Post-WWII through 1960s: Paraná
- 1950s-1960s: Goiás & Mato Grosso
- 1960s-1980s: Amazonia

Militarizing Amazonia, 1964-1985

- Bureaucratic-authoritarian state
- Economic “miracle” 1968-1974
- Policies to attract foreign investment; accumulate capital (tax incentives; wage containment; political repression; federal centralization)
- Geopolitics: “inundate the Amazon forest with civilization”
- Displace traditional Amazonian elites

Operation Amazonia, 1966

- SUDAM: reinvest taxable income in Amazonia
- FUNAI: “emancipation”
- INCRA “counter land reform” (PIN: highways)
- Land & mineral rights
- Araguaia War

Resistance, 1979-1985

- Becker: End of “techno-industrial vector”
- Gradual political liberalization: criticisms
- Social resistance movements: indigenous, quilambolas, Tucurui dam, rubber tappers, etc.
- Military populism
- Environmental alliances

Socio-environmental Frontier, 1985-1995

- Extractive reserves
- National Rubber Tappers Council
- PPG-7 Pilot Programme for the Amazon Rainforest
- Environment Ministry; Acre Forest Government

Current proposals/debates, 2015

- Advances in infrastructure (PAC); deforestation reduced; PA's created; commodities expanded
- Forest Code revision
- Continued violence
- Rolling back environmental and indigenous rights

Indeterminacy, 1996 to present (Becker 1990)

- Conflicting, parallel policies (conventional techno-industrial vs. socio-environmental)
- Regional/local dynamics over national
- Restart federal planning: Avança Brasil, PAC
- Globalization: technology, networks
- Geopolitics: power over land use, not land
- International cooperation: “veiled coercive instrument”

RAISG: Network of Georeferenced Socioenvironmental Information

- ACT-Surinam
- DEAL – Guyana
- EcoCiência – Ecuador
- FAN – Bolivia
- FGA – Colombia
- IBC – Peru
- ICV – Brazil
- IMAZON – Brazil
- IVIC – Venezuela
- Provita – Venezuela
- ISA -- Brazil

AMAZONÍA bajo presión



Bogotá (Colombia); Caracas (Venezuela); Lima (Perú); Paramaribo (Suriname); Quito (Ecuador);
Santa Cruz de La Sierra (Bolivia); Belém y São Paulo (Brasil)
2012



PRESIÓN ACUMULADA

y

AMENAZAS

lotes petroleros
en exploración, solicitud o potenciales

zonas mineras
en exploración, solicitud o potenciales

hidroeléctricas
proyectadas o en estudio

carreteras
proyectadas o en estudio

Límites referenciales

- internacional ———
- límite en disputa/litigio - - -
- estadal/departamental ———
- amazonía ———

0 100 200 400 km

RAISG, 2012

HIGHWAYS

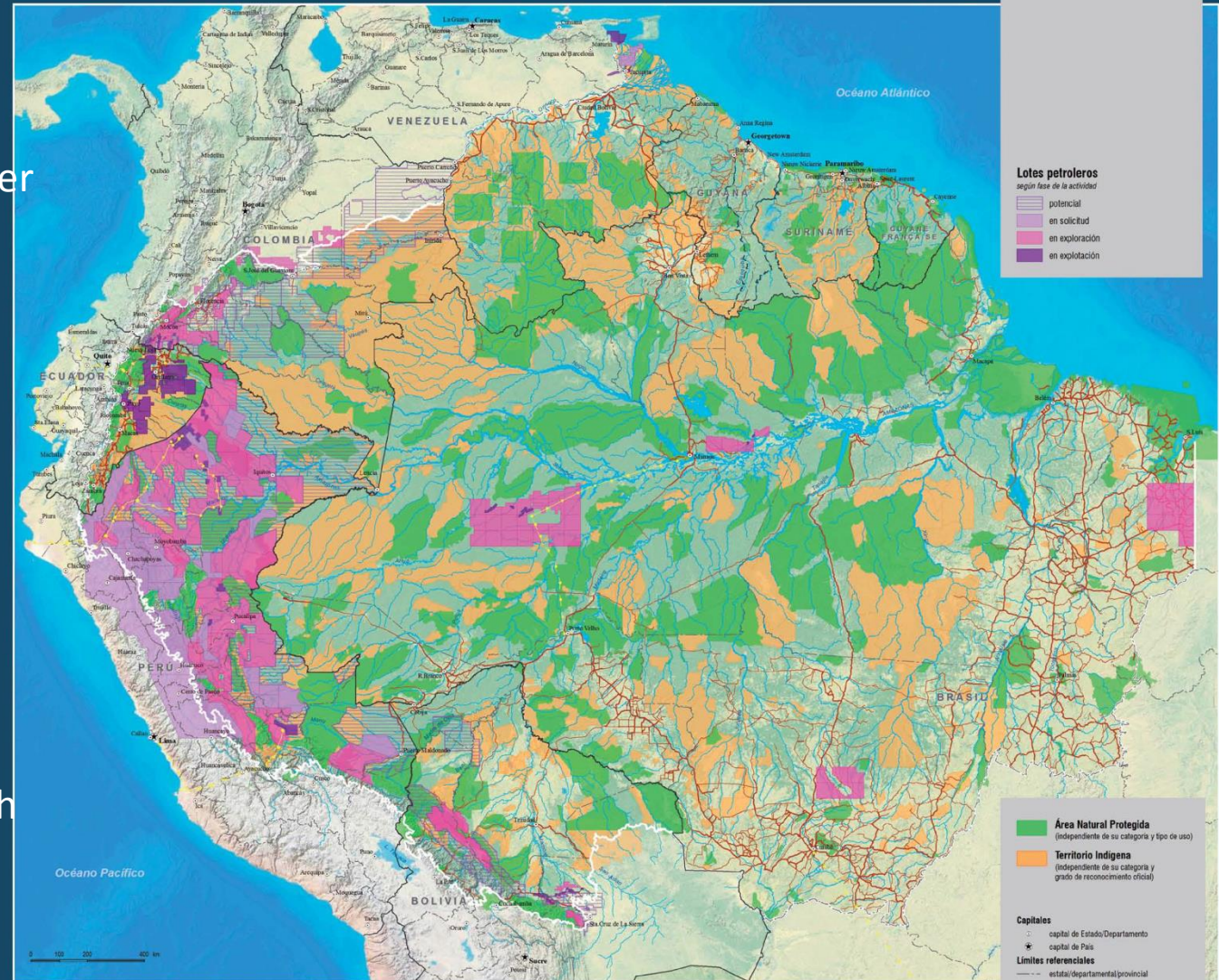
Plans for transoceanic connections accelerate pressure

- 965,000 km of highways: 64.5% unpaved
- Peru and Bolivia have planned highways through core Amazonia
- Ecuador has the most dense Highways due to oil exploration
- Density of highways in Protected Areas and Indigenous Territories is 3-4 times lower



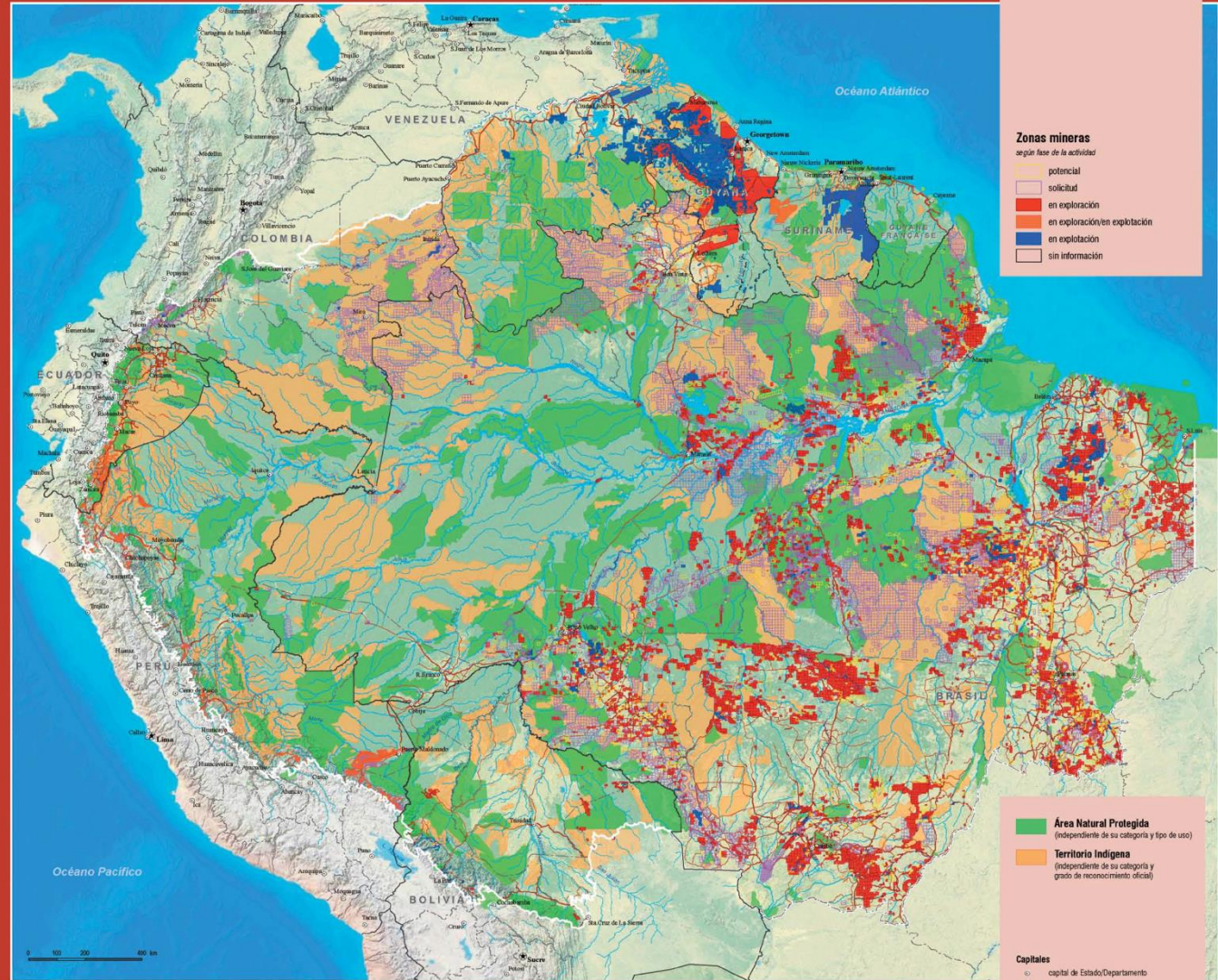
OIL & GAS

- 81 lots currently under oil exploitation
- 327 lots with oil potential cover 15% of the Amazon
- 24 oil companies Operating; 9 control 78% of lots
- In 7 countries oil concessions overlap with Protected Areas and Indigenous Territories
- Peru has largest area in oil (84 % of Amazon territory)



MINING

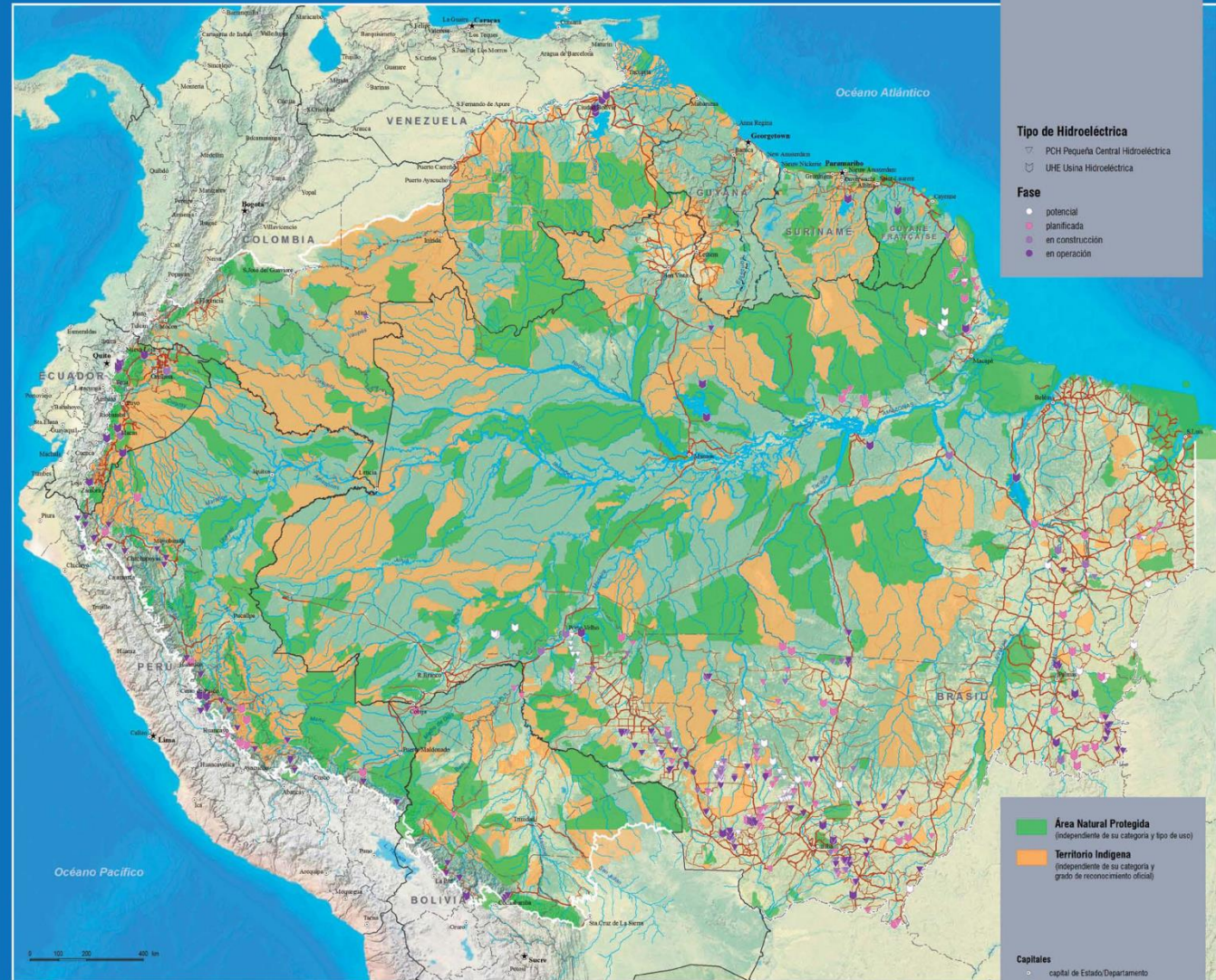
- Zones with mining Interest make up 21%
- Mining zones occupy 15% of Protected Areas and 19% of Indigenous Territories
- Increase in gold prices stimulates Illegal mining



March for water, life and dignity, Pastaza, Ecuador

DAMS

- 171 dams operating or in development; 246 planned
- Transborder Issues require political discussion
- Belo Monte: will be Largest hydroelectric Dam in Amazon (1,233 MW)



<http://www.dams-info.org>



Public hearing to explain Belo Sun gold mining project, 2012

Belo Sun gold mining project

Amazonia.org:

<http://www.amazonia.org.br/>.

Volta Grande do Xingu - Localização do Projeto Belo Sun

