



Universidad del Azuay

Faculty of Legal Sciences

International Studies Undergraduate Program

**Challenges and difficulties in complying with
international agreements to reduce greenhouse gas
emissions among members of the Andean
Community**

By:
Juan Iván Lazo Sornoza

Director:
Blga. Estefanía del Rocío Cevallos Rodríguez, Msc

**Cuenca – Ecuador
2024**

DEDICATION

To my family and my cat Lechuga

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I thank my parents, Pablo and Irene, my cat Lechuga. To my grandparents Papi Orion, Papi Lazo, Mami Zoila, and Mami Sayo for being the pillars of the wonderful family that gave me all the opportunities to fulfill my goals and objectives. To Maria Paz for accompanying me in my academic and personal achievements with love and patience. To Estefanía Cevallos for guiding me in this arduous research process, and for her wonderful contribution to academia through teaching.

Contents Index

DEDICATION	i
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....	ii
Contents Index	iii
Index of Figures, Tables and Appendices	v
1. Introduction	1
1.1 Objectives.....	2
Specific Objectives.....	2
1.2. Theoretical Framework	2
1.2.1. Climate change and its effects.....	2
1.2.2. International Environmental Commitments	3
1.2.3. The Andean Community of Nations (CAN)	3
- General Secretariat.....	3
- Andean Parliament.....	4
-Andean Court of Justice.....	4
1.2.4. Climate change and the CAN's approach to GHG emissions	4
1.2.5. Indigenous Peoples and Communities	4
1.2.6. Illegal mining	4
1.2.7. Plans and projects.....	5
Andean Project for Adaptation to the Impacts of Accelerated Glacial Retreat (PRAA)	5
Disaster Prevention	5
Andean Community Regional Biodiversity Program (BIOCAN).....	6
Tri-national Conservation Program.....	6
Report on the Impact of Climate Change in the CAN.	6
2. Methods.....	6
3. Results & Discussion	7
3.1 International commitments on the reduction of GHG emissions	7
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.....	7
Kyoto Protocol	7
Paris Agreement.....	8
Escazú Agreement.....	8
- Sustainable Development Goals - Agenda 2030.....	8
3.2 Regulations and Internal Policies regarding GHG reduction as a regional bloc	9
3.2.1 Cartagena Agreement of 1969.....	9
3.2.2 Andean Citizen Rights	10
Rights of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendant communities	10
Environmental, Animal and Plant Health Rights	10
3.2.3 Andean Environmental Charter.....	11

3.2.4 Andean Committee of Environmental Authorities.....	11
3.2.5 Andean Committee on Illegal Mining.....	11
3.2.6 Constitutional Advances	12
3.3 Current situation of the application of measures focused on GHG reduction under the independent contexts of each CAN member state.....	13
Lack of State Guarantees for indigenous peoples and communities and movements defending nature.....	13
Mining in CAN territories	14
Multicausal deforestation and total GHG emissions generated by deforestation in CAN member states.....	15
Total GHG emissions.....	16
4. Conclusions	17
5. References	20

Index of Figures, Tables and Appendices

Index of Tables

Tabla 1 International Commitments and year of ratification by CAN members	9
--	---

Index of Figures

Figure 1 Deforestation rate among CAN members in 2023.....	16
---	----

Figure 2 Quantities of kilograms of CO ₂ emitted by deforestation in the CAN territories in 2023.....	16
---	----

Figure 3 Amount of greenhouse gasses emitted by CAN members in 2022.....	17
---	----

Index of Appendices

Appendix 1	25
-------------------------	----

Challenges and difficulties in complying with international agreements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions among members of the Andean Community of Nations

Abstract

In a global context marked by climate change, the Andean Community (CAN) faces a crucial challenge: to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the impacts of global warming. This thesis delves into this complex panorama, exploring the international commitments signed by the CAN, the regional regulations and policies implemented, and the challenges and difficulties that hinder progress towards low-carbon development. Through a literature review of secondary sources, various resources were analyzed, including international treaties, reports from international organizations, scientific articles, official CAN documents, and reports from each CAN member state. The results showed the unique characteristics of the CAN: high climate vulnerability, deforestation, illegal mining, dependence on fossil fuels and rich biodiversity, and vulnerability of indigenous communities. This information can contribute to knowledge on environmental management in CAN, generate useful information for academia and institutions, and promote decision-making and effective strategies for GHG reduction and adaptation to climate change.

Key words: Greenhouse Gasses, International Commitments, Climate Change, Andean Community, Deforestation.