



Terms and Conditions of Membership

Amazon Waters Alliance

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Alliance partners

Partners of the Amazon Waters Alliance are considered legally constituted organizations that have been partners of the Citizen Science Network for the Amazon and have ratified their adhesion to the Amazon Waters Alliance until July 10, or that have subsequently signed the letter of commitment and have been admitted as established in these terms and conditions.

Eligibility Criteria

Partners of the Amazon Waters Alliance may be organizations that:

- Conduct research or other activities for the conservation and sustainable development of the Amazon Basin; and/or
- Are actively involved in citizen science activities and/or support public participation in scientific research through different means, such as communication campaigns, technological innovation, funding, etc., and/or

- Have a genuine interest in promoting the mission and vision of the Amazon Waters Alliance; and/or
- Have a real willingness to embrace the Amazon Waters Alliance Manifest.

The Amazon Waters Alliance will foster the affiliation of organizations that contribute to geographic, thematic and role diversity. Particularly, interest groups include organized fishermen and fisherwomen, civil society organizations, research institutes, universities, schools, and research centers.

Admission

To affiliate a new partner organization, the Amazon Waters Alliance has established the following procedure:

- Potential partners may request the membership to the Technical Secretariat (TS) via email to Gina Leite <gleite@wcs.org>. The application may be submitted at any time.
- The Technical Secretariat will consolidate the applications and submit them to the Board during face-to-face or virtual meetings or online consultations. The Board will evaluate such applications within a maximum period of 60 days according to the criteria outlined in these Terms and Conditions.
- Once the Board approves the application, the TS will notify to the new partners and will make the arrangements for the signing of the Letter of Commitment. Membership will be official when the Letter of Commitment is signed. The signature can be either digital or physical.
- The TS will update the list of partners on the Alliance's website.
- Membership renewal is annual and automatic if there is no waiver by the partner or any other situation that triggers termination or removal.
- The Board is able to reject a Membership application when relevant. In such cases, applicants will receive a written notification with the reasons for denial. The organization can appeal this decision in writing to the Board, up to 60 calendar days after being notified. The Board shall respond to the appeal within 60 days.

Voluntary contributions

Membership in the Amazon Waters Alliance is not paid. However, partners are encouraged to contribute resources to fund activities such as annual meetings, events and other collective activities of the Alliance. The Board may suggest a scale of voluntary contributions. Such contributions can be made at any time, but are particularly suggested during the affiliation or annual renewal. Every bank transaction fee is paid by the contributor. Voluntary Membership contributions are non-refundable.

Partner Withdrawal

A partner may withdraw its membership from the Amazon Waters Alliance at any time, as long as there are grounds for termination as set forth in the Bylaws. In the case of voluntary withdrawal or waiver, you shall submit the withdrawal request by email or in writing to the Technical Secretariat to

Gina Leite <gleite@wcs.org>. Withdrawal from membership is automatically accepted after the Technical Secretariat has acknowledged the receipt. A partner who is no longer part of the Alliance loses all membership rights. Voluntary contributions prior to the partner disenrollment are non-refundable.

Termination of a membership by the Board's decision would be effective when there is evidence of a detrimental conduct against the principles of the Alliance. A partner withdrawal shall be justified according to the Bylaws. In the same way, the partner will be notified following the procedures defined in the Bylaws. Withdrawal is effective when the Board issues its final written decision.

Rights and Responsibilities of the Partners

Information is available in the Bylaws of the Amazon Waters Alliance.

Strategic allies

The Board can build collaborative partnerships with organizations, initiatives, networks or projects that contribute to implementing the Alliance's purpose. If necessary, these partnerships can become official through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

Stakeholders

Organizations or individuals interested in collaborating with or supporting the Amazon Waters Alliance that are not partners may participate in the Amazon Water Alliance community through the digital channels provided by the Technical Secretariat. In this sense, they will be able to access certain activities and contribute or collaborate in activities such as dissemination, promotion, etc.

Sponsor organizations

The organizations that provide financial resources for the activities of the Amazon Waters Alliance are called Sponsor organizations. Their main benefit is visibility, according to the terms defined in the Branding Manual.

Definitions of Amazon Water Alliance community, partners, stakeholders, strategic allies, as well as those related to documentation, are available in the [Glossary](#).

We would like to inform our readers that the original version of this document is in Spanish ([available here](#)) (or can be requested by email to gleite@wcs.org). In case of discrepancy with other versions in different languages, the Spanish version will take precedence and will be the only one valid for all purposes.

The most recent version of these documents can be found at: <https://aguasamazonicas.org/intranet/gobernanza>.

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