

Population, Deforestation, and Indigenous Populations

Research Highlights from the Ecuadorian Amazon

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PRB—The Organization

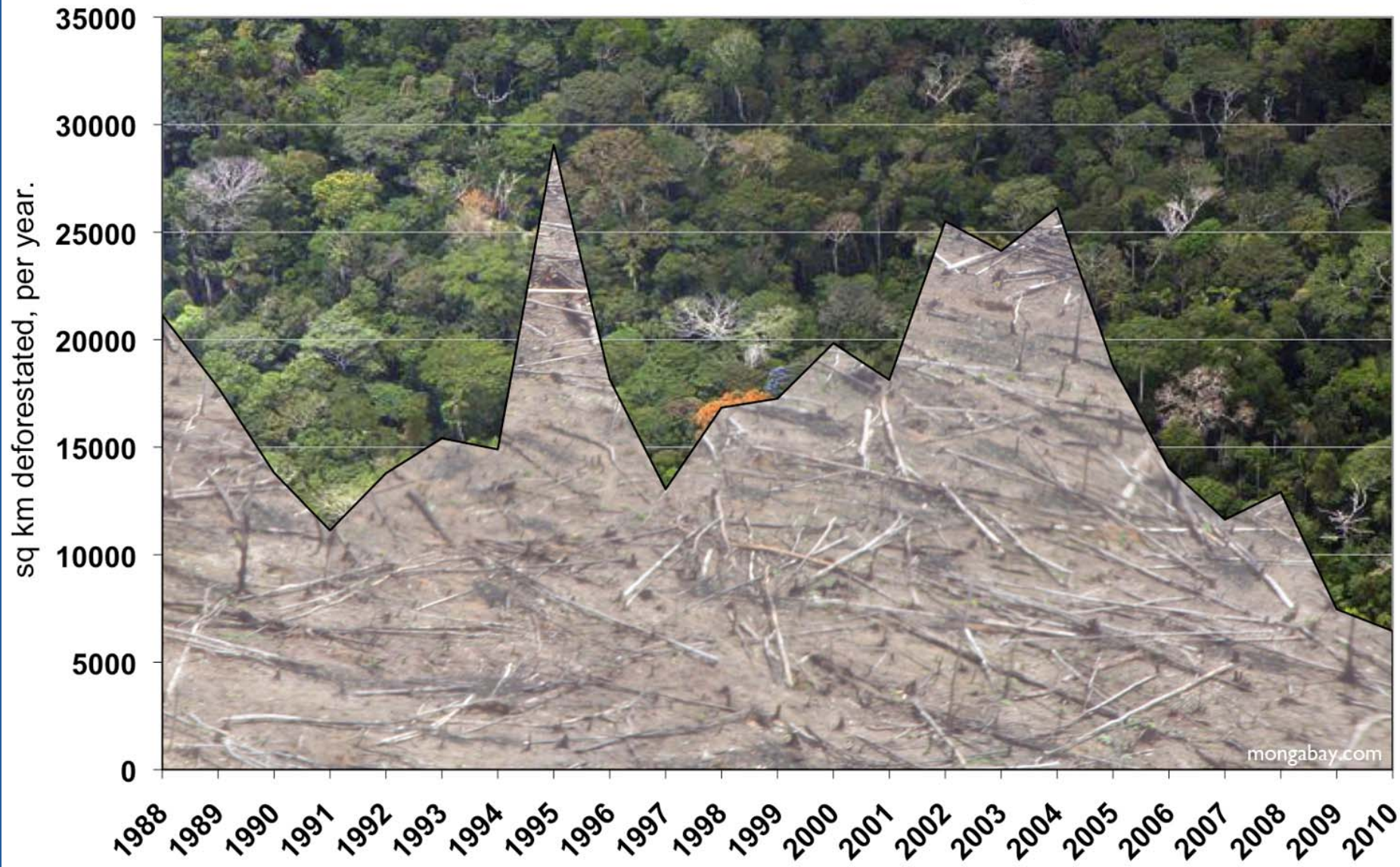
The Population Reference Bureau informs people around the world about population, health, and the environment, and empowers them to use that information to advance the well-being of current and future generations.



Main Messages Today

- Indigenous lands are now seen as key to the future of the Amazon
- Indigenous populations are undergoing complex demographic, cultural, and socio-economic changes
- Conservation and development partners must find creative and adaptive strategies

Deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon, 1988-2010

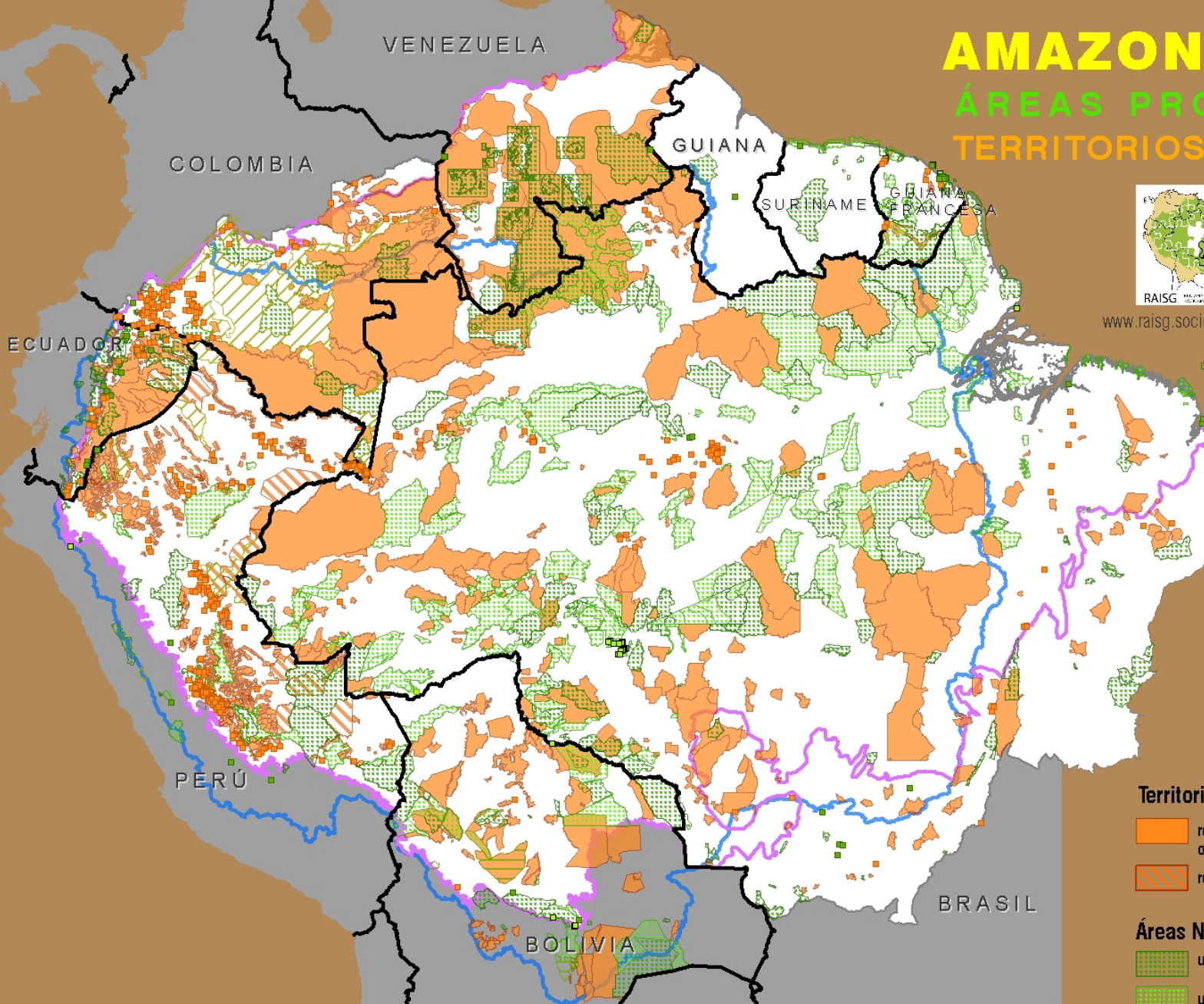


Indigenous in the Amazon

- Most of the large remaining intact forests of the Amazon are inhabited by indigenous populations.
- Indigenous lands occupy one-fifth of the Brazilian Amazon

AMAZONIA 2009

ÁREAS PROTEGIDAS TERRITORIOS INDÍGENAS



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Amazonía

- Político
- Cuenca *Bacia*
- Biogeográfico

Territorios Indígenas

- reconocidos oficialmente o en proceso de reconocimiento
- reserva territorial o zona intangible

Áreas Naturales Protegidas

- uso indirecto
- uso directo
- uso directo/indirecto
- categorías transitorias

Red Amazónica de Información Socioambiental Georreferenciada



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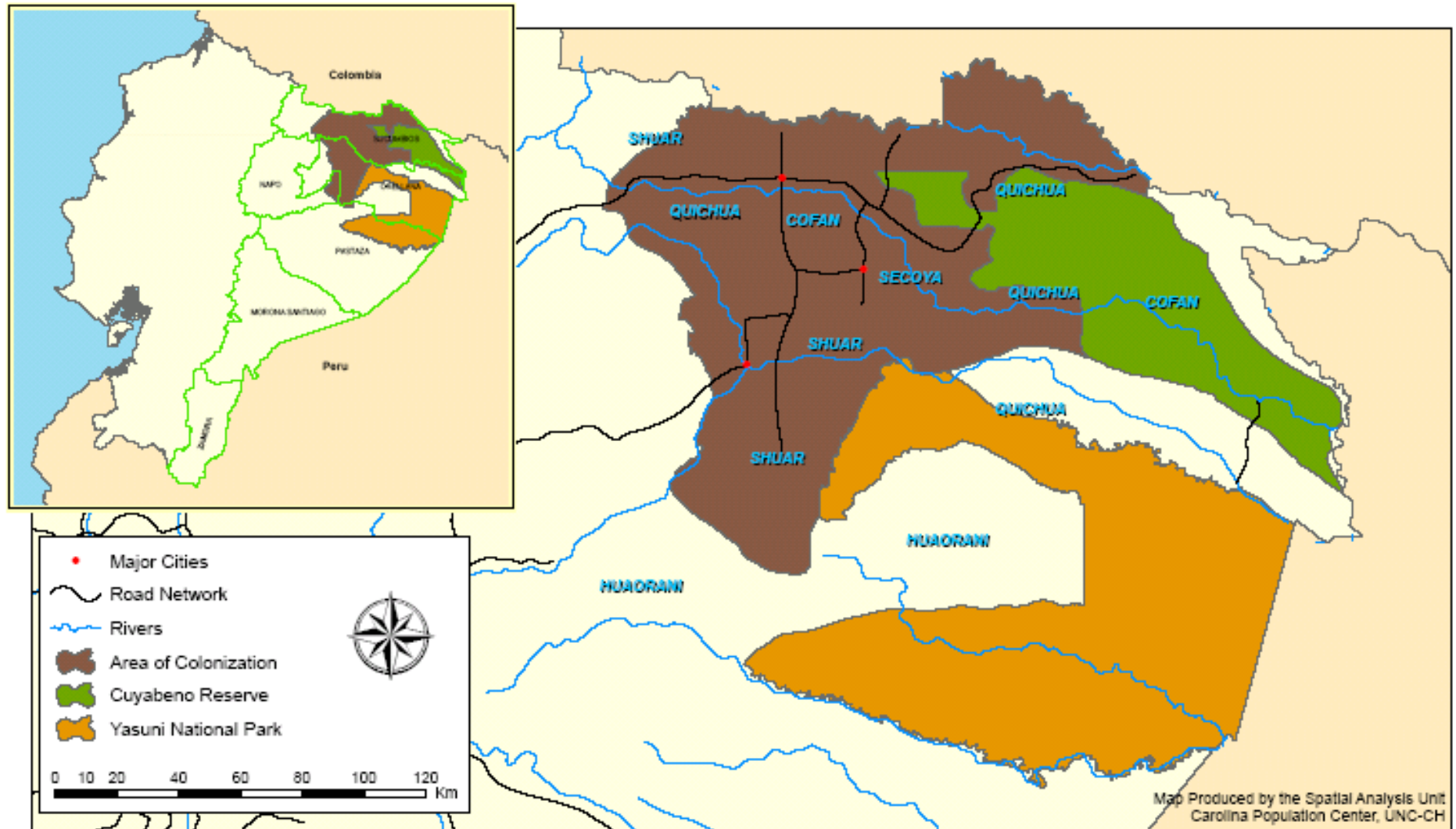


“Protecting indigenous and traditional peoples' lands and natural areas in the Amazon works to stop deforestation. The idea that many parks in the tropics only exist 'on paper' must be re-examined as must the notion that indigenous reserves are less effective than parks in protecting nature.” D. Nepstad

Indigenous populations are undergoing complex demographic, cultural, and socio-economic changes.



The Ecuador Study Area



Data Collection

- Ethnographic data collection in eight communities representing five ethnicities.
- Household and community survey in 36 communities and 500 households.
- Satellite imagery of the entire study area.







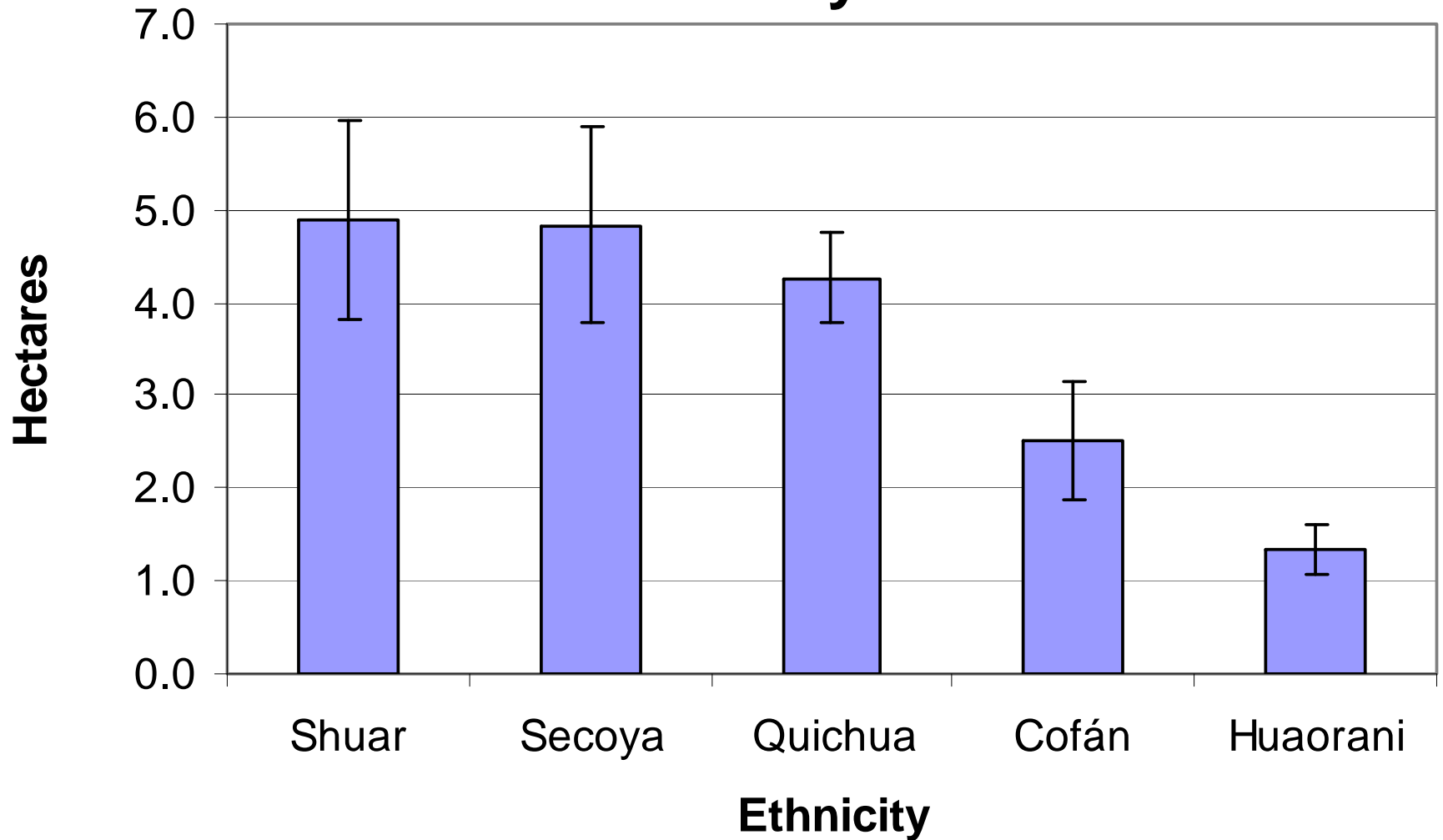


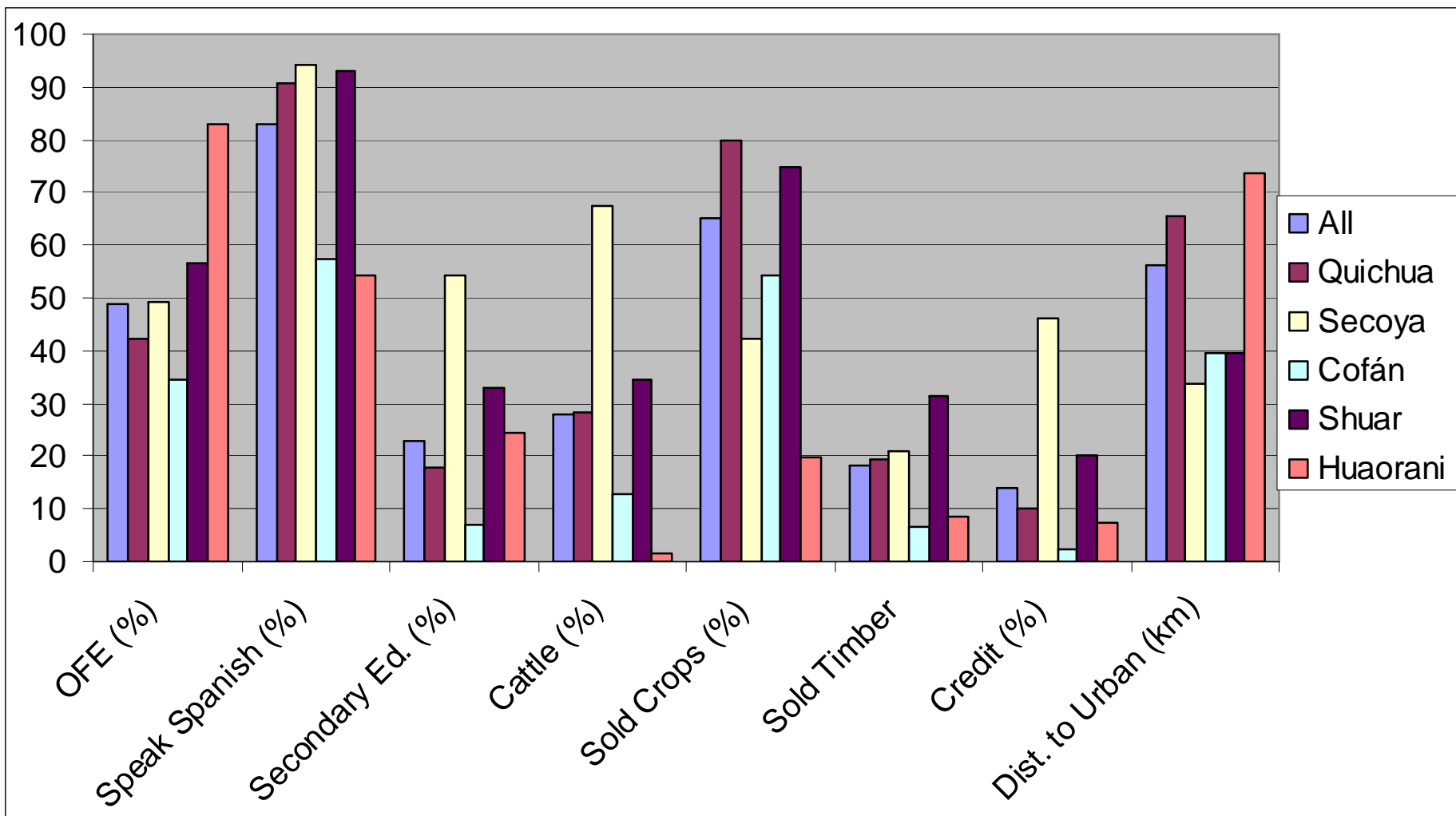


Indigenous Land Use and Livelihoods

- Colonist areas have higher rates of deforestation and forest fragmentation
- There is tremendous diversity between and even among indigenous groups
- Most indigenous households now actively seek and migrate for wage-labor opportunities

Household mean total cultivated area by ethnicity





Importance of Common Property Institutions

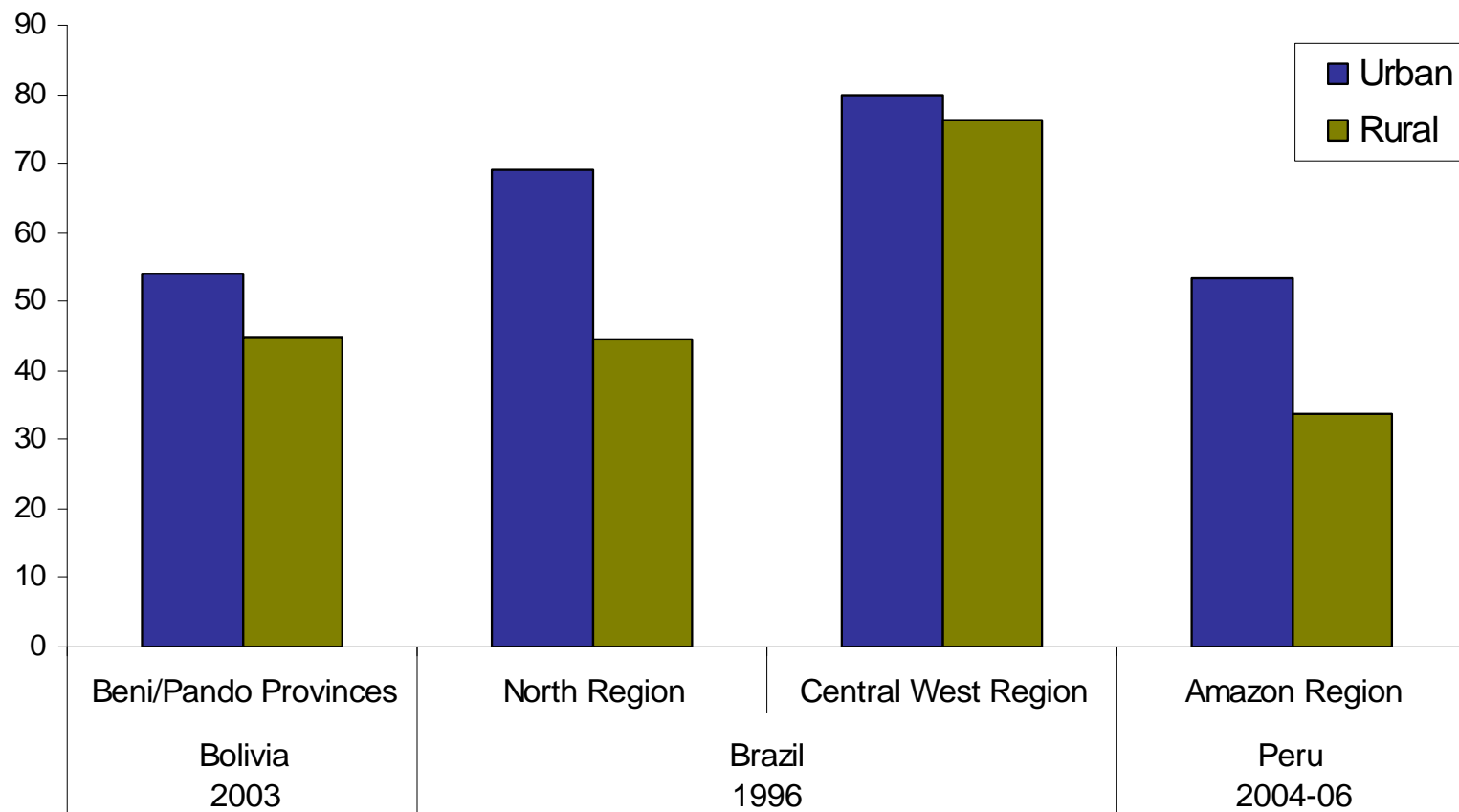
- All of the communities lands are owned communally
- Indigenous institutions are effective at securing use for community members and mobilizing to external threats
- There are few examples of effective internal management and enforcement

Demographic Change in Latin America

- Latin America has experienced rapidly declining fertility and mortality rates
 - 1970: 5.0 births per woman
 - 2010: 2.3 births per woman
- Amazon region and subpopulations lag behind
- Very little is known about rural or indigenous Amazon demography

Modern Contraceptive Prevalence Rates (CPR) for Select Amazon Tropical Forest Areas of Latin America

Modern CPR



Reproductive Health Findings

- Total fertility rates for indigenous women range from 7 to 8 children.
- 50% of indigenous women do not want to have another child
- 98% of those women were not using a modern method of contraception

Repeating my Main Messages

- Indigenous lands are now seen as key to the future of the Amazon
- Indigenous populations are undergoing complex demographic, cultural, and socio-economic changes
- Conservation and development partners must find creative and adaptive strategies

Remaining questions

- How will demographic and livelihood changes affect land use and communal management?
- How do we meet the health needs of small remote communities beyond health systems?
- How do we enable and empower indigenous agency in the context conservation priorities?