

An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. A wide, dark blue river flows through the center, with several small, green islands in the water. In the foreground, a small village with several buildings, including a large one with a red roof, is visible. The background is a vast, green field with some trees.

THIRD EDITION

PREMIO MAPBIOMAS PERÚ

CONTEST
RULES

2026

1. CONTEXT

MapBiomas is an international collaborative science and technology network composed of civil society organizations, universities, and technology companies. It brings together expertise in remote sensing, geographic information systems (GIS), data science, and knowledge on water resources, ecosystems, and land use. Its approach is based on generating systematic, transparent, and open-access spatial information through standardized methodologies and annual time series, enabling the consistent and scientifically rigorous monitoring of territorial transformations.

In Peru, MapBiomas has over eight years of continuous work generating and updating geospatial information on territorial dynamics. To date, the network has consolidated various initiatives and thematic modules that broaden the understanding of changes across the national territory. These include maps and datasets on land cover and land use from 1985 to the present, as well as information on vegetation loss, secondary vegetation, water bodies and glaciers, burned areas, and deforestation alerts at the national level.

All this information is publicly and freely available through the MapBiomas Peru online platforms (<https://plataforma.peru.mapbiomas.org/> and <https://plataforma.peru.alerta.mapbiomas.org/>), which allow users to visualize, analyze, and download data, as well as generate statistics at different territorial scales, such as biomes, departments, provinces, districts, watersheds, protected natural areas, and native and peasant communities, among others.

In this context, the MapBiomas Peru Award is positioned as a mechanism to promote research, critical analysis, and the application of these data in public management and civil society. With two editions held, the Award has recognized scientific articles, theses, university projects, and other applications of data in tools, diagnostics, and studies linked to public policy, among others, that use MapBiomas information to understand and address socio-environmental challenges.

The third edition of the MapBiomas Peru Award includes three application categories — General, Youth, and Public Policy — and provides participants with access to the datasets generated by the network's various initiatives, reaffirming its commitment to the production of open knowledge oriented toward sustainable management and territorial transformation.

2.APPLICATION GUIDELINES

2.1. Submissions may include **technical or scientific articles, academic papers, theses, as well as charts, infographics, reports, and other analytical or communication products.** Entries may be submitted individually or in co-authorship.

2.2. Eligible participants include final-year university students, graduates, researchers, technicians, professionals with postgraduate studies, teachers, professionals from private companies or civil society organizations, as well as public sector practitioners, among other profiles linked to territorial analysis or management.

2.3. The use of data or products from MapBiomás Peru initiatives is an essential requirement. The available datasets include:

Initiative	Maps and data platform	Methodological document	Factsheets	Infographics
Land Use and Land Cover	Link	Link	Link	Link
Water and glaciers	Link	Link	Water Link Glacial Link	Link
Fire	Link	Link	Link	Link
Vegetation Loss	Link	Link	Link	
Secondary vegetation	Link			
Alert	Link	Link		

2.4. Sources must be properly cited in accordance with the terms of use available at <https://peru.mapbiomas.org/terminos-de-uso/>.

2.5. Project proposals and preliminary drafts will not be accepted. Only completed works or those at an advanced stage of development, with verifiable results, will be considered.

2.6. There are no age restrictions for applicants, except in categories where this is explicitly specified.

2.7. In the case of co-authored works, only one author should submit the application. However, the names of all contributors must be included.

2.APPLICATION GUIDELINES

2.8. Submitted works may be unpublished or may have been published from January 2025 onwards.

2.9. Participants may submit multiple works, either individually or collectively. Each person may receive only one award per call for entries, regardless of the number of works submitted or the categories in which they participate.

2.10. In the case of scientific articles, theses, or other works published in restricted-access media (without an “open access” license), awarded authors must prepare an extended abstract for dissemination on the MapBiomias Peru website.

2.11. If no submission meets the established criteria, the Evaluation Committee may declare a category void.

2.12. CATEGORIES

The third edition of the MapBiomias Peru Award includes three application categories:

- **General Category:** This category is aimed at researchers, graduate students, technicians, teachers, and other professionals who use MapBiomias data or products. Its objective is to promote work across different sectors (private, public, civil society, educational, financial, among others). There is no age limit for this category.
- **Youth Category:** This category is aimed at undergraduate university students or recent graduates under 30 years of age. Its objective is to encourage young people to use MapBiomias Peru data in their research and projects.
- **Public Policy Category:** This category is aimed at public officials, civil society organizations, international organizations, and companies that use MapBiomias Peru data or products to contribute to public policy in the country. Its objective is to demonstrate the usefulness of data in the formulation or implementation of public policies. There is no age limit for this category.

2.13. TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Video **tutorials** for downloading data from the platform are available to applicants. In addition, inquiries may be directed to the following email address: mapbiomas.peru@gmail.com.

3. HOW TO APPLY

3.1. Participation is free of charge.

3.2. Submissions must be made by **August 17th, 2026**.

3.3. Applicants must complete the **online form** with the following information:

- **Personal information of the authors** and details of the research work. Forms that do not comply with the instructions will be automatically disqualified.
- **The full work** must be attached in PDF format. If the work involves algorithms or programming code, these must be publicly accessible or included as annexes to the document.
- **Annex 1 (Authors' Sworn Statement)** must be signed and attached in PDF format authorizing MapBiomias Peru Network to publish and share their work on the website and social media if they are selected as winners.

4. ASSESSMENT

4.1. The Evaluation Committee will be composed of four (4) members of the MapBiomias Peru network: two technical-scientific specialists, one communications specialist, and one representative of the MapBiomias Network.

4.2. The evaluation process for submissions to the MapBiomias Peru Award – 3rd Edition consists of three stages:

- 1.** The information provided in the application form will be reviewed to ensure that all data are complete, consistent, and that the attached documentation complies with the requirements established in these guidelines.
- 2.** Submissions that meet the requirements will be systematized and anonymized (removing authors' names and institutional affiliations) to ensure an impartial evaluation process.
- 3.** The Evaluation Committee will assess both the summarized systematized information and the full work attached to the application.

4. ASSESSMENT

4.3. Evaluation Criteria: In order to assess the submitted works, the members of the Evaluation Committee will consider the following criteria:

Criterion	Description of the maximum score	Score
Use, analysis, and processing of data from MapBiomass Peru	The work effectively uses MapBiomass data, conducting clear and well-justified analyses, and demonstrates a solid understanding of the data's limitations and potential.	30
Innovation and originality in the approach to the problem or topic to be addressed	The work presents an innovative and creative approach or introduces a novel analysis of the topic, providing new perspectives or methodologies that contribute to the field of study.	20
Use of graphical elements, maps, and effectiveness in communicating findings and analyzing results	The work is well-structured, and the results are presented in a clear and understandable manner. The conclusions are well supported. Maps, graphs, and visualizations are clear, well-designed, and properly interpreted, effectively contributing to the understanding of the results.	20
Relevance of the topic within the current context	The work addresses a current and relevant issue.	15
Impact and usefulness of the findings for addressing the identified problem	The results and/or analyses provide useful knowledge for understanding and/or improving the identified problem, generating a significant impact within its category, whether in the scientific community, in environmental or territorial management, or as a contribution to public policy formulation.	15
TOTAL		100

4.5. The members of the Evaluation Committee will ensure the confidentiality of applicants' information.

4.6. The results will be announced through the official communication channels of the MapBiomass Peru Network and may also be disseminated through the institutional channels of the organizations that make up the MapBiomass Network.

5. AWARDS

5.1. The **winner of the Youth Category** will receive PEN 1,500.00 (one thousand five hundred Peruvian soles), a certificate issued by MapBiomass Peru, and a scholarship to enroll in a satellite image processing program using Google Earth Engine, delivered by Solved. In addition, the winner will receive support in the development of communication materials for the winning work, which will be published on the MapBiomass Peru Network's social media channels.

5.2. The **winner of the General Category** will receive PEN 2,500.00 (two thousand five hundred Peruvian soles), a certificate issued by MapBiomass Peru, and a scholarship to enroll in a satellite image processing course using Google Earth Engine, delivered by Solved. Likewise, the winner will receive support in the development of communication materials for the winning work, which will be published on the MapBiomass Peru Network's social media channels.

5.3. The **winner of the Public Policy Category** will receive PEN 2,500.00 (two thousand five hundred Peruvian soles), a certificate issued by MapBiomass Peru, and a scholarship to enroll in a satellite image processing program using Google Earth Engine, delivered by Solved. The winner will also receive support in the development of communication materials for the winning work, which will be published on the MapBiomass Peru Network's social media channels.

6. TIMELINE

- **Launch of the Call for Applications:**

March 18, 2026

- **Submission Deadline:**

August 17th, 2026

- **Evaluation Period:**

August–September 2026

- **Announcement of Results and Award**

Ceremony: October 1, 2026

7. GENERAL CONDITIONS

7.1. Winners automatically grant authorization to the MapBiomias Network to reproduce and disseminate their work, as well as any audiovisual material derived from it, through any communication channel.

7.2. Winners agree to participate in the development of audiovisual material (e.g., an explanatory video about their work) for broadcast during the awards ceremony and on the MapBiomias Peru platforms; therefore, at least one of the authors must participate in the creation and validation of the materials.

7.3. The decisions made by the Evaluation Committee are final.

7.4. Failure to comply with any of the instructions established in this call for applications will result in the disqualification of the submitted work.

7.5. This call for applications may be canceled or revoked at any time for reasons of public interest, without giving rise to any compensation or claims.

7.6. Any questions or requests for clarification regarding this call must be sent exclusively to the following email address: mapbiomas.peru@gmail.com.

ANNEX I

Authors' sworn statement

I, _____,

holder of ID (DNI) N° _____ and residing at _____

_____.

I declare:

☒ I am the _____ (primary/secondary) author of the work entitled:

"_____"

submitted to the Third Edition of the MapBiomass Peru Award.

☒ I agree with the terms and conditions of this call for applications.

☒ The publication and submission of this research are my sole responsibility.

Signature _____

Name _____

Date _____