

4-25-1989

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Ecuador: Debt-for-nature Swap

by John Neagle

Category/Department: General

Published: Tuesday, April 25, 1989

On April 5, two US-based groups, the World Wildlife Fund and Nature Conservancy, agreed to absorb \$9 million of Ecuador's foreign debt in return for spending a comparable amount on protecting that nation's natural resources. The agreement with Ecuador marks the largest thus far of the "debt-for-nature" swaps created to discourage environmentally damaging development. (Basic data from Miami Herald, 04/06/89)

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