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**USAID/COLOMBIA FUNDED
CONSERVATION LANDSCAPES
PROGRAM
COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
AID-514-A-09-004**



Photo: PPC / Resguardo Santa María del Condoto, Chocó / Yadira García

**Seventh Quarterly Report
(January-March, 2011)
May 2011**

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ABBREVIATIONS

AATIS	Traditional Indigenous Authorities Association
AECID	Spanish International Cooperation and Development Agency
AEMAPPS	Analysis of Management Effectiveness of Protected Areas with Social Participation
ARD	Associates in Rural Development, Inc.
ASOCARS	Colombian Association of Environmental Authorities
CA	Cooperative Agreement
CAR	Regional Environmental Authority
CC	Community Council
CDB	Convention on Biological Diversity
CIPAV	Sustainable Agricultural Production Systems Research Center
CLP	Conservation Landscapes Program
COP	Chief Of Party
CTC	Technical Consulting Committee
FPN	Patrimonio Natural - Fondo para la Biodiversidad y las Áreas Protegidas
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GHF	Global Heritage Fund
GIS	Geographic Information System
IAVH	Instituto Alexander von Humboldt
ICANH	Instituto Colombiano de Antropología e Historia
IDEAM	Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies Institute
INCODER	Colombian Rural Development Institute
INVEMAR	Jose Benito Vives de Andreis Marine and Coastal Research Institute
MAVDT	Ministerio de Ambiente, Vivienda y Desarrollo Territorial
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
PA – SINAP	SINAP Action Plan
PAU	Project Advisory Unit
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
NNP	National Natural Park
NPU	National Parks Unit
NPS	National Park Service (U.S.)
POA	Annual Operative Plan
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
REM	Special Management Regime
RFA	Request for Appraisal
RFFRA	Request for Final Revised Application
RESNATUR	Colombian Association of Civil Society Reserves
SIAC	Colombian Environmental Information System
SIDAP	Departmental Protected Areas System
SILAP	Local Protected Areas System
SINA	National Environmental System
SINAP	Sistema Nacional de Areas Protegidas
SIRAP	Sistema Regional de Areas Protegidas
SNSM	Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta
STTA	Short term technical assistance
ToR	Terms of Reference
UAESPNN	Unidad Administrativa Especial del Sistema de Parques Nacionales Naturales
USFS	United States Forest Service
USG	United States Government
WB	World Bank



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1. INTRODUCTION

Progress of activities during this quarter has been substantial, although uneven in some areas. Different circumstances have restricted or facilitated the completion of some tasks, while an important portion is in progress. Two parks have been subject to important changes, as new managers have been hired for Catatumbo and Utría. A transitional period in Catatumbo, without a replacement for over two months, was deleterious, affecting the implementation of sustainable production systems, which so far had been satisfactory. The former administrator for Utría did have a connection for a few days with the new manager, improving the situation, but much information about the Program will have to be transferred and incorporated in the plans for action.

In this period many restrictions were found for the normal development of activities, especially because of the negative on the part of the indigenous communities in Cocuy, to work with the Park administration, based on security reasons. More than four months of preparatory work was lost as a result. Another action related to community processes were those for Katíos and the Buritaca river basin in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta; both of them objected the proposals to be developed in those territories on account of different perceptions about the participants or the activities as planned. Several delays in the construction of NPU's infrastructure were found, and as a consequence payments were not made as scheduled. All of these situations have required applying alternative routes, devising other options, modifying contracts, rescheduling activities and arranging meetings with the stakeholders.

On the other hand, there have been important advances in territorial planning, sustainable production systems, capacity-building events, participation of local organizations and the development of ecotourism regulations and activities for its promotion. The institutional strengthening of the NPU is well under way; nonetheless, some strategic documents that would have been delivered in the first quarter are still in extensive review processes, hampering the advancement of indicators related to the Strategic Plan.



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2. SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD

2.1. Assessments, farm planning and plot preparation in Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta

Following a rather slow initial process, where trust had to be recovered between the park's personnel and the population in the Lengüeta sector, visits were made to campesino and indigenous farms in this area of the Sierra Nevada NNP, in order to confirm their interest in the implementation of sustainable production systems. According to this census, tools and materials were acquired for the total of 124 families formerly identified. Some of the land preparation work was collective, so materials and food were given to 113 families, surpassing the 57 families established as the target for this period. Of the 113 families, 111 began plot clearing and soil preparation for food security plots and sugar cane cultivation. Two other families were given wire for fencing to protect sugar cane plots.

Each indigenous family would have the CLP contribution for two hectares of production systems, so the selection of plots was made for a total of 248 hectares in the following locations: El Bogotano, Bunkwimake, Don Dieguito, Jorará, La Meseta, Perico aguao, Quebrada el Sol, El Vaticano and Marquetalia. The extent of this phase of selection and land preparation was 248 hectares, surpassing the target of 112,5 hectares to be reported for this period.

Campesino families in the Lengüeta sector began their farm planning process and soil analysis in 63 farms, where agroforestry plots with cacao will be planted as an alternative for restoring soils formerly planted in illicit use crops. The total area for this landuse planning process is 900 hectares.

Some special areas that require restoration activities are the banks of the Don Diego and Palomino rivers, where an initial diagnostic phase was begun for a 40 hectare area.

These two activities added up with the 1600 ha examined on control and surveillance activities, for the sum of 2.540 ha with an improvement in the natural resource management; as 248 ha have begun their implementation of sustainable production systems, the total sum is 2.788 ha.

2.2. Production systems with the Bari people in Catatumbo

The Bari reservation is overlapped with the Catatumbo NNP, so the Park began the joint implementation of agricultural units in the indigenous communities, following the guidelines of sustainable conservation systems as established in the Special Management Regime signed between the Resguardo and the NPU. Four such agricultural units, benefiting 25 families in the



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communities of Corronkayra, Isthoda, Beboquira and Pathuina began their implementation. These units are mainly food security plots, and some traditional plants for different uses. Introduced medicinal plants, which they also use for their food and health needs, were planted, such as basil, spearmint, wormwood, origan and camomile; additionally bags were prepared to grow traditionally important plants. In each unit a space for a nursery was reserved, and also a plot for growing pumpkins, watermelon, beans and maize.

In the next quarter they have planned to continue planting food security species in the plots thus prepared. Meanwhile they will have training workshops for biological pest management, preparing and using organic fertilizers and seed management and conservation.

Photos:



PPC/ Preparing the plots and nursery areas/ NNP



Protecting the plots with fences in Corronkayra/ NNP



Planting vegetable seeds in Beboquira/ NNP



Compost pile in Pathuina/ NNP



Hands-on workshop on vegetable planting in Pathuina/ NNP



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3. CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

3.1 Challenges met during the reporting period

As most of the local operators are now implementing their projects, the challenge in this period was to adequately support such operation through technical advice, field visits, appraisal of different products reported and their adjustments as required by the coordination. In some cases, these assessments touched upon the targets, others on the quality of reports or requiring more explanations for thorough understanding of achievements. Support was given by the monitoring and evaluation specialist, the technical professional and/or the coordinator. Letters of evaluation for the products received have been considered by the coordination as part of a learning process for parties involved. This allowed also to retrieve capacity building needs in several aspects such as socio-economic diagnosis, land use planning tools, soil analysis, productive systems initial estimation of status for correct application of improvements, organizational training. In this last factor, the challenge is not only a technical training on organization, but also the more psychological content of working together as groups, learning about values such as respect, tolerance, recognizing individual differences and abilities and the place of each person in the organization regarding the functions which have to be accomplished according to their natural capacity and learned competences. This process has been developed in the Utría area with some of the roots-level groups, with professional help given by Fundación Natura.

Another challenge has been to begin implementation of the activities as designed with FIAAT, a local operator for the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, due to the lack of trust by the indigenous authorities of the OGT indigenous organization regarding this new project to be developed in the Buritaca river basin, along the path to Ciudad Perdida and adjoining areas, including the local ecotourism cabins. The reason for this situation stems from the conflict arising at the end of 2009 between different ethnic groups pertaining to the Kogui-Malayo-Arhuaco Resguardo, namely the kogui and the wiwa, as the latter tried to overthrow the current Cabildo Gobernador, an ethnic kogui. Other CLP-related processes with the OGT, to try signing an agreement for implementation of activities, had also been hindered by their negative of obtaining legal paperwork needed to sign contracts (such as the Chamber of Commerce certificate), because of their internal strife, where consensus amongst these factions would be needed to proceed with such requisites. Several meetings were held with the technical sub-direction, the ecotourism office at NPU, the Park's manager and the infrastructure office at NPU, to analyze the project objectives, which comply with the ecotourism and infrastructure plan for the Sierra, and also with the more recent agreements between NPU and OGT regarding these topics. Another meeting was held in Santa Marta between CLP, FIAAT, OGT's Cabildo Gobernador and indigenous representatives, to present and examine the project. Later the same day, in a meeting between CLP and FIAAT with representatives of the wiwa people inhabiting the Buritaca area, who are also local ecotourism



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entrepreneurs, the internal discord and the economic interests which are at stake were manifest. The NPU, through the technical sub-direction and the ecotourism office have been helping to come to an understanding as to the proposed actions regarding the ecotourism infrastructure and related objectives. Meanwhile these delays have required modifications to the contract, demanding all parties to keep an open mind for further changes if needed.

3.2 Major constraints faced during the reporting period

When, after a year of preparatory work, the Katíos proposal was ready, the Technical Committee had been held and the proposal had been approved for its implementation, a letter from Alianza Darién was received. In this communication, the group of organizations participating in the implementation of such proposal gave their support to WWF in the conflict brought up by the afrocolombian community of the pacific region against WWF for their purported actions related to oil palm plantations, reputedly harming afrocolombian territories. In this letter, Alianza Darién said they would not begin any implementation in the region until this conflict was resolved. Many conversations followed and it was finally agreed that at least two of the organizations would participate through separate proposals: one directed to retrieving and compiling relevant and updated materials, and analyzing change trends, risks and threats to biodiversity conservation in the Katíos region, where WWF would carry out the study with remote sensing tools and socio-ecological analyses. Another part would focus on participative fisheries planning, monitoring and assessment in the Tumaradó swamps complex pertaining to the Atrato River, led by the Corporación Ambiental of the Universidad de Antioquia team. These proposals will be delivered in the next quarter.

Another restriction was found in the infrastructure contracts process, due to slow preparation and delivery of terms of reference; then, upon receiving a selected proposal for construction, delays from the contractor in handing over the necessary paperwork for subscribing contracts and their related responsibility studies. Further lagging was then noticed when no construction advances were reported by supervisors from NPU, needing the modification of contracts to include new delivery dates some months later than planned. This situation meant that the schedule for payments was considerably lower than expected, posing problems with execution targets. On the other hand, at least two cabins to be built in the Catatumbo NNP have not been defined because of problems in obtaining official permits from the Indigenous Resguardo, due to changes in the direction of the Resguardo and new provisions stated by Asobarí, the indigenous association representing the Resguardo, meaning that no Chamber of Commerce or any other formal paperwork is available to sign an agreement with them regarding the area for the cabin constructions. This situation has been studied with the infrastructure, legal and technical offices at the NPU, and conclusions are expected in the next quarter to define actions.



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3.3 Challenges expected for the next quarter

1. Receiving, evaluating and approving final proposals for all remaining local operators.
2. Taking final decisions concerning funds for infrastructure where uncertainties remain for their possible completion.
3. Carrying out detailed follow-ups with Parks' administrators, territorial directors and technical sub-direction at NPU to prepare reports for second year completion of activities as planned and prepare work plans for the third year of operation.



4. DETAILED PROGRAM ACTIVITIES DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

4.1 Grants process for local operators

A total of 4 contracts for local operators were signed during this period. One of them is for the Cocuy area (Alta Montaña Andina), two for the Sierra Nevada (Asoprokan and FIAAT) and one for Catatumbo (Funprocep). At the end of the period, still some elements had to be fixed in two further proposals (Asdelco, OGT) so they were scheduled for the next quarter. The process for Katíos approved in February was hampered as explained before, and its resolution is expected also in the next quarter.

4.2 Implementation of activities in the clusters

The liaison officer and the CLP coordinator reviewed a total of 73 applications for activities from the NPU during this quarter, mostly for executing workshops, meetings, field trips and other matters, especially from the parks, compared with 96 in the last quarter, which shows some slacking of activities, mainly in January. Some contracts for technical personnel and infrastructure were also processed. The extent of these activities and results obtained will be examined for each cluster area, including activities executed by local operators.

Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta and Flamencos

Component 1: Improved Licit and Sustainable Livelihoods

Other than the previously reported actions implemented by the NPU in the Lengüeta sector, the Wiwa and Arhuacos indigenous groups have advances in the implementation of sustainable production systems in the selected areas. As established in the contract, the wiwa identified the plots in four different areas, for a total of 30 ha selected for implementation. They also acquired and delivered the tools and materials, and started preparation of the areas for sugar cane plantations, coffee and food security crops. Also, they started cleaning weeds from the portions reserved for the two community nurseries, where 2.000 tree seedlings are being grown for agroforestry plots and restoration activities. A meeting of 27 wiwa communities, with 76 participants was made to explain planning for the project, traditional activities to “cure” whatever damage has been made while tilling or preparing the land for planting.

The arhuacos organized an exchange of traditional seeds with other indigenous groups of the Sierra with 149 participants; knowledge on sustainable production experiences and conservation area management was also exchanged. Tools and materials were handed over to Centro Indígena de Educación Diversificada, the arhuaco indigenous school, where 70 families are beneficiaries through activities implemented with the school, as the production systems will be established in its land. Upon receiving these materials, they began preparing the 2 ha plot for food security, tilling it by hand.



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The kankuamo organization, Asoprokan, signed the contract as local operators at the end of the period, and delivered among their first set of products, the work plan as agreed upon by the Resguardo authorities (Cabildo Gobernador and *mamos*) and the beneficiaries for the production systems; also the initial steps towards establishing 1.000 meters of hedgerows in selected conservation areas.

Another local operator, FIAAT (Fundación de Investigaciones Arqueológicas y Ambientales Tayrona), signed and began the first activities by delivering a training plan on first aid practice, environmental and cultural heritage, and best practice for ecotourism for both local ecotourism guides and the creation of an Eco-Club for children in the school in the locality of El Mamey, on the route to the Ciudad Perdida cultural heritage site and ecotourism destination. Training will begin in the next quarter.

Component 2 - NPU and SINAP Institutional Strengthening and Governance

Support was given by the SNSM Park personnel to 22 students of the ecological group, in order to design the School Environmental Project of the Institución Educativa Distrital Nueva Colombia in Perico aguao, also to the Institución Etnoeducativa Distrital de Bunkwimake, by providing supplies for the school dining-room, benefiting 30 students and providing a suitable place for community meetings.

The NNP trained 20 persons, comprising indigenous authorities and community representatives with a workshop for capacity building and dissemination on activities planned and developed during the period regarding sustainable production practices and food security.

Soil analyses were needed because a good base line will allow precision in technical assistance and the follow-up of plant growth and productivity. A workshop was held by NNP personnel to train 21 persons for soil sampling and farm planning in the Marquetalia sector.

As the forest cover in this sector has been diminished, the farmers have accepted to plant tree species in some selected areas. For this purpose two permanent and two temporary nurseries have to be installed. To begin this work, a practical workshop was held with 46 campesino and indigenous participants in the Perico aguao, La Cascada, Marquetalia and Don Dieguito sectors.

The NNP personnel began the process for updating the prevention, control and surveillance action plan. Related to this plan, six routes for surveillance have been checked for a total of 40 km. with a visual range of 0,4 km, which amounts to 1.600 hectares surveyed in the Lengüeta sector, included in the 3.150 hectares with improved natural resource management, according to the PMP targets for this area in the second year.



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The initial steps for the research plan design were given by identifying the priorities for the SNSM NNP, guided by the central office coordinator in charge of research.

Initial steps were taken for the design, making and installation of signs in selected places of the Lengüeta sector, related to the protected area and indigenous reservation.

Component 3: Social Capital and Community Participation Objectives

The wiwa people organized their first meeting of traditional authorities with representation from 27 communities pertaining to the OWYBT indigenous organization, and a total of 76 persons participating. The characterization of sacred places and important areas for environmental conservation was also carried out by community members in the four selected areas, followed by work agreements between the indigenous authorities, the individual families benefited and the Park's representative. These agreements included identifying environmental conservation areas in each farm and they also analyzed the use and management of the territory. A first workshop for soil management and conservation was held for training the beneficiaries in these topics, with the assistance of 40 persons.

The arhuaco people, began institutional strengthening by a diagnosis of the organization, and initial work on the administrative functions and contracting manuals.

The kankuamos, although just beginning, presented the terms of reference for designing, producing and broadcasting two video environmental programs and 20 radio programs, which will be prepared in parallel with the advance in activities.

Fragua NNP

Component 1: Improved Licit and Sustainable Livelihoods

The Fragua Park personnel located 12 farms with GPS, economic inventories and social maps to begin landuse planning were carried out. 21 food security plots were implemented; also 8 henhouses were installed, 33 temporary nurseries for cocoa seedlings production, and 7 plots for indigenous food security plots prepared in la Cerinda. Four plots were sown with plantains.

16 organizations (14 Juntas de Acción Comunal and 2 reservations) were strengthened by a total of 11 workshops for training on restoration, sustainable production, research and special management strategies with families in the veredas: Alto San Juan, Alto Sarabando, Sarabando medio, Cristalina, Bellavista, Patio Bonito, Aguas Claras, Buenos Aires, Jardín, Andes y Peneya, Aletones, Porvenir. Organizations: Resguardo La Cerinda, Comité de DCCMRF, Asojuntas de Belén de los Andaquíes, JAC de Porvenir, Altones , ACT, WWF, Esawá, DTAM.



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Two workshops on sustainable production systems were held with the families in the veredas Alto San Juan, Sarabando medio, Alto Sarabando, Cristalina and Bellavista. Four workshops on sustainable production and restoration were held on landuse planning and one on forest management was held in La Cerinda reservation. A total of 527 people were trained on the above mentioned topics during this period.

The technical personnel of Amazon Conservation Team delivered tools and materials to 433 families, in order to begin the preparation of plots. Full preparation and planting of plots has not been completed, so no hectares have been reported in the period. 35 local organizations and 401 people participated in the workshops held on sustainable production systems, forest management and restoration, organizational skills and communications.

Component 2 - NPU and SINAP Institutional Strengthening and Governance

Advances in the monitoring and research plans and methodologies were presented and analyzed with the professionals from the central Parks' office. Several surveys were carried out within the park and in the surrounding area, identifying some impacts from mining and oil exploitation. The landuse planning professional has been working on a GIS system to represent land use and municipal protected areas in the region, while training the team in these GIS tools. Remote sensing images are being processed for this purpose. In order to determine the buffer zone, a methodology has been applied. The Rapid Rural Appraisal for the veredas Aletones and el Porvenir was presented in the Interinstitutional Table, along with the new Project to be presented to the Fondo Nacional de Regalías, targeting these veredas.

Continuing the work with Fundación Esawa in the Sarabando river watershed, a second survey was carried out to verify land cover and socialize the Ecological Connectivity proposal with the local community. Meanwhile, the first restoration activities were implemented in 21 ha with three families and seven areas were protected by fencing. Esawá has finished the work for the connectivity proposal in the Sarabando watershed, covering 4.600 ha, in which agreements were signed with the farmers to protect sensitive areas and to establish, with support from the NPU, some forest areas and other tools to promote connections between forest patches.

In the Estrella and Costa Azul veredas, seven farms were located by GPS readings, adjusting the GIS maps. From the legal point of view, a characterization was made of 15 farms, with 13 meetings to validate this information. All this information will contribute to the document on the land use, occupation and tenure conflicts.

Component 3: Social Capital and Community Participation Objectives

With the El Portal reservation the Territorial Security Project was finished and an action plan for its implementation was defined, such as technical assistance for production systems, land



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use planning and restoration, organizational and administrative strengthening for this Resguardo. Other activities were carried out with the La Cerinda reservation, such as the GPS location of potential restoration areas and the first steps to establish fish ponds. Several capacity building activities were carried out in ecological restoration, cocoa nursery, hedgerows and traditional chagras. In order to complement the diagnosis of the indigenous reservation, an analysis was done with the Universidad de la Amazonía on the changes and continuities of sustainable livelihoods over time. All of these activities allowed an important advance with 5.759 Ha in improved biodiversity management, where 2363 ha are farm land use planning, 336 ha are agreements for land use planning within the resguardos la Cerinda and el Portal and 3060 has have been included in control and surveillance actions. F2: 527

Utría NNP

Component 1: Improved Licit and Sustainable Livelihoods

As the indigenous communities have not reached an agreement yet with the Parks' administration to continue the former plan established within the Special Management Strategies, the sustainable production activities have been temporarily cancelled.

On the other hand, the Competitiveness Table for Community Ecotourism in the municipalities of Nuquí, Bahía Solano and the Corregimiento El Valle, met in March to determine the base line for community ecotourism in the area. Meetings will be held every month, where organizational assessments will be carried out. A visit from the Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas nacionales is expected for updating and recording the tourism operators in the area surrounding the Park. Also, the viceministerio de Turismo will review the guidelines for community ecotourism in the region. The tourism secretary of the local mayor's offices in Nuquí and Bahía Solano support this value-added chain.

A visit was done by the Director and Technical Professionals of USAID to the Utría NNP, in order to get acquainted with the local projects and processes. The organizations' representatives presented their projects and discussed the difficulties and challenges encountered during the implementation.

Fundación Natura

A document was prepared with the strategy and method for the analysis and use of monitoring data collected by the Caguama Group, specially the external and internal links that provide sustainability of their actions. One of these links is with the Ministry of the Environment, for the updating of conservation actions related to marine turtles, so a representative of the organization participated in the workshop on the National Program for the Conservation of Marine Turtles, supported by a professional from Fundación Natura, to give an account of the community experience with monitoring and data analyses. Other links are with research and conservation networks, and as a source of information for ecotourism guides around the nesting turtles season. For this activity, they have worked on a training plan for ecotourism



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services, including topics, schedule, resources and type of training. Similar plans have been designed with the Hunters Group and Tío Tigre, the latter being the best at the time.

A thorough revision of former documents on use and management of game and fauna was made and information gaps were identified in order to improve this information for the use of the local Hunters Group and their proposed Game Reservation. Most of this data are useful if the Group wants to have a lasting relation with the NPU, universities or research groups, and for their own use as guides for ecotourism. The important fact is that the Park is now aware that this group may help them in monitoring abundance of populations; the use of trap-cameras and information related to animal behavior can be useful in their dealings with universities such as the U. Distrital and the U. de Antioquia, institutions that are interested in continuing work in these topics.

Another part of the activities are the preparation of plots for food security as an alternative to hunting, for the Hunters Group. This participative process has been an incentive for their own organization in groups according to their abilities: collecting seeds or seedlings, calling the “mingas” or collective work for cleaning and planting. This group is so motivated that they have decided to plant as their own contribution more than originally included in the project, and have included five additional families who, although not in the Hunters Group, live in the area. This is meant to promote the Fauna Reservation area as useful for the community, not only for hunters, and that conservation efforts can be rewarded. The plots have been prepared for planting achin, rice, plantains and fruit trees.

A base line assessment of the status of the 25 “zoteas” and family kitchen gardens has been finished, with the location of these production areas, description of the plants contained and produce that is contributing to the family nutrition, with the needs observed on each for enriching this production system which is exclusively managed by women. There was also a census of what the local restaurants and other ecotourism service providers demand, so that in the near future they can supply these products. Also, one of the women has a nursery and she thinks the kids will have better food from this “zoteas”.

For its implementation, each woman was given a budget to manage, giving them the responsibility for its good use. As a result they have made groups to get the best prices on construction materials and other needs, obtaining more possibilities with this budget. The group has grown in their organizational skills, showing the leadership of Astrith, and they are more empowered. A clear plan for enriching these areas has been drawn, and it has a schedule, responsible persons, their contributions and needs for materials.

Marviva

The aim of this Project is to consolidate a land-use and marine area planning for the Golfo de Tribugá with the participation of the roots-based organizations and other institutions working in the region. The spatial zoning is oriented towards arrangements for local fishers and for the conservation, use and management of the Tribugá mangroves.



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Planning the fisheries in this region is important because it goes beyond the park's limits and is established on strengthening the local alliances for fisheries planning in five coastal municipalities in the chocó coast: Litoral San Juan, Pizarro (Bajo Baudó), Nuquí, Bahía Solano and Juradó. This alliance, known as Grupo Interinstitucional y Comunitario de Pesca Artesanal – GIC-PA, is a union of the local groups and fishers' associations, as well as those organized enterprises processing fish, valled the Federación de trabajadores de la pesca artesanal – costa pacífica chocoana – FEDEPESCA, with 17 fisher groups members, having as its main objective the “planning and strengthening of the local fishers’ activity for improving the livelihoods of fishers and their families”

During the first quarter of 2011, the first meeting of the Coordination Committee of GIC-PA was held, with representatives from Incoder, MarViva and the 17 above mentioned groups of fishers. Debate was given to former work, new needs, better definition of their organizational structure and their operation needs, with responsible persons and specific tasks. The contribution of the CLP was explained and its support to the monitoring initiatives and to create licit and sustainable production alternatives.

Strengthening the GIC-PA as a place for negotiation and decision-making is crucial, as it will allow to establish technical and legal data to propose the creation of a special management area for local fisheries in the Golfo, or the enlargement of the Zona Exclusiva de Pesca Artesanal (ZEPA), which is already in place in the coastal areas of the municipalities of Juradó and Bahía Solano. Support by CLP will contribute to the creation of this instrument for fisheries management over 60.000 ha with this planning tool, allowing 200 families to benefit from licit and sustainable fisheries.

This operator began the workshops with the mangrove-related communities for the land use planning; there are maps with zoning and a characterization of mangroves in process, so that a base line is clear for monitoring and assessments.

There are also advances in the monitoring of fisheries, with information on catches in each location and period. Associated with these data, the socio-economic information has been retrieved in order to characterize the chain of production of fisheries in the Golfo de Tribugá. A model for the local enterprise for sustainable fisheries in the gulf is in process. Drawing the stakeholders map to include authorities has been important in relation with compliance of rules and regulations. There is also a business plan, where the marketing and trading strategy has been defined.

Red Colombia Verde

Work has been progressing with the community service providers associated with Mano Cambiada, with the final objective of improving the standing of the “NUQUI PACÍFICO” product as a highly competitive community ecotourism offering. From the initial mapping of stakeholders in the value chain, 14 different service providers’ groups have been working, including transportation, guides, accommodation and restaurants, to collectively build the Best



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Practice Manual for Community Ecotourism. The general purpose is to create a culture of quality within the production units offering these services, incorporating quality standards, rescuing their cultural traditions and preserving the natural resources of the region.

This process includes a diagnosis, based on the sector's norms, to evaluate the current status of each production unit and establish the training needs for each group, so that compliance to these technical standards can be assured. There is also an analysis of the tourist attractions, security aspects, service provided, communications and environmental education. This strengthening process is directed to consolidate ecotourism as a socially and environmentally sustainable production activity in the Utría NNP influence area.

Component 2 - NPU and SINAP Institutional Strengthening and Governance

The Parks' personnel has continued taking monitoring data and tourism carrying capacity in the Valle-Utría and Cocalito Paths, especially for erosion indicators and weight measures for garbage in the Cocalito Beach, Playa Blanca and administrative headquarters areas. For every visitor, their origin is recorded to complete the Ecotourism Plan data.

Although the contracts have been signed for the new cabins, some problems have hindered their construction.

Some advances have been made by workshops or meetings regarding the research plan, monitoring, aquatic ecosystem restoration, control and surveillance, special management strategies, in order to update the management plans.

Important advances have been made with the Afrocolombian Community Councils, such as a meeting with Los Delfines to review the agreement; support was given to the tourism committee of C.C.el Cedro; meetings were held with the Fauna reservation promoted by the "hunters group" to carry out fauna protection activities by informing restaurant owners on the prohibition to buy/sell bush meat, in particular from threatened animal species; the action plan for 2010 was evaluated and a new one designed for 2011;

The Park personnel received new tools to help them with strategic activities; digital cameras, a canoe, dry boxes for protecting equipment in boats, binoculars, a computer and a printer.

A workshop was held by the NPU in the indigenous community of Santa María de Condoto, with the participation of leaders and local hunters, in order to organize the local monitoring of these hunting species. A local population census update was also made. They agreed to continue monitoring the hunting activities with the forms they already know, and data from the second semester 2010 were analyzed. Although the workshop and related work was possible with this community, there were some meetings with the El Brazo indigenous community but no other agreements were reached regarding the relationship with the Park.



Component 3: Social Capital and Community Participation Objectives

During the first quarter of 2011, an update of the NPU's environmental education strategy was designed and socialized with the Jurubirá and El Valle communities; activities were planned for the Water Day celebration. In this same topic, there were several meetings with schools in the area, to review the action plans signed with them in December 2010, to continue working with students and teachers of the Normal Santa Teresita and Instituto Agrícola, both in field trips and in the classrooms.

Catatumbo NNP

Component 1: Improved Licit and Sustainable Livelihoods

The Park has carried out work on the propagation of ancestral use species for food and medicine, at the same time reconstructing their traditional use by the Bari community of Batroctora: Bachoury (*Calathea* sp) has been propagated by rhizomes (6 plants), Nangkadura (wild pineapple) (40 plantlets), Cobackarú (Urapo) (76 plants), Shiranquira (Cordoncillo), which has been transplanted to the borders of indigenous food security plots (26 plants) and in Corroncayra for cocoa plantations enrichment (87 plants). Bacquira (Barbasco) has been sown in a garden in Pathuina (46 plants) and Codobogba has been sown in the community of Corronkayra (17 seeds).

Work has continued by the Park's technicians to improve the cocoa plantations and their sustainable practice management, giving them some tools and materials for their care and rehabilitation in the communities of Asacbaringocayra, Pathuina, Brubucanina, Korronkayra, Batroctora and Ocbabura. A diagnosis was made on other cocoa plantations in Ayatuina, Boysobi and Suerera, and ¼ of a ha of organic cocoa has been established in Asacbaringocayra and Pathuina to contribute with income generation.

Sustainable production systems were implemented with young people in the communities of Beboquira, where twenty hens will provide eggs for the students, and corn plantations have been established to have feed for the henhouse. Meanwhile, in Korronkayra, Pathuina, Beboquira and Batroctora maize has been planted to provide food for other domestic animals, seeds for further plantings and for the community. Plaintain areas have been selected for agroecological work and arrangements to provide shadow for cocoa plantations.

Fish monitoring with the indigenous people was began by a field visit in Pathuina, with the participation of the cacique, leaders, women, men and children, to identify and draw maps with fishing areas, the main streams and brooks, the hunting areas and the agricultural plots to understand their distribution and relation to their homes. Fish were captured by different traditional means, species identified by the Bari and common names and drawn. A form to collect data was designed with these people to get information as fish arrive to each kitchen.



Proempresas

This enterprise incubator with links to the Universidad Industrial de Santander and an important regional work supporting community-based enterprises, has directed their work with the Bari people to strengthening the cocoa plantations and training on ecological agriculture and related topics. They have began the identification of plots for the establishment of new plantations of the rehabilitation of former cocoa trees that have been abandoned or need cultural practices to improve productivity. First, a characterization was done for each plot, and later, when materials and tools were delivered to the farmers, training sessions began in a learning-by-doing fashion, arranging formerly abandoned cocoa plots. After the first sessions were completed, an evaluation was carried out to identify difficulties, lessons learned and the actual capacity improvement.

Faro del Catatumbo

Many campesino families in this region have been displaced by conflict, so this operator has focused on 50 families of the municipalities of El Tarra and El Carmen that are reconstructing their homes and social ties in different lands to where they lived. Besides strengthening their organizations, food security plots and silvo pastoral systems will be established, so a diagnosis was carried out in 16 farms of San Isidro (El Tarra) and 14 farms in Culebritas (El Carmen) to establish the status of these farms, with land use zoning for cattle pastures, agricultural plots, forest remnants and water sources. A map was drawn with the people for each current situation and future plans for the farm, while locating the areas where the food security and silvo pastoral systems will be established. Also, they identified local plants and animals known to them in each place. A socio-economic diagnosis was made, including both monetary and non-monetary income and activities. A plan was made with each family with a schedule of activities, and the first information was given on the importance of the natural support system for production activities, such as soil, water and forests. The areas for the location of two nurseries for plant propagation (food security species, cocoa, forage species for cattle and native trees) were identified, and protected by fencing. Half of the tools and materials required for the planned activities were delivered to the 30 families benefited during this period.

Some of the activities as planned involve cocoa plantations, where a census, status and requirements of existent plantations was began and shall be strengthened for applying relevant measures for soil fertility, cultural tasks for pest control, and actual income derived from these plantations.

Component 2 - NPU and SINAP Institutional Strengthening and Governance

Control and surveillance field trips were undertaken by the park’s team, the first to the communities of Brubucanina, Batroctora, Shubacbarina, Asacbaringocayra and Ocbabura and the second to Bridycayra, Korroncayra and Ichirindacayra, and the preliminary document for the local action plan on control and surveillance has been made.



In order to establish the tenure status of selected areas, work by the legal office at the NPU has progressed to retrieve information from the Instituto Geográfico Agustín Codazzi, such as legal papers, real-estate numbers and survey certificates. In some cases an application has been filed to obtain a resolution for the official assignment of lands not previously registered as private property.

Component 3: Social Capital and Community Participation Objectives

Some meetings were held between the park’s technicians and the Social Participation office of the NPU to establish the guidelines, adjustments and other contents of the document for the joint land use planning with the indigenous authorities. Topics were identified as zoning, use and regulations.

Funprocep

Activities with this local operator have been designed for strengthening the local indigenous organizations for the planning, land use and management of their territory, as well as the administrative tasks required for taking advantage of opportunities from development agencies and governmental plans and programs. A special section is directed to the educational plan and curricula development for the Escuela Sadou, a place for training and exchange of experiences from both indigenous people and regional or national institutions interested in or related to the Bari people. Initial work began by delivering a detailed work plan, designed jointly with the Asoebarí indigenous association.

Cocuy NNP

Component 1: Improved Licit and Sustainable Livelihoods

Sustainable production systems were to be implemented in the northern part of the Cocuy Park, in the Bachira indigenous reservation area. Work was began by a diagnosis and selection of good conditions to establish 38 food security plots, sugar cane and the facility for its processing (trapiche), pastures for cattle, coffee and fruit trees. After this initial visit was made, the community leaders sent a letter to the Park administrator to announce their negative to work with the Park, for security reasons.

The technician was then transferred to the eastern piedmont of the Cocuy park, in the veredas de Aguas Claras, Malvinas y Naranjos, where campesino communities are more willing to participate, so a diagnosis and action plan will be made and delivered in the next quarter.

Avansar

In the same eastern region of the Cocuy Park mentioned above, this local operator will strengthen coffee production in 46 farms and 92 hectares, in nine veredas of the municipality of Tame, Arauca. After the initial contact and socialization of activities, they had sessions with 15 families to identify with each farmer the action plan, characterization of the farm, land use



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planning (current and future), zoning and location of each coffee plot, streams, forests and pasture, as well as any information pertaining to the status of wild flora and fauna. The socio-economic assessment was also carried out, and current economic activities identified, all of them related to agriculture and cattle ranching.

The first distribution of materials and tools was made, for the establishment of small nurseries (coffee seedlings) and materials to enhance the coffee plantation.

Pantera

Jaguars and other similar wild animals are the focus of this production-conservation project, where the Jaguar Corridor will be established while at the same time providing silvo pastoral systems to improve sustainable cattle ranching in the area of Tame, Arauca, in the eastern section of the Cocuy Park. The Pantera team has established an alliance with Fundación Orinoquia Biodiversa to carry out this project. Both have begun the identification of possible areas for the implementation of an ecological corridor to provide habitat for this feline and related species. Prevention of feline attacks is one of the pillars of this work, as wild species are killed because of such attacks on cattle.

The first workshops with the community were held, in which some local leaders provided important information on feline sightings and reports on attacks. Dissemination of the project's activities was made and an evaluation of potential areas for corridors and for silvo pastoral systems implementation has been done in this period. A program for capacity building of the local population in these topics was delivered and will be in progress shortly.

Component 2 - NPU and SINAP Institutional Strengthening and Governance

Related to the ecotourism activities supported by the Park's administration, a carrying capacity protocol has been designed and an assessment was done for three main paths in the Sierra Nevada del Cocuy. Monitoring impacts of ecotourism will be important, so an assessment is in progress. Related to this activity, some workshops were held to analyze rules and regulations for ecotourism, and support for its evaluation is in process from the professionals in the central office. Tourism attractions have been identified and inventoried in each path or sector. The data base on visitors to the protected area during 2007 and 2009 is being compiled and reviewed for coherence; this tool will be useful for the ecotourism planning document.

Related to ecotourism, the Park is in the process of constructing some bridges along the main visitor paths, and some repairs to the paths will also be made. Signals to indicate locations and directions are in preparation.

Infrastructure for control and surveillance has been designed and the construction contract is in process for the cabin in the Lagunillas sector.



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Monitoring activities have continued on a species of Frailejón, and feline monitoring is considered at the moment by field visits to evaluate this possibility.

Some restoration activities have been planned for the western sector, in the municipality of Chiscas (50 ha), Güicán (56 ha) and El Cocuy (600 ha), identifying potential farms where fencing for passive restoration will be implemented. While a consensus has still to be reached with the landowners, these activities would have important benefits for watershed protection in the Romero aqueduct (150 families), laguna de garza (30 families), irrigation channel of Pie de Manga (30 families), La Pajita channel (25 families), Laguna de Garza channel (15 families), and Romero channel (15 families). Another 18,5 ha in Güicán de la Sierra, vereda Tabor, Ritakuwa sector, a land owned by Infiboy has been characterized and measured for fencing to protect passive regeneration processes.

Security problems have affected the development of consensus building and agreements with the U'wa indigenous communities in the Northern section of the Park. Also, strengthening activities programmed have stopped until the situation is improved.

Component 3: Social Capital and Community Participation Objectives

50 students from the José Santos Gutierrez and El Cardón schools in the Municipality of El Cocuy, and the school in Güicán have participated in propagation of native trees, restoration in the surrounding area or within the park, as part of their social work. Workshops for environmental education have been held in the schools of the Municipality of Güicán, where 75 persons have attended. Similar talks have been organized in the Institución educativa El Cascajal, Municipality of El Espino, Institución educativa El Cardón and Institución Educativa José Santos Gutiérrez, both in El Cocuy, for 180 students. In the eastern section of the Park, environmental education talks have been carried out in the Colegio Nacional San Luis, Escuela rural vereda Macueque Escuela rural vereda Guivarin, students of SENA, Vereda sabana de la vieja, Escuela rural Santa Teresa vereda la Colorada, Hogar Juvenil Campesino. Programa SER, Escuela rural Maria Goretti vereda sabanalarga, all in the municipality of Sácama, Casanare.

Katíos NNP

Component 1: Improved Licit and Sustainable Livelihoods

The technical team of this Park has begun reviewing preceding documents on fisheries of the Tumaradó ciénagas. A map has been drawn where 39 fishing places are located, adjusting the place-names and compiling the catches as to species composition and fishing crafts used in each location.

Meetings were held with the local Community Councils and fishers of Tumaradó, Puente América, Puerto de Unguía, in order to examine former agreements for fisheries management in this lower Atrato river sector. A census was initiated to retrieve data on fishers, fishing crafts



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and catches to feed the SIPEIN tool, a monitoring system designed by Invemar for its application in both continental and marine waters.

Component 2 - NPU and SINAP Institutional Strengthening and Governance

A field trip directed to control and surveillance activities was carried out, with observations and GPS readings on the aquatic ecosystems, taking photos and information on forest edge species, bird species and fish. In the localities of Tumaradó and Puente América social mapping was made with the community as a preliminary process for the agreements to be designed about the fish resources use and management. The GPS equipment was acquired with CLP support, as well as the radio communications systems which are to be delivered in the next quarter.

Some advances were made in the definition of the buffer zone, in association with the programs developed by the regional environmental authority Corpourabá for the protection of biodiversity and sustainable development activities in the area surrounding the Park.

The Management Plan for this park is in the process of adjustment with the help of the NPU central office.

The restoration plan for the area has been designed, field visits were carried out for checking the current situation and it is expected to be implemented shortly as a phase in the land use planning for the park.

Infrastructure repairs for the cabins in Peyé, Sautata y Bijao have been delayed by difficulties encountered for the delivery of quality materials to this location. Several explorations were made before finding a suitable purveyor. A similar situation was found with the construction work, as security considerations prevail when choosing a local person accepted and trusted by the communities in the area, but with enough experience for carrying out the work.

Component 3: Social Capital and Community Participation Objectives

Control and surveillance activities were carried out in the Ciénagas de Tumaradó and the Atrato river, in order to verify if fishers are complying with the use and management agreements regarding the size defined for fishing nets. Workshops, walking tours and games were made with 50 students in the local schools, on sustainable resource management and responsible fishing. In the municipality of Unguía, the environmental week was organized, with the participation of 200 students distributed in groups. A local support group called “Explorers in action” was formed with students, and educational materials were distributed.



Cross-Cutting

Component 2 - NPU and SINAP Institutional Strengthening and Governance

Training and advisory in eco-tourism planning and management: The ecotourism diagnosis for Cocuy was reviewed with the professionals in charge, designing nine monitoring indicators with their reference sheets. Mitigation measures were discussed to relieve impacts. The carrying capacity document has been prepared but the complete ecotourism plan is still in progress.

The carrying capacity and updating of the ecotourism planning documents were examined for Flamencos. Three monitoring indicators with reference sheets were prepared and mitigation measures designed.

The carrying capacity and ecotourism plan documents are ready for Utria, but dissemination is needed for its application. Further developments are expected with the new professional in charge for monitoring impacts, establishing rules and regulations and implementation of the Action Plan.

The **sustainable production systems** professional reviewed current advances in this topic and advice for the processes in the Alto Fragua Indi Wasi, Catatumbo, Katíos and Cocuy Parks.

Control and surveillance: the National Strategy for the Prevention, Control and Surveillance has begun its implementation, by making the local action plans for the National Parks (Catatumbo, Cocuy, Pisba, Tamá, Yariguíes, Guanentá, Iguaque, Estoraques and Cueva de los Guácharos.). Associated methods and forms for survey data recording, linked to the GIS platform of the NPU, were developed.

Research: The following research plans were reviewed with the relevant personnel in each park and are in the process of adjustment: Catatumbo Barí, Los Katíos, Alto Fragua Indi Wasi. For the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta the priorities for research were identified with the parks' team.

Monitoring: Support was given to Alto Fragua Indi-Wasi to design a protocol for ecological restoration, with designs ready for passive and active restoration areas. The conservation objects and values were identified for the following Parks, of which the main ones are mentioned: Utría (fauna, subsistence hunting, ecotourism, turtle nesting), Katíos (land cover, fisheries, restoration) , Cocuy (ecotourism, restoration, sustainable production systems), Alto Fragua (restoration, sustainable production systems, land use, occupation and tenure), Catatumbo (fisheries, restoration).

Training: An agreement was signed with the Universidad para la Cooperación Internacional - Escuela Latinoamericana de Áreas Protegidas (UCI – ELAP) of Costa Rica, with the purpose of strengthening the capacity of the NPU personnel related with its institutional mission.



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New Protected Areas: the NPU presented to the Academia Colombiana de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales Committee the advances and targets for the identification of priorities for in situ conservation in the country. Also, the portfolio of priority areas for 2011 was analyzed, as well as the map on priority areas, conservation pressures, environmental services provided, and cultural protection areas. The declaration processes were presented for 13 potential new areas, of which two have been supported by CLP: Playona Acandí and Bosques Secos de Cúcuta.

Sinap Action Plan: The harmonization process and establishment of new conservation categories for the Risaralda Protected Areas System comprising 17 areas, is in progress with Carder, where GPS readings, maps and validation of limits for these areas have been delivered. Also, an agreement was signed with Instituto Von Humboldt, with the purpose of analyzing, design, development and implementation of a Biodiversity Monitoring Information System for the Sistema de Parques Nacionales Naturales, with the necessary links to the Sistema de Información sobre Biodiversidad de Colombia (SiB-Colombia).



4.3 Communications activities: Success stories

These success stories have been published in the CLP web page.

Historias Exitosas	Enero-Marzo de 2011
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Parque Cueva de los Guácharos

Una experiencia de ecoturismo con historia y tradición

Por: Ítalo Rodríguez A.
Administrador Parque Guácharos



Lugar: Cueva del Indio en el PNN Cueva de los Guácharos.
Foto: Parques Nacionales Naturales

Cuentan los mayores que las visitas al Parque Cueva de los Guácharos, ubicado al suroriente del departamento del Huila, en jurisdicción del municipio de Acevedo, se iniciaron en 1876 cuando fue descubierta la Cueva Grande de los Guácharos, una enorme formación rocosa que alberga diferentes especies, entre ellas, una muy particular, los guácharos, que son las aves frugívoras nocturnas más grandes que existen, reportadas por primera vez en 1979 por

Humboldt, en la Cueva del Valle de Caripe, Estado Monagas, Venezuela. Se dice que en 1880 una persona llevó a Pitalito (Huila) un guácharo y lo exhibió en el parque central y en las calles principales del poblado. Esto despertó el interés de muchos por esta misteriosa cueva, y desde entonces y desde diferentes puntos del país y del exterior, no han cesado las visitas a la misma, por curiosos, ecoturistas, investigadores y académicos.

En septiembre de 1960 el estado empezó a controlar y a manejar este lugar, por esta razón, todas las visitas debían hacerse en compañía de un guía contratado para el efecto. En noviembre de 1960, se creó el Parque Nacional Natural Cueva de los Guácharos (primera área protegida de nuestro Sistema de Parques Nacionales Naturales), y desde entonces, todos sus visitantes deben cumplir unas normas y reglamentos.



Inicialmente los visitantes utilizaban las casas de los colonos asentados en el lugar para su hospedaje y alimentación, luego lo hicieron en la casa del predio La Ilusión, cercana a la cueva del Indio , la cual fue adquirida por el Parque para ser utilizada como puesto de control, vigilancia y centro de visitantes. En la década de 1970, bajo la administración del Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales Renovables (INDERENA), se adquirió la casa del predio Las Brisas, ubicada cerca de la cueva del Hoyo y de la otra cueva de guácharos denominada del Cuadro o Chiquita, que posteriormente se adecuó como Centro Administrativo y de Visitantes.

En 1980 se registra el mayor número de visitas al Parque, algo más de 5.000 personas, un 40% de ellos extranjeros, quienes inicialmente llegaron al país con el fin de visitar el Parque Arqueológico de San Agustín.

Sin embargo, entre septiembre de 1988 y abril de 1992 se cancelan las visitas al Parque, debido a la presencia de actores armados ilegales y de enfrentamientos en el sector de las cuevas. Los funcionarios fueron trasladados temporalmente a otros Parques.



Foto tomada por: David Paéz.
Lugar: Quebrada Lindosa en el PNN Cueva de los Guácharos.

Entre 1996 y 1998, para mejorar las instalaciones del Parque, se construyeron varias obras para funcionarios y visitantes, tiempo durante el cual estuvo cerrado el servicio de visitas. Con las obras se construyó el alojamiento de visitantes, se acondicionó la zona de camping, se construyó la unidad de baños para campistas, el aula ambiental y se adecuaron y señalaron más de 5 Km. de senderos.

Al inicio de 1999 los visitantes al Parque empezaron a pagar tarifas oficiales por concepto de entrada y alojamiento, ese año las visitas ascendieron a 700 personas (de las cuales el 35% procedían de Pitalito), el 95% de dichos visitantes accedieron por la vía de Palestina.

Entre 2006 y 2007 se adecuó una nueva zona de camping para 10 carpas medianas, se remodeló y amplió la cocina-comedor para campistas, se amplió y remodeló el alojamiento de visitantes Andaquí y se construyó el nuevo restaurante.

“Aparte de su función ecológica, el Parque cumple una función social, pues genera ingresos a las comunidades aledañas a través del ecoturismo, que a su vez, es una estrategia muy importante para generar apropiación o sentido de pertenencia a las comunidades aledañas o a las personas



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que visitan y disfrutan este maravilloso espacio natural”, señaló Claudia Cervera, funcionaria del Parque.

Además, el Parque trabaja con las comunidades de su zona aledaña en el ordenamiento ambiental del territorio. Esta estrategia incluye la planificación de los predios allí inmersos, con el ánimo de aportar a su sostenibilidad productiva, social, cultural y económica a lo largo del tiempo. Los predios involucrados en esta estrategia, si cuentan con escritura, pueden inscribirse y ser manejados como Reservas Naturales de la Sociedad Civil; de lo contrario se les denomina Fincas Productivas Sostenibles o Fincas Demostrativas.

Una de las principales características de estas Reservas o Fincas Demostrativas es que generan ingresos por concepto de agroecoturismo, y como son fincas aledañas al Parque, esta actividad se articula a las actividades ecoturísticas del mismo. Esta es la manera más sostenible para que la comunidad pueda aprovechar la conservación de la naturaleza, aparte de los otros bienes y servicios ambientales que ésta le presta.

“Las comunidades aledañas se benefician directamente del ecoturismo mediante la venta de productos de sus fincas, transporte de personas o equipajes a lomo de mula o caballo, servicio de guías , garaje de vehículos, hospedaje, venta de alimentos, trabajo temporal en el restaurante del



Foto tomada por: Ricardo Reyes.
Instalaciones operativas y para visitantes en el Sector Cedros.

Parque y mantenimiento de la infraestructura ecoturística del Área”, complementa Cervera.

Para que la comunidad se articule y participe de este proceso, el Parque realiza diferentes acciones como talleres de capacitación, sensibilización, articulación e intercambio de experiencias; giras comunitarias al Parque, a Reservas Naturales de la Sociedad Civil o a Fincas manejadas sosteniblemente; participación en mercados de experiencias productivas y extractivas sostenibles, y asistencia a eventos regionales o nacionales sobre

ecoturismo rural.

Actualmente, con el apoyo del Programa Paisajes de Conservación, financiado por la Agencia de Estados Unidos para el Desarrollo Internacional (USAID), se siguen fortaleciendo las acciones para mejorar los servicios de ecoturismo y la promoción, a través de diferentes medios, de la riqueza natural de esta importante Área Protegida.



Parque Catatumbo-Barí

Un paisaje lleno de oportunidades

Por: Edwin Martínez, coordinador de proyectos de Proempresas

Salir, dejar tu familia, ir a otro país tan solo con la ropa que se lleva puesta en el momento y muchos sentimientos encontrados. Tal vez parecieran ingredientes propios de una común historia aventurera; sin embargo fue lo que vivió *Julián Azoira*, joven indígena Barí, originario de Batroctora, comunidad ubicada en las riberas del río de Oro, a 5 horas en canoa de su actual sitio de estancia, *karikachaboquira* (Norte de Santander, nororiente colombiano).



Julián con su abuelo en su finca familiar.
Foto: Paisajes de Conservación / Parque Catatumbo / Proempresas

Hace ya 10 años que la guerra en la región del Catatumbo (comprende los municipios de Tibú, Convención, Ocaña, Teorama y El Tarra) tuvo su punto álgido: desplazamientos, muerte, desolación. Durante este tiempo, puede decirse que los grupos ilegales han tenido cierto “respeto” (si se le puede llamar así al pedir permiso para destruir) por los Barí. Sin embargo, Julián por ser “mestizo”, hijo de madre Bari y padre blanco, ha tenido que enfrentar la dureza de estos grupos armados en carne propia.

Al igual que miles de personas fue víctima del desplazamiento forzado a cambio de no perder la vida; esto lo llevó a refugiarse en su misma comunidad pero con asentamientos al otro lado de la frontera con el vecino país de Venezuela. “Tal vez por las condiciones en las que llegué hicieron que los paisanos del “otro lado”, me brindaran una cálida recepción”, recuerda Julián.

Con el pasar de los días, se hizo notorio por su espíritu de crecer, de querer ayudar a la consolidación de su comunidad. La atracción por la academia y el gusto por una mujer de su nueva comunidad, lo llevaron a obtener una beca por parte del gobierno venezolano, para estudiar en la Universidad del Táchira, en san Cristóbal, a un par de horas de Cúcuta.



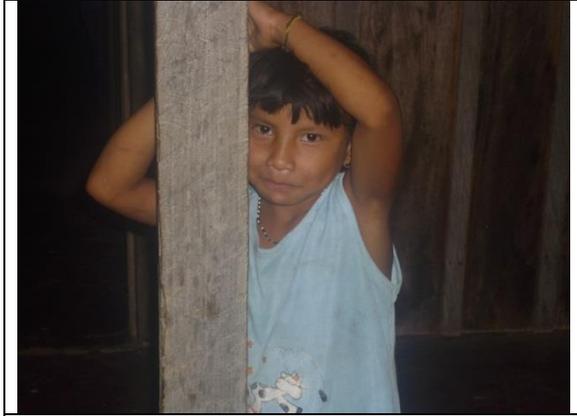
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En una de las socializaciones del Programa Paisajes de Conservación, este joven de 24 años encontró una nueva oportunidad para el desarrollo de los suyos, y desde entonces siente la oportunidad de resarcir de alguna manera, como lo expresa, “los daños causados al haber tenido que trabajar en un par de temporadas en la recolección de la coca, pero es que claro en esas condiciones (hace la seña de una pistola) uno o acepta o acepta”.



La hija de Julián.

Foto: Paisajes de Conservación / Parque
Catatumbo / Proempresas

Hoy, Julián entiende que el daño va más allá de haber hecho algo ilegal, el daño a los consumidores, a sus manos y a la tierra, que es sagrada para los Barí. Llevar esto en su espalda es un precio muy alto.

Ahora está concentrado en terminar su carrera, y espera unirse a sus compañeros indígenas para aportar desde sus conocimientos.

“Veo en este programa un escenario para iniciar mi aporte comunitario, prometo asistir a las capacitaciones, ya más maduro, con más conocimientos académicos y el reconocimiento por parte de la comunidad como uno de sus jóvenes líderes”, resalta.

Será un recurso humano muy valioso, que empujará a sus paisanos para mejorar su calidad de vida. Por último comenta: -“No ha sido fácil lo que he vivido, pero hoy tengo a mi familia y a las oportunidades que este programa brinda a mi comunidad, estoy seguro de que si trabajamos juntos, siempre podremos mejorar”.

Parque Utría

MONITOREO DE FAUNA CON LA COMUNIDAD INDIGENA DE SANTA MARIA DE CONDOTO



Taller de monitoreo de cacería en Santa María de Condoto.
Foto: Paisajes de Conservación / Parque Utría / Julián Olaya

Con el fin de discutir y analizar las problemáticas resultantes de la disminución de los animales de monte, en el mes de marzo 2011 se realizó una visita a Santa María de Condoto, comunidad ubicada en el límite sur oriental del PNN Utría y con la cual se presenta un traslape del territorio con el Parque.

Durante el encuentro se destacó el interés del Área Protegida en la conservación de la fauna y las prácticas ancestrales; además se hizo un énfasis a la importancia que tienen los animales en la seguridad alimentaria de la comunidad y cómo los

cambios culturales, tecnológicos y generacionales han afectado la disponibilidad de la fauna.

Con acompañamiento de algunos de los cazadores, mujeres y de los maestros de la comunidad, se analizaron los datos que desde el mes de septiembre del año anterior (2010) el experto local contratado por el Parque, colectó sobre las faenas de cacería.

“Los resultados mostraron una situación crítica en términos de seguridad alimentaria, donde en un periodo de seis meses se habían capturado 10 animales (entre ellos venados, guagua, ñeque, zainos y armadillos) de los cuales solo 165 personas se habían alimentado (de una comunidad de 703 habitantes)”, explicó Julián Olaya, funcionario del Parque Utría.

Después de discutir sobre la situación alimentaria y de abundancia de los animales de monte, se hizo evidente que el monitoreo es una herramienta clave

para hacer seguimiento a los animales y para poder tomar decisiones de manejo que aseguren la disponibilidad del recurso para las generaciones futuras.



Taller de monitoreo de cacería en Santa María de Condoto.
Foto: Paisajes de Conservación / Parque Utría / Julián Olaya



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Como compromisos para dar continuidad a este proceso, se desarrollarán de manera conjunta entre la comunidad y el Parque, estudios que permitan conocer cuántos animales hay en la selva (evaluación del estado de las poblaciones).



4.4 PMP report on CLP activities

Indicator	Base line June 2009	Target attained December 31 2010			Target attained Jan1-Mar31 2011					Accumulated advance in Mar31 2011		Target in July 2012
		Cluster Pacífico	Cluster Catatumbo	Total target attained	Cluster PNN SNSM	Cluster Catatumbo	Cluster AFIW	Cluster Cocuy	Total target attained	# of Families	Accumulated percentage	
Indicator 1: Number of families benefiting from sustainable production systems, supported by CLP.	Zero Families	PNN Utría	PNN Catatumbo		82	PNN SNSM	PNN Catatumbo	PNN AFIW		Avansar	666	315
		75	7	124		25	39	45				

Indicator	Base line June 2009	Target attained December 31 2010				Target attained Jan1-Mar31 2011					Accumulated advance in Mar31 2011		Target July 2012
		Alto Fragua Cluster	Catatumbo Barí Cluster	Pacific Cluster	Cocuy Cluster	Sierra Nevada Cluster	Pacific Cluster	Cocuy Cluster	Advance in quarter	# Organizations	Accumulated %		
Indicator 2: Number of enterprises, cooperatives, producers' associations and other community organizations supported by CLP	Zero organizations	PNN Alto Fragua	PNN Catatumbo	PNN Utria	PNN Cocuy, Asdelco	Advance in quarter 33	Resguardos Arhuaco, Kankua mo y Wiwa	RCV & Marviva		PNN Cocuy	Advance in quarter 46	79	316%
		4	1	21	7		3	31	12				

Indicator	Base line June 2009	Target attained December 31 2010			Target attained Jan1-Mar31 2011			Accumulated advance in Mar31 2011		Target in July 2012
Indicator 3: Number of hectares in sustainable production processes	Zero Hectares	Cluster Pacifico	Cluster Catatumbo	Total target attained	Cluster PNN SNSM	Cluster AFIW	Total target attained	# of Hectares	Accumulated percentage	8500
		PNN Utría	PNN Catatumbo		PNN SNSM	PNN AFIW				
		7	10	17	248	32,7	280,7	297,7	3,50%	
Indicator	Base line June 2009	Target attained December 31 2010		Target attained Jan1- Mar31 2011		Accumulated advance in Mar31 2011		Target in July 2012		
Indicator 4: Variation in the advance of implementation of Strategic Programs of the NPU in the protected areas supported by CLP (index of target accomplished measured in %)	Zero Points	Description	Total target attained	Description	Total target attained	Description	Total target attained	Target in July 2012		
		Five protected areas building consensus and implementing Special Management Strategies in overlapped areas with indigenous reservations and/or adjoining areas to Collective Territories of Afro-colombian communities with CLP support.	5 points (25% advance in the implementation of Strategic Programs of the NPU in the protected areas supported by CLP.	PNN Alto Fragua Indi Wasi y PNN Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta with a control and surveillance plan operated with CLP support.	1 Point	Five protected areas building consensus and implementing Special Management Strategies in overlapped areas with indigenous reservations and/or adjoining areas to Collective Territories of Afro-colombian communities with CLP support: 5 Points One or two protected areas with a control and surveillance plan in operation by July 2012 with CLP support: 1 point	6 points :30% advance in the implementation of Strategic Programs of the NPU in the protected areas supported by CLP.	16 points: 80% advance in the implementation of Strategic Programs of the NPU in the protected areas supported by CLP.		



Indicator	Base line June 2009	Target attained by December 31 2010		Target attained Jan01-Mar31		Accumulated advance Mar31 2011		Target by July 2012
		Description	Total target attained	Description	Total target attained	Description	Total target attained	
<p>Indicador 5: Number of new monitoring processes implemented in the focal areas of the 6 Parks included in the CLP</p>	<p>Zero new monitoring processes implemented with CLP support</p>	<p>* Monitoring subsistence hunting with indigenous communities in NNP Utría. *Monitoring the population status of “frailejones” species in the Cocuy NNP. *Monitoring population status of aquatic bird species in Complejo Volcánico Doña Juana NNP (Alto Fragua Cluster). * Monitoring population status of <i>Pentacalia sp.</i> in the Complejo Volcánico Doña Juana NNP (Alto Fragua Cluster).</p>	<p>4 new monitoring processes implemented in the protected areas of the five CLP clusters</p>	<p>No valid targets are reported</p>	<p>Not reported</p>	<p>* Monitoring subsistence hunting with indigenous communities in NNP Utría. *Monitoring the population status of “frailejones” species in the Cocuy NNP. *Monitoring population status of aquatic bird species in Complejo Volcánico Doña Juana NNP (Alto Fragua Cluster). * Monitoring population status of <i>Pentacalia sp.</i> in the Complejo Volcánico Doña Juana NNP (Alto Fragua Cluster).</p>	<p>4 new monitoring processes implemented in the protected areas of the five CLP clusters: 33% of the proposed target by July 2012</p>	<p>24 new monitoring processes implemented in the focal areas of the 6 Parks included in the CLP. (4 new processes by protected area)</p>



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Indicator 6.	Base Line July 2010		Target attained	Total Target July 2012
6. Percentage of improvement in the management of protected areas according to the AEMAPPS index. (Increase of short term efficiency)	NATIONAL NATURAL PARK	INCREASE OF SHORT TERM EFFICIENCY	According to PMP a new measure will be done in July 2011	Increase of short term efficiency index according to AEMAPPS methodology
	PNN Cocuy	57%		
	PNN Catatumbo	64%		
	PNN Alto Fragua	58%		
	PNN Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta	70%		
	PNN Utria	68%		
	PNN Katios	43%		

Indicator 7.	Base Line July 2009	Target attained	Accumulated advance Mar31 2011	Total Target July 2012
7. Variation of the percentage of ecosystems represented in the SINAP	52%	No advance reported	0,8% (As a result of declaration of the Bahía Málaga Park)	Increase of the base line percentage



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Indicator	Base line June 2009	Target attained 31 December 2010	Target attained Jan1-Mar31 2011			Total advance	Total target July 2012
			Pacific Cluster		Advance in this quarter		
Indicator 8: Participation of community organizations in biodiversity conservation activities (index in %)	Zero organizations participating in biodiversity conservation activities	Total	RCV	Marviva		31 Organizations	60 Organizations
		29 Organizations	14 Organizations	17 Organizations			
		282 Persons	55 Persons	25 Persons	80 persons		



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Indicator	Base line June 2009	Target attained December 31 2010			Target attained Jan1 - Mar31 2011							Accumulated advance in Mar31 2011		Target by July 2012
		Proces ses for declari ng new Sinap areas	Clúster Alto Fragua Indiwasi	Total target attaine d	Clúster SNSM NNP	Clúster Alto Fragua Indi Wasi		Clúster PNN Cocuy			Total target attain ed	# biodiver se hectares with improve d natural resource manage ment	Accumul ated advance in percenta ge	
Uramb a- Bahía Malaga NNP	PNN Complejo Volcánico Doña Juana (Ha in C&V)	PNN SNSM	PN N AFI W		Fund. Esawa	PNN Cocuy								
		Ha. en SPS	Ha. in C& V		Ha en SPS	Ha en C&V	Ha. in landuse plannin g and connect ivity	Ha. in ecotou rism planni ng						
Indicator F (1): Number of biodiverse hectares, with improved natural resource management by CLP interventions.	Zero biodiverse hectares with natural resource management improved by CLP interventions	47.094	870	47.964	248	160 0	39	3060	4600	76	9623	57.587	69%	83.000 Ha biodiverse hectares, with improved natural resource management by CLP intervention s



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Indicator	Base line July 2009	Target attained by December 31 2010							Target attained Jan01-Mar31					Accumulated advance Mar31 2011		Target July 2012		
		Pacific Cluster		Catatu mbo Cluster	Alto Fragua Indi Wasi Cluster	Sierra Nevada Cluster	Cocuy Cluster	Cross- cutting	Total target attained	Pacific Cluster	Catatu mbo Cluster	Cocuy Cluster	Sierra Nevada Cluster	Fragua cluster	Advance in quarter		Total target attained	Accumul ated %
<i>Indicator F(2):</i> Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation.)	Zero persons receive training/technical assistance by CLP	PNN Utría	PNN Katíos	PNN Catatambo	PNN Alto Fragua	PNN Sierra Nevada	PNN Cocuy	Cross-cutting	434	PNN Katíos	Funprocep	PNN Cocuy	Resguardo Arhuaco & PNN	Fund. Esawá	879	1313	23%	5734 persons received training/technical assistance by CLP
		98	1	30	27	40	218	20		86	240	156	259	138				



5. LOOKING FORWARD: PROGRAM ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT QUARTER

Table No. 1 - Schedule of activities (April-June 2011)

CLP - SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES				
APRIL-JUNE 2011				
No.	AREA	ACTIVITY	PRODUCT	DATE
1	NPU implementation of activities in workplans	2.1. Finish with the respective officers the terms of reference for NPU's acquisitions of equipment and infrastructure	TOR's released and proposals received	April-May
		2.2. Contracts and acquisitions processes for cross-cutting activities and Parks under way	Evaluations made, responsibility studies completed and contracts signed for NPU infrastructure and equipment contracts	May-June
		2.3. Report preparation for NPU activities	Officials in charge of reporting preparing and delivering reports	June
		2.4. Operative committee meeting with NPU for revision of results and management issues	Results and management issues examined and actions planned for application	Monthly
		2.5. Assisting the NPU, grantees and local operators for compliance of environmental regulations (training and assistance for filling in SIGA environmental revision forms)	NPU's relevant officers and local operators trained and supported for environmental requirements procedures and approval	April to June
2		2.6. Environmental requirements prepared and approved by MEO	SIGA files included and approved by MEO	April to June
3	Local operators' grants allocation process	3.1. Evaluating technical and financial relevance and requiring adjustments for proposals from local operators: Cocuy, Sierra Nevada, Katíos	Proposals evaluated in technical and financial terms, approved by CTC, adjusted according to recommendations	April-May
		3.2. Present proposals for approval by the CTC	Proposals considered and grants conferred by CTC	May
		3.3. Receive and evaluate reports for products from local operators	Reports evaluated and payments approved	Monthly
		3.4. Environmental requirements prepared and approved by MEO and PAS conducted for potential local operators	Environmental requirements fulfilled and approved by MEO. PAS conducted for local operators signing contracts: Cocuy, Katíos, Sierra	April-June
		3.5. Reception and evaluation of proposals	Proposal received and evaluated	April-June
		3.6. Meetings with local operators for proposals' adjustments and explanation of procedures for grants	Meetings held, questions cleared and proposals adjusted according to requirements	April-June
		3.7. Preparation of grant documents for local operators contracts in Cocuy, Katíos and Sierra Nevada	Local operators contracts signed and in operation	April-June



4	Performance Monitoring Plan adjustments and implementation	4.1. Compiling data related to targets and results analysis.	Data retrieval and report of activities on PMP implementation.	Monthly
		4.2. Support the grant evaluation process by assessing potential targets for grant proposals submitted for appraisal by the CLP	Potential targets estimated according to technical and financial options contained in grant proposals	April-June
5	Communications strategy implementation	5.1. Web page contents updated	Web page in operation	Monthly
		5.2. Disseminate branding and marking manual with concerned public	Branding and marking manual distributed and its application by operators validated	Monthly
		5.3. Receive the results of the waiver application	Waiver application received and applied to the relevant areas	May-June
		5.4. Revision and approval process for radio programs with the NPU	Broadcasting of radio programs by the university radio network	Weekly
		5.5. Obtain and distribute information on CLP's processes and results by different media	Information on the CLP disseminated by outreach materials to the general public	Monthly
6	SoW amendment	6.1. Prepare a document for an amendment of the cooperative agreement	Delivery of document for amendment approval process by USAID	May-June
7	Executing mid-term audit	8.1. Executing mid-term audit	Audit executed	April-June

Table No. 2: Local Operators Schedule for Proposal Evaluation/Approval

PARK/CLUSTER	Type instrument/ number	Release	Place and date Meeting with operators	Deadline RFA due	Evaluation and CTC approval	Adjusted proposals ready	Agreement signed
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta	CLP-APS-007-2010 (campesino communities)	15 May 2011	Valledupar, May 2011	25 May 2011	30 May 2011	5 June 2011	15 June 2011



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