



Convention on  
Biological Diversity



# Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 Country Dossier: COLOMBIA

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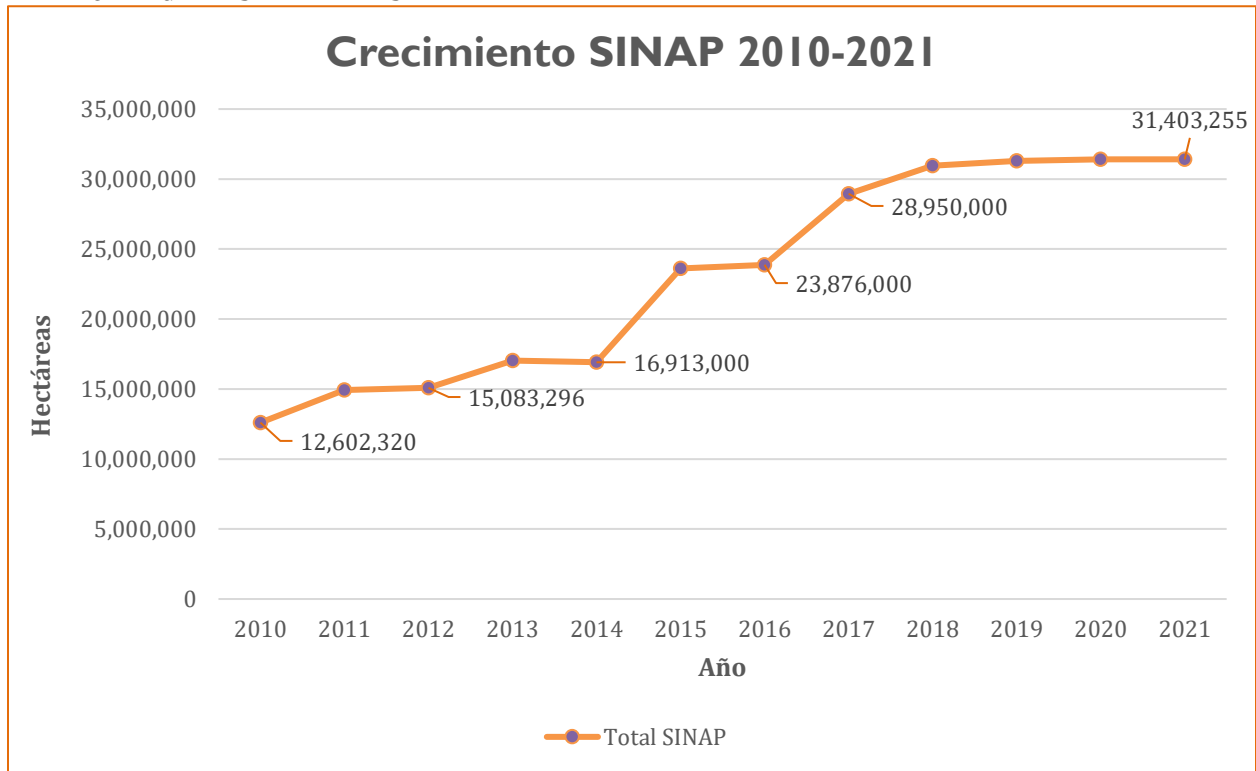
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## GLOSSARY

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AZEs	Alliance for Zero Extinction sites
CEPF	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
EBSA	Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Area
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GD-PAME	Global Database on Protected Area Management Effectiveness
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IBA	Important Bird and Biodiversity Area
ICCAs	Indigenous and Community Conserved Area Area (may also be referred to as territories and areas conserved by Indigenous peoples and local communities or “territories of life”)
IPLC	Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
KBA	Key Biodiversity Area
MEOW	Marine Ecosystems of the World
MPA	Marine Protected Area
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
OECD	Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures
PA	Protected Area
PAME	Protected Area Management Effectiveness
PPA	Privately Protected Area
PPOW	Pelagic Provinces of the World
ProtConn	Protected Connected land indicator
SINAP	<i>Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas de Colombia</i> [National PA System]
SOC	Soil Organic Carbon
SPNN	System of National Natural Parks of Colombia
TEOW	Terrestrial Ecosystems of the World
WDPA	World Database on Protected Areas
WD-OECD	World Database on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures

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This country dossier is compiled by the UNDP and SCBD from publicly available information. It is prepared, within the overall work of the Global Partnership on Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, for the purpose of attracting the attention of the Party concerned and other national stakeholders to facilitate the verification, correcting, and updating of country data. The statistics might differ from those reported officially by the country due to differences in methodologies and datasets used to assess protected area coverage and differences in the base maps used to measure terrestrial and marine area of a country or territory. Furthermore, the suggestions from the UNDP and SCBD are based on analyses of global datasets, which may not necessarily be representative of national policy or criteria used at the national level. The analyses are also subject to the limits inherent in global indicators (precision, reliability, underlying assumptions, etc.). Therefore, they provide useful information but cannot replace analyses at a national level nor constitute a future benchmark for national policy or decision-making.

The preparation of this dossier was generously supported by: the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH*; the European Commission; the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and the Government of Japan (Japan Biodiversity Fund). The dossier does not necessarily reflect their views.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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This document provides information on the coverage of protected areas (PAs) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), as currently reported in global databases (the World Database on Protected Areas ([WDPA](#)) and World Database on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures ([WD-OECM](#))). It also includes details on the status of the other qualifying elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 based on this data. These statistics might differ from those reported officially by countries due to difference in methodologies and datasets used to assess protected area coverage, differences in the base maps used to measure terrestrial and marine area of a country or territory, or if global datasets differ from the criteria and indicators used at the national level. This dossier also provides a summary of commitments made under Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, and a summary of potential opportunities regarding elements of the target for future planning.

The dossier has been developed in consultation with the UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), which manages the WDPA, WD-OECM and Global Database on Protected Area Management Effectiveness ([GD-PAME](#)). Parties to the CBD are requested to contact [protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org](mailto:protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org) with any updates to the information in these databases.

### Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 Elements: Current status and opportunities for action

#### Coverage - Terrestrial & Marine

- **Status:** as of June 2021, the National System of Protected Areas (SINAP) of Colombia covers 18,960,437.65 ha terrestrial (**16.61%**) and 12,442,700.41 ha marine (**13.40%**); values differ slightly from those reported in the WDPA, largely due to the use of different base maps.
- **Opportunities for action:** opportunities for the near-term include updating the WDPA with any unreported PAs, and the recognizing and reporting OECMs to the WD-OECM. In the future, focus on relatively intact areas, while addressing the elements in the following sections, could be considered when planning new PAs or OECMs.

#### Ecological Representativeness— Terrestrial & Marine

- **Status:** Colombia has identified 240 ecosystem units at the national level, of which 64 (26.7%) have greater than 30% coverage by PAs and OECMs, while 71 (29.5%) have under 2% represented. For a finer resolution analysis, Colombia has identified 400 biotic units for continental and insular areas; to date, 260 biotic units do not reach the 17% conservation target, with 73 not yet represented. For marine and coastal environments, of the 5 ecosystem units identified, all have at least some representation in the PA system.
- **Opportunities for action:** there is opportunity for Colombia to increase protection in ecosystem units and biotic units that have lower levels of coverage by PAs or



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OECMs. Ecosystem units and biotic units which currently have no coverage by PAs or OECMs are key areas for action.

### Areas Important for Biodiversity

- **Status:** Colombia has 151 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs): the mean protected coverage of KBAs by reported PAs and OECMs is 49.2%, while 44 KBAs have no coverage by reported PAs and OECMs.
- **Opportunities for action:** there is opportunity for Colombia to increase protection of KBAs that have lower levels of coverage by PAs and OECMs; priority could be given to those with no current coverage.

### Areas Important for Ecosystem Services

- **Status:** Colombia has 59.7 million ha of forests, which represent avoided emissions of 28,379, 00 MtCO<sub>2e</sub>; of which PAs managed by SPNN (System of National Natural Parks of Colombia), conserve 12.4 million ha of forests, with avoided emissions of 6,342.96 million tCO<sub>2e</sub>.
- **Opportunities for action:** for carbon, there is opportunity for Colombia to increase PA and OECM coverage in both marine and terrestrial areas with high carbon stocks. Protecting areas with high carbon stocks secures the benefits of carbon sequestration in the area.
- For water, there is opportunity to increase the area of the water catchment under protection by PAs and OECMs, or in cases where there is high levels of protection, focus on effective management for these areas. Protecting the current area of forested land and potentially reforesting would have benefits for improving water security.

### Connectivity and Integration

- **Status:** For structural connectivity of the National System of Protected Areas (taking SPNN areas as core zones): 42% of the PAs are connected, with 21% of this connectivity based on protected and regional areas. Structural connectivity also differs between regions in Colombia.
- **Opportunities for action:** there is opportunity for a targeted increase in connecting PAs or OECMs and to focus on PA and OECM management for enhancing and maintaining connectivity. Improving connectivity increases the effectiveness of PAs and OECMs and reduces the impacts of fragmentation. As connectivity differs between regions in Colombia, different approaches for each region may be required.
- As well, a range of suggested steps for enhancing and supporting integration are included in the voluntary guidance on the integration of PAs and OECMs into the wider land- and seascapes and mainstreaming across sectors to contribute, inter alia, to the SDGs (Annex I of COP Decision 14/8).



### Governance and Equity

- **Status:** Colombia's protected area system is made up of both public and private PAs with national, regional (public) and local (private) governance (within the WDPA, 68.1% of reported sites are under private governance).
- Regional subsystems of SINAP differ with respect to the articulation and participation of various actors (environmental authorities, civil society, NGOs, productive sectors, etc.). Based on an assessment of 59 national PAs (of the SPNN), 23% have an effective relationship with productive sectors and 23% are on the way to building it.
- **Opportunities for action:** explore opportunities for governance types that have lower representation. There is also opportunity for Colombia to implement the results of completed governance and equity assessments, to establish baselines, and identify relevant actions for improvement. As well, a range of suggested actions are included in the voluntary guidance on effective governance models for management of protected areas, including equity (Annex II of COP Decision 14/8).

### Protected Area Management Effectiveness

- **Status:** As of 2020, 109 PAs of Colombia's National Park System have implemented a management effectiveness methodology (covering ~9% of the national territory). Based on data in the GD-PAME (including only 60 completed assessments), 76.4% of the area of terrestrial PAs and 25.6% of the area of marine PAs have completed Protected Area Management Effectiveness (PAME) assessments reported (the actual values will be higher, when the remaining PAs are included).
- Based on results of the management effectiveness index, for the 109 PAs monitored, the median effectiveness rate is 65.16% (considered intermediate); 56.88% of the PAs are in an intermediate management situation, while 39.44% are in a strong situation regarding management effectiveness.
- **Opportunities for action:** there is opportunity to increase protected area management effectiveness evaluations and reporting (using the various national methodologies developed) for terrestrial and marine PAs. It is noted that these analyses should be carried out periodically
- There is also opportunity to implement the results of completed management effectiveness evaluations, to improve the quality of management for existing PAs and OECMs (e.g. through adaptive management and information sharing, increasing the number of sites reporting 'strong management') and to continue reporting of biodiversity outcomes in PAs and OECMs.





## INTRODUCTION

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The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 was adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan from 18-29 October 2010. The vision of the Strategic Plan is one of “Living in harmony with nature” where *“By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people”* (CBD, 2010). In addition to this vision, the Strategic Plan is composed of 20 targets, under five strategic goals. Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 states that *“By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.”*

With the conclusion of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in 2020, Target 11 on area-based conservation has seen success in the expansion of the global network of protected areas (PA) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs). The negotiation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and its future targets provide an essential opportunity to further improve the coverage of PAs and OECMs, to improve other aspects of area-based conservation, to accelerate progress on biodiversity conservation more broadly, while also addressing climate change, and the Sustainable Development Goals. This next set of global biodiversity targets are to be adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. These new targets must aim to build upon lessons learned from the last decade of progress to deliver transformative change for the benefit of nature and people, to realize the 2050 Vision for biodiversity.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity have developed the Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 Country Dossiers, which provide countries with an overview of the status of Target 11 elements, opportunities for action, and a summary of commitments made by Parties over the last decade. Each dossier can support countries in assessing their progress on key elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 and identifying opportunities to prioritize new protected areas and OECMs.

This dossier provides an overview of area-based conservation in Colombia. Section I of the dossier presents data on the current status of Colombia’s PAs and OECMs. The data presented in Section I relates to each element of Target 11. Section I also presents the PA and OECM coverage for two critical ecosystem services: water security and carbon stocks. In addition, the dossier presents potential opportunities for action for Colombia, in relation to each Target 11 element. The analyses present options for improving Colombia’s area-based conservation network to achieve enhanced protection and benefits for livelihoods and climate change. Section II presents details on Colombia’s existing PA and OECM commitments as a summary of existing efforts towards achieving Target 11. This gives focus not only to national policy and actions but also voluntary commitments to the UN.

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Furthermore, where data is available, this dossier provides information on potential OECMs, Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs; also, often referred to as territories and areas conserved by Indigenous peoples and local communities or “territories of life”) and Privately Protected Areas (PPAs) and the potential contribution they will have in achieving the post-2020 targets.

The information on PAs and OECMs presented here is derived from the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) and World Database on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (WD-OECM). These databases are joint products of UNEP and IUCN, managed by UNEP-WCMC, and can be viewed and downloaded at [www.protectedplanet.net](http://www.protectedplanet.net). Parties are encouraged to provide data on their PAs and OECMs to UNEP-WCMC for incorporation into the databases (see e.g., Decisions 10/31 and 14/8). The significant efforts of Parties in updating their data in the build up to the publication of the Protected Planet Report 2020 (UNEP-WCMC and IUCN, 2021) were greatly appreciated. UNEP-WCMC welcomes further updates, following the data standards described here ([www.wcmc.io/WDPA\\_Manual](http://www.wcmc.io/WDPA_Manual)), and these should be directed to [protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org](mailto:protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org). The statistics presented in this dossier are derived from the May 2021 WDPA and WD-OECM releases, unless explicitly stated otherwise. Readers should consult [www.protectedplanet.net](http://www.protectedplanet.net) for the latest coverage statistics (updated monthly).

Some data from the WDPA and WD-OECM are not made publicly available at the request of the data-provider. This affects some statistics, maps, and figures presented in this dossier. Statistics provided by UNEP-WCMC (terrestrial and marine coverage) are based upon the full dataset, including restricted data. All other statistics, maps, and figures are based upon the subset of the data that is publicly available.

Where data is less readily available, such as for potential OECMs, ICCAs and PPAs, data has also been compiled from published reports and scientific literature to provide greater awareness of these less commonly recorded aspects. These data are provided to highlight the need for comprehensive reporting on these areas to the WDPA and/or WD-OECM. Parties are invited to work with indigenous peoples, local communities and private actors to submit data under the governance of these actors, with their consent, to the WDPA and/or WD-OECM.

Overall, PAs and OECMs are essential instruments for biodiversity conservation and to sustain essential ecosystem services that support human well-being and sustainable development, including food, medicine, and water security, as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation and disaster risk reduction. The data in this dossier, therefore, aims to celebrate the current contributions of PAs and OECMs, whilst the gaps presented hope to encourage greater progress, not just for the benefit of biodiversity and the post-2020 GBF, but also to recognize the essential role of PAs and OECMs to the Sustainable Development Goals and for addressing the climate crisis.



## SECTION I: CURRENT STATUS

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Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 refers to both protected areas (PAs) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs). This section provides the current status for all elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, based primarily on reporting of national progress, as reported in Colombia's report *Progreso del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas de Colombia*, also including in some instances data from global indicators. Statistics for all elements based on these global indicators are presented using data on both PAs and OECMs (where this data is available and reported in global databases like the WDPA and WD-OECM). It is recognized that statistics reported in the WPDA and WD-OECM might differ from those reported officially by countries due to differences in methodologies and datasets used to assess protected area coverage and differences in the base maps used to measure terrestrial and marine area of a country or territory. Details on UNEP-WCMC's methods for calculating PA and OECM coverage area available [here](#). The global indicators adopted here for presenting the status of other elements of Target 11 may also differ from those in use nationally.



## COVERAGE - TERRESTRIAL & MARINE

As of June 2021, the National System of Protected Areas (SINAP) of Colombia is made up of **1,359** protected areas that occupy an area of 31,403,255.35 hectares, equivalent to 15.17% of the National Territory.<sup>1</sup>

This coverage is distributed as follows:

- 18,960,437.65 ha terrestrial, equivalent to **16.61%** of the land area of Colombia.
- 12,442,700.41 ha marine, equivalent to **13.40%** of the marine surface of Colombia.

This represents significant growth in terms of coverage during the period of the Aichi Targets (2011-2020). See graph in Annex I.

For further details on national progress in Colombia see the report *Progreso del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas de Colombia*, as well as: Document CONPES 4050 of 2021 of Policy for the Consolidation of the National System of Protected Areas SINAP 2021-2030; the Document “Policy for the consolidation of the National System of Protected Areas, Vision 2021-2030”; and the diagnostic document “Towards a policy for the SINAP of Colombia Vision 2020-2030”.

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<sup>1</sup> Data for PA coverage in Colombia from the WDPA differs slightly (<https://www.protectedplanet.net/country/COL>); in May 2021, the WDPA listed 1340 PAs covering 16.9% terrestrial (193,617.9 km<sup>2</sup>) and 17.2% marine (125,437.0 km<sup>2</sup>).

The difference is that UNEP WCMC is taking official country boundary data that is not correct. On October 13, 2020, Colombia sent a verbal note to UNEP through the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Colombia to the United Nations. In it, the figures for the protected areas of Colombia and the official limits of the country are summarized. According to the note verbale, “despite the information contained in the aforementioned database, we note serious discrepancies between the information submitted by Colombia and the information reflected on the [...] WDPA. We kindly request the good offices of UNEP-WCMC to make the necessary corrections and adequately reflect Colombia’s information in both WCPA and Protected Planet Report 2020 ”.

This is because, as stated in the verbal note, “It is necessary to consider that the land and maritime limits of the republic of Colombia are: 2,070,408 km<sup>2</sup> of total surface, distributed in a continental area of 1,141,748 km<sup>2</sup> and a maritime area of 928,660 km<sup>2</sup>. These limits are in the public domain and can be consulted at: <http://ssiglwps.igac.gov.co/digeo/app/index.html> ”



## Potential OECMs

Examples of potential OECMs in Colombia:

Potential OECM example	Area covered
Civil Society Natural Reserve “Agua Clara and Valle Lindo”	395.4 ha
Bitá, Protected River, Colombian Orinoco Basin.	~8,500 km <sup>2</sup>
Special Management Area of Afro Colombian Communities of the upstream of the Amurrupe River, Risaralda.	10,823 ha.
Jaba Tañiwashkaka de la Linea Negra, Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta.	230ha
Robles conservation corridor reaches four municipalities: Duitama (Boyacá), Encino, Charalá and Coromoro (Santander).	Various
Civil Society Natural Reserve “El Oasis”.	53.7 ha
Civil Society Natural Reserve “El Silencio”.	118ha
Water Reciprocal Agreements, a Case of PES.	Various
“El Morron” Rural property of Municipality of La Celia, Risaralda Dept.	30 ha
Dos Quebradas, Napoles Site Natural Municipal Park, Local PA.	72.43 ha
Traditional Fishing Exclusive Zone. Chocó coast, Chocó Department.	250,000 ha
Cerro Sancancio, City of Manizales, Caldas Department.	74.22 ha

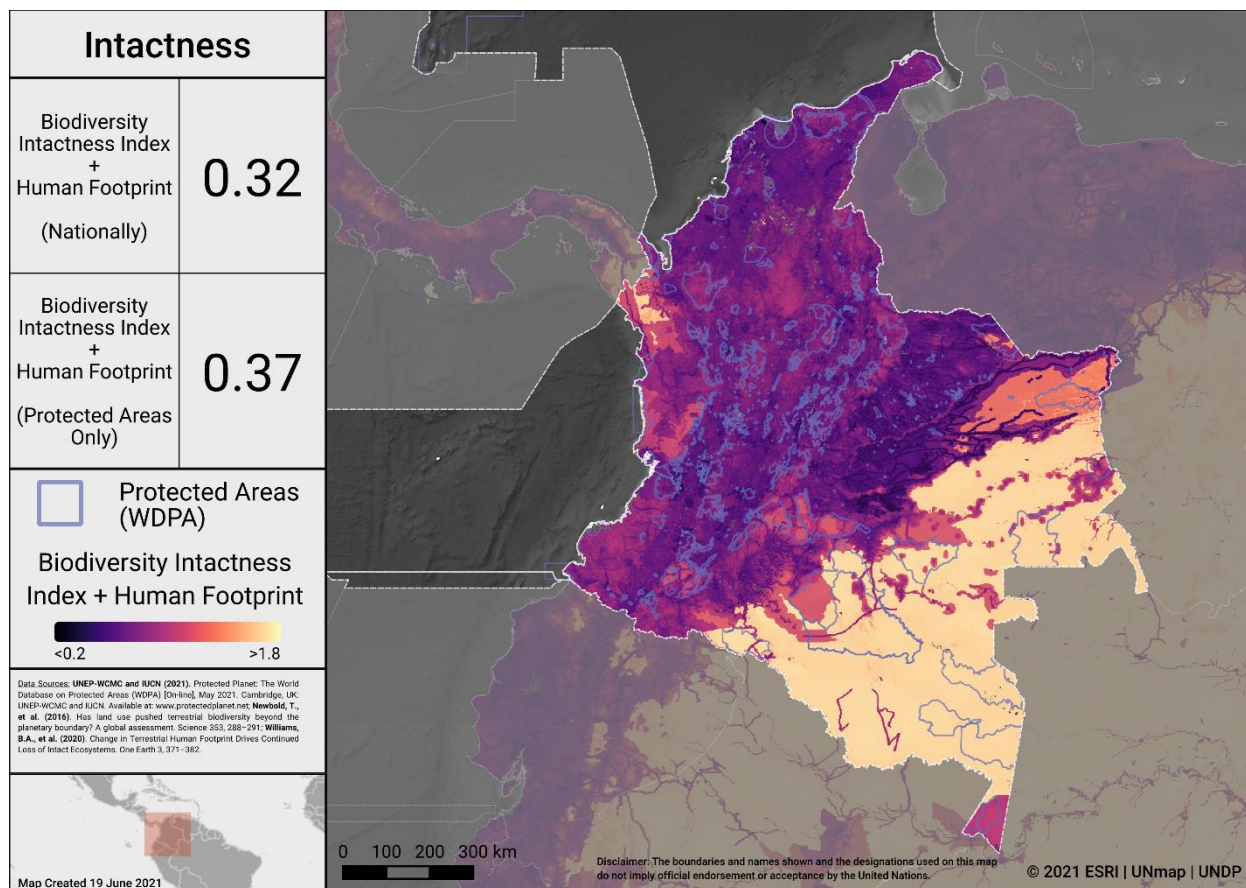
See further details in the Collation of OECM Case Studies (IUCN, 2017), summarized in Annex II of this dossier.



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### Opportunities for action

Opportunities for the near-term include updating the WDPA with any unreported PAs, and recognizing and reporting OECMs to the WD-OECM. In the future, as Colombia considers where to add new PAs and OECMs, the map below identifies areas in Colombia where intact areas are not currently protected. Focus on relatively intact areas, while addressing the elements in the following sections, could be considered when planning new PAs or OECMs.



Intactness in Colombia

To explore more on intactness visit the UN Biodiversity Lab: [map.unbiodiversitylab.org](http://map.unbiodiversitylab.org).

### ECOLOGICAL REPRESENTATIVENESS – TERRESTRIAL & MARINE

In Colombia, ecological representativeness is understood as the percentage of adequate samples from the complete range of ecosystems and existing ecological processes that are conserved under in situ conservation strategies such as protected areas (CONPES).<sup>2</sup> Therefore, it is understood that SINAP is representative, if: i) the biodiversity that is protected reaches the specific conservation goals for each level and, ii) these areas and the systems in which they are found, have the functionality and other ecological qualities that allow its viability in the long term, taking into account global change scenarios (conceptualization for SINAP, within the framework of the process of formulating a new policy for SINAP 2021-2030).

An analysis of conservation priorities at a scale of 1: 500,000 (see Andrade & Corzo, 2011), identified **240 ecosystem units** for Colombia. Colombia achieved an increase from 73% to 83% of ecological representativeness between 2010-2018, that is, the protection of 199 of 240 ecosystem units.

Representativeness	Ecosystem units
Complete Representativeness	7
Representativeness between 50% - 99,9 %	27
Representativeness between 30% - 49,9 %	30
Representativeness between 10% - 29,9 %	63
Representativeness between 5% - 9,9 %	16
Representativeness between 2% - 4,9 %	26
Representativeness between 0,00001% - 1,9 %	30
No Representativeness = 0	41
<b>Total Ecosystem Units Colombia</b>	<b>240</b>

Among some of the ecosystems that need to be included in the SINAP, we can mention ecosystems of the Serranía de San Lucas, southern foothills of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Matavén forests, dry ecosystems of Patía, Serranía del Naquén, flooded savannas de Arauca, among others.

In relation to the marine and coastal environments of the 5 units identified in 2009 (On the map of continental, coastal and marine ecosystems of Colombia-IDEAM 2015), to date they all have some level of representation in the PA system. However, there are ecological units

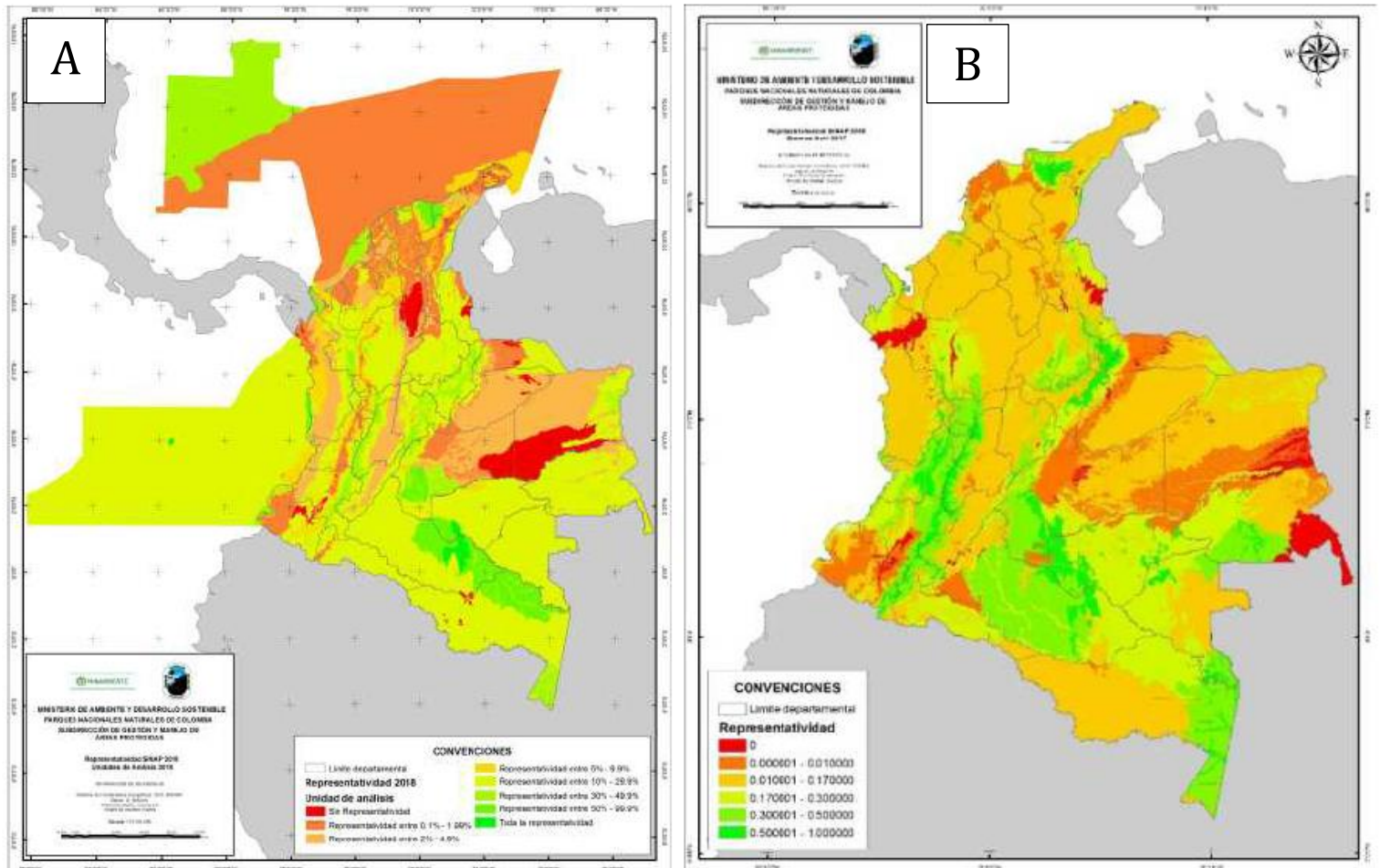
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<sup>2</sup> For further details on national progress in Colombia see the report *Progreso del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas de Colombia*



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with very low representation, such as the oceanic Caribbean unit - marine Caribbean and marine palomino, among others (see map below, panel A).



**Mapa 1 -** Mapa de representatividad ecológica dentro del SINAP.

Fuente: Construcción PNN 2020, a partir de

a) biomasa a escala 1:500.000 (Fuente Andrade y Corzo et al. 2011), y

b) biomasa y Unidades Bióticas incorporadas en el mapa de ecosistemas continentales, costeros y marinos de Colombia, escala 1:100.000 (Fuente: IAvH, 2018).

In recent years, Colombia has made progress in improving the resolution and quality of cartographic and technical information, which has made it possible to improve the scales for the analysis of representativeness because the biomes and ecosystems of Colombia have been characterized with greater precision. Based on the information led by the Alexander von Humboldt Biological Resources Research Institute -IAvH- from the map of biomes and Biotic Units incorporated in the map of continental, coastal and marine ecosystems of Colombia, (IDEAM et al, 2017), 400 units of ecosystem analysis (Biomasa



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IAvH) are identified for the continental and insular areas. To date, 260 biotic units do not reach the conservation goal of 17%. Of these, 73 are not yet represented.

For marine and coastal environment (see details in Alonso et al., 2019), assessing the representativeness measurement on “conservation elements (fourteen (14) for the Caribbean, eleven (11) for the Pacific), representativeness values for MPAs are classified as: Excellently Represented: ER ( $\geq 60\%$ ); Well represented: BR (30-59%); Underrepresented: SR (10-29%); Not represented: NR ( $<10\%$ ).

In sum, 9 elements (64.2%) are underrepresented or not represented in the Colombian Caribbean, such as estuaries (3.7%), sedimentary bottoms (5.1%), coastal mangroves (9.2%), coastal lagoons (9.96%), among others (see table). Ferns are the most represented (98.5%), as well as deep coral formations (64.7%) and shallow coral formations (62.85%). Among the least represented are the mixed Guadalupe forest (1.48%), and the sedimentary bottoms (22.69%), while the most represented are the crabs (98.9%) and shallow coral formations (90.9%).

### Opportunities for action

There is opportunity for Colombia to increase protection in ecosystem units and biotic units that have lower levels of coverage by PAs or OECMs. Ecosystem units and biotic units which currently have no coverage by PAs or OECMs are key areas for action.



## AREAS IMPORTANT FOR BIODIVERSITY

### Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)

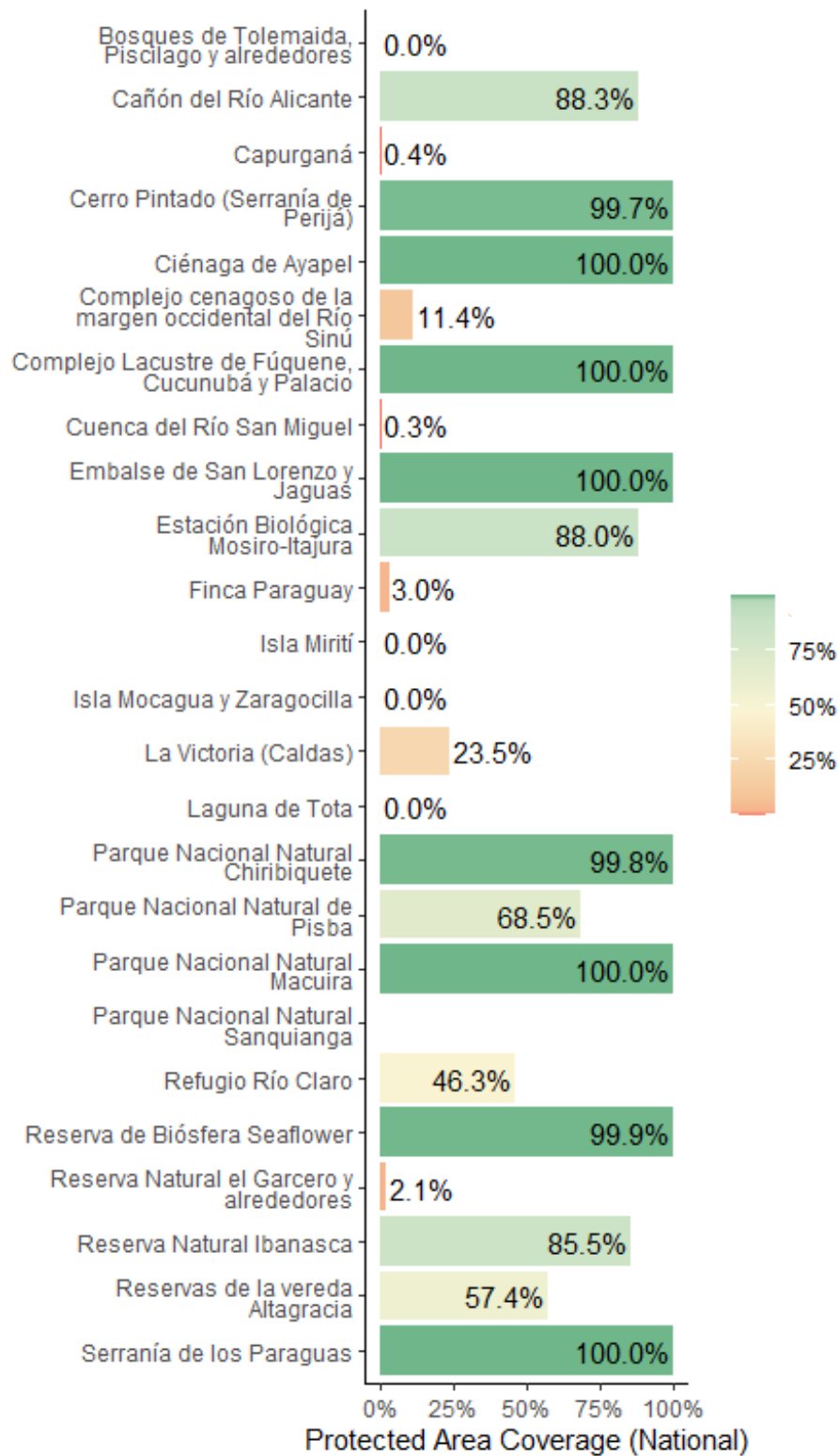
Protected area and OECM coverage of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) provide one proxy for assessing the conservation of areas important for biodiversity at national, regional and global scales. KBAs are sites that make significant contributions to the global persistence of biodiversity (IUCN, 2016). The KBA concept builds on four decades of efforts to identify important sites for biodiversity, including Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas, Alliance for Zero Extinction sites, and KBAs identified through Hotspot ecosystem profiles supported by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund. Incorporating these sites, the dataset of internationally significant KBAs includes Global KBAs (sites shown to meet one or more of 11 criteria in the Global Standard for the Identification of KBAs, clustered into five categories: threatened biodiversity; geographically restricted biodiversity; ecological integrity; biological processes; and irreplaceability), Regional KBAs (sites identified using pre-existing criteria and thresholds, that do not meet the Global KBA criteria based on existing information), and KBAs whose Global/Regional status is Not yet determined, but which will be assessed against the global KBA criteria within 8-12 years. Regional KBAs are often of critical international policy relevance (e.g., in EU legislation and under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands), and many are likely to qualify as Global KBAs in future once assessed for their biodiversity importance for other taxonomic groups and ecosystems. To date, nearly 16,000 KBAs have identified globally, and information on each of these is presented in the World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas: [www.keybiodiversityareas.org](http://www.keybiodiversityareas.org).

Colombia has 152 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) [**151 KBAs** included in analysis]

- Mean percent coverage of all KBAs by PAs and OECMs in Colombia is **49.2%**.
- **41** KBAs have full (>98%) coverage by PAs and OECMs.
- **66** KBAs have partial coverage by PAs and OECMs.
- **44** KBAs have no (<2%) coverage by PAs and OECMs.
- *1 KBA lacks spatial data to allow PA and OECM coverage to be determined*

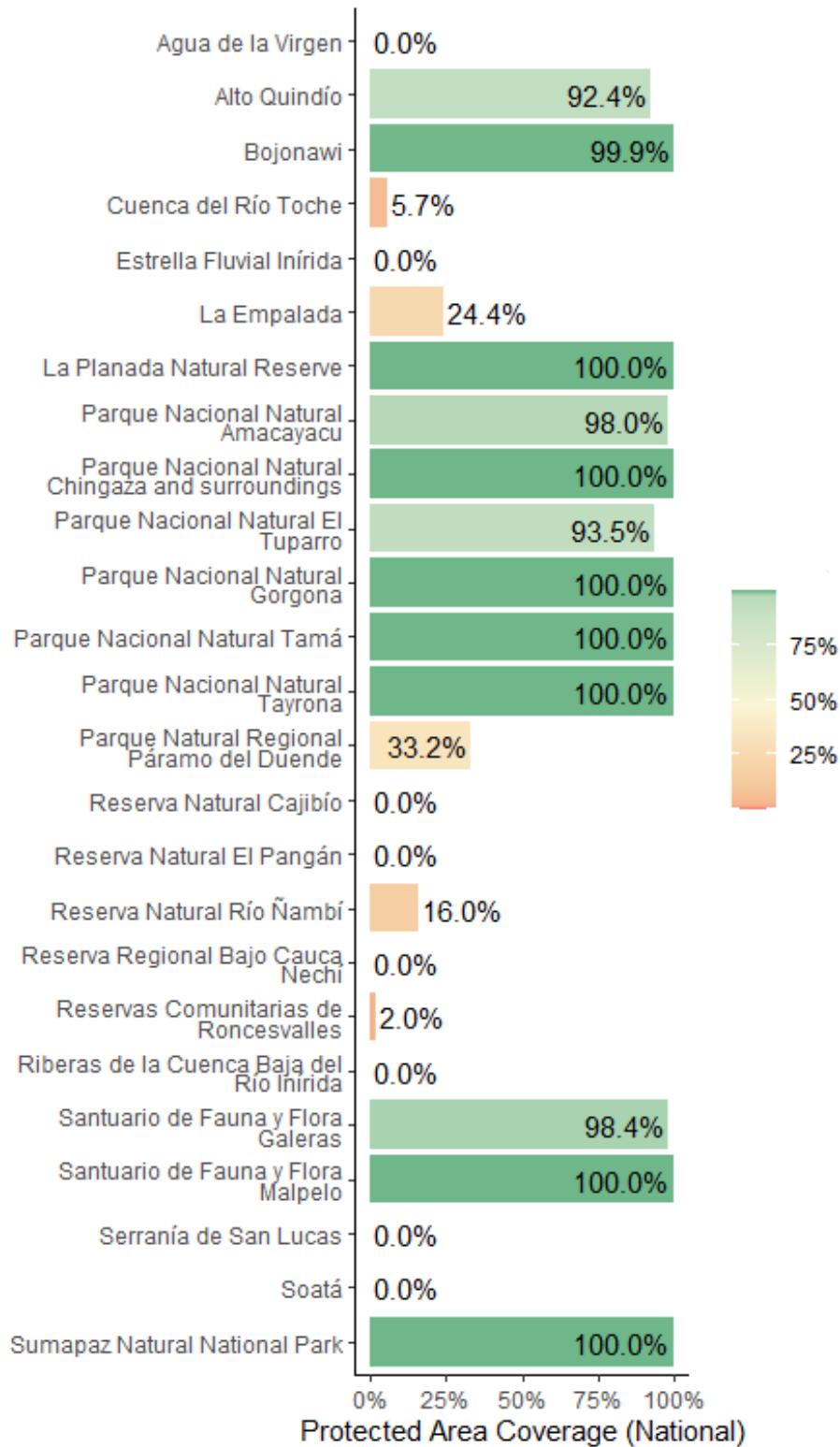
Currently, Colombia has taken the initiative to create a KBA National Coordination Group. To this end, the co-focal point of the KBAs of the Latin American and Caribbean region has proposed terms of reference for their creation. As part of the articulation process of this initiative, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, at the head of its Directorate of Forests, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, has proposed that, in conjunction with National Natural Parks of Colombia, the Alexander von Humboldt Institute and partner organizations, the country advances in integrating the KBA exercise into the national priority table. The inputs from the KBA Group will be essential for the exercise that guides the definition of conservation priorities in the next 10 years and, with this, consolidates the Conservation Goals for the different levels of biodiversity.



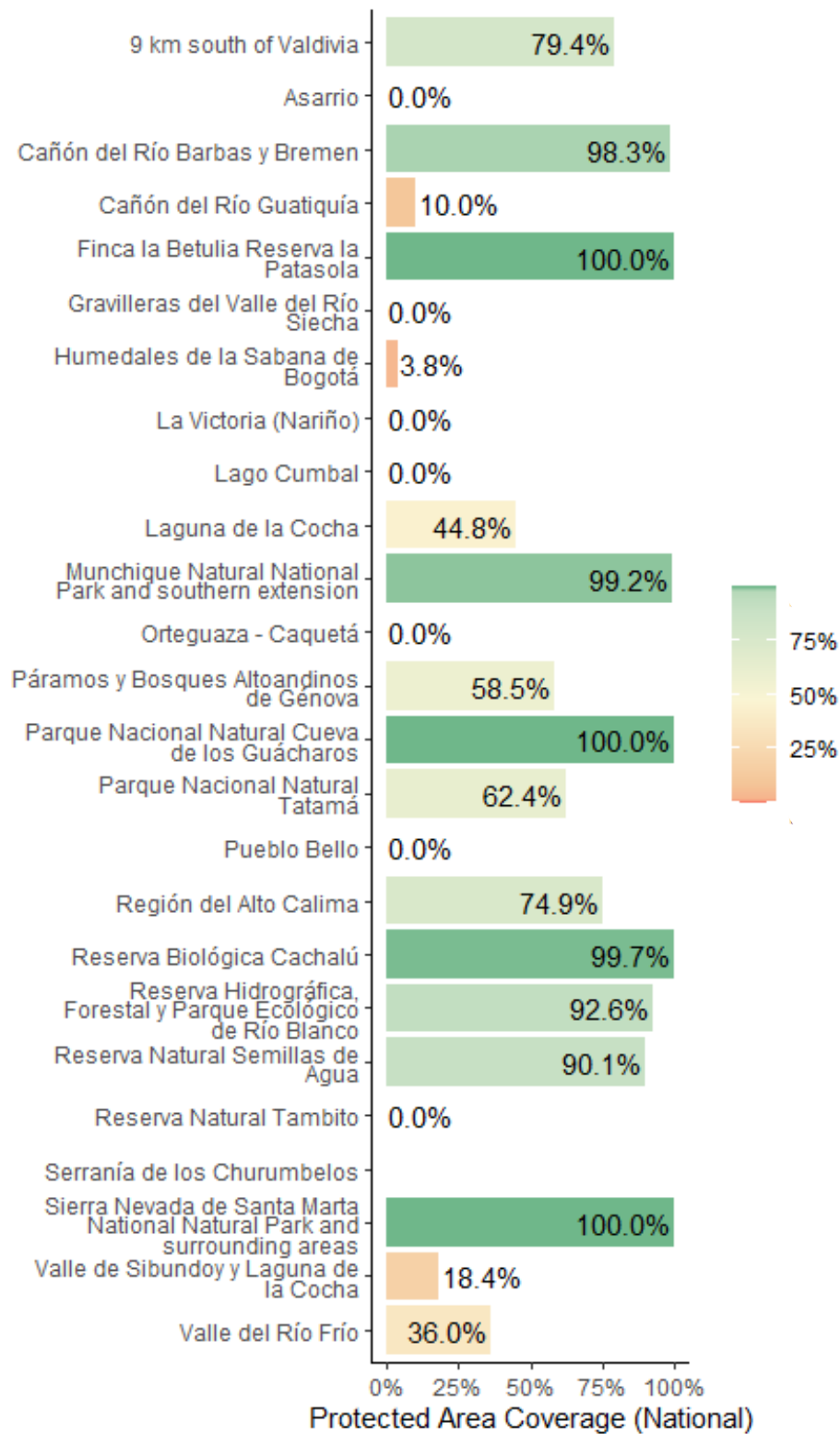


Key Biodiversity Area Coverage (KBA) in Colombia

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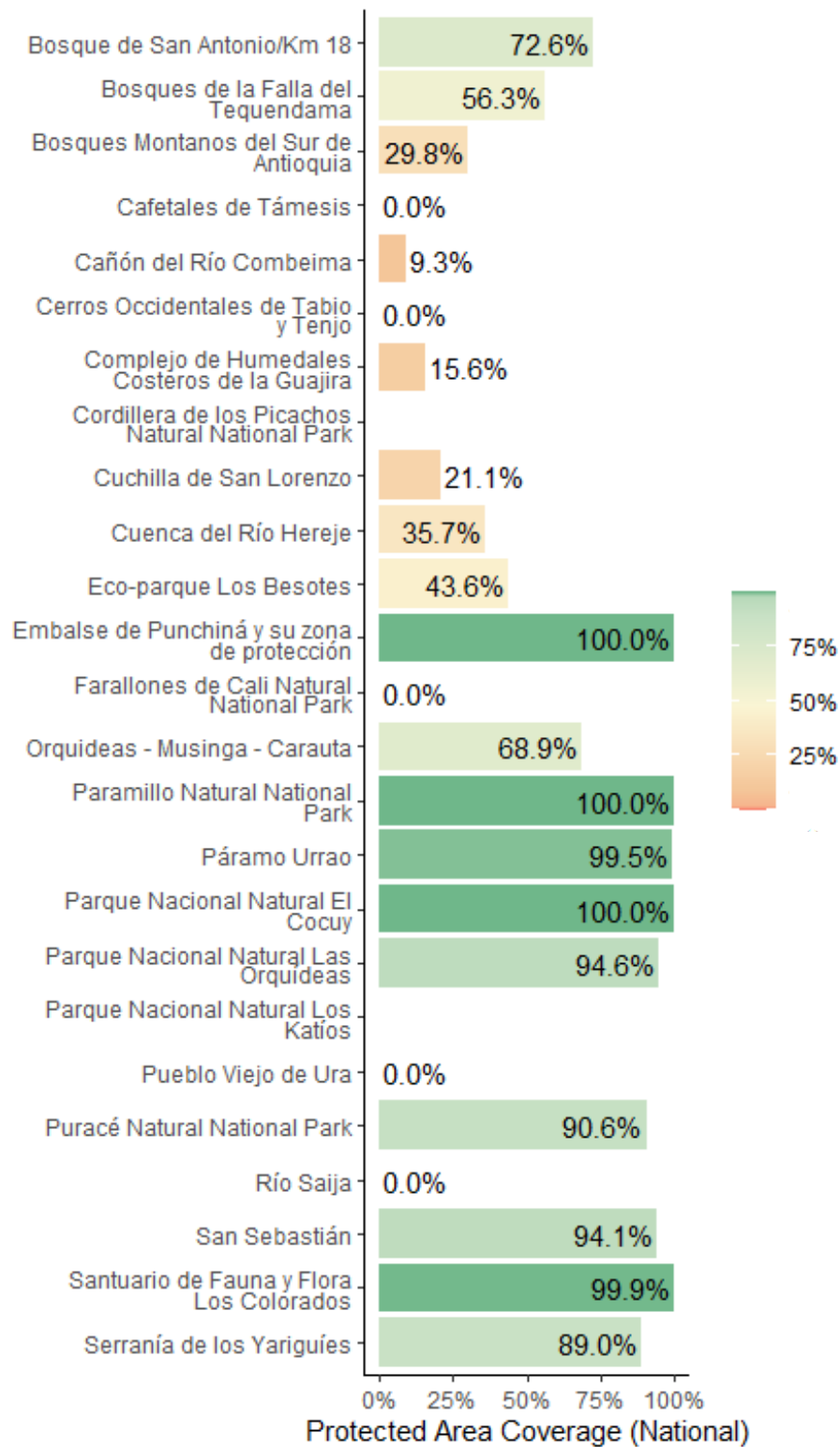


Key Biodiversity Area Coverage (KBA) in Colombia (continued)

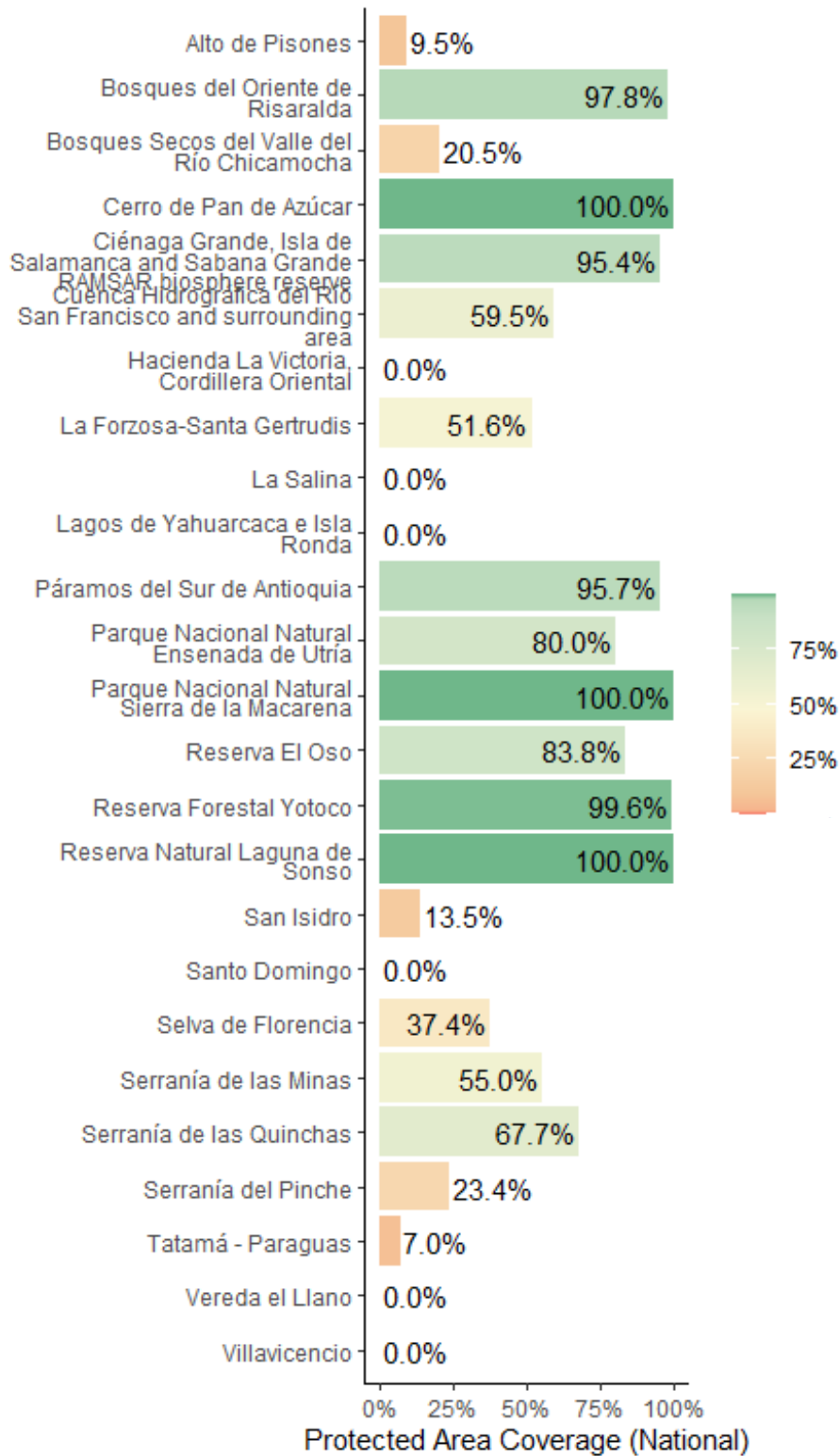


Key Biodiversity Area Coverage (KBA) in Colombia (continued)

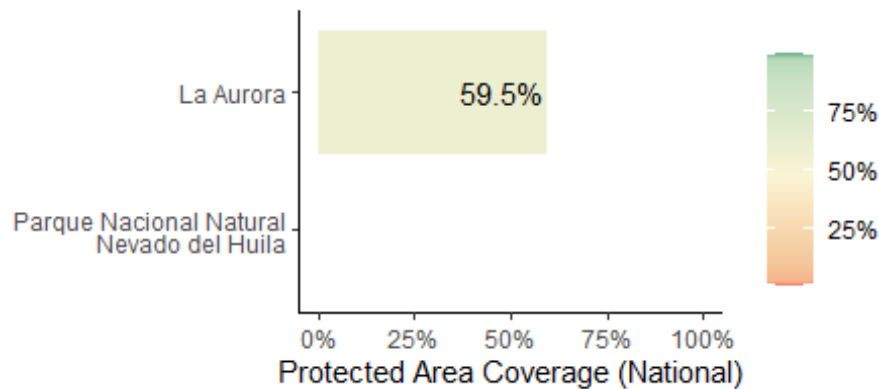
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Key Biodiversity Area Coverage (KBA) in Colombia (continued)



Key Biodiversity Area Coverage (KBA) in Colombia (continued)



Key Biodiversity Area Coverage (KBA) in Colombia (continued)

### **Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs)**

Other important areas for biodiversity may also include Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs), which were identified following the scientific criteria adopted at COP-9 (Decision IX/20; see more at: <https://www.cbd.int/ebsa/>). Sites that meet the EBSA criteria may require enhanced conservation and management measures; this could be achieved through means including MPAs, OECMs, marine spatial planning, and impact assessment.

There are 3 EBSAs with some portion of their extent within Colombia's EEZ; these EBSAs are being reviewed in light of new information. Colombia considers that these are areas of scientific and technical interest, rather than conservation strategies as such.

### **Opportunities for action**

There is opportunity for Colombia to increase protection of KBAs that have lower levels of coverage by PAs and OECMs; priority could be given to those with no current coverage.



## AREAS IMPORTANT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

There is no single indicator identified for assessing the conservation of areas important for ecosystem services. For simplicity, two services with available global datasets are assessed here (carbon and water). In future, other critical ecosystem services could be explored.

### Carbon

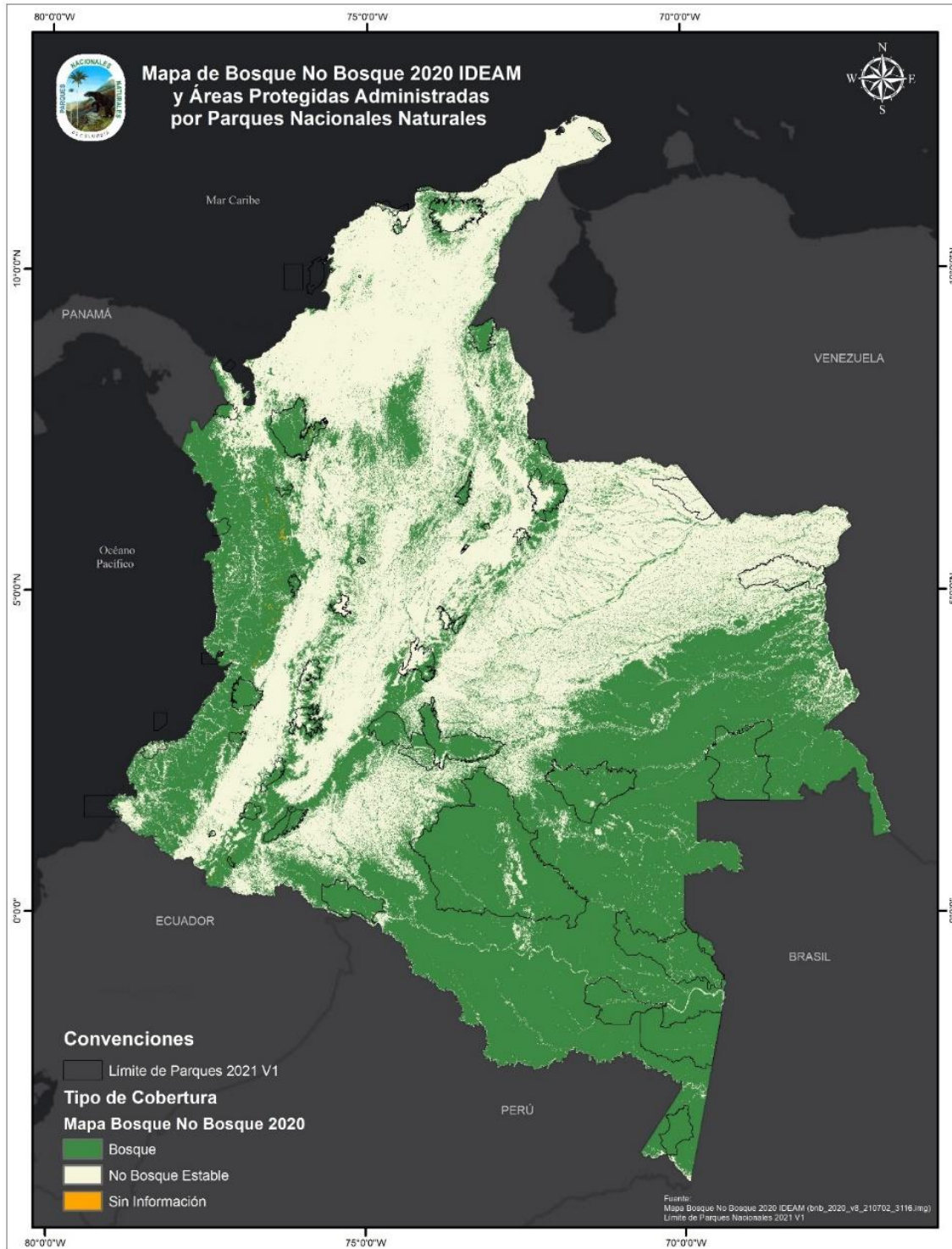
From the Map of Forest not Forest 2020 IDEAM (See map on next page) it is reported that, by 2020, Colombia had an area of 59.7 million ha in forests, which represents avoided emissions of 28,379.0 MtCO<sub>2e</sub>. In the protected areas managed by PNN (the System of National Natural Parks of Colombia),<sup>3</sup> 12.4 million ha of forests are conserved, with avoided emissions of 6,342.96 million tCO<sub>2e</sub>.

The emissions avoided in the protected areas managed by PNN have an economic value of \$82 billion (considering the value of the carbon tax), increasing to \$ 557 billion if the social cost associated with emissions are taken into account (see: *Economic valuation of the carbon storage ecosystem service for the areas managed by National Natural Parks of Colombia*. PNNC, SSNA, 2020)

In terms of the capture or quantity of carbon stored in the soil or in the vegetation of marine and coastal areas, the CO<sub>2</sub> storage rate in the soil shows a greater potential, and is higher than that of forest ecosystems, with mangroves being those that can accumulate the greatest amount of carbon (SINAP Vision 2020-2030, 2019, Pp. 88). In this sense, the System of Marine Protected Areas (SAMP) would have a contribution represented with values between 105 and 121 million tons of CO<sub>2e</sub> (Ibid., Pp. 88).

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<sup>3</sup> To date, there are no studies to analyze the contribution of protected areas at the level of municipalities, districts and departments (see full details in the report *Progreso del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas de Colombia*)



## Water

SPNN contributes USD 3.439 million annually to Colombia's GDP for water provision and regulation, based on the valuation supported by water additionality, or additional volume of water, that is generated in the basins that are within the PAs of the SPNN.

In total, 19 protected areas of the SPNN provide water for more than 25 million people (~50% of the population), contributing at least USD 491 million for water additionality in the domestic sector, benefiting large capitals such as Bogotá, Cali, Manizales, Neiva, Santa Marta and Valledupar.

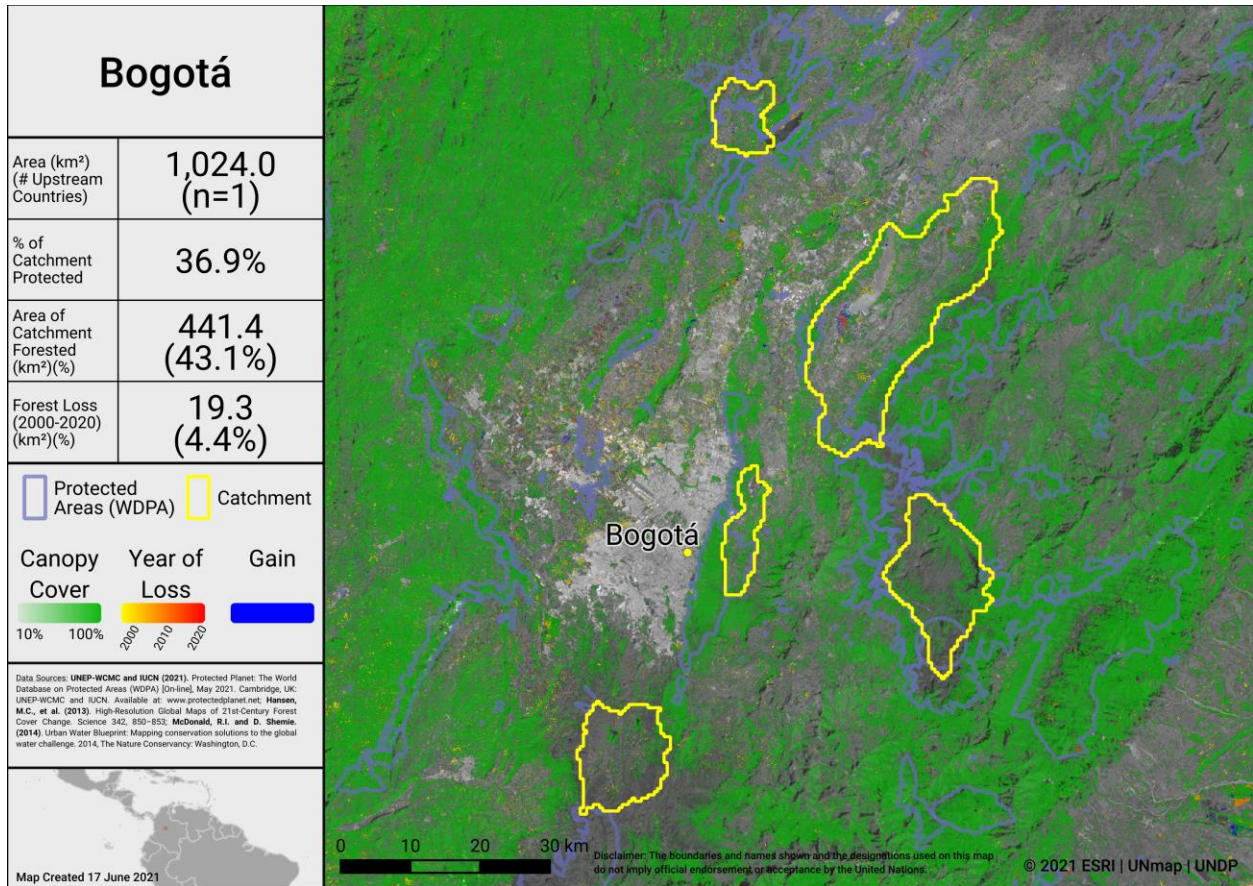
In turn, the protected areas of the SPNN provide the productive sectors with the provision and regulation of water a value that ranges between USD 2,308-2,770 million in average and dry weather. For the agricultural sector, they provide water additionality valued at up to USD 1,097 million, as well as USD 609.9 million for domestic consumption.

Global information on the water sources for 534 cities is available via the City Water Map (CWM) and provides details on the catchment area of the watershed that supplies these cities (see McDonald et al., 2014 for details on methodology).

Forests support stormwater management and clean water availability, especially for large urban populations. Research that has examined the role of forests for city drinking water supplies shows that of the world's 105 largest cities, more than 30% (33 cities) rely heavily on the local protected forests, which provide ecosystem services that underpin local drinking water availability and quality (Dudley & Stolton, 2003).

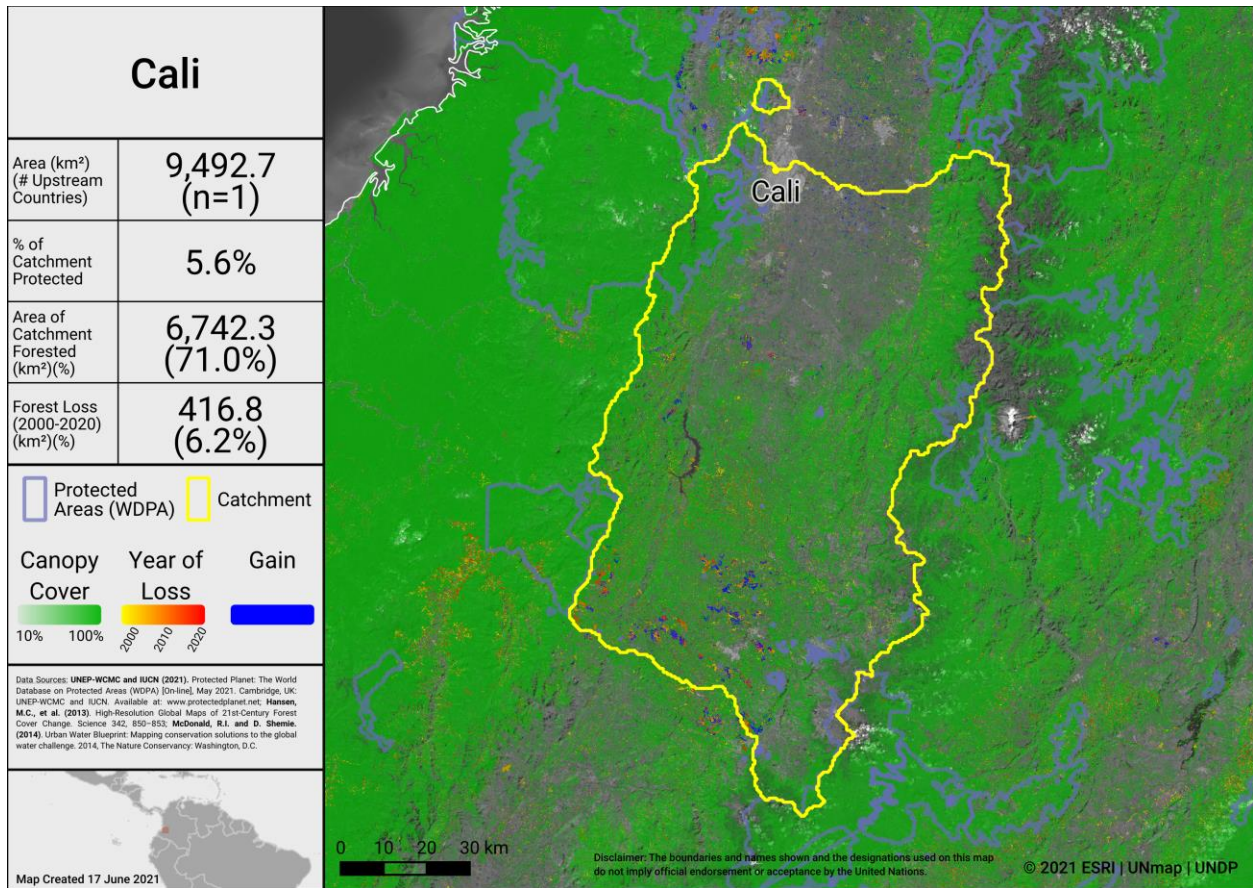
Drinking water supplies for cities in Colombia may similarly depend on protected forest areas within and around water catchments. The maps below show the percentage forest and PA cover and the forest loss from 2000-2020 in the most heavily populated water catchments of Colombia. Intact catchments can support more consistent water supply and improved water quality.



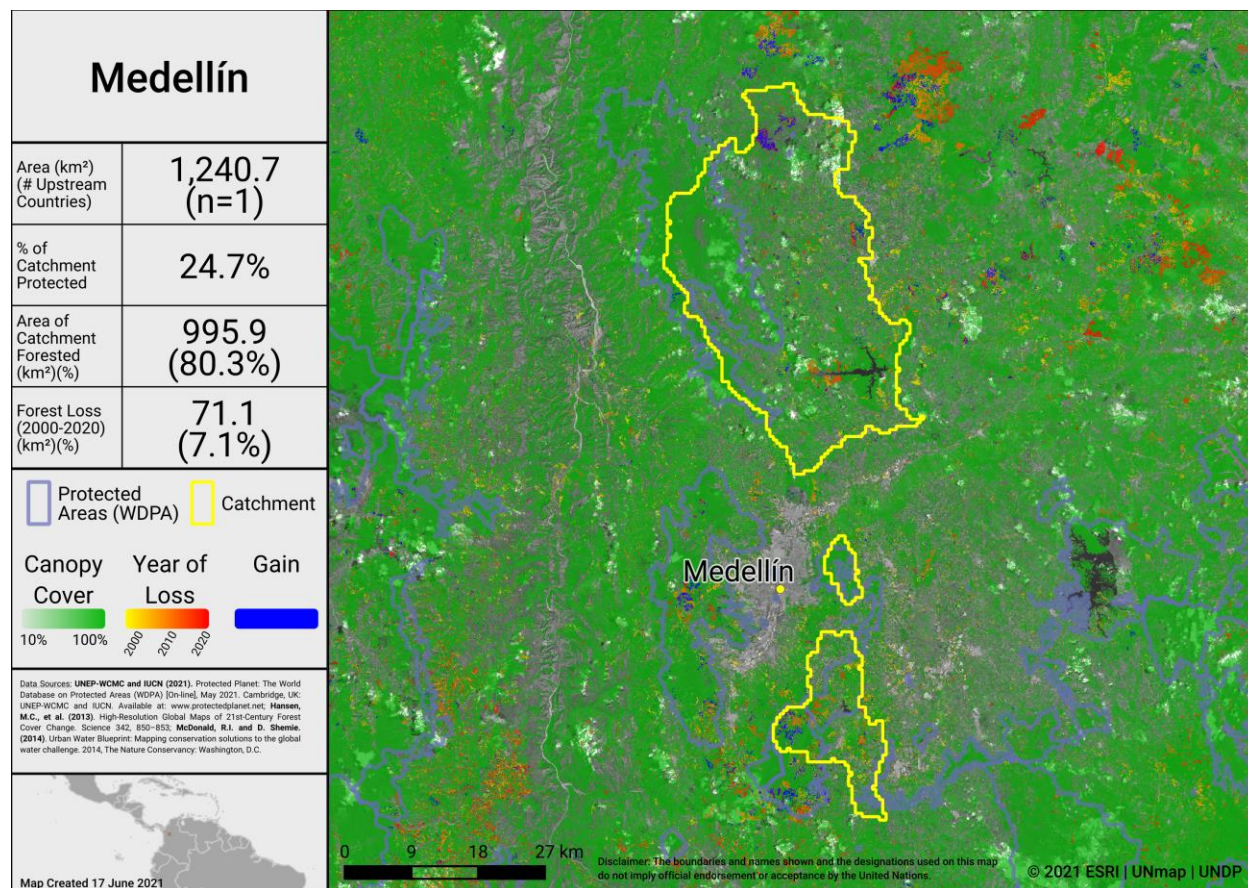


Water supply area for the city of Bogotá

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Water supply area for the city of Cali



Water supply area for the city of Medellín

### Opportunities for action

For carbon, there is opportunity for Colombia to increase PA and OECM coverage in both marine and terrestrial areas with high carbon stocks. Protecting areas with high carbon stocks secures the benefits of carbon sequestration in the area.

For water, there is opportunity to increase the area of the water catchment under protection by PAs and OECMs, or in cases where there is high levels of protection, focus on effective management for these areas. Protecting the current area of forested land and potentially reforesting would have benefits for improving water security.

## CONNECTIVITY & INTEGRATION

Colombia defines connectivity as “the integration of protected areas, and their natural ecological processes within broader terrestrial and marine landscapes, that is, adequately integrated with the territories. This integration should facilitate ecological flows by providing the conditions for the maintenance of biodiversity in the long term” (CONPES 4050, 2021). In this sense, it is considered that SINAP is well connected if its protected areas are integrated within broader terrestrial or seascapes, according to their biophysical, social, cultural, economic and political-administrative characteristics, to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of conservation of the country.

Currently, the country has information on structural, functional and socio-ecosystem connectivity, and on other exercises at supranational scales.

For the analysis of SINAP’s structural connectivity (taking SPNN areas as core zones):<sup>4</sup>

- 42% of the PAs are connected
- 21% of this connectivity is based on protected and regional areas

In this sense, there is a difficulty in integrating the protected areas with their environment, which hinders their long-term viability, since 58% of the protected areas are not structurally (physically) connected.

Regarding the regional analysis, the Caribbean region has difficulties and challenges to structurally connect PAs.

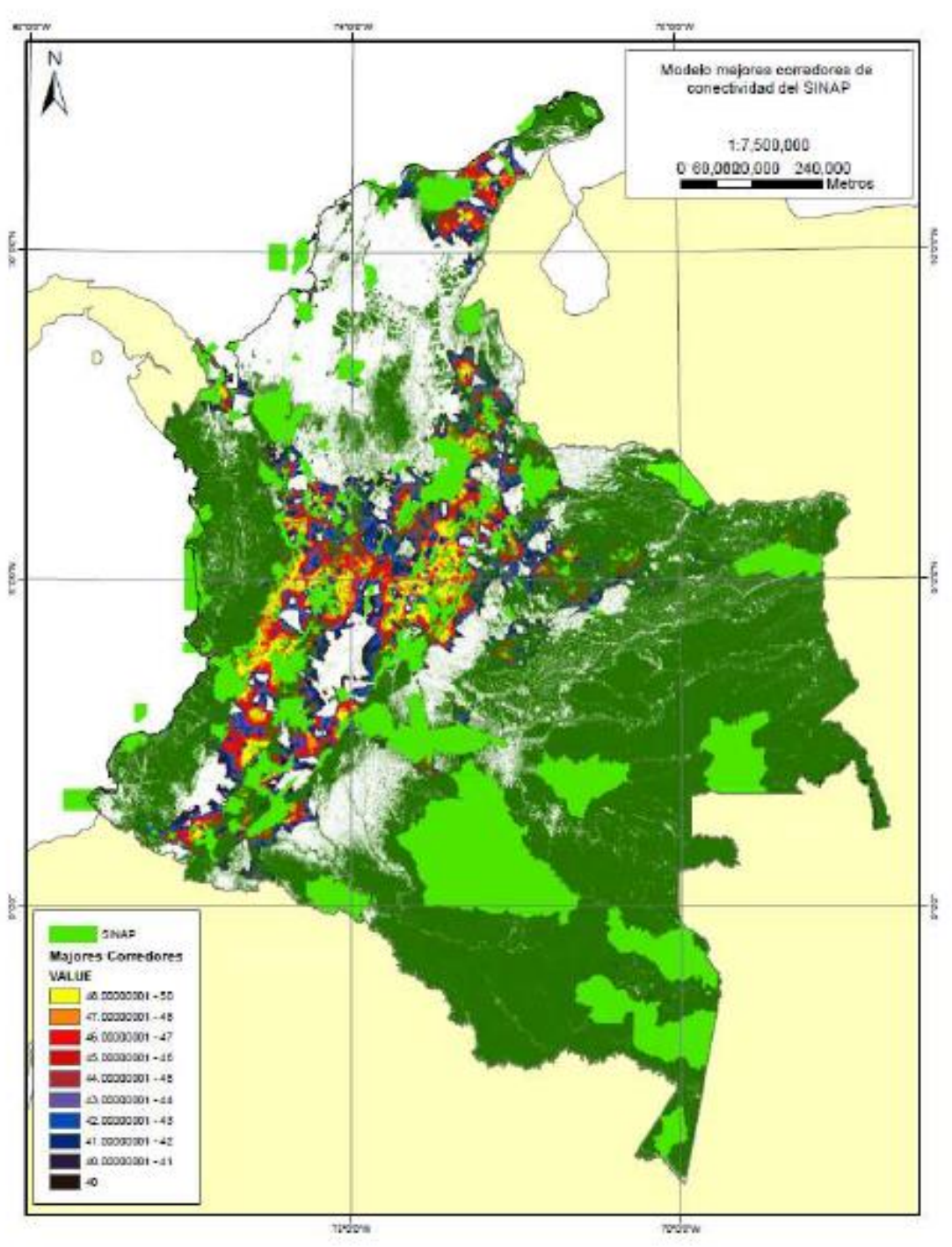
Although the Andean region has made important progress, it is necessary to maintain or enable structural connectivity corridors between PAs.

Regarding the Amazon, Orinoquía and Pacific regions, the country has dominant matrices of natural coverage, and the Orinocense and Amazon foothills where the same situation of the Andean region occurs.

For connectivity in the Amazon region, it may be mostly related to indigenous reservations, while in the Pacific region it is related to the collective territories of black communities and indigenous reservations, who contribute significantly to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. In particular, “the indigenous reservations and collective territories of Afro-descendant communities currently house 57% of the remaining ecosystems classified as Critical (CR) and 31% of the Endangered (EN), which implies that these territories are called to play an important role in the management of its conservation (Etter A., 2018), and especially for the maintenance of the connectivity of SINAP in the Colombian Amazon and Pacific” (CONPES 4050, 2021).

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<sup>4</sup> Based on the Biodiversity Status and Trend Report (Areiza A., 2019).



SINAP best connectivity corridors model

In terms of cross-border connectivity, Colombia has made important progress in Latin America. Specifically, the country has supported species conservation strategies at a global level, such as the jaguar corridor, or in planning and management strategies for transboundary territories such as the Caribbean Biological Corridor of the Mesoamerican Strategy for Environmental Sustainability, the Corridor Marine of the Eastern Tropical



Pacific - CMAR, and the Trinational Corridor La Paya, Cuyabeno, Güeppí Sekime Colombia - Ecuador - Peru, and Amazon Biome Strategy (Vision 2020-2030, 2019).

### Corridor case studies

Below are details from case studies on corridors and connectivity in Colombia:

Case study title	Type of study region	Greatest threat to connectivity	Approaches to conserving ecological corridors
The Jaguar Corridor Initiative: A rangewide species conservation strategy	terrestrial, rural	human land-use changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• modelled ecological corridors</li> <li>• prioritised populations and ecological corridors</li> <li>• validated modelled corridors using a rapid assessment interview-based methodology</li> <li>• varied implementation action at local level</li> </ul>
Protection of the free-flowing Bita River	freshwater, rural	extractive industries, livestock grazing, large timber plantations, and urbanisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• formation of an alliance</li> <li>• working with local stakeholders</li> <li>• decision-making framework to choose best conservation actions</li> <li>• protection as a Ramsar site</li> </ul>

Further details are available in Hilty et al 2020.

### Opportunities for action

There is opportunity for a targeted designation of PAs or OECMs in strategic locations for connectivity and to focus on PA and OECM management for enhancing and maintaining connectivity. Improving connectivity increases the effectiveness of PAs and OECMs and reduces the impacts of fragmentation. As connectivity differs between regions in Colombia, different approaches for each region may be required.

As well, a range of suggested steps for enhancing and supporting integration are included in the voluntary guidance on the integration of PAs and OECMs into the wider land- and seascapes and mainstreaming across sectors to contribute, inter alia, to the SDGs (Annex I of COP Decision 14/8).

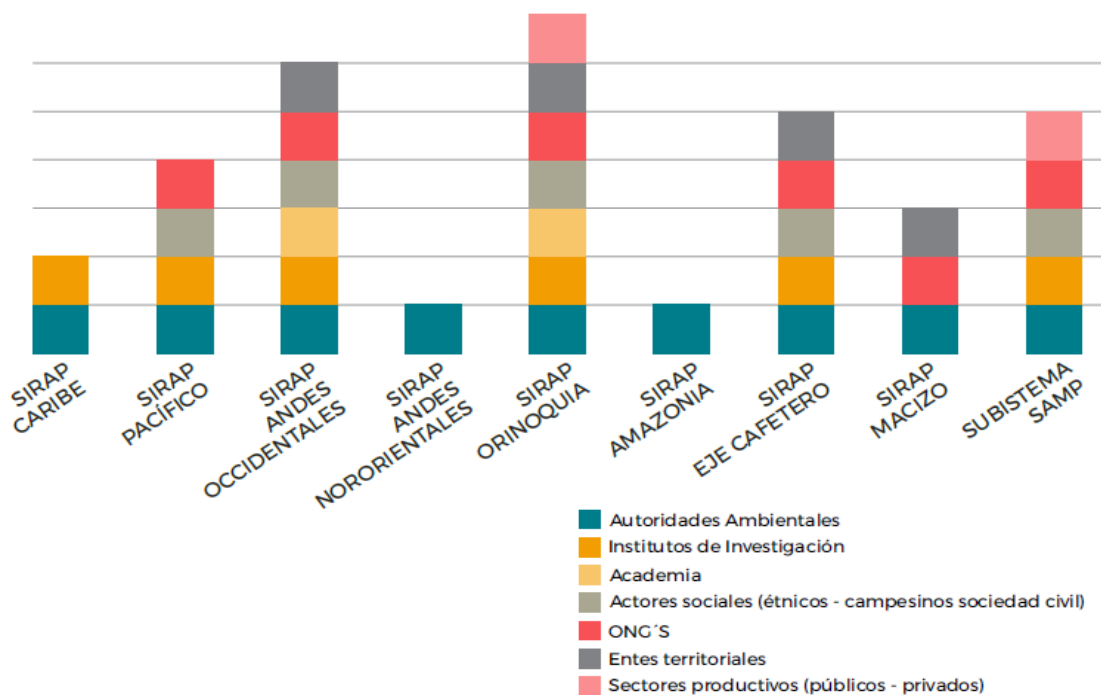


## GOVERNANCE AND EQUITY

Currently SINAP is made up of both public and private PAs with national, regional (public) and local (private) governance. In the processes of PA administration, there have been important advances in terms of shared governance, which has been possible through formal agreements with indigenous, Afro-descendant and peasant communities, including the construction and signing of management plans for the areas. protected with overlapping Indigenous Peoples Reservations.

Each Subsystem (of SINAP) has mechanisms that allow the articulation and participation of various actors, such as environmental authorities, research institutes, civil society (ethnic, peasant and local communities, academia, among others), NGOs, entities territorial and productive sectors. However, as can be seen in the table below, some subsystems have less progress than others in terms of the articulation of regional and local actors, and the SIRAP for the Amazon region has yet to be formally consolidated.

**Participación de actores en instancias de los subsistemas de Áreas Protegidas (Regionales - Temáticos)**



Participation of actors in the different Subsystems of Protected Areas of SINAP (PNNC, 2018)

Regarding articulation with productive actors (based on the AEMAPPS tool applied to 59 PAs of the SPNN):

- 23% of PAs have an effective relationship with the productive sectors
- 23% are on the way to building it
- 54% have weak or non-existent coordination processes

Currently, SINAP has some gaps in the management categories,<sup>5</sup> namely: local protected areas of municipalities and / or districts, and protected areas that can be declared by indigenous public authorities or by Afro-Colombian communities in their collective territories, as well as management categories for levels of biodiversity other than landscapes and ecosystems. If these categories were incorporated into SINAP, there would be a significant contribution in terms of representativeness and ecological connectivity.

### Governance: ethnic and local communities<sup>6</sup>

The public PAs of SINAP coincide with 4,558,749.95 ha of Indigenous Reservations and the Collective *Tierras de Comunidades Negra*, equivalent to 24.5% of SINAP's continental area. Of these, 4,258,633.25 ha (23%) correspond to the Indigenous Reservations, while 300,116.70 ha (1.5%) to the Collective *Tierras de Comunidades Negra*.

The Social Participation Policy in conservation considers "Community participation in conservation, which, as an aspect of social participation, refers in particular to the actions of local groups regarding the management and use of natural resources. in local or territorial environments that are part of a protected area or its areas of influence". This is relevant due to the integrity of the relationships between nature and culture that occurs in many of these communities, where a respect for all forms of life is present.

Taking into account that around 41 PAs managed with PNNC (*Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia*) are related to the territories of ethnic groups, and under the premise of consolidating the management of PAs within the framework of rights, progress has been made in establishing coordination mechanisms with indigenous communities and the construction of joint management schemes with black, Afro-descendant and Raizal communities.

In total, PNNC has nine (9) Special Management Regimes agreed with indigenous communities, as well as six (6) management plans adopted jointly. In addition to those mentioned above, PNNC has 2 regional agreements and 7 Use and Management Agreements with Afro-descendant communities, 9 Political Agreements of wills with communities of indigenous peoples and 6 Political Agreements of wills with Afro-descendant communities.

### Equity Principles

In terms of Equity analysis, SINAP is considered equitably managed if it manages to "distribute the costs and benefits of protected areas fairly in society, considering their different contexts" where the protected areas are located. and the forms of social and

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<sup>5</sup> As of May 2021, the WDPA listed the following governance types for Colombia's PAs: 30.9% governed by **governments** (9.3% by federal or national ministry or agency; 21.6% by sub-national ministry or agency); 68.1% are under **private** governance (by individual landowners); and 0.0% are under **IPLC** governance.

<sup>6</sup> For full details see the report: *Progreso del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas de Colombia*

institutional management in order to promote inclusive governance strategies (Vision 2021-2030, Pp. 58). "

In general terms, "it is observed that local communities and the State assume almost all of the costs of conservation, putting at risk the long-term sustainability of protected areas and the fulfillment of the goals for which they were created. On the one hand, local people do not perceive the benefits of conservation [...]; and the State does not find additional resources that allow it to cover the financing gaps for effective management. On the other side of the equation, it is evident that some actors, users and beneficiaries of conservation do not reward or contribute to conservation in an equitable way" (CONPES 4050 of 2021, Pp. 60). Currently, there is no adequate distribution of the costs and benefits of biodiversity conservation from SINAP.<sup>7</sup>

Regarding the inefficient access to the contributions of nature generated in public protected areas as a source of human well-being, there is "(i) high informality in the sustainable use of nature in protected areas, for commercial purposes; (ii) low recognition of ancestral and traditional sustainable uses, new uses, community uses, and productive systems associated with meeting the conservation objectives of protected areas; and (iii) the low development of new sustainable products derived from the contributions of nature in protected areas "(Ibid. Pp. 65).

### Opportunities for action

Explore opportunities for governance types that have lower representation. There is also opportunity for Colombia to implement the results of completed governance and equity assessments, to establish baselines, and identify relevant actions for improvement. As well, a range of suggested actions are included in the voluntary guidance on effective governance models for management of protected areas, including equity (Annex II of COP Decision 14/8).

### Equator Prize Projects

The Equator Initiative brings together the United Nations, governments, civil society, businesses and grassroots organizations to recognize and advance local sustainable development solutions for people, nature and resilient communities.

The Equator Prize projects provide examples of unique and locally based governance of natural resources. Colombia has the following Equator Prize winners that showcase examples of local, sustainable community action:

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<sup>7</sup> See full details in the report: *Progreso del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas de Colombia*. See also CONPES 4050 de 2021.



Organization	Year	Project Description
Proyecto Nasa (Nasa Project)	2020	<p>The Proyecto Nasa (Nasa Project) aims to increase the political and organizational capacity of Colombia's Indigenous Páez peoples, who have been disproportionately affected by violence in the Cauca region. By strengthening regional political autonomy and exercising their political rights, the Indigenous groups involved in the project have successfully lobbied for access to a greater share of public funds and services. Their struggle has led to legal recognition of the fundamental rights of Indigenous Peoples, including recognition of the autonomy of their communal Indigenous lands in the 1991 Colombian Constitution.</p> <p>This work has been complemented by a programme of sustainable natural resource management within the Nasa's Indigenous lands, which both border and fall within key protected areas. Sustainable natural resource harvesting and improved agricultural practices have helped to mitigate environmental impacts and underpin sustainable livelihoods for the Nasa people.</p>
Asociación de Capitanes Indígenas de Yaigojé Apaporis	2014	<p>An alliance of 21 Indigenous communities, Asociación de Capitanes Indígenas de Yaigojé Apaporis has legally established its collective territory as a National Park. The association has succeeded in protecting a substantial area of forest and put natural resource management in the hands of resident Indigenous communities. Developed to protect forests and community lands from multinational mining companies, the association focuses on traditional land management practices that balance the economic needs of forest-dependent communities with ecosystem restoration and wildlife conservation concerns.</p> <p>A community-driven research program is ensuring that Indigenous communities living on the margins of the Amazon of Yaigojé are gathering valuable environmental and wildlife data to better understand the ecological dynamics of the territory and how to advance sustainable livelihoods while also ensuring the health and functioning of forest ecosystems.</p>



Organization	Year	Project Description
Corporación Serraniagua	2008	<p>Corporación Serraniagua (Serraniagua Corporation) works to ensure the connectivity of protected areas throughout Colombia's Cordillera Occidental mountain range, a key component of the Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor. The group connects the conservation corridors of the Tatamá National Park and Serranía de los Paraguas (renowned for their high biodiversity and species endemism) through a series of 60 community-managed and seven state-managed nature reserves, and encourages a high level of participation on the part of local and Indigenous communities in environmental planning processes for these areas.</p> <p>Working through a broad stakeholder base, including cocoa, coffee and sugar producers, ecotourism operators, environmental groups, rural schools, and women's associations, this dynamic social network is leveraged to protect the biodiversity and ecosystems of the surrounding region in a manner that also respects the livelihood needs of the local population.</p>



## PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS

### Protected area management effectiveness (PAME) assessments

Since 2000, Colombia has established a conceptual approach and methodology for assessing management effectiveness, beginning with implementation "Analysis of Effectiveness of Management of Protected Areas with Social Participation" (AEMAPPS) methodology (see further details in the report *Progreso del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas de Colombia*). Methodological designs range from national to local (both public and private), attending to different scales of the National System of Protected Areas, with 16 effectiveness tools identified (as of 2018). A process of defining standards for the management of protected areas has been carried out since 2011.

Within the framework of the National Development Plan "Pact for Colombia, pact for equity", the environment sector committed to "improve the management effectiveness index of public protected areas with respect to its baseline." This implies that, on the one hand, PAs implement a management effectiveness analysis methodology and, on the other, that this analysis be carried out periodically.

As of January 2018, 92% of public PAs (of SINAP) have not analyzed management effectiveness against the achievement of conservation objective; only 8% (90 PAs) had at some point analyzed their management effectiveness.<sup>8</sup> Of these, 59 PAs that are part of the System of National Parks (SPNN) and have systematically and periodically applied (since 2008) the AEMPPS methodology, and 31 PAs fall under regional organizations that have applied other methodologies. Between 2019 and 2020, the "Guide for management planning in the areas of the National System of Protected Areas of Colombia" was implemented in an additional 50 PAs of the National Park System (**109 PAs in total**).

### Management effectiveness indices

The improvement in the management effectiveness index for public PAs is calculated as the median of the percent variation of the management effectiveness index, measured against baseline values and employing monitoring information under the same management effectiveness methodology.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Based on data in the WDPA, there are 60 PAs in Colombia that have management effectiveness evaluations reported in the global database on protected area management effectiveness ([GD-PAME](#)). Based on these 60 PAs, 76.4% of the area of terrestrial PAs and 25.6% of the area of marine PAs have completed evaluations (values will be higher with the inclusion of assessments for additional PAs). Updates may be needed regarding additional sites that have completed assessments.

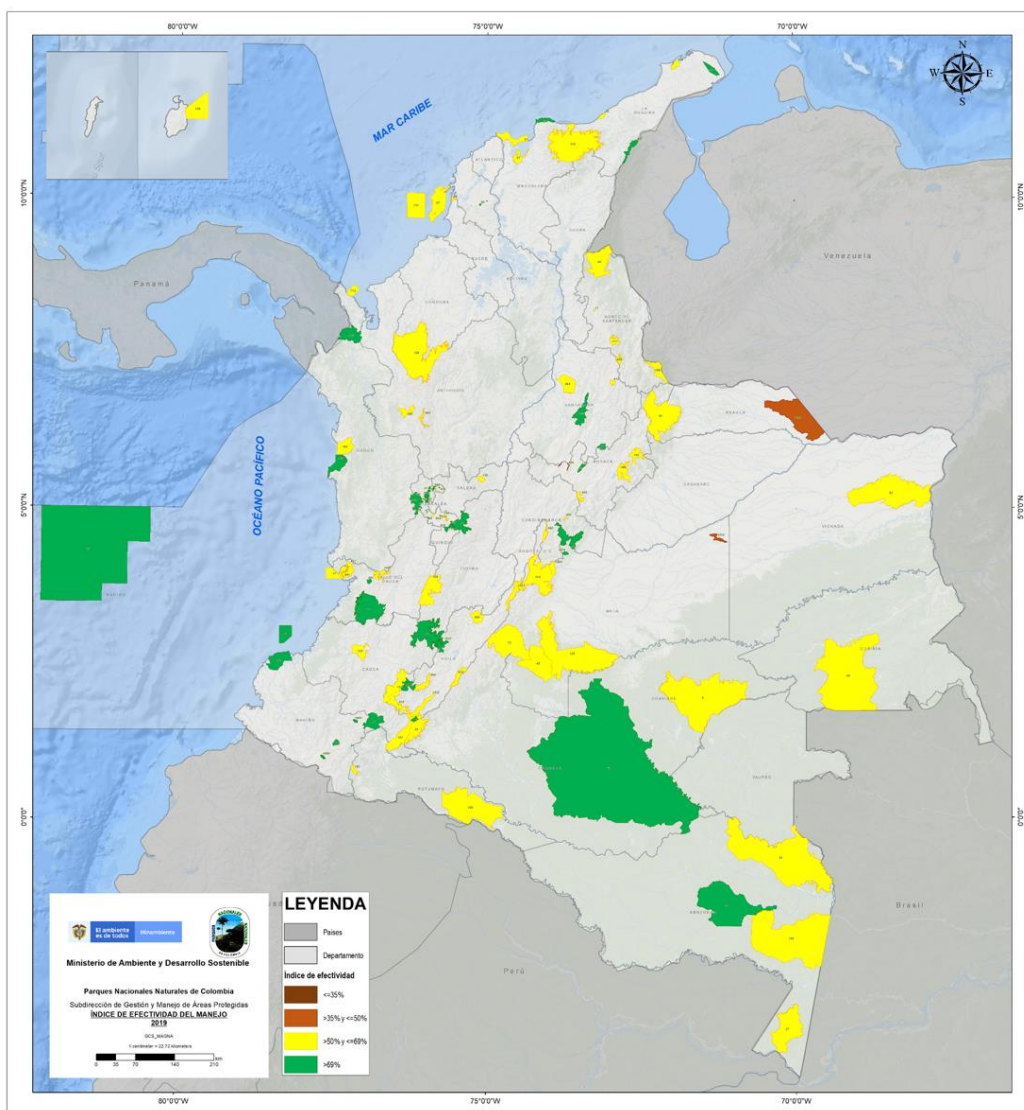
<sup>9</sup> The methodology taken as a reference for the indicator is EMAP. EMAP is made up of six (6) axes: i) Achievements, ii) Context, iii) Planning and monitoring, iv) resources, v) governance and vi) Sustainable production systems, which in turn are associated with 31 elements of analysis.

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The results for the 109 PAs available are standardized under the 6 axes and 31 elements of analysis (defined in the EMAP). As of September 2021, 105 of these are registered in the RUNAP, which occupy an area of 18,627,157.71 ha (9% of the National Territory):

- 15,386,078.72 ha terrestrial (13.48% of the country's land area; and 81.14% of the area of terrestrial PAs).
- 3,241,078.98 ha marine (3.49% of the nation's marine surface; and 26.05% of the area of marine PAs).

Regarding the SINAP, the 105 areas registered in the RUNAP represent 59.31%. The map below presents the distribution of the results of the management effectiveness index.<sup>10</sup>



<sup>10</sup> For the purposes of analysis, an area is in a strong state if its index is > 69%, average if it is between 50-69%, and weak if the index is <= 50.



In general terms, for the 109 PAs monitored,<sup>11</sup> the median effectiveness rate is 65.16% (considered intermediate). Additionally, **56.88%** of PAs have **intermediate** management effectiveness, that is, some of their conservation objectives have not yet been achieved due to external and / or internal conditions to the area that affect strategic and / or operational planning, as well as the governance scheme. On the other hand, **39.44%** have **strong** management effectiveness, that is, these areas are achieving their conservation objectives, due to their context and strategic and operational planning (human resources, physical and financial), as well as its governance scheme, among other elements, highly favor its effective management. Only 3.66% of PAs have weak management effectiveness. In this case, there are contextual elements, both internal and external to the protected area, that are not favoring its management.

One of the main causes to explain the difficulties in the face of effective management is related to the financing of SINAP. In general terms, in an analysis of the environmental sector budget between the years 2012 and 2021, an average of 0.37% of the PGN is found, with 2015 being the one with the highest destination (0.45%), at from which there has been a progressive decrease (CONPES 4050, Pp. 54). Of this percentage, only “14% was allocated to the management of SINAP's protected areas” (Ibid., Pp. 54).

### OECSs

As of May 2021, there are 0 OECSs in Colombia reported in the WD-OECS; but see Annex I for details on the conservation effectiveness of potential OECSs.

### Opportunities for action

There is opportunity to increase protected area management effectiveness (using the various national methodologies developed) evaluations and reporting for terrestrial and marine PAs. It is noted that these analyses should be carried out periodically

There is also opportunity to implement the results of completed management effectiveness evaluations, to improve the quality of management for existing PAs and OECSs (e.g. through adaptive management and information sharing, increasing the number of sites reporting 'strong management') and to continue reporting of biodiversity outcomes in PAs and OECSs.

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<sup>11</sup> See additional details specific to the 59 assessed PAs of the National Park System in the report *Progreso del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas de Colombia*

## SECTION II: EXISTING PROTECTED AREA AND OECM COMMITMENTS

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### PRIORITY ACTIONS FROM 2015-2016 REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

National priority actions for Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 were provided by Parties following a series of regional workshops in 2015 and 2016. The Capacity-building workshop for Latin America and the Caribbean on achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets 11 and 12 took place 28 September - 1 October 2015 in Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil. Progress towards the quantitative targets for marine and terrestrial coverage has been assessed based on data reported in the WDPA and WD-OECM as of 2021. For more information, see the workshop report at: <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/>

The following actions were identified during the workshops:

**Terrestrial coverage:** 2,500,000 ha of new protected areas (both terrestrial and marine) to get a total of 15,73% terrestrial.  
*[completed: as of Apr 2021, >3,400,000 ha added].*

**Marine coverage:** 2,500,000 ha of new protected areas (both terrestrial and marine) to get a total of 8.19% marine.  
*[completed: increased by >10 mil ha]*

**Ecological representation:** Increase representation in 12 priority conservation units (which recognizes 240 units at a scale of 1: 500,000).

#### **Areas Important for biodiversity and ecosystem services:**

- 1) Declare at least 3 areas for the protection of water resources and protection of species that contribute to the conservation of fishing resources.
- 2) Protect at least 3 IBAs and 3 AZEs (40% of IBAs are not protected; 25 AZE are not protected and 17 have partial protection) - within PAs.

#### **Connectivity:**

- 1) Corridor connecting forest, flooded forests and coastal and marine ecosystems in the Colombian Caribbean (GEF connectivity).
- 2) By 2020 the country will have 210 000 ha in the process of restoration in areas defined under the National Plan of Ecological Restoration for the Rehabilitation and Recuperation of disturbed areas.
- 3) Rehabilitation of 16km of dried ecosystems (GEF bosque seco).
- 4) Conduct Connectivity analysis.



**Management effectiveness:**

- 1) Develop a management effectiveness methodology to assess private and regional initiatives and to evaluate the effectiveness of the National System of Protected Areas (Globally at the level of the system and not PA units).
- 2) Improve existing evaluation tools for the national system of national parks.
- 3) At least 20% of regional areas and private reserves have a management effectiveness evaluation completed.

**Governance and Equity:**

- 1) Establish at least 5 special management regimes in National Parks overlapping with Indigenous reserves.
- 2) Consolidate the Working Community of Protected Territories (Mesa de trabajo de territorios comunitarios protegidos).
- 3) Analyze other forms of governance, especially co-management and Indigenous or community management, following the establishment of the development plan 2014-2018.

**Integration into the wider landscape and seascape:**

- 1) Create legal and political tools to incorporate social and environmental considerations in mining activities and its impact on one million hectares.
- 2) High conservation value areas in regions of palm oil cultivation are protected and restored with the participation of the local communities (GEF Sector Palmero).
- 3) Adoption of sectorial plans in critical sectors (agriculture, mining, etc.) to reduce their pressure on forests and biodiversity. Also restore ecosystems and reduce emissions (GEF Amazonia).
- 4) Strengthening of a body (*una instancia*) for the articulation of territorial planning instruments.
- 5) Implementation of the “green growth” as defined in the National Development Plan 2014-2018.

**OECMs:**

- 1) By 2020, ID complementary conservation strategies at landscape scale in concertation with the civil society and the private sector in priority regions.
- 2) Implement the Ecosystem and environmental zone register as part of the national environmental information system.



## NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLANS (NBSAPs)

Colombia has submitted an NBSAP during the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (most recent NBSAP is available at: <https://www.cbd.int/nbsap/search/>).

### *Thematic Axis 1*

*Situation for 2032 = For the country, the in situ and ex situ conservation of biodiversity is the basis for maintaining socio-ecosystemic resilience in wild and protected areas and transformed landscapes on national, regional, local and trans-frontier scales, so that ecosystemic services which are crucial for human well-being are abundant and of high quality.*

### *Other objectives related to PAs:*

- By 2020, Integrated Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services (Gibse) will be incorporated into 100% of the regulatory documents, environmental and sector policies and sector planning instruments and land use planning, at the national level. 100% of POTs shall incorporate regional protected areas as environmental determinants
- By 2020, 100% compliance with SINAP's CONPES 3680 action plan.
- By 2025, 100% compliance with the goals of the work plan for protected areas (PoWPA).
- By 2030, The effectiveness of the National System of Protected Areas will have been assessed as a complete mechanism, ecologically representative and effectively managed, that ensures the conservation of biodiversity and continental, marine and coastal ecosystems, within the framework of rural and urban land-use planning in the country.



## APPROVED GEF-5, GEF-6, & GCF PROTECTED AREA PROJECTS

### Approved GEF-5 and GEF-6 PA-related biodiversity projects

The reporting period coincides with the periods of GEF 5 (2010-2014) and GEF 6 (2014-2018), where a total of 11 projects were formulated with resources from the Biodiversity Focal Area. In some cases, the projects are multifocal since they combine resources from the Climate Change focal area and the degraded lands focal area, even thus accessing additional resources from the Integrated Program for Sustainable Forest Management for the Amazon Biome. In all of these projects, the Corporate Results reported by the Global Environmental Benefits correspond to No. 1: Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society, reporting according to the global target: Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares. In this sense, the projects listed below contribute a number of hectares to said target.

GEF ID	Project Name	Project Objective
4772	Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in dry ecosystems to guarantee the flow of ecosystem services and mitigate deforestation and desertification processes	Reduce the current trend of deforestation and desertification processes in dry forests and ensure the flow of multiple services of global ecosystems through biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management and carbon storage.
4849	Sustainable management and conservation of biodiversity in the Magdalena river basin	Contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the Magdalena river basin through the protection of priority freshwater habitats, improving the health of ecosystems, governance and strengthening local capacity.
4916	GEF MINING AND BIODIVERSITY IN EL CHOCÓ - Conservation of biodiversity in landscapes impacted by mining in the Chocó biogeographic region	Safeguard biodiversity in the Chocó biogeographic region from the direct impacts of gold, silver and platinum mining and indirect impacts of mining [population growth and development of agriculture, forestry, fishing and other sectors]
5160	The development and production of natural dyes in the Chocó region of Colombia for the food, cosmetics and personal care industries under the provisions of the Nagoya Protocol	Apply the provisions of the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing through the development of natural products, benefit sharing and biodiversity in the Chocó region of Colombia.
5288	GEF CONNECTIVIDADES – BIOCARIBE - Implementation of the socioecosystemic connectivity approach for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the Caribbean region of Colombia	Reduce the degradation and fragmentation of strategic ecosystems in the Caribbean Region of Colombia through the implementation of a strategy of socio-ecosystemic connectivities that include articulation interinstitutional, territorial planning, social participation with an intercultural vision, effective management of existing protected areas (PA), creation of new PAs and promotion of sustainable production models.

GEF ID	Project Name	Project Objective
5560	Conservation and sustainability of forests in the heart of the Colombian Amazon	Improve governance and promote sustainable land use activities in order to reduce deforestation and conserve biodiversity in Colombian Amazon forests.
5680	GEF SINAP - Consolidation of the National System of Protected Areas (SINAP) at the National and Regional Level.	Consolidate the management and planning of SINAP at the national and regional level through the development of instruments that improve the effectiveness of its management to increase the representativeness of ecosystems and strengthen the participation of regional actors in conservation initiatives along biological corridors strategic and conservation mosaics.
9441	GEF PACIFIC BIOCULTURAL - Contributing to the Integrated Management of Biodiversity of the Pacific Region of Colombia to Build Peace	Integrate the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity and the provision of ecosystem services in vulnerable landscapes of the Colombian Pacific region with a view to generating global environmental benefits and local communities and support the peace process
9578	GEF ORINOQUIA - Sustainable low-carbon development in the Orinoquia region of Colombia	Improve the conditions conducive to planning and management of the sustainable and low-carbon landscape in specific areas of the Orinoquia region
9663	GEF HEART OF THE AMAZON - Colombia: connectivity and biodiversity conservation in the Colombian Amazon BM	Part 1: Improve governance and promote sustainable land use activities to reduce deforestation and conserve biodiversity in the Project area Part 2: Improve connectivity and conserve biodiversity by strengthening local institutions and organizations to ensure comprehensive low-carbon management and peacebuilding

### Approved Green Climate Fund (GCF) Protected Area-related biodiversity projects

The Green Climate Fund's investments listed as approved projects as of May 2021 were considered. The GCF supports paradigm shifts in both climate change mitigation and adaptation that may impact quality of PAs or contribute to better integration within the wider land- and seascapes around PAs. Only projects with result areas for either or both *Forest and Land Use and Ecosystems* and *Ecosystem Services* result areas were included.

GCF ID	Project theme	Result area	Target 11 element
FP134	Mitigation	Forest and land use	Effectively managed; Equitably governed; Integration

## UN OCEAN CONFERENCE VOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS

Voluntary commitments for the UN Ocean Conference are initiatives voluntarily undertaken by governments, the UN system, non-governmental organizations, among other actors—individually or in partnership—that aim to contribute to the implementation of SDG 14 (here we focus in particular on SDG 14.5). The registry of commitments was opened in February 2017, in the lead up to the first UN Ocean Conference (5 to 9 June 2017).

### Ocean Actions improving MPA or OECM coverage:

*#OceanAction20269*: 10% de areas Marinas Protegidas, by Colombia (Government).

- Area to be added: 0 km<sup>2</sup> **[complete]**
- Progress report: Yes (Jan 2018). Overall status: Completed.
- Further details available at:  
<https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/?id=20269>.

*#OceanAction16430*: Conserving productive and resilient marine ecosystems: Supporting human wellbeing from the Sea (Colombia), by WWF Colombia (Non-governmental organization (NGO)).

- Area to be added: 0 km<sup>2</sup> **[complete]**
- Progress report: No progress report submitted (as of March 2021).
- Further details available at:  
<https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/?id=16430>.

*#OceanAction16178*: Protecting 1 million sq kms through the \$15 million WCS Marine Protected Area Fund, by Wildlife Conservation Society (Non-governmental organization (NGO)).

- Area to be added: 0 km<sup>2</sup> **[complete]**
- Progress report: Yes (2019), status=On Track.
- Further details available at:  
<https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/?id=16184>.



## OTHER ACTIONS/COMMITMENTS

### Leaders' Pledge for Nature

Colombia **has** signed onto the Leaders' Pledge for Nature.

Political leaders participating in the United Nations Summit on Biodiversity in September 2020, representing 88 countries from all regions and the European Union, have committed to reversing biodiversity loss by 2030. By doing so, these leaders are sending a united signal to step up global ambition and encourage others to match their collective ambition for nature, climate, and people with the scale of the crisis at hand.

### High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People

Colombia **has** joined the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People.

The High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People (HAC) is an intergovernmental group, co-chaired by France and Costa Rica [currently including 65 countries and the European Commission]. Its objective is to support the adoption of a target aiming to protect 30% of the planet's land and 30% of its oceans by 2030 (30x30 target), within the future global framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) for the protection of biodiversity, which is to be adopted at the next COP in China this autumn.

### Global Ocean Alliance

Colombia **has** joined the Global Ocean Alliance: 30by30 initiative.

The Global Ocean Alliance 30by30 is a UK led initiative [currently containing 53 countries as signatories]. Its aim is to protect at least 30% of the global ocean as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) by 2030.





## Commitments for PAs and OECMs from Other National Policies

Policy document	Ecosystem	Policy text
Nationally Determined Contribution	Forest ecosystems	Taking into account the important participation of the AFOLU sector (emissions associated with the livestock, agriculture, forestry and other land uses subsectors) in the national emissions profile (around 58% of the total), Colombia ratifies its commitment to reduce deforestation in the country and to preserve important ecosystems, such as the Amazon, given its enormous potential to contribute to the stabilization of GHG in the atmosphere
Nationally Determined Contribution	Forest ecosystems	Increase of more than 2.5 million hectares in coverage of newly protected areas in the National System of Protected Areas -SINAP
Nationally Determined Contribution	Grasslands & Agricultural systems	Delimitation and protection of Colombia's 36 "paramo" areas (high mountain Andean ecosystems), reaching over 3 million hectares
Nationally Determined Contribution	Grasslands & Agricultural systems	Integrate 15 departments participating in the technical working groups on climate and agriculture, articulated with the national working group and 1 million producers receiving agroclimatic information to facilitate decision-making in agricultural activities
National Development Plan	Forest ecosystems	Reduce deforestation by 30% compared to the current scenario
National Development Plan	Forest ecosystems	150,000 new hectares under conservation and sustainable production schemes (restoration, conservation, silvopastoral systems, agroforestry systems, fish farming, productive reconversion) in Santander Region
National Development Plan	Forest ecosystems	Go from 4,000 to 300,000 hectares under conservation and sustainable production schemes in Llanos-Orinoquia Region
Climate Change National Policy	Forest ecosystems	Implement adaptation and mitigation measures in significant fronts of deforestation
Climate Change National Policy	Forest ecosystems	Implement economic instruments to reduce deforestation
Integrated Water Management National Policy	Wetland ecosystems	At least 80% of the area of key ecosystems for the regulation of water supply that have been prioritized in the National Water Plan is conserved

<b>Policy document</b>	<b>Ecosystem</b>	<b>Policy text</b>
National Development Plan	Grasslands & Agricultural systems	212,500 hectares under conservation and sustainable production schemes in Amazonia Region
Food Security National Plan	Grasslands & Agricultural systems	MADS will formulate and promote the National Environmental Plan aimed at the conservation and sustainable use of species of Colombian biodiversity for food security purposes
Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation	Forest ecosystems	By 2030, Colombia has zero gross deforestation
Protected Area Plan	Forest ecosystems	2,500,000 ha in new protected areas (both terrestrial and marine) to obtain a total of 15.73% terrestrial (increase of 23,129.6 km <sup>2</sup> , from the level of protection reported in 2014)
Land Degradation Neutrality Targets	Forest ecosystems	By 2030, 22,000 ha of dry forests will be conserved
National Biodiversity Action Plan	Forest ecosystems	The deforestation rate will have decreased, from 50,000 ha to 25,000 ha by 2025, and from 25,000 ha to 10,000 in 2030
Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation	Forest ecosystems	By 2030, 60 community conservation areas, in collective territories of Indigenous and black communities, declared, operating and connected to the National System of Protected Areas and / or territorial planning instruments
Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation	Forest ecosystems	By 2030, at least 5 pilots for each zero deforestation chain implemented (40 in total)
Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation	Forest ecosystems	By 2024, 50% increase in private sector participation in zero deforestation chains
National Biodiversity Action Plan	Wetland ecosystems	100% of beneficiary municipalities transfer resources to the páramo and high Andean forest municipalities that conserve the contributing basins



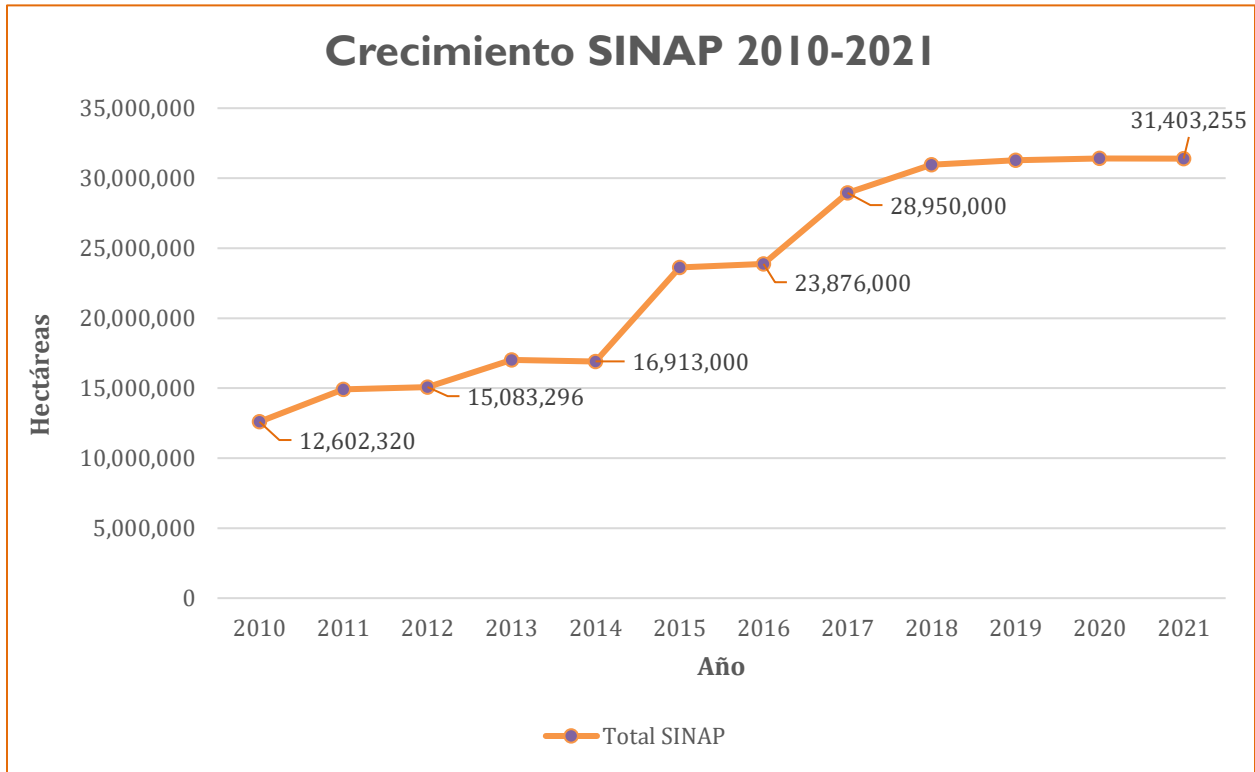
<b>Policy document</b>	<b>Ecosystem</b>	<b>Policy text</b>
National Biodiversity Action Plan	Wetland ecosystems	100% of the municipalities with more than 100,000 inhabitants will apply the criteria and indicators on the investment of transfers, fees and royalties aimed at conserving the watersheds that provide water for urban consumption
National Wetlands Policy	Wetland ecosystems	Colombia guarantees the sustainability of its water resources by the conservation and wise use of wetlands, as strategic ecosystems within the hydrological cycle, which support economic, social, environmental and cultural activities, with coordinated participation
National Wetlands Policy	Wetland ecosystems	Include environmental criteria on wetlands in all planning processes of land use, natural resources and land use planning
National Wetlands Policy	Wetland ecosystems	Develop wetlands' management plans to ensure maintenance its ecological characteristics and the supply of environmental goods and services
National Wetlands Policy	Wetland ecosystems	Ensure that environmental assessments are mandatory for projects of development and activities affecting the country's wetlands
National Wetlands Policy	Wetland ecosystems	Promote ecological evaluations and economic valuations of benefits and functions of wetlands for consideration in sectoral planning processes
National Wetlands Policy	Wetland ecosystems	Design and develop programs for the conservation of wetland ecosystems and threatened and / or endangered species, to ensure their sustainability
National Wetlands Policy	Wetland ecosystems	Establish measures to control the introduction and transplanted of invasive species of flora and fauna in inland wetlands
Protected Area Plan	Coastal ecosystems	2,500,000 ha in new protected areas (both terrestrial and marine)
National Wetlands Policy for oceans and coastal zones	Coastal ecosystems	Sustainable development of ocean spaces and coastal zones through its integrated management contribute to improvement of the quality of life of the Colombian population, the development of sustainable activities and conservation of ecosystems, marine and coastal resources
National Wetlands Policy for oceans and coastal zones	Coastal ecosystems	Establish environmental guidelines for the development of productive activities that take place in ocean spaces and coastal areas

<b>Policy document</b>	<b>Ecosystem</b>	<b>Policy text</b>
National Wetlands Policy for oceans and coastal zones	Coastal ecosystems	Implement effective measures for the prevention, reduction and control of marine and coastal contamination from land sources
Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation	Grasslands & Agricultural systems	Develop zero-deforestation agreements with agricultural and forestry production chains
National Biodiversity Action Plan	Grasslands & Agricultural systems	The coverage of the National Payment Program for Environmental Services for the Conservation of Ecosystems of Strategic Interest will be increased in all departments, including natural reserves of civil society. Environmental services will have been recovered in 30% of the area in strategic ecosystems or in priority areas of continental and marine conservation, including natural reserves of civil society
National Biodiversity Action Plan	Grasslands & Agricultural systems	17 regional green business programs will be implemented within the framework of the National Green Markets Plan. The country will have consolidated capacities and opportunities for sustainability in productive systems and development of competitive chains that incorporate biodiversity and ecosystem services as the engine of sustainable social and economic development



# ANNEX I

## ADDITIONAL GRAPHS AND TABLES



Management field	Category	Nº of PA per category	% of PA per category	Geographic Hectares	% of Geographic Hectares	Hectares by Resolution
<b>National Protected Areas</b>	National Districts of Integrated Management	4	4,3%	9,323,697.42	29,7%	9,715,811.36
	National Protective Forest Reserves	58	0,3%	563,004.80	1,8%	557,836.28
	System of National Natural Parks	59	4,3%	17,545,795.48	55,9%	17,465,359.57
	<b>Total national protected areas</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>8,9%</b>	<b>27,432,497.70</b>	<b>87,4%</b>	<b>27,739,007.21</b>
<b>Regional Protected Areas</b>	Recreation Areas	10	0,7%	792.84	0,003%	792.90
	Land Conservation Districts	18	1,3%	115,488.21	0,4%	115,150.55
	Regional Districts of Integrated Management	113	8,3%	2,656,567.22	8,5%	2,610,750.49
	Regional Natural Parks	59	4,3%	770,815.22	2,5%	724,068.68
	Regional Protective Forest Reserves	97	7,1%	225,441.33	0,7%	227,932.14
	<b>Total regional protected areas</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>21,9%</b>	<b>3,769,104.81</b>	<b>12,0%</b>	<b>3,678,694.76</b>
<b>Local Protected Areas (private)</b>	Civil Society Natural Reserves (RNSC)	941	69,2%	201,652.83	0,6%	198,656.41
	<b>Total RNSC</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>69,2%</b>	<b>201,652.83</b>	<b>0,6%</b>	<b>198,656.41</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>1359</b>		<b>31,403,255.35</b>		<b>31,616,358.38</b>

## ANNEX II

### ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON POTENTIAL OECMs

#### **Civil Society Natural Reserve “Agua Clara and Valle Lindo**

- 1) Overview:** The owner of the natural reserve is an NGO called Ecological Foundation Las Mellizas. Apart from being located inside a DRMI, the natural reserve has been recognized as an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBAs).

**Boundaries & Geographical Space:** 395,4 ha. The area and the boundaries are defined through public deed which includes three properties. Each has its own public deed: Valle Lindo with 246,6 ha, Aguas Claras with 70,5 ha and Buena Vista with 78,3 ha.

**Governance Type:** Private governance. civil society natural reserve. The natural reserve is inside the regional protected area (DRMI), that has a management plan not yet implemented because the environmental authority committee has not yet approved it.

**Permanence:** The land where the natural reserve is located is under the figure of private land. It includes three properties that have been formally bought. The measure is in place over a long term in situ conservation.

**Management Objectives:** The main objectives of the area are: to conserve the natural ecosystem of high Andean forests and paramo; to increase the biotic and abiotic, as well as the socio-cultural information of the natural reserve; to create an environmental space to enjoy nature. Biodiversity conservation is an explicit management objective.

**Conservation Effectiveness:** The current effectiveness is due to the area's governance and management. There is clear interest of the NGO to protect high Andean forest and paramo ecosystems. Environmental education on conservation issues has allowed engaging local people from the buffer area in civil society conservation processes.

### **Bitá, Protected River, Colombian Orinoco Basin**

2) **Overview:** The Bitá river belongs to the Colombian portion of the Orinoco Basin and has a total length of 500 km. In this setting, the proposed management strategy, Protected River; based in the Ecological Integrity approach, aims to preserve the continuity of the riverine system as a whole and focuses in the maintenance of the ecological flow, from an initial observed state or benchmark.

**Boundaries & Geographical Space:** Around 8500 sq km. The boundaries have been defined exclusively after hydrological aspects, including only the watershed area, after the National Geographic Service.

**Governance Type:** There are not yet any specific official or unofficial governance arrangements on place, one of the main weaknesses and threats of an area facing a rapid transformation process.

**Permanence:** A legal or other instrument/decision that sets out the area's governance and conservation management arrangements need to be developed. One of the main outcomes of the current stage is to promote the development of the necessary institutional framework.

**Management Objectives:** Protected River initiative seeks to establish bases for a process of integrated management of the basin based on socioeconomic knowledge of the landscape, information management, and the creation of scenarios for participation, learning, communication and governance. Biodiversity conservation is an explicit management objective.

**Conservation Effectiveness:** The process is still in an initial phase (baseline, indicator setting, development of the firsts conservation agreements, and

communication strategy) and there is not yet enough data available to measure effectiveness.

### **Special Management Area of Afro Colombian Communities of the upstream of the Amurrupe River, Risaralda**

**3) Overview:** This is a special management area located on a collective territory of afro Colombian communities, at the north west of the Risaralda department, which is part of the Choco Biogeographic Region. The area could be considered as an OECM, because it has a legal background, a community that supports its maintenance, it has clear conservation objectives, has clearly defined limits and a management plan. The area is not considered a protected area, but is recognized as a special managed area.

**Boundaries & Geographical Space:** 10.823 hectares. The area includes the upstream of the Amurrupe River, its limits are established in a map contained in an agreement of the regional environmental authority.

**Governance Type:** The area is managed by a community council supported by the regional environmental authority.

**Permanence:** There is an agreement of the regional environmental authority that creates the area. The decision cannot easily be overturned. There will be necessary to sign a new agreement with the communities and other stakeholders of the region.

**Management Objectives:** Conserve and recover the biological diversity, habitats and ecosystems present in the area. Promote the participation of the afro Colombian community on the management of the area. Preserve the traditional knowledge of the community that inhabit the area. Support a sustainable economic growth of the community. Biodiversity is an explicit objective.

**Conservation Effectiveness:** The tropical rainforest of the area is well conserved, but there are not periodical measures of the state of the forest and the management plan do not set effectiveness indicators. The regional authority and the community council believes that the area is effective, but there are other aspects that may influence the state of, such as the difficulty for access and presence of armed groups.

### **Jaba Tañiwashkaka de la Linea Negra, Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta**

**4) Overview:** Sacred site – Jaba Tañiwashkaka de la Linea Negra, Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta. Department of La Guajira; municipality of Dibulla, Puntica region, located by the Jerez river mouth across the Caribbean beaches.

**Boundaries & Geographical Space:** 230ha. It is the first seashore sacred site recovered for the Indigenous People of the Sierra Nevada - Pto Brisa; a total of four properties were acquired.

**Governance Type:** This territory is in the process of being incorporated into the Kogui Malayo Arhuaco reservation. Although the ownership of this place belongs to four different communities, the Kogui people are in charge of its management; the territorial management is supported by different organizations such as the Amazon Conservation Team (ACT).

**Permanence:** The land is in the process of being allocated to the Kogui Malayo Arhuaco reservation; in 2012 the Ministry of Culture declared this territory a



National Cultural Asset due to the historical, aesthetic, and symbolic value of this natural and traditional area, resolution 2873 of 2012. It is set over the long-term period; however, it is expected to become permanent after it is declared an Indigenous reservation.

**Management Objectives:** Maintain the spiritual, material and, protection objectives of the site; instill the understanding of the cultural and natural importance among the population so that the strategy of protection of the Linea Negra sacred sites at the Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta can be extended. Biodiversity is an explicit management objective.

**Conservation Effectiveness:** Although effectiveness is not being measured, there are inputs that show effectiveness in terms of conservation, it is not meticulous monitoring, but one that is based on the perception gathered during the community processes and are in agreement with the needs and the interest of those established by the conservation strategy.

### **Robles conservation corridor reaches four municipalities: Duitama (Boyacá), Encino, Charalá and Coromoro (Santander)**

**5) Overview:** The coverage of the conservation/production agreements at the Robles conservation corridor reaches four municipalities: Duitama (Boyacá), Encino, Charalá and Coromoro (Santander); this corridor is formed of national and regional protected areas, and private lands. Andean forest, High-Andean forest and moorland ecosystems.

**Boundaries & Geographical Space:** Dimension range: Between 1.5 ha and 40 ha (small-scale producers); between 200 ha and 300 ha (productive area); and 1 hectare (forest).

**Governance Type:** The governance is exerted by individuals and private organizations (usually the owners). Producers in conjunction with civil society organizations.

**Permanence:** The management plan includes a clear zonation where productivity activities are defined in space, as well as the conservation areas. Forest areas are never destructed for production use. The measure is in place over a long term in situ conservation.

**Management Objectives:** The main objectives of the area are: to conserve the natural ecosystems of the natural reserve through preservation and restoration actions; to strengthen the agroecological management in the natural reserve, diversifying farming production and renovating crops; to continue the community network through strengthen different local actors with impact in conservation issues. Biodiversity conservation is an explicit management objective.

**Conservation Effectiveness:** Despite having a priority, there is a multiscale sustainability productive language; the productive problem is reduced in favor of the protection of the biodiversity. In the absence of alternatives to the local economy, the productive system prevails. Implementation of functional corridors and financially sustainable productive systems; any effort exerted over the productive system provides a balance to achieving conservation/production.

### **Civil Society Natural Reserve “El Oasis”**



**6) Overview:** This natural reserve is part of a peasant family owners interested on biodiversity conservation of Andean forest, in an area that has been strongly destroyed and fragmented in the last decades, due to single crops and extensive cattle ranching. In the natural reserve, there is also coffee production and farming, under good environmental practice.

**Boundaries & Geographical Space:** 53.7 ha (Andean forest, agroforestry systems and pasture area).

**Governance Type:** Private governance. civil society natural reserve . The natural reserve has its own management plan update in 2012, with the support of the regional authority and the NGO called Orquidea). Its main objectives are conservation of Andean forest and sustainable coffee production.

**Permanence:** The instrumental tool is the regulation of the project contained in some articles of the agreement, which stipulate the return of the supplies or its economic value in case of non-compliance, as well as compliance process of the agreements established between the parties, the importance of the social/collective awareness and concern towards the neighbors, the decision to give to the communities the resources that have been returned due to non-compliance, the oversight and reporting process exerted by the producers over the improvement of the productive system, and the installation of relevant and necessary technologies aimed at the communities that would be affected in case of non-compliance.

**Management Objectives:** According to the agreement: conservation and protection, sustainable use of the resources based on combined landscape strategies. It is explicit; the base institutions, organizations and individuals are aware that the agreements are signed with an environmental organization and with a conservation and productive objective. The management objectives are a series of forest relicts, creeks, water springs and ecosystem soil and water services.

**Conservation Effectiveness:** The current effectiveness is due to the area's governance and management. There is clear work focused in achieving conservation objectives. Environmental education on conservation issues has allowed engaging local people from the surrounding area in civil society conservation processes, in order to reduce threats.

### **Civil Society Natural Reserve “El Silencio**

**7) Overview:** This natural reserve is part of a group of land owners interested in biodiversity conservation of Andean forest, as well as milk production under good environmental practices. It is located in the most important corridor of Andean forest remnant, that enhance the biological connectivity from north to south of the east side of Cundinamarca department. It is the last viable refuge on the long term for the conservation of many fauna and flora species.

**Boundaries & Geographical Space:** 118ha. The area is defined through public deed, that includes only one property.

**Governance Type:** Private governance. civil society natural reserve.



**Permanence:** The land where the natural reserve is located is under the figure of private land. It is part of the Colombian Network of Civil Society Natural Reserves (Resnatur), an association formerly recognized by the National Natural Park of Colombia, as an articulation organization of private civil society natural reserves at the national level. The measure is in place over a long term in situ conservation.

**Management Objectives:** The main objectives of the area are: to conserve the natural ecosystem of high Andean forests; to protect oak forest of the Andes of the threatened species *Quercus humboldtii*; to produce milk with friendly environment standards (this reserve is currently recognized by the cattle group of friendly milk production). Biodiversity conservation is an explicit management objective.

**Conservation Effectiveness:** The current effectiveness is due to the area's governance and management. There is clear interest of the reserve owners to protect high Andean forest. This is observed in the fact that more than 60% of the reserve area is under conservation status.

### **Water Reciprocal Agreements, a Case of Payments for Ecosystem Services**

**8) Overview:** The project's area of influence is located between the urban center of San Vicente de Chucurí municipality, in Santander Province and Quebrada Las Cruces watershed, Northeastern Colombia. The Water Reciprocal Agreements are contracts which landowners sign with the Water Administration Company (in this case Aguas para Chucurí - APC); there are currently 61 signed Agreements which cover a total area of 1,194 ha, with 490,5 ha of forests and gallery forests under a conservation and restoration management strategy and 703,5 ha of cacao, coffee and pasture systems where Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) are applied.

**Boundaries & Geographical Space:** These Agreements involve properties between 1 ha and 90 ha, with an average extension between 2 to 7 ha. Boundaries are defined according to the legal delimitation of the properties involved, and each of them has well defined conservation and production zones.

**Governance Type:** The area has private governance because the decision is taken by the landowner. However, it's important to remember that APC is a party in the Agreements and it has its rights and duties therein.

**Permanence:** Yes, the WR Agreement plus a framework agreement between APC, the City Hall and Fundación Natura. There is also an Environmental Services Contract represented in the water bill which people, inhabiting the urban area, pay. Also, there are specific agreements for funds and internal regulations for the Agreement operation. All of the above mentioned are legal support instruments.

**Conservation Effectiveness:** Yes, effectiveness has been achieved thanks to the activities taken place on the territory and on the implementation of the Agreement.

### **El Morrón" Rural property of the Municipality of La Celia, Risaralda Department**

**9) Overview:** It is a real estate bought for the conservation of the water resource in order to comply with a national law (Ley 99 de 1993). It is prohibited to perform any productive activity in the area and that is a permanent status. Most of its

extension is covered by an Andean submontane forest and the rest is covered by other agricultural activities.

**Boundaries & Geographical Space:** 30 ha. The mapped limits are defined with the Municipal Land-use Outline (Spanish: Esquema de Ordenamiento Territorial) of La Celia and according to its Municipal Protected Area System.

**Governance Type:** Governance depends on the city hall within the framework of the Municipal Protected Area System supported by the local environmental organizations. It is a government type governance.

**Permanence:** Long term. The real state cannot be sell by the municipality. There is a legal binding document in the City Council, which creates the Municipal Protected Area System and identifies the zone where the estate as “protection soil” (a legal conservation status given to a zone within the municipal territory).

**Management Objectives:** To conserve the water springs which supply human consumption. Biodiversity conservation is an explicit management objective.

**Conservation Effectiveness:** No biodiversity monitoring activities are performed. There is no supervision of conservation activities either. The effectiveness is due to the legal status of the area, but also depend on the management made by the municipality and the resources invested to do so.

#### **Dos Quebradas, Napoles Site Natural Municipal Park, Local Protected Area**

**10) Overview:** Dos Quebradas, Napoles Site Natural Municipal Park – Local Protected Area, Palmira Municipality, Valle del Cauca. It is described by the municipality as an area representing the municipal ecosystems, expressed in landscapes, biomes, ecosystems with special scientific, esthetic, educational and recreational value, whose existence must be sustained or whose natural conditions must be restored by a dedicated regime of declaration and management.

**Boundaries & Geographical Space:** 72,43 ha. Boundaries are defined and mapped according to the Palmira Land Use Plan and the Municipal Protected Area System.

**Governance Type:** Governance is exercised by the Palmira city hall according to the Municipal Protected Area System. Governance by the government.

**Permanence:** There is a legally binding document from the regional environmental authority (Corpocaldas) which defines the area as part of the Manizales Municipal Main Ecological Structure (Spanish EEP) and it is declared as an area for the preservation and defense of the ecological heritage. The measure is permanent all year round.

**Management Objectives:** To maintain the needed land covers for water supply regulation as well as to prevent and control erosion and massive sedimentation. Biodiversity conservation is an explicit management objective.

**Conservation Effectiveness:** No biodiversity monitoring activities are performed. There is no supervision of conservation activities either. It is due to the area’s legal status.

#### **Traditional Fishing Exclusive Zone. Chocó coast, Chocó Department**



- 11) Overview:** ZEPA: Traditional Fishing Exclusive Zone. Chocó coast, Chocó Department. ZEPA was created in 2005 with an area of 2.5 nautical miles where tourism, spearfishing and traditional fishing take place, which are activities improving the quality of life if responsible fishing criteria are applied.
- Boundaries & Geographical Space:** Delimitation is precise: from the Panama border in Punta Ardita (northern limit) until the northern limit of the Utría National Natural Park (NNP) and 2.5 nautical miles off the coastline. This sums a total of 250.000 ha.
- Governance Type:** Is a mixed type governance. AUNAP (National Aquaculture and Fishing Authority), Fedepesca.
- Permanence:** Long term. There is a legally binding document issued by the Municipal Council which creates the Municipal Protected Area System, within which this area is declared as a local protected area.
- Management Objectives:** To replace high-impact fishing gears for the restoration of fish population species, such as the Yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*), the Green jack (*Cranax caballus*), the Bigeye trevally (*Caranx sexfasciatus*), the Yellow snapper (*Lutjanus argentiventris*), the Pacific dog snapper (*Lutjanus novemfasciatus*), the Bluestriped chub (*Sectator ocyurus*), the Almaco jack (*Seriola rivoliana*), the Spottail grunt (*Haemulon maculicauda*), the Rock hind (*Epinephelus* sp.) and Pacific bearded bortula (*Brotula clarkae*). To improve the traditional fishermen living conditions.
- Conservation Effectiveness:** There in fishing and fishing arts monitoring. It is performed directly by the fishermen and by accompanying non-governmental organizations. The governance model is in the process of being settled. Significant threats to the management and governance model have been overcome.

### **Cerro Sancancio, City of Manizales, Caldas Department**

- 12) Overview:** Cerro Sancancio is a hill with an altitude between 1,910 and 2,220 MAMSL, located within premontane wet forest and lower montane wet forest life zones. It was declared as a green area of public interest by Municipal Agreement No. 107 of 1995. The zone includes several forests and their fauna and flora species have been identified. Cerro Sancancio is one of Manizales' landmark hills and is at risk for landslides due to deforestation and grazing.
- Boundaries & Geographical Space:** 74,22 ha. Boundaries are defined and mapped according to the Manizales Land Use Plan.
- Governance Type:** Governance is exercised and shared by Manizales Environment Department and the Cerro Sancancio's landowners in accordance to the Municipal Protected Area System (Spanish "SIMAP Manizales").
- Permanence:** Yes, it is recognized by a Resolution issued by AUNAP It is supported by: the area's management plan, the fishing planning scheme and the GIC PA Assembly. Long-term and for the entire region.
- Management Objectives:** The area is part of the Manizales Municipal Main Ecological Structure (Spanish EEP) and it is declared as an area for the preservation and defense of the ecological heritage. Biodiversity conservation is an explicit management objective

**Conservation Effectiveness:** No biodiversity monitoring activities are performed. There is no supervision of conservation activities either. Current effectiveness is due to the governance and management of the zone.

See full details in Collation of OECM Case Studies (IUCN, 2017)



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