



2018 Grupo Argos Foundation
Report



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Report



GRUPO ARGOS



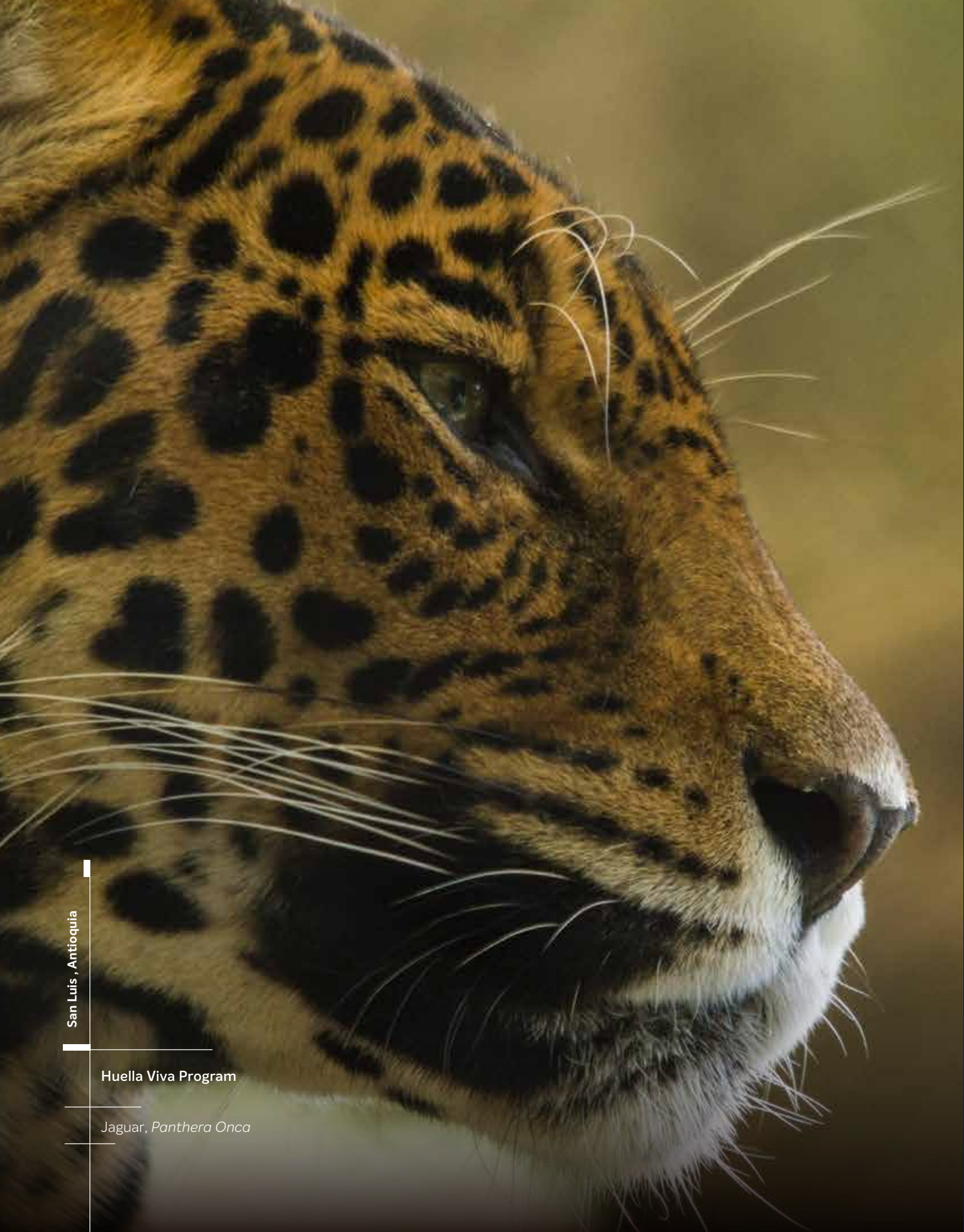
ARGOS



CELSIA



ODINSA



San Luis , Antioquia

Huella Viva Program

Jaguar, *Panthera Onca*

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01

OUR ACTION
FOCUSES



OUR FOUNDATION

The Grupo Argos Foundation, as an important part of the strategy and sustainability policy of Grupo Argos, focuses its work on environmental conservation through the protection of water resources and biodiversity, as well as the social and participative inclusion of communities in environmental education processes.

This year, seeking to provide continuity and increase the impact of conservation actions, the merger of the Grupo Argos, Celsia and Argos foundations was decided in order to articulate a single vehicle of voluntary corporate social responsibility of the companies that make up this Business Group. In this way, the Argos and Celsia foundations ceased to exist as of January 2019, to unite their assets and management capabilities to the new Grupo Argos Foundation.

The arguments to make the decision to merge the foundations are focused on:

- **Increasing the management capacity of projects**, generating synergies and articulating the potentialities of each of the foundations.
- **Approaching related topics** in a joint manner.
- **Managing alliances more efficiently**, including issues of international cooperation.
- Having a **greater scope and coverage** of the work that is done with communities in the Colombian territory.

Antioquia

Cuenca Verde

Reforestation program
in Belmira



2018 was a year of transition in which, in alliance with public and private organizations, the foundations of the Business Group worked in various programs, as follows:

- **Grupo Argos Foundation:** Biodiversity and water
- **Argos Foundation:** Infrastructure and educational quality
- **Celsia Foundation:** Educational quality and infrastructure in water and energy

As of 2019, we are all Grupo Argos Foundation.

COMMITTED TO A LIVING PLANET

ACTION FOCUSES



WATER

We are committed to the creation and management of long-term alliances and financial mechanisms for the conservation of water basins that supply population centers, seeking the restoration of forests, the conservation of biodiversity and the supply of drinking water.



BIODIVERSITY

In this component, we develop projects oriented to the protection of large mammals classified as "umbrella species", such as the Andean bear, the puma and the jaguar, which are key to the planning and conservation of ecosystems, due to their characteristics, the area required and the connectivity they demand for their habitat.



SOCIAL INCLUSION

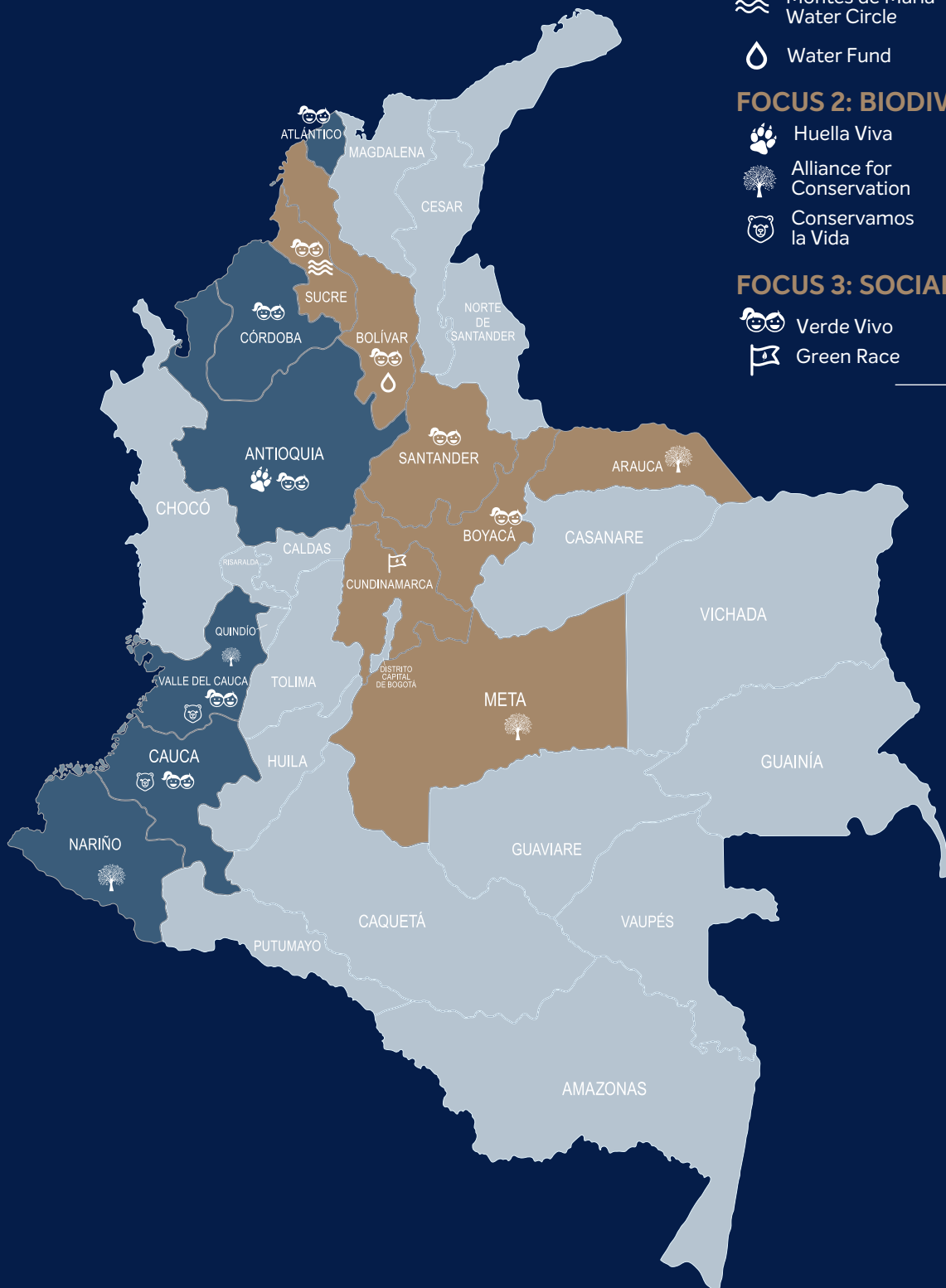
We generate social inclusion projects that encourage the participation of communities in the design, implementation and monitoring of conservation initiatives. Likewise, we develop environmental education programs that strengthen the generation of awareness about the care for the environment and the strengthening of productive organizations committed to the protection of water and biodiversity through the implementation of sustainable production practices.

MANAGEMENT MODEL

The intervention model of the Grupo Argos Foundation is aimed at the environmental conservation and preservation through the articulation of compensation actors and resources and volunteers that allow the development of integral, efficient, sustainable and high impact projects.





In 2018, we were present
in 49 municipalities and
13 departments.



PROGRAMS

FOCUS 1: WATER

-  Montes de María Water Circle
-  Water Fund

FOCUS 2: BIODIVERSITY

-  Huella Viva
-  Alliance for Conservation
-  Conservamos la Vida

FOCUS 3: SOCIAL INCLUSION

-  Verde Vivo
-  Green Race

FIGURES THAT IMPACT



7.877

BILLION PESOS
IN ENVIRONMENTAL
AND SOCIAL
INVESTMENT

In 2018, we managed to consolidate important efforts of the rural communities that participate in the environmental conservation programs of the Grupo Argos Foundation.



1,218,500
TREES PLANTED



2,433 ha
IMPACTED
BASINS

THAT SUPPLY

6,613,000
PEOPLE

183
EDUCATIONAL
CENTERS AND
MORE THAN
60,000
STUDENTS
PARTICIPATING
IN OUR
ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION
PROGRAMS

MORE THAN

300

PROTECTED
SPECIES IN OUR
BIODIVERSITY
CORRIDORS

ANDEAN
BEAR
CORRIDOR



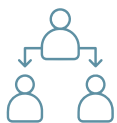
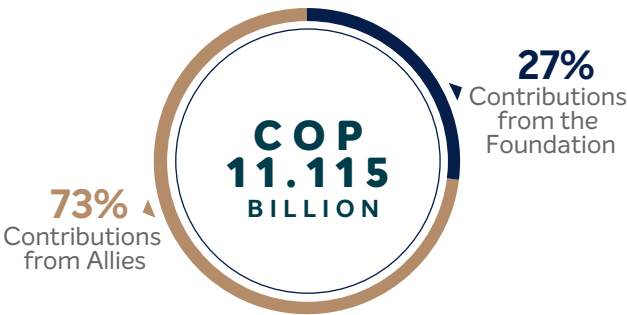
3.2
MILLION ha
NEW
PROTECTED
AREAS

1,100,000 ha

**WE LOOK FOR ALLIES FOR
A GREATER IMPACT**

Through our management model and our alliances, we have consolidated relationships of trust and impact with more than 30 international and national organizations committed to the conservation of natural capital. In 2018, we managed resources with allies for more than COP 8 billion for the development of our programs.

**Resources Managed
for Environmental
Conservation**



**WE SUPPORT
OTHER ENTITIES**

We donated COP 1.35 billion to strengthen programs of other entities in education, health, social inclusion, institutional strengthening, culture and the environment.



Antioquia

Huella Viva

Basilisk

02

FOCUS 1: WATER

CARTAGENA WATER FUND PROGRAM

One of the biggest concerns we have had since the conservation processes of the Foundation is the problem of contamination and sedimentation in the bay of Cartagena. According to the Basic project, it is estimated that the Dique Canal discharges around **2,000 tons of sediment per day into the sea**, a situation that affects the ecosystems and the health of the population. For this reason, the creation of the **Cartagena Water Fund** becomes relevant, as one of the solutions to channel the actions of green infrastructure required to improve the quality of the basin's water resource.

ALLIES

- Grupo Argos Foundation
- Fundación Promotora Canal del Dique
- Bavaria
- Cartagena City Hall
- Cardique
- The Nature Conservancy
- Chamber of Commerce of Cartagena
- Aguas de Cartagena Company
- Among others

ACHIEVEMENTS

With the four communities of the Dique Canal area with which the Fund works, we achieved the strengthening of the mangrove nursery in which

60
families
participate.

The creation of an ecotourism route with the identification of important trails and ecosystems for the area, and we signed an agreement for the restoration of

28
hectares

of mangrove that will allow the conservation of the ecosystem and will help with water regulation.



Bolívar

Cartagena Water Fund

Fishing communities are benefited with this project

BENEFITED MUNICIPALITIES

- Cartagena, Bolívar
- Rocha, Bolívar
- Puerto Badel, Bolívar
- Boca Cerrada, Bolívar



MONTES DE MARÍA WATER CIRCLE PROGRAM

This year, we created the **Montes de María Water Circle** ("Círculo del Agua de Montes de María"), an alliance between different organizations that seek the generation of innovative water supply projects for the populations and the conservation of the tropical dry forest. This initiative was born due to the great problem of water stress that exists in the region and the difficulties for the supply of drinking water to these communities.

ACHIEVEMENTS

We completed the diagnosis to know the drinking water situation of

50
educational
institutions

10
rural
aqueducts

5
irrigation
systems

and of the vegetation of the prioritized water sources.

ALLIES

- ▮ Grupo Argos Foundation
- ▮ Ayuda en Acción Foundation
- ▮ Coltabaco
- ▮ Natural Heritage



Based on this information, we achieved the planting of

50,600
seedlings of tropical
dry forest species

with farmers of the area for the care of water sources, and we began the implementation of rainwater catchment systems in

4 educational
institutions

as well as the feasibility studies for the aqueduct of a settlement in Carmen de Bolívar.

Montes de María,
Bolívar and Sucre

Montes de María
Water Circle

Water protection and
conservation of the dry
tropical forest

BENEFITED MUNICIPALITIES

- ▮ San Onofre, Sucre
- ▮ Ovejas, Sucre
- ▮ Tolú Viejo, Sucre
- ▮ Santiago de Tolú, Sucre
- ▮ Boca Cerrada, Sucre

CUENCA VERDE

PROGRAM:
THE MEDELLÍN WATER FUND

Cuenca Verde is one of the most promising and innovative initiatives in the care for water resources in the country, directly impacting **4 million inhabitants of Medellín and the Valle de Aburrá**. Since 2015, we have been actively participating as partners of the Fund for the conservation of the main basins that provide the territory with **90%** of the water it consumes, through strategies for the protection, improvement and preservation of water and the ecosystem services of the basins.

ALLIES

- ▢ Grupo Argos Foundation
- ▢ Empresas Públicas de Medellín
- ▢ The Nature Conservancy
- ▢ Cornare
- ▢ Grupo Nutresa
- ▢ Postobón
- ▢ Medellín City Hall
- ▢ Valle del Aburrá Metropolitan Area
- ▢ Among others

ACHIEVEMENTS

In addition to participating as partners, we support the direct implementation of the **planting of native species** in riverbank areas in order to protect the water springs and sources through conservation agreements that the Fund makes with the neighboring farmers of the basin.



This year, thanks to this water alliance, we have managed to:

Impact
2,443
hectares

Plant
21,900
seedlings of native species

Sign
86
conservation agreements
for the reforestation and improvement of productive practices with communities.



Antioquia

Cuenca Verde

Protection of water sources in Belmira

MUNICIPIOS BENEFICIADOS

- ▢ Envigado, Antioquia
- ▢ El Retiro, Antioquia
- ▢ Caldas, Antioquia
- ▢ La Ceja, Antioquia
- ▢ La Unión, Antioquia
- ▢ San Pedro de los Milagros, Antioquia
- ▢ Entreríos, Antioquia
- ▢ Belmira, Antioquia

I
03

FOCUS 2: BIODIVERSITY

ALLIANCE FOR THE CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY, TERRITORY AND CULTURE PROGRAM

We participate in the alliance in order to preserve our natural capital through the declaration of new protected areas through processes concerted with the communities that inhabit these territories, increasing the conservation of ecosystems that are strategic for the country, that host the greatest biodiversity and water wealth.

ALLIES

- ▢ Grupo Argos Foundation
- ▢ Mario Santo Domingo Foundation
- ▢ WCS
- ▢ National Natural Parks of Colombia
- ▢ WWF

ACHIEVEMENTS

We have achieved the declaration of

3 new protected areas

under schemes such as the comprehensive management districts that allow a greater interaction with communities.

And that amount to

3.2

million hectares,

exceeding the proposed goal of 2.4 million ha.

These areas are:

- ▢ Yuruparí-Malpelo National Integrated Management District
- ▢ Cabo Manglares, Bajo Mira and Frontera National Integrated Management District
- ▢ Cinaruco National Integrated Management District, in the Orinoco

The alliance achieves the expansion of two protected areas (Malpelo and Chiribiquete), which allow the incorporation of

6.4 hectares into the National System.

BENEFITED MUNICIPALITIES

- ▢ Arauca, Arauca
- ▢ Puerto Gaitán, Meta
- ▢ Tumaco, Nariño
- ▢ Isla de Malpelo, Valle del Cauca



Arauca

Alliance for the Conservation of Biodiversity, Territory and Culture

In Cinaruco, 332,000 hectares of ecosystems are protected



Valle del Cauca

Conservamos la Vida Program

Andean Bear,
Tremarctos ornatus

CONSERVAMOS LA VIDA PROGRAM

We protect the habitat of the Andean bear in the western mountain range between the Farallones, Tatamá and Munchique national parks, a vital species for the Andean ecosystems in our country and that is currently vulnerable to extinction. After three years of work and thanks to the strategies developed within the framework of this program, the farmers of the area **have become guardians of the bear** and conceive it as an ally to protect their forests and water sources.

ALLIES

- Grupo Argos Foundation
- National Natural Parks of Colombia
- Wildlife Conservation Society
- Corporación Autónoma del Valle del Cauca
- Argos

BENEFITED MUNICIPALITIES

- El Tambo, Cauca
- Yumbo, Valle del Cauca
- Dagua, Valle del Cauca
- El Águila, Valle del Cauca

ACHIEVEMENTS

Families have understood that the Andean bear is their neighbor and that it is a species that allows the forest to renew itself and conserve the biodiversity of the place.

This year,

28
families

have committed to the conservation of the bear.



Contributing
5.023
hectares

of their farms to connect the corridor of the species, and converting their productive practices of coffee, livestock and agriculture into processes that are more efficient and friendly with the environment.

The children of the settlements have also been allies to preserve the life of the Andean bear. **14 educational institutions** have participated in our **Verde Vivo** environmental education program and take the message to their families and friends. In this way, working as a team with the farmers, we are creating a country model for the protection of large mammals such as the bear, which goes hand in hand with improving the quality of life of families.

HUELLA VIVA PROGRAM

Water, biodiversity and communities are the three pillars of our Huella Viva program, which is developed between the Samaná Norte and Cocorná (Río Claro) basins in Antioquia. We promote the conservation of more than **9.000 hectares** of an area of great natural wealth and habitat of big cats such as the puma and the jaguar, which are threatened today by deforestation and agricultural expansion.

ALLIES

- ▮ Grupo Argos Foundation
- ▮ Celsia
- ▮ Argos
- ▮ Cornare
- ▮ Amazonas Foundation
- ▮ Technical support from the Alexander von Humboldt Biological Resources Research Institute

ACHIEVEMENTS

In the first year of execution of the program, we were able to identify a **portfolio of actions** and areas necessary for forest restoration, rehabilitation for productive use and around **156 properties** that have a conflict with felines.



We implemented five models for the management of conflicts

with the puma and jaguar in the farms of farmers and breeders of the area, which have meant a relief for the families therein, allowing the protection of their animals, improving their productive practices and protecting the lives of felines.



One of the participants of this program, who also joined in leaving a **mark**, implemented a regenerative livestock model such as the one developed in Africa, which allows **a more sustainable production and coexistence with felines**.

BENEFITED MUNICIPALITIES

- ▮ San Luis, Antioquia
- ▮ Puerto Triunfo, Antioquia
- ▮ San Carlos, Antioquia
- ▮ Sonsón, Antioquia
- ▮ San Francisco, Antioquia
- ▮ San Rafael, Antioquia



San Luis, Antioquia

Huella Viva Program

Jaguar, *Panthera Onca*

04

FOCUS 3: SOCIAL INCLUSION

VERDE VIVO

PROGRAM:
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Since 2016, we made an alliance with the Celsia Foundation and other organizations to develop Verde Vivo in different areas of the country, in order to seek to impact the greatest number of educational centers with our environmental education program, generating skills, good practices in educational institutions and in the territory for the sustainability of an environmental culture.

ALLIES

- ▢ Grupo Argos Foundation
- ▢ Celsia Foundation
- ▢ Argos Foundation
- ▢ Fundación Social
- ▢ Julio Mario Santo Domingo Foundation
- ▢ Argos



ACHIEVEMENTS

We reached more than
60,000
students
2,275
teachers from 183
educational centers
in the county,
located in 9
departments and 33
municipalities.

The program has achieved that children and teachers establish environmental education committees in each of the educational centers, facilitating the implementation of environmental practices that respond to the needs of the environment.



Implementation of programs for the management of solid waste, which have allowed the recovery of more
5,800
kilos of waste.

The creation of school nurseries for the conservation of native species, allowing the planting of
4,700
trees and the implementation of irrigation systems with renewable energies and rainwater in areas of water scarcity, as in the island of Barú, in Cartagena.

Valle del Cauca

Verde Vivo

Thousands of children participate in environmental education

MUNICIPIOS BENEFICIADOS

- ▢ Bolívar: 8
- ▢ Sucre: 5
- ▢ Santander: 1
- ▢ Boyacá: 4
- ▢ Cauca: 1
- ▢ Valle del Cauca: 3
- ▢ Antioquia: 11
- ▢ Córdoba: 2
- ▢ Atlántico: 3



Antioquia

Carrera Verde

3 trees were planted
for each runner

GREEN RACE

In Colombia, an area similar to the Department of Atlántico (330,000 ha) is deforested each year, which represents **5%** of the global deforestation. In the last 3 years, together with the Natura Foundation, we have been carrying out the **Green Race**, within the Unidos por los bosques y el agua ("United for the Forests and Water") campaign, with which we seek to raise awareness and encourage action in families and people who want to contribute to the care of the planet.

ACHIEVEMENTS

This year
7,000
people
massively joined the
**Green Race in Bogotá
and Medellín**

Achieving, with
their participation,
the planting of

24,000

native species

in the Encenillo
Biological Reserve in
Cundinamarca, El
Silencio Biological
Reserve and La Romera
Ecological Park in
Antioquia, and the
Cachalú Biological
Reserve in Santander.

RESTORATION OF FORESTS AND MANGROVES PROGRAM

Through the different programs of the Foundation and together with the companies of the Group, **we planted native and mangrove species** in order to enrich biodiversity corridors and help preserve water resources in the northern area of Colombia, in the departments of Atlántico, Bolívar, Sucre and Córdoba.

ACHIEVEMENTS

In total, we planted:
21,331
native species
of dry tropical forest and
1,071,000
mangrove species
in the Dique Canal area.



These plantings were carried out through the different environmental conservation programs managed by the **Grupo Argos Foundation and Tekia**, to contribute to the creation of biological corridors.

FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

We are convinced that the conservation of forests requires sustainable production schemes from which communities can obtain their sustenance. This is how we have developed the Forestry Development program with farmers of the areas of Sucre (San Onofre) and Córdoba (Puerto Libertador), that encourages the generation of agroforestry systems as a productive alternative and allows reducing the pressure on native forests.



ALLIES

- Grupo Argos Foundation → Sena
- Tekia → Incubar

ACHIEVEMENTS

60
farmers,

producers of the area, have joined this initiative with forest plantations that today reach

234
hectares

planted with different species, among which are teak (*tectona grandis*), corn, yam and cassava.



This year, nine plantations were registered with the ICA,

a milestone that allows providing a safe and sustainable market to the efforts made by these farmers today, who have found their sustenance and way of life in the productive and native forest.

COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING IN MONTES DE MARÍA

In 2015, the Grupo Argos Foundation, as a commitment to the post-conflict in Montes de María, donated to the Crecer en Paz Foundation 6,600 hectares of land and 1,100 hectares of forestry plantation of teak, established in the municipalities of Carmen de Bolívar and Ovejas for the development of sustainable productive projects with the communities.

ACHIEVEMENTS

30
hectares

of land in the municipality of Ovejas, with precision drip irrigation, with a fertigation system for the cultivation of sweet potato and yam, destined for the export market.

The model of association with farmer families will seek to be replicated in 2019, with the ultimate goal of generating management capacity for its subsequent transfer of property to farmers.

10
hectares

of lorena avocado were sown with sprinkler fertigation.

The Crecer en Paz Foundation is part of the regional strategy for the protection of the tropical dry forest and it is managing, with the Natural Heritage Fund, the declaration of

400
hectares

as a reserve area for civil society.

Bolívar

Forestry Development

We have reforested more than 200 hectares in Montes de María



05

OUR VISION
FOR THE FUTURE

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

We want to thank our human team for its commitment and dedication, and our shareholders for the trust they placed in us, without whom it would not have been possible to obtain the results we present.

We will continue working and joining forces with allies and cooperators to protect the water and preserve a living planet that provides well-being to communities. Our actions will be framed in an integrated model of intervention in the territories defined, around the water basins, recognizing the social, environmental and economic dynamics that are established around water as an element of life.

Likewise, we will continue with institutional strengthening programs such as Grupo Argos Scholarships for regional development and the training of young people who stand out for their academic excellence and leadership. In the same way, we will consolidate our employees' corporate volunteering, which focuses on infrastructure, animal and environmental protection and knowledge transfer.

Arauca

Alliance for the
Conservation of Biodiversity,
Territory and Culture

Buteogallus meridionalis



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