



ECOSYSTEM-BASED ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE MAGDALENA RIVER BASIN

As of: October 2021

The project supported the Colombian government in the development of a planning framework to design and implement a cost-effective, climate-resilient management plan for the Magdalena River Basin in order to reduce flood risks and provide for economic growth while sustaining a healthy river and accounting for climate changes. Around 80 % of Colombian residents are living in the Magdalena River Basin and 80% of GDP is produced there. The partnership mapped biodiversity, ecosystem services and land use, and develops watershed models for two pilot watersheds in order to better understand the hydrologic regime. The project developed proposed climate adaptation strategies to reduce climate impacts. Involvement of local stakeholders was key, in order to provide broad benefits and buy-in, and include land management options to preserve vital ecosystem services that society needs to buffer the impacts of climate change.

State of implementation/results

- At COP 22 in Marrakech in 2016, the project's vulnerability and risk assessment was discussed in the context of the side event "Ecosystem-based adaptation in Colombia" with international participants from governments, non-governmental organisations and universities
- TNC and the partner institution Corantioquia participated in the 11th International Conference on Community-Based Adaptation to Climate Change (CBA11), held in Uganda from June 28-29 2017, focused on harnessing natural resources and ecosystems for adaptation.
- TNC with MADS and other partners such as GIZ and WWF, launched the "Guide of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA)". The guide explains how decision makers can incorporate the EbA approach in projects formulation, as well as in their management or planning. (www.minambiente.gov.co/...)
- TNC and the Environmental Institute (IDEA) of the

PROJECT DATA

Country/Countries:

Kolumbien

Implementing organisation:

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) - International

Political partner(s):

- Corporación Autónoma Regional para el Centro de Antioquia (CORANTIOQUIA)
- Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) - Colombia
- National Planning Department - DNP (Departamento Nacional de Planeación)
- Regional Autonomous Corporation of the Magdalena Great River (CORMAGDALENA) - Colombia

Implementing partner(s):

- ALMA Foundation - USA
- Institute for Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies (IDEAM) - Colombia
- Pontifical Xavierian University - Colombia

BMU grant:

€ 2,000,000.25

Duration:

07/2015 till 06/2019





National University of Colombia elaborated a cost-benefit analysis of the adaptation measures, which was used in the prioritization of the EbA measures to implement in the new pilot areas, and to communicate to decision makers the benefits of implementing EbA measures in the Magdalena wetland.

- Together with Corantioquia the project works in the pilot areas of Barbacoas, El Sapo and the wetland of Zapatosa, implementing EbA measures with participation of the local communities: e.g. forest restoration, silvopastoral systems, aquaculture pilots with native fish, sustainable artisanal fishing and fair trade, protected areas declaration, wetland rangers groups, resilient productive gardens, and knowledge networks.
- Together with MADS the project leads a Working-Group on Monitoring Adaptation where other entities participate sharing experiences from implementing EbA and discussing possibilities for monitoring EbA.
- The project participated in the 12th International Symposium on Ecohydraulics in Tokyo and presented the advances made together with IDEAM: "Impacts of mid-term climate change on wetland and floodplain dynamics: a case study in the Magdalena river basin".
- During the 1st week of Climate Action, which is related to the Talanoa Dialogue in Colombia, the project presented advances and participated in discussions in an event organized by MADS and different universities

