



# VIDA MANGLAR

The Blue Carbon Project of the Gulf of Morrosquillo (“Vida Manglar”) is the first REDD+ project in Colombia to be developed on mangrove ecosystems. In this region, some of the most important protected mangrove and marine-coastal areas of the Caribbean coast can be found, with the primary conservation objective being the mangroves of the Cispatá Bay, La Balsa-Tinajones, and adjacent sectors of the estuarine delta of the Sinú River, in the department of Córdoba.

The proposed expansion area, as part of the grouped project, includes the mangrove ecosystems and lagoons of the La Caimanera marine protected area and the mangrove system of the Boca de Guacamayas sector, in the department of Sucre. Both areas have high biodiversity but are threatened by land-use changes and the overexploitation of resources.

## Project type:

REDD+

## Methodology - Standards:

VM007 for coastal wetlands that includes the estimation of carbon sequestered by soils, above and below ground biomass. VERRA VCS and CCB (Gold level for community and biodiversity)

## Carbon Emissions Avoided (Projected):

939,296 tCO<sub>2</sub>e over the life of the project (30 years), or an estimated mean of 31,310 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per annum

## Validation Statement and Verification report:

### First monitoring period:

VCS & CCB 15 May 2015 – 31 December 2018

### 1st Credit

Issuance: 69,381 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

Auditor: AENOR

### Second Monitoring period:

VCS 1 January 2019 - 28 February 2023 and CCB 1 January 2019 – 31 December 2023

### 2nd Credit

Issuance: 98,608 tCO<sub>2</sub>e (Estimated)

Auditor: ASTER GLOBAL



## Location:

Caribbean Coast of Colombia, Gulf of Morrosquillo, Córdoba Department, protected area Regional Integrated Management District of Cispatá, La Balsa, Tinajones, and adjacent sectors of the estuarine delta of the Sinú River (DRMI Cispatá)

## Initial project area:

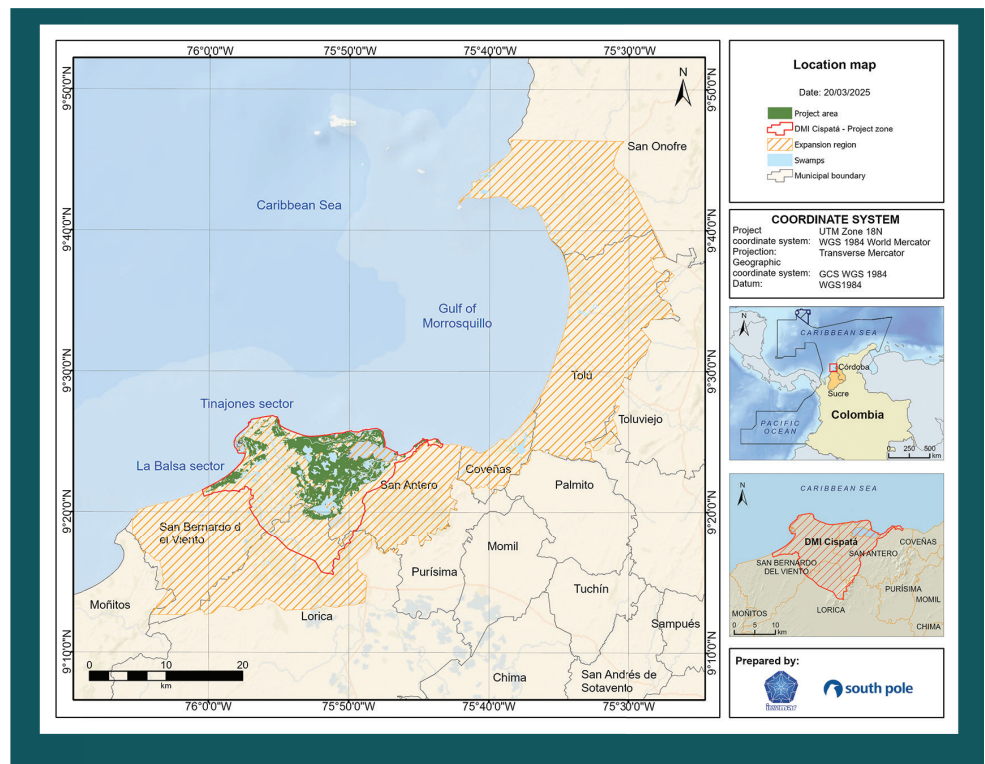
7,561 hectares

## Individuals impacted:

571 families (1759 people directly impacted)

## Threats:

Key environmental challenges include ecosystems being converted to raise livestock and agriculture, and coasts being developed for tourism



## Long-term management plan:

Use the carbon value generated through the conservation and restoration of the Cispatá mangroves to contribute to a long-term sustainable financing strategy through the sale of carbon credits that provide the initial funding, and degree of financial security, required to develop sustainable ecotourism programs as well as improve sustainable mangrove use practices in the region.

These revenues must be complemented by other sources of funding, such as compensations, fee payments, and taxes, among others, which will help capitalize an endowment fund for the maintenance of the program's main activities.

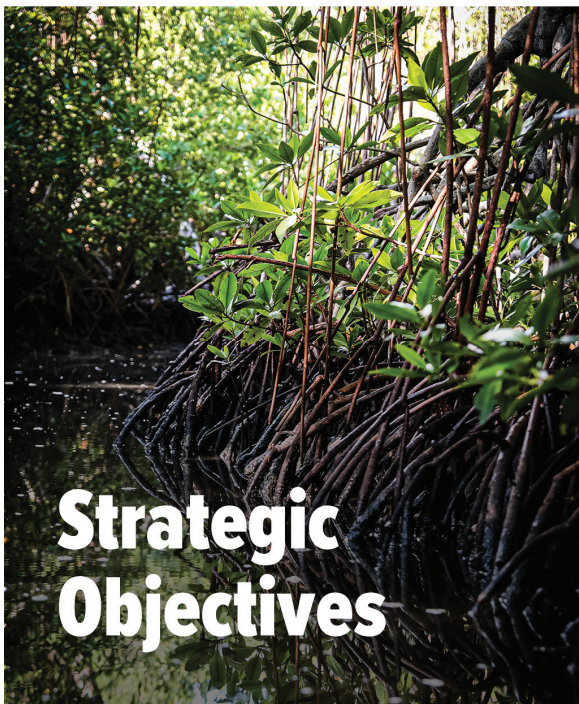
## Project Impact

Strengthened local governance and management of marine-coastal protected areas at the regional level

Adoption of sustainable community-based mangrove management practices

Preservation of the hydrobiological connectivity of the coastal landscape

Conservation of biodiversity



## Strategic Objectives

### Strengthening governance:

Local institution and community capacity development  
Resource management

### Alternative productive projects:

Community ecotourism.  
Beekeeping with *Apis* and native bees (*Melipona*)  
Community orchards

### Restoration of mangrove areas:

Propagation of vegetative material  
Training  
Cleaning and maintenance of canals  
Land ownership assessment  
Conservation agreements with ranchers and mangrove users

### Monitoring and evaluation:

Aquatic and terrestrial participatory monitoring for biodiversity and climate  
Monitoring of socioeconomic impacts and benefits  
Monitoring of sustainable use permits granted in the area by the authority



# Co-benefits

Mangrove protection, improved land security, sustainable land management and other related project activities:

- Benefits communities and livelihoods
- Enables conservation of endangered manatees, needle crocodiles and otters
- Builds adaptation and resilience to the effects of climate change (river and marine flooding, coastal erosion, etc.)
- The project is currently monitoring contributions in 23 indicators within seven UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):
  - 🎓 4 (Quality Education)
  - ♀️ 5 (Gender Equality)
  - 💼 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)
  - 🏙️ 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)
  - 🌍 13 (Climate Action)
  - 💧 14 (life under water)
  - 🌳 15 (Life on Land)

## Project Partners



**2** Honey & bee-products producing associations

**3** Associations that promote tourism

**14** Community-based mangrove associations from San Antero and San Bernardo del Viento