



Challenge address

Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change and Environmental Degradation with Biodiversity Loss in Natural Savannas and Forests



Climate Change Mitigation Project Orinoco₂ Carbono del orinoco

Introduction

ORINOCO₂ Carbono del Orinoco is a climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation project that reduces emissions caused by deforestation, forest degradation, and land use change in the savanna and forest ecosystem within the Meta and Vichada departments of the Colombian Altillanura. It also generates social and environmental co-benefits and contributes to Sustainable Development Goals 13 Climate Action and 15 Life on Land.

Term

2022-2034

Key Message

The project is developed under a model of effective collaboration between the Cataruben Foundation, Ecopetrol, and landowners, promoting transparency and active participation in the implementation of conservation measures. Each party plays a fundamental role in the success of the project, working together to achieve the goals of reducing emissions and conserving ecosystems.

Challenges addressed by the alliance



Climate change mitigation and adaptation



Environmental degradation and biodiversity loss



Lack of economic resources or financial tools for conservation



Key words



- Mitigation
- Adaptation
- Biodiversity
- Co-Benefits
- Climate Change
- Savannas
- Orinoquia
- High plains



Solution Design

In the design and development of the project, the Cataruben Foundation acts as the project holder, Ecopetrol as a strategic ally, and the landowners as ecosystem managers or project participants. Cataruben and Ecopetrol are responsible for creating the enabling conditions for the project, as well as leading the monitoring, reporting, validation management, verification, carbon credit marketing, and economic benefit distribution procedures. Meanwhile, the landowners carry out the necessary activities within the boundaries of each of their properties.

This synergy between actors allows us to take advantage of the potential of multiple private properties, thus maximizing environmental and social benefits, supporting them in a model of cooperation and shared responsibility that strengthens the sustainable management of ecosystems and contributes to climate change mitigation, the conservation of natural savannas, and incentivizes sustainable productive development.



Area of influence



Departments of Meta and Vichada, in the region known as the Colombian high plains of the Orinoquia. To date, 149 farms have been included, totaling an area of 186,329 hectares.



Impact Metrics

Environmental Indicators

- Protected areas: 121,169.6 ha
- Areas under restoration: 53

Social Indicators

- 149 conservation agreements signed for 15 years

Economical Indicators

- 1 payment mechanism for GHG mitigation results in implementation



Economic sector

AFOLU



Sustainable Development Goals - SDG



Achievements and Lessons Learned

Cumulative as of December 2023

- 1 118 farms have taken action to prevent forest fires.
- 2 Restoration actions are being carried out in degraded areas on 53 farms.
- 3 11 farms use eco-efficient stoves and 5 have established dendroenergy banks.

2023

The environmental and socioeconomic conditions of the region put pressure on the degradation and transformation of natural ecosystems. This situation generates a negative impact that demands the search for alternative solutions. It is vital to promote markets such as Payments for Environmental Services, carbon credits, biodiversity or nature credits. These mechanisms offer incentives to communities to embark on a path of sustainable development, where the conservation and restoration of savanna ecosystems become fundamental pillars.

More information

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Know more about this project [here](#)