



## COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROJECT IN CAQUETÁ AND GUAVIARE FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

20/10/2020

**The project is carried out with the support of Norwegian cooperation and is focused on tourism and community forestry in the northern areas of the Amazon, the northeastern arc of deforestation.**



The project “Community Forestry in the Departments of Caquetá and Guaviare for the sustainable management of forests in the Colombian Amazon,” which will be carried out with the support of Norway’s International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI) and the FCDS, the project implementer, seeks to develop sustainable forest management alternatives with peasant communities as a way to contribute to the advancement of the community forestry strategy prioritized by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development for forest management in Colombia.

We will work with communities in the areas of Colinas – Asocapricho, Cristalina, El Triunfo, Puerto Polaco, and Puerto Cubarro in the department of Guaviare (municipalities of San José del Guaviare, El Retorno, and Calamar), and in Bajo Caguán in the department of Caquetá (municipality of Cartagena del Chaira).

The two selected areas, which together span a total of 220,675 hectares, are located in the Serranía de Chiribiquete National Park area of influence and are important for the definition of the agricultural frontier, the conservation of sensitive areas, the control of deforestation, as well as comprehensive rural development.

Within the project area, the sectors with greater viability will be defined according to the available supply of non-wood forest products, community interests, the synergies and complementarities of existing projects in the territory, and the environmental authorities’ vision. Likewise, the project will provide continuity and strengthen the actions carried out in the territory, as in the case of the community forest management exercises in Asocapricho and Puerto Polaco – Puerto Cubarro.



The project, which will last 3 years (2020-2023), will realize synergies with initiatives that are currently being developed in the region, particularly with programs developed by the GEF Initiative, Natural Heritage, Visión Amazonia, ONF Andina, UNDP, the Territorial Renewal Agency, the Rural Development Agency – ARD, the National Comprehensive Program for the Substitution of Illicit Crops – PNIS, among others, as a way to maximize the efforts of the proposed project.

According to Ole Reidar Bergum, Counsellor for Climate and Forests for the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Colombia, *“part of the solution to the problem of deforestation in the Colombian Amazon is to promote greater involvement and appreciation of the forests by peasant communities. For this, it is necessary to assure the sustainable use rights of the forest to these communities and local associations, and to create productive alternatives that are compatible with conservation and that improve quality of life. Through the community forestry project in Caquetá and Guaviare, implemented by FCDS, we hope to contribute to these objectives.”*

Aura Robayo, Advisor for Climate and Forests at the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Colombia, states that *“many communities in the Amazon have made customary use of forest resources and have constructed abilities for its management. It is necessary to accompany them so that forest management develops in an increasingly technical and sustainable manner, taking advantage of and valuing their own knowledge and improving local livelihoods. To this end, the FCDS project will seek to promote joint and coordinated action among public sector institutions, civil society, and the private sector, so that progress can be made towards rural development compatible with conservation in these areas of the country.”*

For Rodrigo Botero, director of the Foundation for Conservation and Sustainable Development, *“this project is an opportunity to contribute to the construction of a country by providing sustainable economic alternatives that contribute to governance in territories that have historically been immersed in the dynamics of conflict. We seek to create inclusive and long-term models of territorial management that combine traditional knowledge and state-of-the-art technologies, fair trade, low-impact extractive models, and good environmental practices.”*

## CONTACTS

### Aura Robayo

Advisor for Climate and Forests at the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Colombia  
Aura.Elvinia.Alicia.Castaneda.Robayo@mfa.no

### Ole Reidar Bergum

Counsellor for Climate and Forests for the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Colombia  
Ole.Reidar.Bergum@mfa.no

### Rodrigo Botero

Director of the Foundation for Conservation and Sustainable Development  
rbotero@fcds.org.co

