



**miParamo**<sup>®</sup>

THIS IS THE INVESTMENT OF OUR LIFE

An alliance between the community  
and the public-private sectors



Linking two realities  
through **water**

Mountain  
ecosystems

Cities

## Departments of Santander and North Santander - MAP



## Páramo de Santurbán - MAP

**130.000**

hectares of páramo (Aprox.)

**13**

municipalities (8 in Norte de Santander and 5 in Santander)

**115.000**

inhabitants of high Andean local communities (Aprox.)



miPáramo is an alliance between the local community and public-private sectors for the protection of the forest and the high andean wetland (Páramo) of Santurbán, through voluntary conservation agreements with families of the rural community.

The vision is to ensure that the conservation of strategic ecosystems is socially valued, economically viable and that it contributes to the quality of life of the families involved.

## Voluntary Conservation Agreements

**527**

Gold March 2023

	2018	2019	2020	Total
Hectares in Conservation	947	2.138	787	3.872
Hectares in Restoration		301	60	361
Hectares in SFSP	75	303	397	775
Families Solidarity Fund	...	...	...	1.066

## What is a High Andean Wetland and why is it important to freshwater supply?

The High Andean Wetlands or Andean Páramos are key to the freshwater supply of millions of people in the Andean region. The Andean páramo is an extremely fragile ecosystem that is full of freshwater sources, lakes, marshes and peatlands and is greatly threatened by climate change and human intervention.

# This is how miPáramo works:



## Why is the High Andean Wetland, Santurbán, so important to Colombia? Some facts about Páramo de Santurbán - MAP

Colombia has around 3 million hectares of High Andean Wetland ecosystems (approx. 50% of the High Andean wetlands of the world). The Andean Páramo de Santurbán is located in the north-west of Colombia, close to the border between Colombia and Venezuela.

It is the key freshwater source for more than 2 million Colombians including the inhabitants of the sixth and seventh most populated cities of Colombia, Bucaramanga and Cúcuta.

## The Andean páramo

Regulates natural water flow by retaining water during the rainy season and then allowing it to slowly drain to keep the base flow and provide a steady supply of drinking and irrigation water, even during drought season.

Is home to a unique and critically threatened biodiversity that includes more than 3000 plant species, more than 150 bird species and close to a 100 reptile species.

Provides a unique and permanent carbon storage which has to be conserved and kept in the ground to be able to meet the national Climate Change target.

Total budget mobilized by miPáramo  
(USD x 1000)



Total budget that has been mobilized  
by miPáramo from 2016 to 2020  
**2,6 million USD.**

\*The design started in June 2016

\*Total budget includes a forecast of 2020,  
according to the actual condition in June 2020

## Innovation



- ✓ Capacity building in artistic textile production.
- ✓ Physical investment in order to improve working conditions.
- ✓ Creation of a value chain for products manufactured by the community.
- ✓ 12.000 US dollars in sales in a period of 18 months. 30% of the sales value going directly to the artisan women in the Páramo de Santurbán.
- ✓ 25 artisan women living in the Páramo de Santurbán have increased their average monthly income by 10% of the minimum wage.



- ✓ 35 farms, agricultural production enterprises, with sustainable practices linked to the development of direct production chains of prestigious, high end restaurants found in neighboring cities.
- ✓ Increased profitability and productivity of farms by way of technical support on sight.
- ✓ 630 agricultural production enterprises using sustainable practices.
- ✓ Development of local value chains to bolster low impact markets through prioritized ventures.



- ✓ 18 projects identified for the development of nature-based tourism (nature tourism) with the community.
- ✓ 2 projects that are up and running with the technical and logistical support of miParamo: Shambalá (Mutiscua) y Casablanca (Cárcota).



## How does miPáramo improve your life?



**Elia Marina Pabon**

(Joined miPáramo in 2017)

- Farm "La Chorrera", Mutiscua. Vegetable production.
- 2,8 Hectares of high Andean forest conserved.
- 0,5 Hectares of high Andean forest restored.
- Implemented agricultural best practices.

"With miPáramo, as a farmer and as a woman, I find feelings of satisfaction in the empowerment of the role of local leadership that improves my sense of belonging with my community and the love for the conservation of nature."



**Laureano Parra**

(Joined miPáramo in 2017)

- Farm "Botanito", Mutiscua. Vegetable production.
- 0,6 Hectares of high Andean forest conserved.
- 0,3 Hectares of high Andean forest restored.
- Implemented agricultural best practices.

"With miPáramo the commitment of the local community to conserving water is increased. The preservation of nature and water is the fundamental base of life."



**Nury Yadira Suárez**

(Joined miPáramo in 2017)

Environmental engineer (Pamplona University 2017)  
Young professional from the local community.  
Fieldwork coordinator.

"With miPáramo I find professional growth which adds value and knowledge to my local community about the natural wealth of the Andean páramo of Semanáka."



**Andrea Yáñez Ariza**

(Director of Alianza BioCuenca in 2018)

Scientist (Cokeriana University 2005)  
General Manager of miPáramo

"With miPáramo I found a way to be able to live life differently. This project is giving me the chance to deeply know the people from my department and work to improve their livelihood through conservation of nature. Also, miPáramo gave me a good life lesson: everything is possible with good will, common sense and creativity."



A Project of



Partners:



Alias:



📍 Fundación Alianza BioCuenca · Cúcuta · Colombia ☎ +57 575 5219  
Calle 10 y 11 Sector Quinta Vélez Edif. Centro de Negocios Ventura Plaza

[www.miparamo.org](http://www.miparamo.org)

📷 @miparamo

📞 @miparamo.org