

COLLECTIVE WATER MANAGEMENT IN THE TERRITORIES

El Agua Nos Une – Suiza Agua América Latina

INSTITUTIONAL MONITORING OF WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY

Related Sustainable Development Goal (SDG):

SDG 6. Clean Water and Sanitation

6.3 Improving Water Quality

6.4 Substantially increasing the efficient use of water

Objective: To develop the institutional monitoring program for water quantity and quality in the upper basin of the Magdalena River and its tributaries. Leadership from the environmental authority, Corporación Autónoma Regional del Alto Magdalena (CAM), with advice from the Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies (IDEAM) and support from the Ministry of the Environment, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Herencia Hídrica Association.

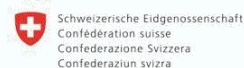


Location: Huila, Colombia.

Results:

- Design of the Regional Institutional Water Monitoring Program (PIRMA), for the period 2020 – 2031, it has begun implementation.
- Positioning the PIRMA as a showcase for environmental authorities of the Colombian National Environmental System.
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- In 2020, 115 people trained in integral water monitoring, through an online course with thematic modules. Professionals from different environmental. Link to the course: <http://capacitacion.herenciahidrica.co>
- Generation of strategic alliances with IDEAM, Ministry of the Environment and agreements with the business sector under development.
- 17 Regional Environmental Authorities in the country have received information on the tools to formulate a PIRMA through various national and international meetings.

Participating institutions:



Embajada de Suiza en Colombia
Ayuda Humanitaria y Desarrollo (COSUDE)

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Description:

- Implementation of the instruments of the National Policy for Integrated Water Resources Management (PNGRH), which includes water quality and quantity monitoring programs.
- Design and implementation of the PIRMA with the technical and managerial team of the Corporación Autónoma Regional del Alto Magdalena - CAM, with advice from IDEAM and Herencia Hídrica.
- Positioning and sharing the experience, difficulties, and lessons of this regional exercise, in spaces of knowledge management and enabling reflection and prospective on water monitoring in Colombia. Exchange initiated with Mexico.

Context:

The National Policy for Integrated Water Resource Management (2010) contains the National Water Resource Monitoring Program, and the subsequent environmental regulations establish that regional environmental authorities must develop institutional water monitoring programs. The objective is to guarantee the generation of sufficient, timely and quality information that allows the exercise of the functions of regional authorities and the knowledge on the state of the resource at a national level. In this sense, these regional programs respond to the National Water Study, carried out by IDEAM. In the country, IDEAM has clearly identified the need to expand monitoring to achieve better spatial and temporal resolution, with emphasis on critical areas. Water monitoring must be a national priority as an indispensable foundation for planning processes, decision making, risk management, impact reduction, and in general for integrated water management, from the territory and with a national vision.



Sustainability:

- The implementation of the PIRMA by the CAM is ensured by including the investments in its 2020-2023 Action Plan and in the follow-up to the process by the environmental authority
- The link between the regional authority (CAM) and the national bodies (IDEAM and the Ministry of Environment) was designed as part of a national pilot. A methodology and protocols were developed, which can be replicated by other Regional Environmental Authorities.
- Systematization of the lessons learned, as well as computer graphics and the executive summary of the PIRMA are shared with all the environmental authorities in the country.

Investments:

- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation - SDC: 843'300'000 COP
- Corporación Autónoma Regional del Alto Magdalena – CAM: 1'604'304'121 COP
- Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies - IDEAM: 617'318'107 COP
- Ministry of Environment: 31'875'000 COP

