



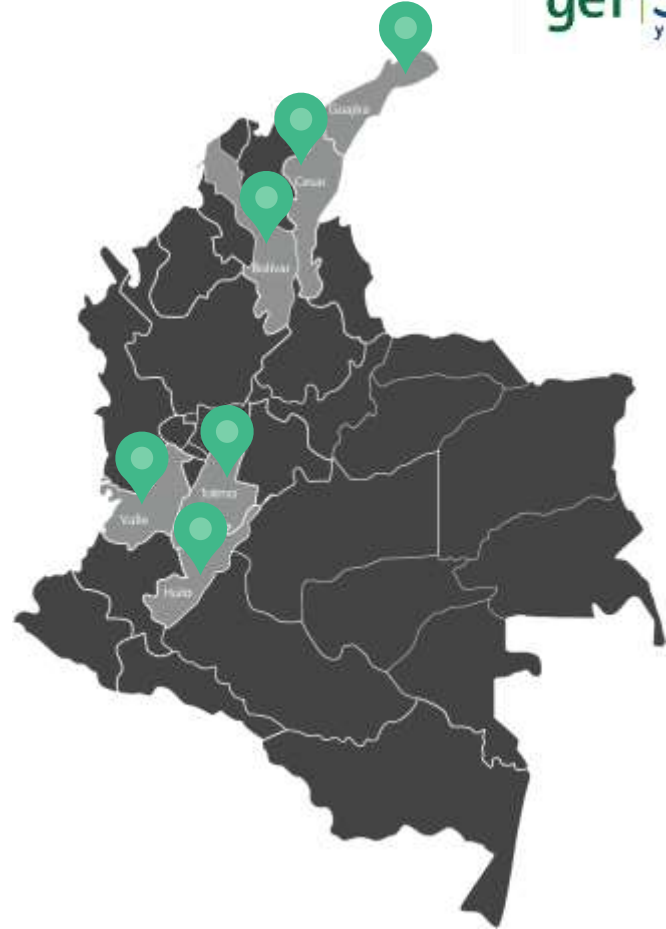
**Conservation
of the Dry Forest
with community approach**

A project in Colombia's dry forest to reduce deforestation and desertification, and to improve the livelihoods of local communities through the sustainable use of biodiversity and agrobiodiversity

<https://youtu.be/aBEO7Z5dThw>

Areas of the project

6 departamentos
8 municipalities
6 basins



Context



The territories were affected by the armed conflict.



The dry forest is an ecosystem rich in biodiversity and agrobiodiversity.

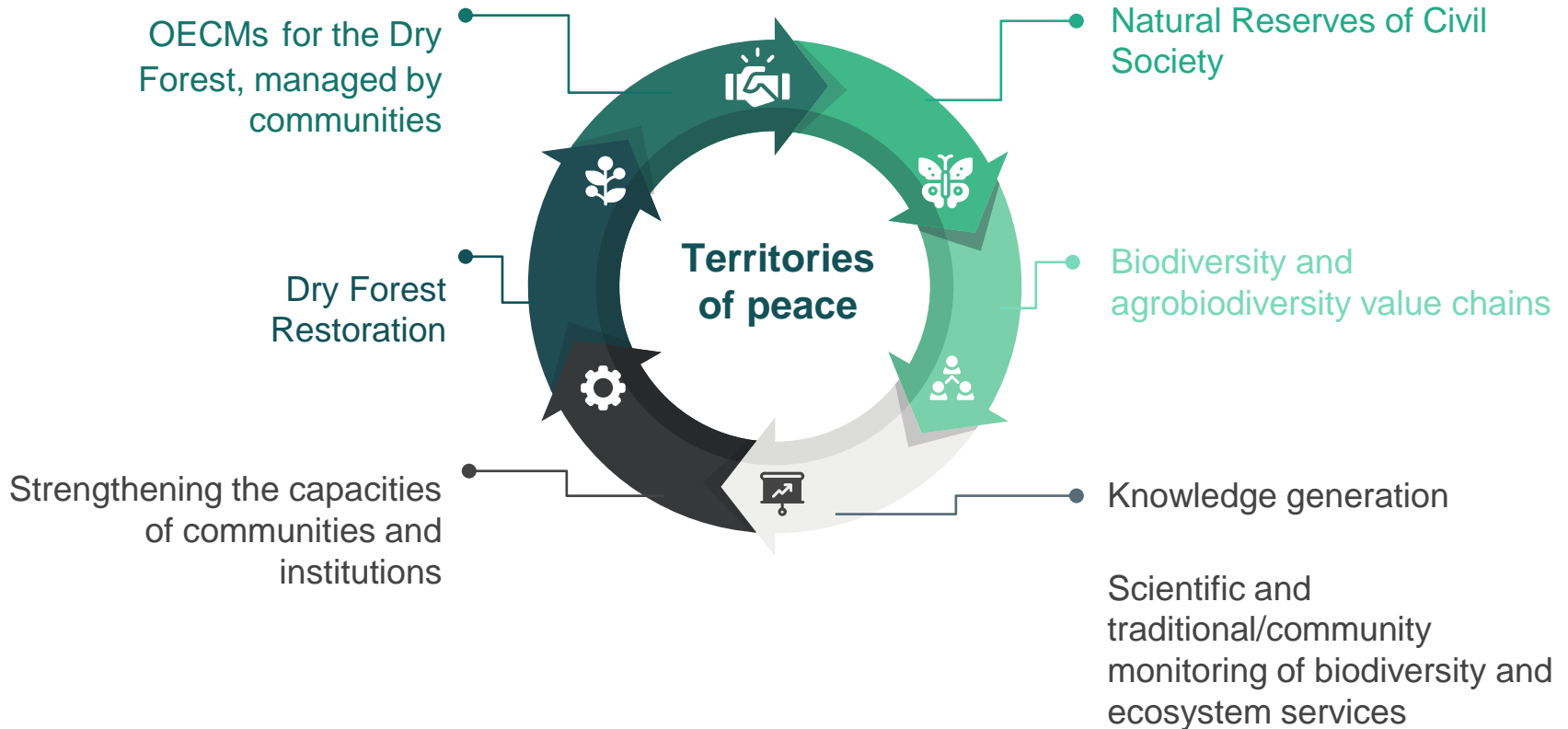


The lands are fertile, a pole of economic development.



With adaptations to extreme climatic conditions - Forest of a thousand colors.

Our work



How?

- Reconstruction of the social fabric and creation of bonds of trust.
- Creation of organizations that protect the DF and community networks.
- Biological and socioeconomic characterization of the territory.
- Identification of conservation value areas and restoration of ecosystem services (water and soil).

- Rescue of native seeds of agrobiodiversity adapted to the climate.
- Better agricultural practices based on conservation.
- Identification of the productive opportunities of biodiversity and agrobiodiversity/value chains.



⚙️ Results

495 families strengthened
in the sustainable use and
conservation of the DF.

400 guardians and 200
little guardians of the DF.

14 community brigades for
forest fire prevention.

Results

Technical Basis for Post-conflict Participatory Environmental Zoning, aligned to the Final Peace Agreement.

187 post-conflict municipalities with environmental zoning.





Results

33,400 ha for dry forest community conservation.

6 Collective voluntary conservation agreements signed by communities.

3,176 ha restored.

1,377 monitored species.

Results

10 strengthened value chains of the biodiversity and agrobiodiversity, and environmentally sustainable production initiatives.

3 main cities with established commercialization channels.

1 business plan for community nature tourism "Explorer of secrets in the tropical Dry Forest".



Peace Products of the Dry Forest



Lessons learned



Do

- Continuous analysis of the territory and the communities with a differential approach, including gender.
- Consider that policies change frequently, so the projects must take adaptation measures.
- Make agreements with actors to define roles and responsibilities and avoid effort duplication or withdrawal – Identify key community leaders.
- Ensure Government entities are always involved in community activities.

Don't

- Forget that conservation should go hand in hand with the local communities.
- Commit with products that are out of the scope of the project – Manage expectations!





Thank you!