

**Efforts undertaken to assess the costs and benefits of adaptation options, and views on lessons learned, good practices, gaps and needs in Colombia.**

**“A brief approach of the experience”**

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"Colombia - Power by nature", is described as the second most mega-diverse country in the world by hosting more than 10% of global biodiversity in only 0.7% of the planet's surface, is clearly a victim of climate change despite generating only 0.37% of global GHG emissions. Recent projections indicate that in the Colombian territory climate change will increase the temperature between 1 and 4° C in addition to a significant variation (between 15 to 30%) in precipitation for the period 2070 to 2090, according to the National Institute for Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies of Colombia - Ideam. Furthermore, for the year 2030 it is likely that the country no longer includes areas with snow cover and 56% of its highland ecosystems may disappear by 2050.

The Ministry of Environment, Housing and Territorial Development, is the official entity in charge of developing and formulating the National adaptation strategy, as part of the National Climate Change Policy, hence given the above conditions, adaptation to climate change has been defined as a national priority, and this is evidenced by the first adaptation to climate Change Project presented to apply to GEF funds, focused in the developing of measures and to reduce the vulnerability of strategic ecosystems and population groups with High vulnerability such as coastal and island zones, highland ecosystems and health issues (INAP). This project provided the first technical and economic approach of what adaptation measures should involve in Colombia and how to do it.

The formulation of adaptation programs associated to identification of future and current impacts of climate change, as well as the implementation of pilot projects in strategic areas provided the initial information and knowledge to recognize the initial approximations related to the elaboration of the cost-benefit analyses of the measures implemented. The INAP Project has an extension of 5 years, financed by the GEF through the World Bank with contributions from the different national governmental institutions through counterpart represented in human and technical resources. The financial funds were distributed among the GEF by US\$ 5.4 Million through the World Bank, The National Government by US\$ 7.4 Million and other supporters such as CI - Conservación Internacional, MRI – Meteorological Research Institute from Japan, and Research Institute of Climate Prediction by US\$ 2.4 Million.

Furthermore, taking advantage of the learned lessons from the INAP project, Colombia began what would be the second most important experience on climate change adaptation in the country, which was the Joint Program "Integration of Ecosystems and Adaptation to Climate Change In The Colombian Massif" with the principal aim to promote the integrated management of ecosystems in order to ensure the provision of environmental goods and services, incorporating considerations of adaptation to climate change in one of the primary and specially strategic ecosystems of Colombia; the cost estimations of this project are among US\$ 4.000.000 with a duration of three years.

There are many more actions already completed and in ongoing process, however this primary important experiences have allowed the Country to spot the first economic analyzes and estimations of how elevated can be the costs of adaptation for a country like Colombia, with all the vulnerabilities and national circumstances already identified.

This information have been highly useful for Colombia to the adaptation costs estimation process, however the country needs additional capacity building to attend all the requirements and further efforts necessary to develop this process, especially in issues related to the collection of information and the build of marginal abatement cost curves.