

# HOW ALLCOT WORKS

## GEOGRAPHIC, TECHNICAL, LOGISTICAL, AND CULTURAL CHALLENGES

# HOW DOES ALLCOT WORK?

GEOGRAPHICAL, TECHNICAL, LOGISTICAL AND CULTURAL CHALLENGES

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*Kutunzama community; Arhuaco Indigenous People  
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - Colombia*

Together with Conservation International, in more than two years, a **process of rapprochement, communication, socialization and joint work has been carried out with the communities** of the three indigenous peoples of the Sierra.

A constant learning environment has been fostered, always focused on 3 fundamental aspects:

- Establishing efficient communication processes
- Ensuring respectful and assertive dialogue.
- Fostering and building trust among project stakeholders.

Each of the activities has been framed in respect for the tradition and culture of the people of the Sierra.

# HOW DOES ALLCOT WORK?



*Estrecho del Río Aracataca; Arhuaco Indigenous People  
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - Colombia*

The professional team of **ALLCOT** and **Conservation International**, in the company of the indigenous communities and with the permission of the religious authorities of the indigenous peoples of the Sierra, has visited more than 17 settlements. Some of them are located 2 and 3 days away from the nearest road.

Many of the settlements visited are between 3 and 5 hours away. However, on some occasions the journey can be up to 12 hours of walking, crossing rivers, mountains, forests and grasslands.

The climatic conditions of these journeys subject the work team to extreme tropical climates, high temperatures and excessive humidity, as well as sometimes enduring strong storms.



# HOW DOES ALLCOT WORK?

GEOGRAPHICAL, TECHNICAL, LOGISTICAL AND CULTURAL CHALLENGES

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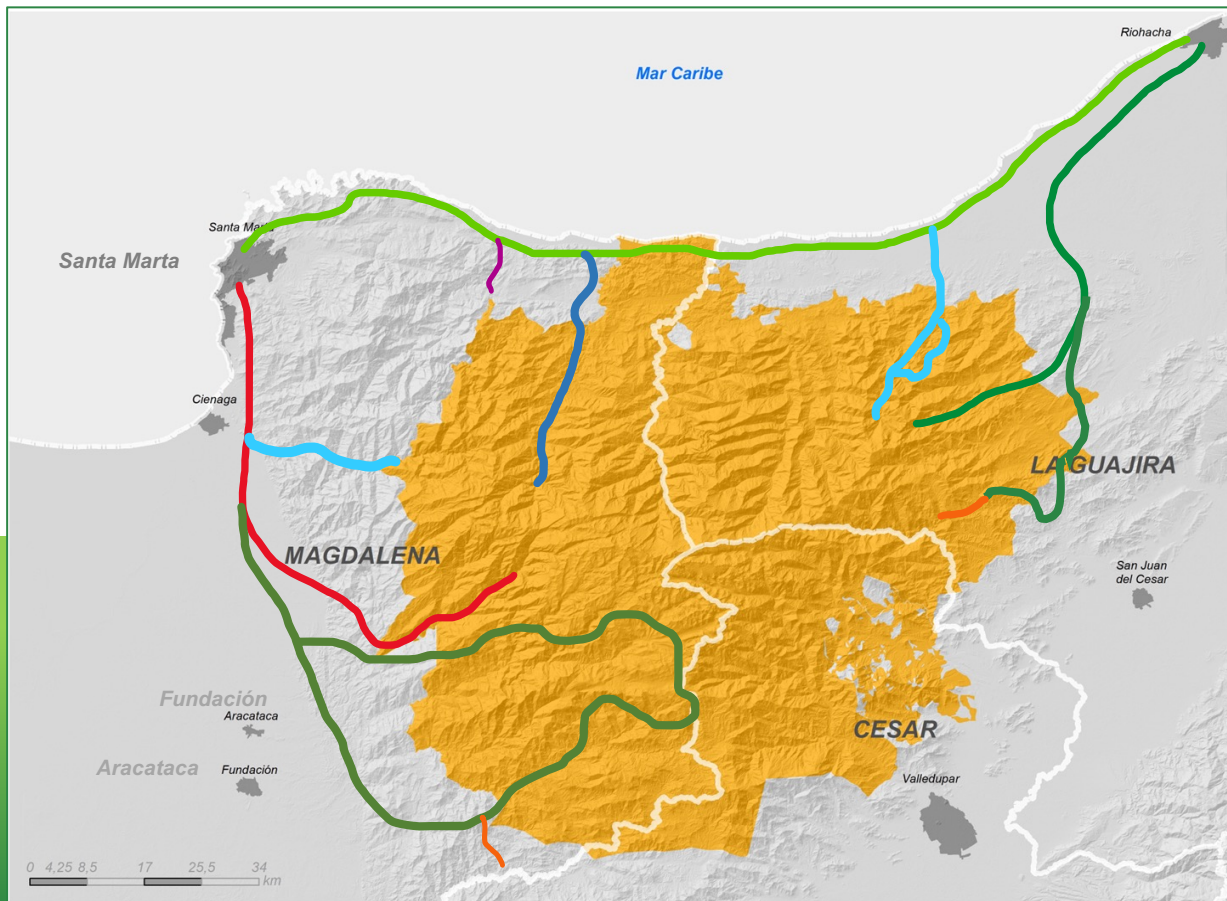
ALLCOT and Conservation International (CI) have been traveling through the territory for more than two years in the company of the indigenous peoples of la Sierra.

In this process, project socialization activities have been developed in 17 settlements of the 3 indigenous communities.

Eight watersheds of great importance in the region have been visited, which are distributed in the northeastern, northern and northwestern flanks of La Sierra.

This experience allows us to have an objective vision of the territory, allowing us to understand its particularities, facilitating the determination of land use patterns and forest conservation.

The construction of these technical elements allows us to perform satellite analysis in different sectors of the Sierra with greater precision.



# TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES

GEOGRAPHICAL, TECHNICAL, LOGISTICAL AND CULTURAL CHALLENGES

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*Wikumake Community; Wiwa Indigenous People  
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - Colombia*

Most of the settlements in the Sierra **do not have electricity, basic services and much less communications.**

One of the main cultural aspects of the communities of the Sierra is their **purely oral tradition** and generally important issues are discussed in the presence of everyone and it is done at night.

These aspects have imposed technical challenges on us to achieve the socialization in a clear and effective way, trying to communicate the process to most of the community.

In order to strengthen our communication with the community we rely on state-of-the-art technology.

# LANGUAGE BARRIER

GEOGRAPHICAL, TECHNICAL, LOGISTICAL AND CULTURAL CHALLENGES

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*Wikumake Community; Wiwa Indigenous People  
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - Colombia*

Another important factor is the language barrier. Each of the **three villages in La Sierra has its own language.**

This challenge has been taken on by **involving translators who are members of the communities**, turning them into local experts on the projects in the process.

We also work with audiovisual material in an interactive way, as well as with elements of the territory and local materials to transmit the concepts and ideas in order to inform in depth and in a clear way to each of the members of the community.

# TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

GEOGRAPHICAL, TECHNICAL, LOGISTICAL AND CULTURAL CHALLENGES

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*Jechikin Community; Arhuaco Indigenous People  
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - Colombia*

Throughout the 2 years of socialization activities with the communities of the Sierra, ALLCOT's technical team **has transported more than 4 tons of inputs** for the development and accompaniment of the meetings.

- > The logistics of each of the field trips are great challenges that have been successfully overcome with the support of the different members of the indigenous community.

# TECHNICAL SESSIONS AND TRAINING

GEOGRAPHICAL, TECHNICAL, LOGISTICAL AND CULTURAL CHALLENGES

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*Ulduezi Community; Kogui Indigenous People  
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - Colombia*

Design and construction of the project **jointly with the community.**

- **Multiple technical workshops** have been held to develop and **strengthen the basic skills** of different members of the community in the use of analog and digital cartography, compass and GPS navigation, and the use of remote sensing images for land reconnaissance and identification of areas of interest for the project.
- One of the most significant technical activities carried out in the territory is the **identification and recognition of project areas**; this fundamental task is planned and coordinated jointly with the indigenous communities.



# CHARACTERIZATION OF THE TERRITORY AND COMMUNITY BASED LEARNING

GEOGRAPHICAL, TECHNICAL, LOGISTICAL AND CULTURAL CHALLENGES

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*Serankwa Community; Arhuaco Indigenous People  
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - Colombia*

In addition to the socialization processes of the project, during each of the field visits the technical team has had the opportunity to **characterize in the field and define the land use patterns**, forest areas and ecosystemic particularities.

At the same time, the experience acquired in the region and the knowledge shared with the technical team by the communities of La Sierra have given us greater criteria and elements of judgment about the territory and its particularities.



*Utduezhi Community; Kogui Indigenous People  
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - Colombia*

# ENCOURAGING COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP

GEOGRAPHICAL, TECHNICAL,  
LOGISTICAL AND CULTURAL  
CHALLENGES

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One of our main objectives is to **foster community ownership of the project.**



*Aldusabagui community; Kogui Indigenous People  
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - Colombia*

The development of joint actions carried out by the technical team and the different members of the communities of the Sierra are aimed at **promoting and strengthening the appropriation of the project** by the indigenous communities.

# TERRITORY RECONNAISSANCE ACTIVITIES

GEOGRAPHICAL, TECHNICAL, LOGISTICAL AND CULTURAL CHALLENGES

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In the process of socialization of the project, **land use patterns** were also defined and the **conservation areas for the REDD+ project were determined** according to the decisions of the people visited.

In several sectors, we have achieved that the community itself leads this process.



*Aldusabagui community; Kogui Indigenous People  
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - Colombia*



*Wikumake Community; Wiwa Indigenous People  
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - Colombia*

# TERRITORY RECONNAISSANCE ACTIVITIES

GEOGRAPHICAL, TECHNICAL, LOGISTICAL AND CULTURAL CHALLENGES

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*Seinorwa Community; Arhuaco Indigenous People  
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - Colombia*

We implemented our experience and technical capacity for the development of joint reconnaissance activities of the territory with the community; **facilitating the use of various technological tools** to achieve the project objectives.



*Kutunzama community; Arhuaco Indigenous People  
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - Colombia*

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