

**ADAPTATION AND RECONSTRUCTION
WORKS FOR ECOTOURISM IN CAYO
CANGREJO AND CONSTRUCTION OF
THE MCBEAN LAGOON ECOLOGICAL
TRAIL**

Sector	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism.	
Thematic axis/subsector	Tourism, hotel and tourist infrastructure.	
Entities/Areas	National Natural Parks (PNN), Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism (MINCIT)	
Strategy of the National Development Plan to which it aims	Strategy for the global and regional positioning of Colombia as a World Power of Life	
SDG to which it points	6. Clean water and sanitation. 8. Decent work and economic growth. 9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure. 12. Promotion and responsible consumption.	
Description of the Project	Project Purpose	Recover the infrastructure destroyed by hurricanes IOTA and ETA, which have not been fully restored since they passed through the island in 2020, impacting the stability of the park, the conservation of ecological systems and, to a large extent, the economy of its inhabitants, which is largely based on the tourist development of the archipelago.
	Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recover the tourist infrastructure of Cayo Cangrejo destroyed by hurricanes IOTA and ETA. 2. Guarantee the quality of the provision of tourist services, ensuring the safety of visitors. 3. Improve the experience of tourism activities through the construction of infrastructure on the Island related to the Old Providence McBean National Park. 4. Build the MC BEAN trail through the mangroves to enhance, raise awareness and familiarize tourists with the ecological system that is currently on the verge of beginning its recovery after the passage of the hurricanes. 5. Attract more visitors given the island's natural potential, thus improving the economy of its inhabitants.

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		<p>6. Ensure the safety of tourists by building the proposed sustainable infrastructure.</p> <p>7. Restore the economy of the inhabitants of Providencia Island, who live entirely from tourism.</p> <p>8. Promote the destination, given its natural wealth and beauty, after the infrastructure destroyed by the hurricane has been repaired.</p> <p>9. Raise awareness of the natural wealth and the need for recovery for all flora, fauna and ecosystems that depend on mangroves.</p> <p>10. Conserve representative and important marine ecosystems where key ecological processes develop for resident and migratory species of importance in the Colombian Caribbean.</p> <p>11. Contribute to the conservation of sustainable traditional practices carried out outside the protected area, within the framework of User Agreements, which contribute to environmental management.</p>
	Geographic Area of Influence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crab Cay Island - Archipelago of San Andres Providencia and Santa Catalina
	It is included within the PND goals:	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Structuring Phase	Approved. FNTP-2024-067.
	Goal: (km), (panels etc)	<p>CRAB KEY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recovery of the Ecotourism pier in Cayo Cangrejo, which also functions as a site for receiving visitors: 1 unit Construction of a battery of dry toilets: 1 unit Construction of a viewing point: 1 unit Construction of a trail on Cayo Cangrejo: 1 unit Dock load capacity: 100 people Visitors 88 Officials 2

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service staff 2 • Boatmen 8 <p>MCBEAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MC BEAN Trail Construction: 1 unit • Construction of KAYAK docks: 3 • Bird watching tower construction: 1 unit
	It is located in a protected area or with indigenous/Afro-descendant communities:	Yes_x_ No___ Which___ Protected area of National Parks___
Duration by Phases	Total duration: Twelve (12) months	
Contributions	Total Value	\$4,372,326,683.00
	Nation's contribution	\$4,372,326,683.00
	Contribution from Territorial Entities	\$ 0
	Private Contribution	\$ 0
Opportunity of Investment	The projected revenue is between 160 and 300 million pesos per year, which is intended to be collected by charging an entrance fee to the park on current visitors to the National Park, which will contribute significantly to the economic reactivation of the island, since part of the resource will be destined for the operation, maintenance and sustainability of the project.	

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Market Analysis

International investment in sectors crucial to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in developing countries has increased in recent years, including the development of infrastructure, renewable energy, drinking water, basic sanitation, agri-food systems, health and education.

In response to this, sustainable investment funds are gaining importance. They use a variety of different strategies to incorporate criteria when building their portfolios. Some use positive analysis and actively seek out companies with solid performance and good medium- and long-term growth prospects, such as renewable energy or sustainable economic activities. Others use negative evaluation to exclude companies involved in activities that are less attractive to investors and have little prospect of long-term growth.

As a result of the growing demand for sustainable investment on the planet, low environmental impact or sustainable projects have become highly attractive to the global market. In the case of the Old Providence McBean Lagoon National Park, which is part of Cayo Cangrejo, it is an area of environmental protection managed by the state, visited by 11,629 tourists in the last year, attracted mainly by the practice of nature tourism activities.

Financial Projections

Currently, the infrastructure of the Area is managed by PNN, which is responsible for the maintenance, operation and sustainability of the Park. For such purposes, there are established entrance fees which range between \$6,500 pesos for nationals and \$21,500 for foreigners.

The economic and financial model of the Park includes river transport, access and guidance within the Area, where the average expenditure of a visitor, for this reason and taking into account the improvement of the tourist infrastructure, can be estimated as gross income for the operation of the area exceeding 160 million pesos (COP) annually, of which a percentage would be allocated to maintenance, operation and sustainability, which is not considered relevant taking into account that most of the attractions of the place are of nature and its tourist value lies in ecosystem conservation.

However, taking into account pre-pandemic income figures, it can be estimated that this income could be 180% higher.

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Sustainability and ESG Considerations	<p>The growing tourist demand for nature destinations and their importance in global ecosystems have led to an increase in environmental awareness and the added value of these places, especially in the periods following the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>This has generated an opportunity for social, economic and environmental development for the territories and their inhabitants, who in most cases and taking into account their environmental, social, ethnic, cultural, connectivity and accessibility conditions that contributed to the conservation of their territory, have not had the same opportunities generated by the dynamics of massive and/or industrialized development, typical of large central cities.</p> <p>To this end and in order to reduce the gaps between the two (2) types of territories described above, government policies have reoriented their efforts towards territorial investment and environmental, cultural and social conservation, in order to implement more sustainable and socioeconomically balanced governance policies throughout the national territory.</p>
Risk Assessment and Mitigation	<p>The preferences of tourist destinations around the world have been reoriented towards environmentally friendly, socially committed and increasingly less massive alternatives, which provides a competitive advantage not only to the country but also to the areas of environmental protection with a tourist vocation that we have in Colombia.</p> <p>However, taking into account that trends are variable and not exclusive with the country's tourism sector, efforts must be made to comprehensively improve the provision of services in order to maintain and improve results in terms of tourism. To do so, the possible risks that a change in trend or an exponential increase in visitors to nature tourism areas may entail must be anticipated and mitigated.</p> <p>To this end, the plan is to strengthen human talent in terms of training, security and conservation of destinations, quality and accessibility to services in each of the destinations and, of course, the improvement of tourist infrastructure.</p>
Project Team and Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Natural Parks (PNN). <p>It is a Special Administrative Unit of the national order in charge of the administration and management of the National Parks System and the coordination of the National System of Protected Areas of Colombia, with 60 years of experience in the management of this type of territories, the conservation and restoration of ecologically strategic ecosystems.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism. <p>It is a national entity, responsible for business growth, foreign investment, foreign trade, economic, industrial and tourism development of the country to improve the quality of life of citizens and entrepreneurs, through the formulation, adoption, leadership and coordination of policies and programs.</p>
Contact information	<p>Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism: wmartinez@mincit.gov.co</p> <p>Natural National Parks: address.general@parquesnacionales.gov.co</p>
Additional information	<p>Colombia, within the framework of its National Development Plan 2022 - 2026, based its emphasis on the importance of the country in the tourism sector as a privileged sector that supports its management, among others, on the goods and services of the country's protected areas. The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade has promoted the Country Brand, 'Colombia, the country of beauty', which highlights the natural, cultural and historical attractions that make this a unique destination for business and tourism. This value proposition focuses on promoting and encouraging social, environmental and economic justice in the territories, based on tourism from both national and international travelers; foreign direct investment and non-mining energy exports, all under the umbrella of sustainability.</p> <p>In Colombia, it is expected that by 2026 there will be 7.5 million non-resident visitors, of which more than 2 million will be entering Colombia's National Natural Parks in 2024, and projected to 2026 there will be more than 3 million, aware and being honorary Park Rangers in the exercise of conservation. This commitment is the ultimate goal of the investments associated with the different lines of work that strengthen Colombia's National Natural Parks.</p> <p>Within the Tourism sector plan, the projects In Natural National Parks are framed, in accordance with the PND "Colombia, World Power of Life", the MinCIT will generate a collaborative commitment with the Natural National Parks of Colombia to strengthen their infrastructures and the inclusive tourism programs that it develops for the benefit of its protected areas" in coordination with the territorial entities and Natural National Parks of Colombia will promote the adaptation of the main tourist attractions of nature and culture, to the Braille system and other technological, digital, and informative media available to people with visual disabilities".</p> <p>The Old Providence McBean Lagoon National Natural Park is the only nationally</p>

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protected area in the Colombian Caribbean Ocean. It is located on the islands of Providencia and Santa Catalina. It was declared a protected area in 1995 and became part of the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve in 2000, and of the Marine Protected Areas of the Archipelago in 2004.

The park is made up of important nature tourism attractions such as the isolated hill with steep slopes known as Iron Wood Hill where locals go hiking or trekking, and a flat alluvial basin where the McBean Mangrove is located. In its marine portion, part of the Barrier Reef that protects the coasts of Providencia Island stands out, which is the second largest in the Caribbean with 32 km in length, after Belize. This large coral reef, with its varied formations, together with the reef lagoon that forms in front of the McBean mangrove, give the sea a spectacular range of colors that go from deep blue to a translucent aquamarine green. It is thanks to this unique color that the sea of Providencia is known as "The Sea of Seven Colors."