This project seeks to assert the land tenure and collective use rights, provided for in the 1991 constitution and in the law 70 passed in 1993, which recognizes black communities that have been occupying uncultivated land in rural areas in Colombia. To achieve this, it is necessary to address the technical and legal components of land planning, territorial delimitation and regulation, and habitat assessment.

The main objective of the project is to reinforce the self-recognition and integration processes of the Afro-descendant communities of Puerto Badel, Lomas de Matunilla, and Rocha, in their right to collective property as legitimate agents of their development processes that are carried out in the region, avoiding perpetuating speculative pressures towards their territories, loss of natural resources, violation of their habitat, forced displacement, and dynamics of exclusion of those who are victims.

The results of the project are:
1. Development of the support documentation of collective certification of land tenure (of the territory defined as ancestral)
2. The formulation of their ethno-development plans and their internal regulations (2018 Lomas de Matunilla and Puerto Badel)
3. The application for registration of these territories with the National Land Agency and its respective registration application before the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

ETHNODEVELOPMENT, REGULATION AND REGULARIZATION OF THE LAND FOR AFRO-COLOMBIAN COMMUNITIES IN CANAL DEL DIQUE AREA
8. Support participatory, democratic, multicultural and interdisciplinary processes and approaches in strengthening community solidarity as a factor of rural and urban social development;

The project reinforces the empowerment of the communities in terms of documentation, participation and generation of technical and legal knowledge, that advocates for the planning and organization of their territory and habitat planning.

An interdisciplinary diagnosis is made in the project through assemblies and workshops with the community, working on sociocultural, economic, environmental, territorial and service equipment issues. The inhabitants themselves find and prioritize their development needs and understanding the importance of the participation in a collective territory to establish the maps that define their ancestral territory, their regulation of action and self-government.

Members of the community participate in the sessions, where at least 70% of the members belong to local government body (community councils) of which 50% are women.

Two of the communities (Lomas de Matunilla and Puerto Badel) have formulated their internal regulations and ethno-development plans at the end of the project. In a third one (Rocha) the process has begun by completing the diagnosis assemblies in 2018 and will possibly continue in 2019. Participation in the sessions and community dynamics of women (minimum 50%), seniors, children and young people will be guaranteed.

ETHNODEVELOPMENT, REGULATION AND REGULARIZATION OF THE LAND FOR AFRO-COLOMBIAN COMMUNITIES IN CANAL DEL DIQUE AREA
1. Cooperate for fair and sustainable development initiatives in active collaboration with disadvantaged people or communities. This process shall follow the principles of human solidarity, non-discrimination and will be aimed at promoting their self-sufficiency;

The population of these communities has a strong rootedness and relationship with the territory they inhabit, and they have tried to maintain it and take care of it with practices that do not affect it. However the external actions have damaged its environment: the reduction of fertile areas, the loss of animal species for human consumption, the reduction of fishing, transport difficulties, housing needs, low access to construction materials and poor waste management make it necessary to rethink their territorial development by recovering good practices and applying new ones for local and global interest, on agricultural, environmental, architectural, urban, economic and sociocultural issues, being reflected in the documents of development plan with its own ethnic approach (Ethno-development Plan)

We find that the need for solidarity and sustainable community work is patent in this collective territory in which there is a clear conscience that their descendants will continue to be the owners once the tenure is obtained, since the land cannot be sold or seized.

Non-discrimination is fundamental from the base of the project, since self-recognition is a prerequisite as a black community and for this, we work to strengthen its own cultural identity.
10. Defend, promote and enable access to adequate and dignified habitat for all as a ‘Fundamental Human Right’.

The project defends and seeks to ensure ownership of the ancestral territory and provides management tools in the search for an adequate quality of life, aligning with the intention of the law in the idea of guaranteeing that these communities obtain real conditions of equal opportunities with the rest of society.

It should be noted that the three communities are subject to collective redress due to the armed conflict, recognized by the Victims Unit of the national government.

Workshops on ethnic rights have been held in the three communities, and a process of community organization has begun, including focal groups and identification of leaders. In the three communities, the interest of collective titling for the inhabitants has been discussed.

The documents of the Plan also contain projects prioritized by the community that offer a guide that facilitates future financing.

To give visibility to the common struggle of these communities, public sessions have been held to present the results of the project to Municipal and State Entities.

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Cartography on risks, urban equipment and soil treatment.

Internal regulations documents

Public presentation to municipal administration and other communities

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ETHNODEVELOPMENT, REGULATION AND REGULARIZATION OF THE LAND FOR AFRO-COLOMBIAN COMMUNITIES IN CANAL DEL DIQUE AREA