

Experience on use and management of the Caucaya River, by indigenous communities in the La Paya National Natural Park

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La Paya National Park, located in the Amazonian Region, is a protected area located in Puerto Leguizamo (Putumayo), in the south of Colombia, close to the limits with Ecuador and Perú. The conservation objects of this park, are: fauna species such as the Black Caiman (*melanosuchus niger*), the Arawana (*osteoglossum bicirrhosum*) and the Pirarucú (*arapaima gigas*); species of forest importance for their wood, such as the Cedar (*cedrela* sp.) and the Granadillo (*platymiscium sculatum*); environmental services related to the water systems of the Caucajá, Putumayo, Caquetá, Sencella and Mecaya rivers; and cultural aspects associated with knowledge about the use and management of natural resources by indigenous communities, especially peoples or ethnic groups Siona, Murui-Muinane, Inga-Kichwa y Coreguaje. This story tells how these indigenous communities and the park authority have contributed to the conservation of the Caucajá river.