

ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY-DECEMBER 2024





An important thing about philanthropy is that it should be seen as an investment in our society, not just as a mere act of charity.



- Azim Premji

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

This management report of the Andina Foundation, corresponding to the year 2024 and the period from January to December of the same year, presents the progress of socio-environmental management of our institution in the regions of Colombia and shows how these actions have promoted changes that favor the improvement of environmental and social contexts. Thus, in the face of an extremely challenging scenario, in this period we set out to transform conditions to sustain life above all else. The Andina Foundation, during its 15 years of existence, has remained continuously in the Andean, Pacific and Amazon regions, and during the last 8 years it has been present in the Orinoquía and the Caribbean. We have been committed to creating opportunities in many corners of Colombia, not only because of the urgency of addressing their environmental problems, but also because of the opportunities to strengthen management for the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable development that each territory provides. It is true that deforestation, which occurs in all regions of the country, has caused an environmental crisis due to the sum of its effects: climate variation, loss of diversity and, consequently, a decrease in nature's contributions, which are essential for the functioning of life, productivity, climate and food security of communities. and the development of society as a whole. However, given the socio-ecological conditions of the different regions, these effects are not the same nor are they expressed with the same intensity throughout the territory, nor do they cause the same threats. Therefore, each case must be managed with differentiated strategies.

There are more than 30 projects developed during the period covered by this report. The reader can approach each one through the articles that summarize them. These projects cover a wide range of actions, such as support for community initiatives, the establishment of education agreements with universities for the training of indigenous communities and the delivery of scholarships, the management of conservation, sustainable use and restoration actions, the establishment of new protected areas, the application of renewable energies in rural contexts, the empowerment of indigenous women, economic development, among many others.

EVA SANDRITH DAVILA PEREZ
GENERAL DIRECTOR OF THE ANDINA
FOUNDATION

MISSION

Our mission is to promote the right to a dignified and full life for all people, especially children and young people, guaranteeing equal opportunities. We promote innovative environmental sustainability strategies by guaranteeing access to quality education, food security and female empowerment, promoting gender equality. At Andina we seek to strengthen capacities to eradicate poverty and build an equitable, inclusive and sustainable society.

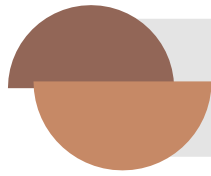
VISION

To be recognized as a leading and consolidated organization in the environmental, educational and social areas, committed to improving the quality of life of the populations and the sustainable management of natural resources. We will stand out for implementing solutions that promote equality, dignity and harmony with nature. Our vision is a world where people live with resilience, economic empowerment and sustainability, ensuring a future in which all people, especially the most vulnerable, have access to a dignified and fulfilling life.

Our board is made up of indigenous leaders, and professionals from Colombia, who donate time, talent, and resources to further our mission.

WHAT ARE THE FOUNDATION'S AREAS OF WORK?



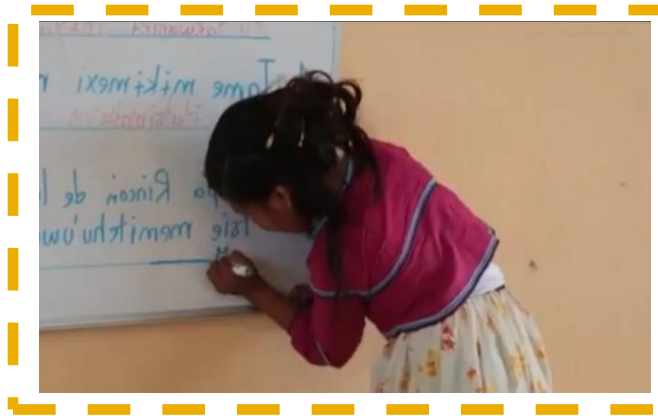


OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024

1.1. EDUCATION

1.1.1. More than 5,000 children and young people benefited from educational programs.

In Colombia, indigenous and rural communities face major challenges in accessing quality education due to a lack of infrastructure, resources, and trained teachers. To address this problem, educational programs were implemented that benefited more than 5,000 children and young people in indigenous territories such as La Guajira (Wayúu community), Cauca (Nasa and Misak communities), and the Amazon (Tikuna and Huitoto communities). In these regions, programs were adapted to the cultural and linguistic contexts of the communities, including the use of educational materials in their native languages and the integration of ancestral knowledge. In addition, in rural areas of Chocó and Putumayo, school reinforcement was provided in basic areas such as mathematics and language, as



well as socio-emotional skills workshops and training in digital technologies. These efforts have been instrumental in reducing school dropout rates and improving opportunities for young people in historically marginalized communities, contributing to their holistic development and strengthening their cultural identities.

1.1.2. 200 full scholarships for higher education, with 60% of the beneficiaries being women.

In Colombia, indigenous and rural communities face significant barriers to accessing higher education, especially women. To overcome these inequalities, 200 full scholarships were awarded to young people from indigenous communities such as the Wayúu in La Guajira, the Nasa in Cauca and the Sikuani in the Orinoquía, as well as to Afro-descendant communities in the Colombian Pacific (Chocó and Nariño). 60% of the scholarships were awarded to women, recognizing the additional barriers they face because

of their gender. These scholarships not only covered tuition costs, but also expenses such as transportation, food, and academic materials, allowing young people to continue their studies without leaving their communities. In regions such as Chocó, where access to higher education is limited, these scholarships have been transformative, allowing talented young people, especially women, to become professionals and leaders in their territories. This effort has contributed to reducing the gender gap and promoting social inclusion in education.

1.1.3. Training of 300 teachers in innovative methodologies with a gender approach.

In Colombia's indigenous and rural communities, teachers face unique challenges in delivering inclusive and quality education. To strengthen their capacities, 300 teachers were trained in innovative methodologies with a gender approach, with a special focus on regions such as La Guajira (Wayúu community), Cauca (Nasa and Misak communities) and the Amazon (Tikuna and Huitoto communities). This training allowed teachers to integrate gender perspectives into their educational practices, promoting an inclusive environment that respects cultural differences. In rural areas of Putumayo and Chocó, teachers learned to adapt their teachings to local contexts, incorporating ancestral knowledge and promoting gender equity in the classroom. In addition, in regions affected by the armed conflict, such as Cauca, this training has been key to promoting reconciliation and peace from schools. Teachers have replicated this knowledge in their institutions, impacting thousands of students and contributing to the construction of a fairer and more egalitarian society in the country's most vulnerable communities.

1.2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1.2.1. More than 1,000 smallholder farmers adopted sustainable agricultural practices.

In Colombia, rural and indigenous communities rely heavily on agriculture for their livelihoods, but they often face challenges such as soil degradation, climate change, and lack of access to sustainable technologies. To address these issues, more than 1,000 smallholder farmers in regions such as Cauca (Nasa and Misak communities), La Guajira (Wayuu community), and the Amazon (Tikuna and Huitoto communities) adopted sustainable agricultural practices. These practices included efficient water use, crop rotation, and the implementation of organic techniques, which not only improved the productivity of their crops, but also reduced environmental impact. In Cauca, for example, indigenous producers implemented agroforestry systems that combine crops with native trees, promoting biodiversity conservation. In addition, they received training and technical assistance to ensure the correct application of these methodologies. As a result, producers have increased their incomes and contributed to the conservation of natural resources, promoting more balanced and environmentally friendly economic development in their communities.



1.2.2. 150 direct jobs were generated through community-based tourism, with equal participation of women and men.

In Colombia, community-based tourism has become a sustainable economic alternative for many rural and indigenous communities seeking to take advantage of their natural and cultural resources responsibly. In regions such as La Guajira (Wayúu community), the Amazon (Tikuna and Huitoto communities) and Chocó (Afro-descendant communities), 150 direct jobs were generated through community tourism projects, with equal participation between women and men. These jobs included the creation of ecotourism accommodations, local guide services and the sale of handicrafts, activities that have strengthened the local economy and promoted social inclusion. In La Guajira, for example, Wayúu women have led tourism initiatives that showcase their culture and traditions, while in the Amazon, communities have developed ecological tours that highlight the richness of their biodiversity. This approach has not only improved the living conditions of the communities, but has also fostered fairer and more inclusive economic development, respecting and valuing ancestral knowledge and the environment.

1.2.3. 500 microcredits were granted, with 70% of the beneficiaries' women

In Colombia's rural and indigenous communities, access to financial resources is limited, especially for women, who face greater barriers to starting or expanding businesses. To promote economic empowerment and gender equality, 500 microcredits were granted, of which 70% were allocated to women in regions such as Cauca (Nasa and Misak communities), La Guajira (Wayúu community) and Chocó (Afro-descendant communities). These loans allowed beneficiaries to start or expand small businesses, such as shops, craft workshops or agricultural projects, improving their income and financial autonomy. In Cauca, for example, Nasa women used microcredits to strengthen their community gardens and market their products in local markets. In addition, the program included training in business management, ensuring that the beneficiaries made effective use of resources. This initiative has not only boosted individual economic development, but has also strengthened family and community economies, promoting gender equality and poverty reduction in the most vulnerable areas of the country.

1.3. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY



1.3.1. 500 hectares of native forest were reforested.

The reforestation of 500 hectares of native forest was carried out, contributing to the recovery of degraded ecosystems and the conservation of biodiversity. This initiative included the planting of native species, which has made it possible to restore natural habitats for local fauna and improve soil quality. In addition, reforestation has had a positive impact on carbon sequestration, helping to mitigate the effects of climate change. Local communities actively participated in the process, receiving training and economic benefits, which has strengthened their commitment to environmental protection. These initiatives were applied in the departments of Córdoba, Antioquia, and Caldas.

1.3.2. 50 water conservation projects were implemented in rural communities.

50 water conservation projects were implemented in rural communities, focused on the sustainable use and protection of this vital resource. These initiatives included the construction of rainwater harvesting systems, the rehabilitation of wells, and the promotion of agricultural practices that reduce water consumption. As a result, access to drinking water has been improved and its availability for productive activities has been guaranteed, directly benefiting thousands of indigenous people. These projects have also fostered environmental awareness and community participation in responsible water management. These projects were carried out in the Afro-descendant communities of Bayunka and the Mokaná indigenous community of Tobará.

1.3.3. A new protected area was declared in the region.

A new protected area was declared in the region, a significant milestone for the conservation of biodiversity and local ecosystems. This area is located in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, it is home to a great diversity of flora and fauna, including endemic and endangered species. Their protection ensures the preservation of these natural resources for future generations and promotes scientific research and sustainable ecotourism. The declaration was the result of a collaborative effort between authorities, environmental organizations and local communities, demonstrating the collective commitment to environmental conservation and sustainable development.

1.4. CULTURE AND HERITAGE

1.4.1. 3 archaeological sites of historical importance were restored.

In Colombia, three archaeological sites of great historical and cultural relevance were restored: the Tierradentro Archaeological Park in Huila, known for its underground tombs and pre-Columbian remains; the San Agustín Archaeological Park, famous for its impressive statues and funerary mounds;

and Ciudad Perdida in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, an ancient indigenous village of the Tayrona culture. These restorations made it possible to preserve the cultural and archaeological heritage of the country, protecting these spaces for future generations. In addition, sustainable tourism was promoted, generating income for local communities and fostering pride in Colombian cultural heritage.

1.4.2. 10 cultural festivals were held with more than 20,000 attendees.

10 cultural festivals were held in different regions of Colombia, highlighting the active participation of indigenous communities such as the Mukaná in the Atlantic and the Koguis in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. These events brought together more than 20,000 attendees and celebrated the country's cultural diversity through music, dance, handicrafts, and traditional gastronomy. The festivals not only strengthened the cultural identity of the communities, but also promoted intercultural dialogue and respect for ancestral traditions. In addition, economic opportunities were generated for the participants, especially for local artisans and producers.

1.4.3. 5 books on ancestral traditions and knowledge were published.

Five books were published that rescue and disseminate the ancestral traditions and knowledge of Colombia. These works include research on the worldview of the Mukaná in the Caribbean, the medicinal knowledge of the Koguis in the Sierra Nevada, and the agricultural practices and rituals of



other indigenous and Afro-descendant communities. The books, written in collaboration with leaders and insiders from these communities, seek to preserve and share their cultural legacy with a wider audience. This initiative has not only strengthened the identity of indigenous peoples, but has also contributed to the education and awareness of Colombian society about the importance of protecting its intangible cultural heritage.

1.5. GENDER EQUALITY AND FEMALE EMPOWERMENT

1.5.1. 1,000 indigenous women trained.

Más de 1,000 mujeres, incluidas indígenas de comunidades como los Wayúu en La Guajira, los Nasa en el Cauca y las Emberá en Chocó, participaron en talleres de liderazgo y derechos humanos. Estos

espacios fortalecieron sus capacidades para asumir roles de liderazgo en sus comunidades y defender sus derechos en contextos donde históricamente han enfrentado discriminación y exclusión. Los talleres abordaron temas como la igualdad de género, la participación política y la prevención de la violencia, empoderando a las mujeres para convertirse en agentes de cambio. Este esfuerzo ha contribuido a visibilizar el papel fundamental de las mujeres indígenas en la preservación de sus culturas y en la construcción de sociedades más justas e inclusivas.

1.5.2. 50 enterprises led by women in rural areas were supported.

Support was provided to 50 women-led enterprises in rural areas of Colombia, including projects by indigenous women such as Arhuaca artisans in the Sierra Nevada and Wayúu weavers in La Guajira.



These ventures covered sectors such as crafts, sustainable agriculture and community tourism, generating income and improving the quality of life of their families. In addition to financing, the women received training in business management and marketing, which allowed them to strengthen their businesses and access new markets. This initiative has not only boosted women's economic autonomy, but has also valued their traditional knowledge and their role in the local economy.

1.5.3. Awareness campaigns were carried out that reached 10,000 people.

Awareness campaigns on gender equality and female empowerment were carried out that reached 10,000 people, including indigenous communities such as the Koguis in the Sierra Nevada and the Misak in Cauca. These campaigns promoted reflection on gender roles, the importance of women's participation in decision-making, and the eradication of violence against women. Through workshops, talks and educational materials, a significant impact on the collective consciousness was achieved, fostering a cultural change towards equality. These actions have strengthened the social fabric and contributed to building more respectful and inclusive environments for indigenous and rural women.

1.6. SUPPORT FOR INDIGENOUS AND AFRO-DESCENDANT COMMUNITIES

1.6.1. Implementation of sustainable development projects in the Mekaná indigenous community

In Colombia, indigenous communities face multiple challenges, such as lack of access to economic opportunities and the preservation of their territories and cultures. In this context, sustainable

development projects were implemented in the Mokaná community, located in the department of Atlántico. These initiatives included trainings in organic agriculture, allowing community members to improve their agricultural practices in a sustainable way, ensuring food security and reducing environmental impact. In addition, cultural tourism was promoted as an economic alternative, promoting the appreciation of its traditions and attracting visitors interested in its heritage. These projects not only strengthen the local economy, but also contribute to the preservation of the cultural identity of the Mokaná, a historically marginalized and vulnerable community. This comprehensive approach seeks to empower the community, providing them with tools to face current challenges while protegen sus recursos naturales y culturales.

1.6.2. Legal and technical support for the defense of the territorial rights of Afro-descendant communities

In Colombia, Afro-descendant communities have historically faced exclusion and dispossession of their territories, especially in regions such as the Pacific and the Caribbean. To address this problem, legal and technical support was provided to these communities, with the aim of defending their territorial rights and guaranteeing their autonomy. This support included legal advice for collective land titling, the protection of ancestral territories, and the fight against the illegal exploitation of natural resources. In addition, technical training was provided to strengthen community management of their territories,



promoting sustainable practices and the conservation of strategic ecosystems. These actions are crucial in a country where Afro-descendant communities face pressures such as forced displacement, illegal mining, and megaprojects that threaten their way of life. This support not only seeks to guarantee territorial justice, but also to empower these communities to be protagonists in the defense of their rights and resources.

1.6.3. Promoting the participation of indigenous and Afro-descendant women in decision-making processes

In Colombia, indigenous and Afro-descendant women face a double vulnerability due to their gender and ethnicity, which limits their participation in decision-making spaces. To address this inequality, the active inclusion of these women in community processes was promoted, strengthening their leadership and advocacy capacity. Through workshops and training, they were provided with tools on issues such as human rights, gender equity, and community management, allowing them to assume leading roles

in the defense of their territories and cultures. In addition, the creation of women's networks was encouraged to exchange experiences and strategies in the face of common challenges. This initiative not only contributes to gender equity within communities, but also enriches decision-making processes with diverse and inclusive perspectives. Empowering these women is critical to building more just and equitable societies, where all voices are heard and valued.

1.7. ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS AND ENERGY TRANSITION

1.7.1. Training of 20 communities in environmental rights and citizen participation

In Colombia, many rural and indigenous communities lack information and tools to defend their environmental rights in the face of projects that threaten their territories and natural resources. To address this problem, 20 communities were trained on issues related to environmental rights and citizen participation. These trainings included workshops on environmental legislation, prior consultation mechanisms, and strategies to influence decisions that affect their environments. The objective was to empower communities so that they can actively participate in the defense of their territories and in the promotion of sustainable practices. This type of training is especially relevant in a country where the exploitation of natural resources and extractive megaprojects often generate socio-environmental conflicts. By strengthening the knowledge and capacities of communities, it seeks to ensure that their voices are heard and that their rights are respected in development processes.

1.7.2. Support for 5 legal cases for the defense of territories against extractive projects

In Colombia, rural and indigenous communities face constant threats from extractive projects, such as mining and hydrocarbon exploitation, which put their territories and livelihoods at risk. To support these communities, legal and technical support was provided in 5 emblematic cases of territorial defense. This support included legal advice, accompaniment in judicial processes and the preparation of technical reports that supported the demands of the communities. In addition, the visibility of these cases was promoted at the national and international level, generating pressure for the protection of ancestral territories. These actions are critical in a context where vulnerable communities often lack the resources to legally confront large corporations or economic interests. The legal support not only seeks to guarantee environmental justice, but also to set precedents for the defense of territorial rights in the country.

1.7.3. Installation of 50 solar energy systems in isolated rural communities

In Colombia, many rural and isolated communities do not have access to basic energy services, which limits their development and quality of life. To address this issue, 50 solar energy systems were installed in communities that have historically been disconnected from the national power grid. These systems allow families to access clean and sustainable energy, improving their living conditions and reducing their dependence on fossil fuels. In addition, solar energy contributes to the mitigation of climate change and the care of the environment. This initiative not only represents a step forward in the country's energy transition, but also a step towards equity, ensuring that the most vulnerable communities have access to modern and sustainable technologies. The implementation of these systems was accompanied by training for their maintenance and efficient use, ensuring their long-term sustainability. The communities impacted by these projects are located in the departments of Bolívar, La Guajira, Chocó, Norte de Santander and Tolima.

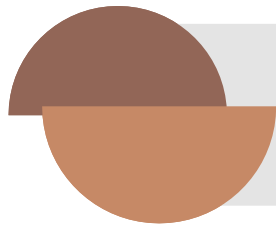


1.7.3. Workshops on renewable energy and energy efficiency

The energy transition is a crucial issue in Colombia, where many communities still rely on polluting and expensive energy sources. To promote a shift towards more sustainable practices, workshops on renewable energy and energy efficiency were held in various regions of the country. These workshops were aimed at rural, indigenous and Afro-descendant communities, and addressed topics such as the use of solar panels, the importance of reducing energy consumption and the advantages of clean energy. In addition, practical tools were provided so that communities can implement these technologies in their homes and productive activities. These training spaces not only seek to promote the adoption of renewable energies, but also to empower communities to be an active part of the energy transition, thus contributing to the reduction of emissions and the care of the environment.

1.7.4. Promoting the adoption of solar cookers in indigenous communities

In many indigenous communities in Colombia, food is cooked using wood-burning stoves, leading to health problems due to smoke inhalation and contributing to deforestation. To address this problem, the adoption of solar cookers in indigenous communities was promoted, a clean and sustainable technology that uses the sun's energy for cooking. These stoves not only reduce dependence on firewood, but also improve the quality of life of families, especially women and children, who are often the most affected by the effects of smoke. In addition, training workshops were held to teach the use and maintenance of these stoves, ensuring their correct implementation. This initiative not only contributes to the health and well-being of communities, but also promotes the conservation of forests and the reduction of emissions, aligning with the objectives of the energy transition and environmental protection.



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