

# FUNDACIÓN PROYECTO TITÍ

## 2025

ANNUAL REPORT



# COTTON-TOP TAMARINS

Cotton-top tamarins (*Oedipomidas oedipus*) are small, one-pound primates found only in the tropical forests of northern Colombia. They live in close-knit family groups and are highly territorial, relying on forest resources—particularly fruit—for their survival.

As important seed dispersers, cotton-top tamarins play a vital role in maintaining healthy forests that benefit both wildlife and local communities.

Despite their ecological importance, these charismatic primates are critically endangered, facing ongoing threats from extensive deforestation and capture for the illegal pet trade.



Found only in  
Colombia





# WE ARE PROYECTO TITÍ

A multidisciplinary conservation program dedicated to protecting the critically endangered cotton-top tamarin and the forests it calls home in Colombia. We are working towards a future where healthy populations of cotton-top tamarins thrive in forests protected by individuals, empowered communities, and the commitment of the Colombian government.

We work in partnership with local communities, environmental authorities, schools, academic institutions, and other NGOs to achieve shared conservation goals and expand our efforts across the cotton-top tamarin's historic range in northern Colombia.

Today, the scope and reach of our three conservation impact areas extend across nearly half of the species' remaining distribution.

## PROYECTO TITÍ'S CONSERVATION IMPACT AREAS

- Santa Catalina**  
conservation impact area
- San Juan Nepomuceno**  
conservation impact area
- Colosó**  
conservation impact area
- Tropical Dry Forest Areas**  
(Humboldt 2014)

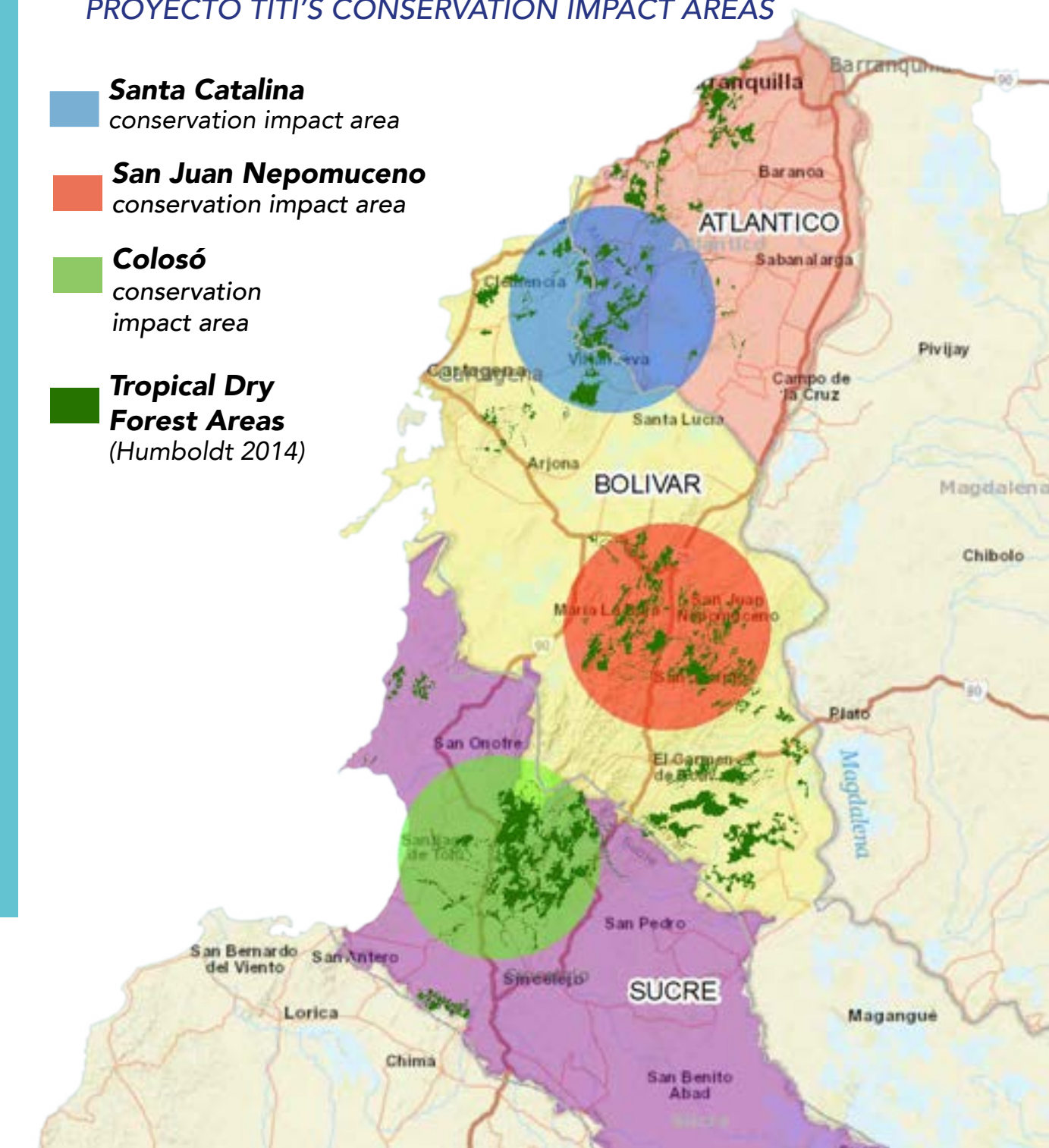


Photo @Federico Pardo

# WE PROTECT, RESTORE, AND CONNECT FORESTS

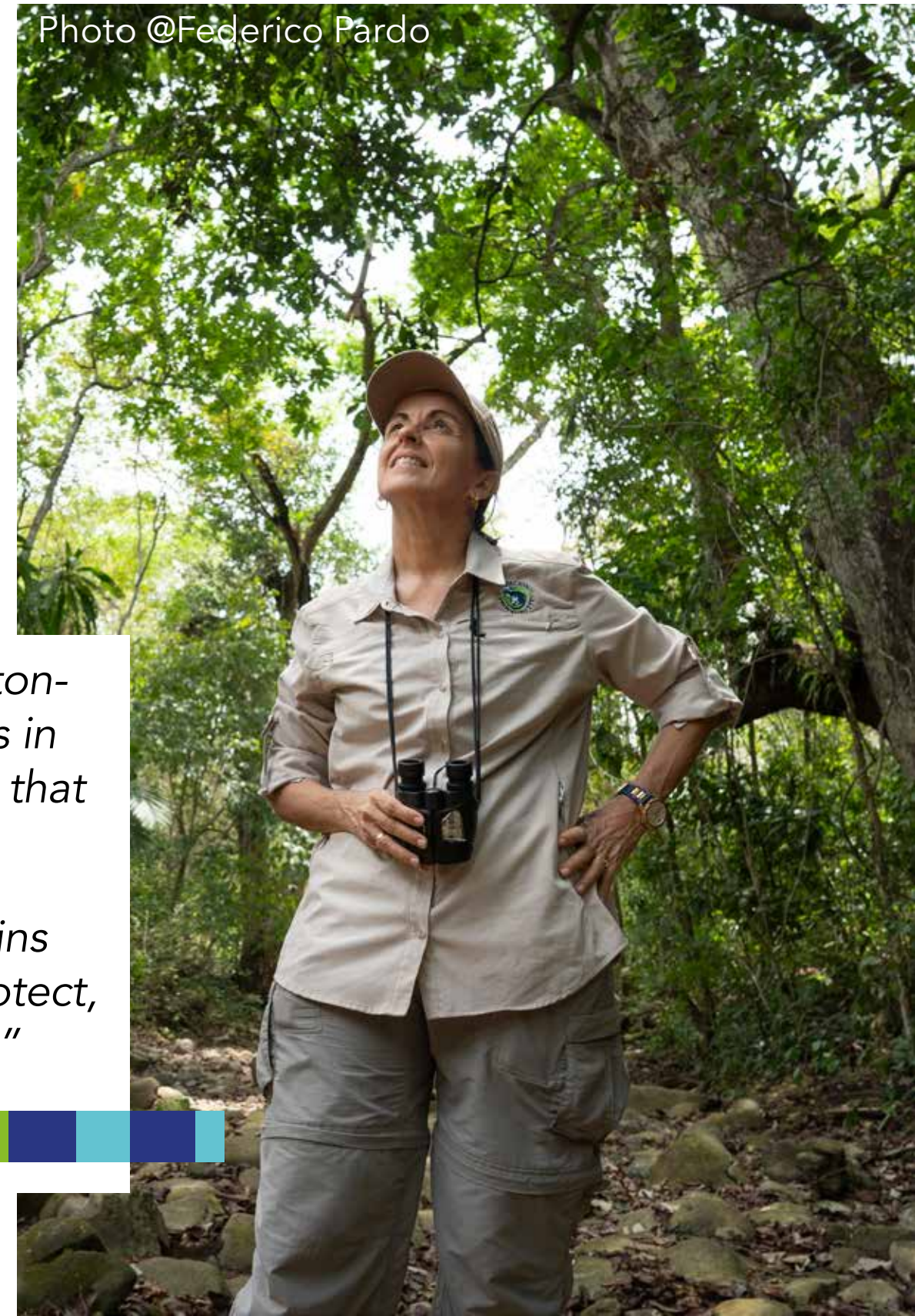
Over the past 15 years, we have helped protect more than 17,500 acres of forests now designated for cotton-top tamarin and wildlife conservation, while also providing essential ecosystem services that support the well-being of local communities.

*"Given that habitat loss is the main threat to cotton-top tamarins, we have focused a lot of our efforts in protecting, restoring, and connecting the forests that are home to these cute little monkeys.*

*It's the best feeling ever to see cotton-top tamarins and other wildlife thrive in the forests that we protect, and see communities benefit from these efforts!"*

**Rosamira Guillen**, Executive Director

Photo @Federico Pardo





# IT ALL STARTS WITH A SEED

*"It has been an incredibly enriching learning experience for me, as a recent addition to the Proyecto Tití team, to follow a seed on its journey to becoming a tree in the forest that is home to cotton-top tamarins. We begin by collecting seeds from the forest, then germinating them in our nursery. As they grow, we care for them carefully, preparing them to withstand harsh climate conditions before handing them over to be planted in priority restoration areas. There is still so much to learn, but I am continually inspired by the knowledge, curiosity, and resourcefulness of our team. Together we have learned to be patient – it all takes time; perseverant-not everything goes as planned, so we try again; strong and resilient – the heat and humidity can be intense; and humble – nature is incredibly powerful and deserves our deepest respect and care"*

**Aura Suárez**, Nursery Manager (San Juan)



Photo @Proyecto Tití

We propagated more than 42,000 saplings representing 62 native tree species in our tree nursery. In addition, our seed bank holds more than 400,000 seeds from 50+ species, ensuring a reliable supply of material for our forest restoration efforts.

Photo @Proyecto Tití



Photo @Proyecto Tití



Photo @Marcelo Ortega / Proyecto Titi

*“For me, planting a tree is much more than just putting a plant in the ground. It’s an act of hope, love, and unity. Every time my hands touch the damp earth, I feel like I’m connecting with something bigger than myself: with life itself. Personally, planting brings me peace. It helps me breathe more slowly, appreciate the little things, and feel like I’m leaving a positive mark on this earth. This process opens us up to meeting other people who come to help. Planting becomes a bridge of friendship, a moment of collaboration where we all contribute something: a smile, a word of encouragement, a gesture of support. It’s beautiful how the earth makes us equal and invites us to work together, reminding us that life flourishes best when shared.”*

*Planting trees is planting the future, planting unity, and planting love. Every tree that remains standing is a symbol of what we are capable of building as a family and as a community. And every time we do, I feel that life grants us a moment of eternity.”*

**Edwin Castro, Senior Field Assistant (San Juan)**

In 2025 we planted 16,196 saplings to restore 100+ acres of land previously used for cattle ranching and agriculture. Over the past 10 years, we have planted more than 140,000 trees to actively restore over to 1,000+ acres of land, and help bring forest habitat back for cotton-top tamarins, native wildlife and the welfare of local communities.



Photo @Marcelo Ortega / Proyecto Titi



Photo @Marcelo Ortega / Proyecto Tití

Each year, we hire 10–15 members of the local community to work alongside us during the planting season. These positions typically last 2–3 months and plantings coincide with the seasonal rains, which occur twice a year.

*"I have collaborated with Proyecto Tití since 2017. Every year I join the team for a couple of months during the rainy seasons, to help transport saplings with my burro, and plant the trees. I value very much the opportunity to have an extra income for me and my family, but I also know it is very important to grow back*

*the forest and to protect it, so that we can have clean air to breathe and clean water to drink. It benefits all of us, the animals and ourselves. I am glad I signed a conservation agreement, and now I get all these benefits for me and my family."*

**Salvador Vásquez**, Local farmer and Proyecto Tití collaborator (San Juan)



Photo @Proyecto Tití

*"It fills me with pride and joy to see how the young saplings we have planted over the past 10 years, have grown to be healthy and strong. I get to go back to the forest every year and monitor their survival, growth and health. I have witnessed how the landscape is changing from pastures to forests, and as we see cotton-top tamarins and wildlife using these restored forest areas, I know we are on the right path".*

**Aldair Luna**, Senior Field Assistant with **Jaime Montes**, Junior Field Assistant (San Juan)



Since 2017, we have monitored the survival, growth, and health of more than 22,000 saplings, representing approximately a 30% sample of the trees planted through our forest restoration efforts. On average, 70% of these trees are still thriving three years after planting.





Photo @Federico Pardo

*"We restore tropical dry forests using seeds from native tree species to enhance ecosystem connectivity and functionality and, thus providing a healthy habitat for cotton-top tamarins.*

*Our community-based model promotes wildlife coexistence and strengthens the social fabric around conservation values and long-term commitments."*

**Marcelo Ortega**, Forest Restoration Coordinator (San Juan)



Photo @Proyecto Tití

# WE STUDY AND MONITOR THE MONKEYS IN THE WILD

*"I've learned how to use telemetry to find the monkeys every day, and learn from them; their vocalizations, their diet, and their behavior. They're so similar to us humans.*

*Cotton-top tamarins are an umbrella species; by protecting them and their forest, we are protecting many other amazing wildlife species, like the Dahl's toad-headed turtle and the black spider monkey which are also endemic and endangered".*

**Sergio Canoles**, Junior Field Assistant  
(San Juan)



For more than 30 years, we've been proud to lead the longest-running field study of the critically endangered cotton-top tamarin. Across three of our conservation impact areas, this long-term research has deepened our understanding of their behavior, ecology, and the challenges they face—fueling numerous scientific [publications](#) and guiding our conservation actions every step of the way.

Photo @Eder Buelvas / Proyecto Tití

Photo @Proyecto Tití



Photo @Proyecto Tití



Photo @Proyecto Tití

*"We were thrilled to welcome so many new friends, supporters and guests as part of our ecotourism program.*

*Sharing the experience of seeing cotton-top tamarins in the wild and exploring their forest home- alongside its incredible wildlife – was truly special.*

*But what meant the most to us was witnessing their sense of awe, hearing their words of gratitude and encouragement, and watching them leave inspired to support our conservation work."*

**Jeisson Medina**, Senior Field Assistant and **Daniel Tapias**, Junior Field Assistant (Santa Catalina)



Photo @Proyecto Tití

Our guests were amazed by the opportunity to see cotton-top tamarins in the wild and learn about Proyecto Tití's conservation efforts. [Experience it for yourself](#)—join us for an unforgettable visit to Colombia's tropical dry forest!

Photo @Eder Buelvas / Proyecto Tití



Photo @Eder Buelvas / Proyecto Tití

“Monitoring cotton-top tamarins goes beyond simply going to the forest and observing their behaviors and habits. It’s about understanding their relationships with other species that inhabit the same area, in order to determine the best way to care for them.

When we go to the forest and see a wide variety of animal species in the same habitat, we feel very satisfied because it indicates that the forest is healthy. Their presence and great diversity, especially among birds, tells me that they can find shelter and food, which provides them with the security to continue living and thriving in the forest”.

**Eder Buelvas**, Senior Field Assistant and **Over Solar**, Junior Field Assistant (Colosó)



Photo @Eder Buelvas / Proyecto Tití



Photo @Eder Buelvas / Proyecto Tití



The tropical dry forest that we protect is home to more than 323 native species, including 44 mammal, 212 bird, and 47 reptile and 20 amphibians species, as well as 200+ plant species – all part of the amazing biodiversity of Colombia’s Caribbean region

# WE ENGAGE LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN CONSERVATION

*"It's incredible to see wildlife returning to the forests we are restoring and protecting. However, some species—like the beautiful pumas captured on our camera traps—can be perceived as a threat by local communities.*

*Encouragingly, our camera traps have recorded a wide variety of species, providing a healthy prey base that*

*helps keep pumas focused on natural food sources.*

*At the same time, we recognize the importance of addressing potential concerns. In response, we launched a human-wildlife coexistence program to support farmers in implementing preventive measures that reduce the risk of conflict. Promoting coexistence*

*has become a priority for Proyecto Tití as we work to achieve a harmonious balance between the needs of wildlife and those of local communities."*

**Jaime Reyes,**  
Forest Management  
Coordinator (San Juan)



We implemented a pilot project in partnership with other local organizations and eight farmers who have experienced conflict with wildlife, particularly pumas, to test anti-predation measures that support human-wildlife coexistence. We also collected baseline data to help expand and replicate this program with some of the 31 neighboring farms surrounding the Los Titíes de San Juan Forest Reserve.





Photo @Proyecto Titi

*“For me, working alongside these women has been a true privilege. Their wisdom, composure, and care for every seedling they plant are deeply inspiring.*

*One of the most meaningful impacts of this project has been the recognition and value it brings to the women of Colosó, and the sense of empowerment they feel today.*

*Through their involvement, they have been able to contribute financially to their households—something traditionally dominated by men—while also strengthening their food production by growing crops for their families. Along the way, they have gained valuable skills in pest management, composting, and crop preparation.*

*It has been incredibly rewarding to spend time with them and to learn from their experiences. Their gratitude is felt in every warm welcome—whether through a shared cup of coffee, a smile, or the laughter that fills each visit.”*

**María González, Social Programs Coordinator (Colosó).**

**We worked with 12 women to grow native tree saplings in their backyards, helping to supply the plant material needed for our forest restoration efforts in the community of Colosó. With training and support from our team and collaborators, they successfully produced more than 13,000+ tree saplings which are being planted in 2026 to establish forest buffers around the Coraza Reserve (Serranía de Coraza y Montes de María).**



Photo @Proyecto Titi



Photo @Proyecto Titi



*"I feel very grateful for the income opportunity Proyecto Tití has provided for us and our families, and we are committed to doing our part by planting and caring for these trees on our properties.*

*It's especially meaningful to know that the trees we are planting will provide food and shelter for cotton-top tamarins. We were familiar with them before, but we didn't realize how important and special they are.*

*By protecting these monkeys, we are also protecting the entire environment, helping to improve the climate—because it has been so hot lately!*

*As we protect these forests, we are also protecting our own well-being. The trees bring more shade, help retain water, and create a healthier environment for our families and communities.*

*Because of this, we feel even more committed to supporting conservation and ensuring that cotton-top tamarins are not kept as pets. We hope this partnership continues for a long time, as it has been very positive for us, for our families, and for the environment.*

*This project has truly been a blessing for us."*

**Arcelio Chamorro**, Local Farmer and Proyecto Tití collaborator



Thirty-two new farmers signed conservation agreements to protect and restore forest buffer areas within their properties surrounding the Coraza Reserve in Colosó. Together, they designated more than 32 acres of land for conservation, creating a protective buffer that helps safeguard an additional 150 acres of forest for cotton-top tamarins and other native wildlife. As part of this initiative, farmers receive benefits and incentives, along with training about cotton-top tamarins and their habitat. Through this process, they gain a deeper understanding of how their actions contribute to a broader conservation movement—one that benefits both their own well-being and the survival of these critically endangered monkeys.

*“What inspires me most is seeing how small seeds grow. It gives me hope to watch communities not only strengthen their economies but also take ownership of protecting the forest and the cotton-top tamarin.”*

*Because, ultimately, conservation is not just about protecting a species—it’s about building, day by day, a future where people and nature can thrive together.*

*At Proyecto Tití, I’ve learned that protecting the cotton-top tamarin and its forest is only possible when it goes hand in hand with the well-being of local communities. Through support, environmental education, and capacity building—including tools for financial management—we work side by side with families, learning together and planting the seeds of opportunity.”*

**Francy Forero**, Subdirector of Operations

We worked with 18 families to strengthen their small businesses and improve their livelihoods, in exchange for their commitment to protect the forest and reject the illegal capture and keeping of cotton-top tamarins as pets.



Photo @Proyecto Tití



Photo @Proyecto Tití

# WE CONNECT CHILDREN WITH WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

*“Our education programs do more than increase knowledge—as demonstrated by our evaluation results—they also foster emotional connections with our flagship species, the cotton-top tamarin.”*

*These connections are essential for strengthening attitudes that reject the pet trade, among both children and adults, which is the primary goal of our education and awareness efforts.”*

**Ana Utria, Darío Alarcón, Rosa Rodríguez and Johana Pasión, Social Programs Team (Santa Catalina)**



Photo @Michael Clark



Photo @Carolina Holguín

In 2025, we brought our traveling puppet show to seven target communities across our three conservation impact areas, reaching more than 1,300 children in 4th and 5th grade. Program evaluation results showed a statistically significant increase in students' understanding of the impacts of the pet trade, knowledge of actions to protect cotton-top tamarins, and attitudes rejecting the pet trade—demonstrating the effectiveness of this program.



Photo @Proyecto Tití

*“As educators, it is incredibly rewarding for us at Proyecto Tití to see how our work inspires students and community members to take action to help protect cotton-top tamarins.*

*From growing and planting trees, to reporting cases of cotton-top tamarins kept as pets, to creating and sharing their own conservation-inspired art, our*

*students play an active role in spreading our message.*

*We all agree that our education programs are truly transformative for children, and that gives us hope for a brighter future for cotton-top tamarins and wildlife.”*

**Johana Pasión, Social Programs Coordinator (Santa Catalina)**



Photo @Proyecto Tití



Photo @Michael Clark

In 2025, we implemented our Cartilla program in ten schools across five target communities within our three conservation impact areas, reaching more than 1,155 7th grade students. Program evaluations showed a statistically significant increase in students’ understanding of the impacts of the pet trade, knowledge of actions to protect cotton-top tamarins, and attitudes rejecting the pet trade—demonstrating the effectiveness of this program.



Photo@Michael Clark

*"Our traveling education and awareness programs have allowed us to reach communities across northern Colombia, expanding the reach of our conservation message.*

*Through games, arts and crafts, and interactive activities, we engage children and young adults in fun and meaningful ways, while fostering empathy, care, and action to support the conservation of cotton-top tamarins."*

**Leysthen Díaz, Monitoring & Evaluation Leader**



Photo @Proyecto Tití



Photo@Michael Clark



Photo@Daniël Nelson



Photo@Michael Clark



Photo @Proyecto Tití

Since 2010, we have reached more than 29,000 children through our conservation education programs, helping to discourage the illegal capture of cotton-top tamarins and keeping them as pets. At the same time, we inspire students to engage and take action to protect these charismatic primates and their forest home in northern Colombia.



Photo @Proyecto Tití



Photo @Proyecto Tití



Photo @Proyecto Tití



Photo @Proyecto Tití



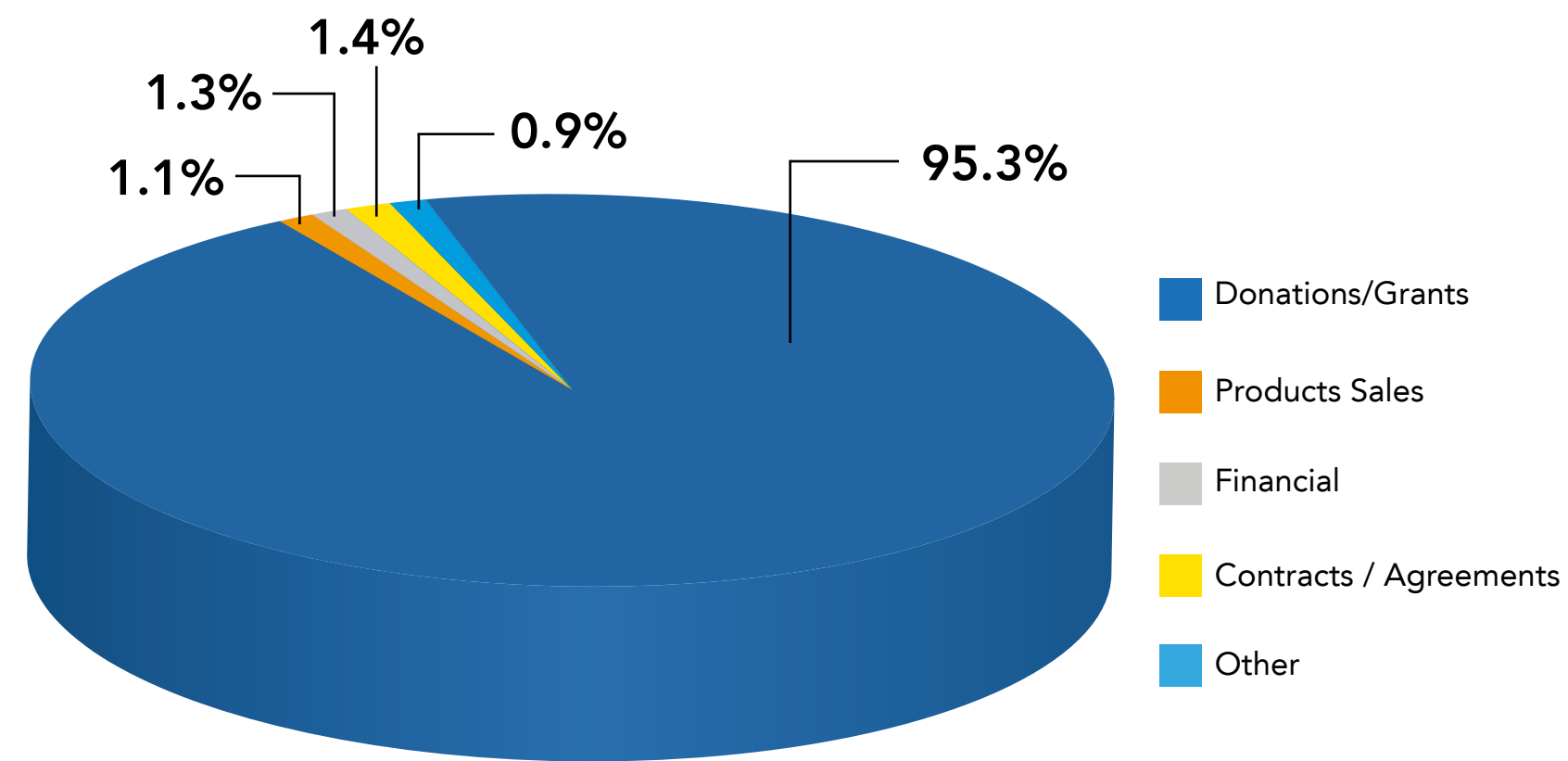
Photo @Proyecto Tití



Photo @Proyecto Tití

This year, our conservation partners—schools, NGOs, and local authorities—organized and created their own events throughout the month of August to celebrate the Day of the Cotton-top Tamarin, using educational resources provided by Proyecto Tití. The result was an inspiring display of creativity and commitment to honoring cotton-top tamarins, with more than 7,000 people participating across 40 community events, reflecting the strong engagement and enthusiasm of our partner communities. It's clear that everyone loves to celebrate cotton-top tamarins!

# FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE



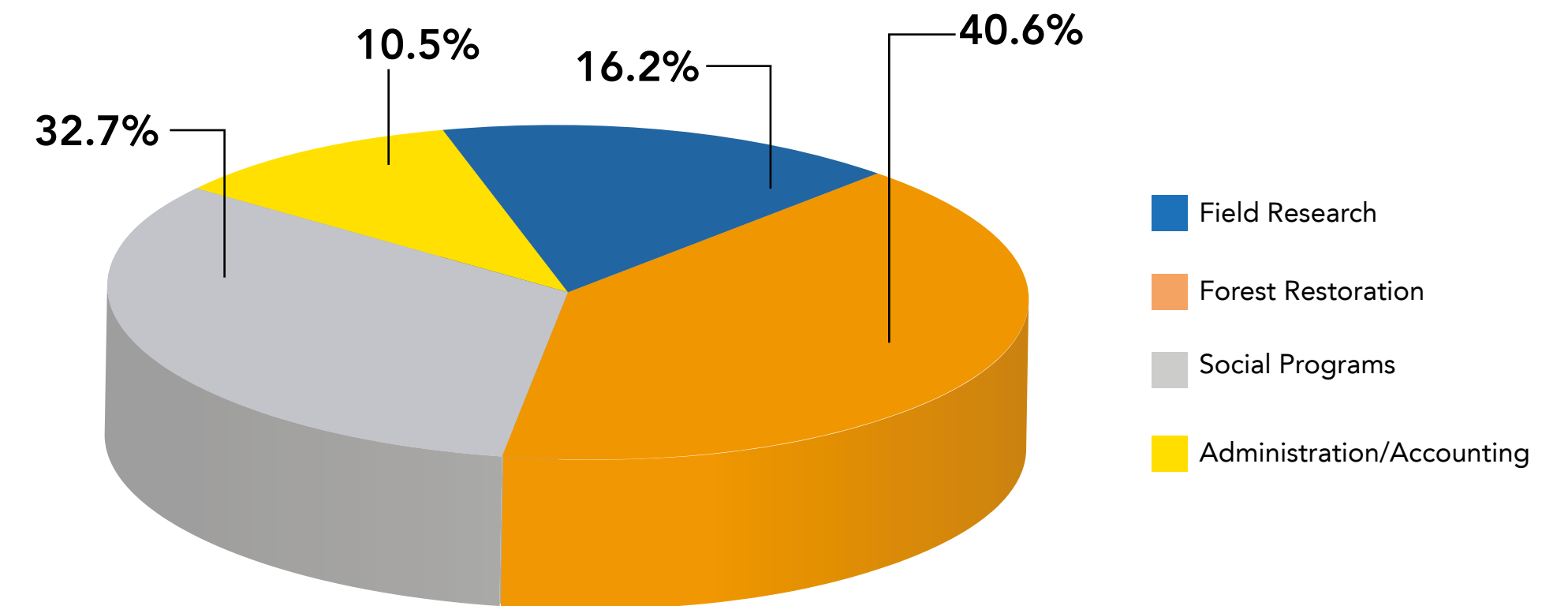
## INCOME

### INCOME

Donations and Grants	\$ 1,105,904.71	95.3%
Product Sales	\$ 13,163.30	1.1%
Financial	\$ 14,822.95	1.3%
Contracts/Agreements**	\$ 16,642.88	1.4%
Other	\$ 10,164.24	0.9%
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 1,160,548.08</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
(Less Cost of Sales)	\$ 8,890.15	

**SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR \$ 23,416.98\***  
(After depreciation and taxes)

Exchange rate used (December 31, 2025): \$ 1 USD = \$3,757.08 Colombian Pesos\*



## EXPENSES

### EXPENSES

Field Research	\$ 181,163.03	16.2%
Forest Restoration	\$ 452,183.09	40.6%
Social Programs	\$ 364,325.61	32.7%
Administration / Accounting	\$ 117,179.45	10.5%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b> (Without depreciation and cost of sales)	<b>\$ 1,114,851.18</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

\*Surplus in 2025 was destined to supporting our social programs and our field research / monitoring work in 2026.  
\*\*Contract / Agreements: Fundación Herencia Ambiental, Forestal Monterrey Colombia, Promigas S.A., Fundación del Alto Magdalena.

# OUR DEEPEST GRATITUDE

TO OUR PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION

## Tití Champions



We also thank the **Laguntza Foundation** for their generous support.

## Tití Leaders



Proyecto Tití works in partnership with Corporación Autónoma Regional del Canal del Dique – CARDIQUE and with Corporación Autónoma Regional de Sucre – CARSUCRE under a legal licensing agreement to conduct our conservation work. We are very thankful to them for their long-term support of our conservation efforts in Colombia.

## Tití Partners



## Tití Supporters



We also thank Central Florida Zoo & Botanical Garden, Tierpark Neumunster, Biopark Geneve, La Citadelle de Besancon, Sequoia Park Zoo, Cape May County Zoo AAZK, Miller Park Zoo, Zoo Doo Zoo, Wildwood Wildlife Park Zoo and Safari, Dickerson Park Zoo, Tropical World, Welsh Mountain Zoo, Chester Zoo, Shaldon Zoo Wildlife Trust, Battersea Park Children's Zoo, Buttonwood Park Zoological Society, and Lake Superior Zoo. Our gratitude goes to all of the [people and organizations](#) that have supported us over the years.

## Tití Collaborators

We value the expertise and support shared by the following organizations:



# THANK YOU TO THE MOST AMAZING TEAM

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anne Savage, *President*  
Gustavo Bell  
Reinaldo Niebles  
Clara Solano  
Roberto Arazo, *Fiscal Advisor*

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rosamira Guillen, *Executive Director*  
Francy Forero, *Subdirector of Operations*

## ADVISERS

Mery Narváez, *HSE Advisor*  
Trudis Ibarra, *HR Advisor*  
Edwin Gaitán, *Legal Advisor*

## ADMINISTRATION TEAM

Mónica Pinillos, *Head of Admin & Accounting*  
Lesbia Púa, *Head of Admin & Accounting (E)*  
Carolina Yudex, *Admin & Accounting Asst.*  
Beliana Suárez, *Admin & Accounting Asst.*  
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## FIELD MONITORING TEAM

Félix Medina, *Senior Field Assistant*  
Jeisson Medina, *Senior Field Assistant*  
Daniel Tapias, *Junior Field Assistant*  
Eder Buelvas, *Senior Field Assistant*  
Over Solar, *Junior Field Assistant*

## FOREST RESTORATION TEAM

Jaime Reyes, *Forest Management Coord.*  
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Denilson Centena, *Junior Field Assistant*  
Cristian Cervantes, *Junior Field Assistant*  
Edwin Arias, *Junior Field Assistant*

## FOREST RESTORATION TEAM (Cont)

Gabriel Díaz, *Junior Field Assistant*  
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Yair Caro, *Junior Field Assistant*  
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Neidys Herrera, *SENA Intern*  
Gabriela Orellano, *SENA Intern*  
Andrés López, *SENA Intern*

Keiner Tilvez, *Regional Corridor PM*  
Luis Soto, *Field Biologist Emeritus*

## SOCIAL PROGRAMS TEAM

Leysthen Díaz, *M&E Leader*  
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Yerley del Toro, *Social Programs Assistant*  
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THANK  
YOU!

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