

**PROSPERIDAD  
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# “THE NATIONAL RIVER POLICY OF COLOMBIA: CHALLENGES THE AUTHORITIES ARE FACING CONCERNING THE MAGDALENA AND CAUCA RIVER”

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Minister Plenipotentiary

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*“The climate change that we are suffering, also known as  
‘La Niña 2010-2011’ has been cataloged as the strongest in Colombia’s  
history.”*

President Juan Manuel Santos, April 25 2011.



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## 2010 COLOMBIA'S RAINY SEASON



DAMAGE	NUMBER
Affected people	2.121.894
Affected families	436.234
Human losses	279
People injured	271
Home buildings destroyed	3.001
Closed highways	40



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## THE SOLUTIONS: COLOMBIA HUMANITARIA and FONDO DE ADAPTACIÓN

- ✓ Private and public enterprises donated money, food and groceries.
- ✓ Construct, rebuild, repair and reactivate social and economic areas affected by the rainy season.



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## THE SOLUTIONS: 4 MACRO PROJECTS

### 1) La Mojana



### 3) Jarillón de Cali



### 2) Canal del Dique



### 4) Gramalote



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## COOPERATION BETWEEN THE NETHERLANDS AND COLOMBIA

- ✓ Creation of the COLOMBIA-NETHERLANDS WATER PARTNERSHIP (CNWP).



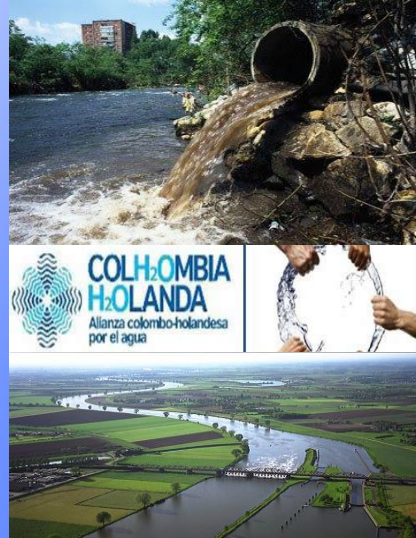
Source:  
[www.semana.com](http://www.semana.com)

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## Colombia-Netherland Water Partnership

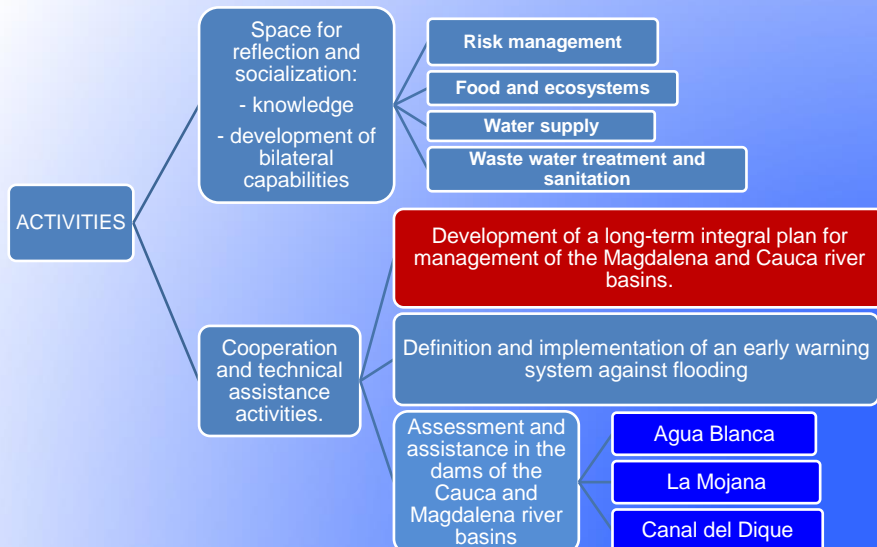
### Challenges:

- 1. Lack of implementation and enforcement of law
- 2. Lack of cooperation and coordination between the actors involved
- 3. Lack of integration between water management and spatial planning
- 4. Managing of conflict interests
- 5. Illegality in water use and socio-cultural perceptions and attitudes.



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## “MOU”: The Netherlands and DNP



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## MOU's POSITIVE RESULTS

### 1. Project for the reactivation of the “Canal del Dique”



- The Dique Consortium: RoyalHaskoningDHV (Dutch company) and Gómez Cajiao (Colombian Firm).
- Purpose: guarantee the navigability and water supply for human consumption.

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### 2. “Jarillón de Cali”

- The Dutch Company “Haskoning” along with the “Corpoación Osso” of Colombia, are carrying out the diagnosis of the status of the “Jarillón de Cali”.



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### 3. Early warning systems for Cauca and Upper Bogotá

- To warn, from one and up to two days in advance, rising of watercourses that may affect specific areas.



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### 4. Multi-stakeholders governance

- Project for multi-stakeholders governance for the Magdalena River with DNP (National Department of Planning).



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## 5. Explorative research on coastal erosion

- Ministry of Environment signed in December 2012 a contract for explorative research on Coastal erosion with DELTARES.



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## 6. Master Plan of Coastal Protection

**10/09/2014: Colombia and The Netherlands signed an agreement on cooperation for the Master Plan of Coastal Protection.**



Purpose: to have scientific and technical information to prepare for climate change processes (specifically coastal erosion).

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## 7. Master plan for flood risk management of the Cauca river



- Cauca River: relevant watercourse
- Contract between a Dutch consortium with the consultancy firm:



- Purpose: implement the Room For The River concept

• Source: [www.dutchwatersector.com](http://www.dutchwatersector.com)

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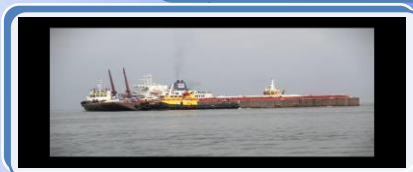
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## Magdalena's River Project

Government strategies for the utilization of the river

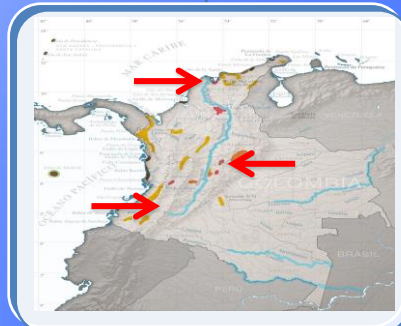
NAVELENA  
CONSORTIUM  
13.5 years

- Navigability 24 hours a day
- depth of seven (7) feet
- Convoys will travel with loads of at least 7.200 tons



Room for the River in the Magdalena

Large scale project on Colombia's most important river.



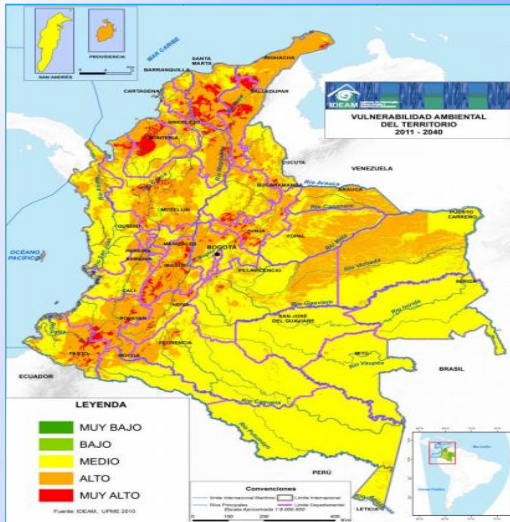
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## Colombia's Vulnerability to Climate Change



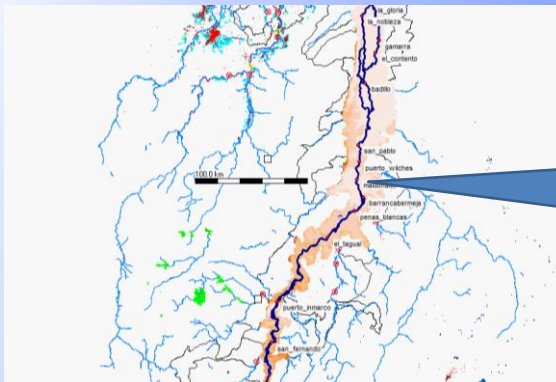
✓ IDEAM (Institute for hydrological environmental and meteorological studies in Colombia) indicates :

- Degradation and transformation of natural coverage
- Decrease in precipitation
- Increase in temperature

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## Hydrological model results for Magdalena river



Source: Cormagdalena 2014

Interaction  
River –  
Wetlands –  
Alluvial Plain

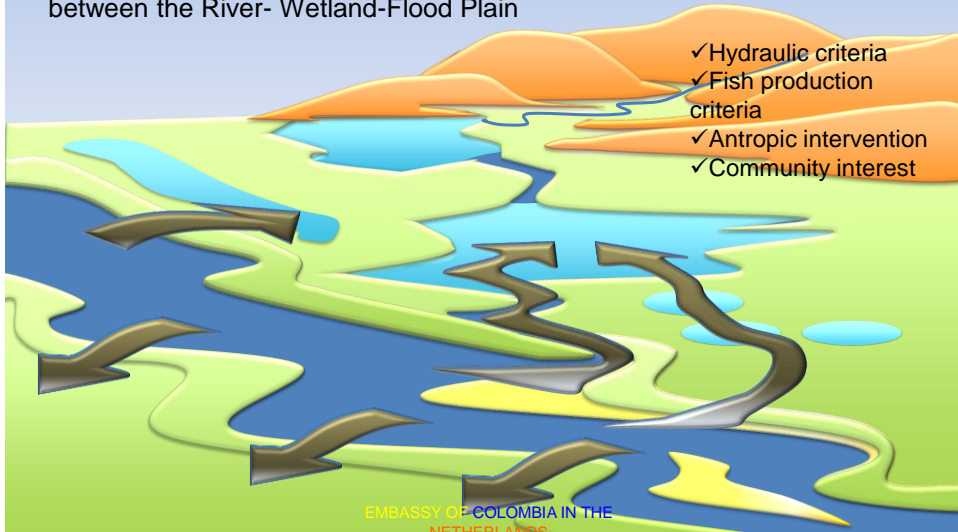
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## Restore natural connections

Invest Plan during 2014-2018 in order to guarantee natural connection between the River- Wetland-Flood Plain

- ✓Hydraulic criteria
- ✓Fish production criteria
- ✓Antropic intervention
- ✓Community interest



*A NEW RIVER FOR A NEW COLOMBIA!!*



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